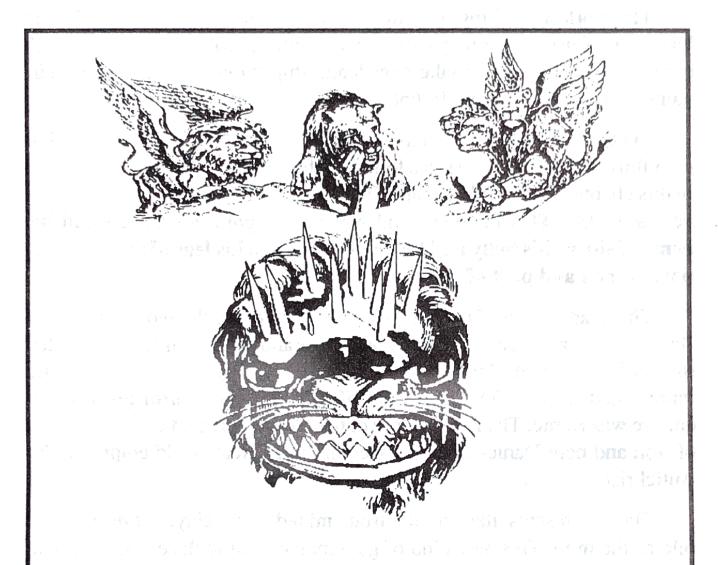
The Coming Antichrist



And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another. The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings....and behold another beast, a second, like to a bear...and it had three ribs in the mouth of it....and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads...A FOURTH BEAST, DREADFUL AND TERRIBLE, AND STRONG EXCEEDINGLY; AND IT HAD GREAT IRON TEETH...AND IT HAD TEN HORNS.

by
Pastor Perry F. Rockwood

TBarker

1. SETTING THE STAGE

"What is the world coming to?" This question is being asked by people all over the nation. Governments and people have never been so upset as now with the problems of our day increasing.

The world is looking for a man. The UNO has been a failure. World leaders are frustrated as they try to solve the many problems facing them. A man is coming who will take over leadership throughout the world. His name is Antichrist. He is Mr. 666.

In Daniel, Chapter 2, we have a complete outline of world history. For over thirty centuries history has followed this prophetic pattern. The image in this chapter is a complete map of world history. We read of this image in verses 32,33: "This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, his legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay."

The head of gold, Daniel explained, represented the world empire of Babylon under Nebuchadnezzar. The breasts and arms of silver represented the world empire of Media-Persia. The belly and thighs were of brass and represented Greece. The legs were of iron and this fourth great world empire was Rome. The feet and toes of the image were part of clay and part of iron and here Daniel saw portrayed the final great world empire under Antichrist.

Clay represents the rabble. Iron, mixed with clay, represents the rule of the mob. This new kind of government will replace constitutional democracy in America and England and is called "mobocracy" which means "rule of the mob." It will be a system of government which we call "autocratic democracy" which means "absolute government of the people." Can you not see how the stage is being set today for this kind of government with lawlessness and mob rule already a world problem? The people are being deceived while liberties are being destroyed. This new government protects the rights of the weak, of the minority, and can be just as cruel as communism itself. Constitutional government stands for liberty and justice for all; mobocracy is the dictatorship of the many over the few.

Daniel goes on in Chapter 2:41-43 to show that this government degenerates lower and falls into the hands of the mob which is controlled by agitators. Then the call goes out for a ruler who will control the mob. Antichrist will respond.

Democracy is already on the wane in Canada. Our former Prime Minister on January 12, 1969, said that he believed in the principles of real

Communism. He said he supported in theory the Marxist theory of "from each according to his ability, to each according to his need."

This image in Daniel portrays the history of human society in relation to government processes. The head of the image represented the most gifted, able, and cultured class. This elite class ruled in Ancient Babylon. The breast and arms of society were composed of the upper middle class and this class ruled in Media-Persia. The belly and thighs of society were the central and lower middle class and this class ruled in Greece. The legs were the rugged, physically strong elements of society — the brawn rather than the brains — and this class ruled in Rome. The feet and toes represented the degraded, lowliest classes of society. We see these at work in Communism today and also on the rise in our own nation. We have seen universities taken over by student mobs. We have seen industry, government offices, and other places closed down by howling mobs. The world is waiting for a man who can control the mobs and that man is Antichrist.

