

# ***Antichrist, Crisis and the Mark*** Part 6A

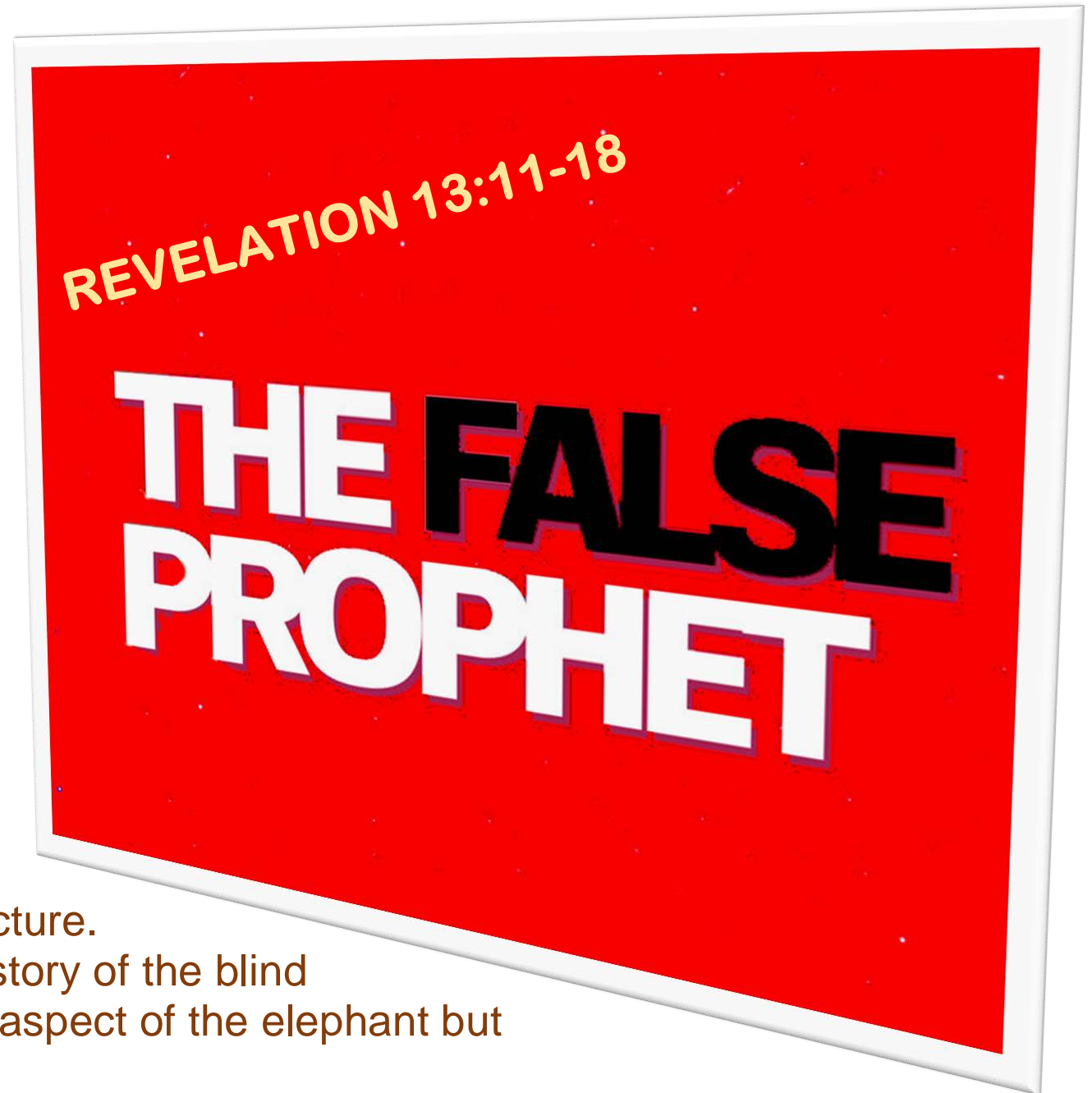
## ***The False Prophet. Re.13: 11-14***

**Commentaries on Bible Prophecies** by Gaetan.

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In commentaries about the book of Revelation, we hear a lot about ***“The Beast”***, the Antichrist, this evil dictator emerging just before the Second Coming of Christ. But we don’t hear so much about another beast, **the False Prophet**, even though half of chapter 13 is dedicated to him. This 2-part study (6A-6B) will focus on this second Beast and the important role he plays on the End Time stage.

