UNVEILED!

The Ancient Secrets of Daniel & The Revelation of Jesus Christ

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Underscores in the Biblical texts are added for emphasis. Brackets are added outside the text for clarification.

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

CHAPTER 13

13 Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name. ² Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like *the feet of* a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority. ³ And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast. ⁴ So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who *is* like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"

⁵ And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. ⁶ Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. ⁷ It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. ⁸ All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

⁹ If anyone has an ear, let him hear. ¹⁰ He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity; he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

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 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. (Revelation 13:1-18 NKJV) [In 13:11, Gr.: *ghay* is soil, solid land. In 13:1, 17, Gr.: *onoma*, translated "<u>name</u>," means attributes/qualities as in a title.]

Insights

The apostle stood by the Great Sea on the Isle of Patmos and watched as a beast was rising from the same sea Daniel had seen in Babylon centuries before. (Dan. 7:1-2; p. 23, The Sea) All of the beasts of Daniel 7 are in John's vision: *After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard … and dominion was given to it. (From Dan. 7:6) And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion. And to it the dragon gave his power, his throne, and great authority. (Rev. 13:2)* The main Allies in the Second World War were America as a leopard; Great Britain as a lion; and Russia as a bear. In February 1945 the Big Three planned the UN before the war ended when Berlin fell and *the beast was slain (in Dan. 7:11)*. In 13:3 his head was healed, and so was its beast.

Revelation pulls back the curtain; behind it are the invisible beasts. In 20:2 the dragon is Satan who lost WW2 and gave the beast his throne, the head with a deadly wound. His ten kings received crowns again after the war and are on the beast in 13:1. By 1990 their crowns were restored and Berlin *was healed (in 13:3)*. Berlin wasn't one of the seven, but Babylon was the throne of the dragon in Berlin. Ten horns rose with the beast that has the dragon's throne. Then *another beast* rose that spoke *as a dragon*.

The keys: *the head of Syria is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is Rezin (in Is. 7:8a).* The heads are thrones—capitals, but all seven kings that were in 12 had fallen. In 17 (p. 189), the

seven heads are proven to be capital cities; each had a king, but five had fallen. The order then is chapter 12, then 17; then 13.

In chapter 12 none of the horns had crowns. The <u>ten horns</u> received no kingdom as yet in 17:12; thus, the horns in 17 are still waiting <u>after chapter 12</u>. All <u>ten have crowns</u> in 13:1, which they first received in 1920 before the rise of Hitler in Daniel 7. When WW2 ended their crowns were restored in 13:1 when the dragon was healed after giving his throne to the beast. Therefore, the final order is chapter 12; then 17; Daniel 7; and then 13.

¹² `And the ten horns that thou sawest, are ten kings, who a kingdom did not yet receive, but <u>authority as kings</u> the same hour do receive with the beast, ¹³ these have one mind, and their own power and authority to the beast they shall give over; ¹⁴ These with the Lamb shall make war, and the Lamb shall overcome them, ... (Rev. 17:12-14a YLT) [The beast here is the dragon/Hitler.]

<u>A religio-political beast rises</u> after the ten kings are restored (in 13:11). The first to rise after them in Daniel was a little horn (in Dan. 7:8), the eighth king of the seven (p. 20). The dragon was *the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. (13:3, 12; p. 19)*

²⁴ And the ten horns <u>out of this kingdom</u> are ten kings that shall arise: and <u>another shall rise after them</u>; and he shall be <u>diverse from the first</u>, and <u>he shall subdue three</u> <u>kings</u>. (Dan. 7:24) [The ten rise again with the beast in 13:1.]

¹² It exercises all the authority of the first beast in its presence, and makes the earth and its inhabitants worship <u>the first beast</u>, <u>whose mortal wound was healed</u>. (Rev. 13:12 ESV) [Gr.: *Enopion*, 'In his presence/before him.']

The dragon was the serpent whose head was bruised (in Gen. 3:15). His throne was mortally wounded in WW2 (in 13:3, 12). Babylon was his throne in Berlin where its walls hide the Altar of Satan. A mystery: Babylon was the throne he gave the beast.

Of Beasts and Men

When a man speaks as a beast, he has his mouth and thus his heart; if a beast is in a man, the man becomes the beast. The man in a little horn in Germany was its commander-in-chief, second in authority until Satan ruled through him. (Dan. 7:8, 20; Is. 14:16) [Antiochus was also a little horn and an eighth king in Dan. 8:9.] 137

The one with two horns is *diverse from the first (in Dan. 7:24)*. To gain the world's worship, he controls its false religions (in 13:11).

