

A Study Of The Book Of Revelation

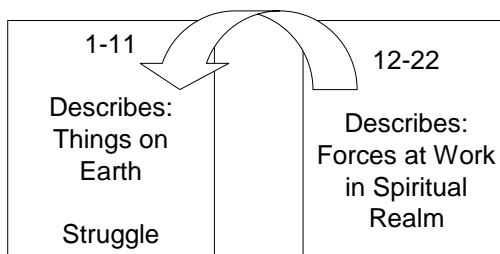
February 7, 2021

Resources used:

- A Study Of The Book Of Revelation by Bob Dodson
- More Than Conquerors by William Hendriksen
- Overcoming With The Lamb, Florida College Annual Lectures, February 7-10, 1994
- Revelation: An Introduction and Commentary by Homer Hailey
- Revelation (Truth Commentaries) by Robert Harkrider
- Revelation (A Study Workbook) by Robert Harkrider
- Revelation by Donnie Rader
- Revelation charts by Keith Greer.
- Studies In The Book Of Revelation by Ferrell Jenkins
- The Old Testament In The Book Of Revelation by Ferrell Jenkins
- The Revelation Of Saint John The Divine by G.B. Caird
- The Book of Revelation by Foy E. Wallace
- The Avenging of the Apostles and Prophets by Arthur M. Ogden
- Worthy Is The Lamb by Ray Summers
- Written exchange on "The Domitian Persecution" between Arthur M. Ogden and Ferrell Jenkins presented in Searching The Scriptures, June 12, 1989, pages 7-12

Revelation 12

Causes / Drives



Revelation 12

1-11

Victory
from the
vantage point
of the
Christian / Earth

12-22

Victory
from the
vantage point
of
God / Heaven

Revelation

II. Christ And The Dragon In Conflict (12-22)

(Deeper Spiritual Meaning)

- A. *War (12-14)*
- B. *Bowls of Wrath (15-16)*
- C. *Fall of Babylon the Harlot (17-18)*
- D. *Victory of God's people (19-21)*
- E. *Warnings about the Book (22)*

Revelation 13

"The Two Beasts"

- I. The Beast of the Sea (verses 1-10)
- II. The Beast of the Earth (verses 11-18)

Revelation 13

What Is The Point?

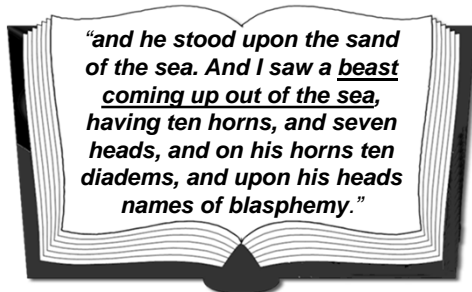
Rome
(*which is an ally of Satan*)
will fail

Book of Revelation: Chapter 13



**The Battle: Forces of the Conflict
Satan's Agents – The Two Beasts**

Revelation 13

Revelation 13:1

*"and he stood upon the sand of the sea. And I saw a **beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns, and seven heads, and on his horns ten diadems, and upon his heads names of blasphemy.**"*

Revelation 13

Satan and His Evil Forces

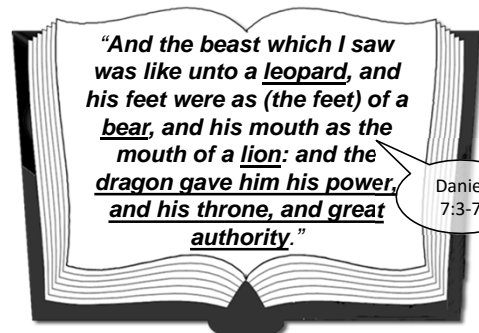
- **Beast out of the sea – political power from the mass of humanity.**
 - "Sea" – cf. Revelation 8:8; 10:2, 8; 12:12; 13:1; 20:13; 21:1
- Its origin and **appearance – indescribable horror**
 - "He stood on the sand," dragon awaiting his henchmen (cf. Translations: "He stood ..." "I stood ...")
 - "Coming up out of the sea," the sea of humanity (Isaiah 17:12) Note similar characteristics of the dragon (12:3)
 - Having: **Ten horns (great power); complete strength,** which was given by Satan!

Revelation 13

Satan and His Evil Forces

- **Beast out of the sea – political power**
- Its origin and **appearance – indescribable horror**
 - "Seven heads," perfect authority as it was given to him by Satan
 - "Ten diadems" on his horns. (*Satan has them on his head – 12:3*) Satan is the true power behind the beast's royalty.
 - In either case, the crowns (*diademata*) portray the idea of royalty and great authority. Not the victory crown (*stéphanos*).
 - "Blasphemous names" on his heads instead of crowns; to blaspheme God and His saints. (cf. Daniel 7:7-8, 11, 17-27, especially verse 25).