We can think of the **False Prophet** as being the Antichrist’s publicity director, something like Goebbels was for Hitler, his Minister of Propaganda. That, certainly, is one side of the picture. But probably, there is more to it than that. In the story of the blind men and the elephant, each of the men saw one aspect of the elephant but missed seeing the complete picture.



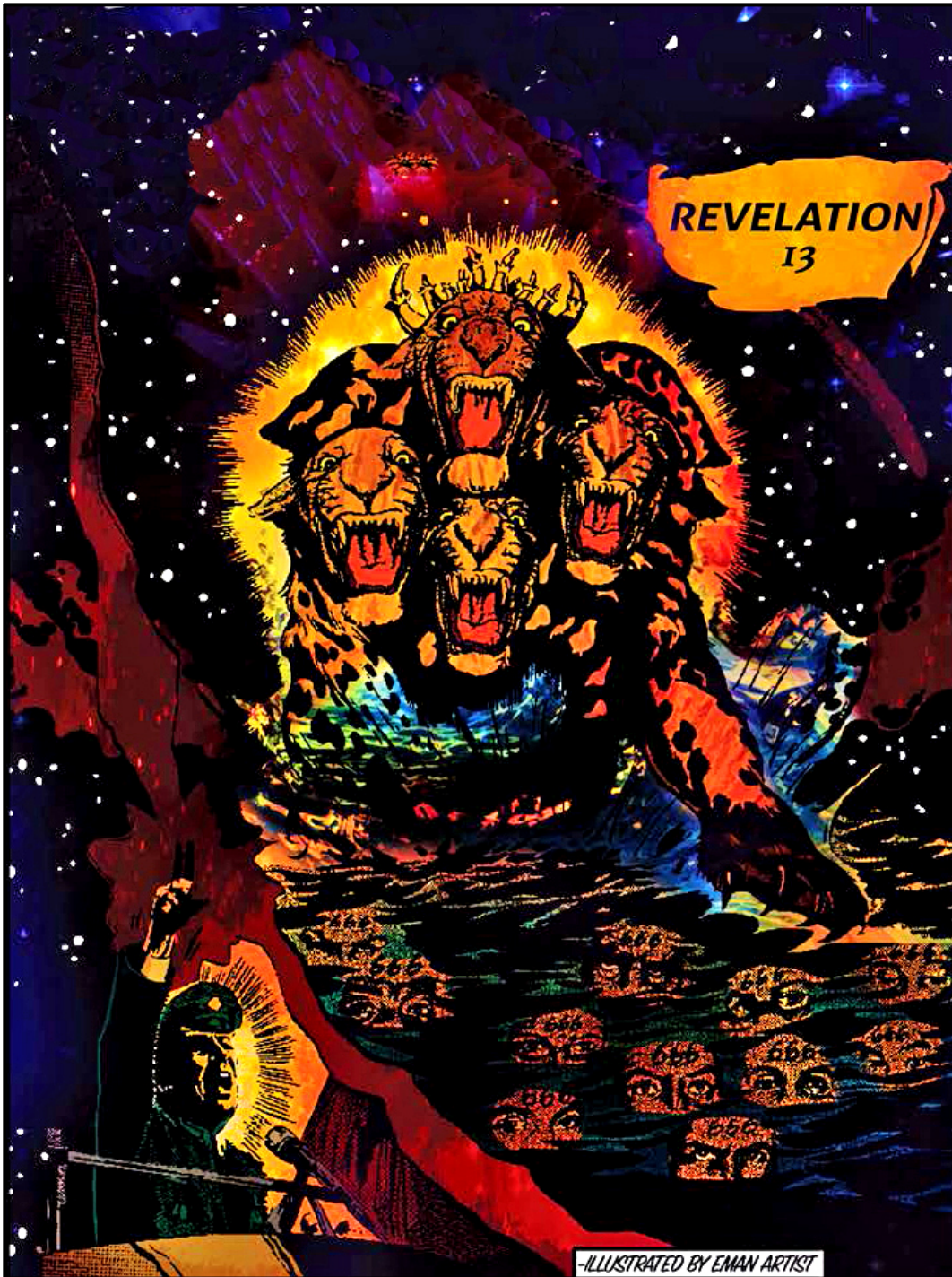


So, to get a more complete picture, it will help to see that the symbolism of the **False Prophet** as a “*beast*” should mean that he also rules an empire, or a very powerful nation at least. Because the Earth-Beast is pictured as the one who administers the world financially (through the mark-number system of buying and selling), it should be safe to assume that he wields considerable power in the economic realm.

We might even compare the **False Prophet**’s role in the final empire to that of the true prophets, Joseph and Daniel, who acted, not only as prophets, but also became in ancient times prime ministers of the Egyptian and Babylonian empires.

Another mystery about the **False Prophet** has to do with his “*religious*” role. How is it that the Antichrist has anything to do with religion at all when he is supposed to be totally anti-religious, anti-God! Further ahead, we will look into this question.





## The Dragon, the Beast and the False Lamb

**REV.13:1** *Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a **beast rising up out of the sea**, having **seven heads** and ten **horns**, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name.*

In the Scriptures, **beasts, heads, horns** and **crowns** are symbolic of kings and/or kingdoms of people. (see Rev.17:9-14; Da.7:23-24) The **sea or waters** are often a **symbol of the peoples of the World**. So, the Sea-Beast comes out of the masses of the people to form empires, as explained in Revelation 17 and Daniel chapter 7:

*"Then he said to me, "The **waters which you saw**, where the harlot sits, **are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.**"* **REV.17:15**

*"Daniel spoke, saying, "I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up **the Great Sea**. And four great **beasts** came up from **the sea**, each different from the other."* **DAN.7:2-3**