Ten kings of the Third Reich were restored after WW2 and are on the beast in 13:1. *Another beast* rises after them (in 13:11). *Diverse from the first (in Dan. 7:8), he shall subdue three kings (in 7:24, p. 137).* Present with the beast before him, the beast that has *two horns like a lamb* has all his authority by his tenure. He who speaks as a dragon is the dragon who gave his throne to the beast after he lost the war (in 13:2; cf. Dan. 7:11). Superior in the kingdom of darkness, he is both a religious leader and a king who abases the three as one of the two horns.

Two different first beasts are in 13:12. The dragon gave the first beast his throne, but the dragon that gave him his throne was before him: he'd been the terrible beast in Daniel 7:8 and the red dragon in 12:3. When the USSR fell, Berlin was healed, and the dragon rose as *another beast, diverse from the first*. The latter is *the first beast whose mortal wound was healed (in 13:12b p. 137)*. The first to rise after the ten horns rose after them again (in Dan. 7:8; cf. Rev. 13:11). Its prophecy is repeated (on pp. 38-40).

John also saw <u>another beast rising</u> after them (in 13:11; cf. Dan. 7:24, p. 137). The *beast with two horns* rises after the ten as Hitler had done in 1932; he's *diverse from the first* that rose after them. Gone to hell and back, now he's a religious beast.

Satan lost the greatest war in history to the Lamb and gave his throne to the next beast, formed by three diverse Allies; the three are one beast with ten horns and seven heads in collusion with a false prophet and the dragon (in 16:13), proving the red dragon is healed (in 13:3, 12; see p. 19; cf. Dan. 7:11).

Two false religious leaders are its horns: its prophet and the dragon that rules its empire. (see 20:2) The paradigm is Medo-Persia, a ram with two horns (in Dan. 8). The beast was Persian, but its horns were invisible kings of two kingdoms: Persia and Media, merged as one kingdom that fell as one of the seven.

Rising after the ten the second time, the beast comes out of the earth—out of hell. He went to perdition after his body was given to the burning flame (in 17:11; cf. Is. 14:9-20, Dan. 7:11).

His two horns are the leaders of his duplicitous politicoreligious kingdom. United by its beast, they are like-minded. A man who is the dragon is one; the other is his false prophet. (See 16:13) The dragon was the eighth king out of the seven when he founded Berlin. In his own capital city, he planted his altar.

In Dan. 7:23 the next kingdom would be the dragon's fourth kingdom, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces (in Dan. 7:23). The first beast (in 13:12b, p. 138) was mortally wounded. Struck and divided by Russia, his throne in Berlin was ruined. When Berlin was healed, so was Babylon, the dragon's head, which he gave to the beast in 13:2 as its throne.

His throne was his mysterious capital, but physically, Berlin. Mystery Babylon was also his throne in Pergamon (in Rev. 2:13), which wasn't a capital city. After it was invaded and razed, he carried Babylon to Rome, using the church to gain the (H)RE. Then his altar went to Berlin where his throne was destroyed, and the dragon was slain. (We never see the spirit of Babylon except by her characteristics, revealed in her city in chapter 18.)

The dragon gave the beast *great authority*, but <u>not his own</u> <u>authority</u>. (YLT, NIV, HCSB, NASB, TLV) [Authority rules; power overcomes.] The one with two horns like a lamb rules over the beast, having all his authority and subduing the three kings. [The rogue dragon appears in 16:13 with his prophet and the beast.]

One interpretation has the one with two horns like a lamb with authority *on behalf of the beast,* as if representing the beast, but no one represents a king in his presence. *All the authority of the first beast doth it do before it. (YLT)* The beast with two horns takes authority over his victor (in 13:2) as he did by deceit over the (H)RE. Now he's in authority, and the beast is his chancellor: "Who is able to make war with [the beast]?" (See 13:4; cf. 19:19)

The world worships the beast, fearing his military power. He leads the armed forces of the world. And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. (Rev. 19:19) [The Lord returns with an army, riding white horses.]

The throne of the beast is his government seat. She is anti-Christ, anti-Semitic, anti-Zionist, and anti-God. Creation reveals the truth by the light of God, but the city of the beast exchanges light for darkness.

³Don't let anyone deceive you in any way. For that day will not come unless the apostasy comes first and the

man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction. ⁴ He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he sits in God's sanctuary, publicizing that he himself is God.

⁶<u>And you know what currently restrains him, so that</u> <u>he will be revealed in his time</u>. ⁷For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work, but the one now restraining will do so until he is out of the way, ⁸ and then the lawless one will be revealed. The Lord Jesus will destroy him with the breath of His mouth and will bring him to nothing with the brightness of His coming.

(2 Thes. 2:3-4, 6-8 HCSB)

Till he may be out of the way (YLT) doesn't mean the Holy Spirit leaves the world. *The man of lawlessness* is *hindered* by the one who prevents him from rising <u>until he [is] out of the way</u>. *The one* who has been *in the way* for centuries is <u>keeping down</u> (*lit., YLT*) *the man of lawlessness* until he is *out of the way*. This angel is stronger than the beast, or he couldn't stand in the way.

