



# Revelation 13

**The Dragon and Two Beasts:**

The Beast from the Sea

The Beast from the Earth

UNHOLY TRINITY

***Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And 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. <sup>2</sup> 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.***

Revelation 13:1-2



# Beast from the Sea

NOTES...

A photograph of a spiral-bound notebook with a pencil resting on it. The notebook is open, showing lined pages. The pencil is sharpened and lies diagonally across the top right of the page. The spiral binding is on the left side.

**Sharpen your pencils!**

*We're going to look at more details about this beast from the sea...*



# Revelation 13

***“The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.”*** (last part of 13:2)

There is no difficulty interpreting this statement. We know the identity of the dragon. It is the enemy, HaSatan. We therefore know that antichrist receives all that he has from The Accuser.



***<sup>3</sup> And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.***

# Revelation 13

- Difficult passage to interpret. Many **believe antichrist will be killed and raised back to life at some point.**
- Will not provide all the background info for many speculations that surround this issue. However, there are several popular thoughts.
- Some believe first 3 ½ years of his world leadership he is merely a man (human) who worships the enemy, that he **literally dies and satan raises him back to life and actually indwells**, or uses, the physical body and is now “super human.



# Revelation 13

- Based upon concept of satan counterfeiting Jesus' life, and enemy will seek to counterfeit himself as the anointed one (incarnate).
- Others say this “antichristos” is actually **an historic figure who is “reincarnated”** or brought back to life for this role, such as Judas Iscariot, Nero (*or other Caesar*), Mussolini, Hitler, Stalin, etc (*the list goes on!*). There are all sorts of thoughts about this. A convincing argument can be made for Judas. (We won't go there now.)
- **However, this idea has several flaws, ...**



# Revelation 13

- ...based upon a common knowledge of how God works and how life is given. In Hebrews 9:27, anticipating one of man's many false religions and false teachings (reincarnation) it states: ***“And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment.”*** Yet, many still hold to this, and God cannot be limited in how He works.
- Still others believe that this “mortal wound” and “healing” or “resurrection” is a **grand deception.**

# Revelation 13

- Other arguments state enemy has power over life and death, and can, in fact, raise someone from the dead.
- Many do not believe this, but rather that **God alone has power over life and death**, and resurrection (*we believe this*). This wound may be real, and appear to be fatal, but huge deception causes people to *believe* he was brought back to life, when indeed he never died in the first place.
- Words in this verse can lead to this conclusion. John says one of beast's heads looked **"as if"** it had been wounded.

# Revelation 13

- Satan's chief business is counterfeiting, trying to make something appear to be of God when it is not. In this chapter there is a **counterfeit trinity** (*dragon, beast from the sea and beast from the earth*) a counterfeit "messiah" and a counterfeit resurrection. **None of these things is real**, they are phonies. Hence belief that "resurrection" is a fake as well.
- Resurrection of Jesus the Messiah makes Christianity unique among all religions. Only one boasting actual resurrection from dead.

# Revelation 13

- **Islam comes closest** with their prophet's ascension into heaven. But this is also one of many counterfeit religions by the enemy (*perhaps one that boasts most counterfeits*).
- **Come close to what is real (*mix in a little truth*), and maybe people will fall for it.** Enemy will try to duplicate our Lord's resurrection through deception. He has been counterfeiting things of God since his origin, and continues to do so in an attempt to steal away God's most prized possession - His children.

# Revelation 13

- Later in this chapter (v 14 ) we are told the beast's wound was "by the sword." Notice we are not told specifically he is resurrected, merely that his wound was healed.
- Very interesting passage in Zechariah 11:17. Here final world ruler is referenced as the "evil (or worthless) shepherd." Listen to a description of him: *"Woe to the worthless shepherd, who leaves the flock! A sword shall be against his arm and against his right eye; his arm shall completely wither, And his right eye shall be totally blinded."*



# Revelation 13

- Is this a description, *the only one in scripture*, of the physical appearance of antichrist after this seemingly mortal wound? Perhaps. Interesting to consider.
- **Bottom line on this passage** - it really doesn't matter in the grand scheme of things. Whether the antichrist is literally dead and raised back to life, or the world is deceived through amazing trickery, the end result is the same: the whole world is amazed and follows him.

