

Beasts and Believers Notes

Revelation 13:1-18

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Main Point: Because Satan is a master counterfeiter, give you ultimate allegiance to Christ alone.

Intro

1. The real question is: "Whose image do you bear, and _____ has your ultimate allegiance?" Who or what are you worshipping?"
2. The beast _____ your allegiance, but Jesus deserve your adoration and allegiance.
3. The beast is a _____ king, but Jesus is the King of kings.
4. Satan's strategy is to counterfeit God's work, to capture people's devotion, and to _____ the worship that belongs to Christ alone.
5. The devil knows he can't defeat God, so he settles for deceiving the people into worshipping a substitute _____.
6. Many people will come to _____ in Jesus Christ during the Tribulation through the witness of the 144,000 servants of God (Revelation 7) and the ministry of the two witnesses (Revelation 11).
7. These believers will face intense _____ from the Antichrist as he seeks to establish his counterfeit kingdom and demand the worship that belongs to Christ alone.
8. Since Satan has no power to create anything original, he imitates, distorts, and counterfeits what God has made so as to _____ the world.

Six Ways Satan Counterfeits What Belongs to God

1. Counterfeit _____ (vs. 13:1)
 - Over time, the sea became a metaphor for _____ and chaos and it was where Leviathan lurked (Isaiah 27:1).
 - The sea also represented unbelieving _____ (Isaiah 57:20-21).
 - The word "Antichrist" does not appear in the book of Revelation.
 - He is known as the _____ in Revelation.
 - Elsewhere in Scripture he is called...
 - The "little horn" in Daniel 7:8.
 - The "prince who is to come" in Daniel 9:26.
 - The "lawless one" in 2 Thessalonians 2:3-8.
 - The "Antichrist" in 1 John 2: 18, 22, 4:3, 2 John 7.
 - The word "antichrist" means, "one who is _____ Christ" or "one who is in the place of Christ."
 - The word "beast" refers to something that is " _____, venomous, and wild."
 - This creature is distinct from the red dragon but is closely _____ with him.

- Several commentators suggest the seven heads represent seven successive world powers: Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persian, Greece, Rome, and the Antichrist's final world kingdom.
 - The beast was like a leopard, its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth.
 - These three animals are listed in reverse order from Daniel 7:4-6, where they represent three preceding _____: Greece, Medo-Persia, and Babylon.
 - The beast will be a _____ of these nations.
 - In verse 3, Satan presents a convincing counterfeit of the _____ of Jesus Christ, causing the whole world to marvel and follow him.
 - People will be so captivated by what appears to be a miraculous recovery that they will eagerly _____ the beast.
2. Counterfeit _____ (vs. 4).
 - The word "worship" means "to kiss toward, to _____, and prostrate oneself."
 - Satan has never been content merely to oppose God. He wants to _____ Him.
 3. Counterfeit _____ (vs. 5-6).
 - He also uses the power of persuasive words to redefine reality (vs. 5-6).
 - The word "haughty" means _____.
 - He is committed to evil slander and verbal abuse of the _____.
 - As terrifying and destructive as the beast is, he is never outside of God's sovereign _____.
 - Satan and his servants can only do what God _____ them to do, and only for as long as He allows it.
 - Satan is not God's equal or rival but a _____ creature whose activity is always subject to God's providential permission.
 - Even in the darkest days of human history, God _____ on His throne, accomplishing His purposes, fulfilling His plan, and working all things for His glory, for our good, and for the sake of the gospel.
 4. Counterfeit _____ (vs. 7).
 - Satan hates God, and because he cannot destroy God, he wages war against God's _____.
 - Those who are not saved will end up _____ the beast.
 - Some believers will be taken captive. Others will be put to death. Through it all, God is calling believers to remain _____ through it (vs. 10).
 - The word "endurance" means "to _____ up as you remain under."
 5. Counterfeit _____ (vs. 11).
 - The first beast from the sea is the Antichrist who will be a political _____.
 - The second beast from the earth is known as the false prophet who will be a _____ leader.
 - The beast will be handsome, charming, clever, and _____.
 - This false prophet compels people to worship the Antichrist by performing great _____, even causing fire to come down from heaven, which is an attempt to

mimic the fire that comes from the mouth of God's witnesses (Revelation 11:5, 2 Thessalonians 2:9, Revelation 16:14).

- Scripture reminds us that miraculous signs alone are _____ proof that someone is from God (Exodus 7:11, Matthew 24:24).
- "That's why we must never evaluate a teacher, preacher, or movement merely by what appears to be miraculous. The true test is whether it _____ Jesus Christ, agrees with God's Word, and leads people to worship the one true God."

6. Counterfeit _____ (vs. 16-17).

- Using economic boycott and the treat of _____, the second beast will manipulate people to worship the image of the beast.
- The mark of the beast is not something people _____ receive or are tricked into accepting without understanding its significance.
- Receiving the mark will be a conscious act of _____ to the beast in exchange for economic security and acceptance in his kingdom.
- This is another counterfeit of the _____ of God affixed to the foreheads of believers (Revelation 7:3).
- During the Tribulation, only those who have the mark and the name of the beast will be able to _____ or sell.
- Questions to ponder
 - Who or what is capturing your wonder?
 - Who or what is receiving your worship?
 - Whose words are shaping your beliefs and behavior?
 - In what ways are you preparing yourself for spiritual warfare?
 - What are you doing to recognize and guard against Satan's wiles?
 - Are you willing to sacrifice your wares rather than deny your Savior?
- One day every counterfeit kingdom will crumble. Every idol will fall on its face. Every beast will be judged. Every false prophet will be silenced. Every deceiver will be thrown into the lake of fire. But Jesus Christ will still be on His throne.