



Αποκάλυψη

REVELATION

13:11-15

OUTLINE

- 📍 Main Point
- 📍 The Vision
- 📍 The Beast From The Earth (v. 11)
- 📍 The Mission of the Second Beast (v. 12)
- 📍 The Power of the Second Beast (v. 13)
- 📍 The Deception of the Second Beast (v. 14)
- 📍 Giving Life to the Image of the First Beast (v. 15)
- 📍 Lessons for Us

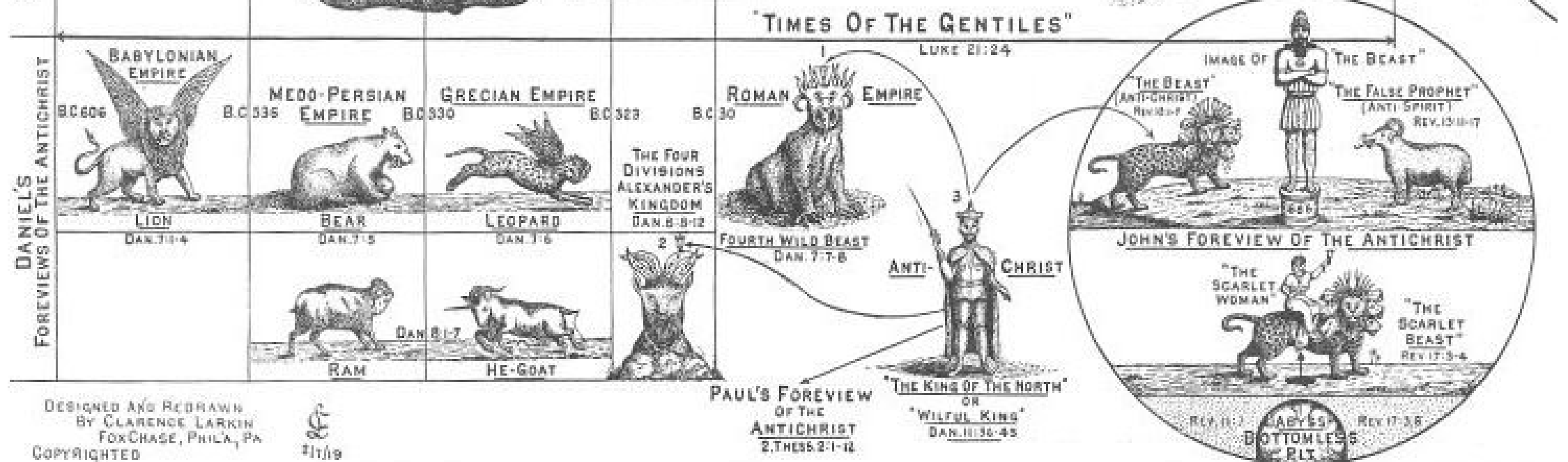
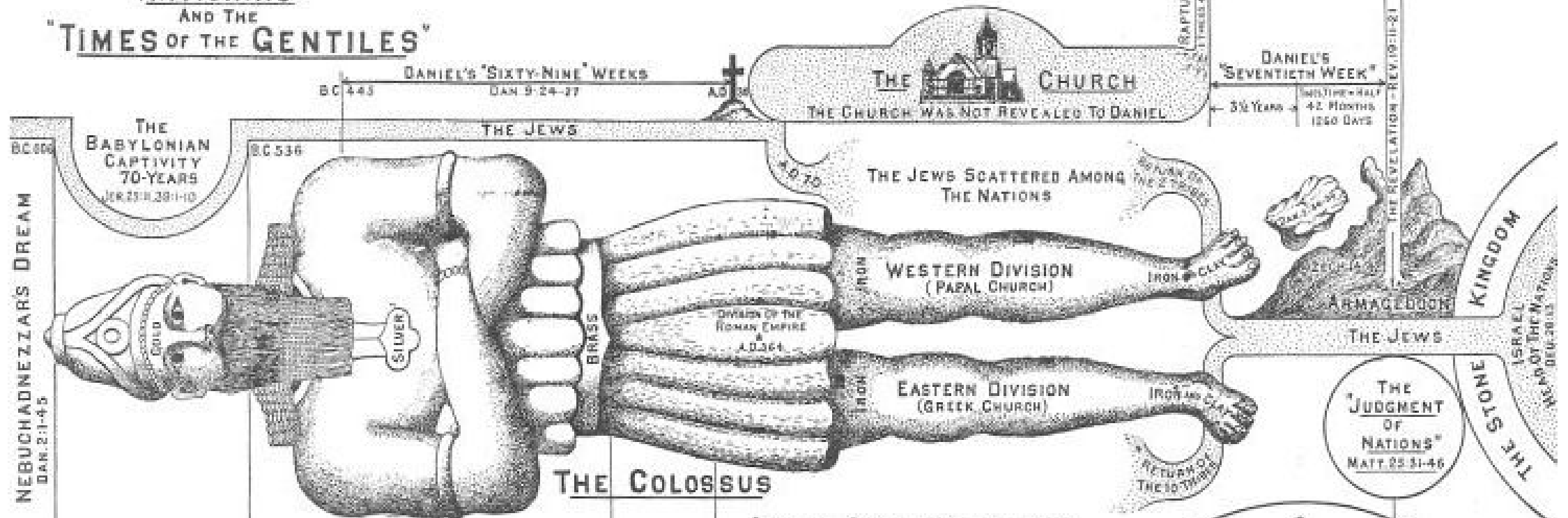
MAIN POINT

