

Daniel & Revelation End-time Prophecies Sermon Series
Study #54: Leopard-like Beast & Little Horn Link
Revelation 13:1 - 2
Bible Sermon Study Notes by Cary Rodgers, pastor

What does Jesus tell us to beware of?

Matthew 24:4, 5, 11, 24

4 And Jesus answered and said unto them, **Take heed that no man deceive you.**

5 **For many shall come in my name [Greek: character / authority], saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.**

11 **And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.**

24 **For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if *it were* possible, they shall deceive the very elect.**

How does Paul warn the church?

2 Corinthians 11:13 - 15

13 For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

15 Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

What “detective” tool do you use to know a deception?

Isaiah 8:20

20 To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, *it is* because *there is* no light in them.

Remember from our previous study: Who is the main object of Satan's attacks during the last days

Revelation 12:17

17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant [remaining ones] of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 19:10 says that, ...” for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” The spirit of prophecy reveals or testifies what Jesus has done in the past, what he is doing now and what he will do in the future.

Over the centuries as a result of Satan's relentless attacks on God's church through persecution and deception many in God's church compromised God's truth and joined the ranks of the devil though they still claimed to be followers of Jesus. This only gets worst as we get closer to the end of time, having a form of godliness, but deny the power thereof. Despite this compromise God was able to preserve His truth through the centuries through a few faithful, a remnant, the remaining ones. In the end of time God will still have a faithful few who will remain true to His word.

Satan's main attacks in the last days are directed to the “remaining ones” who keep ALL of the commandments and the gift of prophecy in these last days. He will do ALL in his power to overcome the remnant. Are you a remnant? Have you made that decision yet? Things are about to heat up to another level. Prayer, study, and obedience are vital for total victory over the Enemy. Satan's strategy of persecution and deception have not changed.

The 5th vision that started in Revelation 12 continues in chapter 13.

What does the Prophet John see in vision at the beginning of Revelation chapter 13?

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**.

It is apparently clear that Revelation 13 is symbolic because there are no beasts in God's literal animal kingdom that look like this.

What are the features of this symbolic beast and what does it all mean? Let's look at this prophetic picture of art that Jesus paints and see what God is revealing to us in the prophetic painting!

Summary of physical description of leopard-like beast of Revelation 13

- Seven Heads
- Ten Horns with Ten Crowns
- Leopard body
- Feet like bear
- Mouth like a lion

What do beasts in Bible prophecy represent?

To clearly answer this question we must use Revelation's prophetic sister book, Daniel. Note that many prophecies revealed in either books are related and confirm each other. In many cases, comparing prophecies found in both books expand our understanding. Matter of fact, we will see that the beast described in Revelation chapter 13 is directly related to the end time prophecies in Daniel.

Daniel 7:2 - 7

In Daniel 7:2-7, the prophet Daniel in vision saw four beasts come out of the sea. The first beast was described as a lion with eagle's wings that stood up on two feet. The second was described as a bear with three ribs in his mouth. The third was described as a leopard with four heads and four bird wings. The fourth beast was described as dreadful, terrible, and exceedingly strong with iron teeth and ten horns. You will not find any of these animals at the zoo. The descriptions of the four beasts coming out of the sea in Daniel's vision are symbolic. More details later.

When you compare Daniel's description of the four beasts to the leopard-like beast of Revelation chapter 13, you notice that the leopard-like beast has some of the same features as all four beasts in Daniel chapter 7.

At the end of Daniel chapter 7, Daniel is given the symbolic meaning of what these beasts represent.

Daniel 7:16, 17, & 23

16 I came near unto one of them that stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me, and made me know the interpretation of the things.

17 These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth.

23 Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.

Kings are over kingdoms or nations. So, in general, beasts in Bible prophecy are symbolic for kingdoms or nations.

Prophetic Symbol: BEASTS = KINGDOMS / NATIONS

This answers the first clue of the leopard-like beast of Revelation chapter 13: it represents a kingdom or nation.

This will be confirmed as we study the other features of the leopard-like beast.

REVELATION 13 BEAST

Features
1. Dragon gives him power, seat, and GREAT authority
2. Name of Blasphemy on each head
3. Rise up out of the sea
4. Body like a Leopard, feet like a Bear and mouth like a lion
5. Seven Heads
6. Ten Horns with Ten Crowns

Let's look at these features for understanding of who this Leopard like Beast of Revelation 13 is

Feature 1: **Dragon gives the beast power, seat, and GREAT authority.**

Who is the Dragon? Satan and his persecuting character.

