

September 28, 2024

West Valley End-Time Ministries Newsletter

"A Stand for Truth and Right"

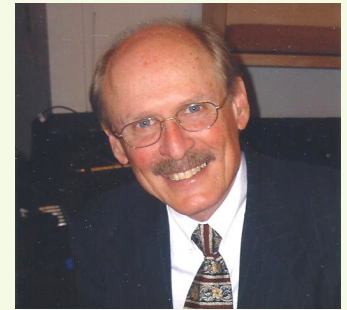
A fight for the soul of America is underway and is escalating as we approach November 5th – the day Americans will vote for their leaders. The stakes are high and the battle intense.

And while the scenes of prophecy and the role our nation will play at the end of time **will come to pass "at the appointed time,"** regardless of how we vote in this election, our stand for truth, for the lives of the defenseless unborn, for integrity in our justice system, and for the protection of a constitution guaranteeing our freedoms as Christians is a stand against a system of evil — a system which will appear to win in the end before God Himself brings judgment upon it.

As you ponder how to cast your ballot as a follower of Christ in the election ahead (and votes are being cast even now in some states), please consider these two principles:

- 1) Don't vote for the candidates with the most pleasing **personality**, vote for the **policies** for which the candidates stand. The *personas* of politicians are often fake, they are pretenders, and these chameleons will act and speak in whatever way necessary to obtain the most votes! **Don't be fooled!**
- 2) Without exception, every candidate on the ballot this year will have a record of how they have governed in the past. Don't be deceived by what they say they're **going to do** for our country and its citizens if elected, know that what they have said and done **in the past** is **exactly** what they will stand for and do **in the future** if elected. There are a lot of lies being told to gain your vote — **do not be deceived!** Paul reminds us that even the devil comes as an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11:14) in order to deceive the whole world (Revelation 12:9). Those who oppose principles of truth and righteousness in government will absolutely do the same. Look for the lies, the deception, and the anti-Christian agendas, and cast your vote for those who most nearly promote an agenda that Christians can stand for. It is our responsibility as Christians to cast our voice and vote on the side of the right.

In Him,
Pastor Chilson

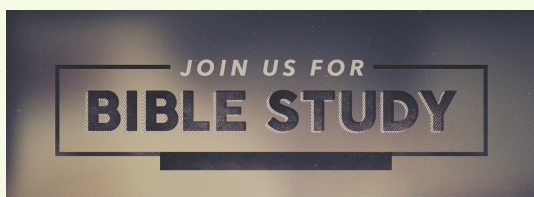


Pastor Darrell Chilson

"We are living in the season of Christ's return."

Jesus said, "Watch and be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

The mission of West Valley Ministries is to help Christ's followers recognize the signs of His approaching return and be prepared for that Great Day.




John 8 – Part 2

“A Stand for Truth and Right ”

12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." **13** The Pharisees therefore said to Him, "You bear witness of Yourself; Your witness is not true." **14** Jesus answered and said to them, "Even if I bear witness of Myself, My witness is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going; but you do not know where I come from and where I am going. **15** "You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. **16** "And yet if I do judge, My judgment is true; for I am not alone, but I [am] with the Father who sent Me. **17** "It is also written in your law that the testimony of two men is true. **18** "I am One who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me." **19** Then they said to Him, "Where is Your Father?" Jesus answered, "You know neither Me nor My Father. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also." **20** These words Jesus spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple; and no one laid hands on Him, for His hour had not yet come.



- 1) In this passage, is Jesus telling the truth about Himself?
- 2) What are His claims? List them.
- 3) What are the Jewish leaders saying to contradict what Jesus is saying?
- 4) From a human perspective, who has the most convincing arguments? Would you consider one's own testimony about himself adequate if you were concerned about his credibility?
- 5) Discuss verse 12 — the light, the darkness — what is Jesus talking about?
- 6) Is verse 14 another example of Jesus speaking in "parables"?
- 7) If Jesus is naming His Father as His witness as to who He is, how would His listeners know that His Father's witness confirmed Jesus' statements about Himself?
- 8) Again, the animosity of those who were antagonistic to Christ's ministry was causing them to contemplate how they could get rid of Him. But what was it that made Jesus protected from their intentions?
- 9) Discuss how God's timing is applicable not only to Jesus' life, but to ours as well.



“THE WORSHIP OF THE BEAST” Part 1

In the past several issues, our focus of study has been on Revelation 12 (the unmasking of the Dragon) and Revelation 13 (the identity and roles of the Beast and the False Prophet). In this segment we will explore an important piece of this prophetic puzzle found in the next chapter of Revelation, Chapter 14.

