**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. December 8, 2024**

**The Evil Empire Exposed**

Revelation 13:1-18

**Key Truth:** In order to withstand the attacks of Satan, we must know and obey the Word of God.

**A Dragon, Two Monster’s & A Tattoo:**

1. The Dragon – Represents Satan.

2. The Beast Rising Out The Sea – Represents Anti-Christ

 political governments.

3. The Beast Rising Out The Earth – Represents Satanic false

 Religions.

4. The Mark Of Beast – Represents willful devotion and worship

 to an evil political government and to false religion;

 empowered by Satan.

**Satan’s Tactic To Persecute The Church:**

1. Satan is utilizing wicked political governments to persecute

 Christians.

2. Satan has implemented false religion disguised as the truth to

 deceive the world into persecuting Christians.

3. Satan has empowered false messengers to perform miracles

 and deceive the world into denying Jesus Christ.

**What Is Our Response To The Tactics Of Satan:**

1. We are called to endure persecution and remain faithful to the

 Lamb.

2. We are called to exercise spiritual wisdom and discernment.

 A. Don’t be enamored by miracles, always examine the

 message. Mark 13:22-23, 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12

 B. Don’t live in fear; rather, live by faith.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Pray for discerning ears and eyes to recognize the deceptions of Satan. Ask God to show you where you are vulnerable to the attacks of Satan and how to grow in those areas so you can face whatever the future holds with endurance and faithfulness.

**Food For Thought:**

From previous Bible study and messages, you’ve heard, what do you understand will characterize the end times?

What would seem to you to be the best way for Satan to deceive the world? Explain your reasoning.

How will followers of Jesus fit into the end times scenario?

Read Revelation 13:1-4: Is there anything familiar to you about the description of this beast?

What significance do you see in the similarities of the descriptions of the dragon and the beast from the sea?

What similarities do you see between the beast from the sea and the earlier description of Jesus? Why would the dragon desire to have an ally who mimics Jesus?

How can you determine whether “great signs” you see or experience are the work of the Holy Spirit or an imitation of Satan?

What steps can you take to see that you do not fall for the deceptions of Satan and his efforts to imitate Jesus?

How can you prepare to face the attacks of Satan with “endurance and faithfulness”?