

1. Last week I taught Rev 13:10, reviewed the *Doctrine of the Antichrist* and when time expired we had just completed a review of the book *The Mystery of Bishop Pike*.
2. Before continuing, I want to provide “1Jo 1:9 time” as may be necessary.
3. Let’s first take a look at an expanded translation of Rev 13:7-10.

Expanded Translation

Rev 13:7 The Antichrist in the last half of the Tribulation was given by Satan the power to make war against the believers of the Tribulation and to conquer them; all of this of course is done under the permissive will of God. And he was given authority over all the people of the world.

Rev 13:8 The nations of the world and all the unbelieving citizens therein could be seen worshiping the Antichrist as God--that is to say all those whose names had not been redacted from the book of life belonging to the Lamb; the Lamb being the Lord Jesus Christ Who was slain in eternity past before time was.

Rev 13:9 If you have a lick of sense you will pay attention to what is here being said.

Rev 13:10 If you live in the Tribulation and you are going to be incarcerated for the cause of Christ then so be it; it is God's will. If you are to be executed, so be it, it is God's will. This age will call for patient endurance and faithfulness on the part of the saints of God but at the end of the seven years the Saints of God will be vindicated.

4. Now back to our study of “when time becomes a desperate ordeal for Satan and his specially selected cadre.”

5. We are now ready to exegete Rev 13:11-12.

KJV

Rev 13:11 And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.

Rev 13:12 And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

NIV

Rev 13:11 Then I saw another beast, coming out of the earth. He had two horns like a lamb, but he spoke like a dragon.

Rev 13:12 He exercised all the authority of the first beast on his behalf, and **made** the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose fatal wound had been healed.

Principles:

1. After the revelation of the first beast, John now beholds another beast (the False Prophet) coming up out of the earth and occupying a secondary role supporting the activities of the first beast.
2. In contrast to the first beast who comes out of the sea, the second beast is said to come out of the earth. He is of a similar nature as the first beast.
3. The same word earlier used to describe the first beast (from the Greek **Therion**) is again found; the word "another" is a translation from the Greek **Allos** meaning "one like in kind."
4. Though some have interpreted the word earth as referring to the Holy Land, it is the general word for the earth; a translation from the Greek **Ge**.
5. Since the sea, mentioned as the source of the first beast, represents the first beast as a Gentile, the reference to the second beast as coming out of the earth indicates he is a Jew.
6. The earth usually means Israel and therefore this character is most likely a Jew and Satan's facade of fulfillment of the prophecy of Elijah as the Messianic forerunner.
7. This position is not universally accepted. For example Wycliffe writes:
"His geographic origin and his racial connection are not mentioned. He is pictured, however, as having two horns like a lamb and as speaking like a dragon."
7.1 Wycliffe believes it is possible the False Prophet is a Jew but such is not a certainty.
8. The description of our Second Beast as a lamb seems to indicate that he has a religious character, a conclusion supported by his being named a prophet. This would seem to support the conclusion that the False Prophet is a Jew."
9. His speaking as a dragon indicates that he is motivated by the power of Satan who is "the dragon."
10. As a supporting character to the first beast, he is active on behalf of the first beast and exercises his authority.

10.1 Verse 12 translated literally reads, "He exerts [Greek **Poieo**, 'to do,' or 'to make' or 'to exercise'] all the authority of the first beast in his presence."

11. Using his Satanic power, the False Prophet causes (Greek **Poieo**) many to worship the first beast whose wound unto death was healed (Rev 13:3).

Rev 13:3 One of the heads of the beast seemed to have had a fatal wound, but the fatal wound had been healed. The whole world was astonished and followed the beast.

12. There are those who believe the second beast is the head of the apostate world-wide "nominal Christian" church during the first half of Daniel's seventieth week.

12.1 I don't subscribe to this position but rather believe he leads the Jewish church which worships in the rebuilt Temple.