Satan as a persecutor to God's people gives **this beast** power, seat, and GREAT authority

Definitions

Power (Greek) = Force (enforcement) with power to perform "miracles"

Seat (Greek) = Stately seat which are governmental powers over people

GREAT authority = Jurisdiction or territory of rulership with judicial powers

In other words, the beast is a governmental power that has rights to enforce their laws on a great territory of people. Since the Dragon, Satan, empowers the beast, it is obvious that he will use the beast to persecute God's people.

Feature 2: **Name of Blasphemy of each head**

Blasphemy is slander or wicked speech or deliberate actions against God.

Blasphemy is also applied to humans trying to take on the roles, acts, and privileges of God that only belong to Him.

For example, the Jewish leaders charged Jesus for blasphemy because He revealed that He is divine.

John 10:31 - 33

31 Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him.

32 Jesus answered them, **Many good works have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me?**

33 The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; **but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God.**

But the Bible is clear that the Jewish leaders were wrong in their charge against Jesus, because Jesus is God! He is the second person of the Godhead.

Also on another occasion Jesus publicly forgave a man from his sins, and the Pharisees charged him of blasphemy.

Luke 5:20, 21

20 And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, **Man, thy sins are forgiven thee.**

21 And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this which speaketh blasphemies? **Who can forgive sins, but God alone?**

Again, Jesus is God so those charges do not apply to him, BUT if any human claims privileges, rights, titles, acts, position, or roles that only belong to God, that person is guilty of blasphemy.

In addition, according to Webster's Dictionary 1828 series, "Blasphemy is an injury offered to God, by denying that which is due and belonging to him, or attributing to him that which is not agreeable to his nature."

Blasphemy is twofold: 1) It is attributing to man the rights that only belong to God; 2) it is also attributing to God things that directly contradict God's character and misrepresent Bible truth.

Notice again that the name of blasphemy is on the heads of the beast of Revelation chapter 13. Behind your forehead is the frontal lobe of the brain. This is where your decisions are made and your character is formed.

The name of the beast reveals that its character is blasphemous against God making claims and entitlements that ONLY belong to God.

In summary, the leopard-like beast of Revelation chapters 13 and 14 is a nation and blasphemous religious power, that is empowered by Satan to control and enforce laws on a great territory of people. They also claim to have "miraculous" powers. In other words, the leopard like beast in Revelation 13 has a form of godliness. It is a false church system powered by Satan with religious and governmental power.

Feature 3: Rise up out of the sea**What does the sea, a great body of water, represent in Bible prophecy?**

Revelation 17:15

15 And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues."

Prophetic Symbol: SEA = MULTITUDE OF PEOPLE THAT SPEAK MANY LANGUAGES

The leopard-like beast of Revelation chapter 13 rose to power from a territory that has many people and speaks many languages.

Feature 4: Body like a Leopard, feet like a Bear, and mouth like a Lion.

These features reveal more about the character and actions of the leopard-like beast.

Leopard's Body

The body of the beast is like the spots of the leopard that can camouflage its deceptive and destructive purposes among people.

Bear's Feet

Bears, especially the polar bears, are known to track and claim large territories. Their feet give off a scent marking their territory. The claws on the feet of a grizzly bear are very intimidating up to 4 inches long! The leopard-like beast of Revelation chapter 13, like the feet of a bear, covers large territories; its scent of influence is known everywhere it goes; and its power is very intimidating and destructive like the claws of a grizzly bear.

Lion's Mouth

A lion's roar can be heard up to 5 miles or more. The lion is known as the "king of the jungle" because of his roar and power to kill its prey. Like a mouth of the lion, when the beast of Revelation chapter 13 speaks, it is heard by many people. It claims to be the "king" of all, which is another attribute of its blasphemous character. Only Jesus is "King of kings."

Proverbs 28:15

gives us a perfect description of the beast. It says, "**As a roaring lion, and a ranging bear; so is a wicked ruler over the poor people.**"

The beast who is empowered by Satan has the same characteristics of Satan. Like Satan, the beast is very unassuming, sneaky, and deceptive; covers large territory; is destructive and intimidating; and thinks it is the king over the world.