**They have bought the lie.**

# Revelation 13

- **One more argument** about 7-headed beast with one head receiving what appeared to be a fatal wound. In chapter 17, further description of beast found (*will discuss later*). However, in 17: 10 describing the beast, it says ***“...there are also seven kings...”*** This means the heads can be considered “kings.”
- In NT Scripture, word used for “king” and “kingdom” (*Gr. basileus*) the same. No distinction between them, context of passage used to determine whether king, or kingdom, is spoken of.

# Revelation 13

- In many cases, *God does not make distinction*, king and kingdom are regarded as one. In that case, the head with the fatal wound here has also been interpreted as a **kingdom**, not necessarily as the human king. Some say that the Roman Empire will be reborn, “resurrected,” and this passage does not necessarily imply a human receives a fatal wound and comes back to life. It may apply to a kingdom, a world power, instead, though this is *not the most popular theory*.



# Revelation 13

- Some spend lifetimes trying to decipher these very difficult passages, following all threads throughout scripture. We believe answers are there (*yet so many commentators disagree and come to differing conclusions*), but perhaps we **will not be able to place all the puzzle pieces together until the very time these events occur.**
- Literally hundreds and hundreds of Old Testament references to person most believe is the antichrist. Putting all the pieces together is a challenge.

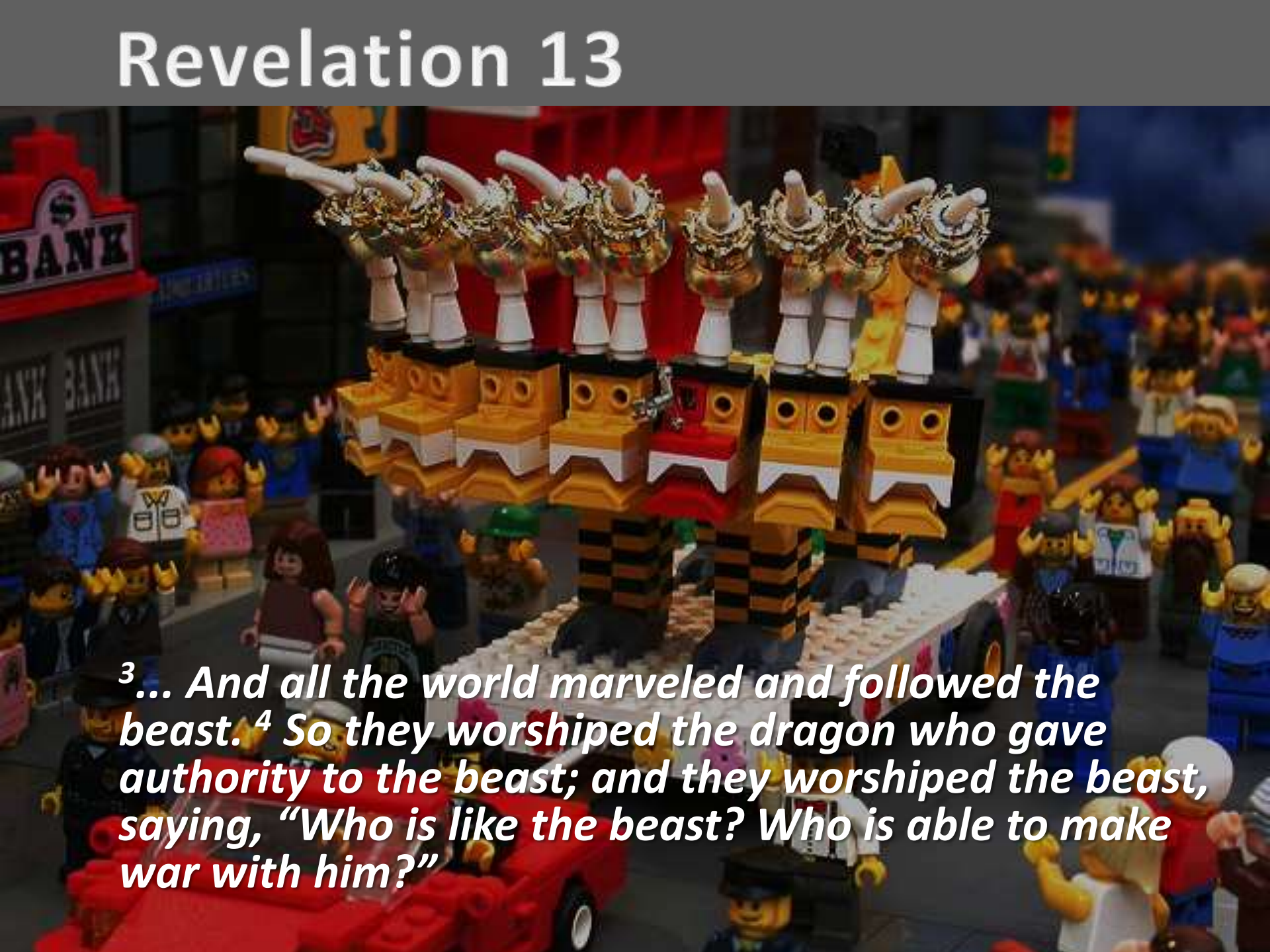
# Revelation 13

- If you would like to spend more time on your own research, suggest you go to:

<http://www.biblebelievers.com/Pink/antichrist01.htm>

Arthur W. Pink spent a great deal of time researching this and writing his conclusions. A good source, though take all commentary as human wisdom, unless it is solidly backed by scripture.

# Revelation 13

A large crowd of people is gathered around a parade float. The float carries a large, multi-headed dragon-like creature with seven heads and seven horns, symbolizing the Beast in Revelation 13. The creature is constructed from yellow and black blocks, with white horns and gold-colored heads. The crowd consists of many people, some wearing blue shirts, and a red car is visible in the foreground. In the background, there are buildings with signs, including one that says "BANK".

***3... And all the world marveled and followed the beast. 4 So they worshiped the dragon 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

- Either through deception or occult power, **the “inhabitants of the world”** (*those who do not know God and His Son*) **now worship both the dragon and the beast.**
- The dragon, the beast from the sea and the beast from the earth make up an **evil (unholy) counterfeit trinity.**
- The world now worships the enemy (satanic worship) and his masterpiece, the beast from the sea (antichrist).

# Revelation 13

Who is like the beast? Who can make war against him?

