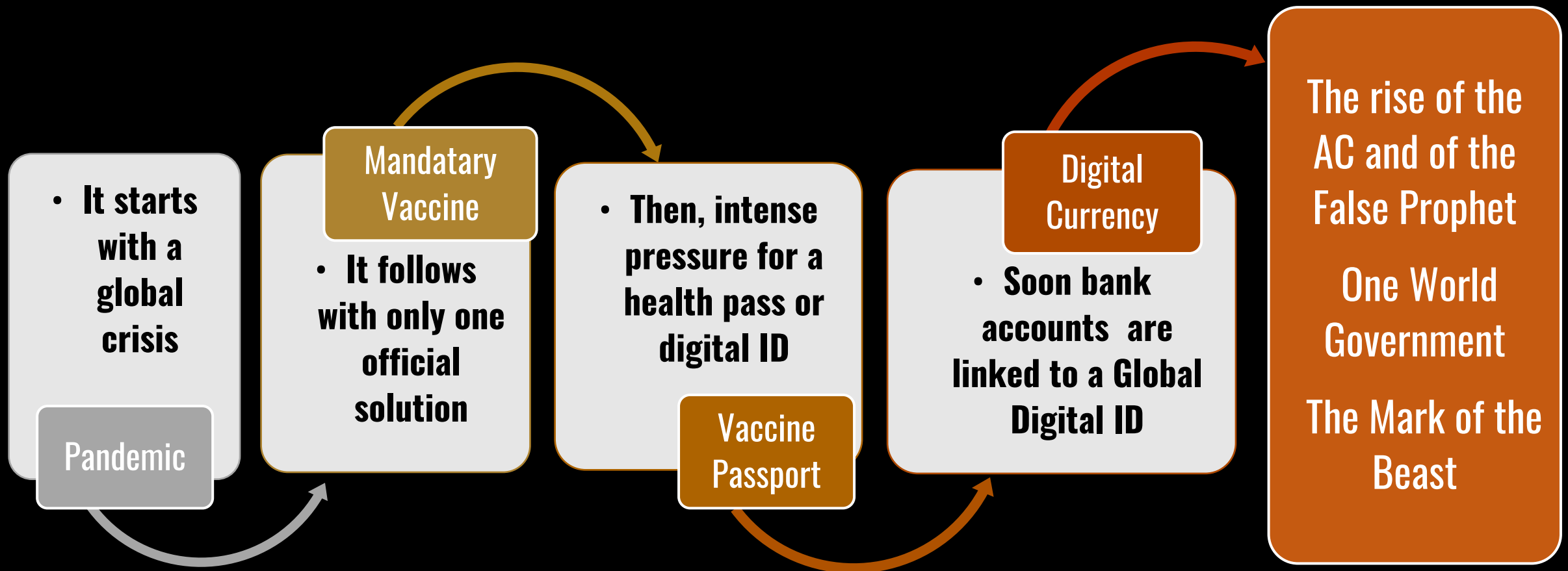


Antichrist, Crisis and the Mark. *Part 7A*

WHERE ARE WE IN THE ENDTIME TIMETABLE?

Basic and common-sense commentaries on current events and prophecy

by Gaetan



WHERE ARE WE IN THE ENDTIME TIMETABLE?

The last couple years have been a “*time of trouble*” for many people around the world and there is no need to convince anybody that our normal lives have changed.

And it is not just this pandemic, but globalization, economies, new technologies, struggles related to racial discrimination, gender biases, warfare and natural disasters; everything seems to be changing... at a rapid pace. “*The Times They Are a-Changin’*” as Bob Dylan famously sang during the troubled 60’s. And changing they are, bringing us closer by the day to Christ’s Return.

HOW LONG, O LORD, HOW LONG?

