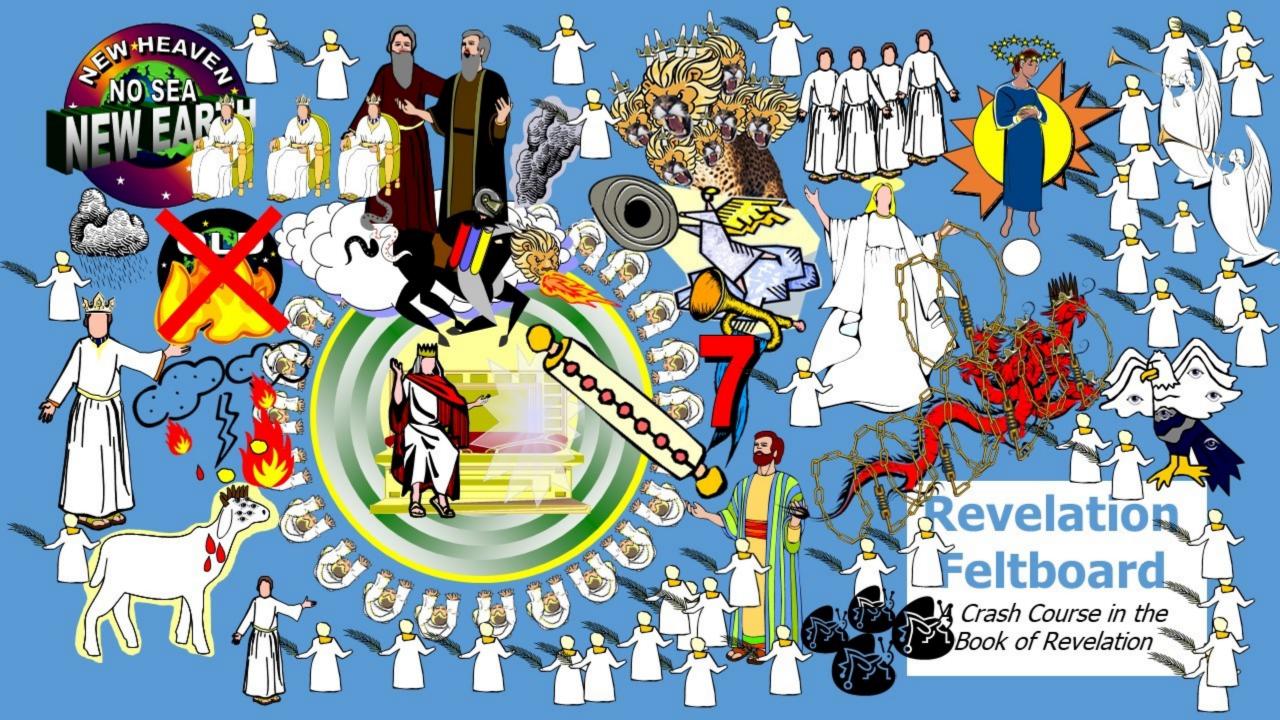
For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

# Sh'ma Yisrael, Adonai Eloheinu Adonai Echad Baruch Shem k'vod malchutto, I'olam va'ed

Hear, O Israel: the LORD is our God The LORD is One. Blessed be the name of His glorious kingdom for ever and ever.



# Reveloction 1315

The D

The Beast from the Sea The Beast from the Earth UNHOLY TRINITY

<sup>1</sup>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. <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.

<sup>4</sup> 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?" <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.<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. <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.



- Last lesson history of woman (Israel) who gives birth to male child (Messiah), dragon (Satan) tries to devour, war in heaven, enemy tossed out, pursues woman into wilderness, foiled, now angry, goes after woman's offspring (believers)
- Still in "interlude"
- Introduced to two beasts, two distinctly different people, coming world leaders.
- Beast from <u>sea</u> commonly identified as "Antichrist." Beast from the <u>land</u> called "false prophet."

- "anti" = "opposite," or "against" or "instead of." Carries idea of substitution, in place of something or someone. Literally = "against the anointed One" or in place of anointed One = instead of Messiah (Christ).
- Interesting, Latin equivalent = "vicar."
- Negative connotation, often misleads people into thinking this person will be a monster.
- He will be, but <u>initially will be seen as only one with</u> <u>answers in dark period of time</u>. Will be charismatic, deceive masses who will follow him blindly.