**REV.13:11** Then I saw **another beast** coming up out of **the earth**, and he had two horns **like a lamb** and spoke **like a dragon**.

The first beast, known as the “Beast of the Sea”, is clearly the Antichrist. And now we have the “Beast of the Earth” who later, in this same book of Revelation, is identified as **“the false prophet”**:

“And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the **dragon**, out of the mouth of **the beast**, and out of the mouth of **the false prophet**.” **REV.16:13, also 19:20, 20:10**

Here we see the “*unholy trinity*”: the dragon, the beast and the false prophet. The **False Prophet** and the Antichrist are both called beasts. But the antichrist is called **the** beast, or the “*first beast*”, whereas the False Prophet is called **“another beast”**.

Now this lamb-like beast comes up **out of the earth** instead of the sea. What's the difference between the earth and the sea? In the typology of this passage, if the water and the seas represent the people and nations of the world, they are more fluid/ mobile, volatile, and even fickle. But here comes a beast out of **something more solid, the earth**. What could the earth represent?





We can **speculate** that if anything is more solid than governments, it is the **religious systems**. Governments, peoples, whole civilizations have come and gone, have been wiped off the face of the Earth, but their religions continue! They're **more lasting**. And the Antichrist, like every government and every nation, might discover that they have got to have some kind of religion.

And what will that religion look like? Probably like the religions that have been around all through history: Materialism and Emperor-worship. And they will still be around, but in a sort of modern secular manifestation, during the coming End of the Age era.

As a **False Prophet**, this second beast of Revelation 13, will point people toward a false worship system, namely that of worshiping the Antichrist. In ancient times emperor-worship was a common feature of all the Beast empires who rose out of the sea. And those emperors always had their crew of wise men and false prophets to foster that kind of worship.