Four entities are in the story of Balaam: a king, a prophet, a beast, and an angel. (See Num. 22:22-32) A donkey carried the evil prophet to prophesy to a king. The angel stood *in the way* of the beast to keep the prophet–for–hire Balaam from appeasing King Balak, Israel's enemy. (Josh. 13:22)

 23 And <u>the ass saw the angel of the LORD standing in the</u> way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and the ass turned <u>out of the way</u>, to turn into the field: and Balaam smote the ass, to turn her <u>into the way</u>. (Num. 22:23)

The angel was *in the way*, so the beast *turned out of the way*. At midnight the church is in apostasy when the one that is *in the way* ... *is out of the way*. (2 Thes. 2:7-8)

Healing Berlin

After WW2 the West German Republic was returned to the people, supposedly to stabilize post–war Europe. Marxism overcame China the year the Allies rescued their enemies in 1949.

In '45 Berlin was crushed and the dragon, slain. Healing the city was no easy job. The three Allies divvied up Germany: the USSR took East Germany and East Berlin by Marxism. The U.S. and Britain supervised West Berlin in East Germany until the Russian government fell. Soon after the war, its Allies formed 140

the United Nations. Finally, communism ruined the USSR, and Berlin was healed as was the head that was the dragon's throne.

In 1948–49 Russia disconnected East Berlin from railways, highways, and waterways, leaving the people helpless, alienated, and starving—nearly as isolated as the Jews they'd forced into ghettos just a few years before.¹²⁶ In August 1961 word spread about a wall, and twenty-four hundred Germans escaped to West Berlin.¹²⁷ Khrushchev broke the Allies' pact, crushing the city whose favorite leader had betrayed Stalin. His communist troops built a wall around East Berlin overnight, imprisoning the city. Thus the seeds of the cold war between Marxism and the Free World were sown in the furrowed soil of post-war Berlin.

 3 One of its heads seemed to have a mortal wound, but its mortal wound was healed, and the whole earth marveled as they followed the beast. (Rev. 13:3 ESV)

Day and night America, Britain, France, and their allies airlifted food and supplies for Berlin to survive.¹²⁸ I saw one of its heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: <u>and all the world wondered after the beast</u>. (13:3) Now we see why. Germans had adored Hitler, but not much later, in a cold war against Marxism, its Allies rescued East Berlin.

Socialism ruined Russia when the realities of life disproved its Marxist ideals. In June 1987 Russians waited in long lines for bread while in Berlin President Reagan took a few moments to address the premier: "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!"¹²⁹

In 1989 the Iron Curtain fell. Soon after that Russian soldiers left the city for lack of pay. After two days the wall came down, and the world cheered for a city liberated by nations that had sacrificed their sons for freedom.¹³⁰ The post-war Allies supervised West Berlin till 1990 when Russia fell and Berlin was healed as Germany's capital city again.¹³¹ Reagan and Thatcher opposed communism as others did; but seventy years of Marx's ideologies folded when the system went bankrupt by socialism, and the wall fell with it. The beast in 13 could take its nation's sovereignty overnight like the wall that took Berlin. Liberty is priceless but not without cost; it works for those who value it.

Looking back by turning ahead to 17, the scarlet beast had ten horns, *which <u>received</u>* crowns by a treaty, not by aggression, after WW1; they <u>received</u> them back after WW2. (Rev. 17:12)

The Tail of the Dragon

And his tail drew a third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: ... Woe to inhabiters of the earth and of the sea, for the devil has come down unto you <u>having great</u> wrath, because he knows that he hath but a short time! (Rev. 12:4a, 12b) After Jesus rose to life, He ascended to heaven, and the dragon was cast out. His tail swept a third of the stars to earth to serve him. Covering the globe, they know their hour is short.

The dragon appeared as a national symbol on the flag of China, 1615–1911.¹³² The "Heavenly Kingdom" banner also displayed the dragon as its king, but since the insurrectionist of this world lost the war in heaven, his end is near and he knows it.

A Marxist coup d'état took Russia's provisional government by the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917, resulting in multitudes of deaths, a sign of the dragon's insurrections. At the time Chiang Kai-shek had returned from military training to bolster Sun Yatsen and overcome the harsh Qing Dynasty in 1911–12, and the flag of the dragon fell as a democratic republic rose. Afterward China joined the Allies in each world war. Chiang led its republic from 1928–75, joining the UN in October 1945.¹³³

Soon after Sun established her republic, Russian Marxists incited a revolution in northern China by Mao Zedong just ten years after the insurrection in Russia, but the Chinese Civil War paused when Japan invaded Manchuria.¹³⁴ Stranger than fiction, the enemies united for World War Two, fighting side-by-side as allies against Japan till their Civil War resumed in late 1945.

