

Precept study on Revelation Part 4, Lesson 3: The Beast

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1 1 John 2:18-23

18 Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that **antichrist** is coming, even now many **antichrists** have appeared; from this we know that it is the last hour. 19 **They** went out from us, but **they** were not really of us; for if **they** had been of us, **they** would have remained with us; but **they** went out, so that it would be shown that **they** all are not of us. 20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you all know. 21 I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it, and because no lie is of the truth. 22 Who is **the liar** but **the one** who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the **antichrist**, **the one** who denies the Father and the Son. 23 Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father; the one who confesses the Son has the Father also.

- **where he comes from:** *they* went out from us (plural)
- **what he does:** lies, denies the Father and the Son
- **NOTES:** no lie is of the truth.

2 1 John 4:1-6

4 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. 2 By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God; 3 and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the spirit of the **antichrist**, of which you have heard that **it** is coming, and now **it** is already in the world. 4 You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world. 5 They are from the world; therefore they speak as from the world, and the world listens to them. 6 We are from God; he who knows God listens to us; he who is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

- **where he comes from:** the spirit of the antichrist is coming, and is already in the world
- **what he does:** he is the spirit of error, or based on the spirit of error

3 2 John 1-9

7 For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is the **deceiver** and the **antichrist**. 8 Watch yourselves, that you do not lose what we have accomplished, but that you may receive a full reward. 9 Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son.

- **what he does:** deceiver

4 Revelation 11:7

11:7 When they have finished their testimony, the **beast** that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them. 8 And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which mystically is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified. 9 Those from the peoples and tribes and tongues and nations will look at their dead bodies for three and a half days, and will not permit their dead bodies to be laid in a tomb. 10 And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and celebrate; and they will send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

- **time:** at the end of the 3.5 years of the testimony of the 2 witnessess
- **where he comes from:** up out of the abyss
- **what he does:** makes war with the 2 witnessess, overcomes them, and kills them.
- **the people's response to him:** the people rejoice and send gifts to one another after the beast kills the 2 witnesses
- **who are his associates:** those who dwell on the earth rejoice after he kills the 2 witnesses

5 Revelation 13:1-6

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 diadems, and on **his** heads were blasphemous names. 2 And the **beast** which 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. 3 I saw one of **his** heads as if it had been slain, and **his** fatal wound was healed. And the whole earth was amazed and followed after the **beast**; 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**?" 5 There was given to **him** a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for forty-two months was given to **him**. 6 And he opened **his** mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, that is, those who dwell in heaven.

- **time:** after the dragon is thrown down from heaven and stands on the sand of the seashore.
- **where he comes from:** up out of the sea
- **what he does:** given authority to act
- **what he looks like:** 10 horns, 7 heads, and 10 diadems on the horns. on his heads were blasphemous names. like a leopard, feet like a bear, mouth like a lion. One head as if slain. Fatal wound healed.
- **what he says:** given a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies. He blasphemes God, His name, His tabernacle (those who dwell in heaven)
- **where his power comes from:** the dragon gives him his power, throne, and great authority.
- **how long will he remain:** given authority for 42 months
- **the people's response to him:** whole earth amazed, followed the beast. worshiped the dragon because the dragon gave authority to the beast. worshiped the beast. "who is like the beast? who can wage war with him?"
- **who are his associates:** the dragon gives him his authority, the whole earth worships him

6 Revelation 13:7-10

7 It was also given to **him** to make war with the saints and to overcome them, and authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation was given to **him**. 8 All who dwell on the earth will worship **him**, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who has been slain. 9 If anyone has an ear, let him hear. 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.

- **time:** same as above – after the dragon thrown down, and the beast comes up out of the sea.
- **what he does:** makes war with the saints, overcomes them. either the beast or someone else: takes captives, kills with the sword.
- **where his power comes from:** given authority over every tribe, people, tongue, nation
- **the people's response to him:** All who dwell on earth worship him (those not in book of life). By contrast, the saints persevere under his war against them.
- **who are his associates:** All who dwell on earth worship him (those not in book of life).

7 Revelation 13:11-18

11 Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb and he spoke as a dragon. 12 He exercises all the authority of the **first beast** in **his** presence. And he makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the **first beast**, whose fatal wound was healed. 13 He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven to the earth in the presence of men. 14 And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the **beast**, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the **beast** who had the wound of the sword and has come to life. 15 And it was given to him to give breath to the image of the **beast**, so that the image of the **beast** would even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the **beast** to be killed. 16 And he causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to be given a mark on their right hand or on their forehead, 17 and he provides that no one will be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, either 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 the number is that of a man; and **his** number is six hundred and sixty-six.

