

Revelation Chapter 13.

Chapter 13

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And I stood upon the sand of the sea and saw a beast rise up out of the sea having seven heads and ten horns and upon his horns ten crowns and upon his head the name of blasphemy.

As we have seen from previous studies the word sea in the Bible represents vast numbers of people of the Gentile nations so this verse opens with John standing on the edge of a vast number of people and in his vision out of this crowd he sees a man rise up, and John recognises him to be a beast that pertains to the Antichrist. This is an indication that the man of sin the Antichrist, will arise out of the public arena so he may well be a Gentile, some believe him to be a Jew, he may be a leading businessman, he may be a politician. Whatever his identity, he will be a man who will gain respect and favour from the populace because of his ability to provide answers to the problems of the day.

Today's politicians do not have the answers to the world's problems; it is the crowd that revolts against its leadership because in most cases there is no real leadership given only weakness and corruption.

The Antichrist will be empowered by Satan as no man has ever been empowered before, and he will be given the power to solve the problems of the world. He will be believed, trusted and honoured by everyone until he too, after a while will be seen to be a liar, a cheat and being totally untrustworthy he will break his promises. All manner of evil will come from this man's heart, sin, wickedness and blasphemy will be his nature.

...having seven heads and ten horns

These seven heads represent the seven Empires who have persecuted Israel in the past, they are Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome, and one yet to be revealed.

... and ten horns

The ten horns combined are the seventh head and represent nations that have not yet been created or come to power. They will be representative of the ten toes of King Nebuchadnezzar's image when a stone not made by hands being Christ, will come and break them in pieces. They will be birthed out of the administration of Antichrist; they will be given crowns by the Antichrist indicating power and authority and their purpose will be to help Antichrist in his wicked pursuit in ruling the nations. These nations will also be forced to persecute the Jews. The Jews, who are chosen of God and are His special people, have been persecuted throughout their history.

History tells us they have rebelled against their God and rejected His call on their lives, but God is faithful and true to His Word and the Jews are still His chosen people and He loves them. So Satan naturally targets the Jews to bring them trouble and war with their neighbours. Satan controlled these previous nations and will control the ten nations yet to come. He has a name 'Blasphemy' because all that he does is against God and God's people.

Verse 2

And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat and great authority.

What was this beast like?

This beast was like a leopard, a symbol of the Grecian Empire and the swiftness with which Alexander the Great made war and conquered the world. Daniel 7: 6.

He has feet like a bear a symbol of the Medo- Persians a ferocious Empire that took Babylon, Lydia, and Egypt. Daniel 7: 5.

Mouth as of a lion, refers to the Babylonian Empire who conquered its enemies and gained ascendancy until Nebuchadnezzar went insane as a result of pride.

He may be recognised all the world over, Zechariah 11: 17 tell us he is a one eyed, one armed bandit!

Zechariah 11: 17

Woe unto the idol shepherd who leaves his flock! The sword shall be upon his arm and upon his right eye: his arm shall be clean dried up, and his right eye shall be utterly darkened.

Tucked just inside the back of the Old Testament, Zechariah makes a clear description of the Antichrist's war wounds which could identify him just like Moshe Dayan, Israel's military leader and politician who died in 1981. He was recognised everywhere by the black patch he wore over his eye. The Antichrist may well do the same, what he will do with his damaged arm I do not know!

The name Antichrist, speaks for its self. The name blasphemy is written on his head which is indicative of radical hostility towards God. He is against all that Christ stands for. He ridicules Christ's name, His blood, His message, His love for the lost. The Antichrist is the man of lawlessness, and he is the son of destruction who will lead the world into rebellion against God (2 Thessalonians 2: 3, 8-10).

He will cause all both small and great to worship him, He will cause all both small and great to receive a mark in their forehead or arm, and his mark will be 666. Without the showing of that mark on your body not on a plastic card, as we do today, you will not be able to buy or sell anything.

He receives power and authority from Satan Revelation 13: 2. Daniel 8: 24.

Ten Kings agree to give him their allegiance after he over-powers three of them Revelation 17: 12-17

He leads the remaining 10 kings against Christ at Armageddon Chapter 17:14. 19: 21.

He will be slain at Armageddon proving him to be mortal man Revelation 19: 20. Daniel 7: 11

He is defeated by Christ who throws him into the fire Revelation 19: 20

He will still be in hell 1000 years later Revelation 20: 7-10

He will speak blasphemies against God Revelation 13: 5-6.

He will make war against the saints Revelation 13: 6. 14: 9-10.

He will rule many nations Revelation 13: 7. 17: 12-17.

He will have miraculous powers Revelation 13:2-14

He will kill men who do not take his mark or worship him Revelation 13: 15, 20: 4

He will overcome the saints Revelation 7:9-17

He will conquer many nations Revelation 13: 7

He will change times and law Daniel 8:23

He will control money and commerce Daniel 11: 38-43, Revelation 13: 17

There are many more 'attributes' given to this man who is empowered by Satan himself and if you look and read carefully you will notice he copies a lot of the wonders God did in the Old Testament in particular. Verse 14 explains that the beast causes the people of the earth to wonder and be deceived by the miracles that he does.

