

What Is This World Coming To?

An In-depth Study Of Bible Prophecy

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Lesson 11: The Beast

Revelation Chapters 13

1. His Identity (13:1-2)

What we have here in **Revelation 13** is the unveiling of the Antichrist. It is clear that Antichrist revelation to the world will not be made until after the church is raptured.

- So, The Church has been raptured.
- The restraining of the Holy Spirit is removed.
- Evil now goes unchecked in the world.
- Now the Antichrist will reveal himself.
- We see from **Revelation 6** & here in **chapter 13** that the Antichrist rise to power will be in the early part of the Tribulation. He will be *3- and one-half years* ascending to world domination and *3- and one-half years* ruling the entire world.

In other words, the Antichrist will:

- Consolidate worldwide political power.
- He will convince many of the Jews that he is their Messiah.
- Once he achieves worldwide power, he will reveal his true character; his commitment to Lucifer, and his desire to receive worship from men on behalf of the devil.
- After a brief period of spectacular success, the Antichrist and his False Prophet will be cast into *the Lake of Fire at the return of Jesus Christ to the earth* (**Revelation 19:11-16**).

We are in the final three and one-half years before the Second Coming of Christ.

Notice how he is introduced

- This individual is called **“The Beast”**

- He comes up out of the sea. The fact that *he comes up out of the sea lets us know that he is a Gentile.*
- His 10 horns and 7 heads depict the revived Roman Empire.
- While John calls him **The Beast** here in **Revelation 13**
- In **Daniel 7:8** he is called the "little horn".
- In **Daniel 9:6** he is called **the prince who is to come.**
- In **2 Thessalonians** The Apostle Paul calls him **the man of sin and the son of Perdition.**
- In **1 John 2:18** he is called... **that antichrist...**

2. His Intent (13:2) ... and his seat and his great authority.

Everything he says and does has one purpose; **rise to world power.**

- This beast or Antichrist will have a three-prong approach in his rise to power.
 - First, **political**, here in **Chapter 13**
 - Second is **military**, **Revelation 6:1-8**
 - And **third**, is a combination of *economic* and *religious authority* (here in **Revelation 13:11-18**)
 - * **So, what we have here is the final form of Gentile power.**
 - **With the Antichrist as the head of these systems**

(v. 2) Note, the features of this beast symbolize the three former empires Greece (*a leopard*, **Daniel 7:6**), Medo-Persia (*a bear*, **Daniel 7:5**) and Babylon, (*a lion*, **Daniel 7:4**).

(v. 3) The seven heads of the beast represent the seven greatest world powers who will serve in his cabinet.

Here's an essential point that must be seen. This **seventh** ruler will suffer a fatal wound caused by a sword which was subsequently healed.

This will cause astonishment in the entire world.

1st The Source Of His Power (v. 4)

The Beast or Anti-Christ gets his power from Satan himself. **So, he is a puppet of Satan!**

Let's come back to the **ten horns** in **verse 1**

These are the ten smaller nations waiting in the wings for an appointment to serve under the Antichrist. We see this in **Revelation 17:12-13**.

Revelation 13:11-15 is especially important for the Church today to know.

- **This second beast** *“coming up out of the earth with two horns like a lamb and spake as a dragon”*.
- - will be the ecclesiastical head of the apostate church in the Tribulation
- - He will serve the Antichrist in a two-fold capacity.

1st; As the ecclesiastical head, he will be the Antichrist's propaganda minister using the church as a means of bringing the world to worship the Antichrist (**Revelation 13:12-15**).

2nd He will be the economic tsar organizing the economy in such a way that only those who receive the mark of the Beast may engage in any kind of business activity. (**Revelation 13:18**)

How do you control people? If you wanna have power over people, you must:

- **Worship** (vvs. 4, 8, 12, 15)
- **Words** (vvs. 5-6)
- **War** (v. 7)
- **Wonders** (vvs. 13-15) David Copperfield doesn't have anything on this guy.
- **Wealth** (vs. 16-17)

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