- **time:** another beast (the false prophet) comes up out of the earth, after the first beast.
- **what he does:** The 2nd beast performs deceiving signs in the presence of the 1st beast. The 2nd beast tells those who dwell on the earth to make an image of the 1st beast. The 2nd beast causes all (small, great, rich, poor, free, slaves) to take the mark of the 1st beast.
- **what he looks like:** Has a fatal wound which was healed. wound of the sword, has come to life. His number is 666.
- **what he says:** 2nd beast given authority to give breath to the image of the 1st beast, which then speaks and causes those who do not worship the image to be killed.
- **where his power comes from:** the 2nd beast exercises all the authority of the 1st beast, in his presence.
- **the people's response to him:** 2nd beast forces the earth to worship the first beast. 2nd beast tells those who dwell on the earth to make an image of the first beast. Killed if they do not worship the image of the 1st beast. All people must take mark of the 1st beast, in order to buy or sell.
- **who are his associates:** the 2nd beast (the false prophet). all people (small/great, rich/poor, free/slave) given his mark.

8 Revelation 14:9-11

9 Then another angel, a third one, followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the **beast** and **his** image, and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand, 10 he also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed in full strength in the cup of His anger; and he will be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. 11 And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever; they have no rest day and night, those who worship the **beast** and **his** image, and whoever receives the mark of **his** name."

- **what he does:** (implicitly) accepts worship, and also worship of his image.
- **the people's response to him:** Warned that if they worship the beast and his image, and receives the mark of the beast, then they will drink the wine of God's wrath. They will be tormented with fire, forever and ever.

9 Revelation 15:2-4

2 And I saw something like a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had been victorious over the **beast** and **his** image and the number of **his** name, standing on the sea of glass, holding harps of God. 3 And they sang the song of Moses, the bond-servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying,

"Great and marvelous are Your works,
O Lord God, the Almighty;
Righteous and true are Your ways,
King of the nations!
4 "Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Your name?
For You alone are holy;
For all the nations will come and worship before You,
For Your righteous acts have been revealed."

- **time:** after the saints' victory over the beast
- **what he does:** (implicit contrast): God's ways are righteous, true, holy. God's acts are righteous, his works great and marvelous. God's name will be glorified, not the beast's.
- **his power:** (implicitly) it is possible to be victorious over the beast, his image, his number, and his name.
- **the people's response to him:** (implicitly) contrast the awe that the unrighteous have for the beast, with the proper fear of God.

10 Revelation 16

16:1 Then I heard a loud voice from the temple, saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out on the earth the seven bowls of the wrath of God."

2 So the first angel went and poured out his bowl on the earth; and it became a loathsome and malignant sore on the people who had the mark of the **beast** and who worshiped **his** image.

...

10 Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the **beast**, and **his** kingdom became darkened; and they gnawed their tongues because of pain, 11 and they blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores; and they did not repent of their deeds.

...

13 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; 14 for they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty. 15 ("Behold, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who stays awake and keeps his clothes, so that he will not walk about naked and men will not see his shame.") 16 And they gathered them together to the place which in Hebrew is called Har-Magedon.

- **time:** The bowls are poured out: referred to in 3 of the 7 bowls (1, 5, and 6)
- **what he does:** An unclean spirit like a frog comes out of his mouth. A spirit of a demon, performing signs, gathering the kings of the world for the war of the great day of God, at Har-Magedon.
- **where his power comes from:** His throne and his kingdom are darkened.
- **the people's response to him:** Bowl 1: People who had the mark and who worship the beast receive malignant sores. Bowl 5: The same people gnaw their tongues from pain, blaspheme God, but do not repent. Bowl 6: kings of the earth gathered by the beast's spirit-frog for war.
- **who are his associates:** the people with the mark of the beast. The dragon, the false prophet, and the unclean frog-spirits. The kings of the earth and their armies.

11 Revelation 17:1-6

1 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters, 2 with whom the kings of the earth committed acts of immorality, and those who dwell on the earth were made drunk with the wine of her immorality." 3 And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness; and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet **beast**, full of blasphemous names, having seven heads and ten horns. 4 The woman was clothed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a gold cup full of abominations and of the unclean things of her immorality, 5 and on her forehead a name was written, a mystery, "BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." 6 And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus. When I saw her, I wondered greatly.

- **time:** during or just after the 7 bowls are poured out.
- **what he does:** carries the harlot Babylon
- **what he looks like:** scarlet color, full of blasphemous names, 7 heads, 10 horns.
- **who are his associates:** the harlot Babylon sits on him.

