

The Sea Beast & The Earth Beast

Date: Weds, Nov 15, 2017

Text: Rev 13



“And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ” 12:17

At the end of chapter 12 John writes that Satan, pictured as a dragon, was enraged because he was defeated by God, and the Lord had protected the church. However, the devil is not about to surrender, and wages war with the Christians. **Chapter 13** reveals two weapons of Satan in his warfare with the people of God during the first century. These are pictured as beasts! One is a vicious beast arising from the sea, the other beast comes up out of the earth. Remember John is seeing a vision with the images *representing* something.

Weapons of Satan

John
13:1-10



Rev 13:1-10

“I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name. Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.”

- 1a. From Rev 12:9, who was the great dragon of chapter 12?
- b. What characteristics do we see the beast (of the sea) from 13:1 possess that are similar to the great red dragon? (Reference Rev 12:3).
- c. Reference Dan 7:2-3ff (Daniel's vision of four great beasts coming from the sea.)
What did those four great beasts represent?
What did the sea represent there (Dan 7:17)?
- d. From whom did *this* beast of the sea receive his authority (see Rev 13:2b)?
- 2a. How long was this beast able to exercise his authority (13:5)?
- b. From Dan 7:25, how long was the 4th beast to oppress the saints?
- c. From Rev 11:2, how long were the nations to trample the holy city?
- d. From Rev 12:14 how long was the woman to be kept out of the serpent's reach?
- e. These were NOT necessarily all the same specific person or nation. But what IS the same about each of them?
- f. From Rev 13:7 then, why would it be clear to those whom John is writing what this beast represents?
3. What things did this sea beast do (rev 13:3-7)? (consider how this fits the Roman rule)
- 4a. What concerns *you* about Rev 13:7?
- b. Who worshiped the beast; & Where were their names NOT written (vs 8)??



Rev 13:11-17

“Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast . . .”

5. From where does this next beast come?
6. From verses 11-13:
 - a. The beast had two horns like a _____. What does this symbolism bring to mind?
 - b. But who/what did this beast sound like?
 - c. By whose *authority* did this beast act?
 - d. What did this beast make the earth and its inhabitants do?
 - e. What tools / tricks does the earth beast use to accomplish this? (vs 13-15)
 - f. We've seen that the Sea Beast represents the Roman Government. Given the above questions, what do you think this Earth Beast represents? (Note: if you glance ahead to Rev 16:13, 19:20, & 20:10 ~ this Earth Beast is referred to as “the false prophet.”)
7. What did the beast have power to do to those who worship and to those who refused to worship it (vs 15-17)?
8. This combination of beasts – representing Rome (governmental rule, and their religion) seems to be the focus of this chapter. But look at vs 4 & 2b, with 6? Who is REALLY behind all this – what's it really all about?

DIFFICULT THINGS

9. The mortally wounded head in vs 3 – what could this mean? [Note the “as if”!]
10. **666**: Despite the focus many give, this is NOT the focus of the book or even of this chapter! We are told 666 is the number of the beast, which is also the number of what?