Beast and Little Horn Comparison

In Daniel chapter 7, the same leopard-like beast in Revelation chapter 13 is depicted as a "little horn" with the same exact characteristics. In a previous part of this study we summarized Daniel 7:1-7, now let's read Daniel 7:1-8 in its entirety.

What did Daniel see in Daniel chapter 7 that links to the beast of Revelation 13:1, 2?

Daniel 7:1-8

- 1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters.
- 2 Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea.
- 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.

Similarities between Revelation 13:1, 2 and Daniel 7:1-8

Let's compare some similarities between Daniel 7:1-8 and the beast of Revelation 13:1, 2

Daniel sees four great beasts come out of the sea different from one another:

1. Lion with eagle's wings
2. Bear with 3 ribs in its mouth
3. Leopard with four wings and four heads
4. A dreadful beast that had 10 horns.
5. Among the 10 horns a little horn grew out of the beast speaking great things.

Remember, sea or a body of water in Bible prophecy represent peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.

The four beasts in Daniel chapter 7 and the beast in Revelation chapter 13 are all kingdoms that rose to power among a body of nations with multitudes of people that speak different languages.

The beast of Revelation chapter 13 is a summarized combination of all four beasts of Daniel chapter 7 in character: the lion, bear, leopard, and dreadful beast with 10 horns. The beast of Revelation chapter 13 is similar. It has a lion's mouth, bear's feet, a leopard's body, and 10 horns. The leopard-like beast of Revelation 13 is a composite of all the four beasts of Daniel 7. It has elements and characteristics of all the beasts of Daniel 7.

What do the horns on the "Dreadful fourth Beast" represent?

Daniel 7:23, 24

23 Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.

24 And the **ten horns** out of this kingdom **are ten kings** that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue **three kings**.

Horns in Bible prophecy also represent kingdoms or nations. This will be clarified more as we continue.

Like the 10 horns on the dreadful beast in Daniel 7 there are also 10 horns on the beast in Revelation 13

But when we go back to Daniel 7 we learn a little more about this little horn because it links us back to Revelation 13.

This is where it gets very interesting. The little horn in Daniel 7:8 and the beast in Revelation 13:5 have the same exact personality and character. Why? We will see they are actually the same kingdom! Let's compare.

A Mouth Speaking Great Things:

Daniel 7:8 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**.

In Daniel 7:8 the little horn on the dreadful beast has "a mouth speaking great things." In Revelation 13:5 the leopard-like beast also has "a mouth speaking great things."

Great things (Hebrew)= "huge" or "domineering."

Domineering = force or control the behavior of others as an arrogant bully.

Domineering (Dictionary.com) = "inclined to rule arbitrarily or despotically; overbearing; tyrannical."

The little horn (Daniel 7) and beast (Revelation 13) is the same kingdom that rules as a bully monarch that uses tyranny or threats to control the behaviors of all its subjects. The little horn, as well as the beast of Revelation chapter 13, represents a kingdom with imperial power.

Blasphemous

Daniel 7:25

25 And he shall **speak great words against the most High**, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

In Daniel 7:25 it says that the little horn, "shall speak great words against the most High." The little horn and the beast are both blasphemous against the most High God!

In Revelation 13:1 the beast has the name blasphemy on its seven heads and in verse 5 it says that it “blasphemes” with its mouth.

Verse 6 says, “And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.”

War With The Saints

Both the little horn of Daniel 7 and the beast of Revelation 13 make “war with the saints.”

Daniel 7:21

21 I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;

Daniel 7:25

25 ...shall wear out the saints of the most High...

In Revelation 13:7 the beast also makes “war with the saints.”

Revelation 13:7

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.

Based on all we studied so far, it is clear that the little horn of Daniel 7 and the beast of Revelation 13 is the same religious-political power.

Daniel 2, 7 review

<u>Daniel 2</u>	<u>Daniel 7</u>	<u>Kingdom</u>
Head of Gold	Lion with eagle's wings	Babylon [605 B.C. To 539 B.C.]
Arms & Chest of Silver	Bear with three ribs in mouth	Mede and Persian [539 B.C. to 331 B.C.]
Belly & Thighs of Brass	Leopard 4 heads and 4 wings	Greece [331 B.C. to 168 B.C.]
Legs of Iron	Dreadful Beast	Rome [168 B.C. to 476 A.D.]
10 Toes part iron & clay	10 Horns on Dreadful Beast	Divided Europe [476 B.C to present]
Stone (Everlasting Kingdom)	Everlasting Kingdom	God's

So based on the similar characteristics that we already studied concerning the little horn of Daniel 7 and the beast of Revelation 13:

- 1) Who rose up into power among multitudes of people with many languages (Europe region)
- 2) A nation or kingdom with both governmental and religious authority
- 3) Arrogant bully that tried to control the behavior of others by persecuting God's people
- 4) As a government and religious authority blasphemes God by boastfully claiming privileges, rights, titles, acts, position, or roles that only belong to God.

