

TOPIC: ECUMENISM. THE IMPLICATIONS TO CHRISTIANS.

TEXT: REVELATION 13, 16:13, MATTHEW 24:15,21-22; 2THESSALONIANS 2:7

CONTENTS: PURPOSE- DISCUSSION/DEFINITION OF TERMS, IMPLICATIONS TO CHRISTIANS AND CONCLUSION.

BACKGROUND

Apostle Paul told the Thessalonians Christians that there must be falling away first and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition. Who opposed and exalted himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God for the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. **2 Thesalonians2: 1-12**

This call for Christians to be awake by being prepared to identify deviations from what our Lord Jesus Christ handed over to his Apostles by saying no to all forms of human tradition in the name of religion for we do not know the hour when the Lord shall come.

DISCUSSION

The book of Revelation was written in apocalyptic language ie Apocalypse which is a Greek word meaning Revelation, which is unveiling or unfolding of things not previously known and which could not be known apart from the unveiling just like is vision of end times as revealed by an Angel or heavenly messenger. Revelation was written to encourage the Christians and to give them hope especially during the period of persecution. Revelation generally reveals things that has happened, things that is happening and things that will still happen.

For the purpose of the teaching, the references should be drawn from Biblical examples, Church history and world history.

ECUMENISM OR THE NEW WORLD ORDER

What is Ecumenism or The New World Order? This is a plan by denominations to come together as one to worship together and have one church system. That means that all Churches will come together believe one thing and say one thing with one leader.

The plan will be so flashy and attractive and will promise many things that give life pleasure. It will aim to bring peace into the Religious world, into the political world, and into the economic world..

The aim of the project is to have world peace through one central church government: Just as it was in the days of Nebuccadenazzar of Babylon, as it was in the days of Darius the Great of Medo-Persia, as it was in the days Alexander the Great of Greece and at as it was in the time of Romans. Daniel 7:3,17.

This is a plan of one man being in charge of the entire political and religious world and even has power to impose tax or impose economic sanction to any part or group that is not part of the project.

How far has the world gone with this project and how does it affect your faith as a Christian.

In Revelation 13, the Apostle John saw a vision of ECUMENISM. In verse 1 of Revelation chapter 13.'And I stood upon the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns and upon his horns ten crown, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy". Rev 13:5-6. Daniel 7:20

SOME DEFINITIONS OF TERMS AS USED IN REV:13

1. **BEAST: Papacy**
2. **RISE OUT OF THE SEA**-Papacy coming out of mass population
3. **THE DRAGON GAVE HIM HIS POWER, AND HIS SEAT AND GREAT AUTHORITY**-This is pagan Rome (Emperor) given his power and authority to papal Rome to rule and devour the church. This means the Papal Rome being in charge of the world affairs.
4. **SEVEN HEADS**-Rome founded on seven hills which the woman the adulterous Church sitteth **Rev 17:9** and which identifies the ***seven phases of power reign before Christ will come:***
 - I. **Babylon**
 - II. **Medo-persia**
 - III. **Greece**
 - IV. **Rome(Daniel 7:23)**
 - V. **Papal Rome.(Daniel 7:25)**
 - VI. **Wounded Head**-The end of papacy. The period when politics and religion couldn't hold together-Reformations, Pentecostalism ie the present age.
 - VII. **Now the wounded head will start to heal**-Religion will then take its place in world politics just as it was in the time of old-***which is Ecumenism. That is the period we are now which will herald the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.***

5. TEN HORNS-Daniel 7:20.Ten territories/ Kingdoms that made the Roman Empire under Papacy

i. Anglo Saxon-Britain

ii. Alamanni-Germany

iii. Lombard- Italy

iv. Franks-France

v. Visigoths-Spain

vi. Seuvy-Portugal

vii. Burgundia- Switzerland

Viii. Ostrogoths

ix. Herules

x. Vandals

These were the ten territories of Roman Empire, under the papacy which represent ten crowns which is ten kings.