Now let us notice that Satan is "an angel of light" (2 Corinthians 11:14). The world system that prepares for the Antichrist will be characterized by deception and dissimulation. It will appeal to the masses because it will be godless and Christless. It will be what is called "humanitarianism."

Webster describes "humanitarianism" as "regard for mankind"; "the tenet denying the divinity of Christ"; "the doctrine that man's nature is perfectible through his own efforts without divine grace." This is in preparation for Antichrist who will appear as the "saviour" of the people. He will deceive the people and will counterfeit the kingdom of God.

The emphasis of modern government and church leaders and councils and denominations and congresses and of the World Council of Churches is socially directed rather than Biblically motivated. They tell us that we ought to make our chief goal the doing away of all evil, poverty, fear, want, worry, racial strife, and all other social ills. They are working for "The Great Society" and "The Just Society."

Let us remind ourselves that the Bible teaches that there will be no utopia until Christ establishes His kingdom here upon the earth. This will not take place, however, until after the rapture of the true Church and the Great Tribulation Period that follows that event. The Antichrist will substitute an earthly kingdom promoting fraternity, liberty, equality, and will place himself in the place of Christ. He will not call himself the Antichrist, but he will present himself to the world as the true center of its hopes, as the satisfaction of its needs, and healer of its hurts.

This is the spirit today of the World Council of Churches, the Canadian Council of Churches, the National Council of Churches, and the Ministerial Councils and Associations of our cities throughout the nation. Men are turning from God and His Word. They are putting faith in humanity rather than in the authority of the Bible. Modern church leaders have departed from a Bible-centred ministry. That is why we have so many humanistic services today.

One Methodist Church in the United States has gone on record as having conducted a "Rock and Roll Mass." The "Rock" was in the form of a musical combo. The "Roll" was a hot dog roll, with which Coca Cola was used for the Lord's Supper. One leading churchman has said, "The Bible is just as dated as anything else. It is first century theology." He further said that the new theology that is rising would bring less reliance on the Bible and more reliance on man's own abilities to meet today's problems head-on.

The economic stage is being set for Antichrist. When he comes there will be complete subjection to him. Revelation 13:16,17: "And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name."

We are living in a day of "planned economy" in place of capitalism. Under "planned economy" the government regulates wages and prices; it plans how much food and what kind to produce. It is not only directing industry but taking over industry. Our economy is preparing the way for Antichrist.

As we see the days approaching for the coming of Antichrist we realize that the coming of the Lord draweth nigh. I believe we are living in the last days. The next great event is the Rapture. Christ is our Blessed Hope. We must buy up the time. We must occupy until He comes. We must be faithful. We must live with eternity's values in view. The main task for this age is to reach the world for Christ. Eighty-five percent of the people of this nation never enter inside a Bible Church of any kind. While we wait for His coming, let us be faithful. Let us pray for souls. Let us invest wisely for God's glory. What good is your money and property when Antichrist comes? May we surrender all to Him while we wait for Him to come.

2. THE MINISTRY OF ANTICHRIST

One of these days a great leader will offer to lead the world into total peace. He will be recognized throughout the world as a man of peace.

He will promise to solve the Middle East conflict. He will bring harmony among the nations of the world. He will be a religious man interested in the ecumenical church. He will offer economic solutions to the world's problems. He will arise as a world leader of peace and prosperity and within three years and a half will become the world's greatest dictator.

Beware when this man appears on the world scene. His leadership will take the world into the Great Tribulation of terror, wars, suffering and death. Antichrist is against Christ and will usurp the place of Christ. He is part of the Satanic Trinity just as Christ is part of the heavenly Trinity. This counterfeit trinity is made up of Satan, Antichrist, and the False Prophet.

Satan, "the god of this world" (2 Corinthians 4:4), is also called "the dragon" and he imitates the work of God the Father. The Antichrist, or "the beast" imitates the work of God the Son. The False Prophet imitates the work of God the Holy Spirit. (Read Revelation 13).

Antichrist the person, is to be distinguished from "the spirit of antichrist" which was already at work in the early church. We read in 1 John 4:3, "And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world."

