

The Beast Out of the Sea

Rev. 13:1-10

10/21/2020

We are still being introduced to the main characters of the last half of the Tribulation. In this chapter we will be shown a “beast” out of the sea and a “beast” out of the earth. In the Bible we learn that the Godhead is a Trinity. We know there is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. We know that the Scripture establishes that created mankind has a trinity. It is the body, soul, and spirit. In this last “push” of Satan to cause extreme trouble to God’s creation we also find his trinity. It is the Dragon, the Beast from the sea, and the Beast from earth.

Know we are being introduced to the workings of one whose actions and names are many throughout the Bible. The Antichrist is the subject before us. The name itself reveals what he is about. It has a dual meaning in the original. It means against Christ and in the place of Christ. This teaches us the Antichrist will be the total opposite of Christ as his many names exposes that truth and at the same time he will “attempt” to be in place of the very workings of Christ. He will deceive the Jews, at first, that he is their Messiah or at least a type of him at the very least.

We will look at the Antichrist as he is being described by John and Paul in the New Testament. The passages we will look at are I Jn. 2:18, 22; I Jn. 4:1-3; II Jn. 7; Mat. 24:5,11,15,23-25; and II Thess. 2:3-12.

Here is a partial list of his names in the Old Testament. They are “The Assyrian”—Isa. 10:5-6; “King of Babylon”—Isa 14:4; “Lucifer”—Isa. 14:12; “The Little Horn”—Dan. 7:8; “A King of fierce countenance”—Dan. 8:32; “The prince that shall come”—Dan. 9:26; and “The willful king”—Dan. 11:36.

Jesus also made a prophetic reference to him. “I am come in my Father’s Name, and ye receive me not; if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.” Jn. 5:43.

Knowing some of the characteristics of this last movement of Satan we are being shown that this first “beast” is a political Antichrist and the second “beast” is a religious Antichrist.

V1. “Out of the sea”: In the Bible sea is often a way of describing the nations of the world and of mankind in particular being as the restless sea.

J. Vernon McGee: “God is apparently taking His hands off this earth, for a while and turning it over to Satan. I believe this is poetic justice. God must let Satan demonstrate that, when he is given full sway, he will not be able to produce. Otherwise, Satan would always be able to say to God from the lake of fire, “You never gave me a chance. If You would have taken Your hands off and let me alone, I would have been able to accomplish my purpose and establish a second kingdom.” But God is going to let Satan have his way so that he will not be able to say that.”

“Heads...horns...crowns”: Daniel’s prophecy comes in play in understanding what we are looking at here. In Daniel 7:7 he is describing a “fourth beast” which is the same as this “Beast out of the sea”. Dan. 7:7-9 Rd. The “iron teeth” correspond to the Image that describes the kingdoms of this world and in particular the “iron” part of the feet which represents the Roman Empire. The “beast out of the sea” represents the one who will head the “risen” Roman Empire. The “ten horns” correspond to the “ten toes” of the Image. Daniel’s last six chapters have to do with God’s dealings with the Jewish people in the “latter

days". The "little horn" will come up among the "ten horns" which will represent kings. We are shown that he will subdue three of them. This "little horn" will be a "person" of remarkable intelligence and great oratorical powers, having a mouth speaking great things. He will be audacious, arrogant, imperious, and persecuting. He will change "times and laws" and the "remnant" will be given unto his hands for 3 ½ years.

Daniel also informs us that the "little horn" will be a Syrian Jew and a Roman citizen. Dan. 8 and Isa. 10 both speak of the same "little horn" and of where he will come from. This is, of course, the same "little horn" we are studying in here in chapter 13.

Taking a more detailed look into all the Scriptures concerning the Antichrist will only build upon the truths we have discovered thus far. The many different ways he is described all come together in understanding that these descriptions come upon the stage of action at the same time, occupy the same territory, exhibit the same character, do the same work, exist the same length of time, and meet the same fate. This is "rightly dividing the Word of God". It is laying "precept upon precept" and "line upon line". This is why we told to "study" the Word of God asking God for help if we lack "wisdom".

"Blasphemy": Govett: "It manifests itself in two ways. The first is making oneself equal with God by usurping His place. The second is by slandering and taking God's name in vain." The original Roman Empire was guilty of the first. They made themselves equal with God by demanding worship of themselves.

V2. "Leopard...bear...lion": The body being that of a leopard, with the feet of a bear, and the mouth of a lion is showing that the revived Roman Empire in its last stage will include the characteristics of the first three wild beasts of Daniel, that is, of the Lion (Babylon), the Bear (Medo-Persia), and the Leopard (Greece), and as the largest part of the "Beast", the body, is representing that the prevailing characteristic of the revived Roman Empire will be Grecian.

The "Beast" that comes up out of the sea (Chap. 13) has seven heads and ten horns, and the horns are crowned. This represents the "Beast", or Empire, at the height of its power, when it will have all its "heads", and when the "ten kings", the heads of the "ten kingdoms" into which the Empire shall be divided, will have been crowned. The "Beast" that comes up out of the Abyss also has seven heads and ten horns, but they are not crowned, for the ten kings represented by the ten horns have not as yet received their kingdom. (Rev. 17:12). This implies that the "Beast" of Rev. 17, represents the Antichrist at the beginning of the "Week". As confirmation of this view, the "Woman" is seen at this stage riding the "Beast". For while the "Scarlet Clothed Woman" is not seen until chapter 17, it is clear that she rides the "Beast" from the beginning of the "Week", for she represents the "Papal Church" that comes into power after the true Church has been caught out.

