

3 agents 13:1 - beast of the sea;

13:11- beast 2 horns

14:8 - Babylon the great

Temptation to worldliness from 3 sources

1. antichristian persecution - imprisonment
2. antichristian religion = emperor worship  
false brethren
3. antichristian seduction - temptation of  
flesh, i.e., immorality

## antichristian persecution

Rev 2:9 'I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich), and the blasphemy by those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. 10 'Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

## antichristian persecution

Rev 2:13 'I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is; and you hold fast My name, and did not deny My faith, even in the days of Antipas, My witness, My faithful one, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells.

antichristian religion = emperor  
worship - false brethren

Rev 3:9 'Behold, I will cause those of  
the synagogue of Satan, who say that  
they are Jews, and are not, but lie —  
behold, I will make them to come and  
bow down at your feet, and to know  
that I have loved you.

antichristian seduction - temptation of flesh,  
immorality

Rev 2:14 'But I have a few things against you, because you have there some who hold the teaching of Balaam, who kept teaching Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit acts of immorality.

Rev 2:20 'But I have this against you, that you tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and leads My bond-servants astray, so that they commit acts of immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.

*Rev 13:1 And the dragon stood on the sand of the seashore. Then I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten diadems, and on his heads were blasphemous names.*

beast of the sea - Satan's operation in nation and governments of world

*Rev 13:2 And the beast which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like those of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority.*

a leopard fierce-- to devour prey  
bear-- to crush and tear  
mouth of lion-- eager to kill

Hos 13:7 So I will be like a lion to them; Like  
a leopard I will lie in wait by the wayside.

Hos 13:8 I will encounter them like a bear  
robbed of her cubs, And I will tear open their  
 chests;

Ps 17:12 He is like a lion that is eager to tear,  
And as a young lion lurking in hiding places.



*Rev 13:3 I saw one of his heads as if it had been slain, and his fatal wound was healed. And the whole earth was amazed and followed after the beast; (4) they worshiped the dragon because he gave his authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast, and who is able to wage war with him?" (5) There was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him. (6) And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, that is, those who dwell in heaven.*

*Rev 13:1 And the dragon stood on the sand of the seashore. Then I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten diadems, and on his heads were blasphemous names.*

7 heads means it changes forms - Rome, Babylonia, Spain, Russia, China, but always present even if one form (head) is destroyed!

Rev 12:3 And another sign appeared in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads were seven diadems

dragon crown on head -- beast has crown on horns  
= Satan rules, but governments follow bidding.

Nero persecuted Christians and believers were crucified, covered with pitch, nailed to posts and burned as torches. Nero died in 68 AD, but Domitian resumed the persecution.

Get the big picture for us and for NT Christians. -  
not specific governments but all governments!

*Rev 13:7 It was also given to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them, and authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation was given to him.*

Satan wars with Christians through his agents throughout the gospel age.

Rev 11:7 And when they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them.

2 Tim 3:12 And indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

*Rev 13:8 All who dwell on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain.*

The only survivors are those in book of life

Phil 4:3 3 Indeed, true comrade, I ask you also to help these women who have shared my struggle in the cause of the gospel, together with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rev 22:19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book.

Clearly shows that name can be removed!! We are not predestined, but our destiny can change!!

How are we predestined?

Matt 5:6 Blessed are those who  
hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be filled.

There are some who thirst!

*Rev 13:9-10 If anyone has an ear, let him hear.  
(10) If anyone is destined for captivity, to captivity  
he goes; if anyone kills with the sword, with the  
sword he must be killed. Here is the perseverance  
and the faith of the saints.*

Anyone who loves the truth will hear – those who  
do not hunger and thirst will die. We must  
persevere.



Eph 6:12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Eph 2:1 And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, 2 in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.

*Rev 13:11 Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb and he spoke as a dragon. (12) He exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence. And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was healed. (13) He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men.*

James 3:15 This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic

*(14) And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who had the wound of the sword and has come to life. (15) And it was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast would even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed.*

2 Cor 11:14 And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

this beast serves the other! He deceives and performs wonders -- false religion entrained by government Germany = Lutheranism, Russia = Orthodox Greek, Italy, Ireland = Catholicism.

Many nations use false religion to control the masses -- anyone not adhering to state religion is not allowed to buy/sell/etc.

In Rome it was emperor worship and Polycarp was burned at the stake.

*Rev 13:16-17 And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to be given a mark on their right hand or on their forehead, (17) and he provides that no one will be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, either the name of the beast or the number of his name.*

mark of the beast - not a literal mark but derived from worshiping the beast. The mark is on head or hand controlling thought or deed.

Rev 14:9 And another angel, a third one, followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives a mark on his forehead or upon his hand, 11" And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; and they have no rest day and night, those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

Rev 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of the testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark upon their forehead and upon their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

*Rev 13:18 Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man; and his number is six hundred and sixty-six.*

666 number of man i.e., man created on 6th day and was not perfect and cannot reach perfection, thus 6 represents failure. 666 represents failure after failure after failure -- but God's church triumphs in the next verse, chapter 14