Russia and China were closely related, sharing their borders and at times, political philosophies, bringing Gog and Magog to mind. [Gog is head of Magog but is also a great nation that joins Magog with the nations against Israel at the end of ages.] From the uttermost parts of the north (Ezk. 39:2), Gog leads Russia as well as Turkey, making Magog Communist China.

In 1949 West Berlin rose from its ashes, and the communists won the Chinese Civil War. Chiang fled to Taiwan, a nation-inexile, now oppressed by communists.¹³⁵ The island represented China until the UN expelled her in 1971 to receive Communist China as a permanent member of its Security Council.¹³⁶

History is the mirror of humanity. The authority to govern is a test of character. If we've been entrusted with authority we ought to study ourselves in its mirror lest we abuse our trust and face an angry God. *It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. (Heb. 10:31)*

Now the feet of the bear are China's because the thrones are not just capital cities, but their governments. Russia took Marxist communism to China's Mao Zedong, but even nations without faith are judged on the Great Day of God. Everyone is judged according to the works we've done in our bodies, good or evil. But God made a way, and there is no other way to be saved; ... whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered. (Joel 2:32; Acts 2:21, 39)

A Slice of Babylonia

God warns us to come out of Babylon, but many of us have lived in her ways. Deceptions are taught in the pulpits, blinding churches to the Word of God. Christians hear only parts of the truth and have false assumptions. We must diligently search the Scriptures to believe every word since every word of God is life to us. Gainsayers abound, and multitudes fall for the words of their teachers, not comparing their words to the Bible.

The apostasy is preserved in the words of the early bishops' councils. In Nicaea, they adopted the ancient festival of Rome for the church, calling it "holy," incorporating the resurrection of Jesus Christ with pagan idolatry. While rejecting the Bible, they purposely changed the biblical day of Jesus' victory over death:

"... We further proclaim to you the good news of the agreement concerning the holy Easter, that this particular also has through your prayers been rightly settled; so that <u>all our</u> brethren in the East who formerly followed the custom of the Jews are henceforth to celebrate the said most sacred feast of Easter at the same time with the Romans and yourselves and all those who have observed Easter from the beginning." [From the Synodic Letter of the Council of Nicaea, 325 AD.]¹³⁷

Each year Rome held a feast for Ishtar, or Ashterah, goddess of fertility.¹³⁸ Her idol had a part in the epic poem, *Gilgamesh*, in Babel. (p. 56-7) They celebrated in sexual orgies, fornication, and perversions, parading the streets as if celebrating *Mardi Gras*.

The newly institutionalized church began its fall away from the Word of God, but true believers kept the faith. The rift was

set by their attitude toward the Hebrew Bible though it lays the foundation of the new covenant and is rich in inspired wisdom. The apostles referred to it constantly as they wrote, but the bishops cut off the roots of our faith, steering people away from the Bible for the teachings and traditions of men; the Jews had done the same before they rejected the Savior. Since that time, instead of celebrating Christ who rose on the Day of Firstfruits as *the firstfruits of the dead*, we lost our way by shunning the history of our faith. Reconsider the Firstfruits and repent for the church as the light of the world and the salt of the earth.

The dragon takes people by guile, inducing them to fear what they cannot control. Carnally-minded bishops expected the wolves to save them from fear. Constantine perhaps unwittingly enticed them. The longer the apostate church was an institution, the more she perverted the truth. Since her separation from the Hebrew Bible, she has misrepresented Christianity and the Lord Jesus Christ. He warned His disciples that false christs and false prophets would come in His name and they have. (Lk. 21:8)

Another beast rises with two horns like a lamb and speaks as a dragon. Its leader is intolerant of a personal relationship with God; but if we trust Jesus Christ, we receive Him into our hearts. That's personal, and it's how Bible believers threaten Rome's conflicting dogma and idolatry. But have we known the churches are divided by deceptions? It began in the 4th century by men who led the churches away from the Scriptures. These days we look to teachers who aren't careful to believe its words.

Jews turned from the Scriptures long ago, believing that their priests are anointed to write for the Talmud like the prophets of God were anointed for the Tenakh, but that's the lie. The Bible was inspired for us to believe every word so that we could divide it correctly. How did the apostasy result in wars and genocides?

