



The Book of Revelation

Bible Study #22



Revision

- We studied the seven letters to the seven churches.
- We studied from the six seals up to the sounding of the seventh trumpet.
- We studied points to watch before the Great Tribulation.
- We saw that a portion of the Church will be protected before the Great Tribulation.
- We have seen that the Great Tribulation will last 3½ years, in parallel with the two Witnesses.
- God will cause heavenly signs after 2½ years of the Great Tribulation, signaling that the great Day of the Lord's wrath has arrived.
- God will protect those who repented during the first 2½ years of the Great Tribulation.
- We studied a brief history of God's Church and how it has been and will be persecuted by Satan.



Revelation 13 – The two beasts

- **Revelation 13:1-10** – The first beast rises out of the **sea** with seven heads and ten horns (**verse 1**).
Generally referred as the "**beast.**"
- **Revelation 13:11-18** – The second beast comes up out of the **earth** with two horns (**verse 11**).
Generally referred as the "**false prophet.**"
- The first "beast" represents "the geopolitical power most actively involved in this persecution of God's people" (*The Book of Revelation Unveiled*, pg 50).
- The first "beast" refers to the group of 10 nations which will rise at the time of the end.
- The first "beast" here also refers to the leader of that group of ten nations.



Rev. 13:1-10 – Worldwide worship

- **Revelation 13:8** – “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.”
- Everyone except the saints will worship the beast (this dictator).
- The Lamb was condemned to death from the foundation of the world. It is all according to God's great Plan. (A little encouragement!)
- **Revelation 13:9-10** – “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.”
- It doesn't speak “**to the churches**” as in **Revelation 2** and **3**. The exhortation is to the whole humanity!
- The law of divine retribution! They will have to suffer the righteous wrath of God! Again this is meant as an encouragement to the faithful.



Rev. 13:11-18 – Coming up out of the earth

- **Revelation 13:11-12** – “Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. 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, whose deadly wound was healed.”
- This now is a creature from the earth (from an organization that already exists) and not from heaven.
- He has a “gentle”, lamb-like appearance, which the first beast does not have.
- He is subservient to the first beast (its leader).
- **Revelation 19:20** – He is the “*false prophet*,” the leader of the apostate Church.
- The false prophet using his satanic powers causes those who dwell on the earth to worship the first beast (its leader).
- The false prophet appears to outlive the actual apostate Church (**Rev 17:16**). He has prominence and leadership with the first beast during the great tribulation, and the two are thrown alive into the lake of fire at Christ's coming (**Rev 19:20**).



Rev. 13:11-18 – Deceptive Miracles

- **Revelation 13:13-14** – “He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. 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.”
- The false prophet performs great miracles (**2 Thessalonians 2:9-10**).
- **Image of the Beast** – symbol of power and majesty.
- This image is mentioned **four** times in this chapter (vs. **14, 15**) and **six more times** in the book of Revelation (**14:9, 11; 15:2; 16:2; 19:20; 20:4**).
- This image is the center of false worship and the central focus of the final apostasy, the height of idolatry.



Rev. 13:11-18 – The mark of the Beast

- **Revelation 13:15-18** – “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. 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.”
- The mark is simply a sign that they are worshipers of the beast and this serves as an identification (Deut 6:2, 8; Ex 31:13; 13:6-9).
- The Bible does not mention the specific method of identification.


