



SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD

Monday, July 18, 2022

Scripture: Revelation 19:19-21

TITLE: Identifying the Antichrist

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy, Ronald Reagan, Barak Obama, and Donald Trump. What do these people have in common? If you said they are former Presidents of the United States, you'd be right. But what else do they have in common? No, not memorable hair.

It's that they've all been accused of being the Antichrist. But none of them have fit the Biblical bill. So who will be the Antichrist? What is the mark of the beast? What will become of the beast?

Let's turn back to Revelation 19 to get our answers. Revelation 19:19-21(CSB):

“Then I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies gathered together to wage war against the rider on the horse and against his army. But the beast was taken prisoner, and along with it the false prophet, who had performed the signs in its presence. He deceived those who accepted the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image with these signs. Both of them were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur. The rest were killed with the sword that came from the mouth of the rider on the horse, and all the birds ate their fill of their flesh.”

Well, here we are going back to the future. We are studying the last 4 chapters of Revelation to prepare for the return of Christ and our eternity with him. In the previous few verses, we have seen Christ and his heavenly army come from heaven to deliver judgment and establish Christ's rule.

And then, in verse 19, we see that this judgment is met with opposition. The beast, the rulers of the earth, and their armies are prepared for battle. But Jesus came with the power of the sword of His mouth. In other words, the power of His Word. The word that brought the universe into existence and comfort to the lost now brings death and judgment.

Well, who is the beast? It's the Antichrist. Who is the false prophet? It's the PR specialist or the spokesperson for the Antichrist.

There are many references to antichrists and the Antichrist. The most notable is Revelation 13, where the beast receives power from Satan and wages war against the saints. It's in chapter 13 we see the mark of the beast, which is 666.

Now, we don't know who the Antichrist is or exactly what the mark of the beast is. We do know that the Antichrist will overcome death. And the mark he delivers and oversees will control

currency and the power to buy and sell. But we do know this mark is only given to those who will worship the beast.

So who is the Antichrist? We don't know. What is this mark? We don't know.

But what we can be sure of is that according to Revelation 19:19-21. His rule will be short-lived. Both were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is hell eternal. No escape. Punishment for all eternity. The rest of the armies were killed. It's at this moment the unsaved will face judgment at the sheep and goat judgment.

But what's the moral of the story? Jesus wins. Game over.

So here's my challenge for you today: Keep going. I get it. The last couple of years have been exhausting, and there is no end in sight. But we know from Revelation 19 that in the end, Jesus wins, and we get to come alongside Him for a front-row seat.

Each and every day, we must exercise endurance and discipline, but the ultimate victory will come through the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. So let's keep going because, in the end, He will win the day.