Pope Innocent III (1198–1216) began Inquisitions in Rome with four Crusades to eradicate the Jews, rewarding their killers with forgiveness and eternal life.¹³⁹ Pope Gregory IX (1227–1241) led Inquisitions on Bible-believing Christians in France whose villages the church destroyed. Accused of heresy, the defendants were kept in dungeons till their prosecutors tried them as their judges. Those who survived the torture were burned alive. In six hundred years of Crusades and Inquisitions, multitudes suffered

at the church's hands for daring to part from Rome. But Jesus came to save, not to destroy, judge, or rule the world. (Mat. 11:29)

After His death and resurrection, many Jews trusted in Him though as He had prophesied, the Jewish leaders crucified Him by the hands of Rome. Like the Jews the bishops didn't trust in Jesus, or they would have believed His words. (Rom. 6:7, 18)

In 1200–1500, Papal bulls [laws] increased against alleged heretics who believed the few scriptures they had over church dogma.¹⁴⁰ In 1288 Jews also became their targets.¹⁴¹

Had Israel believed, the Kingdom would have come, but it wasn't God's plan. He would save gentiles to humble the Jews. (2 Cor. 10:4-6; Eph. 6:10-20) After the bishops denied the Word, its believers were identified by their faith. (1 Cor. 11:18-19)

The Inquisitions went to Spain in 1481 when Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand asked permission from the Papacy to have *auto de fe*, "acts of faith," which meant burnings of the heretics, popular savageries. As Inquisitors, the Dominicans and Jesuits were the arms of a Department of Inquisition, *sanctum officium*, "the Holy Office." Estimates of the killings are in the millions.¹⁴²

The throne of Babylon went west in 13:2. The Paris Peace Treaties restored the ten kings' crowns by 1949.¹⁴³ Sixty million had died with justice undone, but *Vengeance is mine*, *I will repay, saith the Lord (in Rom. 12:19; cf. Deut. 32:35).*

Her curse did not prevent the dragon from carrying the spirit of his capital city to her proxies. Human sacrifices were given to her altar in Pergamon; the guilt of sinners filled her coffers in Rome; war projects paid her expenses in Berlin; now wars and taxes support the city the dragon put on the back of the beast:

²⁰ It shall never be inhabited, neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation: neither shall the Arabian pitch tent there; neither shall the shepherds make their fold there. (Is. 13:20)

The red dragon was cast to earth in chapter 12. He moved to 17; then to Daniel 7:11, 23; then to the beast to whom he gave his throne (in Rev. 13:2-3). His false prophet works wonders by his devils. He erects *an image to the beast which had the wound by a sword, and did live (in Rev. 13:14b).*

¹³ And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs *come* out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the

beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. ¹⁴ For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, *which* go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. (Rev. 16:13-14) [Exposed at the 6th bowl.]

Seeing through the darkness, we should prepare for what's coming and always pray for one another. Lying spirits scheme to deceive the believers, the main targets. God does miracles, signs, and wonders today, but most teachers deny the true gospel.

John the baptizer had Elijah's Spirit but did no miracles at all (in Jn. 10:41). Like John Elijah does come but to restore what was lost. (Mal. 4:5-6) Either seek the truth or be tricked by a fraud.

The false prophet seems like Elijah (in 13:13; 2 Kg. 1:10) but isn't a prophet at all. He mimics miracles and announces the false messiah, the deceiver, whom Israel initially receives.

⁸ <u>And then the lawless one will be revealed</u>, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming. ⁹ The coming of the lawless one is <u>by the activity of Satan</u> with all power and false signs and wonders, ¹⁰ and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to <u>love the truth and so be saved</u>.

(2 Thes. 2:8-10 ESV; cf. Rev. 1:16; 19:15, 21.) ... whom the Lord Jesus will ... bring to nothing by the outshining of the presence of him. (from 2 Thes. 2:8 ZGE)

Prepared to die for our testimonies, we'll meet the sword of persecution with shining faces, knowing *immediately after the tribulation*, Jesus comes for the elect and sends His wrath against the world:

²⁹ "<u>Immediately after the tribulation</u> of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ³⁰ Then will <u>appear</u> in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man <u>coming on the clouds of heaven</u> with power and great glory. ³¹ And he will send out his angels <u>with a loud trumpet call</u>, and they will gather <u>his elect</u> from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

(Mat. 24:29-31 ESV; cf. 1 Thes. 4:16; Rev. 20:4)

Insights: Chapter 13

The Beast Is a Man

The number of the beast is the number of a man: This means the beast is a man (in 13:18). He had two horns like a lamb, and he spoke as a dragon (in 13:11b), his identity in a figure.

The beast with authority over the nations has a mouth like a lion and co-rules with the dragon and false prophet. They rule devils at their command (revealed in 16:13-14). Is it a bleeding idol? or fire from the sky? Nothing seems too difficult for them when *night cometh, and no man can work (in Jn. 9:4)*.

