

Lesson 11: *The Beast From the Earth*

Thursday, June 13, 2024

Ryan Day

Read Revelation 13:11–18. How does this second beast differ from the first beast of Revelation 13?

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 13:11-18***

1. **Out of the Earth**—Sparsely populated region
2. **It rises around 1798**—(Declaration of Independence 1776, Constitution 1789)
3. **No Crowns on the Horns**—Not a royal monarchy (A republic established on democracy)
4. **Two horns**—represent kingdom power/authority (Republicanism and Protestantism)
5. **Like a Lamb**—meaning somewhat Christ-like in a way
6. **Speaks as a Dragon**—deeply influenced and manipulated by Satan

"And he had two horns like a lamb.' The lamb-like horns indicate youth, innocence, and gentleness, fitly representing the character of the United States when presented to the prophet as 'coming up' in 1798."—

The Great Controversy, Pg. 441

“And the lamb-like horns, emblems of innocence and gentleness, well represent the character of our *government*, as expressed in its two fundamental principles, Republicanism and Protestantism.”—***The Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, Pg. 277*** (Political and Religious Liberty)

One cannot deny the lamb-like characteristics of this nation, especially as communicated and established in its origin.

- Declaration of Independence
- Money
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Leaders memoirs, journals, and speeches
- Monuments and buildings

But just as much as this nation may appear in some ways lamb-like, it very much begins to speak as a dragon.

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Revelation 13:12-14

The enemy is preparing to deceive the whole world by his miracle-working power. He will assume to personate the angels of light, to personate Jesus Christ. So far as his power extends, he will perform actual miracles. Says the Scripture: “He ... deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he

had power to do,” not merely those which he pretends to do. Something more than mere impostures is brought to view in this scripture. But there is a limit beyond which Satan cannot go, and here he calls deception to his aid and counterfeits the work which he has not power actually to perform. In the last days he will appear in such a manner as to make men believe him to be Christ come the second time into the world. He will indeed transform himself into an angel of light. He will come personating Jesus Christ, working mighty miracles; and men will fall down and worship him as Jesus Christ. We shall be commanded to worship this being, whom the world will glorify as Christ.—***Maranatha, Pg. 207***

Satan will come in to deceive if possible the very elect. He claims to be Christ, and he is coming in, pretending to be the great medical missionary. He will cause fire to come down from heaven in the sight of men to prove that he is God.—***Last Day Events, Pg. 167***

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.—***Revelation 13:15-17***