

Sermon Series: Revelation - Jesus Revealed Sermon Title: The Beast's Empire & The Saints' Endurance Scripture: Revelation 13:1-10 Pastor Chris Fritz Sunday, January 21, 2024

## INTRODUCTION

"Here is A CALL for the <u>endurance</u> and <u>faith</u> of the saints." (Revelation 13:10b)

Note: In many ways, chapter 12 shows us Satan's long (often hidden-from-our-eyes) war against God and His people, but chapter 13 reveals Satan's last and best attempt to \_\_\_\_\_ Christ of His glory by putting his own wicked, blasphemous, hideous ruler into a place of global prominence.

Note: 1st John 2:18-25; 2nd Thessalonians 2:2-12; and Daniel 7:8, 21-22 show the consistency and the harmony of God's word on this topic, and they ALL emphasize the victory of Christ and His people over and against the \_\_\_\_\_\_ of Satan's "success".

"TODAY, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts." (Hebrews 4:7b)

# I. THE CALL FOR ENDURANCE AND FAITH

### A. The Beast's Description, Deception, and Devotion (verses 1-4)

**1) The Beast's Description:** The Beast and his empire arises out of chaos and evil; possesses ferocious, overwhelming, destructive power; and wields \_\_\_\_\_\_ authority and dominance.

**2) The Beast's Deception:** The Beast is clearly a \_\_\_\_\_\_ Christ! He receives a throne from "his father" and he "miraculously" recovers/resurrects from some mortal wound or death experience.

**3) The Beast's Devotion:** The unbelieving world lines up to worship Satan, to worship his puppet, and to \_\_\_\_\_\_ in his nature and power.

"<u>Who is like You</u>, O LORD, among the gods? <u>Who is like You</u>, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?" (Exodus 15:11)

Revelation 20:10

Note: Even while this beast blasphemes, mocks, curses, and wages war, God \_\_\_\_\_\_.

### C. The Lamb's Book and The Saints' Victory (verses 7b-10)

**1) The Lamb's Book of Life** reminds us that God knows those who \_\_\_\_\_\_ to Him; God will not fail in bringing His chosen, beloved people home to glory!

"And they have <u>conquered him</u> BY <u>the blood of the Lamb</u> and BY <u>the word of their testimony</u>, for they loved not their lives even unto death." (Revelation 12:11)

**2) The Saints' Victory and Enduring Courage** is rooted in God Himself, in knowing, believing, and trusting that \_\_\_\_\_ KNOWS BEST!

"Also it was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them." (Revelation 13:7a)

"And I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mingled with fire and also <u>those who had conquered the beast</u> and its image and the number of its name, standing beside the sea of glass with harps of God in their hands." (Revelation 15:2)

*"For <u>everyone</u> who has been <u>born of God <u>overcomes the world</u>. And THIS is <u>the victory</u> that has overcome the world - OUR FAITH." (1 John 5:4)*</u>

"Here is A CALL for the <u>endurance</u> and <u>faith</u> of the saints." (Revelation 13:10b)

#### Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

1. What is the last sentence in verse 10? How do these verses support that "call"?

- 2. From passages like 1st John 2:18-25; 2nd Thessalonians 2:2-23; Daniel 7:8, 21-22; and Revelation
- 13:1-6, what do we learn about the attitude, nature, and work of "the beast" or Antichrist?
- 3. How is the beast a counterfeit Christ? How does he try to mimic and imitate Christ?
- 4. How does this passage emphasize God's rule over Satan and "the beast"?
- 5. Why should passages like this one strengthen our faith and resolve to live for Christ?