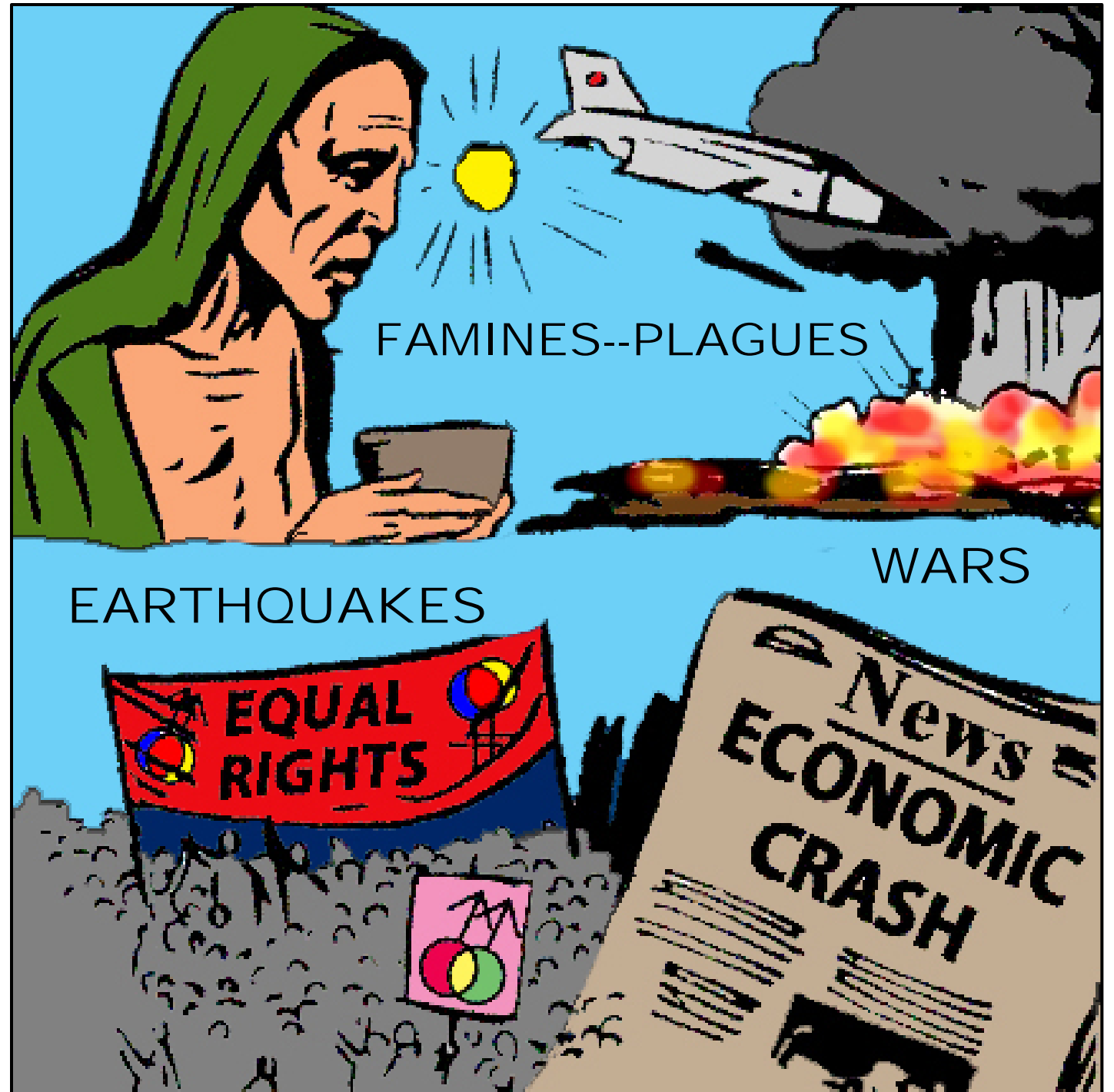
--BEFORE THE END?