• CAUTION: Perhaps one of <u>most</u> <u>difficult chapters to interpret</u>. Many spend lifetimes trying to determine who are beast from sea and beast from earth. Requires thorough knowledge of entire Bible.

Limit discussion to what we know, not what could be.

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<sup>1</sup>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.

# Another chapter where there is no lack of fanciful artwork...





 ANTICHRIST, but title "<u>Antichrist" never used in</u> <u>Revelation</u>. A title we have given, name we have associated with first beast out of sea. Final world ruler has <u>many titles in both testaments</u>, word "antichristos" only used in John's epistles.



- Chapter/verse designations not God inspired. Some issues. 12:1 here sometimes end of chapter 11. Better placement here.
- "beast" = therion = wild beast, beast of prey. Not same word used for living creatures around throne
- Many say "Sea" = ref. to Mediterranean, symbolically to "sea of people" or <u>humanity in general</u>.
- Some say <u>Gentile nations</u>, therefore beast is Gentile. Others have different ideas, say beast is a Jew, that sea represents ALL peoples, not just Gentiles.



- "...having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name." Interpreting this difficult passage requires understanding of OT, in particular, book of Daniel (especially Daniel ch 2 and 7).
- Almost universally understood <u>seven heads</u> <u>represent 7 world kingdoms</u> (empires) throughout history: Sumeria, Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Persia, Greece and Rome.

7 Heads **Historical World** Kingdoms 1. Sumeria (Nimrod, **Bab-el**) 2.Egypt **3.Assyria** 4. Babylon (neo) **5. Medo-Persian 6.Greece** 7.Rome 8.???



# **10 Horns**

- Possible 10-kingdom confederacy of nations.
- Timing not known.
- Rising from previous historical world kingdoms.
- Signify total history of kingdoms of man, leading to very worst.

- "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." To understand this, critical to understand several portions of the book of Daniel. (chapters 2, 7 and 8 in particular)
- In this crash course <u>no time for detailed study</u>. Will provide basic information only to correlate and provide structure.
- READ THESE CHAPTERS IN DANIEL ON YOUR OWN for better understanding!

- Daniel Chapter 2: Dream Statue: Nebuchadnezzar's dream represents world empires from that moment until end of time.
- GENTILE kingdoms.
- Awesome statue <u>how man sees world empires</u> dazzling, brilliant, awesome and powerful. God has different idea, later in Chapter 7.

HEAD OF GOLD KINGDOM OF BABYLON

CHEST & ARMS OF SILVER KINGDOM OF MEDES & PERSIANS

#### BELLY & THIGHS OF BRONZE

KINGDOM OF ANCIENT GREECE

LEGS OF IRON KINGDOM OF ANCIENT ROME

FEET OF IRON & CLAY KINGDOM OF RESTORED ROME

CRUSHING ROCK KINGDOM OF GOD

# DANIEL 2 FIGURE OF A MAN

# Daniel Chapter 2

 Feet and toes partly of clay, partly of iron = both brutal strength and mortal weakness in last days empire. (Clay + iron don't *mix, will crumble)* 

Stone that crushes statue = Messiah (Jesus), His Kingdom will fill earth. No human governments arise after this point.