The contrast between the Lord Jesus Christ and the Antichrist may well be seen from the following Scriptures:

Christ comes from above (John 6:38); Antichrist ascends from the pit (Rev. 11:7). Christ comes in His Father's name (John 5:43); Antichrist comes in his own name (John 5:43). Christ humbled Himself (Phil 2:8); Antichrist exalts himself (2 Thess. 2:4). Christ is despised and rejected of men (Isa. 53:3; Luke 23:18); Antichrist is admired (Rev. 13:3,4). Christ was exalted by the Father (Phil 2:9); Antichrist will be cast down to Hell (Isa. 14:14,15; Rev. 19:20). Christ came to do His Father's will (John 6:38); Antichrist will come to do his own will (Dan. 11:36). Christ came to save (Luke 19:10); Antichrist will come to destroy (Dan. 8:24). Christ is the Good Shepherd (John 10:11); Antichrist is the idol (evil) shepherd (Zech. 11:16,17). Christ is the Truth (John 14:6); Antichrist is the lie (2 Thess. 2:11). Christ is the Holy One (Mark 1:24); Antichrist is the lawless one (2 Thess. 2:11). Christ is the man of sorrows (Isa. 53:3); Antichrist is the man of sin (2 Thess. 2:3). Christ is the Son of God (Luke 1:35); Antichrist is the son of perdition (2 Thess. 2:3). Christ, "the mystery of godliness" is God manifest in the flesh (1 Tim. 3:16); Antichrist, "the mystery of iniquity" will be Satan manifest in the flesh (2 Thess. 2:7).

By miracles and wonders, Jesus of Nazareth was approved of God as the chosen Messiah of Israel (Acts 2:22), but they received Him not. By miracles and wonders, the prophet of this superman from Hell, will deceive all who dwell upon the earth, whose names are not written in the Lamb's Book of Life. The authority once offered to the Lord Jesus Christ by the Devil, but refused in Luke 4:5-7, will be accepted by Antichrist, who in return with his prophet (Revelation 13:11,12) will convert the world to Satan.

Actually, the Great Tribulation will begin with the public appearance of Antichrist. His origin is not clear. He is called "a little horn" in Daniel 7:8 and may possibly come from some small state. But by Satanic power he will rise to the highest pinnacle of earthly greatness and have power given him "over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations" (Revelation 13:7).

His influence will be great. The ten kings of the future Roman Empire will agree to give him their kingdoms and power: "These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for He is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with Him are called, and chosen, and faithful. And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues. And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire. For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil His will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled" (Revelation 17:13-17).

The Antichrist will be the head of the Federated States of Europe. Here he will exert great authority and power by attempting to settle the Israel-Arab dispute in the Middle East. Initially, he will side in with Israel against Russia, the head of the northern Confederacy of nations, and this conflict will finally end at the Battle of Armageddon at the end of the Tribulation Period.

Let me read Ezekiel 38:15,16,19: "And thou (Russia) shalt come from thy place out of the north parts...all of them riding upon horses...a mighty army. And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel...surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel." From now on you will find more and more news centering around the Middle East situation as the stage is being set for the rapture of the Church and the revelation of the man of sin, the Antichrist.

People have often asked, Why would Russia be interested in Israel? One good reason is the mineral contents of the Dead Sea. It has been

estimated that the chemicals in the Dead Sea are valued at \$1,270,000,000,000. It is believed that this staggering sum is equal to the combined wealth of the USA, Great Britain, France, Germany and Italy.

There is some Biblical authority for believing that Antichrist will be active in the world even before the Tribulation begins. We read in 2 Thess. 2:3, "Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition." The falling away will be a time of great rebellion against God. The Bible and its authority will be denied and rejected. This is happening today. It is being denied on radio broadcasts and in the newspapers. It is being rejected in schools and universities. It is being forgotten by our political leaders as they bring in liberal laws pertaining to booze, drugs, homosexuality, recognition of Red China, the abolition of capital punishment, the softening of laws pertaining to criminals, the gradual control of education, and the establishing of a welfare state.

Yes, the world is preparing for Antichrist. It will cost us more and more to stand for the Word of God. We will find ourselves in the minority, but let us not surrender. Like Daniel's three friends let us not budge nor bend as we honour God in every department of our lives. Let us love the Lord no matter what the cost may be. Let us do more to send forth this message of hope and love until Jesus comes. May He find us truly faithful and occupying in that day.

3. THE SPIRIT OF ANTICHRIST TODAY

The Bible teaches that when Antichrist takes over the one world system, only those with the mark of the beast can buy or sell. Let us read Revelation 13:16-18: "And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six."