13. With the rise of the first beast to a place of worldwide dominion, the apostate church is destroyed according to Rev 17:16, and the worship of the whole world is directed to the beast out of the sea.

Rev 17:16 The beast and the ten horns you saw will hate the prostitute. They will bring her to ruin and leave her naked; they will eat her flesh and burn her with fire.

14. The second beast, however, survives the destruction of this church and he assists the beast in making the transition.

15. Facilitating this change into the final form of apostate religion, the beast out of the earth causes men to worship the first beast.

16. The identification of the second beast as the head of some apostate church is indicated in many ways in the book of The Revelation but there is little to support the position that he heads up the universal ecumenical "Christian Church" referred to as the Babylonian Whore Church with its headquarters in Rome.

17. It is obvious that he is associated with the first beast in a religious way in that his miracles and activities tend to cause men to worship the image of the first beast.

17.1 Before continuing the analysis of verse 12, I want to give you an expanded translation of Rev 13:13-15 as a preview of the False Prophet's role in supporting the Antichrist and his satanic program.

Expanded Translation

Rev 13:13 The second beast was the False Prophet. He was a world religious leader who performed miraculous signs and wonders, even causing fire to streak across the heavens and then on command the fire would fall to earth.

He was considered by many unbelievers as the incarnation of Elijah.

Rev 13:14 It was because of the many miracles performed by this second beast that he was able to deceive the inhabitants of the earth. He received his power from the indwelt Antichrist and made no bones about the source of His power. Consequently he ordered the leaders of Israel to hold a memorial service for the fallen Antichrist. Those living on planet earth had earlier been impressed with the works of the Antichrist. At his memorial service his resuscitation would provide just the sign many needed to accept the allegation that the Antichrist was the incarnate messiah and the false prophet, Elijah.

Rev 13:15 The False Prophet was permitted to put the breath of life into the statue of the Antichrist, ergo he spoke and many were amazed. The image had been setup in the ersatz temple. This took place in the middle of the Tribulation. Everyone who refused to worship the image of the first beast was put to death.

18. It is also clear that the False Prophet shares prominence and leadership with the first beast throughout the Great Tribulation and then at the end both are cast alive into the lake of fire. (Rev 19:20)

Rev 19:20 But the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who had performed the miraculous signs on his behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped his image. The two of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur.

18.1 The head of the whore church however would seem to have met his demise at the same time his church falls prey to the whims of Satan's Roman political leader. Recall sometime early-on in the last half of the Tribulation Satan motivates the Antichrist to destroy all vestiges of "religion" and moves his headquarters from Rome to Babylon.

19. Alford's extensive remarks, though in part contrary to much of that which we have seen, are worthy of mention - if for no other reason to see how others have thought.

"It may be well to premise a few remarks, tending to the right understanding of this portion of the prophecy. These two beasts are identical as to genus: they are both **Theria**, ravaging powers, hostile to God's ... fold. They are diverse in origin. The former came up out of the sea, that is, if we go back to the symbolism of Daniel, was an empire, rising up out of confusion into order and life: the latter comes out of the earth: i.e., we may not unreasonably say, arises out of human society and its progress: which as interpreted by the context, will import its origin and gradual development during the reign and progress of the secular empire denoted by the former beast.

“The second beast is, in its zeal and action, entirely subsidiary to the first. It wields its authority, works miracles in its support, causes men to make and to worship its image, nay, itself is lost in the splendor and importance of the other.

“An important distinction exists between the two beasts, in that this second one has two horns like a lamb. In other words, this second beast puts on a mild and lamb like appearance, which the other did not. But it speaks as a dragon: its words, which carry its real character, are fierce and unrelenting: while it professes that which is gentle, its behests are cruel.