# Daniel 7: Bloodthirsty beasts and "The Little Horn" with the Big Mouth

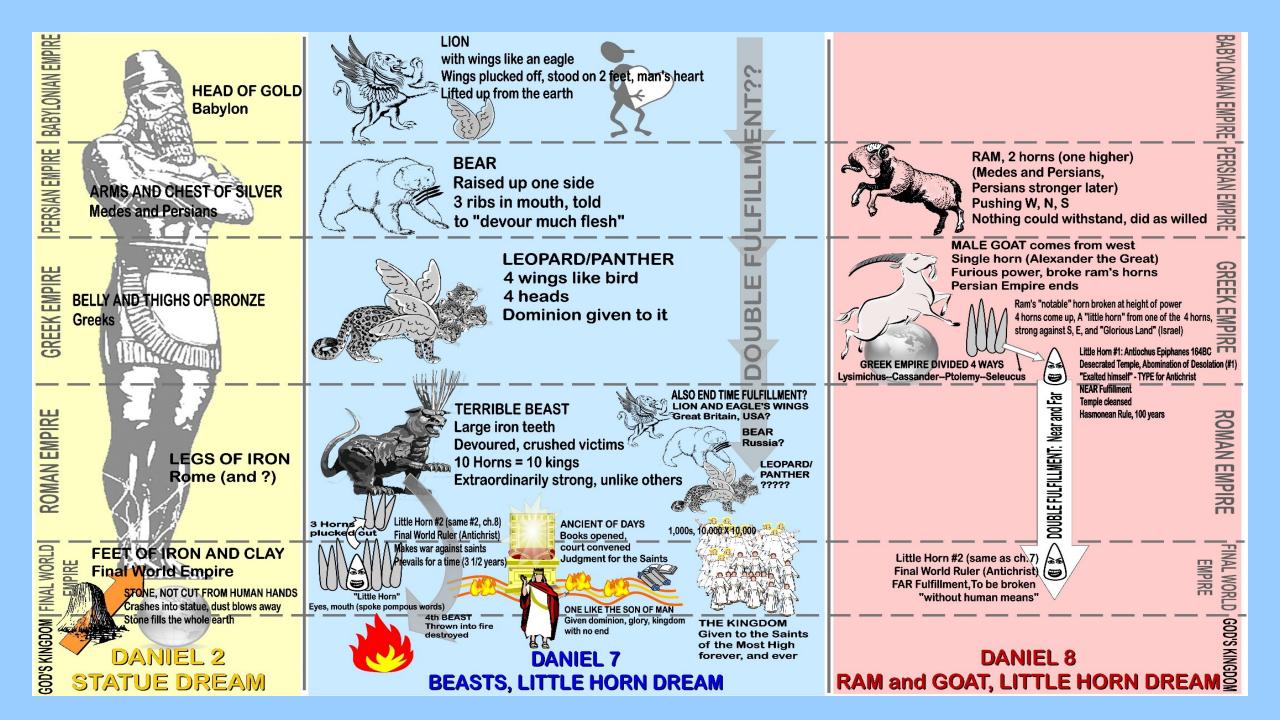


- Only "terrible beast" has horns (10).
- Each horn has a **crown**, *possibly* indicating 10 regional kings.
- From Daniel 7 a "little horn" (AC) will supplant
   3 other horns, rising to power, will eventually receive <u>all</u> power.



More in Daniel about final world ruler:

- Daniel Chapter 8:23-25 Speaks of Antiochus Epiphanes, Seleucid Dynasty, offshoot of Greek Empire. TYPE for coming end times final ruler – THE Antichrist. "Near" and "far" fulfillment.
- **Daniel 9:26-27** important **"70 Weeks"** of Daniel 9. Provides sequence of events and timeline information.
- **Daniel 11** more detail about final world ruler
- <u>Revelation 17</u> more about AC, final one world empire.



- *"The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority."* Know identity of dragon = enemy, haSatan. Antichrist <u>receives all he has from satan</u>.
- Remember chapter 11, <u>dragon</u> has crowns and horns. Gives this power and authority to AC.
- But also remember **ELOHIM IS SOVEREIGN!** Nothing happens without His ultimate approval. *This is all part of His plan.*



<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.

- Difficult to interpret. Many say AC killed, raised to life at some point. Won't attempt to provide <u>many</u> <u>speculations</u> on this. *However, some popular ideas...*
- Some believe first 3½ years AC merely a man (human) who worships enemy, that he literally dies and <u>satan</u> <u>raises him back to life and actually indwells</u>, or uses, physical body and now "super human."
- Based upon satan counterfeiting Jesus' life, will seek to counterfeit himself as anointed one (incarnate).

- Others say AC actually historic figure "reincarnated" for this role, such as Judas Iscariot, Nero (or other Caesar), Mussolini, Hitler, Stalin, etc.
- Convincing argument made for Judas.
- However, several flaws, common knowledge of <u>how</u> <u>God works</u> and how life given.
- "And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment..." (Hebrews 9:27) rebuttal to reincarnation. Yet, many still hold to this, and God cannot be limited in how He works.

- Others think "mortal wound" and healing <u>huge</u> <u>deception</u>. Some think enemy has power over life and death, and can raise someone from the dead.
- Many **do not believe this**, but rather <u>God alone has</u> <u>power over life and death</u>, and resurrection (we believe this).
- Wound may be real, appear to be fatal, but huge deception causes people to believe he was brought back to life, when never dead in first place.
   <u>Wording suggests this option</u>.

