

## REVELATION: Lesson 121

### Chapter 13:1-10, The Antichrist: Proof That He is the First Beast

16 November 2020

**Vs 1** The sand of the sea: God promised Abraham that his seed would be as the sand of the sea (Gen 22:17, 32:12). Not only will the Antichrist come from the multitude of men, but he will more specifically be of the seed of Abraham.

**Galatians 4:4**—though Jesus Christ could trace His lineage back to Abraham through Mary and Joseph, He was not a product of man. God sent forth His Son, made of a woman. His blood contained no sin (Mt 27:4, 1 Pet 1:18-19).

The Antichrist will have the sinful blood of Adam flowing through his veins.

**Vs 6** The beast will blaspheme God's "**tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.**" Proof that the Church is not on Earth during the Tribulation:

- **1 Cor 6:19**— The believer's body is the temple of the Holy Ghost. God dwells in you.
- **2 Cor 5:1-2, 8**—The believer's body is referred to as "**this tabernacle.**" God has a "**house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens**" for the believer who leaves earth to be clothed upon with "**our house which is from heaven**" (vs 2). The Antichrist blasphemes the Church in heaven.

**Vs 7** Another proof that the Church is not on the Earth during the Tribulation. The Antichrist is given power to make war with the saints and to overcome them.

- It is not possible that these saints are Church-age saints. Jesus said the gates of hell shall not prevail against His church (Mt 16:18). The "saints" in Revelation 13:7 are Tribulation saints, not part of Christ's Church. The Church has gone to heaven.

**Vs 4** Who is able to make war with the beast? The inference is that nobody on Earth can make war with him and win.

**Ephesians 6:10-17.** The New Testament saint who girds on the whole armour of God can certainly make war with him and defeat him. They would be able to resist the Devil and he would flee from them (James 4:7). But they will not be on Earth to make war with him during the Tribulation.

**2 Corinthians 10:3-5.** The weapons that we use to resist and overcome the Devil are spiritual weapons, not carnal weapons. Men on Earth in the Tribulation will be unable to make war with the beast because they will be relying on carnal weapons, which are ineffective against a spiritual foe.

**Vs 7** The beast will overcome all kindreds, tongues, and nations. There will be no safe nation to hide in.

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#### HOW DO WE KNOW THE FIRST BEAST (Rev 13:1-8) IS THE ANTICHRIST?

1. All the world will receive the one who comes in his own name (**John 5:43**). The False Prophet will require that all men have the name of the Beast or the number of his name (**Rev 13:17**). The False prophet leads people (through religion) to receive the one who comes in his own name.
2. In the order of the satanic trinity (**Rev 16:13-14**), the dragon empowers the Beast, but the False Prophet magnifies the Beast by working miracles before him (**Rev 19:20; 13:12-14**).

## HOW DO WE KNOW THE FIRST BEAST IS THE ANTICHRIST? (Continued)

3. The Beast sits in the temple showing himself that he is God (2 Thess 2:4). The False Prophet points to that false Christ and tells people to worship him.
    - a. He is a counterfeit prophet. As God's true prophets pointed to the true Messiah, the false prophet will point to the false Messiah.
  
  4. Daniel writes about the Antichrist in Daniel 11. The description given matches the first beast, not the second.
  
  5. Because of his relationship with the Jewish nation. In their desire to be like all the nations (**1 Sam 8:19-20**), Israel will make a covenant with the Antichrist allowing them to build the temple and reestablish their worship and sacrifices.
    - a. In **Daniel 9:24-27**, 70 weeks were given to Israel to finish the transgression.
      - i. 69 weeks (of years) ended at the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. One week (7yrs) is left.
      - ii. The "prince that shall come" (vs 26) (the Antichrist) will confirm a 7 year covenant with Israel, but he'll break that covenant after 3 ½ years (vs 27).
        1. Notice that we are only 7 years away from the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, but we've been 7-years-away for 2,000 years!
      - iii. **Isaiah 28:14-16**—the Jews will discover that they made a covenant with the wrong man, a false Christ.
  
  6. The Beast has power over all kindreds, tongues, and nations. He was given that power by the dragon (**Rev 13:3-4**). Satan offered the same deal to Jesus Christ (**Matthew 4:8-10**). Jesus refused, but the Beast will accept the offer.
    - a. He will gain the whole world, but lose his own soul (Mt 16:26, Mk 8:36).
  
  7. The False Prophet wrought the miracles (Rev 19:20), but the glory went to the first beast.
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**Vs 10** Men may try to resist the power of the Beast, but in the end they will lose. Carnal weapons are not the way to win this battle (John 18:11).

"**The patience and faith of the saints**" points to the believers' resolve that the Lord will avenge their death. They can continue to pray, preach, sing, and praise Jesus until they are killed because they know they have eternal life.

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**Vs 9** "If any man have an ear, let him hear." This is another proof that the Church is not on Earth during the Tribulation. Compare the letters to the Churches in Revelation 2-3. Each letter contains the statement, "**He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.**"

Praise the Lord! We won't be here!

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