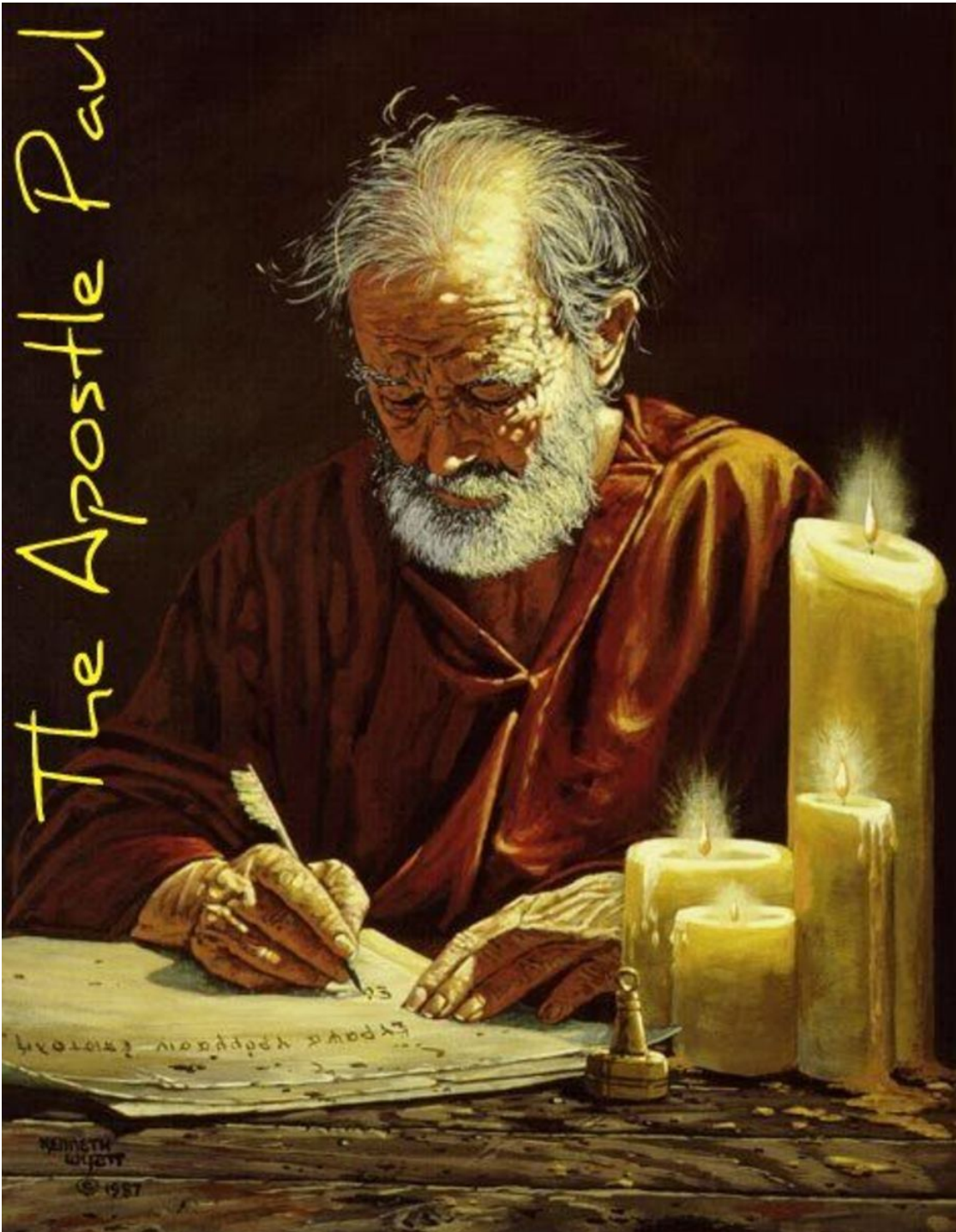


We Christians seek to understand the significance of current events as they relate to the prophetic timetable for Christ's Second Coming. In this study, we will explore where we are in the End of the Age schedule.