During the wars preceding the rise of Antichrist the nations that will then be formed in the geographical limits of the Old Roman Empire will form an "Alliance" for mutual protection. Those nations will be ten in number, represented by the "Ten Horns" of the Beast. No doubt the "Papal Church" will play a prominent part in those proceedings. She will be rewarded by restoration to political power, and this union of Church and State, in which this "church" will have control, is shown by the "Woman" riding the Beast, thus dominating it. But when the "Ten Kings" shall receive their Kingdoms and be "crowned", they "shall hate the Whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire." (Rev. 17:16)

V3. "Deadly wound healed": Some interpret this as Satan having power to give life or raise someone from the dead, which I believe is a wrong view. Only the Godhead has the power to give life. Satan is not a life giver. He only works in the way of destruction and death. It is not until Rev. 20, at the White Throne Judgment, that any evil individuals are raised from the dead. The Beast will exhibit a counterfeit resurrection. We have seen from II Thess. 2:11 that God will give folks over to believe the big lie and this is part of the big lie.

Note: People who will not believe in the Resurrection of Christ will accept the fake resurrection of the Antichrist.

The Roman Empire will spring back into existence under the cruel hand of a man who faked a resurrection, and a gullible world that rejected Christ will finally be taken in by this forgery. We have already seen that this person will come on the scene as a worker of peace during the first half of the Tribulation. Satan is the father of lies.

Arnold Toynbee: "By forcing on mankind more and more lethal weapons, and at the same time making the world more and more interdependent economically, technology has brought mankind to such a degree of distress that we are ripe for deifying any new Caesar who might succeed in bringing the world unity and peace." Written in 1953!!!!!!

Fulton J. Sheen: "The Antichrist will come disguised as the great humanitarian. He will talk peace, prosperity, and plenty, not as a means to lead us to God, but as ends in themselves. He will explain guilt away psychologically, make men shrink in shame if their fellowmen say they are not broad-minded and liberal. He will spread the lie that men will never be better until they make society better."

V4. "Worshipped the dragon...worshipped the beast": This is teaching us that by the big lie Satan will have what he has always wanted. A smitten people will follow this work with not understanding that it will only be a "season".

V5. "A mouth speaking great things": We find the top of the movement that has went on for as long as man has been on this earth. The "serpent" made great statements to Eve about what would happen if she took of the fruit. He has continued throughout the time to speak great things to get people to go against the will of God in their life. Politician after politician has promised great things if only we would vote for them one more time. This deceiver will inundate this Christ rejecting group of mankind with "smooth" talk that will "satisfy" the flesh. It is sad to see the same thing going on were Jesus should be the center of all activities that a group of people will be more invested in someone who "tickles" the flesh and tells them things they want to hear instead of being instructed in the "whole counsel" of God. We are in a time when we must test everything that is placed in front of us with the "plumb line" of the Bible. Jesus is clear when he states you are either "gathering with me" or "scattering against me" in all His teachings. We cannot not serve two Masters.

V6. "Against God": This is teaching the true agenda that is in progress. It is a blessed thing to remember that the Church is not in His reach for the Bride is in Heaven at this time. He is against Christ and all that is His.

V7-8. "Overcome them": Here we see the truth presented to us that those who do believe the "Gospel of the Kingdom" presented by the 144,000 and the "Two Witnesses" that some (remnant) will die making that decision and not bowing to this dictator.

“All that dwell”: This is saying that the remainder to the world will worship this “Beast” because they rejected Jesus signified by this statement that their names are not in the book of life of the Lamb. That name is put there, I believe, when we are born again. Many take this verse and incorporate the end of which states that the Lamb was slain from the beginning of the world to mean a definition of election in that they place the name in the book meaning from the beginning of time as we know it. I believe it is clear that it is speaking only of the fact that Jesus was chosen to be the Redeemer by becoming the slain Lamb from the beginning and that only. We find this subject being brought up at the “White Throne Judgment” in Rev.20 where it is stated the books will be opened (66—The Bible) and another book was opened (the book of life) from which all were the dead were judged from. God is a righteous and just God who will, I believe, show the lost that their name could have been in this “Book of Life”. At that time everyone there will be “speechless” and “without an excuse”.

V9-10. “If any man have an ear”: This statement is do you want to hear. It is followed by “let” him hear meaning anyone can if they choose. Cain and Able had the same opportunity to worship God in a way acceptable but only one made the right choose. Rom. 10:17: “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

“Hear is the patience of the saints”: This is speaking of the Tribulation Saints who will endure the wrath of this dictator. No one will do anything without his permission whether it is travel, buy, or sale. The “saint” of that time must understand that they will have to bear with patience and faith the awful trials that will be coming upon them during this time.

J. Vernon McGee: “God will apparently withdraw from the world, and He will turn it over to Satan. Today the Holy Spirit is in the world, and He curtails, He smothers, resistance. He is holding back evil, although it may not look that way. Just think what it will be when He is removed from that office, and when evil men are permitted to have their day. Satan will have full sway. As we have said before, this is actually poetic justice. The Devil and his minions of evil and lost mankind will never be able to say to God, “You never gave us a chance. If You had just given us chance, we would have been able to work things out.” God is going to give them a chance for a brief period. If it was not for just a brief period, there would be no flesh left on the earth, as the Lord Jesus said in Mat. 24:22.