In like fashion, the modern **False Prophet** will exalt the Antichrist; he will speak what people want to hear, instead of the truth they need to hear. And he will attract a huge, worldwide following, as false prophets usually do.

Then in a day of distress, like the coming Great Tribulation, or maybe following this time of Covid madness and war in Europe, the lamb-like leader (and his nation) will transform into a ravenous wolf. What a powerful combination that would be - a union of military and economic forces - to lead the World to its destruction, the **False Prophet** and the Antichrist!

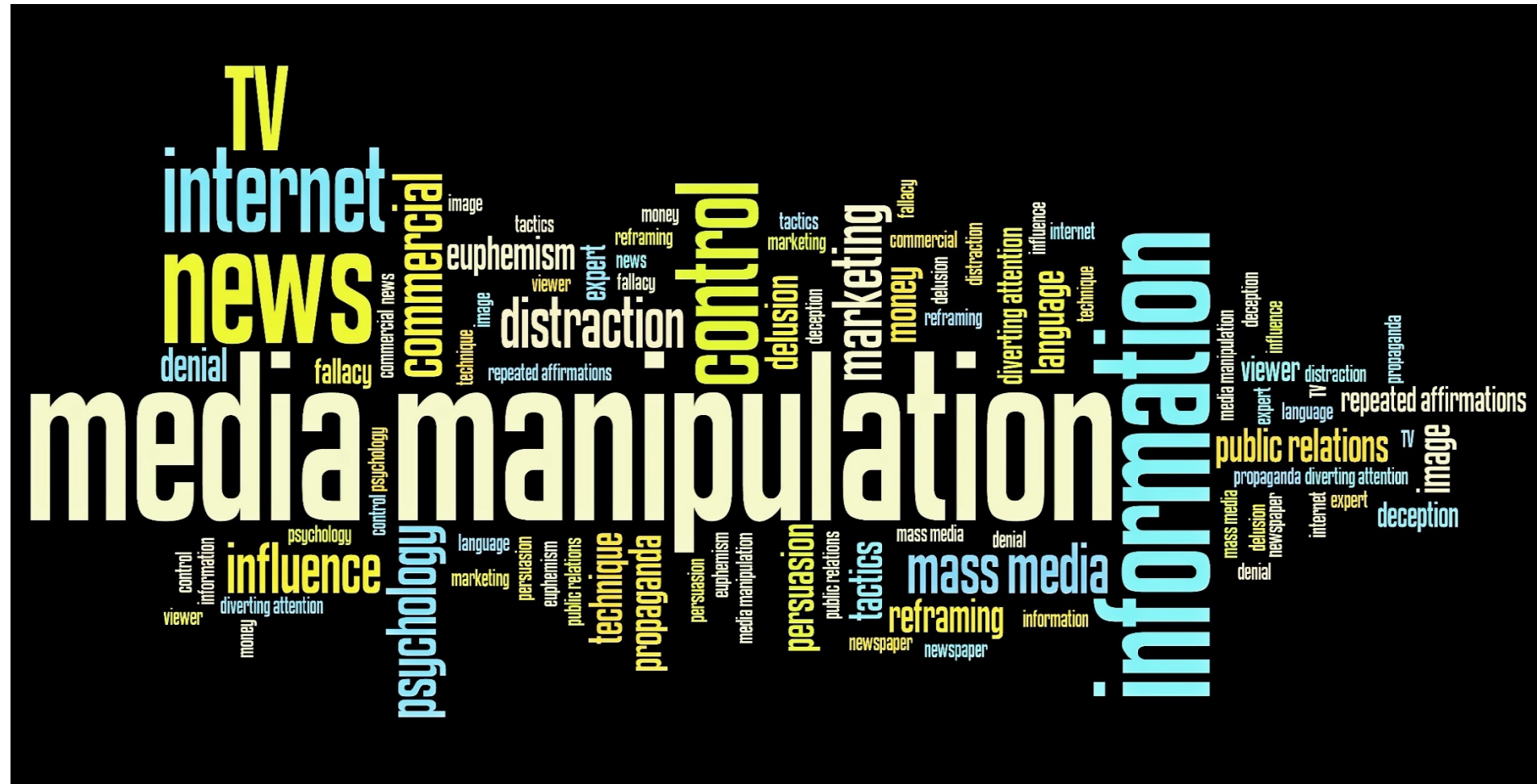
*“And he had **two** horns.”* The horns are symbolic of great power, but not to the degree of the first beast who had **ten** horns. The **False Prophet** appears *“like a **lamb**”*, charming, with persuasive words that prompt allegiance and good will from others. As the lamb is a **religious symbol**, a symbol of sacrifice, so this beast may be a religious figure, a preacher or speaker whose demonically empowered words will deceive the multitudes.