The stage is being set today for the numbering of the people. Satan is already at work to dehumanize mankind in preparation for the Tribulation Period. If you do not believe this, let me ask you a few questions: When was the last time you mailed a letter without using a zip code? When was the last time you made a food purchase at the supermarket without each item having a universal code imprinted on it? When was the last time you subscribed for a magazine without being assigned a number? When was the

last time you lived without a social insurance/security number which controls almost every phase of your life? When was the last time you cashed a cheque without writing several numbers on the back? Walk into many stores and you are assigned a number. We have become a generation of number-happy people and we are playing into the hands of Satan.

It is easy to see how control of the world could fall into the hands of one man. A good example is the OPEC nations which in 1973 raised the prices by 400%. Their oil money soared from 29 billion dollars to 100 billion dollars in 1974. The Arab nations did not know what to do with their money so U.S. bankers rushed over and invited them to invest in their banks. The World Bank estimated the Arab oil-producing bloc of nations could have ONE TRILLION dollars to invest in the U.S.A. which would be 100 times the gold value held by the U.S. Government. All of this spells control—control that is paving the way for socialism and dictator rule.

Another great event projecting towards the MARK of Revelation 13 is "The Cashless Society." The chartered banks began a revolution in the midsixties when they moved into the credit card business. This so-called "plastic revolution" could also be called a super bank revolution.

Now the banks are flooding the country with EFT or Electronic Funds Transfer. The banks want a cashless society and are geared towards that end. Our bank, The Royal Bank of Canada, has asked The Peoples Gospel Hour to do away with cheques and to pay by EFT. This method is called a convenience, but actually it is paving the way for Antichrist and the MARK.

In the widely planned "cashless" society, dominated by magnetically encoded plastic debit cards, funds would be rocketed across the nation in seconds, eliminating cheques and saving the time and money it takes to process them. Such a transfer was made by the U.S.A. electronically to a bank in London in January 1981, to release the 52 American hostages from Iran. Now the banks have ATMs, the Automated Teller Machines which saves them both staff and salaries and increases their profits.

With the different credit cards issued by banks, the next step will be to issue just ONE credit card acceptable by all banks. A "Citibank" official commented in the April 18, 1977 issue of *Business Week*: "If there is just one card...it will be issued by the government." You and I know that when this occurs, it will be the age of Antichrist.

People often ask, "How could intelligent people allow themselves to be deceived into receiving a MARK in order to buy and sell? The answer is that we are already under identification control. If you apply for a job, use

Medicare, request a loan, or desire a passport, then you must show your Social Security number. This is the number that will be on future plastic credit cards. Now we have the Universal Product Code which appears on most all items bought in the supermarket. This code identifies items all over the world.

How easy it will be, therefore, for the entire world to receive a MARK which will be controlled by computers in order to buy and sell. Henry Kissinger in his book *American Foreign Policy*, published by North in 1974, said: "We must construct an international order before a crisis imposes it as a necessity." In a speech given in Los Angeles, January 24, 1975, he said: "The last quarter of this century could be remembered as that period when mankind fashioned the first truly global community."

I wonder if you realize that the pattern has already been set for one world government under the United Nations 16 International Agencies.

- 1. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) whose aim is to promote peaceful use of the atomic bomb.
- 2. International Labour Organization (ILO) whose purpose is to coordinate labour demands throughout the world.
- 3. Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) which is set up to standardize food qualities.
- 4. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank) which is designed to internationalize money standards, and to develop an international currency.
- 5. International Development Association (IDA) which seeks to control the natural resources of the world.
- 6. United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is set up to promote collaboration among nations through education, science and culture.
- 7. World Health Organization (WHO) to internationalize medicine, surgery, and all treatments of diseases.
- 8. International Finance Corporation (IFC) which is a plan to take over the "poorly developed" areas of the world. This will bring smaller nations of the world in subjection to a one-world government.

Then there are other world organizations such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF); International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO); International Postal Union (IPU); International Telecommunications Union (ITU); World Meteorological Organization (WMO);

Intergovernmental Maritime Consultive Organization (IMCO): International Trade Organization (ITO); General Agreement on Tariffs and Trades (GATT).

Jesus spoke of the time when the complex problems would result in: "Men's heart failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth" (Luke 21:26). It is then that they will unite and look for a leader and that leader will be revealed as Antichrist, after the Rapture of the Church.

Yes, and while Antichrist will have full powers during this seven year period, God will still have the final say. Christ will return to this earth with miraculous powers to put down the authority of Antichrist. May I read Revelation 19:20: "And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone."

