



Revelation 13:1-8

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Two Beasts

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- i. Seth Gruber releases 1916 Project Book: <https://the1916project.com/book/>
- ii. Tuesday's (9/10/2024) FMSD Board meeting to be held ... and the results are _____
- iii. **Understanding The Times:** Jan Markell interviews Alex Newman (LibertySentinel.org) to discuss the focus and goals of the Deep State'. Yes, there is a deep state and it is at war with God. And there is a new world order that the Bible talks about that will replace an existing system. The world is being set up for global government by a single leader and the deep state is involved today.
 - a. OliveTreeViews: <https://bit.ly/31WMM0s> YouTube: <https://tinyurl.com/2eahhrjp>
- iv. **Curtis Bowers: Agenda Weekly:** <https://tinyurl.com/fu3u8yvjv>
- v. **Amir Tsarfati Newsletter:** <https://tinyurl.com/y4mjerkw>
- vi. **Jack Hibbs RealLife Podcast:** <https://tinyurl.com/22stm67z>

II. Revelation 13:1-8 Two Beasts (A connection to Daniel 2 & 7)

- a. An interesting difference in the KJV & NASV translations: Who is standing on the shore, John or the dragon?
 - i. Resources to help explain:
 - Bible Hermeneutics: What's the proper translation of Rev 13:1 <https://tinyurl.com/4ydpf6uj>
 - As the other answer indicated, there appears to be a difference of only one word (**one letter, actually**) in the underlying Greek texts of the NASB and the KJV, as regarding the 'standing and watching at the sea'
 - The former (NASB) - ἐστάθη (*estathē*) - is a **third person singular form**: "It stood" (or "he stood" or "she stood")
 - The latter (KJV) - ἐστάθηεν (*estathēn*) - is a **first person singular form**: "I stood"
 - ii. Verse 1: comments on Israel's view of the sea
 - i. Up through Revelation 12, John's vision mainly had *heaven* in view. Now the scene of his vision shifted to earth
 - ii. The Jews in Biblical times regarded the sea as a wild, untamed, frightening place.
 - iii. Israel viewed the sea as dangerous, possibly evil, & chaotic that seemed to 'resist' or fight God:
- b. Verse 1: The Beast (distinct from the Dragon)
 - i. "And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea": From the place identified with evil and chaos and resisting God, a "beast" comes forth. The ancient Greek word for **beast** brings the idea of a wild, dangerous animal. Because John calls him a **beast** and not a *dragon* (as in [Revelation 12:3](#)), this creature represents someone distinct from Satan who was represented by the dragon ([Rev 12:9](#)).
 - ii. "Having seven heads and ten horns": Though this **beast** is distinct from the dragon of [Revelation 12](#), he is still closely identified with him. He is not the dragon, but he is *like* him, because the dragon also had **7 heads & 10 horns**
 - iii. This likeness to Satan is just one of the things that identifies this **beast** with the one popularly known as the *Antichrist*. The word *Antichrist* only appears in the Bible 5 times in 4 verses (1 John 2:18, 2:22, 4:3, & 2 John 7).
 - iv. The prefix *anti* means "the opposite of" or "instead of." The Antichrist is the "opposite Jesus"; he is "instead of" Jesus.
 - v. He will look wonderful, be charming and successful. He will appear as an **angel of light** (2 Cor 11:14).
- c. Exposing the Antichrist throughout Scripture
 - i. Though we commonly call this coming world leader the Antichrist, the Bible gives him many names or titles:
 - The **little horn** of [Daniel 7:8](#). The **king of fierce countenance** of [Daniel 8:23](#).
 - The **Prince that shall come** of [Daniel 9:26](#). The **willful king** of [Daniel 11:36-45](#).
 - The one who comes **in his own name** of [John 5:43](#), whom Israel will receive as a messiah.
 - **The son of perdition, the man of sin, the lawless one** of [2 Thessalonians 2:3](#).
- d. The difference between the dragon and the beast (still verse 1)
 - i. "And on his horns ten crowns": Notice the Beast has 10 crowns, but the Dragon has "**seven diadems on his heads**" ([Rev 12:3](#)). The seven crowns of the dragon expressed his **strength and power**, (seven signifies strength and completeness. The **beast's 10 crowns** show his rule over a group of 10 nations.
- e. Let's go back 2 years to when we studied Daniel
 - i. In Daniel, the *ten horns* represented *ten kingdoms* that this final world dictator has authority over ([Daniel 7:24](#)).
 - ii. John's vision confirms the **ten crowns** on the **ten horns** represents **ten nations**
 - iii. [Daniel 7](#) and [Daniel 2](#) also connect the governments represented by the **ten crowns** with the Roman Empire.
 - iv. In the days of that fourth empire, Christ returns, destroys all earthly rule, and reigns over the earth. Some commentaries say the Roman Empire will "resume" in some way, expressed by this collection of **ten crowns**.
- f. OK, on to verse 2, but still connecting back to Daniel
 - i. The description of the beast of the sea still connects it to [Daniel 7](#).
 - ii. [Daniel 7](#) used 4 animals (*beasts*) to describe the course of human government from Daniel's time to Christ's reign
 - iii. The first 3 are a **lion** (symbolizing the Babylonian Empire), a **bear** (the Medo-Persian Empire), & a **leopard** (the Greek Empire).
 - iv. The 4th was a dreadful, indescribable beast combining the most terrifying characteristics of the previous beasts, representing the final world empire under the leadership of a Satanic dictator ([Daniel 7:7-8](#)).
 - v. Since the beasts of [Daniel 7](#) represented empires & not specific men, some have thought that the **beast** of [Revelation 13](#) is not a person, but a government or a cultural system.
 - vi. Some see the beast as a broad picture of totalitarian governments (yup, even worse than what we have now!)