Jesus is called the Lamb of God. This Beast only pretends, trying to look good and innocent on the surface. The Antichrist, this Devil-man, wants to be worshiped, so he needs a prophet, this false lamb who becomes his propaganda master, his **False Prophet** who promotes him and his worship.

A wolf in sheep's clothing, that's what he is! In fact, he is worse, because when he opens his mouth, he doesn't just growl like a wolf, he roars **“as a dragon.”** Like the first beast, this beast gets his power from Satan and his mouth is the very voice of the Devil! (Rev.13:4)

The Bible identifies the dragon as “that serpent of old, called **the Devil and Satan**, who deceives the whole world...” **REV.12:9.**



**REV.13:12** And he,  
(the false prophet)  
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**.



The false demagogue with his false religion and **False Prophet**, are like an imitation of the Trinity: God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit plus an imitation utopia counterfeit of the Millennium.

The Antichrist is the imitation Christ, the imitation Messiah, son of the imitation god, Satan, and he attempts to establish a fake utopia with the help of the **False Prophet**'s imitation of the Holy Spirit.



## THE ODD COUPLE



The Antichrist and the **False Prophet** are paired significantly: the former's focus is in the political-military arena, while the latter's emphasis is in the religious-economic realm. In the Tribulation, with the absence of true religion, a false religion will be necessary to reinforce the political power of the Antichrist. Wherever there is a vacuum of true religion, political power will join itself to false religion to give itself a measure of acceptability or legitimacy.

And what is that religion? Well, we might call it the *“religion of no religion”*. The materialistic, scientifically oriented world of modern times dismisses any supernatural reality as superstition. With no *“Higher Power”* to look to, the world is left with Materialism (worship of things) and worship of a person (the Antichrist). And those are the secular *“religions”* represented by the **False Prophet** and the Antichrist.

And if some of the pro-God forces can be fooled into joining the anti-God forces, what an unbeatable combination that would make. And much of that sort of thing did happen in Hitler Germany and will likely happen again, as restrictions tighten and persecutions increase, making it more and more difficult to stay unwavering in faith. Many churches compromised then, but the government was actively promoting the worship of Germany and Hitler. And I imagine it will be much the same in the future – promotion of the great new world order and its head, the Antichrist. The whole thing will be dressed in the robes of righteousness, of course, and that will be deceiving for many Christians.



Here is the probable scenario: at first, the Antichrist, with the help of his **False Prophet**, will make a pact with the world and its religions to work with him and thus bring a temporary measure of peace and security to the world... and get their cooperation and backing to put him in power. The signing of this covenant will signal the start of the last seven years of man's dominion.



