

# Revelation 13

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## The Beast from the Sea

**Chapter 13:** Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name. <sup>2</sup> Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like *the feet of* a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority. <sup>3</sup> And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast. <sup>4</sup> **So they worshiped the dragon** who gave authority to the beast; and **they worshiped the beast**, saying, "Who *is* like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"

<sup>5</sup> And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. <sup>6</sup> Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. <sup>7</sup> It was granted to him to make war with the saints **and to overcome them**. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. <sup>8</sup> All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the **Book of Life of the Lamb** slain from the foundation of the world.

<sup>9</sup> If anyone has an ear, let him hear. <sup>10</sup> 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.

## The Beast from the Earth

<sup>11</sup> Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. <sup>12</sup> 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, who's deadly wound was healed. <sup>13</sup> He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. <sup>14</sup> 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. <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> 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, <sup>17</sup> 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.

<sup>18</sup> Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number *is* 666.

At the moment of the Rapture there will be no Believers left on Earth. But God does not leave the Earth without a witness. He never ceases to pour out his grace and mercy even on a world that is completely dark and without faith in him.

Remember, throughout revelation God has given John several visions, several overviews of the 7 year tribulation period, the 70th Week of Daniel. He began with opening the seals and the four horsemen, the first one, the White Horse with its the rider being Antichrist who had a bow but no arrows... he went out conquering through peace and deception. The Antichrist came to power but not full worldwide power yet.

We saw the 144,000 Jews sent out as evangelists to bring in a Great Harvest... but if there are no believers left on the Earth after the Rapture how did these 144,000 come to Faith?

Then we saw in Chapter 11 God giving power to his two witnesses... Elijah and Moses or perhaps Elijah and Enoch... since we are told that Enoch who was raptured like Elijah was a preacher of righteousness...

Immediately after the Rapture, God sends his two witnesses who then preach and prophesy and send plagues from Jerusalem... they are probably situated on the Temple mount the entire time.

they will be there railing against the Antichrist and the Jews who have signed a treaty with him. They will be there crying out against those building the new Temple who have aligned with the Antichrist.

Many will ignore them or mock them as kooks and fundamentalist lunatics... but others, whom God will have chosen and is calling to Himself will hear them and listen and the Holy Spirit will use what they say in the hearts of His elect... many will come to faith... the first to come to faith will be the 144,000.

The two witnesses and the 144,000 will be preaching throughout the first half of the tribulation... a great worldwide revival will be happening. Jews and Gentile coming to faith will be persecuted... the Antichrist and other world leaders, along with the unbelieving world population will be persecuting Christians and Jews throughout the first half of the tribulation. Those killed are the great sea of souls we saw under the altar in Heaven, from every people, tribe and tongue.

This persecution is what God will use to draw worldwide Jews back to Israel during this time.

Then we saw in chapter 12 that Satan and his fallen angels are finally removed from heaven and cast down to earth. Satan knows he has only a short time left, so in anger and fury he goes after Jews and Gentile believers with a vengeance. He personally indwells the Antichrist and the Antichrist is then empowered to kill the two witnesses while God miraculously draws a remnant of believing Jews to a place of safety in the wilderness.

Gentile believers, unless they have joined themselves to Israeli Jews, are given no such miraculous protection.

Zech. 8:23 says, ' Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'In those days ten men from every language of the nations shall grasp the sleeve of a Jewish man, saying, "Let us go with you, for we have heard *that God is with you.*'

This verse is first about the Millennium, after the Tribulation, but I think there is an application during the Tribulation also. Think about it. If you were left, after the Rapture and then came to faith in Jesus Christ... if you began to read the Bible... Revelation, Daniel, Ezekiel... and saw prophecy being fulfilled every day... what would you do?

I know what I would do... I would do everything in my power to get over to Israel... to Jerusalem, to the Temple, to the 2 witnesses... I would stay close... I would count the days until the Antichrist enters the Temple and desecrates it and I would grab onto the nearest believing Jew who was running out of Jerusalem toward Petra and I wouldn't let that guy out of my sight for even a second.