- vii. Others see the **beast** as a person, specifically the Antichrist – the final Satanic dictator who leads the world in rebellion against God.
- h. Some commentary & background on the beast ... what is it or who is it?
 - i. **“Now the beast which I saw”**: All the indications in [Revelation 13](#) are the **beast** is a man, but is closely identified with his world-dominating government.
 - ii. An image is set up of the beast, the whole world worships it. People have images; governmental systems don’t
 - iii. “This Beast also has a proper name – a name expressive of a particular number, and that number ‘**a number of a man;**’ which cannot be conceived except on the idea of an individual person.” (Joseph A. Seiss, *The Apocalypse*)
 - iv. The antichrist is also called **the son of perdition** ([2 Thes 2:3](#)), as was Judas ([John 17:12](#)). Judas was a man, not a system or a government, so it follows that the antichrist will also be a man.
- i. **Verse 2: So the beast is a man, but no ordinary man**
 - i. This world leader is really empowered and supported by Satan. Through this man, Satan will express his own desire and authority. In this, the **beast** takes the offer that Jesus refused ([Matthew 4:8-10](#)).
 - ii. The **beast** is not an ordinary man. He is called *the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit* ([Revelation 11:7, 17:8](#)), and ordinary men do not come from there. “One who hails from that place must either be a dead man brought up again from the dead, or some evil spirit which takes possession of a living man... In either case, the Beast, as a person, is an extraordinary and supernatural being.” (Joseph A. Seiss, *The Apocalypse*)
 - iii. **Maybe Satan himself possesses this man**, & that’s what makes him exceptional. This was the case with Judas, who was possessed by Satan ([John 13:27](#)).
- j. **Verse 3: The beast & his wound**
 - i. **“One of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded”**: This is a **head** wound, a *mortal* wound ... NOT AN EAR!
 - ii. **“One of his heads”?** I thought we just decided the beast was a man? **Yes, but remember, Satan tries to mimic God. The beast is part of Satan’s unholy trinity (Satan, the Antichrist, & the beast/false profit)**
 - iii. Yet the most natural way to understand John’s words in Rev 13 make us believe that he speaks of a **man mortally wounded** and then **healed**. The man will lead a revived Roman Empire, and his personality will dominate it – yet he and the empire are not one in the same.
 - iv. **“... his fatal wound was healed”**: This is truly an Antichrist, who **even imitates Jesus in His death and resurrection**. The world will believe this, and it will add tremendously to his fame and power.
- k. **Verse 4: The authority & popularity of the beast**
 - i. **“So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast”**: People who worship this beast may not connect that they’re bowing down to Satan himself; but it is worship of Satan none the less.
 - ii. **People expect Satan to appear horrific, not attractive. But 2 Cor 11:14-15** “No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, whose end will be according to their deeds.”
 - iii. **“Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?”** The world will be amazed at the power of the beast, and will believe he is so mighty that he can’t be conquered.
- l. **Verses 5-6: The beast’s blasphemies**
