

Pastor Jeremy M. Thomas
Fredericksburg Bible Church
107 East Austin
Fredericksburg, Texas 78624
830-997-8834 jthomas@fbgbible.org

A0610 – March 5, 2006 – Rev 13:5-10 – The Beast Out Of The Sea - Part 2

The dragon is Satan, the first member of the unholy Trinity revealed in chapter 12. After the dragon (Satan) and his angels are defeated by Michael and his angels at the middle of the Tribulation on earth he will be cast out of heaven so that he could no longer accuse the brethren. Because the dragon no longer has access to heaven he can no longer prove that God's supreme court is unjust. His attempts to show this are designed to dethrone the Father and the Son and taking their place in the high court of heaven. As a result of being cast out he will come with great fury to earth to persecute the woman (Israel) who gave birth to the man-child (Messiah). His first act of fury will be to throw out a flood of water to drown the woman as she flees into the wilderness but they will be saved by God who will open the earth to swallow the water. In his anger he will go off to destroy the Jewish believers of the *Diaspora*. On the way he will stop off on the sand of the seashore to pick up his next instrument of war, the beast coming up out of the sea. The sea was the origin of satanic monsters and is equivalent to the abyss of Rev 11:7. The beast is one of the many titles of the Antichrist, the second member of the unholy Trinity. He has ten horns with ten diadems and seven heads with blasphemous names. The ten horns are all located on the seventh head and refer to ten kings who will rule during the seventh kingdom which is the Revived Roman Empire. So, the ten horns equal ten kings and the seven heads equal seven kingdoms that have ruled throughout history, namely; Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome, and Revived Rome. This beast is like a leopard, has feet like a bear, and a mouth like a lion. The leopard signifies Greece, the bear Medo-Persia, and the lion Babylon. The beast is thus a combination of the Greek, Medo-Persian, and Babylonian Empires. He "epitomizes all the brilliance of Alexander the Great, the massive power of Cyrus the Great, and the autocratic royalty of Nebuchadnezzar." His dominant characteristics are Greek and signify his brilliance, lightning fast military campaigns, and short military career.

Times of the Gentiles (Luke 21:24)

Kingdoms	Egypt	Assyria	Babylon	Medo-	Greece	Rome	Rome
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				Persia			Revived
Dan 2 “Statue”	*	*	Head of Gold	Chest & Arms of Silver	Waist & Thighs of Brass	Legs of Iron	Feet of Iron & Clay (10 toes)
Dan 7 “Beasts”	*	*	1 st – a Lion	2 nd – a Bear	3 rd – a Leopard		4 th – Dreadful & Terrifying (10 horns)
Rev 13 “Beast”	1 st head	2 nd head	3 rd head	4 th head	5 th head	6 th head	7 th head (10 horns)

10 horns = 10 kings (Dan 7:24; Rev 17:12) and the 10 toes refer to the same 10 kings.
the beast = 7th head (compare Rev 13:3 with 13:14 and 17:8, 11)

*Daniel did not mention these kingdoms because he was revealing prophecy not history.

The dragon will give Antichrist his power and his throne and great authority as a counterfeit of God the Father giving His Son His power and His throne and His great authority. This is the kingdom of Satan against the kingdom of God. And John saw one of his heads as if it had been slain. It does not say it was slain but it appeared to have been slain. The idea is that the head received a death wound that would normally result in death. In this unique case it does not. Obviously something supernatural takes place which enables the death wound to heal. While the heads are normally kingdoms in this case the beast is also one of the heads. One cannot separate the Antichrist from his kingdom. So, this is the Antichrist receiving a death wound near the middle of the Tribulation. Satan will counterfeit the resurrection by healing the death wound but for all intents and purposes the world will perceive this as a genuine resurrection. The result will be that the whole earth will be amazed and follow after the beast. They will also worship the dragon because he gave his power to the beast. This is direct Satan worship, what Satan has always desired is to be worshipped as God is worshipped. And the whole earth will also worship the beast. So, here we have the first look at the one world religion focusing on the worship of Satan indirectly through the Antichrist as well as directly. And the whole earth will say “Who is like the beast and who is able to wage war with him?” The answer is none are like the beast but the slain Lamb is more than able to wage war with him.

Revelation 13:5 And he was given a mouth speaking great blasphemies and he was given authority to continue forty two months.

Not only will Satan give his power and throne and authority to the Antichrist (13:2), he was also ***given*** him ***a mouth speaking great blasphemies***. This corresponds to the seven heads with blasphemous names from verse 1. The fact that the Antichrist will ***speak great blasphemies*** is prophesied in numerous passages.

