

**Revelation 13**  
**The Beast from the Earth**  
**Bible Study Notes**

*'Those great beasts, which are four, are four kings which arise out of the earth... The fourth beast shall be a fourth kingdom on earth...'*

**Daniel 7:17,23**

As we noticed from the last study on the first half of **Revelation 13:1-11**, The Apostle John was in a vision which Jesus revealed unto him on the Sabbath Day regarding many events which were to transpire over the course of the Church age. More specifically John saw in his vision a particular Beast power [**The Roman Papacy**] which arose out of the densely inhabited areas of the world which had authority to rule with great power.

It was a *blasphemous* power, in which its leaders [**the Office of the Pope**] professed to rule in the place of God on earth and in which they claimed to have the power to forgive sins, thus bypassing Jesus, the only Mediator and Forgiver of sins. We also noticed that this kingdom was a persecutor of God's faithful people and many of them were to die under the rulership of this beast. It was to rule for exactly **1,260 years** [538 AD-1798AD], and at the end of that period it was to receive a mortal wound and thus cease to reign upon the earth for a time, however, that wound was to be healed and it would at some point in time regain its seat and power and great authority to rule until the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of Jesus.

Now we will study the second half of chapter 13 of the Book of Revelation which deals with another beast, and we will then compare this beast to the first beast.

**vs.11**

*'Then I saw another **beast coming up** out of the earth, and he had **two horns** like a **lamb** and **spoke** like a **dragon**.'*

This verse is full of symbolism which we will break down symbol by symbol.

John sees yet another beast, that is, another **nation** [*kingdom or world power*], which is **coming up** out of the **earth**.

The Greek word for *coming up*, in the original writing of the New Testament here is 'ANABAINO'.

This word literally means **to grow up, to rise up, or to spring up** as a small plant would. In essence, this world power which John saw, was growing from a small insignificant nation to a large and powerful world power; it was *coming up* around the time that the first 'beast out of the sea' [the Roman Papacy] was coming to an end, near to or around the year 1798.

**Revelation 17:15, Daniel 7:3 and Isaiah 17:12-13** shows us that the *sea or waters* represent peoples, multitudes, nations and tongues, in essence symbolic of densely populated areas. As we previously saw with the previous four beast of Daniel 7, *Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome*, they all arose in Asia and Europe respectively, areas which were already established with peoples, cities, empires etc. However, this *beast which came up out of the earth*, according to Bible prophecy, was to be a relatively unknown land, with no real influence upon world affairs, however, around the time that the first beast [The Roman Papacy] received its *mortal wound*, **Revelation 13:3**, this somewhat small beast from the earth was now becoming a powerful and noticeable nation.

It had 'two horns like a **lamb**', that is, it had two **Christ-like principles**. It was founded upon a Christian governmental system, which at this time in history was unprecedented as all the previous beasts [powers] before it, were all monarchies which blended pagan worship with the authority of the ruling state, in essence, there was a unification of Religion & State.

The word 'lamb' is used 29 times in the book of Revelation and in 28 of those 29 times it refers indisputably to Jesus Christ. Therefore, as mentioned earlier, this nation would have characteristics which can be deemed Christ-like in nature.

However, this nation also would come to '*speak like a **dragon***'. A nation 'speaks' via **its laws and decrees**, and so this kingdom which arises out of the 'earth' shall have laws which at some point will reflect the nature of the dragon, that old serpent, the devil.

Identity of the Beast out of the earth:

By comparing Bible prophecy and the proper, structured way of interpreting Bible prophecy along with past, documented historical events, we can get a very clear understanding of who this beast represents.

As we will see later on, this nation will work on behalf of the first beast [Roman Papacy] and will be instrumental in helping it to regain its power and healing the deadly wound.

Friends we are living in the time of this healing process, wake up out of your slumber.

This nation is no other than the **United States of America**.

Prior to the 15<sup>th</sup> century, the USA was a virtually unknown land to the 'Old World' nations. However, after the year 1492 AD, by the European conquest of the 'New World', its location and territory became known to those of Europe, Asia and Africa. It proved to be a refuge for the faithful believers during the Middle-Aged Church, who suffered great persecution for their faith during the reign of the first beast, The Roman Catholic Church. They fled to this sparsely populated land and founded upon it a government with certain characteristics which were virtually non-existent at the time.

