

### Quick Review

Look back from your sermon notes – Was there anything that particularly challenged you from this sermon? Anything you didn't understand, agree with or connect with?

### Introduction

Have you ever had an experience in your life where you had to deal with plagiarism? Whether it was in school, in business or in your personal life? Perhaps even identity theft? Describe what happened in your situation and how it was dealt with. In today's story – we will see how Satan uses "copy-cat" tendencies to deceive the world into being "like God" himself.

### Digging In

#### Read Revelation 13:11-18

Pastor Jeff talks about the Second Beast in **Revelation 13** – The Beast of the Earth, the False Prophet. Pastor Jeff went through this passage answering Who, What, and How about the Second Beast.

**Question 1: "Who?"** Read Revelation 13:11-12. Pastor Jeff points out that this beast will have the looks of a "lamb" but the words of a dragon. Why do you think the author of Revelation describes the False Prophet in this way?

**Satan** "The Dragon" **The Anti-Christ** "The Best of the Sea" **The False Prophet** "The Beast of the Earth"

These three distinct persons/spirits are known as the Unholy Trinity. How does understanding who these people/spirits are and what they do affect your understanding of how our world operates?

**Question 2: "What?"** Read Revelation 13:13-15. Pastor Jeff shows that this Second Beast, the False Prophet will:

- Lead a cult of worship (v. 13-14) - Read 1 Kings 18:36-40. The False Prophet will counterfeit God's judgements and miracles to bolster the erroneous claim that he is God. How do you see this in our world already? How have you seen this in your own life?
- Lead people to create an image (v. 14-15) Read Deuteronomy 13:1-4 The False Prophet will have an image or statue created to be worshiped and empowered by demonic forces. How does this happen in our world today? What "images" are worshipped in our culture? In what ways are you tempted or influenced to follow similar things?

Read 2 Thessalonians 2:9-10 to help guide your understanding of this.

**Question 3: “What?”** Read **Revelation 13:16-18**. Pastor Jeff talks about the mark of the Beast and the significance this will have on all who have it, and don’t have it.

- Require a mark (v.16-18) Read **Deuteronomy 6:8** The Second Beast will require everyone who wishes to buy or sell, to mark either their hand or forehead with his mark. Once again Satan is copying that which God had the Israelites do with marking their hands and foreheads with the Word of God. **(Revelation 7:3)** The mark would show who you are loyal to. What outward appearance/mark in your life today would show your allegiance? What would your allegiance be to? Does your heart’s desire match your actions?

**Question 4: “How?”** Pastor Jeff shared that the enemy of God will attack us in three distinct ways.

- Deception to attack your mind! Read **Romans 12:2**. In what ways are you protecting your thought life? How are you reminding yourself of what is true according to God and not our world? What in your life right now would you say attacks your mind against the things of God the most? (the news, social media, certain friendships, etc.)

Read **Ephesians 6** and **2 Thessalonians 2:9-10** to help guide your answers and thought process.

- Idols to attack your heart! Read **Daniel 3:16-18**. In our world currently, most people are not being forced to worship a statue or a literal idol. However, there are many ways we show our devotion to other things. What things are you devoted to in such a way that it attack’s your devotion to God?
- Distractions to attack your life! If Satan cannot get us to worship him, or be deceived by him, he will often just distract us from the things of God. What things in your life can you identify that aren’t bad in and of themselves, but they are distracting you from focusing on Jesus?
  - Yourself? Sometimes we focus on our problems, emotions or circumstances currently happening in our life that we are so distracted by them – we forget about God.
  - Work? Work can become worship.
  - Technology? Are you glued to your phone?
  - Media? This can be so many things...
  - Love/Relationships?

### Taking it Home

Read **Ephesians 1:13-14**. The Holy Spirit is the genuine mark of God in all believers through Jesus Christ. Being “sealed” through the Spirit of God is what protects and preserves Christians until we reach our inheritance of God.

Write down ways to remind yourself of God’s ultimate protection of your salvation. How do you see evidence of the Holy Spirit in your life this week?

Read **Romans 8:14, Galatians 5:22-23, John 14:23**

## Praise / Prayer Requests

Pray for your group with these things in mind:

**Adoration** – How can I praise God for what this teaches me?

**Confession** – What sin can I confess because of what this teaches me?

**Thanksgiving** – How can I thank God for what Jesus has done?

**Supplication** – What do I need to ask of God in order to grow in light of this?