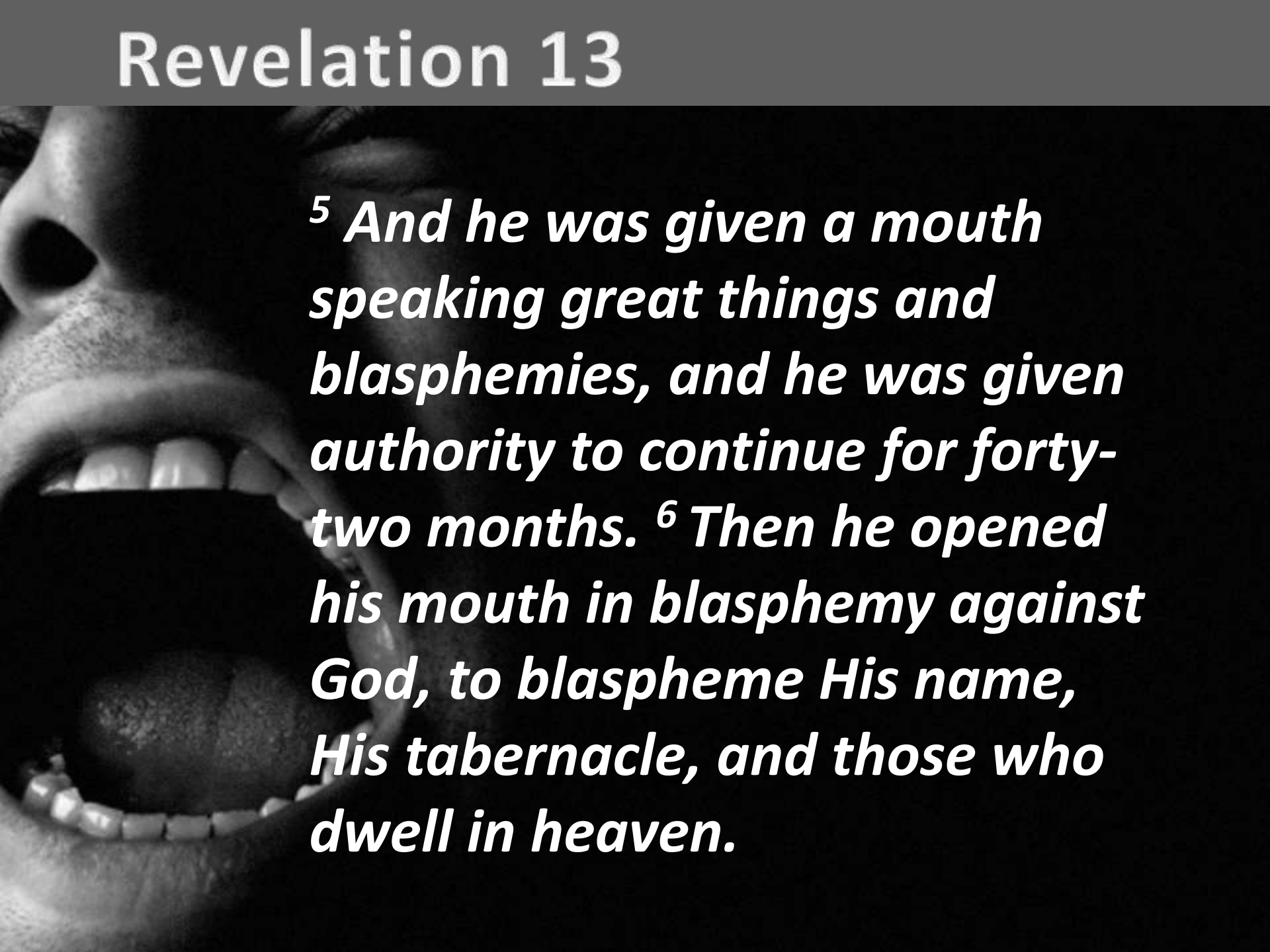


# Revelation 13

- The lost are amazed by the power they've seen displayed, or been deceived with. **They boast that no one can compare to this beast, and certainly no one can go to war with him and win. In their deluded minds, he is the all-mighty one. He is the "Messiah" awaited. And they will blindly follow him.**



# Revelation 13



***<sup>5</sup> And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. <sup>6</sup> Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven.***

# Revelation 13

- “Mr. Big Mouth” (Chuck Missler)
- Several allusions to this big mouth throughout scripture
- “Little horn” of Daniel 7 has ***“a mouth speaking pompous words.”***
- Many other references in this book that antichrist speaks powerfully against God and God’s people.
- **“Speaking great things”** may also be translated “pompous words.”
- Arrogant, filled with himself...**and the enemy.**