**Revelation 12:15-16** tells us '*So the serpent [**the devil**] spewed water [**persecution by the nations**] out of his mouth [**by many draconian laws**] like a flood [**widespread persecution by the nations**] after the woman [**the true & faithful Church**], that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood [**destruction by the nations**]. But the earth [**the territory of the USA**] helped the woman [**provided refuge for the faithful believers**], and the earth opened its mouth [**created laws which protected the believers, lamb-like principles**] and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth.'*

The founders of America founded it upon the principles of **REPUBLICANISM** [a nation without a king or pope] and **RELIGIOUS FREEDOM** [having the choice to worship God according to the dictates of your conscience]. There was a separation of Church and State; the Church did not get involved in governmental matters and vice versa. However, this was unlike in Europe at the time, where the Roman Church used the governments and kings of Europe to persecute the faithful, Bible, believing Christians throughout Europe [there was no separation of Church and State]

As a result, it became a land of refuge for the early pilgrim Christians who fled Europe from the immense persecution which they encountered, to a land where they could worship God according to the Bible and not according to pagan Roman Catholic beliefs and teachings.

- 1776- America declares its Independence
- 1783- Great Britain acknowledges the independence of America
- 1787- The Constitution of America is formed
- 1791- The Bill of Rights of the American government is formed
- 1798- The Roman Catholic Papacy receives its mortal wound and loses its power over the nations of Europe

Notice the beast out of the earth *coming up*, as the *beast out of the sea* is declining in power, fulfilling to a tee, the prophecy giving to John.

**vs.12**

*'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, whose deadly wound was healed.'*

This second kingdom [America] will exercise its authority and rule on behalf of the first kingdom [Roman Papacy]. It does not seek power for itself, however by its dragon-like laws, it will do everything on behalf of the first beast. It will cause the whole world to wonder after the first kingdom and to worship it and obey its authority and by implication worship Satan.

*'And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marvelled and followed the beast [Roman Church]. So, they worshiped the dragon [Satan] who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"' **Revelation 13:3-4***

However, worship belongs to God and Him alone, "He is the Creator of the heavens, the earth and the sea and all that is in them." **Exodus 20:11, Revelation 14:7**

Says Jesus, "worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve." **Matthew 4:10**

*"You shall have no other Gods before me."* **Exodus 20:3**

Notice that America will 'cause' or 'force' all the inhabitants of the earth to worship the first beast. It will do this by speaking like a dragon & creating laws which go against religious liberty and freedom of conscience. By America taking the lead, all the nations on the earth will then follow suit and enforce these laws within their individual nations.

As it stands now, America has the most political and economic clout in the world, when America sneezes, the entire world gets the cold. It is not farfetched to believe America enforcing religious laws which will *cause* and *force* all to worship the first beast. There will be a unification of Church with the State as it was during the days of Papal dominion. Even though this nation was founded upon two lamb-like principles, it will give up those principles and shall speak like a dragon.

**vs.13**

*"He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men"*

Miraculous signs and wonders are prevalent throughout this second kingdom. The devil places special emphasis on signs and wonders within this kingdom so as to deceive the masses. People have the tendency today to believe

that every miracle they see is from God, but they forget that satan is also permitted to perform miracles & signs. Instead of testing every spirit by the Word of God **1<sup>st</sup> John 4:1**, they believe whatever miracle and sign they encounter thinking it all to be of God.

A false **fire**, or spirit, deceives them and as a result they follow the beast blindly and submit to its authority. **Luke 3:16, Acts 2:1-4, Leviticus 9:22-24, 1<sup>st</sup> Chronicles 21:26, 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 18:38-39**

This immediately brings to mind the widespread false miracle worship in America promulgated on the televangelist networks. Persons such as Benny Hinn, Kenneth Copeland, Rick Warren, TD Jakes and the list goes on all fulfil this prophecy.

*"Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world."* **1<sup>st</sup> John 4:1**

*"And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon [world governments], out of the mouth of the beast [the papacy], and out of the mouth of the false prophet [apostate Christianity in America]. For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world...*" **Revelation 16:13-14**

False miracle worship and signs will be one of Satan's masterful delusions which he will use to deceive the majority of the world according to Bible prophecy.