Yeshua said Jerusalem will receive someone who comes in his own name before He returns. (Jn. 5:43) As He foreknew, another like the eighth Seleucid king will deceive Jerusalem. *His power hath been mighty, and not by his own power (in Dan.* 8:24a). Through the ages Satan has been in eighth kings. In 167 BC he stood in the temple by his idol of Zeus; *the abomination of desolation (in Dan. 11:31)* was the dragon.¹⁴⁴

- ²³ "In the latter period of their rule, [I.e., the Greeks' rule] When the transgressors have run *their course*, <u>A king will arise</u>, [He appeared as a man.] Insolent and skilled in intrigue.
- ²⁴ "His power will be mighty, but <u>not by his *own* power</u>, And he will destroy to an extraordinary degree And prosper and perform *his will*; <u>He will destroy mighty men and the holy people</u>.
- ²⁵ "And through his shrewdness <u>He will cause deceit to succeed by his influence;</u> And he will magnify *himself* in his heart, And <u>he will destroy many while *they are at ease*.</u> He will even oppose the Prince of princes, But he will be broken without human agency. (Dan. 8:23-25 NASB) The invisible kings rule by men.

There are two kingdoms but three entities: the beast and the dragon and false prophet who endorses them (in 13:1, 11; 16:13).

¹³ It performs great signs, even making fire come down from heaven to earth in front of people, ¹⁴ and by the signs that it is allowed to work in the presence of the beast it deceives those who dwell on earth, telling them to make an image for the beast that was wounded by the sword and yet lived. ¹⁵ And it was allowed to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast

might even speak and might cause those who would not worship the image of the beast to be slain. (Rev. 13:13-15 ESV)

Ten kings give their authority and dominion to the one that speaks as a dragon that rose after them; whatever he does, he does by his horns. His prophet does great signs, working with the beast, proving the collusion of the three. In Dan. 7:25 the dragon wants to change the times and law. He wears out the saints, and they are given into his hands [for fewer than forty-two months].

What if the Jews had done everything right? but all who are chosen must be humbled. Forty years before Romans razed the temple to the ground, Yeshua said no stone would be left on an-other—none is. The living image of the dragon may be a man in the temple in Jerusalem. Today its temple plans are under way.¹⁴⁵

¹⁵ "Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand), ¹⁶ "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. ¹⁷ Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. ¹⁸ And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. ¹⁹ But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! ²⁰ And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath. ²¹ For <u>then there will be great</u> <u>tribulation</u>, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, <u>nor ever shall be</u>. ²² And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but <u>for the elect's sake</u> those days will be shortened. (Mat. 24:15-22 NKJV)

January 10, 1984: President Reagan recognized diplomatic relations with the Vatican and its ambassador, granting the pope an embassy in Washington, D.C.¹⁴⁶ The beast with two horns like a lamb establishes his fourth kingdom by the beast that rose after the war. Finally, the ten horns return to bolster the scarlet beast (in Rev. 17:15-18, p. 188), now with two horns in 13.

On the papal crown, the "tri-regna" represents three "powers of the pope," translated from the Latin: 1) the father of all kings, 2) the governor of the world, and 3) the Vicar of Christ.¹⁴⁷ But the only crown Jesus wore was made of thorns. And who is like the King of kings? or like the Lord of lords? No one compares.

The unique Son of God walked sinless among us and shed His blood to die for us to live forever. He entered hell, bearing our guilt for us (in Is. 53:10; 1 Pet. 3:18-20). Then He rose to life and saved us by His grace with faith for each of us. (Eph. 2:8)

As the biological Son of God, Jesus is the only Mediator of man to God—the Bridge from here to heaven. No one equals Him; no name is like His; no one sits in for Him. His life divided time. His gifts are for us who believe without seeing Him, but liars are with us, using Jesus' name but twisting the truth. Their charm is persuasive. (Prov.31:30) God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth. (2 Thes. 2:13b)

"Dear Benedict, ..."

On October 7, 2010, the man was busily jotting off a letter to the "pontiff," asking to meet him: "Iranian President Mahmud Ahmadinejad has written a letter to Benedict XVI in which he calls for <u>closer collaboration between religions</u>."¹⁴⁸

The pope visited the Dome of the Rock, saying, "Here the paths of the world's three great monotheistic religions meet, reminding us of what they share in common."¹⁴⁹ However, theirs has no Son. *Let God be true, but every man a liar. (See Rom. 3:4)*

"I am the way, the truth, and the life."– Pius IX; "It is absolutely necessary for the salvation of every creature to be subject to the Roman Pontiff." – Boniface VIII; "No man outside obedience to the pope can ultimately be saved."– Clement VI; "The Pope holds place on earth, not simply of a man, but of the true God." – Innocent I; "I am in all and above all, so that God Himself and I, the Vicar of God, hath one consistory, and I am able to do almost all that God can do. I, being above all ... seem by this reason, to be above all gods."– Nicholas. "Don't go to God for forgiveness of sins. Come to me." – John Paul II.¹⁵⁰

Pontiff means "bridge," as a mediator between God and man, but the Bible says, *There is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus. (1 Tim. 2:5) Pope* means "papa, or abba." He's called, "Holy Father," but Jesus said, *Call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven. (Mat. 23:9)* The blasphemy has deceived multitudes. Bishops were called "popes" in 324. Eighteen hundred popes were invited to Nicaea. Three hundred eighteen came; the others dismissed the idea.¹⁵¹ 17% voted to decide the tenets of the faith. Now its apostasy is worse than ever before with lies abounding.