Revelation 13

Revelation 13:2

*"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 throne, and great authority.**"*

Daniel
7:3-7

Revelation 13

What the Beast Was “Like”

- The beast was “like” (*represents the Roman Empire*)
- John sees a **combination / composite** of the features of the four wild beasts in Daniel’s vision. (**Daniel 7:3-7**)
- “**A leopard**”
- “**Feet of a bear**”
- “**Mouth of a lion**”

Revelation 13

What the Beast Was “Like”

- The beast was “like” (*represents the Roman Empire*)
- “**Leopard**”: “cat-like quickness” to conquer the world with speed. (*Grecian army*)?
- “**Feet of a bear**”: awesome power to trample the enemy. (*Medes; Persians*)?
- “**Mouth of a lion**”: a nation’s ability to conquer; to prey like a lion. (*Roman Empire*)?

Revelation 13

The Dragon – Power Behind the Beast!

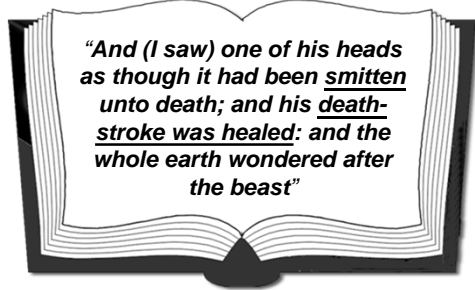
- The “Dragon” gave the “Beast.”
 - “**Power**” – the real power behind the empire was Satan; he delegated that power to Rome.
 - “**His seat**” – the ability to act
 - “**Great authority**” – remember, Satan’s authority is limited. (Daniel 4:17).

- Luke 4:6
- John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11
- 2 Corinthians 4:4
- Ephesians 2:2

Satan is still
“the prince of this world”

Revelation 13

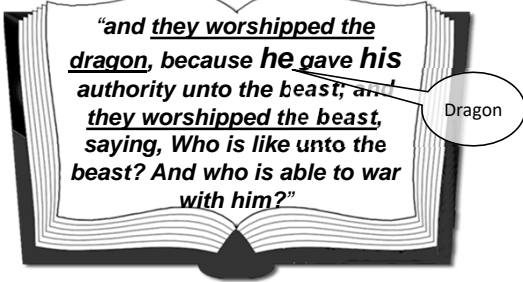
Revelation 13:3



“And (I saw) one of his heads as though it had been smitten unto death; and his death-stroke was healed: and the whole earth wondered after the beast”

Revelation 13

Revelation 13:4



“and they worshipped the dragon, because he gave his authority unto the beast; and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? And who is able to war with him?”

Revelation 13

Wound and Recovery

- In John’s day, the beast embodied the form of the **Roman Empire**.
- Satan has always used **men’s kingdoms** as **instruments** against God’s reign.
- He cannot win, since “**God rules in the kingdoms of men**” (Daniel 4:17).
 - *Only the Lamb has power to overcome the beast* (19:20).
- “**One**” of the beast’s heads was wounded unto death, but since he had seven, his life was not taken!

Revelation 13

Wound and Recovery

- Many suggest that the “wounded head” was **Nero**; he took his own life in 68 AD. After Nero, the empire suffered a two year period of anarchy and confusion.
 - Order was restored by Vespasian, but the healing of the death-stroke meant persecution for Christians. (cf. Hailey, page 286)
- Persecution did ease somewhat after Nero’s death, but it revived under **Domitian** (81–96 AD) (cf. *Nero redivivus myth*)
- Another thought** ... The seven heads represent Rome – the world power in control. In time, Rome would be fatally wounded, but another nation would rise up and replace her – repeating the cycle ... (I don’t think so! Daniel 7; Revelation 19:19-20)

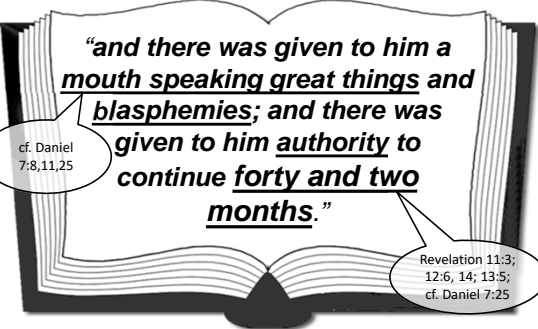
Revelation 13

Wound and Recovery

- The beast seems **invincible**. Causes all the “world” (*outside of Christ*) to marvel and adore him.
- By subjecting itself to the beast’s demands, the world is actually **worshipping Satan**.
- Enamored** by the beast’s power, authority, and earthly wealth, they eagerly follow him ...
 - Nothing is **comparable** (*so they think*).
 - Nothing can **make war** and succeed (*so they think*).

Revelation 13

Revelation 13:5



“and there was given to him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and there was given to him authority to continue forty and two months.”

cf. Daniel 7:8,11,25

Revelation 11:3; 12:6, 14; 13:5; cf. Daniel 7:25