In the year 28th October AD 312, Emperor Constantine the great engaged in war with Emperor Maxentius of the east. The war was fought at Melvian bridge. (Milvian Bridge Battle).Emperor Constantine won the war and then changed the capital of the empire from west to the East. Consequently, Bishop of Rome in the west who later becomes the Bishop of Bishops began to gain political influence in the west which was the Emperor seat of power and the Bishop of Rome then started adjudicating over matters that concerns both Religion and politics.

Among the ten Kingdoms, seven kings were loyal to the papacy authority while three were questioning why the Pope (Bishop of Bishops) should have religious power and at the same time have political power which is not the standard of the church; As a result, of this challenge, by war the three kingdoms were exterminated from the face of the earth. Those three were the Austragos, the Herulis and the Vandals. Today you can hear about the seven, but the other three are no more. Daniel 7:20;24-25

6. DRAGON-Heathen/Devilish leaders like the Emperors.

7. WOMAN-The Church Rev 17:3,5,18. The adulterous Church.

8. BLASPHEMY-The Beast seat in the temple of God to say wrong things against God-That is the head of Denominational world. The Mother of all harlots. To understand whom the "Beast" is, he wears three crown as a symbol in his head (Authority) and is referred as Vicar of Son of God (The representative of Christ on Earth) which means in Latin "Vicarius Filli Dei".The three crown represents: King of Heaven, King of Earth and King of Lower region.. We all know who made this claim in world history. What a blasphemy!.The following books told us what this power will do. **Matthew 24:15. Daniel 7:25 and 2 Thessalonians 2:4**

9. FORTY TWO MONTHS-1260 Years reign of papacy 606AD to 1866AD Daniel 7:25. Ezekiel 4:6.Revelation 13:10, He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity; he that killeth with the sword must be killed by the sword. In AD 1796, during the reign of Pope Pius Vi,.....He that organized persecution by wearing out the saints of God was captured alive by French troops commanded by Napoleon General and occupied the Papal States by defeating the Papal troops. In 1798 Pope Pius Vi refused to renounce his

temporal power and therefore was transported as a prisoner from Rome to France and a year later he died in prison. From there papacy started losing its political power.

10. Revelation 13:11. Beast coming out of earth. This is modernized paganism ie minations will regroup with her daughters other churches to be together. This is plan of devil which came in just within the fall of papacy. Othe(The universal Church the mother of all harlots ie the head of deno r religion rises out of earth from human origin which is created out of desire of men and not from God. They will be preaching peace just like Christ preached the doctrine of liberty, but the power will be deceptive because it will preach peace and love in one hand just like the Lamb of God, but it will condone people and their members to disobey God by introducing wrong doctrines just like the first beast (**Papalsy**). In this case, the Catholics, the Protestants and the Pentecostals will come together and aligned with the government of the day which is referred as **THE DRAGON** to see that this project come to reality which represents false unity. **Revelation 16:13-15**

Through this act, churches will unite in area of inter-denominational worship and organizing prayer meetings, taking Holy Communion together, using instrumentals in worship, speaking in tongues and staging all forms of miracles. Many false teachers will arise and perform many signs in order to lure weak Christians. **Matthew 24:24.** Their platform and their ordinances will make you to disobey God. They will go the extra mile to fine and punish non-members. In the other hand, they will put things that will make life more attractive: like hospitals ,build schools and even offer free education and free medical care, they will control the economic and financial activities of the society so that no

one could sell or buy unless the person belong to the new world order which is **ECUMENISM”**

The world will rejoice that God has eventually brought peace to mankind. But, it is only those that worship God in truth and spirit that will see that this is the scheme of devil to deceive many. The bible says that ‘When they will be shouting peace peace, destruction will come to them like a wave” **Jeremiah 8:11**

In USA, the Ecumenical Law has been passed into Law in the regime of President Clinton. It was called ‘**International Religion Freedom Act of 1998** .What is waiting is its implementation. What is the content of the bill?’ ‘**This law shall see the imposition of economic measures or sanction against any group that fails to unite with Catholic Church against its religious activities’.**

In Nigeria, the Ecumenical forum has been formed. They are gradually springing up with Ecumenical centers springing in many states.

