

BOOK OF REVELATION

16. The Two Beasts (1)



Revelation 13

Introduction

It is important that we know the events that are going to take place in the near future and we are ready! In the last study we learnt about the Two Witnesses who will prophecy during the 3 ½ year period in the city of Jerusalem. During this time two other men will have tremendous authority on the earth – one is known as the ‘beast from the sea’, or the Antichrist, and the other is the ‘beast from the earth’, known as the False Prophet. In this study we will look at the first beast, the Antichrist.

Scripture Reading: Revelation 13:1-10



What did this ‘beast’ that John saw look like, and where did he get his power from?
Revelation 13:1-2, 12:9

(The beast had 10 horns with crowns on them, and 7 heads with blasphemous names written on them. He looked like a leopard, had feet like a bear and a mouth like a lion. This beast received his power from the dragon, and we see in Revelation 12:9 that the dragon is the Devil or Satan.)



The description of the beast and his reign of terror is similar to what Daniel saw in his vision. It will help us understand what John saw if we make a comparison between the two visions – one in Revelation 13 and the other in Daniel 7. (See the page attached at the end of this study.)



What other names are given to this ‘beast from the sea’?
Matthew 24:24, 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 1 John 2:18

(The others names are: False Christ, Man of lawlessness or sin and Antichrist.)

This man suddenly appears on the world scene, and through deception, flattery and military prowess, will gain power over the nations. He will suffer from a wound but be miraculously healed, causing the whole world to be amazed. v3, 17:8 At this time a demonic spirit will take control of him, in the same way a spirit entered Judas Iscariot (John 13:27), and through him Satan will receive worship. v4. He will begin to persecute those who believe in Jesus Christ and a reign of terror will begin.



We are told that at this time the majority of the inhabitants of the world will worship the beast. V8. Why do you think people will be deceived and not able to differentiate between the power of God and that of Satan? Discuss. See 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12 and John 3:20-21

(By this time many things will have taken place in the world giving people the opportunity to come to Christ. However the majority of those remaining on the earth love wickedness and refuse to come to the Truth. This will give an increasing foothold to the devil and they will be given over to deception and believe the lie.)



Satan is already preparing mankind, including children, to accept his deception – through movies, computer games, sports, books, religions and many other means. It is important that we recognize what he is doing and are alert to his evil schemes. What are some of the tools Satan is using right now? Discuss.



How can we protect our children, grandchildren and ourselves from these deceptions? Look at the following verses: Ephesians 4:27, Ephesians 6:10-18, Proverbs 16:21, 17:24, Psalm 119:125

Conclusion

There is a tremendous conflict taking place in the heavens – a conflict between God and His holy angels, and Satan and his demonic hordes. The battle is for the souls of men and women, young people and boys and girls. In the near future this conflict will reach epic proportions, with the rise of the Antichrist, but it is already in the world. We need to be very careful not to give any foothold to the enemy in our own lives, and in our families.

If you open yourself to the enemy he will take advantage of you. This is NOT a game. Many who have thought so, have become enslaved and been attacked. However if we guard ourselves we have no need to fear – the Holy Spirit lives in us, and He will guide us into truth and empower us to overcome every work of the devil. Hallelujah!!

A Comparison between Revelation 13 & Daniel 7

Revelation 13	Daniel 7	Interpretation
Revelation13:1a Beast came out of the sea	Daniel 7:3	What are these 4 beasts? Daniel 7:17 Revelation 17:15
Revelation13:1b Beast had 7 heads &10 horns	Daniel 7:7	Daniel 7:24 Revelation 17:12
Revelation13:2 Beast resembled a leopard, bear & lion	Daniel 7:4-6	The beast in Revelation had the characteristics of the 3 Kingdoms Daniel had seen.
Revelation13:5-6 Speaks proudly Blasphemes God	Daniel 7:8, 25	
Revelation13:7a Makes war with the saints	Daniel 7:21, 25	This is described as the Great Tribulation in the Book of Revelation.
Revelation13:7b Has authority over every tribe, people, language & nation	Daniel 7:23	
Revelation19:20 Thrown into lake of burning sulfur	Daniel 7:11b	