1. he possesses “a mouth uttering great *boasts*” (Dan 7:8)
2. “he will speak out against the Most High” (Dan 7:25)
3. he will oppose the Prince of princes (Dan 8:25)
4. “he will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will speak monstrous things against the God of gods” (Dan 11:36)
5. he will “oppose and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship” (2 Thess 2:4)
6. he will blaspheme God, blaspheme His name and His tabernacle (Rev 13:6)

and he was given authority to continue forty two months. Here’s a time expression equal to “a time, times, and half a time” and “1,260 days”. These expressions are very important and this one refers to the 2nd half of the Tribulation when Israel will undergo tremendous persecution.

Revelation 13:6 And he opened his mouth for blasphemies against the God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, those dwelling in the heaven.

blasphemies against the God refer to statements directly demeaning God or applying the name of God to Himself. It is blasphemy to demean God or for anyone who is not God to claim to be God. When Jesus was on earth he was condemned by the high priest for claiming to be God. They sentenced Him to death for making such a claim and called it “blasphemy” (Matt 26:65; Mk 14:64; John 10:33). Many people still think Jesus never claimed to be God or they deny that he was God (e.g. Jehovah’s Witnesses, Mormons, et. al.) but the Bible is perfectly clear on the matter. If He was not God then He was a liar and if He was a liar then He could never die for our sins since He Himself would be a sinner. However, we know that He was God, just as He claimed. In the future, however, will come a true blasphemer, the Antichrist, who will demean God to a great degree and will display himself in the Tribulation Temple as being God.

2 Thessalonians 2:4 who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.

I don't think the Jews living at this future time will accept his claim to be God. He's not Jewish anyway. He'll be a Gentile of Roman descent (Dan 9:26; 11:36). The Jews will only think that this man can provide military protection. Besides, the present Zionist movement is a political movement, not a religious one. If the Zionist movement continues to the time of the end then the peace covenant that many Israelites enter with the Antichrist to start the Tribulation will be a political pact promising military protection, not a religious one. When he breaks this political covenant and exalts himself as God in the Tribulation Temple it will disturb them greatly. I do not think they will accept him as the Messiah, particularly when he persecutes them severely for the remaining 3 ½ years of his life.

He will also *blaspheme His tabernacle*. Here *His tabernacle* is used of *those dwelling in heaven*. The one's *dwelling in heaven* are Michael and his angels who defeated Satan and his angels (12:7-9) or they are those who have been victorious through the blood of the Lamb (12:11) or both groups. Whatever the case, Satan, who was defeated in heaven, has passed his anger on to the Antichrist who will display his anger by verbally slandering those in heaven.

Revelation 13:7 *And it was given to him to wage war with the saints and to overcome them, and it was given to him authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation.*

We've already seen how the world is coming to a "one world religion". This verse points to a "one world government". The Antichrist will be *given...authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation*. This fits well with Daniel's vision of the fourth beast.

Daniel 7:23 'The fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth, which will be different from all the *other* kingdoms and will devour the whole earth and tread it down and crush it.

Numerous passages speak of the Antichrist *waging war with the saints and overcoming them* during the 2nd half of the Tribulation. For example,

Daniel 7:21 "I kept looking, and that horn was waging war with the saints and overpowering them.

Daniel 7:25 'He will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he will intend to make alterations in times and in law; and they will be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.

Daniel 8:24 "His power will be mighty, but not by his own power, And he will destroy to an extraordinary degree And prosper and perform his will; He will destroy mighty men¹ and the holy people.

The saints that he wages war with and overcomes are Jewish believers who remain in Jerusalem and those of the Diaspora. It also includes his murder of the two witnesses who prophesy during the 2nd half of the Tribulation.

Revelation 11:7 When they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them.

Revelation 13:8 *And everyone thoroughly settled upon the earth will worship him, whose name was not written in the book of life of the lamb who was slaughtered (murdered, same word as used of the beast in verse 3. Only difference is that the death wound in verse 3 it uses a comparison "hos" meaning "like" or "as") from beginning of [the] world.*

This verse is the second to hint at a future "one world religion" whose worship will center on the Antichrist. Satan wants to receive worship through the Antichrist. As such he will deceive the whole world (Rev 12:9) into worshipping him. Notice in 13:12 when the false prophet is being described...

Revelation 13:12 He exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence. And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was healed.

As the Holy Spirit directs worship to Christ so the false prophet will direct worship to the Anti-Christ. The one's who will worship him are those *thoroughly settled upon the earth (katoikeo)*. These are those who have taken a deep seat upon the earth, thinking of it as their eternal abode. The end of v. 8 is difficult. The New American Standard translates it

Revelation 13:8b *everyone* whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain.

