Note: Notice below how Revelation 13 and Daniel 3 are parallel chapters.

Daniel 3

-Image to the king

-Forced worship

-Death penalty

-image set up

-Image = authority of the king

-Faith of 3 worthies -worship used 11 times Revelation 13

-Image to the beast

-Forced worship

-Death penalty

-image set up

-Mark = authority of the beast

-Faith of God's people

-worship used 4 times

What will the land beast eventually speak like? Revelation 13:12,
15-16

Note: A nation speaks through its legislative body or law. One day, the Bible tells us that America will speak (legislate) like the dragon (Satan). In other words America (land beast) will team up with the Papacy (sea beast) and pass a law that closely resembles the law that was passed in Daniel 3.

11. How is the image of the beast set up? Revelation 13:15-17

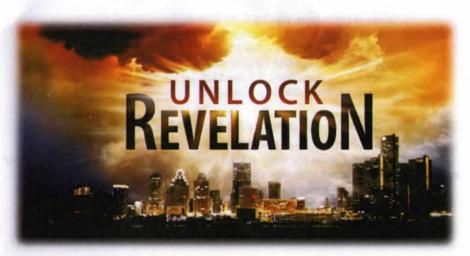
Note: The land beast (America) becomes the sword (military power) in the hand of the sea beast (Papacy) to cause the people who dwell on the earth to receive the mark of the beast (legislated/forced Sunday worship). How could this be possible in places like America? The post 9/11 world we live in is a different place. People today would rather be safe than totally free.

12. What did Jesus say would happen to his people? Luke 21:10-12

Note: In times of economic chaos and political upheaval, could it be that Sunday legislation will be seen as the answer to waning moral values?

13. How does the Bible describe true reformation? 2Chronicles 7:14

MY CHOICE: I want to turn the Lord God of heaven and pledge allegiance to the Lamb of God and be faithful to Him and His word in these last days.



Lesson #17 The United States in Prophecy

Does Revelation describe the rise of America into the world superpower it is today? Does Revelation show how America fits into the scheme of end time events? Wouldn't it be curious if the Bible did not describe the U.S. in prophecy? The reason being: The spotlight of Bible prophecy follows God's people. Much of gospel missionary work in the world today comes from the United States, the land of the free.

1. What did Jesus say the truth does for those who hear it? John 8:32

Note: If the truth makes us free then not knowing the truth brings bondage. Jesus died so that we could know the truth and be truly free (see John 8:36).

"Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." Amendment 1 of the U.S. Constitution

Our country was built on principles of religious freedom. This was the original purpose for America, a church without a Pope and a state without a king. Could it be that one day these principles will be challenged?

2. How do two beasts become friends? Revelation 13 (read whole chapter)

Note: In our last study we discussed the mark of the beast. We discovered who the beast is in lesson 13. Here is a brief recap. The Bible identifies the beast/antichrist as the Roman Catholic Church State.

- 1. Comes out of Europe. Dan 7:8 & Rev 13:1-2
- 2. Would be a world-wide religious power. Dan 7:23-24; Rev 13:8
- 3. Blasphemes God. Dan 7:25; Rev 13:5
- 4. A persecuting power. Dan 7:21, 25; Rev 13:7
- 5. Rules for 1260 years. Dan 7:25; Rev 13:5
- 6. Attempts to change God's Law. Dan 7:25

We saw that the beast has a mark of authority. The Catholic Church claims that their mark of authority is the transference of Sabbath to Sunday.

"The church is above the Bible, and this transference of Sabbath observance is proof of that fact" Catholic Record of London, Ontario Sept 1, 1923.

How could this mark be enforced at end time?

3. What did John see coming up out of the sea? Revelation 13:1-2

Note: Daniel 7 describes this scene in similar language. John sees a composite beast made up of a leopard, bear, and a lion. In Daniel 7:2-7, Daniel sees: lion, bear, leopard, and dreadful beast. Daniel was looking into the future and John was looking back to the past. The composite beast is papal Rome.

4. What did the sea beast receive? Revelation 13:3, 10

Note: Napoleon wanted to take over Europe so he sent his general Berthier into the Vatican to take the pope prisoner. This took place on 02/15/1798.

"The murder of a Frenchman in Rome in 1798 gave the French an excuse for occupying the Eternal City and putting an end to the Papal temporal power. The aged Pontiff himself was carried off into exile to Valence. The enemies of the Church rejoiced. The last Pope they declared had resigned and died in captivity."Dr. Philip Schaff, Church History, Vol. 4, p. 24

5. When did the beast with lamb-like horns rise up? Revelation 13:11

Note: The second beast was rising up in the same time frame that the first beast received its deadly wound, which was 02/15/1798 by Napoleon.

6. Where did the two beasts rise up from? Revelation 13:1, 11

Note: Remember that the sea = population (see Rev 17:15). If the sea = population then the earth = sparse population. So the land beast would

come up in a relatively unpopulated area of the world.

7. What was on the horns of the sea beast? Revelation 13:1

Note: Notice there are no crowns on the horns of the land beast. That must mean that this new power that's coming up is not a monarchy. The two horns on the second beast represent civil & religious liberty.

8. How much influence would the land beast gain? Revelation 13:12

Note: Apparently the land beast would grow up to have major influence on the world. So who is this land beast? This power can be none other than the United States of America.

- 1. Rises around 1798. Rev 13:10-11
- 2. Rises in a relatively unpopulated area of the world. Rev 13:11
- 3. It would be a young nation. Rev 13:11
- 4. Not be ruled by a king. Rev 13:11
- 5. Achieves worldwide power and influence. Rev 13:12
- 1. Comes to power around 1798. It helps the wounded beast. This could only be describing The United States of America. On July 2, 1776 the second continental congress declared independence from Great Brittan. Just two days later the revered document, The Declaration of Independence penned mostly by Thomas Jefferson was accepted on July 4 1776, giving birth to this young nation.
- 2. Arises in an unpopulated area. Only an estimated one million Indians lived on 3 million square miles that would later be called the U.S. So it can be said that this nation arose out of the "earth."
- 3. Has Christ-like principles in division of power. No crowned authority and church and state are separated. The constitution was written in 1789. A portion of that monumental document states, "Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." The Declaration of Independence states: "We hold these truths to be self evident that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." This land was founded with church and state separated giving its inhabitants freedom of religion.
- 4. Is a young nation. Not taken over by war, it was founded by settlers. America's birthday is 07/04/1776; just 22 years before the papal power received it's deadly wound in 1798. America was in it's infancy at that time.
- 5. Grows to a position of worldwide power and influence. Undoubtedly the U.S. is reached the status as a world super power.