- John says one of beast's heads <u>looked</u> "as if" wounded. Satan's chief business = <u>counterfeiting</u>.
- Counterfeit trinity (dragon, beast from the sea and beast from the earth), a counterfeit "messiah" and a counterfeit resurrection. <u>None of these real = all</u> <u>phonies</u>. Hence belief "resurrection" also fake.
- Resurrection of Yeshua Ha'Mashiach makes our faith unique among all religions. Only one with an actual resurrection from the dead. (Reminder: "religion" is man-made.)

- Come close to what is real, likely people will fall for it. Enemy tries to duplicate by deception.
- Has been <u>counterfeiting</u> things of God since his origin, continues in attempt to steal away God's own.
- (v 14) beast's wound "by he sured." Not told he is resurrected, merely that his *wound was healed*.

- Zechariah 11:17. final world ruler called "evil (or worthless) shepherd." "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."
- Only description in scripture of physical appearance of AC after seemingly mortal wound? *Maybe*.
- Bottom line... doesn't matter in grand scheme. Whether AC literally dead and raised back to life, or world is deceived, end result is same: <u>whole world</u> <u>amazed and follows him</u>. They have bought the lie.

- one more argument about 7-headed beast with one head receiving what *appears* to be fatal wound.
- In chapter 17, further description of beast found,. 17:10 describing beast,
   *"...there are also seven kings..."* Heads can be considered "kings."

Word used for "king" and "kingdom" (basileus) same. No distinction, <u>context determines whether king, or</u> <u>kingdom</u>.

- God does not always make this distinction, king and kingdom regarded as one. In that case, head with fatal wound here <u>also been interpreted as</u> <u>kingdom</u>, not necessarily as human king.
- Some say Roman Empire will be reborn, "resurrected," and that this passage does not necessarily imply a human receives fatal wound and comes back to life.
- <u>May apply to a kingdom, a world power</u>, instead, though not most popular theory.



 Not able to place all puzzle pieces. together until time these events occur. Hundreds of OT references to person most believe is AC. Putting all pieces together is a challenge, at this point in history.

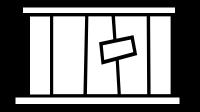
<sup>4</sup>So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"





- By deception or occultic power, world (those who do not know God and His Son) now worships <u>both</u> dragon and beast.
- Beast from sea and beast from earth make up evil (unholy) counterfeit trinity. World worships enemy (satanic worship) and his masterpiece, beast from sea (AC). <u>Beast from land will facilitate this worship</u>.
- World amazed/deceived. Boast no one can compare to this beast, and no one can go to war with him and win. In their delusion, he is the all-mighty one.





<sup>5</sup> And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for fortytwo 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.

- Blasphemia" = evil speaking, railing, against God
- Beast given mouth to speak pompous words, blasphemies, given authority to continue 42 months
- Blasphemed against God, His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven.
- Made war with saints.

- "...forty-two months." very specific time frame again.
- God reminds, this beast has <u>limited reign</u>, specific period of time, not a *figurative* season.
- "Great Tribulation" Jesus spoke of = last half of general 7-year period, time when this "mouth" is fueled by enemy.

- "little horn" of Daniel 7 has "a mouth speaking pompous words."
- AC speaks powerfully against God and God's people.
  *"Speaking great things"* may also be translated
  *"pompous words*." Arrogant, filled with himself...and the enemy.
- Notice "and he was given authority..." <u>Very</u> <u>important</u>. God still in control. Even haSatan must have permission to do anything. God is the only All-mighty One!

<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.

- Beast <u>allowed</u> ("granted" by God, in ultimate control!) to "make war" with saints, even overcome them.
- <u>Beast will hate believers</u>, try to obliterate them and their God (*remarkably vain thing*, *Psalm 2*).
- Time of "Jacob's Trouble" trouble turns to terrible for believers, Jew and Gentile, last ½ of tribulation
- Remember "Church" (ekklesia) NOT mentioned once during Tribulation period (chs 6-18).
- These are Tribulation Saints.

- Book of Life X times, as well as Lamb's Book Life.
- Moses knew of it, had talk with God about it (Ex 32).
- Can assume: <u>God's Book of Life</u> contains names of EVERY human ever born. He desires that none perish.
- However, if die without receiving His gift of salvation, name blotted out.
- OT, if died in sin without repenting and receiving God's forgiveness, <u>names blotted out</u>.
- Lamb's Book of Life, believers. Only names that remain are those forgiven, covered by His blood.



