

REVELATION 85 FALSE PROPHET FALSE WORSHIP

Dr. Leon L. Sanders Revelation 13:12-14

CHRIST GIVES LIGHT: LAMP SHINING IN DARKNESS

- Christ promised believers, all ages, He would return (jn 14:18; He 13:5)
 - Saved given indwelling Holy Spirit, a sign of His promise (jn 14:16-21; 16:7-11)
 - World will have the Two Witnesses just as the Egyptians had Moses and Jews had Jesus to judge the truth of: Who is God?
- Satan, ruler of the World, has his two emissaries (jn 12:31; 14:30; 16:11)
 - Their message balanced by Truth of Christ's Two Witnesses
 - Issue: Whom will you believe? (Jos 24:14-15)

FALSE PROPHET: DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO DECEIVE

- Just as Jesus was delegated power from the Father via the Spirit, the False Prophet (FP) has delegated *authority*
 - In presence of Antichrist (AC), focusing attention on AC
 - AC suffers a mortal wound; FP *restores* him {Who is <u>more</u> powerful?}
- FP stands with AC between the Two Witnesses (Re 11:4-5)
 - Satan shown more powerful when FP brings AC back to life, Messiahlike: Celebrate with Image
 - FP allowed to perform other signs deceiving Lost (2Th 2:3-12; 2Ti 3:1-4; 4:3-4)

HAND IN GLOVE: ONE PROMISES – ONE PRODUCES

- AC declares his ability to guide the world safely through its current disasters based on his deity as opposed to Christ
 - FP produces *miracles* that *appear* to legitimize AC's claims
 - Does not undo physical changes, he focuses attention of resurrection
- AC appears as god D/T his resurrection
 - FP deifies AC via The Image; <u>True believers</u> worship to *share* scarce goods: Non-worshippers, unbelievers {Socialism in practice}
 - <u>Similar</u> to Nebuchadnezzar's image of self-worship (Da 3:1-7)

WHY DO PEOPLE BELIEVE? PROMISE OF LIVING IN A DYING WORLD

- People experience cataclysmic changes with widespread death and destruction: Who can save them?
 - After three years of chaos, AC appears as savior
 - Hero's Journey: When hope seems to win, it is crushed: AC killed
 - AC appears Heroic by his resurrection {FP}: He <u>can</u> save!
 - Christ appears impotent but AC saved himself: False Dilemma
 - People seek salvation in AC {Saved himself-Save us} (Lk 23:28-31, 35-36)

PREPARING PEOPLE: BUILD THE IMAGE

- AC/FP natural belief resonate with Man
- Dark overcomes Light: Resurrection
- Empowers FP's Idol {Emperor} Worship
- Image focuses people's worship
- Choice: Accept/Reject Scripture (Jn 4:23-24)
 - Father is spirit and truth
 - True worship is in spirit and truth
- They say tolerance but demand death {Intolerance}; reveals their true nature

