

Revelation 13:11-18 "BEASTIE BOY #2"

THE BEASTIE BOYS

Double trouble appears in Revelation 13. The Great Tribulation features a deadly, demonic duo with occult powers. Satan empowers the beastie boys...

The first beast John sees is the Antichrist – he's a political leader who rules the world. His 10 horns represent a 10 nation confederacy that catapults him to power.

Verse 3 mentions that he recovers from a deadly head wound. People see it as a miracle, and it propels him to superstar status. The whole world worships him.

Several years ago, an organizer for the European Community, Henry Speck, made a comment that reflected the mood all across Europe. He said, "We don't want another committee. We want a man of stature to hold the allegiance of the people... Send us a man whether he be God or a devil, send him." The world today is primed for a leader who has answers to our modern complexities.

The beast is a man whose heart belongs to Satan, and his successes go to his head. Verse 5, says his big mouth is full of blasphemy. Verse 6, he'll rule for 42 months or 3 1/2 years. And verse 7, he makes war with and overcomes the Saints.

God will get revenge! But verse 10 says the saints need faith and patience.

The second beast in Revelation 13 is the False Prophet - a religious leader who gives ecclesiastical sanction and support to the ambitions of the Antichrist. **The first beast is a political leader. The second beast is a religious leader.**

The false prophet leads an apostate church, and appears to be a man of God. He constructs an image and blackmails the world into worshipping this image.


The beastie boys concoct a fiendish scheme. A one - world government creates a one -world economy. A universal number or code is required to do business. But to get the mark you have to worship the beast - and the infamous number is 666.

In the Great Tribulation people will sell their soul to buy a loaf of bread. Today, bar codes, scanners and implanted chips are setting the stage for the Scriptural scenario... **PRAY**

Before we read our section of God's work let's take a look at the last verse in Chapter 13 and get some resolve from it... Revelation 13:18 states that the situation set out in 13:11-17 "calls for wisdom," and the wisdom in view is the ability to distinguish between God's truth and Satan's counterfeits. God's truth is found in the Bible; it exalts Jesus and the good news of his death and resurrection; it calls us to trust in Jesus and live out the gospel

by laying down our lives in service to others. Satan's counterfeits claim to be God's truth, but they contradict the Bible; they blaspheme Jesus by teaching that the cross isn't necessary; and Satan's counterfeits promote self-centeredness at the expense of other people.

Lets stand together... **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. **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. **13** He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. **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. **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. **16** 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, **17** and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or[f] the name of the beast, or the number of his name. **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.

 Ok let's break this down... chapter **11 verse 1** Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, **This creature represents someone like the beast rising from the sea, because the same word beast is used to describe them both. At the same time, this beast is different.** and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. **The two horns may express the fact that this beast has authority in two realms,** such as religious and political authority. Or, he may have **two horns** simply because that's how many horns lambs have.

 **Despite his lamb-like appearance, the message of the second beast**

is the same as the message of the first beast.

This second beast is called *the false prophet* (Revelation 16:13, 19:20, 20:10), as someone distinct from the first beast (the Antichrist) and the dragon (Satan).

With the dragon (1), the beast rising from the sea (2), and the beast rising from the land (3) we have an unholy trinity. The dragon is the *anti-Father*, the beast rising from the sea is the *anti-Christ*, and the beast rising from the land is the *anti-Holy Spirit*. In the real Trinity, Jesus points people to the Father, and the Holy Spirit points people to Jesus. In the satanic false trinity, the first beast points people to the dragon, and the second beast, this false prophet, points people to the first beast, the one who faked the crucifixion and resurrection.

AntiChrist and the False Prophet are different

1. In origin, because one comes *out of the sea*, the other *out of the earth*.
2. in rank, because the second is subordinate to the first (*causes the earth . . . to worship the first beast*, Revelation 13:12)
3. in appearance, because the second has a mild, "lamb-like" appearance.

As Hamilton points out, "Daniel sees four beasts ascending from the sea in Daniel 7:3, and then the angel explains that these are four kings who will arise out of the earth in Daniel 7:17. Daniel's four kings were rulers of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome, all of which controlled the Holy Land in the time between Daniel and Jesus. It seems that by alluding to Daniel in this way, John understands the four empires prophesied by Daniel to be typological precursors of the final world powers that will arise in the future."

Again verse 11 we see that the false prophet looks like Jesus but talks like Satan: "It had two horns like a lamb and it spoke like a dragon."

So this false prophet is Christ like, which may indicate that he will arise from within the church. Jesus said in Matthew 7:15, "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves." He also said in Matthew 12:34, "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks," and this second beast in Revelation 13:11 "spoke like a dragon."

Christians do not reject or speak against the Bible. Christians do not blaspheme Jesus. Christians do not tell lies to get other people killed.

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. **The beast rising from the earth is essentially a Satanic prophet, who leads the world to worship the beast and the dragon.**


 **What men want most is not the elimination of religion, but their own religion. They say they want the kingdom, but they don't want God in it.**

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

The beast rising from the sea has the "signs and wonders" to back up his false teaching. A specific miracle of the false prophet is described: **he makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men**. It is important that John highlights *this* miracle. In the eyes of the deceived world, it answers the miracle of the two witnesses, who minister during this period and are persecuted by the Antichrist and his false prophet (**Revelation 11:5**). To the deceived world, this also puts this false prophet in the class of Elijah (**1 Kings 18**). We can imagine the false prophet as saying, "Let the true God answer with fire" and then performing his deceptive wonder.