I would be like the Canaanite woman who came to Jesus and even though He ignored her... she persisted... she hung on and wouldn't let go... finally, He said, 'O woman, great *is* your faith! Let it be to you as you desire.' And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

Now in Chapter 13 he's going to give us a better View of the Antichrist, of his kingdom, and of the Dragon, Satan who personally indwells him.

Back to verse 1: Then I stood on the sand of the sea and I saw a beast rising up out of the sea having seven heads and ten horns and on his horns 10 crowns and on his heads a Blasphemous name.

This Beast is the Antichrist. His rising up out of the sea represents rising up out of the nation's... remember, in Daniel, the 70 weeks prophecy, we are told he comes out of the Roman Empire... and the picture of the sea... it's the picture of troubled waters... tumultuous waves... a roiling ocean, which is the chaotic time into which Antichrist comes to power... the chaotic time we see beginning to take shape throughout the world now.

Here we see the Antichrist coming to full power to begin his terrible Reign of Terror.

verse 2: Now the Beast which I saw was like a leopard his feet were like the feet of a bear and his mouth like the mouth of a lion.

Again... Revelation is tied to Daniel... we can't fully understand Revelation without understanding that it is actually a continuation and illumination of Daniel. They are God's twin books of end times understanding.

In chapter 7, Daniel has a vision of four beasts coming up out of the sea, and is told that they represent four kingdoms:

1. A beast **like a lion** with eagle's wings;
2. A beast **like a bear**, raised up on one side, with three ribs between its teeth;
3. A beast **like a leopard** with four wings and four heads;
4. **A fourth beast, with large iron teeth and ten horns.**

This is explained as a fourth kingdom, different from all the other kingdoms; it "will devour the whole earth, trampling it down and crushing it." The ten horns are ten kings who will come from this kingdom. A further horn (the "little horn") then appears and uproots three of the previous horns: this is explained as a future king.

This fourth beast in Daniel is this same beast here in Revelation... the Antichrist, whose kingdom is a continuation of all the previous world kingdoms... the Babylonian world system of the kingdom of darkness.

The dragon (Satan) gave him his power, his throne and great Authority. And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded and his deadly wound was healed and all the world marveled and followed the Beast so **they worshipped the dragon** who gave his authority to the Beast and **they worshipped the beast** saying, 'Who is like the Beast who is able to make war with him?'

It appears that there will be an assassination attempt on the Antichrist, it will seem he has been killed but he will come back to life... resurrected... imitating the Lord Jesus Christ.

For three and a half years the world will have been tormented by the preaching, prophesying and plagues of the two witnesses with no one able to harm them ... **not even the Antichrist.**

But now, as he is assassinated, resurrected and Satan suddenly enters into his body, Antichrist is able to call down fire from heaven and kill the two witnesses... he is now the savior of the World... now these plagues will end... now we will finally have our golden age... now it will be heaven on Earth.

Now that he has been assassinated and come back to life, they finally believe **he really is the god of this world**... now they are beginning to believe that perhaps he really is powerful enough to actually defeat their true enemy, the God of Heaven and his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Remember Psalm 2: **2** Why do the nations rage and the people plot a vain thing? <sup>2</sup>The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the LORD and against His Anointed, *saying*, <sup>3</sup>“Let us break Their bonds in pieces And cast away Their cords from us.”

They willingly worship the Dragon, Satan and they willingly worship the Antichrist. They say, 'Who is like the Beast who is able to make war with him?'

Now they are ready and willingly to give the Antichrist their full, unreserved allegiance... now they are ready to receive and proudly exhibit the proof of their loyalty... the mark of the beast on their right hand or, for those who really want to prove the exceptionality... right smack in the middle of their forehead.

**verse 5:** And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies and he was given authority to continue for 42 months... 3 1/2 years.

Now he will continue for the final three and a half years of the tribulation as the Beast, the Antichrist, the most horrific dictator the world has ever known.

**verse 6:** Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God to blaspheme his name, his Tabernacle and those who dwell in Heaven. Everyone who wants to prove how 'with it' they are will also then blaspheme God, the Temple and those in Heaven.

It was granted to him to make war with the Saints and to overcome them and Authority was given him over every tribe tongue and Nation. All who dwell on the earth will worship Him **whose names have not been written in the Book of Life from the lamb slain from the foundation of the world.**

Here is further proof that tribulation Saints are not part of the church and that the church was removed at the beginning of the tribulation.