Verse 3.

And I saw one of his heads wounded to death and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.

The Antichrist will not be assassinated and brought back to life because it is only one of his heads that is wounded, not the beast himself. Which head it is we are not told however in verse 12 we are told the second beast causes all on the earth to worship the first beast 'who had a deadly wound'. All the theories of Antichrist being a resurrected man, or a reincarnation of some historic person are false these are two separate beings.

Verse 4

And they worshipped the dragon which gave power to the beast, and they worshipped the beast saying, who is like unto the beast that is able to make war with him?

We remind ourselves that the dragon is 'that old serpent, called the Devil and Satan' according to Chapter 12: v 9. And we are told, now that the Christian influence has been removed from the earth by the rapture that the remaining world will be forced to worship Satan. There are those that are Satan worshipers in our world today. It may surprise you to know that many celebrities in the film and music industry worship Satan. Music is one of the fastest ways to get a message across to the millions who listen to it all day, at work, in the car, at home, at all times of the day or night. Particularly our young people, they can pick up a song within minutes of hearing it and sing along not really knowing the true meaning of what they sing. Hidden words, innuendoes and meanings are getting into the soul, mind and spirit. Satan uses music to get people to worship him. He also uses film and television with all types of sordid pictures and images that also get into the soul of man. The problem with this is Satan will know there will be little or no Christian influence to persuade men and women to choose the truth and to do right, so he will make the most of it and lead men and women to a lost eternity.

You may not have much time left before Jesus comes back as He said He would, so I encourage you to choose Jesus Christ and join my wife and I and my family at the rapture. There will come a time when the Gospel of Jesus Christ will be harder and harder to find, very few will want to share their faith or help you understand the Bible for fear of torcher and death.

5. Verse

And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies and power was given to continue forty and two months. 6 and he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle and them that dwell in heaven.

At this time Satan or the Dragon, will be allowed powers he is not allowed today he will become a strong and powerful enemy when he is no longer kept in check by Almighty God. Verse 4 tells us the people worshipped the Dragon and the Dragon gave power to the beast which we accept is the Antichrist, and the people worshipped the Antichrist as well. The Antichrist will be given a mouth that speaks blasphemies and terrible things against God. The people will acknowledge his power, his skills and miracles and say "who is able to make war with him?" nations will be in awe of him.

The Bible teaches us about the Trinity, being the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We have also seen Satan tries to copy the ways of God. He is Satan the dragon, the Antichrist is the beast, and then we have another beast called false prophet (16: 13) speaking untruths about the Lord, all three working against the Christ and His followers. It is interesting to know that the surrounding verses speak of power, a mouth speaking great things, a mouth speaking blasphemies and this was *given* unto him! By whom was this power given? By the God of heaven and earth, the only true God. So even the ability to blaspheme against God, His name, His tabernacle and those that dwell in Heaven, was given to him by the very One he wants to blaspheme. He even blasphemed those that now dwell in heaven, those that he was tempting, cursing and accusing a very short while earlier who have now been raptured to be with the Lord and he knew he had lost them to heaven. No wonder he blasphemed God and all He stood for.

Verse 6

And he opened his mouth in blaspheme against God, to blaspheme His name, and His tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.

My dictionary says: The word to 'Blaspheme' is to speak of God in an irreverent or impious manner. To utter blasphemy, evil speaking, profane. Any contemptuous or profane act or utterance, or writing concerning God or something considered sacred.'

The Antichrist is not the only one who blasphemes against God. Many of those we work with, shop with, or our neighbours all blaspheme God in many different ways. I worked with a man who could not

He spoke a sentence without blaspheming and using the name of the Lord in vain. His language was foul, he knew I was a Christian and I asked him to try and control his swearing and blasphemy, and I was supported by others who worked with him. He said he would try but when he got excited about the subject he was telling us about out came the blasphemy again. Everyone laughed except me, I could see that foul, stinking language had got right into his spirit and had taken hold and even when he wanted to clean up the way he talked he couldn't. To blaspheme against the God of heaven and earth will have to be paid for sometime soon.

Verse 7

And it was given unto him to make war with the saints and to overcome them, and power was given him over all kindreds and tongues and nations.

Daniel 7: 7

Daniel saw in his vision a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible and exceedingly strong with great iron teeth devouring and breaking in pieces and stamped the residue with the feet of it, and all was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.

Daniel speaks of the fourth beast which is a symbol of the Old Roman Empire, It is mentioned by name in John 11: 48. The Romans were a powerful nation and their system lasted some 1000 years. With their great 'iron teeth' they conquered many nations devouring, breaking in pieces and stamping them under foot. The Antichrist and his ten kingdoms will rule inside that old Roman Empire territory for 3 ½ years. Verse 7 tells us his power and influence will be felt by all kindreds and tongues and nations.

Verse 8

And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

It is the Lamb, the Son of God that was destined to be slain from the foundation of the world to redeem man from sin and write his name in God's book of life. Is your name in His book?

