

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

Revelation 13:1-18 | Session 18 | The Unholy Trinity and the Mark of the Beast

In the book of Revelation, there are seven pairs of visions given to John. The first pair of visions pertains to events that are taking place in Heaven, and the second part of the pair concerns events taking place on Earth.

- The First Vision in Heaven (4:1-5:14).
- The First Vision on Earth (6:1-7:8)
- The Second Vision in Heaven (7:9-8:6).
- The Second Vision on Earth (8:7-11:14).
- The Third Vision in Heaven (11:15-18).
- The Third Vision on Earth (11:19).
- The Fourth Vision in Heaven (12:1-12)
- The Fourth Vision on Earth (12:13-13:18)

THE FOURTH VISION, ON EARTH (12:13-13:18)

The Rise of the Two Beasts; From the Sea and the Earth (13:1-18)

The Beast From The Sea (13:1-10)

The dragon (Satan) has been cast down to earth. Angry, and in his attempts to destroy the woman's seed, Jesus Christ (12:4,5), and the woman herself (Israel), Satan calls up two beasts from the Abyss to carry out his final plans. John watches it unfold from the sand of the sea as the first beast, the Anti-Christ, makes his debut.

Daniel had a dream and visions (Daniel 7) of four great beasts that came up from the sea. Daniel's dream concerned the Times of the Gentiles and that the beasts represent kings or rulers. One beast in Daniel's vision was more dreadful than the others in that it had ten horns. Three of those horns were plucked out, and another little horn grew in their place. We determined that the little horn was the Antichrist who would rise to power in that he would "Make war with the saints..." This dreadful beast and little horn of Daniel 7 is the same beast in Revelation 13, but now we get new information. This beast from the sea will get his power from Satan.

What we see unfold in this passage is the formation of the *unholy trinity*. The Dragon (Satan), The Beast from the Sea (Anti-Christ), and the Beast from the earth, to whom we will be introduced in Revelation 13:11 (The False Prophet - Anti-Holy Spirit).

Verse 1—

And I stood upon the sand of the sea. We have a textual difference in this verse. The Textus Receptus says, “I stood,” and the Critical Text says, “he stood.” It is either John standing on the sand of the sea or the dragon (vs.17). It makes more sense in the context that this refers to John. The dragon is off making war with the remnant of the woman’s seed (See 12:17). I always default to the Textus Receptus as the most reliable Greek manuscript.

And saw a beast rise up out of the sea. John saw a **beast**; the Greek word *Therion* is a wild beast, unlike the word *beast* in chapter 4, which was *zoon*, a living being. This one coming up out of the sea is something to be feared.

Seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name blasphemy. This beast will rule over all the other kings and spew out blasphemy against God.

Verse 2—

And the dragon gave him power, and his seat, and great authority. Satan will direct every move the Antichrist makes.

Verse 3—

At some point, the Antichrist is killed. John **saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death.** How, we are not told, but Satan will bring him back to life, **and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.** This might be a false resurrection as we will note later in the passage. The world marvels at this and it causes false worship.

Verse 4—

They (the world's people) worshipped the dragon, which gave power...and **worshipped the beast.** It doesn’t take much for people to be duped, and here the world falls into line with Satan’s puppet by saying **Who is like unto the beast? Who is able to make war with him?**

Verse 5, 6—

Give a dictator an inch, and they’ll take a mile. This resurrected Antichrist can freely say whatever Satan puts into his mouth, and the people will not protest. He has full allegiance and, with great power for forty-two months (3.5 years), turns the world against God, speaking great things and blasphemies. Rather than seek the truth, the people are in awe of what they are experiencing. But experience is never a substitute for truth.

Verse 7—

With no pushback from anyone, **it was given him to make war with the saints.** Since we in the Church have been raptured before these events of the Tribulation, the *saints* or holy ones refer to God’s chosen People, the Jews. Staying consistent in our interpretation, therefore, **All kindreds, and tongues, and nations** are a reference to all the Jews scattered throughout the world. The antichrist is going after them all, and he will

have the backing of the rest of the world behind him. No one will stand up to help the Jews, just like was experienced in WW2 when six million Jews were murdered and the world was silent.