A false church led by the dragon will unite the world's false religions. Its anti-Christ empire will fall in the war between the kingdom of darkness and the Kingdom of light. Its beast offers peace by forced conversions; his disciples are reprobate captives.

³² He shall seduce with flattery those who violate the covenant, but the people who know their God shall <u>stand</u> <u>firm and take action</u>. ³³ And the wise among the people shall make many understand, though for some days they shall stumble by sword and flame, by captivity and plunder. ³⁴ <u>When they stumble, they shall receive a little help</u>. And many shall join themselves to them with flattery, ³⁵ and some of the wise shall stumble, so that they may be <u>refined</u>, <u>purified</u>, and made white, until the time of the end, for it still awaits the appointed time.

³⁶ And the king shall do as he wills. He shall exalt himself and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak astonishing things against the God of gods. He shall prosper until the indignation is accomplished; for that which is decreed shall be done. (Dan. 11:32-36 ESV)

The man of lawlessness opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. (2 Thes. 2:4) But God sent His own Son, crucified for our sins and risen to justify us; His Spirit has made us new. Though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. (Gal. 1:8)

"Francis" entered the Blue Mosque in Istanbul and prayed with an imam, kissed the Koran, and said their religions are one, and "we all worship the same God."¹⁵² But our faith is in the Son of God who paid our penalty. Prophets foretold His birth centuries before the NT confirmed it. (Is. 7:14; 9:6; 53; Dan. 9:25)

"Vatican Calls for New World Economic Order." The headline declared radical changes in international banking; a Vatican Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace as "a world political authority" with "universal jurisdiction" in the "fair distribution of the world's wealth."¹⁵³ And he has a knack for numbers: 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 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. (Rev. 13:16-18 NKJV)

Ahmadinejad gave gifts to win the favor of the Vatican. One gift released fifteen British sailors who'd allegedly entered Iran's sea by 0.5 km. The Easter gift freed them on April 4, 2010.¹⁵⁴

On January 14, 2017, "Francis" met with Mahmoud Abbas to open a Palestinian embassy in Vatican City—odder yet, they have no capital and no nation other than their Arab homelands.¹⁵⁵

Of the two horns, one is a false prophet, playing Elijah. The other is the dragon. The imposter seems like Elijah, but is a liar. *Whoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father: he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also. (1 Jn. 2:23)* If we receive the beast, we deny the Son.

The image of the dragon who speaks by a man both moves and speaks. We're familiar with images; they're commonplace. We see them living and speaking every day. The image of a beast will be in the temple beside a beast when the world adores an image of a beast. He is the *first beast, whose deadly wound was healed, diverse* from his figure in Daniel 7. And the beast is a man. The mark is his own; those who refuse it are beheaded.

The Greek word, *onoma*, is not just a name. It refers to the character, authority, majesty, rank or title of a man, but it's blasphemous where the mark of the beast is his *onoma* and his number because he is the chief adversary of God. It's time to discern the truth of the Word though our eyes can't yet see it.

In the 18th century, Arabia had its first Saudi kings, imams who bestowed the kingdom to their sons, also imams. At the end of the 19th century, there was a forty-year gap in power. In 1932 modern Saudi Arabia was established with the rise of Hitler.¹⁵⁶ In 2015 her seventh king rose to the throne. Interrupting the line of succession, he made his younger son the Crown Prince who took the reins of power, upending the old order.¹⁵⁷ Controversial in Mecca and Medina but welcomed by the West, can he unite the East and West? He's likely to succeed.

God condemns all who worship the beast, taking the number of his *onoma*, his mark, <u>in the right hand or forehead</u>. It's a physical mark made by a tool that breaks the skin with a scratch, etching, or stamp. [Grk.: *charagma*] ... a bio-chip under the skin?