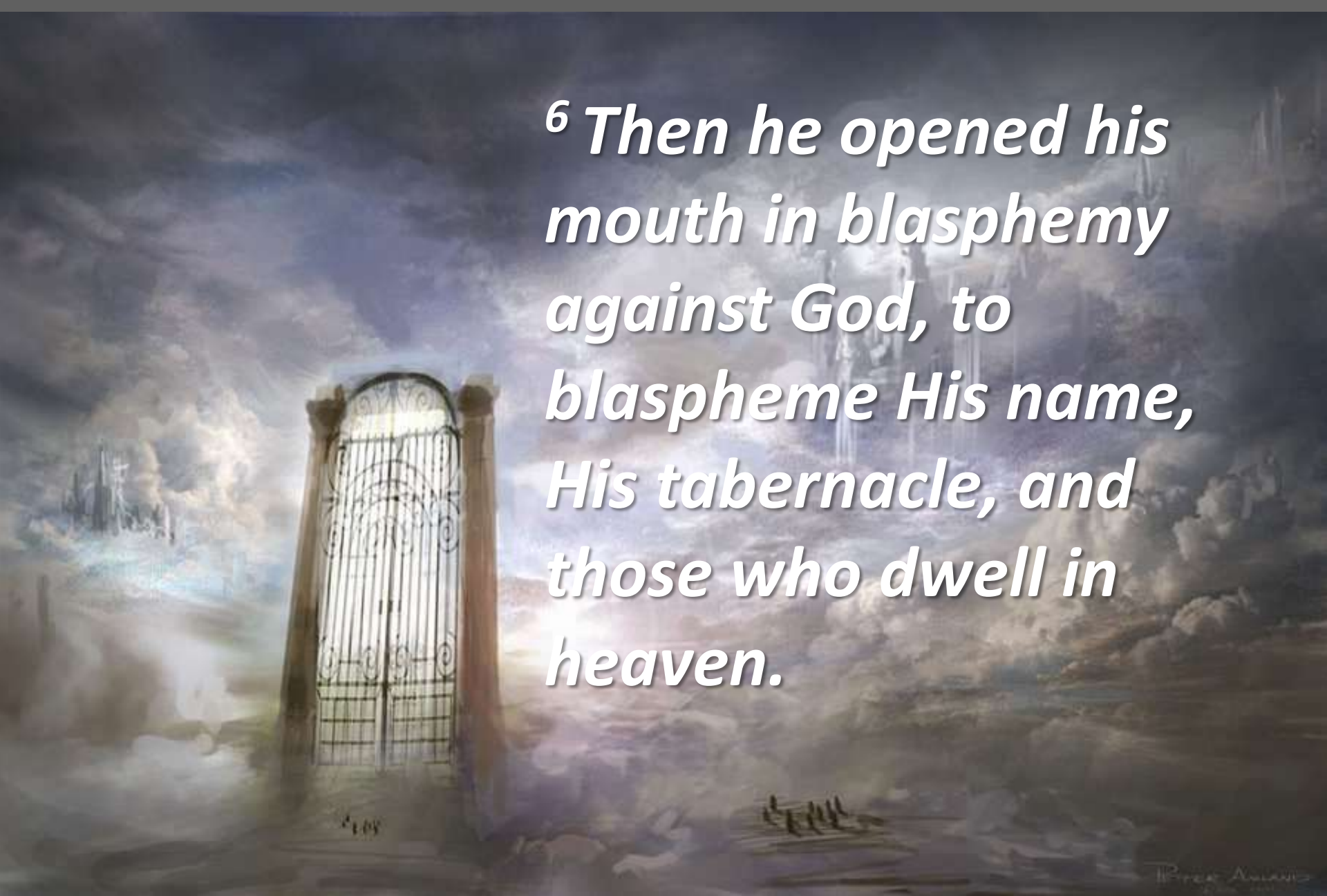


# Revelation 13

- Notice phrase “*and he was given authority...*”  
Very important. **God still in control.**
- **Book of Job** - even enemy must have permission before he does anything. God is the only Almighty One!
- “...*forty-two months.*” very specific time frame again (3 ½ years).
- God reminding us beast has limited reign, specific period of time, not *figurative* season.
- “**Great Tribulation**” (*Jesus*) last half of general 7-year period, “big mouth” is fueled by enemy.

# Revelation 13

***<sup>6</sup> Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven.***



# Revelation 13

- “Blasphemia” = evil speaking, railing, against God
- God main target of blasphemy, but there are three named targets:
  - 1) His Name
  - 2) His tabernacle (*dwelling place, which is currently in heaven*)
  - 3) His people (those who dwell in heaven)
- Last group opposite of “**those who dwell on earth**” (unbelievers).

# Revelation 13

## A PRE-TRIBULATIONALIST VIEW...

- In chapter 12 the Jews were persecuted
- “Her offspring” (can be seen both as saints of tribulation period, and the Church, even though during tribulation it (she) is not on earth.
- **Church is a separate entity** from tribulation saints. Composed of those who dwell in heaven with God, as seen in this verse.  
*(opposite of “those who inhabit the earth.”)*