**Believers**, Jewish and Gentile, will be persecuted. Saints are encouraged to hold on, keep their faith.

<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.

- "If anyone has an ear, let him hear." sounds familiar.
- But words that follow this phrase (from ch 2 + 3, letters to churches) are missing.
- In letters, entire phrase reads: "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says unto the churches."
- Accidental omission here? No! God's word is perfect in precision. Statement not here <u>because Church is</u> not here in chapter 13.
- Now warning to "anyone." Attention getter, aimed at anyone who really wants to know, <u>not Church</u>.

- Verse 10 variously translated, most often *"If anyone is meant for captivity, into captivity he goes..."* = God has pre-ordained what will happen to people. Some imprisoned, some killed. *God has a plan for each of us.*
- <u>God's Sovereignty</u> (*in all matters!*), and for believer to know these things <u>will</u> happen, to endure in faith.
- Can also be interpreted (KJV, NKJV, others), "He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity:..." = these things will happen, but whoever does them to God's people now subject to God's retribution.
- Intended as word of encouragement and warning to remain strong to the end.

One of the most important chapters in scripture regarding this evil final world ruler. Provides great insights into the behaviors of the Antichrist in opposition to God.

MAN OF SIN 2 THESSALONIANS 2:1-5

# 2 THESSALONIANS 2...

<sup>1</sup> Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, <sup>2</sup> not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of Christ had come. <sup>3</sup> Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, ...

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? <sup>6</sup> And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. <sup>7</sup> For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way.<sup>8</sup> And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming.

<sup>9</sup> The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, when all power, signs, lying wonders, <sup>10</sup> and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved (2 Thessalonians 2:9-10)

<sup>11</sup> And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, <sup>12</sup> that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Whatever it is, the "falling away" will be a wholesale abandonment of the truth.

5()

# Things we know about the final world ruler...

- 1. "His people" will destroy Jerusalem and the Temple. (70 AD assumed) (Daniel 9:26)
- 2. Rise from obscurity ( "little horn") (Daniel 7:8)
- 3. Arise when sin has reached "fullness." (Dan 8:23-25)
- 4. *Different* from other "kings." (Daniel 7:8,24)
- 5. Will subdue three other "kings." (Daniel 7:8, 24)
- Come from among ten "kings" in end times. (Daniel 7:7, 24; Revelation 13:1)
- Final "kings" will hand their power over to him. (Revelation 17:13)

- 8. Authority/government similar to ancient Babylonians, Persians, Greeks (and other world powers), but also <u>different, more terrifying</u>. (Daniel 7, Revelation 13:1-2)
- 9. "Fierce" features. (Daniel 11:23-25)
- 10. Incredibly intellectual, cunning. (Daniel 8:23)
- 11. Will worship enemy and be a master of the occult.(Daniel 8:23)
- 12. Will be mesmerizing speaker. (Daniel 7:20, 11:36)
- 13. Consummate politician. (Daniel 11, Revelation 17:11-12)

- 14. Will control commerce. (Daniel 8:25, 11:43; Rev. 13:17)
- 15. Military expert. (Isa. 14:6, Dan. 8:25, Rev. 6:2, 13:4)
- 16. Master liar, expert deceiver. (2 Thess. 2:10)
- 17. Will encourage worship of enemy. (Revelation 13:4)
- 18. Empowered by enemy. (Revelation 13:2)
- 19. Persecutes believers. (Rev 13:7; Daniel 7:25)
- 20. Will do everything according to own selfish will.(Daniel 11:36)

- 21. Name related to 666—but not necessarily in immediately obvious way. (Revelation 13:17-18)
- 22. "Image" will speak, and cause those who don't worship him to be killed. (Revelation 13:15)
- 23. All required to have "mark" on right hands or foreheads. (Revelation 13:16)
- 24. Can't do business without this mark. (Revelation 13:17)
- 25. Reign of terror will last 42 months (3-1/2 years), by God's authority. (Psalm 2; Daniel 11:36; Revelation 13:16)