Sin always ends with death, whether it is in a nation or a person. "The wages of sin is death." This is spiritual death and separation from God. If you are not saved you are dead already in trespasses and sins. Yet there is hope for you in Christ, for "the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23). Christ died to pay your sin debt. He took your place. He was your substitute. Will you come to Him today, turn from your sin, and by faith receive Him into your heart? Jesus said, "Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out."

4. THE GREAT TRIBULATION

While the term "Antichrist" is a vague one to many people in these days of neo-evangelical and liberal theology, yet to the early church and to all Bible students it speaks of the last and greatest of all the enemies of God and of His Christ. As we study the Bible we find these facts clearly set forth:

- 1. Before the end of the Age of Grace, there will be apostasy which will not only be a corruption of the Christian faith, but a total denial of it. It will substitute "the lie" for "the truth." It will be a counterfeit faith.
- 2. That the last representative and leader of this apostasy will be a man—the Antichrist, "the man of sin," "the wicked one," "the son of perdition."
- 3. That during the Tribulation Period of seven years, following the rapture of the Church, this man will attain universal dominion, all nations

being subject to him. The world today is looking for such a man of peace, a man that can unite the nations, a man who will control the world.

- 4. The Antichrist will claim honours for himself and will persecute all who uphold the faith of Christ. He will suppress, as far as possible, all genuine Christian worship.
- 5. That at the beginning of the Tribulation Period the Jews as a whole will receive Antichrist, but later on he will turn on Israel and persecute the Jews even unto death.
- 6. That Antichrist and his adherents will be destroyed by the Lord Jesus Christ at His appearance, at the end of the Tribulation Period.

The Bible teaches that Antichrist will take the place of God and will lead mankind to the worship of himself. We read in 2 Thessalonians 2:4, "Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped: so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God." He will be known as God. He will be one of the most important theologians of all times. He will teach all humanity to believe "the lie." Men will turn from the truth of God's Word.

We can see the stage being set today for the theology of Antichrist to take over the thinking of the unsaved peoples of the world. We are living in a day of naturalism which denies the supernatural. The naturalist theory teaches that scientific laws within nature account for all phenomena. It rejects the revelation of God as the means of attaining truth. It denies the existence of a personal God. Naturalism teaches that if there be a God, He is "one with nature for all nature is God's body." This does away with the Bible, with miracles, with supernatural power, and with eternal life.

This has always been the desire of the Devil. He told Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden: "Ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." The devil wants to make gods out of men and he himself wants to be the chief god. This will come to a climax during the Tribulation Period. Mankind will not have the man Christ Jesus to rule over them now, but in time they will choose another man — a man who is humanity's representative — a man who finally ascends the throne in the temple of God showing himself that he is God.

We can easily see that the Great Tribulation Period will have its religion. The false worldwide ecumenical church will be the church of the Tribulation Period. In Revelation 17:1-6 we see an adulterous woman sitting upon a scarlet coloured beast. This is a picture of the ecumenical church bringing together all the apostates who have entered this period of time. We know that the present ecumenical movement will succeed. But

since all true believers will be taken away at the Rapture, the ecumenical church will be nothing more than a federation of unbelievers.

This is the reason why God calls His own children out of the ecumenical movement today. How can truly born again believers support or encourage or help the ecumenical movement in any way when they know from the Bible that it is the church of the Antichrist. Hear God's call in Revelation 18:4, "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues." Are we going to remain true to our church or to our Christ? Are we going to follow the teaching of men regarding the ecumenical movement or the teaching of God in His Word?

The next step is for the harlot, the ecumenical church system, to be destroyed. All kinds of deception and lies and wonders will be employed by Antichrist to obtain worship from man, and terrible persecution will fall upon those who refuse to give him the place he demands.

The Great Tribulation is set forth in the Bible under various terms. In Daniel 12:1 it is described as "a time of trouble." In Matthew 24:21-29 it is called "great tribulation." In Luke 21:34-36 it is referred to as "that day." In Jeremiah 30:4-7 it is called "that day" and "the time of Jacob's trouble."

From the political point of view, it is taught in both Daniel and Revelation that there will come a united political world just as there will be a united ecumenical church religious system. There will be ten kingdoms in this revived Roman Empire. In Daniel 7:1-28 we have the picture of the ten horns. In Revelation 13:1-10 we have the same picture, and in addition the horns have a crown, meaning the time of their power and rule have arrived. The rule of this political world and power will be despotic and blasphemous.

There will also be one economic system. Let me read Revelation 13:16,17, "And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name."