Revelation 12 introduced us to the War of the **Dragon** against Christ and His Church. Revelation 13 reveals to us **the human agencies** which become the visible agents of the Dragon against the Church – the Papacy, to whom the Dragon gives “his power, his throne, and great authority” (Revelation 13:2), and in the end, the False Prophet (religious America). The False Prophet will promote the Papacy and mandate that the world **worship** the Beast (the Antichrist) or lose every freedom, every earthly possession – even life itself (Revelation 13:11-18). The Dragon will use the Beast as his human surrogate and the civil authority of the False Prophet to seek to destroy the Church.


When you think about it, this is a repeat performance of the devil! This sounds an awful lot like AD 31, doesn't it? – Satan using the apostate religion of His day to mandate the death of Christ, and then the civil government of Roman as the actual authority that puts Him on the cross. In the last days, just before Jesus returns, what Christ endured at Calvary will be experienced by His Church at the hands of evil earthly powers, inspired by Satan again! Even the 3 ½ years of the anointed ministry of Christ, ending in death, will be paralleled by the anointed servants of Christ for 3 ½ years, at the end of which they too will be killed (Revelation 11:7) as Christ was, only to be resurrected and ascend in the clouds of heaven (Revelation 11:11, 12)!


So, we proceed to Revelation 14 where “worship” becomes our next major focus and is mentioned twice – once in reference to the Beast, and once in reference to Jesus Christ:

Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth--to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people – saying with a loud voice, "**Fear God and give glory to Him**, for the hour of His judgment has come; and **worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.**" ... Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "**If anyone worships the beast and his image**, and receives [his] mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. ... **who worship the beast and his image**, and whoever receives the mark of his name." Revelation 14:6, 7, 9-11.

In Revelation 13, worship of the Beast is what the world is being called to. Three times in that chapter the worship of the Beast is called for.

All who dwell on the earth will **worship** him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. ... 12 And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to **worship** the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. ... 15 He was granted [power] to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not **worship** the image of the beast to be killed. Revelation 13:8, 12, 15.





In Revelation 14, **worship of the Beast is juxtaposed, or contrasted, with the worship of the Creator!** That which God has called His creatures to do to honor Him, the Dragon and his agents, at the end, call the world to do in honor of, and in allegiance to, him! It's no wonder that another name for the Beast is Antichrist! And it's not coincidental that **worship** is at the center of what distinguishes the righteous from the wicked in the context of the end of time! Neither is it coincidental that Revelation 14:7 uses the language of the fourth commandment of the Decalogue in the call to **worship** the Creator! You will see!

Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting **gospel** to preach to those who dwell on the earth--to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people – saying with a loud voice, "**Fear God and give glory to Him**, for the hour of His **judgment** has come; **and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.**"." Revelation 14:6, 7.

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day [is] the Sabbath of the LORD your God. [In it] you shall do no work ... For [in] six days the LORD **made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that [is] in them**, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. Exodus 20:8-11.

Who one **worships** at the end of time is going to divide the world into just two groups – “the sheep and the goats” – “the wheat and the tares” – those with the mark or seal of God, and those with the mark of the beast. One's allegiance to and worship of Christ vs. Antichrist is what will determine each person's eternal destiny!

What's truly fascinating about all this emphasis on “worship” is that embedded in the character of the Dragon is the desire to be worshipped — “like God”! In fact, the very thing which initially sparked the “war in heaven” is that Lucifer (the name of the Dragon/Devil prior to be cast out of heaven), in his pride, wanted to be “worshipped” by the angels of heaven!

"How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! [How] you are cut down to the ground For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, **I will be like the Most High.**'" Isaiah 14:12-14.

Now, at the end of time, the issue of the worship of Antichrist (the human agent of the Dragon) vs the worship of Jesus Christ, “the Creator of the heavens and the earth,” openly surfaces again. The Beast becomes the personification of the Dragon, and he sits among the peoples of the earth in the place of God, demanding and receiving the worship of the whole world!

So they **worshiped** the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they **worshiped** the beast, saying, "Who [is] like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?" Revelation 13:4.

In our next chapter, we will carry this theme of “worship” to its ultimate conclusion as we observe exactly how the worship of the Beast and the worship of the Creator manifest themselves – how the authority of God is challenged by the system of the Papacy as it assumes the authority of God by “thinking to change times [set by God] and [the Law of God]” Daniel 7:25. You may be surprised where this takes us!

Stay tuned!