“And now I may appeal to the reader, whether all these requisites do not meet in that great wasting Power which arose, not out of anarchy and conquest but out of men's daily life and habits, out of and in the presence of the last form of the secular power, which was the Empire of Pagan Rome;

“I mean ... persecuting power, which, gentle in its aspect and professions, was yet cruel in its actions, which did all the deeds of the Empire, in its presence, which kept up its image, its laws, its formulae, its privileges; which, coming in as it did by a corrupt and ambitious priesthood, deceived by its miracles the dwellers on earth, and by them maintained the image of the despotic secular power. Surely it is this Latin Christianity, in its ecclesiastical-secular form, not identical with, but as preparing the way for, the great apostasy...”

20. Walvoord writes:

"Although the primary reference of this passage is to the period just prior to the second advent, it is foreshadowed undoubtedly in history as Alford indicates. While resisting the historical school of interpretation, Alford is nevertheless unduly influenced by it."

“There are various and well thought opinions as to who the 1st and 2nd beast represent themselves to be, if indeed such an overt representation is stated and published during the Tribulation.

“As already seen there are those who think the False Prophet, our second beast, is the leader of the nominal world Christian church headquartered in Rome. This I think we can reject out of hand, not so much from a specific Scripture but more from the context and sequence of events earlier seen.

In Revelation chapter seventeen we find the Antichrist and False Prophet both rejecting and destroying the "world Christian whose church" Tribulation thus again refuting the identification of the 2nd beast as the head of the Roman church.

“There are those, who believe the Antichrist purports himself to be God and the False Prophet purports himself to be the Messiah. Such could hardly be supported in Scripture and thus it is difficult to believe Jews and Gentiles using the Bible as even a tacit source would believe such a story. Even the most insouciant would find such allegations specious. No doubt orthodox Jewry would hardly believe such a preposterous scenario.”

“More likely would be the Antichrist purporting to be the Messiah and the False Prophet alleging himself to be Elijah. This is the position of those I call “Grace Scholars. Despite the merciless, sweeping tyranny of the first Beast (the Roman Antichrist), Satan will not be content to stop there. He will raise-up a conspirator who is an even more ruthless tyrant because he will enslave the minds and souls of men.

“Basically the second Beast will be similar to the first one. He will have the same scintillating personality, the same tireless dynamism and the same oratorical finesse as the first Beast.”

21. Hal Lindsey has written:

"He will also have the same Satanic powers. But there will be some differences too. While the first Beast emerged from the sea (the unrest of troubled nations) the second Beast emerges from the land. When the Bible uses the word "land" symbolically, it usually refers to the land that belongs to Israel. So the second Beast will come from the region of the Middle East, and I believe he will be a Jew."

22. As noted in our verse eleven, like the first beast, the second one wears horns. However, the second Beast has only two “uncrowned horns” (not ten crowned ones, as the first Antichrist).

23. What kind of power do these two horns symbolize? Not political, since the ten federated governments of the Tribulation are pictured by the ten crowned horns of the first Beast and diadems (the word used for crowns in describing the crowns of the Antichrist's kingdom) symbolize political kingdoms.

24. Our second beast wields religious power, and for that reason he is also called "the False Prophet" as we noted in Rev 19:20. He will amalgamate all religious systems into one counterfeit one.

Rev 19:20 But the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who had performed the miraculous signs on his behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped his image. The two of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur.

25. His two horns, purport those who believe He claims Messiahship, are like a lamb, showing that he will try to imitate the real Lamb, Jesus Christ.

26. Millions of people, will fall for his deception and sincerely believe this False Prophet to be the long awaited Jewish Messiah.

27. Certainly, the World Council of Churches together with the National Council of Churches is already hard at work merging various religions together. Obama traveled all over Europe urging people of all faiths to care for one another, i.e., accept all refugees into your country and embrace them. To a lesser degree we have just seen President Trump doing the same but with his characteristic mantra “but not at the expense of America.”

28. You may say "but that is crazy there is no way." And today you are absolutely right because of the restraining ministry of God the Holy Spirit who resides in you and me.

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