Revelation 13

**Jeremiah 30:7,** “Alas! for that day *is* great, so that none *is* like it: it *is* even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.”

1. **THE BEAST. (Verses 1-10, 18)**
2. **His Location. (Verse 1)** “And I (John) stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea…” The “sea” is probably the Mediterranean. The beast is the antichrist. He will be revealed in the region of the Mediterranean and he will have aspirations concerning Palestine.
3. **His Manifestation. (Verses 1-2)** The “beast” is very much like the “great red dragon” with seven heads and ten horns.” The difference is the “crowns.” The “beast” is a mix of a leopard, a bear and a lion in verse two. His power and authority come from the “dragon” who is Satan (12:9).
4. **The Interpretation. (Daniel 7)** Daniel saw “four great beasts…from the sea.” The first beast was “like a lion,” the second was “like a bear,” the third was “like a leopard” and the fourth indescribable beast “was diverse from all the beasts that were before it” with “ten horns.” These beasts represent kings (Daniel 7:17) and kingdoms (Daniel 7:23). The kings and kingdoms “shall arise out of the earth” (Daniel 7:17). So, the kingdoms were future for Daniel and they match the kingdoms of Nebuchadnezzars dream (Daniel 2). The kingdom in power at the time of the vision was Babylon because Belshazzar was king (Daniel 7:1). Therefore, the “lion” represents Media-Persia, the “bear” represents Greece and the “leopard” represents Rome. Daniel did not describe the fourth beast, but John did (Revelation 13:2). It was “like unto a leopard” with “feet as the feet of a bear” and “his mouth as the mouth of a lion.” The fourth beast has characteristics of the other three beasts. It represents the kingdom of the antichrist and it is a mix of the kingdoms that existed before it. The “beast” has ten horns with crowns because the focus of his kingdom will be the allegiance of ten European kings (Daniel 7:24). But the “great red dragon” has crowns on seven heads because his focus is the kingdoms of the world.
5. **His Confirmation. (Verse 3)** The dominance of antichrist (verse 7b) will be confirmed by a miracle, which will appear to be a resurrection.
6. **His Operation. (Verse 4-5)** The antichrist will be filled with pride (verse 4) He (like Lucifer) will desire to be worshipped as God. He has the “name of blasphemy” (verse 1) and he will “open his mouth in blasphemy” (verses 5-6). However, to worship the antichrist does not result in salvation, but rather damnation (verse 8). The setting for the prophecies of this chapter is the Great Tribulation (verse 5b).
7. **His Confrontation. (Verses 6-10)** Antichrist is “against God…his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.” However, he will have not power in heaven (Revelation 12) and he will “make war with the saints” on the earth (verse 7).
8. **His Identification. (Verse 18)** The antichrist is identified by the number 666 in Revelation 13:18. It “is the number of a man” and it is short of perfection.

**Daniel 7:17**, “These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth.”

**Daniel 7:23**, “Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.”

**Daniel 7:24**, “And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.”

1. **THE FALSE PROPHET. (Verses 11-17)**
2. **His Authorization. (Verses 11-12a)** The second beast is called the “false prophet” in Revelation 16:13, 19:20 and 20:10. “And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him.” The “false prophet” is “as a lamb” but speaks “as a dragon.” He is led and empowered by Satan. Compare John 8:44. So, he will give preeminence to the beast.
3. **His Operation. (Verse 12b)** The false prophet has a purpose. He “causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast.” He is a worship leader, but he leads his disciples to “make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.” He is a false prophet with a false message.
4. **His Fabrication. (Verses 13-15a)** The second beast confirms his message with “great wonders.” He “maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth” (Verse 13) “And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do” (Verse 14). Compare 2 Thessalonians 2:9. Not all miracles are of God. The false prophet even has “power to give life unto the image of the beast” (Verse 15).
5. **His Motivation. (Verse 15b-17)** The false prophet will motivate the people of the world with force. Individuals will be compelled to submit to the antichrist religion under the threat of capital punishment. The kingdom of the beast is a true church-state. Additionally, the world population will be controlled by government control of the food supply and the world economy. This is “the spirit of antichrist” (1 John 4:3).

**2 Thessalonians 2:9**, “Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,”

1. **THE PATIENCE OF THE SAINTS. (Verses 6-10, 15-18)**
2. **The Veneration. (Verse 15)** “The patience…of the saints” refers to suffering (Compare James 5:11). As previously stated, the kingdom of antichrist will be a church-state and antichrist veneration (worship) will be mandatory. Dissenters will suffer persecution and death.
3. **Identification. (Verse 16)** The antichrist will require individuals to receive a mark in the right hand or the forehead. The “mark of the beast” will be a means of identification, but it will also be a statement of allegiance.
4. **Regulation. (Verse 17)** The “mark of the beast” will be required for commerce. It will probably provide information by electronic scanners and the government will have record of every transaction.
5. **Ramification. (Revelation 14:9-12)** Antichrist worship with the “mark of the beast” will result in eternal damnation, but the failure to comply will risk immediate suffering. The “patience of the saints” involves tremendous persecution.

**James 5:11**, “Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.”

**Daniel 9:24**, “Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.  
**25** Know therefore and understand, *that* from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince *shall be* seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.  
**26** And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof *shall be* with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.  
**27** And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make *it* desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.”