The influence of the Antichrist will be great. The ten kings of the future Roman Empire will agree to give him their kingdoms and power: "These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for He is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with Him are called, and chosen, and faithful. And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and

multitudes, and nations, and tongues. And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire. For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil His will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled" (Revelation 17:13-17).

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It is important to recognize that Antichrist is directly associated with the "great whore" of Revelation 17. Here this woman is seen riding on the back of the beast which represents Antichrist. This woman, the "whore" church represents and symbolizes the apostate church with headquarters in Rome. She is the main subject of the first and last parts of the chapter, while the beast is presented in verses 7-14.

"The mystery of the woman" is mentioned in verse 7. Verse 8 describes the beast that "was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit", and again, as "the beast that was, and is not, and yet is." This is a direct reference to the Roman Empire of ancient history ceasing at that time and being revived during the Great Tribulation Period. The period when it "is not" is the present spread of the centuries from the fall of the ancient empire until the restoration of the new one.

A careful study of this passage will show how closely Romanism is associated with the religious system under Antichrist. Revelation 17:9 tells us "The seven heads are seven mountains" and there is only one city built on seven mountains and that is Rome.

In verse 2 of the same chapter we read: "With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication." If you study history you will see that almost every king has had political, economic, or religious ties with the Vatican. The Royal Family in England recognized the Pope as the

representative of Christ during his tour of England. The USA has appointed a representative to the Vatican.

Revelation 17:4, "The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour." These are the official colours of the Papacy. "And decked with gold and precious stones and pearls." The Vatican is the wealthiest organization upon the earth.

Despite the fact that the modern charismatic movement and many evangelical leaders of our day believe the Pope to be an evangelical — some even call him an evangelist — all the original church creeds of the major protestant denominations believed the Papacy to be a vital part of the Antichrist system. Let me quote some of these confessions:

Baptist (Baptist Confession of 1668 chapter 26 paragraph 4): "The Lord Jesus Christ is the head of the Church, in whom, by the appointment of the Father, all power for the calling, institution order, or government of the Church is invested in a supreme and sovereign manner; neither can the Pope of Rome, in any sense, be head thereof, but is no other than Antichrist, that man of sin and son of perdition, that exalteth himself in the Church against Christ, and all that is called God: whom the Lord shall destroy in the brightness of His coming."

Congregational (Savor Declaration 1658 chapter 26 paragraph 4): "There is no other head of the Church but the Lord Jesus Christ; nor can the Pope of Rome in any sense be head thereof; but it (he) is that Antichrist, that man of sin and son of perdition that exalteth himself in the Church against Christ, and all that is called God, whom the Lord shall destroy with the brightness of His coming."

Presbyterian (Westminister Confession of Faith chapter 25 paragraph 6): "There is no other head of the church but the Lord Jesus Christ: nor can the Pope of Rome in any sense be head thereof; but is that antichrist, that man of sin, and son of perdition, that exalteth himself in the church against Christ, and all that is called God."

Church of England: (39 Articles of Religion): "The sacrifices of masses, in which it was commonly said the priest did offer Christ for the quick and the dead, to have remission of pain and guilt, were blasphemous fables and dangerous deceits...The Bishop of Rome hath no jurisdiction in this Realm of England."

Jesus said that in the last days (Matthew 24:4,5,11) there would be deception. Many Christians today, as well as Evangelical leaders, are deceived regarding Roman Catholics. If Roman Catholics get saved (the same as Protestants and all other sinners) then they cannot continue to worship in the Roman Catholic Church. No Christian can pray to Mary for there is only one Mediator between God and men and that is the man, Christ Jesus (1 Timothy 2:5). No Christian can partake of the Mass which is blasphemy against **THE FINISHED WORK OF CHRIST** (Hebrews 9:28; 10:12). No Christian can have a so-called Catholic priest hear his confession for we are to confess our sins only to the Lord Jesus Christ (1 John 1:9).

Let us be faithful to the Word of God and not allow even TV and Radio ministries and evangelists to detract from the plain teaching of the Bible. Many of them are helping to prepare for the coming of Antichrist.

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Dear Pastor Rockwood,

I am writing to say that I this day acknowledge before the Lord that I am a sinner. I believe that Christ is God's free gift of salvation and that He died for me. I now turn from sin and receive Christ as my own personal Saviour. Please send me some helpful literature and pray that I might live for Christ.

Name:		-		-		 	-		*****	-	-	***************************************		-	 -	NE SANSONIA
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