 - i. **“Speaking great things and blasphemies”**: “Blasphemer” may be a more accurate title than “Antichrist” for this end-times dictator. This beast is a man who speaks against God and everything God stands for
 - ii. The beast continues without restraint by God for a period of **forty-two months – the familiar three and one-half years**. The duration of the period shows that the beast has full reign for the first half of the final 7 years.
 - iii. Why does the beast **“blaspheme... those who dwell in heaven”**? This means he speaks against those who were taken in the rapture, and are therefore out of his reach.
- m. **Verses 7-8: The beast makes war against the saints**
 - i. **Yes, there are ‘saints’ on earth during the Tribulation, but these are “Tribulation Saints”**, those who accepted Christ ‘post-rapture’ and have not taken the ‘mark’ in verse 16 ... more on the mark later.
 - ii. **“It was granted to him to make war with the saints”**: Revelation 12 described the broad phenomenon of Satanic persecution during the tribulation period. Here, the main instrument of that persecution is revealed: **the government of the beast will persecute and kill all those who do not bow in worship to the beast.**
 - iii. **“To overcome them”**: **Overcome** does not mean that the beast can overcome the faith of the saints, but that he can destroy their physical lives, & by all appearances defeat the cause of God’s people on earth.
 - iv. Jesus said that **“the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it”** (the church) in Matthew 16:18. If this ‘group of saints’ (a term not exclusively applied to the New Testament church) is overcome by Satan, this allows them to be a **SEPARATE** group of saints from the New Testament church.
 - v. **“All who dwell on the earth will worship him”**: This final world dictator will demand and receive worship from the whole earth. But those who **worship him** pay the price: they are those **“whose names have not been written in the Book of Life.”**
 - vi. Just how will **“all who dwell on the earth... worship him”**? It will probably be after the pattern of the ‘Caesar worship’ demanded by the Roman Emperors in the days of the early church.
 - vii. The **“Book of Life”** contains the names of all God’s redeemed according to [Revelation 20:15](#). The idea is that worshipping the beast and having your name in the **Book of Life** are mutually exclusive.
 - viii. **“The Lamb slain from the foundation of the world”**: This deeply meaningful title for Jesus reminds us that God’s plan of redemption was set in place before He even created the beings who would be redeemed.
 - ix. God wasn’t “surprised” by the fall of Adam or any other evidence of the fallen nature of man. God isn’t making it up as He goes along. **It is all going according to plan!**
 - x. God the Son had a relationship of love and fellowship with God the Father **“before the foundation of the world”** ([John 17:24](#)).
- n. Our salvation is assured ‘before the foundation of the World’
The work of Jesus was ordained **before the foundation of the world** ([1 Peter 1:20](#)); God chose His redeemed **before the foundation of the world** ([Ephesians 1:4](#)); Names are written in the Book of Life **before the**

foundation of the world ([Revelation 17:8](#)); The kingdom of heaven was prepared for the redeemed **before the foundation of the world** ([Matthew 25:34](#)).