- 26. Will try to change laws, perhaps Hebrew Law (Torah). (Daniel 7:25)
- 27. Will try to change calendar, perhaps to define new era, related to himself, perhaps in regard to Hebrew calendar. (Daniel 7:25)
- 28. Will not regard God of his fathers. (Daniel 11:37)
- 29. Will not have desire of women. (Daniel 11:37)
- 30. Will make 7-year covenant with Israel but break it after 3½ years. (Daniel 9:27)
- 31. Will honor a "god" of "fortresses." Whole focus and attention on power. (Daniel 11:38-44)

- 32. Will attempt to destroy all Israel. (Revelation 12)
- 33. Will initially support global apostate religious system. (Revelation 17:3-6)
- 34. Will be supported/exalted by another beast *(from the land, "false prophet")* who will force worship of this beast. (Revelation 13:11-18)
- 35. Will eventually destroy false religious system so he alone rules and receives worship. (Rev. 17:16-17)
- 36. Will be worshipped by many people. (Rev. 13:8)

- 37. Will appear to do miraculous things. (2 Thess. 2:9-12)
- 38. Will <u>appear to be</u> raised from dead after "fatal" injury. (Zechariah 11:17, Revelation 13:3, 14)
- 39. Will <u>claim</u> Jesus not incarnate, and did not rise from dead. Will deny Jesus Messiah. (2 John 7, 1 John 2:22)
- 40. Will oppose the Messiah, attempt to replace, or counterfeit, the Messiah (*ANTI=opposed, in place of*)
- 41. Will set himself up as God, and be worshipped. (Daniel 11:36-37; 2 Thess 2:4, 11; Revelation 13:5)
- 42. Will claim to be God. (2 Thessalonians 2:4)

- 43. Will profane and desecrate the Temple. (Matthew 24:15; 2 Thessalonians 2)
- 44. Will blaspheme God and His people. (Rev. 13; Dan. 7)
- 45. Will destroy with a vengeance, even the powerful, and will thrive and prosper in these efforts. (Daniel 8:23-25)
- 46. Will come against "prince of princes." (Dan. 8:23-25)
- 47. Will cause all earth's armies to fight against God and His Son. (Psalm 2, Revelation 19:20)

- 48. Will be utterly crushed by Messiah at Battle of Armageddon *(not by human hands)* (Revelation 19; Daniel 8:23-25)
- 49. No other human government (rulers) will succeed him, except Messiah Yeshua. (Dan. 2, 7:26-27)
- 50. Will be first creature thrown into lake of fire, will spend eternity there. (Revelation 19:20)

Another beast comes out of the earth, with 2 horns like a lamb, but spoke like a dragon.

<sup>11</sup> Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. <sup>12</sup> 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.

<sup>13</sup> He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. <sup>14</sup> 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.

<sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, <sup>17</sup> 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.

<sup>18</sup> 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.



#### **Revelation 13:10-18**



<sup>11</sup> Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon.

 Introduced to 2<sup>nd</sup> beast. Together with dragon and first beast, unholy trinity –<u>counterfeit godhead</u>.

DRAGON	<b>BEAST FROM SEA</b>	<b>BEAST FROM LAND</b>
Satan	Final World Ruler (Antichrist)	False Prophet
Evil power anti-GOD	Political power, evil anti-CHRIST	Psychological power, evil anti-SPIRIT

- This beast out of EARTH, unlike SEA (as first beast).
- "False Prophet" 16:13, 19:20 and 20:10.

 Some think "earth" = <u>land of Israel</u> (earth being a reference to Israel), no proof. (May indicate he is Jewish. May be, but merely speculation.)



- *"...he had two horns like a lamb"* = obvious <u>counterfeit of Jesus</u>, Lamb of God.
- *"...and spoke like a dragon."* Lambs gentle, beast appears gentle, but voice gives him away.
  Mouthpiece for dragon, satan. *True character.*

- Jesus warned: "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves." (Matthew 7:15) FP looks like gentle lamb but speaks like dragon. Or, as Jesus said, "a wolf in sheep's clothing."
- His goal = work toward complete dominance of earth by AC (1<sup>st</sup> beast), and worship of him.
- "High priest" of false religion. AC's "henchman."
- May be even more anti-christ than AC himself.
- Horns speak of power. Given some unusual powers for those who resist enforced worship.

<sup>12</sup> 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.

