

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF  
REVELATION

CHAPTER 13A

GREATER MEMPHIS COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY





## Chapter 13

**Verse 1-** *And the dragon stood on the sand of the seashore. Then I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten crowns, and on his heads were blasphemous names.*

*ten horns and seven heads-* horns symbols of strength and power, heads are rulers of state. The Beast (Antichrist) is both a person and global political system that will divide the world into ten parts (regions). A leader will arise out of a global political confederacy.



## Chapter 13

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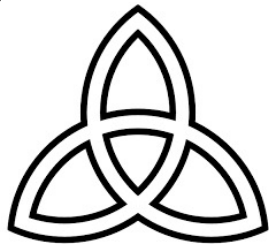
*ten crowns-* (diadems) The placement of the crowns on the horns, the symbol of power, rather than on the heads indicates that the sovereignty “rests on brute force.” (Mounce)

*blasphemous names-* (insulting to God)- possibly a name on each head which rightly belongs to God and to The Lamb (e.g. Lord, God, Almighty, Divine, Worthy of Worship).

## Chapter 13

### Counterfeit Trinity

Father



Son

Holy  
Spirit

“And I saw *coming out of the mouth of the dragon*, and out of the mouth of *the beast*, and out of the mouth of *the false prophet*, three unclean spirits like frogs:”

Revelation 16:13

αντί

The prefix “anti” can mean “against” or “instead of”

Satan



Beast  
Antichrist  
(Political)

False  
Prophet  
(Religious)



## Chapter 13

**Verse 2-** *And the beast that I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like those of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power and his throne, and great authority.*

This vision is similar Daniel's vision in Daniel 7:1-8, but the animals in the vision are a composite beast of the individual beasts in Daniel's vision. They are reversed because John is looking backward:

John – leopard, bear, lion	←
Daniel – lion, bear, leopard	→



## *Daniel 7:4-7- Daniel's Vision of the Beasts of the Sea*

*And four great beasts were coming up from the sea, different from one another. **The first was like a lion** but had the wings of an eagle. I kept looking until its wings were plucked, and it was lifted up from the ground and set up on two feet like a man; a human mind also was given to it. And behold, another beast, **a second one, resembling a bear**. And it was raised up on one side, and three ribs were in its mouth between its teeth; and they said this to it: 'Arise, devour much meat!' After this I kept looking, and behold, **another one, like a leopard**, which had on its back four wings of a bird; the beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it. After this I kept looking in the night visions, and behold, **a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible**, and extremely strong; and it had large iron teeth. It devoured and crushed, and trampled down the remainder with its feet; and it was different from all the beasts that were before it, **and it had ten horns**.*





GOLD

**The Lion- Babylonian Empire**  
**Consuming Power**

SILVER

**The Bear- Medo-Persian Empire**  
**Ferocious Strength**

BRASS

**The Leopard- Grecian Empire**

After Alexander the  
Great's death in  
323 BC

- Greece/Macedonia
- Thrace/Asia Minor
- Syria/Babylon/Middle East
- Egypt/Palestine

IRON

**The Dragon- Roman Empire**  
**Ten Toes**

The Beast  
John sees in  
Revelation 13

IRON  
&  
CLAY

**Divided Kingdom- 476 – present**



1. Egyptian Empire

2. Assyrian Empire

3. Babylonian Empire

4. Medo-Persian Empire

6. Grecian Empire

5. Roman Empire

7. Revived Roman Empire

8. The Beast- Combination of all previous empires

Revelation 17:10-11

*“And they are seven kings; five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come; and when he comes, he must remain a little while. The beast which was, and is not, is himself also an eighth and is one of the seven, and he goes to destruction.”*



## Chapter 13

**Verse 3-** *I saw one of his heads as if it had been fatally wounded, and his fatal wound was healed. And the whole earth was amazed and followed after the beast;*

*fatally wounded-* The beast receives a wound which appears to be deadly but is healed and the world is amazed. This is a counterfeit death and resurrection, imitating “the Lamb that was slain” (5:6). He is the “worthless shepherd” in comparison to the “True Shepherd” who was actually slain.

