

Sermon Notes

Taking stock: the earthly battle

Revelation 13

Intro: There is a huge global fight going on ... but not, fundamentally, with a virus: ultimately, this world is in a worship war

Satan fights his (doomed) worship war through powerful proxies...

1. Beast 1: Scary political powers (13.1-10)

- The blasphemous claims of authoritarian states
- Usurping the authority of Jesus Christ, the Son of Man

➔ *This calls for endurance: trust God in suffering (13.10)*

2. Beast 2: Subtle false ideologies (13.11-18)

- The empowering energy of deceptive ideas
- Faking the power of the Holy Spirit, Spirit of truth

➔ *This calls for wisdom: don't be deceived if ostracised (13.18)*

Conclusion: what about the number of the beast?! And the mark?!