Verse 8—

The context in Revelation and in chapter 13 particularly is ALL Jewish. Don't read yourself into this passage. **The book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundations of the world** contains the names of Jews, not those in the body of Christ. Daniel 12:1 mentions this book, "For the children of **thy people**...there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time **thy people** shall be delivered, **every one** that shall be found written in the book."

Verse 9—

If any man have an ear, let him hear. An exhortation to listen up.

Verse 10—

He that leadeth...and he that killeth. These are Hebrew idioms (or sayings). The point is, there is none who will escape the beast. For the Jews, they will need much **patience and faith**. Revelation 14:12 elaborates, "*Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.*"

The Beast From The Earth (13:11-18)

Verse 11,12—

Another beast coming up out of the earth. With all the power of the first beast. This beast is superhuman and energized by Satanic power. This beast is called *the False Prophet* three times; 16:13; 19:20; 20:10. The first beast is political, this beast is religious. As noted above, we might call the False Prophet the anti-Holy Spirit. The dragon is anti-God, the beast is anti-Christ, and the false prophet is anti-Holy Spirit. These beasts are individuals directed and possessed by the spirit of Satan.

He had two horns like a lamb. We saw in Revelation 5:6 that a **horn** represents power. He **spake as a dragon**. If a dragon is a kind of serpent, then the dragon is likely emitting a hissing sound.

Causeth the earth and them that dwell therein to worship the first beast. The word **causeth** is in the active form, indicating that in some way this False Prophet creates a great delusion, in fact God sends this delusion through the False Prophet (2 Thessalonians 2:11).

This false prophet induces people to worship the antichrist who was brought back to life (but in what form?). God is nowhere to be seen in this worship, and in the new religion to come, God will be left out, and man will be exalted. We saw this delusion on a small scale with Dr. Fauci. Due to his authority, people went along with lockdowns, masking, and vaccinations; all are now being proven to have been a detriment to health and well-being rather than a help. This future worldwide religion will be a combination of human wisdom, science, progress, and philanthropy (think Bill Gates), combined with everything else that gratifies the lowest instincts of fallen humanity.

Verse 13—

And he does great wonders (miracles). If this False Prophet is the anti-Holy Spirit, he mimics the true manifestations of the Holy Spirit that we see in the book of Acts, including what appeared to be tongues of fire in Acts 2.

Verse 14, 15—

And the whole earth is **deceived by the means of those miracles**. The False Prophet and the Anti-christ are doing this work from Jerusalem, where the Temple is located during the Tribulation. If Anti-christ has set himself up in the Temple, along with an image of himself, this is where the miracles are being performed **in the sight of the beast**. This is what Daniel referred to as the **abomination** (Daniel 9:27). Jesus calls this the **abomination of desolation** (Matthew 24:15).

The passage states that each person on earth will **make an image to the beast**. How will this be possible except for some kind of artificial intelligence?

Give life (pneuma) **to the image of the beast**. It is the **image**, it has the same form as the beast, but is not the actual person. Will each image (in each home?) be able to report if it is being worshipped or not? Is this some kind of A.I., (artificial intelligence/listening devices?) on a supernatural level with forced worship? **As many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed** (See Luke 21:16).

Verses 16, 17, 18—

The False Prophet (Anti-Holy Spirit) **causeth all to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads**. Without this mark **no man might buy or sell**. We saw how this might work with the *vaccine passports* that some government entities tried to foist on the entire population—thankfully it failed! This is the ultimate *passport*.

A mark in their right hands, or in their foreheads. Many translations say **on** instead of **in**. The Greek word is *epi*, and can be translated on, upon, by, and in. With computer chip technology, it appears the KJV gets it correct. It makes sense this would be some kind of an implant **in the right and...or forehead**.

Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six. 666. This wisdom and the ability to **count** (aorist tense, a point in time) **the number of the beast** will come in the future during the Tribulation. At that time there will be understanding. Though many try, we are completely unable to understand this today.