Christ informed his disciples that the signs of the nearness of that End would be nothing less than a combination of wars, earthquakes, famines, plagues. (*Mt. 24:6-8*). We've had those general signs ever since Jesus was here, haven't we, for the last 2,000 years. He said they're only the beginning. It's only the beginning, but they certainly have progressed and increased in intensity, similar to what happens to a woman who is giving birth.

The early Christians thought that Jesus would soon return. The apostle Paul had to write to the churches and explain that certain events had to happen first:





2TH.2:1-4, 8-9 (NKJV)

Now, brethren, concerning the COMING OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come

- unless the FALLING AWAY comes first,***
- and the MAN OF SIN is REVEALED, the son of perdition,***

who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders...

The apostle Paul assured believers that the coming of the Lord won't happen unless there is a falling away first AND that man of sin is revealed, known also as the Antichrist (AC for short). This evil man will oppose and exalt himself above God, will sit in God's temple and pretend to be God himself.

We could safely say that we are today witnessing a falling away from faith in God, especially in the western, materialistic, and secular world. But this *“man of sin”* has not yet appeared on the world scene (as of May 2022). Although not yet revealed, behind the scenes, he may even now be plotting and planning his rise to power.

2TH.2:6-8 *You'll also remember that I told you the 'Antichrist' is being held back until just the right time. That doesn't mean that the spirit of anarchy is not now at work. It is, secretly and underground. But the time will come when the 'Antichrist' will no longer be held back, but will be let loose. (The Message Bible)*



According to scriptures in the books of Daniel, Thessalonians and Revelation, the AC needs to appear first before the Second Coming can happen. Let's look at Revelation 13 for a description of his characteristics:

REV.13:1-8 And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea...

And the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

And all the world wondered after the beast.

And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?

And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.

And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name...

And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.

And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him.



According to those verses, the dragon, Satan...



- would give the AC power to establish a worldwide empire
- all that dwell upon the earth would wonder after the Beast and worship him
- the AC would have a big mouth, speaking blasphemy against God for 42 months
- the AC would persecute people of faith

At this moment in time, 2022, is there a one world government and a world leader that stands out? Not yet... but we will talk more about this later on.

Now with this global push for the COVID-19 vaccine, some interpret that it could contain the mark of the beast... even though the beast is not here, not visible yet. Let's see what the scriptures say concerning the mark:

REV.13:11-18 (RSV) *And I saw another beast which rose out of the earth...*

And it spoke like a dragon.

