

APPLY

- The enemy's main weapon against us is deception.
 - Discuss a time where you personally were deceived by the enemy. How did you discover you were being led astray, or believed something not true?
 - Discuss ways the Church has sometimes been deceived in the past? How could such deception be avoided?
- The 2nd beast requires its subjects to get a mark on their forehead or right hand. Look again at Rev 7:2-3.
 - Are these marks literal?
 - What do people have to choose between?
 - Why are there only two options?
 - What are the consequences of refusing to take the mark of the beast? Do you see any connections to today?
- We see in Rev 13:14 that the world is deceived by signs performed by the 2nd beast. How can the Church help people not be deceived and see things for what they are?

DISCUSSION CLOSE/HOMEWORK

A few of the ways that the Bible describes Satan is: 1) The ruler of this world, 2) the father of lies, and 3) an angel of light. When you put these three together, it makes for a pretty nasty picture, as we consider the nature Satanic deception.

- What are some verses that you can point to as a defence against deception and lies of the enemy?
- If you know someone has been deceived into believing something about God or Christianity that isn't true, how would you go about helping them?

GROUP PRAYER FOCUS

- Thank Jesus for His victory over your life and make a fresh surrender to Him so that you will experience it!
- Pray for the releasing of the gift of discernment!



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HOPE 14 Unveiled

Book of
REVELATION
message series

Week 14: Don't Be Deceived

Key Text: Revelation 13

OPEN

In Rev. 12, God pulls back the veil to reveal an epic spiritual battle going on in heaven that Satan loses. John then sees Satan and his demonic entourage take their fight to earth. Chapter 13 shows how in revealing what commentators call a counterfeit "Unholy Trinity": the Dragon, the beast coming out of the sea, and the beast arising from the earth. In Rev. 12, the dragon is identified as Satan. In ch. 13, the first beast has come to be considered the "Anti-Christ," and the second the "False Prophet." The world is lured into worshipping the Dragon by being in awe of the first beast's power and the second beast's deception. The chapter ends with a call for wisdom in light of this counterfeit Trinity's deception.

REFLECT

- The enemy loves to take what God has done and twist it or pervert it. Contrast and compare the three persons of the Godhead with the false Trinity of chapter 13.
- Where do each of the two beasts come from and what do think is the significance of their place of origin?
- What do each of the beasts represent, stand for, and what are their functions? What is their relationship with each other? How does each counterfeit the true persons of God?