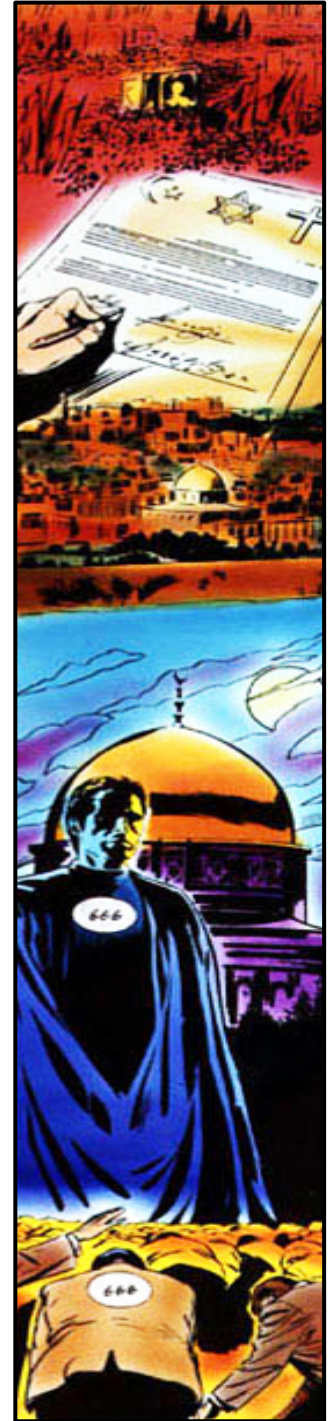


*“And he shall **confirm the covenant** with many for one week: and **in the midst of the week**, he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease...”*

**DAN.9:27**

At the three-and-a-half-year mark of the agreement, **after** he has gotten into power and has gotten full control, and after surviving what sounds like an assassination attempt, the megalomaniacal Antichrist will break the covenant, declare himself God, and abolish all other religious worship. He then insists that the world should worship him and seeks to slay anybody who refuses. It sounds like by that time, the **False Prophet**, cooperates completely with the Antichrist and urges his followers to worship him!

*“And his heart shall be against the **holy covenant**... therefore he shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation **against the holy covenant**: so shall he do; he shall even return and have intelligence with them that **forsake the holy covenant**.” **DAN.11:28, 30***



**REV.13:13** *He performs **great signs**, so that he even **makes fire come down from heaven** on the earth in the sight of men.*

The **False Prophet** will have the power to counterfeit the miracles of God, such as calling down fire from heaven. How much is literal, how much is a modern

“*miracle of science*”, and how much is symbolic is for now uncertain. Calling down fire from heaven was associated with the power of God in the Old Testament (Ge.19:24; Lev.10:1-2; 1 Kg. 18:38; and in Re.11:3-6).

Satan is not very original and likes to imitate what God does; he is the master counterfeiter. Since God often revealed Himself by fire, the **False Prophet** uses fire to validate his own works.

**REV.13:14** *And he (the false prophet) **deceives** those who dwell on the earth **by those signs** which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth **to make an image to the beast** who was **wounded by the sword and lived**.*