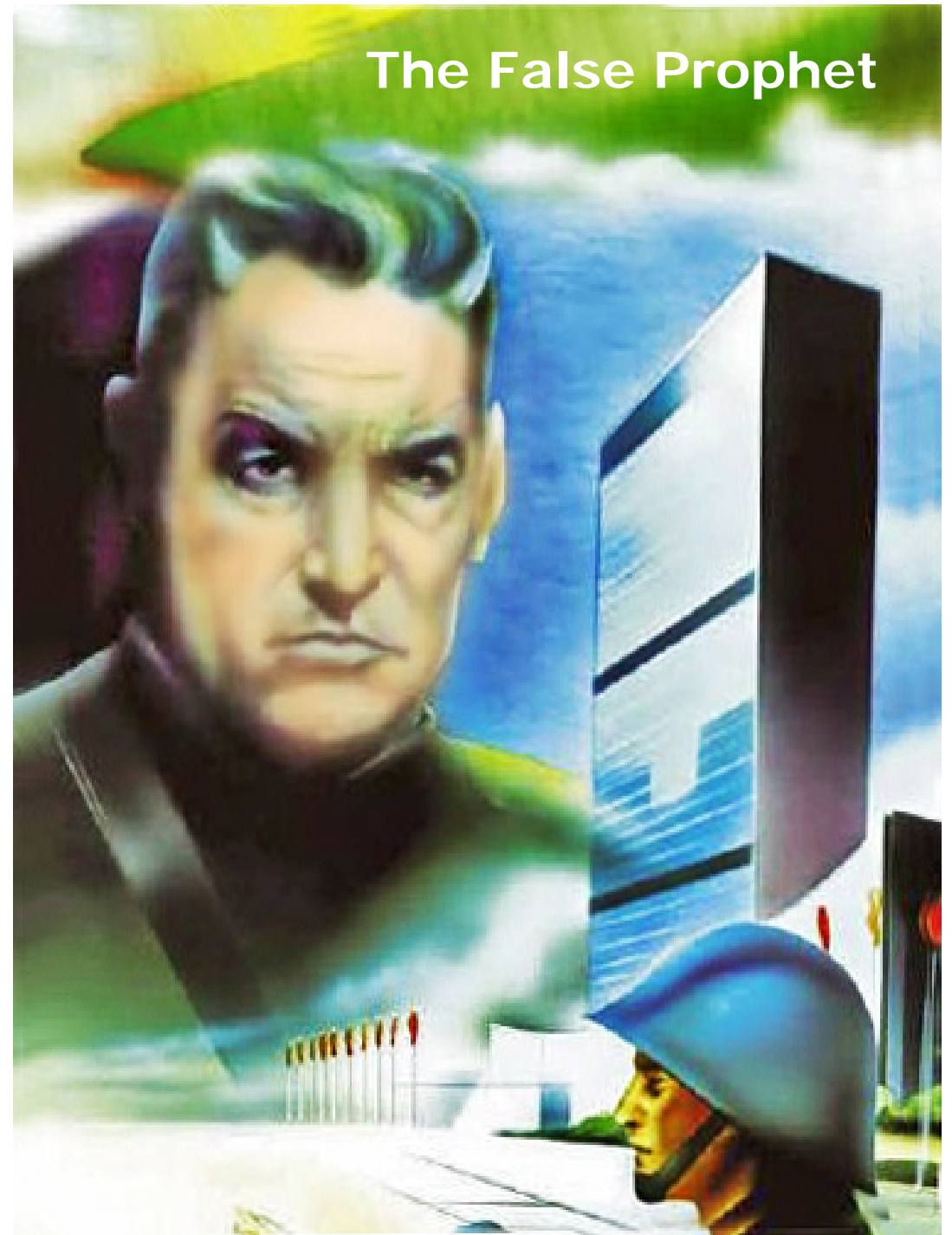
And it exercises all the authority of the first beast in its presence, and makes the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast...

And by the signs which it is allowed to work in the presence of the beast, it deceives those who dwell on earth, bidding them make an image for the beast...

And it was allowed to give breath to the image of the beast so that the image of the beast should even speak, and to cause those who would not worship the image of the beast to be slain.

And it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be marked on the right hand or the forehead, so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name.

This calls for wisdom: let him who has understanding reckon the number of the beast, for it is a human number, its number is six hundred and sixty-six.