12 Revelation 17:7-18

7 And the angel said to me, "Why do you wonder? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the **beast** that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns. "The **beast** that you saw was, and is not, and is about to come up out of the abyss and go to destruction. And those who dwell on the earth, whose name has not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, will wonder when they see the **beast**, that **he** was and is not and will come. 9 Here is the mind which has wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits, 10 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. 11 The **beast** which was and is not, is himself also an eighth and is one of the seven, and **he** goes to destruction. 12 The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they receive authority as kings with the **beast** for one hour. 13 These have one purpose, and they give their power and authority to the **beast**. 14 **These** will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, because He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those who are with Him are the called and chosen and faithful." 15 And he said to me, "The waters which you saw where the harlot sits, are peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues. 16 And the ten horns which you saw, and the **beast**, **these** will hate the harlot and will make her desolate and naked, and will eat her flesh and will burn her up with fire. 17 For God has put it in **their** hearts to execute His purpose by having a common purpose, and by giving their kingdom to the **beast**, until the words of God will be fulfilled. 18 The woman whom you saw is the great city, which reigns over the kings of the earth."

- **time:** during or just after the 7 bowls.
- **where he comes from:** the abyss.
- **where he is going:** to destruction.
- **what he does:** an 8th king, one of the 7. He receives the power and authority of the 10 kings. The 10 kings (and the beast?) wage war against the Lamb and be overcome by the Lamb. The 10 horns and the beast hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.
- **what he looks like:** the 10 horns of the beast are 10 kings who are given authority with the beast for one hour.
- **where his power comes from:** God puts it into the hearts of the 10 kings and the beast to hate the harlot, to execute His purpose.
- **how long will he remain:** was, is not, and is about to come. This is written 3 times so it must be very important.
- **the people's response to him:** those not written in the book of life will wonder when they see the beast.
- **who are his associates:** the harlot Babylon, the 10 kings and their armies.

12.1 Revelation 19:11-21

11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war. 12 His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems; and He has a name written on Him which no one knows except Himself. 13 He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses. 15 From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. 16 And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

17 Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds which fly in midheaven, "Come, assemble for the great supper of God, 18 so that you may eat the flesh of kings and the flesh of commanders and the flesh of mighty men and the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them and the flesh of all men, both free men and slaves, and small and great." 19 And I saw the **beast** and the kings of the earth and their armies assembled to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. 20 And the **beast** was seized, and with **him** the false prophet who performed the signs in **his** presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the **beast** and those who worshiped **his** image; **these two** were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone. 21 And the rest were killed with the sword which came from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse, and all the birds were filled with their flesh.

- **time:** When Jesus returns, on a white horse with His robe dipped in blood, and the beast and the kings of the earth gather to wage war against the Lamb and His army.
- **where he is going:** Thrown alive into the lake of fire
- **what he does:** Very little ... The beast assembles the kings of the earth and their armies. Attempts to wage war against the Lamb, but he gets seized. No record of any resistance. The beast is thrown alive, along with the false prophet (2nd beast) into the lake of fire.
- **the people's response to him:** The kings and their armies follow the beast. They are deceived by the false prophet and have received the mark and worship the image of the beast. The people are killed by the sword of Him who sat on the white horse, and the birds are filled with their flesh.
- **who are his associates:** the kings of the earth and their armies, and the false prophet.

13 Summary of the characteristics of the Beast

13.1 time:

- The beast is active at the end of the 3.5 years of the testimony of the 2 witnessess (Rev 11:7).
- In Rev 13:1-6, the beast comes out of the sea after the dragon is thrown down from heaven and stands on the sand of the seashore.
- Later in Chapter 13, another beast (the false prophet) comes up out of the earth, after the first beast.
- In Rev 15:2-4 is after the saints' victory over the beast.
- Then the beast is present in Rev 16 when the bowls are poured out (3 of the 7 bowls: 1, 5, and 6). In Rev 17, the harlot Babylon is judged, during or just after the 7 bowls are poured out. In these chapters, the harlot sits on the beast, and is then destroyed by the beast.
- Finally, in Rev 19 the beast is thrown alive into the lake of fire when Jesus returns.

13.2 where he comes from:

- In Revelation 11:7: up out of the abyss.
- In Rev 13:1: up out of he sea.
- In Rev 17:8: the abyss.

13.3 where he is going:

- In Rev 17:8: to destruction.
- In Rev 19:20: thrown alive into the lake of fire.

13.4 what he does:

- In 1 John 2: lies, denies the Father and the Son
- In 1 John 4: he is the spirit of error, or based on the spirit of error
- In 2 John: deceiver
- In Rev 11:7: makes war with the 2 witnessess, overcomes them, and kills them.
- In Rev 13:1: given authority to act.
- In Rev 13:7: makes war with the saints, overcomes them; either the beast or someone else: takes captives, kills with the sword.

