

## Revelation 13

### Antichrist and the False Prophet

- Two world leaders are mentioned: (1) Political leader (2) Religious leader
- They are described as “beasts”
  - Beast out of the sea = Antichrist
  - Beast out of the earth = False Prophet

### WHO IS ANTICHRIST?

#### The name is only used by the Apostle John

- The Antichrist (John 2:18)
- Many antichrists (I John 2:18, 22)  
*He who denies Jesus is the Christ...who denies the Father and the Son (22)*
- Spirit of antichrist (I John 4:3)  
*Every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not from God.*

**There are many names for the Antichrist:** Abomination of Desolation, Man of sin, Lawless one, Idol shepherd...

### THE BEAST RISING OUT OF THE SEA IS ANTICHRIST

1. He will be the leader of the revived Roman Empire (1-2)
  - He is the non-descript beast of Daniel 7
  - He is given power by the Dragon (Devil)
2. He will rule over territory occupied by the kingdoms represented by 7 heads
  - 7 heads = 7 world-wide kingdoms: Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome, and the final kingdom of Antichrist
  - Out of the sea = bottomless pit (Revelation 11:7: 17:8; 20:1)
  - 10 horns = 10 kings – Daniel shows that Antichrist will rise up from these 10 kings (Daniel 7:16-24). This is the same as the 10 toes of Daniel’s image.
  - The beast was like a leopard (symbol of Greece), bear (Medo-Persia), lion (Babylon)
  - Summary: The Revived Roman Empire will be a confederation of 10 kings receiving power from the Beast

3. Antichrist will appear to die and experience a “miraculous” resurrection (3)
  - **Zechariah 11:17** – *A sword shall be against his arm, and against his right eye: his arm shall completely wither, and his right eye shall be totally blinded.*
4. He will be worshipped as God (4, 8, 12, 15)

**John 5:43** – *I am come in my Father’s name, and you receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him you will receive.*
5. He will possess supreme military power (4)

**Daniel 11:37-38** – *He shall regard neither the God of his fathers nor the desire of women, nor regard any god; for he shall exalt himself above them all. But in their place he shall honor a god of fortresses; and a god which his fathers did not know...thus he shall act against the strongest fortresses with a foreign god, which he shall acknowledge, and advance its glory; and he shall cause them to rule over many, and divide the land for gain.*
6. He will speak with absolute authority (5-6)

**Daniel 11:36** – *The king shall do according to his own will: he shall exalt and magnify himself above every god, shall speak blasphemies against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the wrath has been accomplished...*
7. He will be given power to persecute and overcome the saints (7)
  - The worst persecution of Christians and Jews in history
8. His power will be world-wide (8)
  - This will require the removing of borders and world-wide authority
  - Antichrist will control world commerce, laws, and monetary control
9. Antichrist will go into captivity and be killed (9-10)
  - This is assurance that God will punish Antichrist & his followers
  - Saints will endure, knowing that God will punish their enemies (**see 14:12**)

### **THE BEAST RISING OUT OF THE EARTH IS THE FALSE PROPHET**

1. The False prophet is a religious leader (11)
  - He is the head of the apostate church and world religion of Antichrist
  - **Dubai’s new worship center – Christian, Jewish, Muslim**
2. He exercise the same power as the Antichrist (12)
  - Unholy spirit
3. He causes the earth to worship the Antichrist (13-14)

- He uses miraculous deception
- 4. He causes those who will not worship the Beast to be killed (15)
  - A reinstatement of Caesar worship
- 5. He causes followers of Antichrist to receive a mark (16-18)
  - It is the purpose of the False Prophet to bring every human being under the bondage of Satan. All people will be forced to accept a visible mark of their allegiance to Satanic power

**CLOSING THOUGHTS:**

1. Although Antichrist isn't here now, the spirit of Antichrist is  
*Every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of Antichrist... (I John 4:3)*
2. The major societal problem preceding the coming of Antichrist is lawlessness  
*The mystery of lawlessness is already at work: only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed (II Thessalonians 2:7)*
3. The Antichrist and the False Prophet will be supreme masters of deception  
The only thing that can protect us from deception is the Word of God