*"And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many."* **Matthew 24:4-5**

Also read **Job 1 & 2** and observe the miracles and signs that satan is permitted to perform upon Job and his family and his possessions.

There is nothing wrong with miracles. Jesus performed many during His first advent, the followers of Christ throughout the ages performed many but the problem comes when people put all of their hope, faith and trust in miracles.

Miracles and great signs are supposed to lead us back to Christ and His power.

Many are too caught up with signs and wonders and neglect Jesus and satan uses this to his advantage to deceive many.

We therefore see that the devil will use this 2<sup>nd</sup> beast power to promulgate signs and miracles and thus many will be deceived.

We must *"test the spirits, whether they are of God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world."*

*"...because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."* **John 20:29**

\*Let us not base our relationship with Christ on what we can see, on signs and wonders and miracles, but let the **'just live by faith'**.

**vs.14**

*“And **he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do** in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an **image to the beast** who was wounded by the sword and lived.”*

Notice that the beast that rises out of the earth is **permitted** by God to perform these signs, he is ‘granted’ the right to perform these miracles. Why? Because God will reveal to the councils of Heaven who His true and faithful followers are; those who worship Him according to the dictates of His Word and who are not deceived by the false miracles which will be worked in the last days.

We now see that after being deceived, the powers of the 2<sup>nd</sup> beast (*America*) will be led to create an **image** to the first beast.

An image is a reflection of something and not the original itself.

This kingdom which arises out of the earth will have so much sway in the world (politically & economically) that it will cause all other nations to follow its lead. **It therefore must be a world power.**

It will proceed under the guidance of the devil, to implement laws and decrees which are a reflection or image to those of the first kingdom which received the mortal wound. **Revelation 13:3-4**

It will have a system of governance in the last days which will be an image to that of the first beast. Church and State will yet again come together in America as it was in the days of Papal dominion, despite the fact that the founding fathers of the nation of America sought to form a democracy which was based on a separation of the Church & the State.

As it was in the days of Papal rule, so will fallen and apostate Christianity in America, seek to use and influence the Government to implement professed ‘*Christian*’ laws by use of force upon its inhabitants. By its lead, so will the other nations of the world follow suit and thus America would have ‘*caused the earth and them that dwell therein to worship the first beast.*’ **Revelation 13:12**

Remember that everything the second beast does, it does for the first beast. **Revelation 13:12**

It exercises all of its authority on behalf of the first beast and as a result of this the ‘*kings of the earth*’ shall follow its lead.

*‘These[**the kings of the earth**] are of one mind [in unison, they are all on the same page], and they will give their power and authority to the beast [**Roman Papacy**]. These will make war with the Lamb [by persecuting His faithful Church], and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful.’ **Revelation 17:13-14***

So, by creating these laws and decrees and by implementing systems which are a copy and shadow of what the first beast was known for in its reign before it fell, so the ‘beast from the earth’ will have thus made an image to the first beast. As a result of its economic and political influence in the world it will cause all the other nations to implement the same laws and decrees in their land, lest they face sanctions, etc.

This is all in accordance with what the devil wants because ultimately these laws will lead to the persecution of God’s people as is seen in **Revelation 17**; *all who remain faithful to Him, all who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus.*

*"And the dragon was wroth with the woman and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." **Revelation 12:17***

*"Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution." **2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 3:12***

**vs.15**

*'He was granted power to give breath to **the image of the beast**, that the image of the beast should both **speak and cause** as many as would not **worship** the image of the beast to be killed.'*

As we noticed earlier, a nation speaks via its **laws and its decrees**. Therefore, we see how the 2<sup>nd</sup> beast will create this 'image' and then implement it as law within its land, it will also cause all the other nations in the world to enforce these laws. This could only be done by a nation with immense political and economic clout in the world. All those who refuse to honour the beast and adhere to this law that will be implemented shall be persecuted and killed, not only within the 2<sup>nd</sup> kingdom but throughout the world.