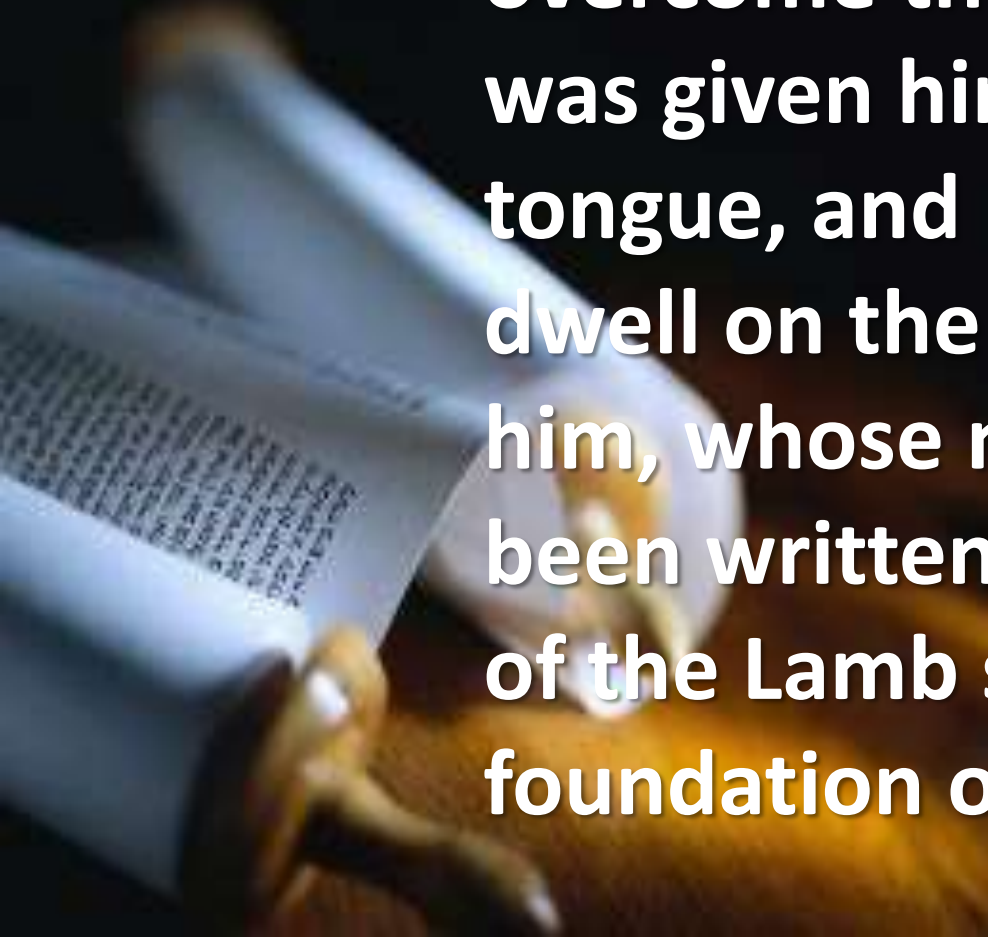
# Revelation 13

The beast blasphemes everything of God, now and before. ALL who love God are persecuted.

And those he can't persecute (*saints of past, now in heaven*) he blasphemes.

# Revelation 13

**<sup>7</sup> It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. <sup>8</sup> All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.**



# Revelation 13

## A lot of information in these two verses:

- Beast is allowed (*“it was granted” by God, remember He is in ultimate control!*) to “make war” with the saints, and even to **overcome them**. (*lots of other scripture references indicate this*)
- Beast will hate believers, try to obliterate them and their God (*remarkably vain thing, Psalm 2*).
- **Truly time of “Jacob’s Trouble”** - trouble turns to *terrible* for believers, Jew and Gentile, last half of tribulation

# Revelation 13

- From Daniel 7:25, we know same thing:  
*“He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time.”*
- (“little horn” of Daniel’s vision, same period of time referenced... *more on this “little horn” later*)



# Revelation 13

- Some have a hard time with this verse, recalling the words of Matthew 16:18:

***“And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.”***

- Jesus makes a play on words here. Peter means *rock*. Jesus’ Church is not built on Peter, but on the statement Peter had just made that elicited this remark by Christ: ***“You are Messiah, the Son of the Living God.”*** (Matthew 16:16) Jesus refers to His Church here, and that the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.

# Revelation 13

- Yet in Revelation 13, the beast is given power to overcome the saints. ***How can this be?***
- Helpful to remember Church, body of Messiah made up of all believers from the time of Pentecost to the time of the removal of the Church, is **not the same group referenced throughout Revelation during the tribulation.**
- These are **“tribulation saints,” entirely different set of believers.** For this period of time, believers are given different distinctions, and are in different *“dispensations.”*

# Revelation 13

- Word used in Greek for “prevail against” is *katischuo*, literally means to overcome and possibly destroy.
- Persecution will be worse than ever before in history, but Saints will NOT be destroyed. Body of Messiah will still exist, still be saved, still be present. May be martyred, but that will merely take them into the presence of their Shepherd.
- We should also remember that the “**Church**” (ekklesia) is NOT mentioned once during the Tribulation period (chapters 6-18). The Church Jesus was referencing in Matthew is not there to be “prevailed against.”