Zechariah 11:17- *“Woe to the worthless shepherd Who abandons the flock! A sword (cf. Rev. 13:14) will be on his arm And on his right eye! His arm (strength) will be totally withered, And his right eye (intellect) will be blind.”*



## Chapter 13

**Verse 3-** *I saw one of his heads as if it had been fatally wounded, and his fatal wound was healed. And the whole earth was amazed and followed after the beast;*

*fatally wounded-* This is a denial of the prophecy in Gen. 3:15-  
“He will crush your head” but it is short-lived.



## Chapter 13

**Verse 4-** *they worshiped the dragon because he gave his authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast, and who is able to wage war with him?"*

*the dragon-* Satan (Rev. 20:9)- The followers of the Beast are now consumed with global Satan worship.

*gave his authority-* Any power Satan will have at this time was given to the Beast. Not only will Satan be worshiped, but also the Beast.

*Who is like the beast-* He will appear invincible.



## Chapter 13

**Verse 5-** *A mouth was given to him speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him.*

*was given to him-* Satan cannot do anything without ultimate permission from God who allows Satan to give the Beast control. This verb is used three times in the passage:

13:5-6      *was given to him* to blaspheme (2x)

13:7a      *was given to him* to conquer the saints

13:7b-8      *was given to him* to control the nations, causing them to worship him



## Chapter 13

**Verse 5-** *A mouth was given to him speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him.*

*speaking arrogant words and blasphemies-* Compare this to “the little horn” in Daniel 7:8- “*this horn possessed eyes like human eyes, and a mouth uttering great boasts.*”

Grammatically, this is a present active participle. The beast will continually speak arrogantly and will blaspheme against God and those who are His for 3½ years.



## Chapter 13

**Verse 6-** *And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, that is, those who dwell in heaven.*

*The beast blasphemes:*

*"Whoever blasphemes the name of the LORD shall surely be put to death. All the congregation shall stone him." (Leviticus 24:16)*

*"And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but the one who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit **will not be forgiven.**" Luke 12:10*



## Chapter 13

**Verse 6-** *And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, that is, those who dwell in heaven.*

The beast blasphemes (defiant irreverence):

- *God-* by deifying himself.
- *God's name-* believers fear (revere) God's name (11:18) as the devil mocks it.
- *God's tabernacle-* those tabernacled in heaven.
- *Those who dwell in heaven-* who have God's name written on them.



## Chapter 13

**Verse 7-** *It was also given to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them, and authority was given to him over every tribe, people, language, and nation.*

Daniel 7:21- *I kept looking, and that horn was waging war with the saints and **prevailing against them...***

*to overcome them-* this is apparent, just as the world outwardly overcame Christ at the cross.



## Chapter 13

**Verse 8-** *All who live on the earth will worship him, everyone whose name has not been written since the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slaughtered.*

*All who live on the earth-* the same expression is used in 3:10; 6:10; 8:13; 11:10. A repeated phrase for those who are lost.

*since the foundation of the world-* does this modify “written” or “slaughtered?”

(KJV) *And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.*



## Chapter 13

**Verse 9-** *If anyone has an ear, let him hear.*

This is like the exhortation at the end of each of the letters to the seven churches in chapters 2-3. **First class** conditional sentence.

1<sup>st</sup> – It is true (Luke 4:3- *The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.”*)

2<sup>nd</sup> – It is not true (Luke 7:39- *This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman this is that toucheth him: for she is a sinner.*



## Chapter 13

**Verse 9-** *If anyone has an ear, let him hear.*

This is like the exhortation at the end of each of the letters to the seven churches in chapters 2-3. **First class** conditional sentence.

3<sup>rd</sup> – Maybe true/maybe not true (Matthew 4:9- *And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me*).



## Chapter 13

**Verse 10-** *If anyone is destined for captivity, to captivity he goes; if anyone kills with the sword, with the sword he must be killed. Here is the perseverance and the faith of the saints.*

Two fates will await tribulation saints. Some will be taken into captivity and others are to be killed with the sword.

*perseverance-* (*hupomonē*- *hupo*- under + *monē*- remain) To remain under a great burden



**Next week...**

**Chapter 13-  
“The Beast from the Earth”**