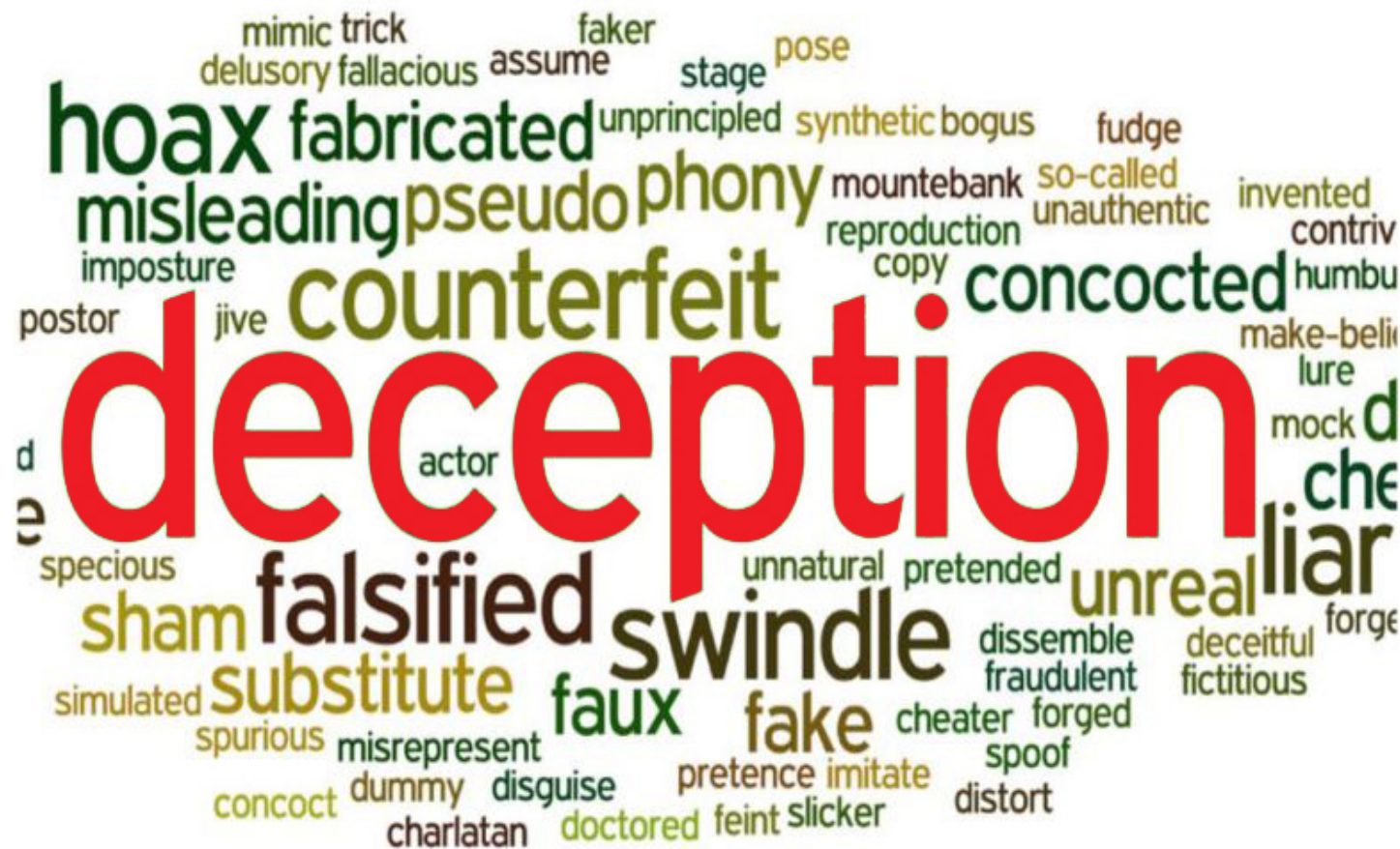


According to these verses there is a second beast, the false prophet, who promotes the AC:

- he is inspired by the dragon, Satan
- he causes the earth to worship the first beast via his image
- he is a deceiver and produces miracles
- he causes those who would not worship the image of the beast to be killed
- he causes all to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads



The mark of the beast is associated with the acceptance and worship of the beast. And since there is still no one who fits that description and there is no image of the beast at this moment, then it would appear the vaccines don't yet fit the description and timing given here in Revelation chapter 13. Some are wondering, could the False Prophet institute the mark of the Beast before the appearance of the AC? After all, the Bible clearly states that they are both master deceivers. It makes sense, and we could speculate that, before going public, they and their followers are preparing and making their plans “*in the shadows*”, secretly.



2TH.2:9-10 *Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,*

And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

REV.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.*



But can we say that people taking a vaccine for health reasons (not directly linked to the AC and his worship), can we say they deserve everlasting punishment and damnation as the angel in Revelation tells us?