This translation fits well with 17:8. However, here, the grammar is different and it should be translated,

Rev 13:8b whose name was not written in the book of life of the lamb who was slain from beginning of [the] world.

This verse is teaching that the lamb was slain from the beginning of the world and not that the certain names were originally written in the book of life and certain one's were not, a hard doctrine of election to eternal life. The idea of a before time election to eternal life seems inconsistent with other passages that speak of the *book of life*. The word *life* is *zoe* and refers to "eternal life". The only condition for "eternal life" is faith in God's Son (John 3:16; 5:24; 6:47). Apparently, everyone's name was originally written in the book of life and this is why Christ died for everyone. Christ *provided* salvation for everyone. However, salvation is not *applied* to everyone because some refuse to believe. The names of those who refuse to believe in Christ are blotted out/erased from the book of life (Ps 69:28; Rev 3:5).

Psalm 69:28 May they be blotted out of the book of life And may they not be recorded with the righteous.

Revelation 3:5 He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life,

The fact that some names will be erased from the *book of life* indicates that there names were in the *book of life* to begin with. There are two ways one can get their name erased from the book of life. First, if a person is born and lives their whole life without believing in Christ his name is erased from the book of life. Second, if one reaches the point where God judicially hardened them because they never would believe then their name is erased from the book of life. On the other hand, those who believe in Christ during their life will not be erased from the book of life. It is difficult to reconcile Rev 17:8 with this view so I'll just leave it at that. I don't know. However, it's much more difficult to say that only the names of the elect were there before the foundation of the world and the non-elect were never there. Instead, all names were there and those who refuse to believe or were judicially hardened are erased. For more on the *book of life* see Exod 32:32; Phil 4:3; Rev 13:8; 17:8; 20:12, 15; 21:27; 22:19.

This verse is teaching that the Lamb was slain from the beginning of the world. The beginning of the world here refers to when sin began in the world and thus caused the

need for one to be slain. From that point forward it was necessary for the Lamb to be slain. The title **Lamb** in the Book of Revelation always refers to the crucified Messiah.

Revelation 13:9 If anyone has an ear, hear!

The command here is to the faithful on earth. It is similar to the commands in Rev 2-3 where Christ says, “he who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.” This command is for them to **hear** what he is about to say in verse 10. They are not to give up even under the awful persecution of the beast. They are to remain faithful to the end, even if it is a bitter one.

Revelation 13:10 If anyone unto captivity, unto captivity he goes; if anyone by sword to be killed he by sword to be killed. Here is the perseverance (hupomone - "steadfast endurance" Heritage Eagles) and the faithfulness of the saints.

God has destined some of the faithful to go into **captivity** and others **to be killed by the sword** (similar terminology in a different context is found in Jer 43:11). The faithful in the 2nd half of the Tribulation are to accept whatever destiny God has for them. Some will be sent to concentration camps. Others will be killed with the sword. They should not fight against the beast or their destiny but remain faithful to Christ no matter what takes place. Faithfulness to the Lord Jesus Christ is always the proper course of action! Any other course is sinful (Rom 14:23). Such faithfulness to Christ will demonstrate the **perseverance and faithfulness of the saints**.ⁱⁱ This is where the high Calvinists get their doctrine of the perseverance of the saints but it doesn't have anything to do with that. The word **perseverance** is *hupomone*. This word was the theme word of the Heritage Eagles last year. It means “steadfast endurance”. Staying strong until the end. The point is that these Tribulation saints should steadfastly endure and be faithful to Christ no matter what God's earthly destiny is for them.

CONCLUSION

Today, beginning in verse 5, Satan gives to the Antichrist a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies. These prophecies regarding the Antichrist's boastings are thoroughly recorded through Scripture as one of his major characteristics. He will demean God and claim to be God in the Tribulation Temple. Satan will also give him authority to act for forty-two months, which is also 3 ½ years or a time, times, and half a time, and refers to the 2nd half of the Tribulation, also known as “the great tribulation” and “the time of Jacob's distress”. He will blaspheme God, God's name, YHWH, and

those who dwell in heaven, namely, Michael and the angels and all who have been victorious through the shed blood of the Lamb. He will make war with the Jewish saints b

ⁱ The “mighty men” most likely include the “three kings, the “two witnesses”, the 144,000, and possibly others.

ⁱⁱ The expression “perseverance of the saints” is a phrase used by High Calvinists as the fifth point of TULIP. They mean by this phrase that the genuinely converted will persevere in their faith until the end of their lives. However, it does not have this meaning at all in this passage and is only used in one other passage where it doesn’t have that meaning either (Rev 14:12). It means that those saints during the Tribulation who accept God’s will for their lives will demonstrate perseverance under the most extreme forms of persecution.

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