- 🗨️ We now see the appearance of the Second Beast
 - 🗨️ The final part of the Satanic Trinity
 - 🗨️ His mission is to point people to the First Beast
 - 🗨️ Performs real miracles by the license of God to deceive people
 - 🗨️ Has a lesser power than the First Beast, but a real power all the same
- 🗨️ Nothing in the text indicates that the Second Beast does not have real, legitimate power
 - 🗨️ When viewed in this light, the signs performed here do not align with possible, modern, technical methods of deception
 - 🗨️ Recall just how good these signs will be (**Matthew 24:24**)
- 🗨️ When confronting a sign, miracle, or any teaching, the key question is who gets the glory
 - 🗨️ Only God should get the glory
 - 🗨️ Anything else is meant to deceive, even if the work itself is not explainable by human means

THE VISION



ANTICHRIST AND THE "TIMES OF THE GENTILES"



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THE BEAST FROM THE EARTH (V. 11)

👤 Out of the Earth

- 👤 In the ancient mind, animals from the earth were weaker/less powerful than those in the ocean
- 👤 Consider the size of a whale against that of an elephant and you will get the idea
- 👤 Therefore, in this first piece of information we see a general inferiority to that of the First Beast
- 👤 Still described as *thereon* and all that entails
- 👤 Referred to as the False Prophet in **Revelation 16:13; 19:20; 20:10**

👤 Who is the false prophet?

- 👤 Not a corporate entity such as Papal Rome as such an organization cannot be cast into the lake of fire in a corporate sense (**Revelation 19:20; 20:10**)
- 👤 Not the priests of Rome at the day as the powers of the Second Beast do not align with what they did or claimed to do
- 👤 Not generic “false prophets” in **Matthew 24:24** as Jesus spoke in the plural, not the singular
- 👤 Most likely the chief religious assistant/priest to the First Beast and is responsible for directing worship to the First Beast. View goes back to Irenaeus, Hyppolytus, ad Victorinus. May possibly be a Jew (e.g., **Daniel 11:37**)

👤 Horns like a Lamb

- 👤 Not the seven horns as Jesus in **Revelation 5:6**
- 👤 When compared with the 10 horns of the First Beast, the lesser number here indicates less power

👤 Speaks like a Dragon

- 👤 A a true wolf (dragon?) in sheep’s clothing
- 👤 May have less power and may not be as loud, but he wields a pernicious influence all the same
- 👤 Think of him like the evil, slimy minister in a movie or book

THE MISSION OF THE SECOND BEAST (V. 12)

👤 Power of the First Beast

- 👤 Recall that the first Beast got his power from the Dragon (i.e., Satan)
- 👤 This Second Beast is the one who does a lot of the First Beast's (and Satan's) agenda

👤 Goal is to make people worship the First Beast

- 👤 In the model of the Satanic Trinity, here he acts as a parody of the Holy Spirit
- 👤 The mission of the Holy Spirit is to point people to Jesus (**John 15:26**)
- 👤 The First Beast rules a kingdom on Earth with a “resurrection” and marks people as his own... A parody of Jesus
- 👤 All their power is derived from Satan who wants to be like God (**Isaiah 14:14**)

👤 We see continual reference to the wound that was healed





- 👤 Seems to be an identifier of the First Beast
- 👤 Demonstration of his power and in opposition to Jesus (c.f. **Revelation 1:18**)
- 👤 Here, the wound applies to both the head and the Beast as a whole
 - 👤 In other words, there was an individual who was wounded, but also the system was wounded and both recovered (Thomas v2, p. 175)

👤 Resurrection proves the reality of Christ, His Sacrifice and its acceptance, and our cleansing



- 👤 It is the ultimate proof, and He will judge accordingly (e.g., **Acts 17:30-31**)
- 👤 We have here the Satanic imitation
- 👤 This is Satan's ultimate proof
- 👤 It is one of the things that Second beast uses to point people to the worship of the First Beast

THE POWER OF THE SECOND BEAST (V. 13)






