

Revelation 13

The Beast

Introduction

This chapter introduces and describes the Beast, or the Antichrist. Who is this individual, when will he appear, and what will he be like? These are questions that many have about this individual. Many books have been written, and movies made about this subject. The Bible is the only source that will answer most of these questions. Revelation 13 is a great place to start this study, but it will lead to other passages in the Old and New Testaments

I. Prophecies of the Antichrist. Dan, 7:1-8,20-25, 5:11-14, 9:24-27, 11:21-45, 2Thn 2:39

The prophet Daniel was given a great amount of insight on the coming Antichrist His prophecies describe the personality, reign, rise, and fall of the Antichrist The information in Daniel is recorded in the form of visions Daniel was allowed to see world history unfold. The rise and fall of kingdoms has occurred exactly as Daniel said it would. The prophecies of Daniel are so exact, that he predicted the time of Christ's crucifixion, Dan 9/24-26.

A. Dan 7:1-8/20-25 This passage shows that the Antichrist will come out of the Revived Roman Empire Verse 8 also gives information about his personality. In v20-25, we find this man will be evil and make war on the saints

B. Dan 8:11-14 These verses tell us that the Antichrist will try to cause people to worship him. and that he will desecrate the Temple

C. Dan 9:24-27 This is the great 70 week passage. These weeks are prophetic weeks. It refers to 70 sets of 7 years. The first 69 have been fulfilled, only the 70th or the Tribulation needs to be completed

D. Dan 11.36-45/2Th 2:3-9 These passages give more insight on the conduct and the personality of the Antichrist

II. Pedigree of the Antichrist. Rev 13:1-3

This chapter shows more about this man and his personality. Scripture does not say who he is or from what race he comes, but it does give other clear descriptions of him.

A. From the sea - This does not refer to the ocean. The sea in prophecy refers to the mass of people in the world This is made clear in Rev 17:15.

B. He has power - Notice heads, horns, and crowns. These all refer to types of power The Antichrist will have the power over governments and religions.

C. His background - The animal descriptions are the same given to the kingdoms in Daniel. This probably means that he has the "best" or most outstanding characteristic of each of these different kingdoms. With these abilities comes power and authority given by Satan. This man will be a master politician, financial genius and a student of military tactics.

III. The Power of the Antichrist, Rev. 13:3-10

The idea of power being given to the Antichrist appears six times in verses 2-7 Never forget that Satan is the god of this world, and that Satan is the source of this power, v. 2b. He will have the power to do the following

A. To rule, v2 - This man will be the ultimate dictator. He will have the kind of power that men like Hitler only dreamed about. He will be an absolute dictator

B. To survive, v3 - This verse describes a Satanic miracle. This wound does not kill. Satan does not have the power to give life, but he can deceive people in to believing that the Antichrist is dead. This miraculous recovery will cause people to worship this man as God

C. To make war with the saints, v4,7 - During this time in history God's people will be persecuted as never before. Notice in v7, "overcome them." God will allow the Antichrist to think that he is winning the war

D. To blaspheme, v5-6 - Nothing will be safe from this foul man. He will speak blasphemy against everything having to do with God. This will be allowed to continue for forty two months.

Conclusion

These passages give a great description of the Antichrist. He will seem to be the answer to all problems on the earth. At the midpoint of the Tribulation, he will reveal his true nature, and will turn on the world. This ruler will bring more death, destruction, and heartache than anyone before him.