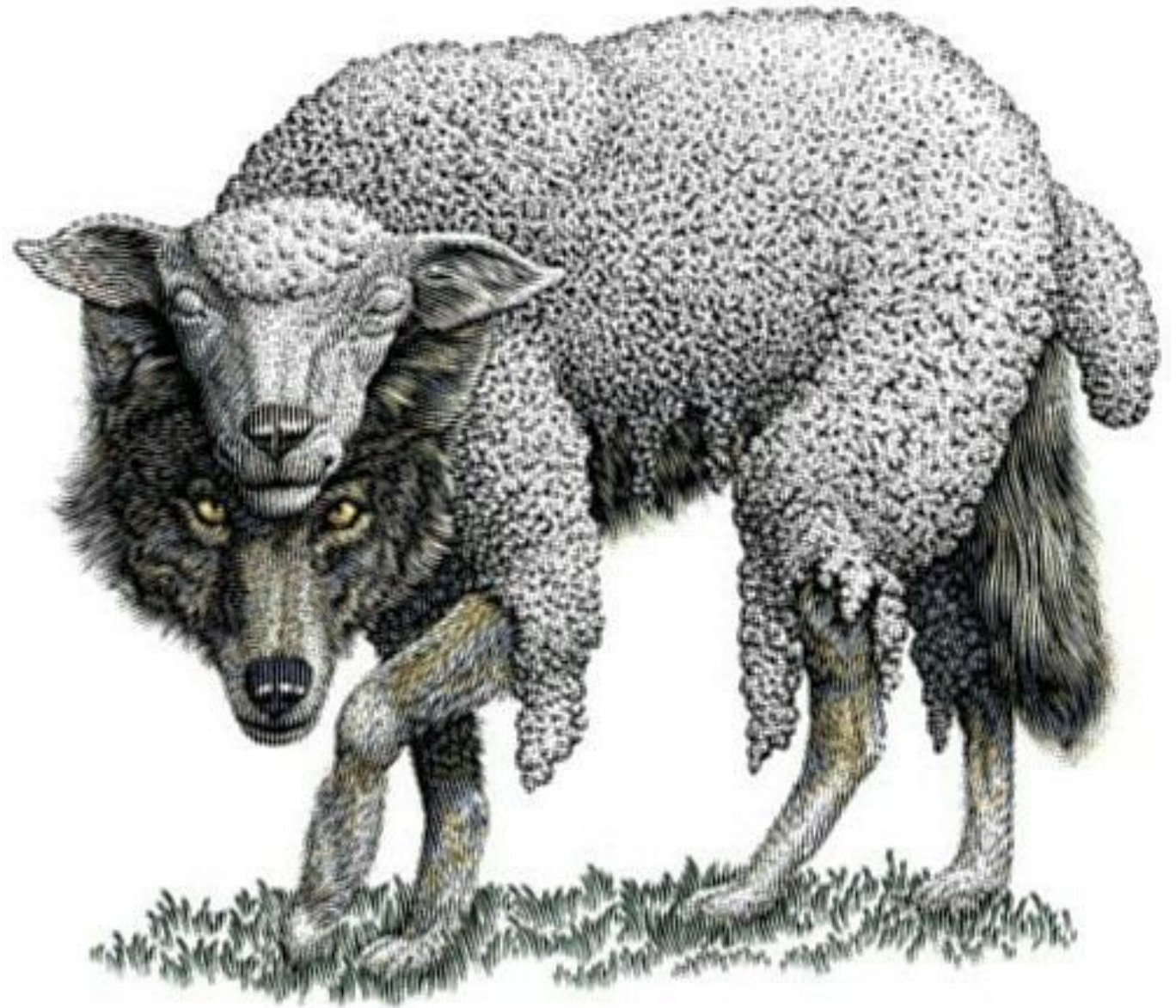
The term “*false prophet*” is nearly always used in the Bible to refer to someone who claims to speak on behalf of the one true God, but he does so falsely. **In general**, it is not used to refer to leaders of openly pagan religions or of unbelievers.

When Jesus spoke about the end times in *Matthew 24:24*, he said “*For false Christs and false prophets will arise and will show great signs and wonders*”. These terms, false Christs, false prophets, would likely mean people who are faking some form of Christianity or religions of the one true God. *Matt 24:24* continues with “*so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect.*”

The idea that this deception would, if possible, mislead the **very elect**, those who truly follow Jesus, surely points to a religion that resembles Christianity, especially its ideal of sharing the wealth. In addition, the “*great signs and wonders*”, whatever they may be, have a lot to do with the strong deception of those days, which will be hard to resist for those distant from the Lord and not able to discern what is going on.

Paul in 2 Cor 11:13-15 said “For such men are **false** apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. No wonder, for even Satan **disguises himself as an angel of light**. Therefore, it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness...”.

The apostle Paul explained that Satan and His servants generally work by copying God and His servants. Hence, Satan’s servants are called “false apostles” who “disguise themselves as servants of righteousness”. Satan himself appears as an angel of light, meaning that he fakes godliness and truthfulness in order to deceive. It’s like counterfeit money; the more it looks like the real thing, the better the deception will be. Satan’s counterfeit religion will be in full force in those final years of history.



To be continued in Part 6B with more on the **False Prophet**'s introduction to the Image and Mark of the Beast.