**Deception Is in His Hands**

**Revelation 13:11-14:5, Pew Bible p. 1035**

**March 9, 2025**

# **The Deception of the Beast (13:11-18)**

## People are obsessed with power, especially when it exalts human ability over God’s sovereignty.

### Earthly power raises our confidence.

### Godly power raises our conviction.

## Idols are excellent deceivers, especially of those who reject the authority of Christ.

### Idols confuse pluralism with acceptance.

### Idols confuse exclusivity with injustice.

# **The Salvation of Christ (14:1-5)**

## God is passionate about redemption, especially when it exalts Christ over man’s sin.

### God’s redemption forgives our sin.

### God’s redemption restores our loyalty.

## God is an excellent Savior, especially in a time of great deception.

### Salvation gives identity to the lost.

### Salvation gives purity to the defiled.

**Discussion Questions**

1. Read Revelation 13:11-14:5.

2. Why do you think people are more likely to recognize the power of people rather than the power of God, as verse 12 implies?

3. How is it possible for Satan and his servants to do miracles, as verses 13-15 say?

a. Are there people who are infatuated with magic and occult power today? Why?

4. Do verses 13-18 imply that the lines between Satan and God will be difficult to distinguish? Why?

5. List some differences between the 144,000 who come with the Lamb and the rest of the world that worshiped the beast and its image?

a. What does that tell you about the life of someone who rejects Christ verses the life of someone who accepts Christ?

6. What are some things that Christians rightfully do today that many non-Christians find odd and unrelatable? Why?

a. Why is it important for Christians to remember the things that separate them from the lost world around them?

7. Pray for our church members to grow in maturity so as to defend themselves from the deception of the Enemy. Come to the church prayer meeting this Wednesday from 6:00-6:30 pm in the Worship Center lobby.

 **Prayer Guide for Sunday, March 9**

***John 4:21-24 (ESV)***

*21 Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. 22 You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews 23 But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. 24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”*

**Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting:**

* PRAYING for both those preparing for baptism to follow through with their commitments and be blessed by their obedience to Christ

**Pray for Our Church Family Needs:**

* PRAY for missions and missionaries:

Andy & Lindsay M. in Spain; Luke P. in Maricopa, Arizona; Nathan & Becky F. in Indonesia; Doug & Cheryl D. in Thailand; Jules S. in Thailand; and Sylvia M. and Andrew M. at ASU West, Glendale, Arizona.

* PRAY for all our students: elementary school, middle school, high school, and college. No matter whether they are in the classroom, an online setting, or a home school setting, our students are forming minds that need to focus on Christ.
* PRAY for family & friends of church members who need salvation or to renew their relationship with Jesus:

Sharon L. (children & grandchildren); Marge D. (son, Matthew); Rezwana D. (parents); Margaret J. (Tom & Bob); Gary & Betty B. (grandchildren & siblings); Sophia W. (husband); Charity M. (daughter); Kayla P. (nephew, Jordan); Michelle LaM. (son); and Debbie B. (son-in-law);

* PRAY for families who are grieving the recent loss of loved ones:

Del M. (wife), Bonnie V. (husband), Mel A. (wife), Kasuma A. (grandnephew), Gary C. (wife), Darlene R. (Husband), Woody (Barbara S.)

* PRAY for those struggling with ongoing health and other issues:

Lisa (surgery recovery), Jacque B. (recent hospitalization), Johnny P. (Health), Darce S. (knee surgery)

* PRAY for others that you are aware of.