Though the consensus of our beliefs seems a reasonable way to unite, we mix leaven into the lump of dough by mingling the words of God with men's ideas that change them. <u>Study to show</u> <u>thyself thyself approved</u> unto God, a workman that needeth <u>not</u> <u>to be ashamed</u>, rightly dividing the word of truth. (2 Tim. 2:15)

A national leader used a copy of Pergamon's Altar to display his power, yet people who professed Christianity received him. He gave his amphitheater speech to scores of thousands, posing between the columns at its podium in the blackness of the night, towering over the throngs, and the crowds roared! ¹⁵⁸

¹⁶... *Is* this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms; ¹⁷ that made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; *that* opened not the house of his prisoners? (Is. 14:16b-17)

Hitler said the world would rotate on the Rome-Berlin Axis; hence, the "Axis powers."¹⁵⁹ The dragon of the (H)REGN ruled the Third Reich. He was king of Babel, Rome, and Berlin but gave his throne to the beast as his fourth kingdom.

Is Lucifer a man? If he speaks by a man, he sure looks like a man. Devils debase people, preparing them for perdition. Beasts work by men. When devils enter them, they fill them with ice-cold death. *And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies. (Rev. 13:5a)* Given a mouth, he speaks as a king in clerical robes. Liars mingle lies with the truth and deny the truth when it's spoken. Only Jesus can free a liar.

¹⁶ And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire. ¹⁷ For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled. (Rev. 17:16-17)

The beast with *two horns like a lamb* has the number of a man because he is a man. After rising the second time, the ten kings give *their kingdom* to the dragon, the scarlet beast (in 17:17;

cf. 17:13) Satan regains his power through the EU and is stirred to destroy his infamous, mystical city of Babylon, the throne he gave the beast after the war.

Now, a king is not recognized as a king unless he has a capital city, because he's less powerful without a government. A king and his kingdom are as strong as his government, housed in his capital city. The two are united in a marriage, or in the case of the dragon, as a man with his harlot in bed with many kings.

The seven heads of the beast are a great mystery. Are they capitals or are they kings? Since Berlin was healed of the deadly wound, and the dragon's throne went to the beast, we can deduce that the heads in 13 are seven capitals including Babylon.

Jews were cut off as branches of their own olive tree by their slothful faith. Gentiles were received but were warned not to despise Jews, or we'll be cut off too. We're not accountable for the sins of others, but for our own, which may be by omission or by commission. We're kept by faith, but without works, faith is dead: *he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be manifest, that they are wrought in God. (Jn. 3:21)*

Israel's right to her homeland is denied by those who say they're saved by their free will and can never be lost, no matter what they do. *Gainsaying* fills the church, but the fear of God turns us from sin while those who are presumptuous are warned,

²⁰ ... Do not be conceited, but fear; ²¹ for if God did not spare the natural branches, He will not spare you, either.
²² Behold then the kindness and severity of God; to those who fell, severity, but to you, God's kindness, <u>if you continue in His kindness</u>; otherwise you also will be cut off. ²³ And they also, if they do not continue in their unbelief, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. (Rom. 11:20b-23 NASB)

Two friends, Roosevelt and Churchill, gained an unexpected ally after Hitler betrayed Stalin by invading Russia. Despite his early ties to Hitler and his Marxist ideology, Stalin met with two free-world leaders in late 1943 in Tehran, Persia, to strategize against the Axis powers.¹⁶⁰ In February 1945 the Big Three met again in Yalta, a city in Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula. [Crimea is now Russia's]. They planned the UN on paper before setting it in stone, hoping for peace on earth with a devil as a friend.¹⁶¹

Beasts have a way with men's wills. The beast (in 13:1-3) is like a leopard, rising with dominion from WW2. (Dan. 7:6, 23) Its wartime coalition formed the dragon's fourth empire: like the leopard but not. Surreptitiously embedded in her bureaucracy, the devouring beast is the key that discloses the present state of our nation (in 13:1; cf. Dan. 7:23). A lion, a bear, and a leopard lose their dominion but continue as nations *for a season and time (in Dan. 7:12)*. Beasts and horns are kings of deception.

"The world had never before known a godlessness as organized, militarized, and tenaciously malevolent as that practiced by Marxism. Within the philosophical system of Marx and Lenin, and at the heart of their psychology, <u>hatred of God is the principal driving force</u>, more fundamental than all their political and economic pretensions." – Alexander Solzhenitsyn, 1983.¹⁶²

Jerusalem above All

14 Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, and thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. ² For I will gather all nations <u>against Jerusalem to battle</u>; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. ³ Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. (Zec. 14:1-3) [This speaks of WW2.]

In her darkest hour, God is with Jerusalem, but on account of sin, He scourges everyone He loves. Still He is on our side and hers and will defeat His enemies and exalt her above the highest mountains—no, He will never abolish His nation Israel.

In chapter 13 the wisdom of the living God is glorified when fallen angels scheme and sinful men make plans until everything changes at the end of the age. These prophecies enlighten us to other prophetic books; often to history too. And both history and prophecy open the mysteries in *The Revelation of Jesus Christ*.