

Book of Revelation

Chapter 13: Beast Out of the Earth

1

Previously:

- We covered:
 - The beast out of the “sea” – a reference to the human race – all ethnicities and cultures
 - Antichrist
 - Who gains control of the entire world
 - He conspires with the devil
 - Sells his soul in exchange for tremendous power
 - Will become the final world dictator
 - Those who do not fall in line to worship him will be killed

2

Antichrist

- After gaining total power, will reign for 42 months (3 ½ years)
- Will blaspheme God
- Will appear to either resurrect ancient Rome or will physically appear to die and rise from dead
- World will marvel and see him as invincible
- We discussed possible role of “smart cities” and “Internet of Things” in this world system he rules over

3

Revelation 13:11-17

- *¹¹ Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. ¹² And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. ¹³ He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. ¹⁴ And he deceives [¶]those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived. ¹⁵ He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. ¹⁶ He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, ¹⁷ and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.*

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Beast from the Earth

- This is probably an actual person, rather than a representation of a system or personification of a false religious system
- Coming out of the “earth” indicates an inferiority to the first beast who comes from the sea
- Both beasts will probably be Gentiles since the empires in Daniel 2 are all headed by Gentiles and the whole period is called “times of the Gentiles”

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Second Beast/False Prophet

- Two horns like a lamb
- Spoke like a dragon
- He presents a picture of gentleness outwardly
- But his words come from an inner demonism
- While he is subservient to first beast, he is also in collusion with the dragon (Satan)

6

Second Beast/False Prophet

- He exercises all authority as the first beast
- He will be the “Aaron” to Moses as being the false prophet to the leader Antichrist
- False Prophet will lead people to worshiping Antichrist
- He will also lead in directing persecution against true believers
- We can see the Satanic Counterfeit here to the real Triune God
- As Holy Spirit leads believers to worship true God, False Prophet will lead world to worship Antichrist

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Second Beast/False Prophet

- Reference is made to “deadly wound was healed” indicating potential death and resurrection, imitation of Jesus (v12)
- False Prophet will have supernatural power to create actual signs and wonders, not fakery using effects (v13)
- This supernatural power will cause world to see him and Antichrist as supreme powers, unstoppable

8

Second Beast/False Prophet

- False Prophet creates some sort of realistic image or statue of Antichrist that he is able to supernaturally animate (v14)
- False Prophet will effectively be the Antichrist's Minister of Propaganda
- False Prophet then "gives breath" to the image making it appear alive
- *"similar ventriloquism was practiced by Apollonius of Tyana and Egyptian sorcerers at Caligula's court."*

9

Second Beast/False Prophet

- The animated image/statue will also be made to be worshipped and anyone who does not will be killed
- This image/statue will likely be set up in Jerusalem and possibly inside Jewish Temple
- False Prophet will then decree that everyone have the "mark of the beast" placed on them (v16)

10

Mark of the Beast

- Everyone wants to know what this “mark” is but we simply do not know
- Anyone who says they DO know should be ignored
- The mark is instituted by False Prophet
- He is not on scene yet
- The mark will be on forehead or right hand
- This branding of unbelievers corresponds to the sealing of God's servants in chapter 7
- People will *willingly* take the mark

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Mark of the Beast

- The mark of the beast is evidently a brand-like logo, possibly similar to a tattoo, that will identify beast-worshippers and will allow them to buy and sell (v. 17).
- This branding connects with ancient customs. Domestic slave owners sometimes branded their slaves with their logo. Sometimes Roman soldiers branded themselves with the mark of their general, if they were particularly fond of him.

12

Mark of the Beast

- Those bearing the mark of the beast will show by their mark that they are Antichrist's followers.
- Individuals devoted to the beast will show their submission and loyalty by accepting his brand on their hand or forehead (cf. Exod. 13:9, 16; Deut. 6:8; 11:18)
- Are we there yet? No, but we are clearly on our way with digital vax passports, etc.

13

Mark of the Beast

- the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name – v17b
- What is the mark?
- No way to know because Antichrist is not on the scene yet
- Number of his name is referenced in v 18 as “666”
- The interchangeability of the beast's name and the number of his name evidently indicates that the name, written in Greek letters, has a numerical equivalent (v. 18)
- Antichrist has to be on the scene and KNOWN before he can be verified through this method of numerical equivalency

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Revelation 14

- Next time: Revelation 14
 - The Lamb and the 144,000
 - Proclamation of 3 Angels
 - Reaping the Earth's Harvest
 - Reaping the Grapes of Wrath