

SCRIPTURE AND**KEY SERMON NOTES:**

SERMON MAIN IDEA: Satan's greatest weapon is deception—crafting a counterfeit trinity to mimic God and mislead. To resist, we must be rooted in God's Kingdom and grounded in His Word.

SATAN'S BIGGEST SCHEME – THE UNHOLY TRINITY**I. SATAN AS "ANTI-GOD" Revelation 12:1-12 ///**

Summary: Satan attempts to usurp God's authority but is a defeated enemy.

Supplemental Passage: Isaiah 14:12-15 – Satan's fall from heaven due to pride.

II. THE FIRST BEAST AS "ANTI-CHRIST"

Revelation 13:1-10 /// *Summary: The anti-Christ mimics Christ's power, offering false salvation and drawing the world into worship.*

Supplemental Passage: 1 John 2:18-22 – The warning about many antichrists in the world.

III. THE SECOND BEAST AS "ANTI-HOLY SPIRIT"

Revelation 13:11-18 /// *Summary: The false prophet deceives through false signs and wonders, leading people into false worship.*

Supplemental Passage: Matthew 24:24 – "For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect."

1. SERVE THE KINGDOM OF GOD Revelation 12:11 ///

Summary: Their lives are devoted to Christ and His mission, showing that their victory over Satan comes through both testimony and loyalty to God above all else.

Supplemental Passage: Matthew 6:33 – Seek first the kingdom of God.

2. STUDY THE WORD OF GOD

Revelation 12:17 /// *Summary: those who keep God's commands and maintain their testimony are marked by their commitment to God's Word.*

Supplemental Passage: Psalm 119:105 – Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Satan is a counterfeiter - the only original thing he can do is inspire new ways to sin; and aside from that he can only try to imitate God so we treat him like God. But Jesus is the true King. Resist the enemy's deception by being so involved in God's Kingdom and studious of God's Word that there is no room to serve the devil or be deceived by his servants.

START PRAYING:

Thank you God, for revealing the plans of our enemy to us so that we may prepare. Help us to live with a healthy balance of preparing to battle our enemy without living in fear of the inevitable battles that will come our way. Help us to balance this in a way that allows and empowers us to live in a continual state of joy in You. Thank you, Lord, in Jesus' name, amen!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Start talking. (Pick one) Find a conversation starter for your group.

In our poll last Sunday, most people said they prefer some 'off-brand' options, but they also pursue a few name-brand items they just won't compromise on. Do you have a company or product you always go for the name-brand version of?

Have you ever been scammed and ended up with a knockoff version of something? What was it, and how did you find out?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

Read Revelation 12:1-12. What stands out to you about Satan's role as the "anti-God"? How does his strategy differ from God's?

Follow-up: *Why do you think Satan's strategy imitates God rather than creating something original?*

Follow-up: *Why do you think Satan's strategy often involves deception rather than direct confrontation? What does this say about his nature?*

Read Revelation 13:1-10. How does the first beast (anti-Christ) mimic the qualities of Christ? What are some ways people today might look to worldly leaders for salvation?

Follow-up: *How does the concept of the beast having a 'fatal wound that was healed' serve as a counterfeit resurrection? What makes the true resurrection of Christ different?*

Follow-up: *How can we discern whether a leader or movement is inspired by God or simply appealing to our desires for worldly success, security, or power?*

Read Revelation 13:11-18. How does the second beast (false prophet) imitate the Holy Spirit? In what ways do we see spiritual experiences being used today that may not be rooted in truth?

Follow-up: *How can we ensure that our spiritual experiences and expressions are aligned with Scripture and focused on glorifying Christ?*

Follow-up: *In what ways might we unknowingly follow a 'false prophet' in our daily lives? What does this look like in modern culture?*

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

What are your thoughts on how convincing the unholy trinity will be?

Follow-up: *What role do you think cultural trends and social pressures might play in making the unholy trinity appear more acceptable or appealing?*

Follow-up: *In what ways do you see the spirit of the unholy trinity already at work in society today? How can we guard against its influence?*

Follow-up: *What specific characteristics of the unholy trinity do you think will make it so convincing? Why might people, including Christians, be drawn to it?*

More on the next page.

Start sharing (continued). Choose a question to create openness.

What are some areas in your life where you feel you might be settling for a 'spiritual knockoff' instead of the real thing?

Follow-up: *Why do you think it's sometimes easier to settle for a 'spiritual knockoff' rather than pursue a deeper, more authentic relationship with God?*

Preface: In this message Pastor Jeff mentioned many things that are called "Christian" but are not.

Question: How can you discern the difference between a Biblically Christian Church environment and a faith community that claims to be Christian but is not?

Follow-up: *What specific characteristics should we look for in a Biblically Christian Church? What are some red flags that might indicate a community isn't rooted in Scripture?*

Follow-up: *How can we balance the need for discernment with grace when encountering different Christian expressions that may not align with what we believe to be Biblical?*

Preface: In discussing the devil's plan to lead the world away from true Christianity to things that are called Christian, but are not, Pastor Jeff discussed that if the devil cannot hinder the Church from the outside that the devil would like unbiblical ideas seep into the church.

Question: What are some modern examples of unbiblical Christianity to be cautious of in our own lives?

How does serving the Kingdom of God and studying the Word of God keep us from being swayed by the very effective and convincing deceptions of the unholy trinity?

Follow-up: *In what ways can you make "serving the Kingdom" and "studying the Word" more central to your daily life? What are some practical steps you can take?*

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

Spend 30 minutes of quiet time this week thinking over this content and discern one step forward to live more focused on being aligned with God and in opposition to the devil and his plans.