Great Wonders

-  Again, are these real miracles or are they false?
-  There is nothing to indicate they are anything other than real uses of genuine power
-  Their use is to deceive people, not that the signs themselves are false
-  They will be so good that even the elect will (almost) be taken in (**Matthew 24:24**)

When dealing with the issue of someone working miracles, the question is, who gets the glory

-  The magicians who withstood Moses had power (**Exodus 7:10-12; 2 Timothy 3:8**), but they were not of God, nor did they give Him the glory
-  Tradition holds that Simon Magus demonstrated his power by bringing statues to life (Caird via Thomas, v2, p. 175), but it is clear that he was not a follower of Christ (**Acts 8:9-24**)

Calls fire from Heaven

-  Reminds us of **Revelation 11:15** and **2 Kings 1:10-14**
-  This is also what John and James asked for of Jesus (**Luke 9:54**)
-  Used to authenticate his message by his power
-  Used as a parody of the judgment of God
-  Meant in opposition to the power of the Two Witnesses (e.g., **Revelation 11:5**)

THE DECEPTION OF THE SECOND BEAST (V. 14)

- 👤 Not that the miracles are used for deception, not necessarily that the miracles themselves are false
 - 👤 Deception mentioned in **Matthew 24:24**
 - 👤 The implication in the Greek is that the signs will fool people to think that what they are being told is from God
 - 👤 How does this square with **Revelation 6:16-17**?
 - 👤 “before the Beast” indicates that it is done at the approval of the First Beast
 - 👤 One of the great signs was to create an image of the First Beast and give it life
 - 👤 Common for Emperor-worship and images of the emperor
 - 👤 Giving it life would enhance the effect for the worshiper
- 👤 Those signs seem to further his mission of pointing to the First Beast
 - 👤 Need to get an image made of the First Beast
 - 👤 Need to make people worship it
 - 👤 Bringing the image to life (whatever that means) also aligns with the symbolism of the time and the healing of the wound of the First Beast
 - 👤 Again, note the reference to the wound the healing
 - 👤 Always seems to be an identifier of the First Beast and can be seen as another parody of Jesus (c.f. **John 20:20-27**)
- 👤 As with the First Beast, are these real miracles?
 - 👤 Nothing indicates that they are not
 - 👤 What is indicated is how those miracles are used
 - 👤 They may be real power, but they are used for deceptive purposes
 - 👤 Used to point people to something other than God

GIVING LIFE TO THE IMAGE OF THE FIRST BEAST (V. 15)

👤 Giving life to the image

- 👤 Only God can give life, but it appears here that, by His license, the Second Beast is allowed to use that power for God's purposes during the Tribulation
- 👤 There is debate on if it is a real breath or a false breath, but the wording is similar to **Revelation 11:11** where the life (*pneuma*) was real, so one must assume the life (*pneuma*) is real here as well (Thomas v2, 177)
- 👤 This seems to go far beyond any idea, technology, etc. that we may be familiar with
 - 👤 I.E., I don't think this is talking about AI, virtual reality, or whatever the new technology of the day is
 - 👤 Those are not miracles, nor would they be miraculous in the sense of giving "breath" to something
- 👤 There is no indication that there is a "trick" at work here; this appears to be a real sign meant to deceive people

👤 The image speaks and kills

- 👤 Likened to **Daniel 3:5-6**
- 👤 If we consider that an image of a thing (especially in a pagan or ancient sense) was meant as a representation of the thing receiving veneration, then it makes sense that it should speak and kill
- 👤 Must be able to exercise the same powers (or a part of them) as the genuine First Beast

👤 Again, note the goal

- 👤 Directs worship to the First Beast

LESSONS FOR US

- 👤 It is very easy for us (yes, even Christians) to worship things that are not God
 - 👤 How do we spend our time?
 - 👤 What is foremost in our minds?
 - 👤 What we do/give up/worry about instead of God shows what we really worship
 - 👤 We may be amazed at or even mock the Old Testament Jews and how often they turned to idols, but how different are we?
- 👤 It is very easy in passages like this to become enamored with speculation and spectacle
 - 👤 Need to make a distinction between what is known and what is supposition
 - 👤 Much of what passes for analysis is hyperbolic speculation with little supporting evidence
 - 👤 E.G., as I was studying for this lesson I found an analysis which said the Second Beast was the Holy Roman Empire... Which no longer exists. Wonder how that prediction turned out?
 - 👤 When our often well-intentioned speculation turns out to be false unbelievers mock us and, by extension, mock all of prophecy
 - 👤 But if we maintain a sober attitude and stay strictly in the Word, what it says and nothing more, then we have a better chance of getting our point across
- 👤 Who gets the glory
 - 👤 For whatever happens and however it happens, who gets the glory
 - 👤 If it is anyone other than God, there is a problem
 - 👤 Even in our own lives, if we do something, recall Who made that happen
 - 👤 The cure for pride is understanding that our very breath is a gift from God