

Here is a Call for the Endurance of the Saints

Would you suffer for Jesus? What are you willing to do for Jesus? What are you unwilling to do for Jesus? Will you live for Jesus even when it is hard!

Vs 1-4 The dragon stands on the seas shore and the beast comes from the sea.

Some people connect the beast and the antichrist.

This beast is full of blasphemy. This is the act or offense of **speaking sacrilegiously about God or sacred things; profane talk.**

This beast is a deceiver who lies about God and speaks words that are false about God.

This unworthy beast wants power and control and wants to be worshipped. He wants glory and wants to rob God of His glory. He will be defeated.

- **What power do you want or do you follow that you should not?**
- **What evil lures you in, but it is ungodly.**
- **We *must* be careful to only follow God and His ways, and we *must* be cautious about things that tempt us.**
- **We *must* only worship and follow the one true God. He is God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

Some believe that these two beasts could represent a world power and a religious power that desires to rule and desires our worship.

This beast wages war on the saints (Christians). We must keep our eye out for anything thing or organization that stands against God and tries to lead us away from Christ and His church.

In our world today what country, idea, or group of people demand total allegiance, control, and demands its way? Would you be willing to follow that, or will you keep following Christ.

This beast might have been slain When Christ arose? Or this beast might be trying to imitate Christ.

Humans like to follow something powerful or something that we think will make us win. Is there any power that you follow, and give your allegiance to, that is above your fellowship of Jesus?

Daniel 7:15-28 Daniel's Vision Interpreted *"As for me, Daniel, my spirit within me was anxious, and the visions of my head alarmed me. 16 I approached one of those who stood there and asked him the truth concerning all this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of the things. 17 'These four great beasts are four kings who shall arise out of the earth. 18 But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, forever and ever.' 19 'Then I desired to know the truth about the fourth beast, which was different from all the rest, exceedingly terrifying, with its teeth of*

iron and claws of bronze, and which devoured and broke in pieces and stamped what was left with its feet, 20 and about the ten horns that were on its head, and the other horn that came up and before which three of them fell, the horn that had eyes and a mouth that spoke great things, and that seemed greater than its companions. 21 As I looked, this horn made war with the saints and prevailed over them, 22 until the Ancient of Days came, and judgment was given for the saints of the Most High, and the time came when the saints possessed the kingdom. 23 “Thus he said: ‘As for the fourth beast, there shall be a fourth kingdom on earth, which shall be different from all the kingdoms, and it shall devour the whole earth, and trample it down, and break it to pieces. 24 As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings shall arise, and another shall arise after them; he shall be different from the former ones, and shall put down three kings. 25 He shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and shall think to change the times and the law; and they shall be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time. 26 But the court shall sit in judgment, and his dominion shall be taken away, to be consumed and destroyed to the end. 27 And the kingdom and the dominion and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High; his kingdom shall be an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.’ 28 “Here is the end of the matter. As for me, Daniel, my thoughts greatly alarmed me, and my color changed, but I kept the matter in my heart.”

Vs 5-10 God allows this beast to utter blasphemy for a season, but Christ will be victorious in the end.

Many times, people want to blame God for everything, but they do not want to see evil in their heart.

Satan hates Christians, hates God, and hates angels. Satan does not want to follow God, or be with God, and satan will get his wish.

God allows Christians to suffer and die for His glory knowing that they will go to heaven to be with Him, and knowing that when others see us suffer well, they see Jesus.

Acts 7: 51 *“You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. 52 Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, 53 you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.” 54 Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. 55 But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 56 And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” 57 But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. 58 Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. 59 And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” 60 And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.*

God is with us. God will help us. It's our job to live for Christ and preach Christ. Satan and demons and non-believers will show their sin and lack of a desire to worship Jesus. *Christians will be saved* and **God will be worshipped for eternity by all.**

God in His sovereignty knows who are His, and His people were written into the Lamb's book of Life before creation. Are you His? Do you follow Jesus or the world?

Ephesians 1:4-14 *even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love 5 he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, 8 which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight 9 making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ 10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth in him. 11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, 12 so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. 13 In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.*

God wants us to worship Jesus, and live for Jesus, even when it is hard, and He tells us to endure because He will come back for His people and judge the world. Will you endure? Are you ready for Jesus? Do you follow something other than Jesus?

Vs 11-18 The second beast tries to enlist others to follow the first beast through lies and miracles. It is a deceiver who wants to lure people away from God and lure them to satan.

This antichrist makes people worship --Forces them.

God draws us, and we worship and follow, because of our faith. Do you want Jesus to be your Lord? God will not force you!

Satan will want to force you to worship and follow him. He will try to lie or coerce or force people to worship and follow him and they will be marked on the right hand or forehead.

Will you be marked by Jesus with the Holy Spirit in your life, or will you be marked by satan?

- Will you follow Jesus even when its hard?
- Will you endure to the end?
- Will you tell others about Christ so that they can be ready?