*"And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation..." **Daniel 12:1***

*"Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake." **Matthew 24:9***

*"When the early church became corrupted by departing from the simplicity of the gospel and accepting heathen rites and customs, she lost the Spirit and power of God; and in order to control the consciences of the people [**because the Holy Spirit no longer did**], she sought the support of the secular power. The result was **the papacy**, a church that controlled the power of the state [**notice here that the author clearly defines the meaning of the word 'papacy' as the union of church and state**] and employed it to further her own ends, especially for the punishment of 'heresy.' In order for the United States to form an image of the beast, **the religious power [the church] must so control the civil government [must have the power of the secular sword]** that the authority of the state will also be employed by the church to accomplish her own ends" The Great Controversy, p. 443*

By making an image of the first beast, the United States will disown and contradict its own founding principles and make an image or replica of what the papacy did during the 1260 years. As a result, much of the history of what the papacy did to John Hus and the early Reformers, and the Sanhedrin did to Jesus will be repeated in the end time.

**vs.16**

*"He causes [**forces, makes**] all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive **a mark** on their **right hand** or on their **foreheads**."*

All shall go along with following the beast, no matter the social status in the world, they shall all worship the image of the beast and as a result their names shall be blotted out from the Lamb's book of life.

*Only those who remain faithful unto God no matter the circumstance shall receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those that love Him.*

They shall reject the observance of the law instituted by the beast which arises out of the earth and thus they shall be hated by all people. They will be persecuted, maligned, betrayed all for their faith in Jesus and for worshipping Him and Him alone.

Those who follow the beast and worship its image shall receive a mark, this mark will either be in the **forehead** or the **right hand**. This is not a literal mark, as the entire Book of Revelation is symbolic, so we must also expect as with everything else that **the mark would be symbolic**.

A mark is a sign of approval or disapproval.

God's faithful followers will be sealed or marked with the Holy Spirit, **Ephesians 1:13-14, Ephesians 4:30**, whereas the followers of the devil and those who worship the beast, and its image shall receive the mark of the beast.

FOREHEAD (MIND):

*"Behold, I have made your face strong against their faces, and your forehead strong against their foreheads. Like adamant stone, harder than flint, I have made your forehead; do not be afraid of them, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they are a rebellious house."* **Ezekiel 3:8-9**

*"I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God..."* **Romans 7:25**

RIGHT HAND (ACTIONS/DEEDS):

*"Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might..."* **Ecclesiastes 9:10**

*"Their works are works of iniquity and the act of violence is in their hands."* **Isaiah 59:6**

We can see then that those persons who refuse to standfast and worship God according to the statutes laid out in the Word of God but who instead choose to submit allegiance to the beast and thus worship it will receive its mark of its authority.

Remember that the mark is the mark of the 1<sup>st</sup> beast which is forced upon all nations by the laws and decrees instituted by the 2<sup>nd</sup> beast. The beast out of the earth exercises all of its authority on behalf of the first beast, the beast which was slain and yet was healed.

*"And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast."* **Revelation 13:3**

*"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, whose deadly wound was healed."* **Revelation 13:12**

They will receive the mark in their **forehead or their mind**, because they do believe in the philosophy and doctrines of the first beast. They follow the beast and submit their allegiance to it willingly.

They will therefore **think accordingly** and receive the mark in their **forehead**.

Others will receive the mark in their **right hand** because of want for food and shelter feeling as though they have no other choice. One will not be able to buy or sell unless they have the mark. Therefore, because some will not necessarily believe in the laws set out by the beast and not agree in the way things are going at that time, they will

still worship its image and submit allegiance for want of money, needing to pay bills, buy groceries, support families etc. As a result, they will **act accordingly** and will receive the mark because of their actions and deeds in their **right hand**.

In a separate study we will discuss what this actual mark is and observe how this particular mark is already making its way unbeknownst to most of the world. Remember that this mark is a mark of a kingdom, it is a seal of its authority and by acknowledging the supremacy of the beast, one receives its mark.

We are not to bend the knee and submit allegiance to any other apart from God. Worship belongs to Him and Him only and if we truly love Him, we will stand for him no matter the circumstance.

*"And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death"* **Revelation 12:11**

**vs.17**

*"and that no one may buy or sell except one who has **the mark or the name** of the beast, or **the number** of his name."*

John saw that all earthy support will be cut off from those who will faithfully follow Christ in these last days. They shall not be able to buy or sell, they will not be employed, bills will not be able to be paid, family members will betray us, co-workers will throw us under the bus, the persecution will be immense in those days. But we must stand for God, and by His grace, He shall be with us and help us to stand.

