

INTRODUCTION

1. Today: survey Rv13
2. **Literary structure:** progressive parallelism - 4th cycle : Enmity of 2 Seeds
3. **Symbols:** 1st beast = State Gov't; 2nd beast = Religion. Harlot = society - populace [in "marked" contrasted w/ Church - 7:3; 9:4, 14:1].
4. Cycles overlap: simultaneous activities thru Church-Age progressing to climax at the return of Christ.

1st: Daniel's Prophecy

1. Majority of OT allusions in Rv 13's from Dan 7. Enthroned Lord amidst beastly opposition - in spite of appearances, the saints given eternal kingdom.
2. Jn intros us to the 2Bsts in a manner reminiscent of Dan 7:3-6. 1st Bst emerges from land [Rv13:1-2] & 2ndBst from sea [Rv13:11].
3. The Bstly agents have delegated authority given to them: Dan 7:6 // 1st Bst in Rv 13:2,4 also Rv 13:5,7; 2ndBst in Rv 13:12 & v15. God is ever sovereign.
4. The effect of the Bst's power: Dan's 4th Bst & little horn - overcomes saints [Dan 7:21, v25].
 - i. Effects of 1st Bst - Rv13:3-8. Fake "resurrection" - is worshiped by world & wars against the saints.
 - ii. Effects of 2nd Bst - Rv13:11. Fake lamb; compels worship of 1st Bst
5. The ultimate defeat & destruction of the Bsts. Dan 7:11; 26 // Rv 19:20
6. Saints have always contended w/ demonic Bsts of Satanic Statism & Idolatrous Religion in Seductive Societies.

2nd: A Warning of Apostasy

1. Why does John have us refer to Dan 7 in order to read Rv 13? Who is the Dragon persecuting? Believers in Babylon, 1st century & 21st century face enticements to apostatize.
2. Daniel sees events leading to 1st coming of Christ that are also recapitulated in events leading to the 2nd coming of Christ. Dan 11 - Maccabean conflict & emperor worship.
 - i. Maccabean armed resistance. Our weapon is gospel love & witness.
 - ii. Dan 11:30 The blasphemy of Antiochus Epiphanes - *shows regard for those who forsake the holy cov* - for who? Apostates. v34b *many join them in hypocrisy*: hypocrites, apostates. Dan 7:25; 11:32 [Tit 1:16]

3rd: The Testing of Our Fidelity

1. Dan 11:31-35 *abomination of desolation* - Antiochus Epiphanes' desecration of temple & persecution of Jews, many who whom apostatized. But there is always a faithful remnant - who suffer for their faith - actual martyrdom: *sword, flame; captivity* [prison] *plunder* [economic injustice]. Rv 12:11,17.
2. According to Rv12, where is the woman/Church? The wilderness.
3. Wilderness: walking in the way; worship; war - testing: Deut 13:1-3, 6-8
4. Satan uses forceful powers to ensnare people in idolatry.
 - i. Rv 13:13-14 2nd Bst uses false wonders to deceive the elect, if possible
 - ii. Mat 24:23-25 false Messiahs & fake miracles - to mislead. We will see the Dragon's fake Trinity in Rv 13.
5. We travel thru dangerous territory. Let us follow the Lamb & overcome.