REV.14:9-11 *And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God...*

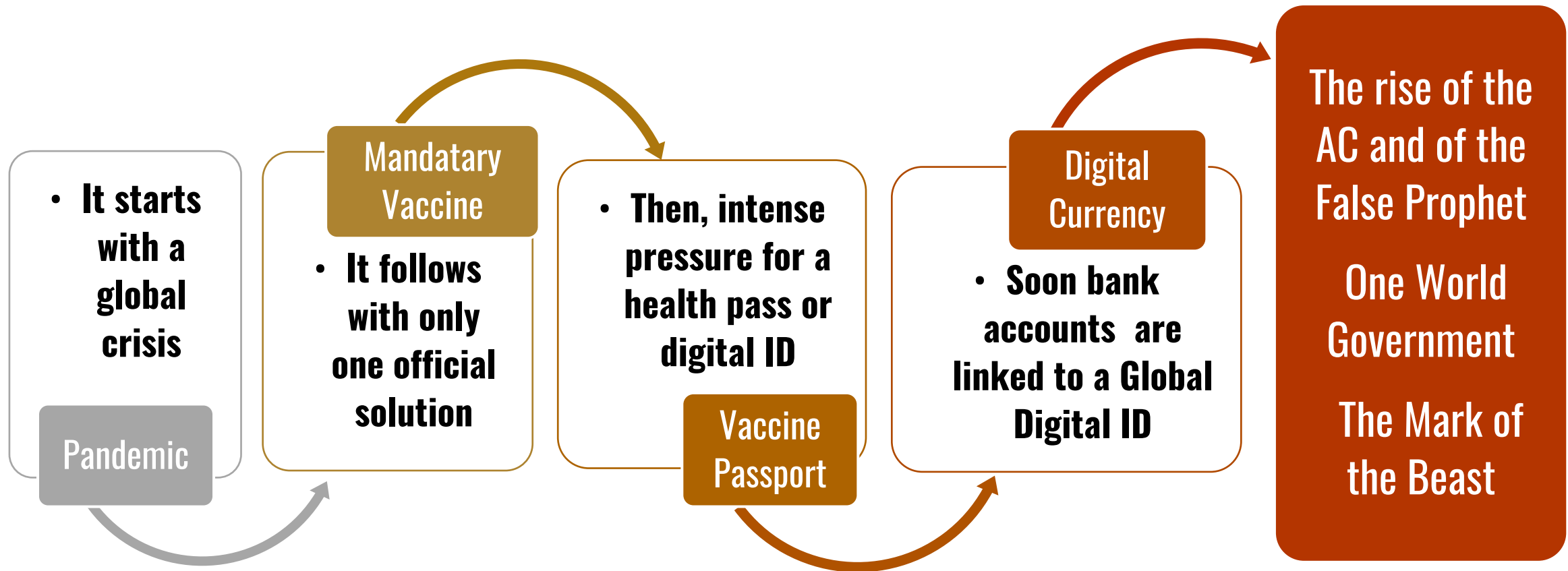
Most likely no...but some believe otherwise. It is not yet clear what form the mark will take but it should get easier to discern as the time draws near.

I do believe that the insistent and relentless push and promotion on the entire world population for the vaccines – and this, in a seemingly gradual and coordinated way - is most likely a precursor and preparation for the infamous mark of the beast. It certainly gives us an idea, a glimpse, of things to come. We even see many countries instituting a health pass or passport that seriously limits certain freedoms to those who refuse. Politicians and the media are practically forcing it on people and exercising great pressure constantly, for a virus with a 99.5% survival rate. Totalitarian regimes of the past have always used fear as a tool for control.

If and when implemented internationally, the vaccine passport has real potential to morph into a global digital ID, containing not only all your personal information but also, when cash is eventually eliminated and replaced by digital currency, your bank account access. This would greatly facilitate the AC's plan for control and pave the way for the Mark of the Beast.



Following is a possible scenario or road map towards the mark:



To be continued in Part 2 where we continue to examine the past and present world situation in light of the prophecies. Do not miss our conclusion of “WHERE ARE WE IN THE ENDTIME TIMETABLE?”

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