*"and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."* **Matthew 28:20**

In that day Isaiah tells us that we will be provided for, God shall provide our bread and our water.

*"He will dwell on high; his place of defence will be the fortress of rocks; **bread will be given him; his water will be sure.**"* **Isa.33:16**

We must put our trust solely in Jesus for only He will be able to deliver us in those days.

Those who refuse to stand for Jesus, will receive the mark of the beast, in their forehead or in the right hand and as a result they would have made their decision and there will be no other opportunity for their salvation, there will be no more Blood left to cover their sins. When all mankind in these last days have made their decision as to whose side they will stand on, once the *'image of the beast speaks'*, then probation would have been closed. Just like in the days of Cain and Abel, & Noah & Lot there will be two classes of people upon the earth, the righteous and the wicked, everyone would have made up in their mind for the path they will follow and then and only then will *"the mystery of God will be accomplished."* **Revelation 10:7**

At that time, Jesus shall stand up, **Daniel 12:1**, and the wrath of God shall be poured out upon all who received the mark of the beast. They shall drink from the cup of His indignation and receive of His wrath and the people of God, that faithful remnant of true believers, will be protected in those days for they stood for Jesus despite the circumstances.



*"If anyone worships the beast and his image and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also **drink of the wine of the wrath of God**, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation."* **Revelation 14:9-10**

*Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour **out the bowls of the wrath of God** on the earth."* **Revelation 16:1**

*"He shall cover you with His feathers and under His wings you shall take refuge; his truth shall be your shield and buckler. You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day, nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday.*

***A thousand may fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand but it shall not come near you. Only with your eyes shall you look and see the reward of the wicked.*** **Psalms 91:4-8**

#### **vs.18**

*"Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate **the number of the beast**, for it is **the number of a man**: His number is 666."*

Only with wisdom will the Book of Revelation truly be understood. Wisdom comes from God and God only, and only by the guidance of the Holy Spirit will we be able to discern the message within this book.

The number of the beast (*kingdom*) is the number of a man. Just as 7 is God's number, His number of perfection and completeness, **six (6) is the number of man**. Six (6) is one less than seven (7) and the repetition of 6,6,6 shows us that this kingdom will exalt man and the ways of man over everything that God stands for.

*"That Day will not come unless the falling away [**apostasy**] comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God."* **2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians 2:3**

*So, God created man in His own image; in **the image of God**, He created him; male and female He created them... Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So, the evening and the morning were **the sixth day**."* **Genesis 1:27,31**

*"Work shall be done for **six days**, but the seventh is the Sabbath of rest, holy to the LORD."* **Exodus 31:15**

*"Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height was **sixty cubits** and its width **six cubits**. He set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon."* **Daniel 3:1**

This beast power in which the beast out of the earth will exalt will be a kingdom which chooses to exalt the ways of man over the ways of God. It will demand worship from the people of the earth, and many will submit to it, only a remnant shall be saved.

We must stand fast and choose ye today whom we will serve, as for me and my household we will serve the Lord.

#### **Conclusion:**

John sees a second beast which arises from an uninhabited area, which is in strike contrast to the first beast which he sees in verse 1 which arose from the sea. This beast will at one point have laws and be founded upon decrees

which are meek and mild in stature but eventually these laws will be revoked and replaced by ‘dragon-like’ laws. Laws upholding persecution and execution of those who refuse to go along with them. All that this nation will do will be for the exaltation of the first beast which received its wound but will eventually rise again to power. It will enforce a form of worship upon the people of the earth, supported by all the other nations, and will cause those who refuse not to obey to not be able to buy or sell or live ‘normal’ lives. All earthly support will be cut off from God’s faithful remnant of believers in these times, but they must standfast and trust solely in God for their deliverance.

Two classes of people will be upon the earth in those days, the righteous and the wicked, just like in the days of Abel and Cain, or Noah and the inhabitants of the world, or Jacob & Esau, or Isaac & Ishmael, or the Israelites and the Egyptians. God always shows us in His Word that there are always two classes of people: the righteous and the wicked.

Which side will you be on?

*‘And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God.’*

**Revelation 15:2**