- Has complete authority of first beast, which has <u>complete authority of dragon</u>. Chain of command reaches to/supplied by Enemy.
- Works to insure worship of AC, the one who <u>appeared</u> to have been healed of a deadly wound.
- *"earth and those who dwell in it..."* <u>Unbelievers</u> will worship antichrist, not believers.
- Likely false prophet head of apostate church during tribulation.

COMMENTARY "Since man is incurably religious, a world dictator must provide man with an outlet for his religious inclinations." -- LaHaye

<sup>13</sup> He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. <sup>14</sup> 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.

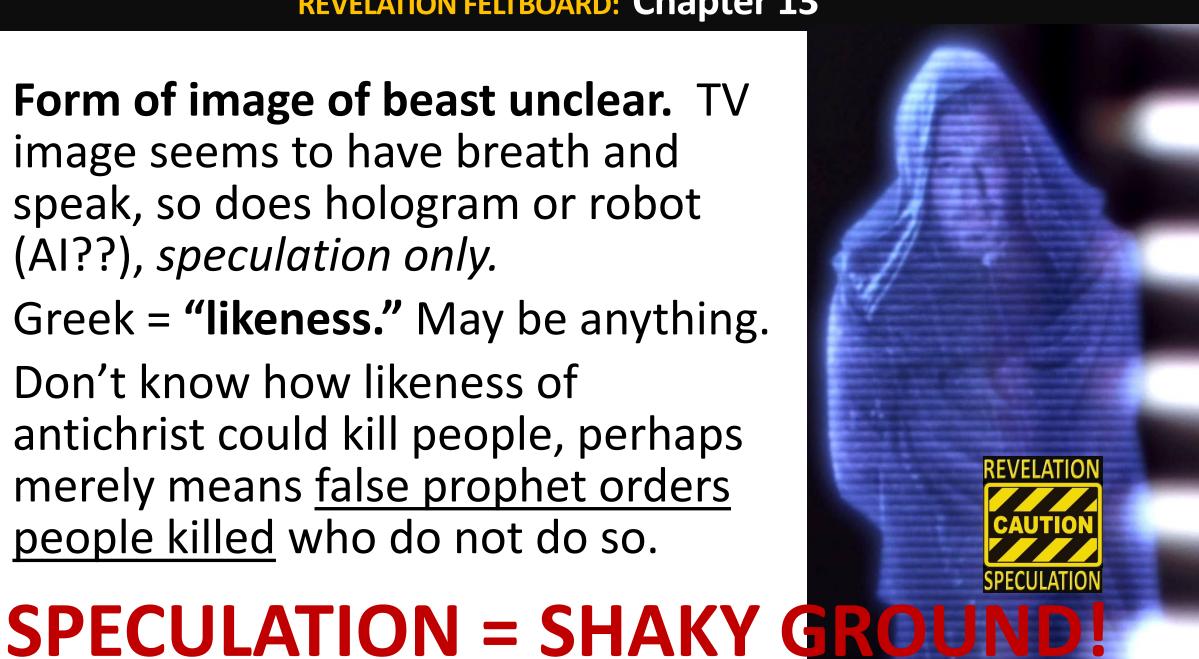
- One <u>other person who did this</u>: Elijah, in contest between God and Baal on Mt. Carmel.
- Time of Moses, one of **plagues** hailstones and fire.
- May be **attempt to convince people** of their power, and that the *Two Witnesses (chapter 11) not only ones with this power*. Fear is powerful control tool.
- God still in control, even here.
- Many verses (in addition to this) could indicate trickery, and not real. We don't know.
- Another mention of "wound" and recovery. Big event.

"Those who dwell on the earth" now convinced into making an image of some sort of AC. Don't know what form this takes. In today's world it could be a statue, a hologram, or even a television image, or something else.



<sup>15</sup> 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.

- Form of image of beast unclear. TV image seems to have breath and speak, so does hologram or robot (AI??), speculation only.
- Greek = "likeness." May be anything.
- Don't know how likeness of antichrist could kill people, perhaps merely means false prophet orders people killed who do not do so.



<sup>16</sup> He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, <sup>17</sup> 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.

666

- Most mysterious/investigated verses in all scripture.
- <u>Wasn't possible few years ago</u>. But **very doable today,** even tested— on foreheads and right hands. Today's headlines chilling reminder of how close we are.
- Greek = *charagma*, <u>engraving</u>, <u>brand</u>, <u>seal</u>, <u>or etching</u> (could include tattoos, barcodes, biochips, other things).
- Leviticus 19:28, God forbids etching/tattoos (any permanent marking). (Also Leviticus 21:5, Deuteronomy 14:1, Isaiah 49:16, Ezekiel 9:4, Exodus 12:9, 16)
- God reserves right to mark His own.