Jesus said, 'I will build my church and the Gates of Hell shall not Prevail against it.' but here we see that Satan and the Antichrist have been granted by God to make war with the Saints and to overcome them... he is given authority over every tribe, every tongue, every Nation and everyone on the Earth will worship him... that is, everyone whose names were not written in the Book of Life of the Lamb... those whose names were not written in that book from the foundation of the world. Here it refers to **the Book of Life of the lamb slain from the foundation of the world** but in Revelation 17:8 we read, 'those who dwell on the earth will marvel concerning the Beast, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world.

Their names were written in the Lamb's Book of Life... written from the foundation of the world... chosen by God long before they were born... we were chosen by God long before we were born.

This is further concrete evidence of all of Paul's teaching to us concerning our election that God specifically chose each of us, His children, before He even created the Earth. Our lives were written into His Book of Life, before He created the World, before He created Adam and Eve, before there was any sin. Everyone else, all those whose names were not written in His Book of Life, before He created the World, before there was any sin... they all are these who worship the Antichrist and Satan here in the Tribulation, and who have worshipped Satan and the World System for the past 6,000 years.

Also... He says... **the lamb slain from the foundation of the world**. Think about what that really says. God is saying... when **Adam sinned, I didn't start making another plan to fix Adam or to fix sin or to fix you... Jesus Christ, My Perfect, Sacrificial Lamb and His crucifixion was planned and accomplished long before I even created the World... long before there was any sin... back when I chose and elected you ... back when I planned to draw you to Myself, to cover your sin and to save you eternally... nothing has ever been an afterthought concerning you or any of My plan... everything about you has always been part of My plan to glorify Myself... to have you for Myself... and to ultimately glorify you as the bride of My Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, King of Kings and Lord of Lords as you rule and reign with Him forever as my beloved daughters and sons.**

**Verse 9:** If anyone has an ear let him hear. 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.

Here, God gives a quick little word of encouragement to believers and warning to unbelievers. He says, 'Be Strong, be courageous, hold on... all of these, your persecutors, they will be led into captivity; they will be killed and they will come to judgment. Be patient... hold on to your faith because during the Tribulation, only **he who remains faithful to the end will be saved.**

"For yet a little while, *and* He who is coming will come and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith; But if *anyone* draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him. Heb 10:37

verse 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.

This second beast looks like a lamb but he speaks like a dragon. He is the false prophet... the head of the worldwide false religion... very possibly the pope... head of Roman Catholicism.

Roman Catholicism is not a Christian denomination... not something like Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, etc. If you remember back to the beginning of Roman Catholicism... when Caesar Constantine declared it the official religion of the Roman Empire, back in the early 300's, he was creating a hybrid religion, a conglomeration, a false Christianity. He was bringing in the different aspects of the Paganism throughout Europe and the Middle East, renamed with Christian titles, melded with the ancient Babylonian religion from the time of Nimrod and the tower of Babel... he was creating a religious system acceptable to all his subjects throughout his far flung Empire... he was working to hold his Empire together... just like the Antichrist and False Prophet will be doing.

Mystery Babylon, as the Bible calls it, is the Satanic religion of Babylon which morphed into the religion of Medo-Persia, then further morphed into the pagan religions of Greece and Rome and finally became the

heresy of false Christianity, the official religion of the Roman Empire... Roman Catholicism... which then held sway over Western Civilization for 1000 years until God began to open the eyes of His men and women of faith during the Reformation.

The current pope, Francis is a Jesuit, the **first Jesuit pope**.

The Jesuits are the armed militia of the Roman Catholic Church. They were sanctioned in 1540 by Pope Paul III with one mandate: to defeat Protestantism at all costs, by any means necessary and regain worldwide Papal rule. The Jesuits tortured and murdered the millions of Jews and true Christians during the inquisitions.

Jesus said, "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in **sheep's clothing**, but inwardly they are ravenous **wolves**." – Matt 7:15

*Francesco Borgia, Third Jesuit Superior General* said, , 'We came in like **lambs** and will rule like **wolves**.'

