

WHO IS LIKE UNTO THE BEAST

REV 13:1-10

Text: Rev 13:4

Introduction:

1. THE APPEARANCE OF THE BEAST (REV. 13:1-2)

Revelation 13:1-2

¹ And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. ² 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 the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

A. How He Originates

The "**sea**" in the Bible represents the masses of humanity. This individual will come from among men. In other words, while he may possess power that surpasses all the other great rulers of me, he will be nothing more than a man!

The Antichrist will be empowered by Satan and he will wield tremendous power and authority. But, unlike Jesus Christ, he will have a human mother and father. He will not be a God-man like Jesus. He will be a man

who receives his kingdom and his power from Satan himself.

B. How He Operates

1. Seven heads: speaks of wisdom
2. Horns: speaks of confederate power
3. Ten Crowns: speaks of ruling authority

Notice this detailed description found in Daniel:

Daniel 7:3-8

³ And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another. ⁴ The first *was* like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it. ⁵ And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and *it had* three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh. ⁶ After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it. ⁷ After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it *was* diverse from all the beasts that *were* before it; and it had ten horns. ⁸ I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn *were* eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.

4. Like a leopard – swift and unchanging, sleek beautiful and attractive.

5. Feet like a bear – Big and tough that will cover a large area and pursue its prey without giving up. Strong claws that grip the prey without letting go and power to rip apart.

6. Mouth like a lion – Ferocious roar that will be heard world-wide, which will strike fear in both nation and people. Sharp teeth that will drive deep into the flesh, tearing and chewing and devouring nations and people.

He is called a beast. The word "**beast**" refers to "**a wild animal**". It is used as a metaphor of a man who is "**brutal, savage, and ferocious**". Like a wild animal, Antichrist will attack the kingdoms of the world and he will destroy all who get in his path. He will be a fearsome, powerful man.

C. How He Officiates (2b)

We are told that the Antichrist rules the world, but not by his own power, but by Satan's. We are told that Satan gives him three things. 1. His Power – This word refers to "**strength, power and ability**". 2. His Seat – This is his "**throne**". He rules because Satan has given

him dominion. 3. Great Authority – This word refers to the "***ability to do as one pleases***". The Antichrist will do as he pleases on this earth for a time and no one will be able to stop him.

2. THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE BEAST (REV. 13:3-4)

Revelation 13:3-4

³ And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. ⁴ And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who *is* like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?

A. He Receives the Worlds Wonder

At some point during the Antichrist's reign he will die. It may be an assassination or some other form of upheaval, but he will be killed. As the world watches and mourns the death of this very popular man, a miraculous thing happens; this dead man comes back from the dead.

Remember, I told you that Satan is an imitator. In this verse we are told that Satan seeks to duplicate the the work of Christ and this man comes back to life. This man will die and come back to life again and the world will wonder after him. He has the world right where he wants it; eating out of the palm of his hand.

B. He Receives the Worlds Worship

The citizens of the world will be taken in after this person comes back to life. They will be so caught up in the power, the glory and wonder of the Antichrist that they will actually give him their worship! The world will bow before this hellish king and give him what they have steadfastly refused to give God.

Just as God receives the worship of man through His Son the Lord Jesus Christ; Satan will receive the worship of men through the Antichrist. He will be getting what he has always wanted. Men will worship the Beast and the devil.

3. THE ACTIVITIES OF THE BEAST (REV. 13:5-8)

Revelation 13:5-8

⁵ And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty *and* two months. ⁶ And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. ⁷ And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. ⁸ 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.

A. He Defies God (5,6)

The Anti-Christ will probably be a great orator. He will be able to move the masses with the power of his tongue.

Hitler once said, "***You say something long enough and loud enough and people will eventually believe you.***" By his words, he stirred up a nation and convinced them that they could rule the world. He convinced the German people that they were superior to all others. Hitler's words brought about unbelievable suffering and numbers of deaths.

B. He Destroys the Saints (7a)

Antichrist will make it his mission to seek out and destroy anyone who still worships God. There will be people saved during the Tribulation. These people will become the focus of the Antichrist's intense hatred of God.

C. He Dominates the Nations (7b)

The Antichrist will rule the world! Every nation will come under his power and domination. He will be the ultimate world ruler. He will be the king of the world!

D. He Deceives the Masses (8)

This verse is crystal clear! Every person who is not saved by god's grace will eventually bow in worship if Satan and his superman

Notice that these worshipers are called "***all that dwell upon the earth***". The word "***dwell***" means "***to settle down***".

This phrase refers to people who have chosen to make this world their home. They have decided that they aren't interested in Heaven or in anything God can offer them. They have staked all their hopes and their futures in this world. They want the world and God allows them their choice! He lets them have it, with all the consequences that come with such a decision.

Close:

The final two verses of our text have a special message for us today.

Revelation 13:9-10

⁹ If any man have an ear, let him hear. ¹⁰ He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

A similar statement has been used several times in the book before. (**Rev. 2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22**)

Revelation 2:7

⁷ He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

Revelation 2:11

¹¹ He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

Revelation 2:17

¹⁷ He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth *it*.

Revelation 2:29

²⁹ He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Revelation 3:6

⁶ He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Revelation 3:13

¹³ He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Revelation 3:22

²² He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

As we read these verses carefully you will find that they say, "***He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches***".

Notice what two things are missing from this verse. The "***Spirit***" and the "***churches***".

Both the Spirit and the church were removed from the world at the Rapture. The age of grace has ended and the world is in the grip of the Great Tribulation.

When God speaks here, He does not warn His people, He warns the earth dwellers, but it is too late for them to repent. They are locked in to their choice and they will worship the Beast and they will die and go to Hell.

The "***patience and faith of the saints***" is the knowledge that in the end, Satan and Antichrist will be defeated. In that day, God and righteousness will reign.