- Mark of doom. Ch 14, <u>no one who receives this mark can</u> <u>be saved</u>. Incentive to NOT take the mark!
- Complete economic control by AC. Very hard times for believers. "Underground" economy may enable believers to survive.
- Many <u>used to recoil</u> at "mark of the beast" or ID code, especially with "666," but issues of identity theft, medical/financial records, and keeping track of personal "data" already made public receptive.
- When time for such a mark, people will flock to the marking stations. <u>SO important</u> to know God's Word!

<sup>18</sup> 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.

- Commented on, picked apart, puzzled, speculated, chewed on for centuries. <u>Requires wisdom to</u> <u>calculate this number</u>.
- Where does wisdom come from? *Not man*. All our answers come from God.
- "calculate" = count. Proverbs 1:7 says that the fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge. We study scripture to understand scripture.



- God often uses form of "gematria" for deeper levels of understanding.
- **GEMATRIA:** system that assigns numerical value to letters, words or phrases. Those with identical numerical values bear relationship to each other, and often have symbolic meaning.
- Caution! Not to be used to arrive at certain "answers" such as those achieved through astrological means. Used to understand God's Word and plan better, is divinely inspired and understood.

- six = symbol for man = "less than complete."
  Seven means "perfectly complete."
- Jews avoid 6, considered **evil number**, of fallen, sinful, unregenerate man.
- Interesting: all #'s between 1 and 36 added = 666.
- 1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9+10+11+12+13+14+15+16+17+18+19+20+2
  1+22+23+24+25+26+27+28+29+30+31+32+33+34+35+36 = 666
- Word "beast" in evil sense, used exactly 36X in Rev.
- **Don't know what this means**, but interesting to note layers of info in scripture. It confirms itself.

most important thing, 6 = number of man



- 666 = complete imperfection, 777 = complete perfection. 888 <u>beyond perfection</u> (8 = new beginnings, often associated with Jesus). 666 may indicate unholy trinity, completely evil.
- triple six = # of man, each digit falling short of perfect completion of # 7.666 mimics holy triune nature of Elohim.
- Someday may be possible to "calculate" this number.
- For today, speculation is a waste of time.

# **REVELATION 13:** What we Know...

- 1. Two "beasts" (world leaders) coming; one from "sea," other from "land"
- 2. Beast from "sea" has 7 heads, 10 horns
- 3. On the horns are 10 crowns
- 4. On his heads a blasphemous name
- 5. LIKE leopard, feet LIKE bear, mouth LIKE lion
- 6. Dragon gives beast power, throne, authority
- 7. One head *looked as if* fatally wounded, but wound healed
- 8. World amazed, follows beast

- 9. <u>Given big mouth</u>, blasphemes
- 10. <u>Given</u> authority for 42 months
- 11. Blasphemes God, His name, His tabernacle, His people (those who dwell in heaven)
- 12. Given authority to war with saints, overcome
- 13. Authority over all nations, peoples
- 14. Earth dwellers (names not in Lamb's Book of Life) worship him
- 15. If you have an ear, pay attention!

- 16. If you lead into captivity, you will go into captivity
- 17. If you kill by sword, you will be killed by sword.
- 18. Difficult time for saints. Need patient endurance.
- **19. Beast from the earth** had 2 horns LIKE a lamb, but spoke like dragon
- 20. Has and uses authority of first beast
- 21. Causes earth to worship first beast
- 22. Performs great signs, including fire from heaven
- 23. Deceives earth dwellers with signs
- 24. Instructs them to make image of first beast

- 25. Given power to "give breath" to image, to speak, and cause those who don't worship to die
- 26. Makes all receive a mark on right hand or forehead
- 27. Cannot buy or sell without the mark, or the name, of the beast
- 28. Number of the beast is number of a man: 666

THIS IS WHAT WE KNOW! But, as always, SPECULATION ABOUNDS....danger!!!!



## Yevarekh-kha Adonai veyishmerekha May the LORD bless you and keep you

## Ya'er Adonai panav elekha vihunneka May the LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you

# Yissa Adonai panav elekha viyasem lekha shalom.

May the LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.