2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4

3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for *that day shall not come*, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

4 Who 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.

Who is this religious-political power? Near the end of the Pagan Roman Empire the church of God which was headquartered in Rome compromised the word of God to gain popularity among the Roman empire and pagans. Through deceit of the Pagan Roman Empire which was crumbling apart in the western part of their territory, this compromised church was able to take over the former Pagan Roman Empire and establish itself as the Papal Roman Empire.

Papal Rome took the pagan ceremonies and sun worship of the former Roman Empire and put a "Christian" garment on it.

Papal Roman Empire had full governmental powers and religious authority over its people. The leader of Papal Rome is known as the Pope. He is both king and religious leader.

The Pope and Papal Rome blasphemes God's name by claiming titles, roles, rights and privileges that ONLY belong to God.

Examples:

"The Pope is not only the representative of Jesus Christ, but he is Jesus himself, hidden under the veil of flesh." The Catholic National 1895

"He is the infallible ruler... the supreme judge of heaven and earth, the judge of all, being judged by no one, God himself on earth." The New York Catechism (Taken from Roman Catholicism, p. 127)

"Seek where you will, through heaven and earth, and you will find one created being who can forgive the sinner, who can free him from the chains of hell. That extraordinary being is the priest, the Roman Catholic priest." The Catholic Priest, p. 78

History reveals that Papal Roman persecuted God's people who would not submit to them. Papal Rome has a history of killing and persecuting millions of people.

The British historian, William Edward Lecky wrote: "That the Church of Rome has shed more innocent blood than any other institution that has ever existed among mankind, will be questioned by no Protestant who has a competent knowledge of history."- The History of the Rise of the Spirit of Rationalism in Europe, Vol. 2, p. 32.

Based on the similarities of the little horn in Daniel 7 and the beast in Revelation 13 there is no doubt that they represent the Papal Roman Church Empire. The Papal Roman Church Empire ruled from 538 AD to 1798 AD, 1260 years.

Papal Roman Empire

Many historians credit Roman Emperor Constantine as the one who helped Papal Rome to gain political prominence after his questionable conversion experience to Christianity in 312 AD during the battle of the Milvian Bridge.

In 313 AD he made Christianity an official religion of the Roman Empire, led by the papacy.

In 321 AD he enforced a Sunday rest law for the purpose of bringing pagans and apostate Christians (papacy) together. The papacy was also given the right to receive gifts from the citizens of Rome in which Constantine personally donated large sums of money and land that greatly enriched the papacy. What added to the papacy's power was when Constantine relocated the capital of Rome to the eastern part of the Roman Empire, Constantinople, in 330 AD. This move allowed the papacy to fill the political void that Constantine left behind in Rome and to freely operate and grow in the western part of the Roman Empire for over 200 years. The pope, the leader of the papacy, was not only seen as one with supreme spiritual authority, but also of great political influence. In 508 AD King Clovis of the Kingdom of the Franks, later known as France on the western part of

the Roman Empire, made Roman Catholicism the official religion. Pagan Rome at this time was basically collapsing in the west. - en.wikipedia.org/wiki/508.

Six kings in Europe followed King Clovis' example, but three refused to submit to the rising Papal authority. As a result, as prophecy foretold in Daniel 7, three of the 10 horns were plucked up: Heruli in 493 AD, the Vandals in 534 AD, and the Ostrogoths in 538 AD. In 533 AD the Roman Emperor Justinian (in eastern Rome) declared the Bishop of Rome Supreme bishop of all the churches. 538 AD marks the establishment of Papal Rome's Empire with the defeat of the Ostrogoths.

As we studied previously our study in Daniel. Papal Rome kingdom was finally defeated in 1798 by the French. They lost their political power! It appeared that the Papal Roman Empire days were gone forever!

What prediction does Revelation 13 say about the leopard like beast, Papal Rome at the end of time?

To be continued...