# Revelation 13

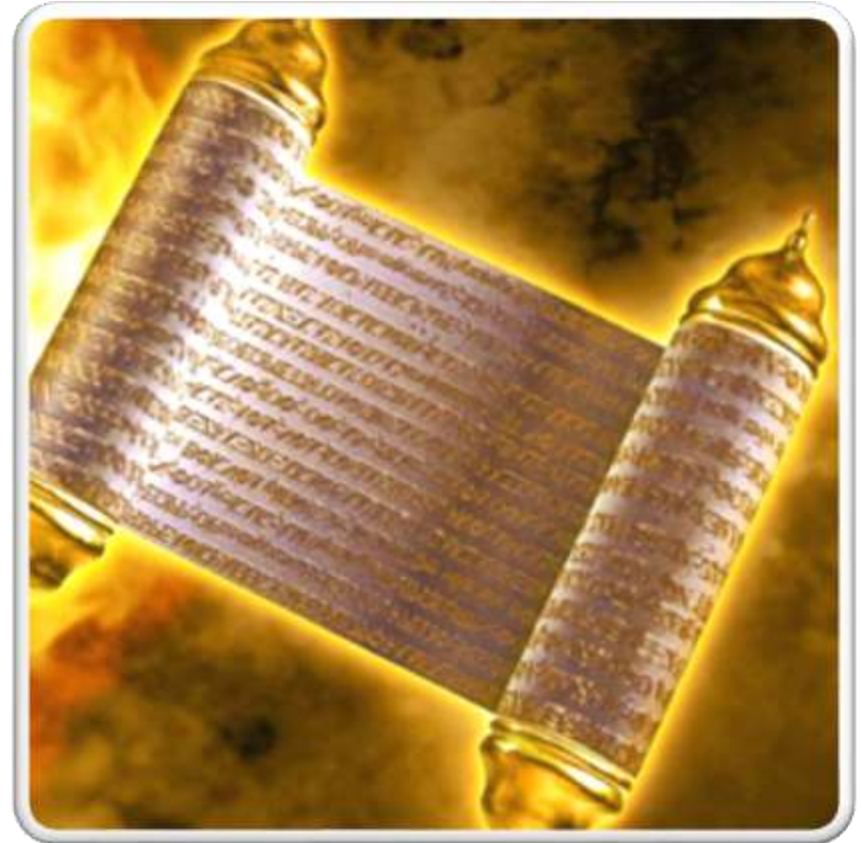
- *“Those who prefer a comfortable religion which does not demand righteous behavior will find just what they are looking for.”* (unknown commentator)
- One-world government, often referred to as “The New World Order” promoted many years by many very recognizable leaders, including both President Bush’s, Mikhail Gorbachev, Tony Blair, and many many others, including financial sources behind the scenes of very powerful plans for this. **Goes beyond “conspiracy theory.”** Very solid evidence. Prophecy says this is the direction we are headed.

# Revelation 13

- Again, notice “***was granted***” and “***authority was given...***” phrases. Must not forget Who is in control during this time.
- Beast given authority over everyone on earth. No one is exempt, and everyone must worship him, and they do. All, except those whose names are written in the Book of Life of the Lamb – believers.
- Speaks of **one world government**, and eventually **one world religion**. Antichrist goal to be worshipped himself. Aligns with satan’s ultimate goal (Isaiah 14:12-17)

# Revelation 13

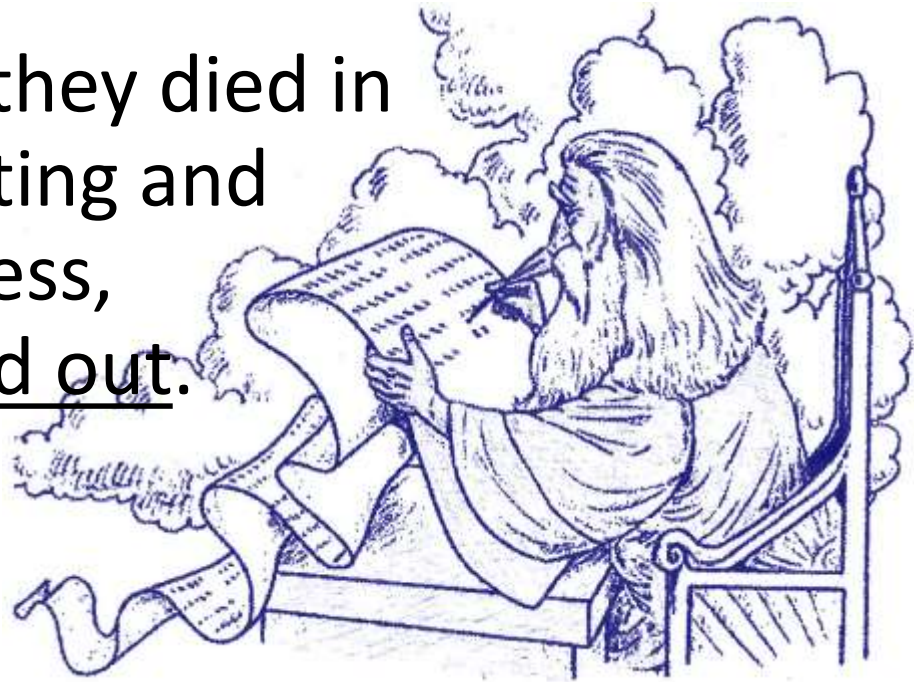
- **Book of Life** referenced many times in scripture, as well as **Lamb's Book Life**.
- Could do entire study just on this concept.
- Moses knew of the book and had a conversation with God about it (Exodus 32).
- Discussion in scripture about names being blotted out of this book, and names written in Lamb's book