The implication of this is that you will be forced to disobey God no matter your status. The bible says, it will be received in your **right hand. Right hand is symbol of labour** which means that your economic right ,your employment right will be infringed upon-which further means that time will come when you may not be allocated a shop or a job or even win a case in court if you do not belong to a denomination which Ecumenism will represents.

You will also receive it in the **Forehead** which means it will involve your **consciousness and enlightenment.** Meaning that you will understand that this idea is not a plan of salvation from God, Even the very elites will be deceived, some will reject it and will be persecuted while many will accept it because of hardship and then perish.

EVIDENCE THAT ECUMENISM IS NOT A PLAN FROM GOD

Revelation 17:3-6

This is a new church seating upon a beast which means religion will drive world politics again, but the church is described as an adulterous church. The bible used the capital letters to remind you of the religion that will be in forefront of the ecumenism. **Revelations 17:3-6**

That is the Mother of all harlots which means the first denomination which gave birth to other daughters, the Protestants and the Pentecostals. **In Revelation 16:13**, the bible hinted: Three unclean spirits, **THE DRAGON, THE BEAST AND THE FALSE PROPHETS.**

- 1. The dragon which is government power referred as the pagan**
- 2. The beast which is modernized pagan worship the Catholicism**
- 3. The false prophet which is Protestants and the Pentecostals. All will come together and be united.**

This means false unity which is not according to the plan of God. They will come together to become one, saying one things and doing one thing at the detriment of the word of God.

The bible says, here called for wisdom and understanding. **Revelation 13:18.** The wisdom is to understand the leader of this scheme is a human and his act is represented by human number which is **666**. Here John maintained the significant interpretation of the number by repeating it three times. A Hebrew method of communication through numbers was to use the number of letters in words of numbers themselves to signify something other than the numbers. This is called **GEMATRIA**. Therefore as a Gematria, **THE NUMBER SIX** repeated

thrice as used by the Jews to signify something earthly, incomplete or imperfect which means that the act of this system and the head of the idea will be incomplete and totally deceptive, though it will claim to be of heavenly origin, but it is against the plan of God

IMPLICATIONS OF ECUMENISM.

1. Being part of ecumenism means departure from God scheme of human redemption taught by Christ and called doctrine of Christ. John 7:16, 2 John 9.
2. It will lead to apostasy which includes departure from the body of Christ and drawing away disciples after them. Act 20:28-31
3. They will change church government by creating unscriptural offices and officers. 1 Cor 11:13-15
4. It will lead to following human doctrine and rejection and perversion of the gospel of Christ. Roman 16:17-18, Matthew 15:9
5. They will reject the scriptural worship and lure their members and everyone with social worship and idol worship
6. Ecumenism is the shortest way to hell because you will receive the mark of the beast which is imperfections and then perish in hell. Rev 12:12
7. It will lead the world to disobey God and abide in human traditions.
8. If not the days will be shorten many saints will accept it and then perish.
Matthew 24:22
9. The peak of Ecumenism will give rise to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, so be prepare and wash your robe in the blood of the "Lamb"

CONCLUSION

Friends and brethren, Let anyone who has an ear listen and be prepared. Choose you this day whom you will serve, the God of heaven or the worship of a man. If you worship your fellow man, you are worshipping the devil who put him in that authority.

ECUMENISM is here with us .Jesus is coming very soon, and when He comes, He will gather all those that were part of Ecumenism along with Satan for destruction and all those who said no to **Ecumenism** by holding firm the doctrines and words of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ will inherit the kingdom that has been prepared for them since the foundation of the world.

May God bless you as you are saying no to all man-made traditions with all the deceptions of the devil and holding firm the word of God. **Amen.**