In the days of the Exodus, Aaron performed miracles, and up to a point was matched miracle-for-miracle by the magicians of Egypt (Exodus 7-9).

Jesus said that some who worked miracles - *even in His name* - were false followers and would perish in hell (**Matthew 7:22-23**).

 One author notes, "There is a progression here as the false prophet's activity is described in three steps: **first**, the false prophet does signs that look like the work of God; **second**, he uses the signs to deceive people into idolatry; and **third**, he enforces the idolatry with the death penalty."

Hughes point's out, "This looks like the work of the two witnesses in 11:5, but there the fire consumed the enemies of the two witnesses. It did something – it defended the people of God. Here when the false prophet does it, it doesn't defend anyone – it's just a neat trick."

14 And he deceives those who dwell on the earth Jesus sets people free by bringing them in to the light, into the truth (John 8:36). That's not Satan's agenda. Satan's false prophet does not want the truth. **He deceives, as we see here "He deceives those who dwell on earth."** There will come a day when for a thousand years Satan will be bound and prevented from deceiving the nations (20:1-3).

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. **You can be sure, too, that if something is being used to do exactly what the Bible forbids, it isn't Christian.**

↑ "Evangelical" Porn Star Claims She Is Doing "God's Work"

This has to be the work of God, right? Wrong. No matter how miraculous it seems, if it is not leading people to believe the gospel of Jesus Christ, it isn't Christian. Satan can produce counterfeits that look like the real thing, but his counterfeits smell like the dragon from which they come. His counterfeits will blaspheme Jesus and suppress the truth and seek to deceive. Signs and wonders will be present among Christians, but the real marks of God's work are LOVE AND TRUTH.

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. **This idolatrous image is what Jesus, Daniel, and Paul spoke of as *the abomination of desolation* (Daniel 9:27, Matthew 24:15, and 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4). It is an idolatrous image set up in the holy place of a rebuilt temple; it is an *abomination* in the sense of being supreme idolatry, and it is *desolation* in the sense that it will bring the judgment described by the seals, trumpets, and bowls.**

Notice the progression of the false prophet's work in verses 13-15: powerful signs in

verse 13 are used to promote idolatry in verse 14, and the idolatry is enforced with the death penalty in verse 15. The people of God have been through this before – remember Daniel 3 where we read that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego are told to bow the image or be burned alive? The people of God have been thought before, and we will go through it again.

Calling down fire from Heaven and giving breath to an idol so that it speaks isn't really that impressive. Do you know what's impressive? Do you know what is genuinely miraculous? People repenting of sin. People confessing their sin and asking for forgiveness. People staying true to the gospel no matter what it costs them, even if they get killed for it. People inconveniencing themselves to serve others. That's impressive!

16 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, **Satan is not a creative being, all he can do imitate God. We are not surprised to find that this too is a Satanic parody of something God will do; it imitates God's mark upon his people (Revelation 7:3-4 the 144,000 were sealed by a seal on their foreheads). GOD'S TRUE SEAL WAS PUT ON HIS SAINTS IN 7:1-3, AND NOW SATAN'S FALSE PROPHET WILL COUNTERFEIT GOD'S SEAL WITH THE MARK OF THE BEAST IN 13:16-18.** This is standard satanic procedure: counterfeit the work of God. Remember in 7:3 the servants of God were sealed on their foreheads. Satan wants his seal where only God's word should be.

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. **18** Here is wisdom. **New Living Translation** **“Wisdom is needed here.”** Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666.

200 EMPLOYEES GET CHIPPED IN SWEDEN...

What kind of wisdom? The rest of 13:18 describes the one who has “understanding” calculating “the number of the beast, for it is the number of man, and his number is 666.” This reference to calculating numbers in 13:18 seems to point to what is known as *gematria*, which is a symbolic interpretation of the numerical value of Hebrew letters. The Hebrew language does not have

separate symbols for numbers but assigns numerical value to the letters of the alphabet. This means that the consonants of a word can be added together to achieve a number that can then be used as a numeric symbol for that word or name. If you put the name Nero Caesar into Hebrew consonants, their numerical value is 666. Similarly, if you transliterate the Greek word for beast into Hebrew consonants, the numerical value is 666. This appears to be what John means when he mentions in 13:18 “the number of the beast, for it is the number of man, and his number is 666.”

“Wisdom is needed here.” (13:18). Let us distinguish between God’s truth and Satan’s counterfeits, and let us hold fast the gospel that glorifies Jesus and reconciles us to the Father as taught by the Holy Spirit in the Bible.

Proverbs 4:5-7 Get wisdom! Get understanding! Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth. 6 Do not forsake her, and she will preserve you; Love her, and she will keep you. 7 Wisdom *is* the principal thing; *Therefore* get wisdom.

The biblical definition of wisdom is the fear of the Lord as that’s where it begins and God is the source. The earthly wisdom is really no wisdom at all because “the wisdom of this world is folly with God**” (1 Cor 3:19). True wisdom is found in obedience to God, fearing Him and His Word, in the Word of God the Bible and by praying or asking for it. All other ground is sinking sand.**