Verse 9

If any man has an ear let him hear.

Jesus used this sentence many times, everyone has an ear but not everyone hears, this refers to the ability to hear with our spiritual ears, with spiritual understanding and if you do not understand this sentence you must ask the Holy Spirit to help you. The modern day Christian should have spiritual understanding and revelation to know the things of God in these last days. We must work at it and that is why there is a doubt in the question. Not everyone will know or hear what God is saying to us today, many will not be bothered to find out, but there will come a time, and I believe that time is upon us that Christians should have understanding of the Bible and be able to hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches in these last days. That is the purpose of these studies, spread the news get the message out to your friends.

Verse 10

He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the Saints.

This is nothing to do with predestination. It is to do with choice. If you want to disbelieve what the scriptures say, if you turn away and laugh at what you read you do not have an ear to hear. Your destiny is Hell without Christ. On the other hand if you wish to open your ears to the message of love and forgiveness of God through His Son Jesus you will have eternal life, that's His promise. Our verse refers to those nations who will go into captivity by worshiping the Antichrist and following him and being guaranteed the worst type of spiritual bondage. *The patience and faith of the Saints* in the main

refers to Israel and that her redemption is very near and will be completed at the Second Coming of Christ.

Verse 11

And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth and he had two horns like a lamb and he spoke like a dragon.

This beast will also be a man, the Greek word 'allos' means another of the same type or kind, he also will come out of the masses of people. (Rev: 16: 13. Rev: 19: 20. 20: 10). These scriptures prove these beasts are not from the bottomless pit or from the dark underworld or that they are resurrected spirits from the dead. Both beasts symbolize two natural men who will be born in the last days fulfilling prophecy, be given great powers by Satan to deceive but will die at Armageddon at the hands of Jesus Christ.

2Thessalonians 2 8

And then (after the rapture) shall that wicked (Antichrist) be revealed whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit (breath) of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

Verse 12

And he exercises all the power of the first beast (The Antichrist) before him, and causes the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast whose deadly wound was healed.

So this beast will come after the first beast the Antichrist, and will be his prophet. (19:20) He will cause men on earth to worship the first beast. He will do great miracles, even to calling down fire from heaven counterfeiting the works of God. (V 13. 19: 20). He will cause men to make an image of the Antichrist and all men and women will be made to worship the image. (v 14. 14: 9-11. 15: 2. 16: 2). He will have power to give life to the image to make it speak and those who will not worship the image will be put to death.

Verse 13

And he does great wonders so that he makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men.

This will happen literally and will not involve trickery. This power to call down fire is a copy of what God did in Numbers 11: 3, the ability to do such things will be given by Satan himself and don't forget in the first few verses of this chapter Satan was given power to do these things by God Himself. Here we see Satan is passing on these powers to the Antichrist and the False Prophet. This shows us that God is in control all the time.

You remember Antichrist is copying the works of Nebuchadnezzar when he made an image of himself to be worshipped and again those who would not worship were cast into the fire. Antichrist is copying that story in the power of Satan; make no mistake he will be a force to be reckoned with, only the very strong will be able make a stand for Christ.

Verse 16

And he will cause all both small and great rich and poor, free and bond to receive a mark in their right hand or in their foreheads: And no man will might buy or sell save he that has the mark or the name of the beast or the number of his name.

The Mark. V 13: 16-17

There are three brands belonging to the Antichrist, the first is a mark. It is clear from the Bible that this mark is different from the name or the number of His name. This mark may be an emblem or logo used in most forms of advertising. It will be seen everywhere and on everything including the right hand or head of Antichrist's followers.

The Name of the Antichrist. (v. 17; 14: 11)

The Bible does not tell us what that name will be and all speculation is valueless. Men have given the Antichrist over 30 names over the years. They have said he is a reincarnation or resurrection of men such as Nimrod in Genesis, Judas Iscariot, Mussolini, Hitler, Stalin, and a number of different Popes. Many of these names in the Greek could equal 666 but none of them have any scriptural backing. The name of this man or his number really is not important, what is much more important is that you give your life to Jesus and live for him while you can so you don't meet this chap. If you do meet him you may be too late for an eternity with Jesus.

666 the number of his name (v17-18; 15:2)

This is the number of man; this is the only one of the three brands that is given. Many Greek and Hebrew names have a numerical value of 666. Because each letter has a number value and not a separate system of numbers as in the English, the name of a person can be known by numbers, but we cannot know what his mark or name will be, but we can know what the numerical value of his name will be, as the Bible tells us it is 666.

As we have studied earlier, the rapture will be the next great thing to happen, and then the formation of the 10 new kingdoms inside the Old Roman Empire Territory, and then the beginning of Daniel's 70th week, we can therefore assume no-one will take his mark, his name or number before the last 3 ½ years of this age. (Rev 11: 1-3; 12: 6. 14: 13:5). You may be forgiven in thinking you have plenty of time before any of this happens, well you don't! The rapture can happen any time soon, the rest may take a while but the rapture sorts out the saints and the sinners and if you ain't a saint you will be left behind.

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Be Blessed

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