

# 'The False Prophet'

Revelation 13:11-18

## Introduction & Review:

## False Prophets:

### The False Prophet - Revelation 13:11-18

The Prophet's Character – Revelation 13:11

**Summary:** The Holy Spirit lives to point others to Jesus Christ and the false prophet lives to point others to worship the antichrist.

The Prophet's Capacity – Revelation 13:12-15

**Summary:** Satan is free to wreak carnage on the earth and he certainly does; primarily spiritual carnage; but he is also on a divine leash, he can't destroy everything—he is God's devil. (Job 1-2)

The Prophet's Control – Revelation 13:16-17 – First, the natural differences between people are irrelevant (13:16a). Second, the mark is placed so that it is publicly seen (13:16b). Third, this is a pass key/access card to critical needs.

**Summary:** For the antichrist and false prophet to control things they will need absolute loyalty and an air-tight exchange of goods and services.

The Prophet's Calling Card – Revelation 13:18 – If 7 is the number of perfection then 6 is the number of failure and is also the number of man. (14:9, 11; 16:2; 19:20; 20:4)

**Summary:** The antichrist is a bold blasphemous person who wields authority with conviction and wicked purposes; the False Prophet is a tricky and sly beast who looks like a lamb but speaks like a dragon.

## The Nature of Deception

Revelation 13:11 - A false prophet speaks one way and acts another; a hypocrite in public and devious in private.

Revelation 13:12-15 - A false prophet uses power to manipulate and control people; disregarding personal autonomy and freedom of thought.

Revelation 13:16-17 – False prophets know who are theirs and compel them to declare their allegiance for temporal benefits.

Revelation 13:18 – False prophets press people to make a decision regarding them so they can be part of their marked entourage.

**Conclusion:** The carnage of these two beasts, the antichrist and the false prophet, only occurs because God allows it (Revelation 13:5-8, 14-15). Deception will be a powerful and pervasive evil in the coming age of tribulation.

Spiritual/religious warfare is the height of war. Physical wars are of man and his greed; spiritual war is of evil and the need to control. We struggle in one and are in a death spiral for the other.