Pope Francis has said, "Many think differently, feel differently, seeking God or meeting God in different ways. In this crowd, **in this range of religions, there is only one certainty that we have for all: we are all children of God,**" ... "because Muslims, Hindus and African Animists are also made in the very likeness and image of God... **whether we worship at a church, a synagogue, a mosque or a mandir, it does not matter. Whether we call God, Jesus, Adonai, Allah or Krishna, we all worship the same God of love.**' 'This truth is self-evident to all who have love and humility in their hearts!' ... '**All religions are true, because they are true in the hearts of all those who believe in them. What other kind of truth is there?**' ... (but some may ask) 'Father, **what about the atheists?**' **Even the atheists. Everyone!** ... the Blood of Christ **has redeemed us all!**'

What other religious leader says exactly what the world wants to hear? Everyone is a child of God... everyone will be saved... the false prophet will say what the world wants to hear and turns everyone toward the Antichrist.

**verse 12:** And he (false prophet) exercises all the authority of the first Beast (Antichrist) in his presence and causes the Earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first Beast whose deadly wound was healed; he performs great signs so that **he even makes Fire come down from heaven** on the earth in the sight of men.

He too is given great Authority from Satan but only when he is in the presence of the Antichrist... he is able to even cause fire to come down from heaven... mimicking the powers of the two witnesses and of Elijah in 2Kings... remember if anyone wanted to harm the two witnesses, fire would come out of their mouths and destroy their enemies... one of the Great Signs of Elijah in the Old Testament was calling down fire from heaven to destroy the prophets of Baal.

It appears that now, after Satan was cast to the Earth, there are no limitations placed on him regarding his power and his deceit; he is doing everything he can to bring about his goal... **'I will be like the most high.**

**verse 14:** 'He (False Prophet) deceives those who dwell on the Earth by these 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.

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.**

Here again, **Revelation is tied to Daniel.** Remember in Daniel chapter 3... King Nebuchadnezzar built a golden image of himself, 90 ft tall, and commanded that everyone must fall down and worship that image or they would be cast into the fiery furnace... and then we read of Shadrach Meshach and Abednego.... But here with the image of the Antichrist, God is not miraculously protecting believers like he did Shadrach Meshach and Abednego in the furnace... here, during the Tribulation, they will be killed for refusing to worship the image.

**Verse 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** 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** here is wisdom **let him who has understanding calculate the number** of the Beast for it is the number of a man, **his number is 666.**

Here it is... the final gesture of fealty to Satan... they willingly take on themselves this sign, this symbol of ownership and loyalty to the god of this world. They've shown their submission to Satan for many years through tattoos and piercings, jewelry, hair, makeup, drugs and so many other ways... ways that enabled them to easily recognize each other as part of the same family of darkness.

As the Rapture and Tribulation have come so much closer... think of how tattoos have become so mainstream, so common, so necessary to being part of the in crowd... one with actors and singers. Tattoos used to be reserved only for the darkest fringes of society... 50 years ago, no one but cycle gangs and sailors had tattoos and guys in the military. They had to become mainstream... they had to be made the in thing to do... today everyone must have tattoos. This generation has been conditioned to willingly accept a tattoo on their right hand or forehead without a second thought... if it means they can be part of the New World.

Now they are willing to take the final step, to be initiated into darkness forever... after this, there is no coming back, no change of mind, no more chance... **to take this mark is to be lost forever...** only hell awaits.

This is clearly a mark... a tattoo of some kind... this Greek word means a mark or engraving... this is not an implanted chip... it is a visible tattoo like mark... it is a **special stylized mark** or the **name of the Antichrist** or a **number that calculates out to 666...** maybe you choose the one you think will look best on you.

Having this mark is the **only** way you can buy or sell anything... to get food, medicine or gas... to pay rent, electricity, or even have a place to live... this is the only way to not be hunted down and killed... it will be a hard choice for some and a very easy choice for others.

Now, finally... every human will have to make the ultimate choice: ally with Antichrist and live your life within the system or ally with Jesus Christ and **love not your life even unto the death.**

Jesus Said, "Now brother will deliver up brother to death, and a father *his* child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. <sup>22</sup> And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. **But he who endures to the end will be saved.**" Matt 10:21

The time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service.' John 16:2