- In Rev 13:11: The 2nd beast performs deceiving signs in the presence of the 1st beast. The 2nd beast tells those who dwell on the earth to make an image of the 1st beast. The 2nd beast causes all (small, great, rich, poor, free, slaves) to take the mark of the 1st beast.
- In Rev 14:9: (implicitly) accepts worship, and also worship of his image.
- In Re 15:2: (implicit contrast): God's ways are righteous, true, holy. God's acts are righteous, his works great and marvelous. God's name will be glorified, not the beast's.
- In Rev 16: An unclean spirit like a frog comes out of his mouth. A spirit of a demon, performing signs, gathering the kings of the world for the war of the great day of God, at Har-Magedon.
- In Rev 17:3: carries the harlot Babylon
- In Rev 17:8-18: the beast is an 8th king, one of the 7. He receives the power and authority of the 10 kings. The 10 kings (and the beast?) wage war against the Lamb and be overcome by the Lamb. The 10 horns and the beast hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.
- Finally, in Rev 19, the beast does very little ... The beast assembles the kings of the earth and their armies. Attempts to wage war against the Lamb, but he gets seized. No record of any resistance. The beast is thrown alive, along with the false prophet (2nd beast) into the lake of fre.

13.5 what he looks like:

- In Rev 13:1: 10 horns, 7 heads, and 10 diadems on the horns. on his heads were blasphemous names. like a leopard, feet like a bear, mouth like a lion. One head as if slain. Fatal wound healed.
- In Rev 13:11: Has a fatal wound which was healed. wound of the sword, has come to life. His number is 666.
- In Rev 17:1: scarlet color, full of blasphemous names, 7 heads, 10 horns.
- In Rev 17:8: the 10 horns of the beast are 10 kings who are given authority with the beast for one hour.

13.6 what he says:

- In Rev 13:1: given a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies. He blasphemes God, His name, His tabernacle (those who dwell in heaven)
- In Rev 13:11: 2nd beast given authority to give breath to the image of the 1st beast, which then speaks and causes those who do not worship the image to be killed.

13.7 where his power comes from:

- 1 John 4: the spirit of the antichrist is coming, and is already in the world
- In Rev 13:1ff: the dragon gives him his power, throne, and great authority.
- In Rev 13:7ff: given authority over every tribe, people, tongue, nation
- In Rev 13:11ff: the 2nd beast exercises all the authority of the 1st beast, in his presence.
- In Rev 16: his throne and his kingdom are darkened by the 5th bowl.
- In Rev 17: God puts it into the hearts of the 10 kings and the beast to hate the harlot, to execute His purpose.

13.8 how long will he remain:

- In Rev 13: given authority for 42 months
- In Rev 17:8: was, is not, and is about to come. This is written 3 times so it must be very important.

13.9 the people's response to him:

- In Rev 11:7: the people rejoice and send gifts to one another after the beast kills the 2 witnesses
- In Revelation 13:1-6: whole earth amazed, followed the beast. worshiped the dragon because the dragon gave authority to the beast. worshiped the beast. "who is like the beast? who can wage war with him?"
- In Rev 13:7: All who dwell on earth worship him (those not in book of life). By contrast, the saints persevere under his war against them.
- In Rev 13:11ff: 2nd beast forces the earth to worship the first beast. 2nd beast tells those who dwell on the earth to make an image of the first beast. Killed if they do not worship the image of the 1st beast. All people must take mark of the 1st beast, in order to buy or sell.
- In Rev 14:9ff: Warned that if they worship the beast and his image, and receives the mark of the beast, then they will drink the wine of God's wrath. They will be tormented with fire, forever and ever.
- In Rev 15: (implicitly) contrast the awe that the unrighteous have for the beast, with the proper fear of God.
- In Rev 16: Bowl 1: People who had the mark and who worship the beast receive malignant sores. Bowl 5: The same people gnaw their tongues from pain, blaspheme God, but do not repent. Bowl 6: kings of the earth gathered by the beast's spirit-frog for war.
- In Rev 17:8ff: those not written in the book of life will wonder when they see the beast.

- In Rev 19:11ff: The kings and their armies follow the beast. They are deceived by the false prophet and have received the mark and worship the image of the beast. The people are killed by the sword of Him who sat on the white horse, and the birds are filled with their flesh.

13.10 who are his associates:

- in Rev 11: those who dwell on the earth rejoice after he kills the 2 witnesses
- In Rev 13:1ff: the dragon gives him his authority, the whole earth worships him
- In Rev 13:7ff: All who dwell on earth worship him (those not in book of life).
- In Rev 13:11ff: the 2nd beast (the false prophet). all people (small/great, rich/poor, free/slave) given his mark.
- In Rev 16: the people with the mark of the beast. The dragon, the false prophet, and the unclean frog-spirits. The kings of the earth and their armies.
- In Rev 17:1ff: the harlot Babylon sits on him.
- In Rev 17:8ff: the harlot Babylon, the 10 kings and their armies.
- In Rev 19:11ff: the kings of the earth and their armies, and the false prophet.