# Revelation 13

## In summary, we can assume:

- God's Book of Life contains names of EVERY human being ever born. His desire that none perish. Sort of God's book of "anticipation."
- However, if die without receiving His gift of a Savior, names are blotted out.
- In the Old Testament, if they died in their sins without repenting and receiving God's forgiveness, their names were blotted out.
- Only names that remain are those forgiven.



# Revelation 13

- For the past almost 2,000 years, forgiveness comes only through Jesus.
- Lamb's book of life starts out blank and names are added, as they believe in Him.
- In a certain sense, God's Book of Life actually becomes Lamb's Book of Life.
- Either way, names of all believers written in God's book.
- Can be seen as **“census listing” of dwellers in heaven** with Him (as opposed to the “inhabitants of the earth.”)



# Revelation 13

- “slain from the foundation of the world.” - difficult for us to comprehend.
- Indicates God’s plan determined and even accomplished **before** universe was created.
- He had already given His Son, and the Lamb had already been slain, before He even created the world. Can we understand this?
- God says He inhabits eternity, sees beginning from the end. **Beyond human comprehension.**

# Revelation 13

<sup>9</sup> If anyone has an ear, let him hear.

<sup>10</sup> He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity; he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.



# Revelation 13

- ***“If anyone has an ear, let him hear.”*** - sounds familiar.
- Notice, however, words that generally follow this phrase (from chapter 2 and 3 in the letters to the churches) **are missing**.
- In chs 2 and 3, entire phrase reads: “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says unto the churches.”
- Mere accidental omission here? **No! God’s word is perfect in its precision.**  
Statement not here because Church is not here in chapter 13.

# Revelation 13

- Now admonition is to “**anyone.**”
- In other words, pay attention, I have something to say, and anyone who is trying to hear God should hear what He is saying at this point.
- It is an attention getter, aimed at anyone who really wants to know, not the Church, which is apparently not here at this time.
- We need to fully understand **the precision of God’s Word.**

# Revelation 13

Other translations of verse 10:

*If someone is destined for captivity, a captive he will be. If someone is destined [to die] by the sword, by the sword he will die. The endurance and faithfulness of the saints will be tested here.* (The VOICE)

*“If anyone is meant for captivity, into captivity he goes! If anyone is to be killed with the sword, with the sword he is to be killed!” This is when God’s holy people must persevere and trust!* (CJB)

*If you are to be a prisoner, then you will be a prisoner. If you are to be killed with the sword, then you will be killed with the sword. This means that God’s holy people must have patience and faith.* (NCV)

# Revelation 13

- Verse 10 has been variously translated. It is most often translated ***“If anyone is meant for captivity, into captivity he goes...”*** meaning that God has pre-ordained what will happen to people in this time. Some will be imprisoned, some will be killed. God has a plan for each of us.
- Indicates God’s Sovereignty in these matters (all matters!), and for the believer to be aware these things will happen and to endure through them in faith.

# Revelation 13

- However, can also be interpreted as KJV and NKJV (and others) say, ***“He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity;...”*** indicates these things *will happen*, but also that whoever does these things to God’s people **will be subject to God’s retribution.**
- Verse can be translated either way, the point is taken: **saints during this time will suffer greatly.** They will be arrested and killed, but those who perpetrate these things will die themselves the same way.
- **Intended as word of encouragement and warning to remain strong to the end.**