

A STUDY OF REVELATION

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PART XIX THE TWO BEASTS Revelation 13:1-18

Introduction: this chapter appears to be a continuation of Chapter Twelve. That is, the beasts seem to portray personages that play an important part in bringing this world to conclusion just as Israel, Satan, the Christ Child, the angelic war, etc., does as presented in Chapter Twelve. With this in mind, we approach the chapter with no particular time element in mind and view it as a related chain of events directly connected with end-time events, but perhaps indirectly related to the other personages already presented. If important, the time element of the beasts will be revealed as the story of their works unfolds.

Again, let it be noted that the end of this age is repeatedly shown to be the battle of Armageddon on earth and the simultaneous bodily return of Jesus and His saints to earth. This is the effect. What we are studying now are some of the causes of that effect.

I. THE FIRST BEAST, V. 1-10

- A. Description of the beast, V. 1-2.
 - 1. It came up out of the sea.
 - 2. It had seven heads.
 - 3. It had ten horns, crowned.
 - 4. The name of blasphemy upon its heads.
 - 5. It was like a leopard.
 - 6. Its feet were as those of a bear.
 - 7. Its mouth was as that of a lion.
- B. The power of the beast, V. 2, 5, 7.
 - 1. His power comes directly from the dragon.
 - 2. His power extends over all kindreds, tongues, nations.
 - 3. His power is to continue forty-two months.
- C. The wonder of the beast, V. 3.
 - 1. One of his heads mortally wounded.
 - 2. But the deadly wound was healed.
 - 3. So, all the world wandered after the beast.
- D. The worshippers of the beast, V. 4, 8.
 - 1. Almost the entire world worships the beast.
 - 2. Except those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.
 - 3. His worshippers proclaim him unequalled in power and ability.
- E. The work of the beast. V. 5-7.
 - 1. He speaks great things and blasphemy.
 - 2. He blasphemes God and:
 - a. The name of God,
 - b. The tabernacle of God,
 - c. Them that dwell in heaven.
 - 3. He makes war
 - a. This is with the saints

- b. He overcomes them in this warfare.
- F. Perseverance under the beast, V. 9-10.
 - 1. He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity.
 - 2. He that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword.
 - 3. Here is the patience and faith of the saints.
- G. General Comments.
 - 1. Description of the beast.
 - a. Much of this description is interpreted from chapter 17.
 - b. Coming out of the sea refers to the masses of humanity.
 - c. Beast refers to empirical apparatus headed by a man – antichrist.
 - d. Seven heads speak of completeness in affairs of man.
 - e. Ten horns crowned allude to ten kings whose power is merged.
 - f. The name of blasphemy indicates its source, nature and purpose.
 - g. Leopard likeness indicates character of Grecian Empire: swift.
 - h. Feet as a bear indicate tenacity of purpose as the Persian Empire.
 - i. Mouth as a lion indicates voracity as the Babylonian Empire.
 - j. All these were incorporated into the Roman Empire: hence a revival.
 - 2. The power of the beast.
 - a. It comes from the dragon who is the devil.
 - (1) Man yielded his authority to him in Eden
 - (2) Man prefers him to Christ.
 - b. His power is virtually worldwide for 3 ½ years.
 - 3. The wonder of the beast.
 - a. One of his heads mortally wounded was caused to heal.
 - b. Chapter 17 speaks of these heads as seven kings, five fallen, one is and the other is yet to come. This could conceivably be:
 - (1) Babylon or Medo-Persia or Greece or Rome or the Roman Papacy in political power or other power of similar natures.
 - (2) It is a political system that produces antichrist.
 - c. Notice the counterfeiting action of Satan to God.
 - (1) Christ's power is of God.
 - (2) The beast's power is of the dragon.
 - (3) Christ, mortally wounded lives.
 - (4) The beast mortally wounded lives.
 - (5) The Holy Spirit exalts Christ and His Word.
 - (6) The second beast, false prophet, exalts beast and his word.
 - d. All the world wondering after the beast means most nations of earth.
 - 4. The worshippers of the beast.
 - a. The nations worship the beast.
 - b. Those whose names are in the Lamb's Book of Life do not.
 - c. Being proclaimed unequalled on earth is virtually true in that there is no political force that can stand against him.
 - 5. The work of the beast.
 - a. He speaks great things and blasphemes all that is holy.
 - b. He makes war with the saints and overcomes them: negation of influence
 - 6. Perseverance under the beast.
 - a. Survival under the beast depends upon the saint's wisdom to put Christ first and not laying down the principles of the faith to the temptations.

- b. Though mostly negated by the beast the church will persevere.

II. THE SECOND BEAST, V. 11-18

- A. Description of the second beast. V. 11.
 - 1. He comes up out of the earth.
 - 2. He has two horns like a lamb.
 - 3. He speaks as a dragon.
- B. The power of the second beast. V. 12.
 - 1. All of the power of the first beast.
- C. The work of the second beast.
 - 1. He causes earth dwellers to worship the first beast.
 - 2. He does miracles in the sight of men.
 - 3. He deceives men by miracles.
 - 4. He causes worship of imagery of the first beast.
 - 5. He gives life to the image of the beast.
 - 6. He causes non-worshippers to be killed.
 - 7. He causes everyone to receive a mark in hands or foreheads to engage in commerce.
 - 8. The number of the beast is that of man: 666
- D. General Comments
 - 1. He comes up out of the earth instead of the sea: Not produced by humanity but ascends from the pits of hell.
 - 2. He appears as a lamb, but speaks as the devil; false prophet: antitype of the Holy Spirit.
 - 3. His power is that of the first beast: directly from the devil.
 - 4. The work of the second beast.
 - a. As the Holy Spirit exalts Christ, the second beast exalts the first beast and causes him to be worshipped.
 - b. He is a miracle worker: literally.
 - c. He appears as a life giver: giving life to the wounded head.
 - d. The mark is regulatory of economics intended to captivate total allegiance.
 - e. The number 666 is the significance of man totally apart from God physically, mentally, and spiritually.