

The Revelation of Jesus Christ – Message #13
Revelation 13:1-10 – The Beast Out of the Sea
(10/18/09 PM)

Revelation is not necessarily in chronological order. The judgments appear to advance the narrative. (Refer to overview handout)

In chapter 12 we saw five of the seven symbolic personages that will be predominant in the Tribulation.

1. The woman clothed with the sun—Israel
2. The fiery red dragon—Satan
3. The male child—Jesus
4. Michael—the Archangel
5. The rest of the woman’s offspring—saved Israel

Chapter 13 introduces the Antichrist through the image of a beast. The world will be desperate for a strong leader to unite the nations of the world. They will seek for someone to bring in universal peace and prosperity. The Bible predicts that a world leader will come upon the scene who will appear to be such a person. Much like Hitler’s rise in Germany he will be take advantage of people’s despair. He will be the false messiah.

1. **The Description of the Beast (1-2)**

Note the similarity to the dragon (12:2)

Some translations have “he stood on the sea” referring to the dragon. It could picture Satan as ruling over the world powers. The sea probably depicts the Gentile nations.

• **The beast represents a kingdom and a person**

Revelation does not include the word “antichrist”. John uses it in his epistles. [1 John 2:18](#), “Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming.” Revelation presents him as “the beast”.

We saw last week that “ten horns” and “the seven heads” are world empires. The “blasphemous names” represent that fact that world leaders assume god-like titles. The Antichrist will be the epitome of this. [2 Thessalonians 2:3-4](#), “Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.”

• **The ten horns are ten kingdoms coming out of the old Roman Empire**

John’s vision corresponds to Daniel’s vision in Daniel 7. The order of the beasts is reversed as John is looking back through history. **Turn To:** [Daniel 7:2-7](#)

Horns symbolize strength and power. The “ten horns” is the same as the fourth beast in Daniel 7. Daniel’s vision includes the interpretation. **Turn To:** [Daniel 7:23-24](#)

When we studied Daniel we saw that Babylon ([Daniel 2:36](#), “you are the head of gold”), Medo-Perisa ([Daniel 5:28](#), “Your kingdom has been given to the Medes and Persians” & [Daniel 8:20](#)), and Greece ([Daniel 8:21](#)) were mentioned by name. Rome is clearly identified by history and prophecy.

Daniel 9:26, “And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary.”

- **The Antichrist will be empowered by Satan**

(2) “The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.”

Satan the master deceiver will work his power through this man. No one will be able to withstand him.

He Will Be Satan’s Masterpiece of Deception

2. **The Idolization of the Beast** (3-4)

He will imitate the death and resurrection of Christ

(3) “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.”

Like Pharaoh’s magicians the Antichrist will deceive through trickery.

2 Thessalonians 2:9, “The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders.”

- **The world’s fascination will quickly become adoration**

The earth dwellers will worship him as a god. However, the one there are truly worshipping is Satan himself.

(4) 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?”

Like the pagans who worship idols they will not realize they are really worshipping the devil.

1 Corinthians 10:20, “Rather, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice they sacrifice to demons and not to God.”

This Has Been Lucifer’s Desire since His Fall

Isaiah 14:14, “I will be like the Most High.”

3. **The Persecution by the Beast** (5-7)

The persecution is connected with his blasphemy

(5-6) “And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven.”

- **The midpoint of the Tribulation period**

The blasphemy corresponds to “the abomination of desolation” that both Daniel, Jesus, and Paul prophesied of.

Daniel 9:27, “But in the middle of the week he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering and on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate.”

Matthew 24:15, “Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place”

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4, “...the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God...so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself to be God.”

The Antichrist will break his treaty with Israel, defile the temple, and demand worship.

(7) “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.”

This is the same scenario as seen in Daniel.

Daniel 7:25, “He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time.”

- **His worship by unbelievers will be worldwide**

In verse 8 John shifts to the future tense. (8) “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.”

As we have seen before these are the earth dwellers, those who live for the world system.

2 Thessalonians 2:10-12, “and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”

The “Book of Life” is the record of the redeemed. The Antichrist will be allowed to martyr believers for a short time.

Verses 9 & 10 are specifically for the believers who will be living during this time. The believers are to understand that this is in God’s plan for them. The “patience and the faith of the saints” will see them through.

The Beast’s Time Will Be Short and His Ultimate End Is Already Determined