



The False Prophet

And the Mark of the Beast



Two Beasts of Revelation

13

- The Beast from the Sea - The Antichrist - Revelation 13:1-10
- The Beast from the Earth - The False Prophet - Revelation 13:11-18

The Beast from the Earth

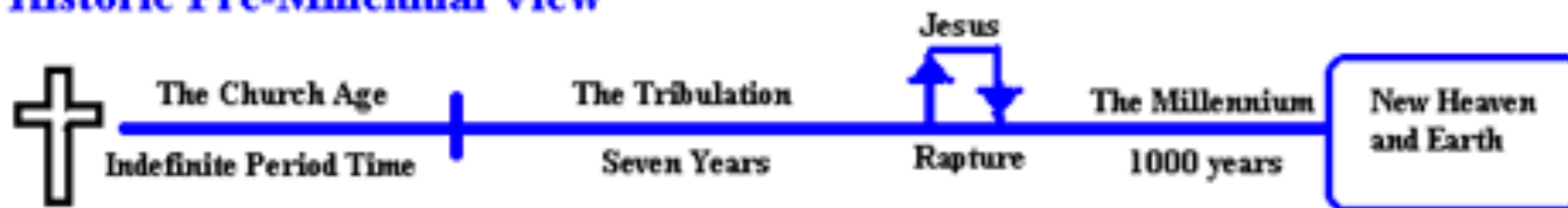
- Revelation 13:11-13 (HCSB) 11 Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth; he had two horns like a lamb, but he sounded like a dragon. 12 He exercises all the authority of the first beast on his behalf and compels the earth and those who live on it to worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was healed. 13 He also performs great signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to earth in front of people.

The Beast from the Earth

- Revelation 13:14-15 (HCSB) 4 He deceives those who live on the earth because of the signs that he is permitted to perform on behalf of the beast, telling those who live on the earth to make an image of the beast who had the sword wound and yet lived. 15 He was permitted to give a spirit to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast could both speak and cause whoever would not worship the image of the beast to be killed

END TIME VIEWPOINTS

Historic Pre-Millennial View



Amillennial View



Postmillennial View



Modern Premillennial View



The Preterist Amillennial/Postmillennial View of the False Prophet

- Preterists are people who believe the events of Revelation happened in the first 100 years after the writing of the book of Revelation.
- Preterists emphasize the fact that this beast comes from “the earth” or “the land” —a terminology that, in some instances, implies the land of Israel.
- This beast could be Gessius Florus; he was the Roman ruler in Judea who persecuted Jews and triggered the Jewish-Roman War.
- This beast could also represent one or more of the false prophets in the years leading up to the fall of the temple in ad 70 (Matthew 24:11, 24).

The “Always Here” Amillennial/ Postmillennial View of the False Prophet

- The false prophet is a symbol of leaders in every age that try to beguile God’s people with false teachings and idolatry.
- Jesus described such persons within the community of faith as “ravenous wolves” that wear “sheep’s clothing” (Matthew 7:15).
- This beast may also take the form of external political, religious, or social pressures to give absolute allegiance to anyone other than Jesus.

The Amillennial/Postmillennial View of the False Prophet

- The beast from the earth points to social, civic, and cultural powers that may pressure God's people to submit to the Antichrist.
- In John's day, this included local governors, religious officials, and false prophets in churches who encouraged Christians to compromise their convictions and to worship the emperor.
- Most of the seven cities mentioned in Revelation 1-3 had temples and priests dedicated to Roman emperors. Priests in these temples frequently used ventriloquism and lighting to make images seem alive (Revelation 13:15).

The Pre-Millennial View of the False Prophet

- This False Prophet will be a religious leader during the future tribulation.
- Halfway through the tribulation, he will begin calling people to worship the Antichrist.
- He will place a statue of the Antichrist in the Jewish temple (Daniel 9:27; Matthew 24:15-21).
- Recognizing that “the earth” or “the land” sometimes implies Israel, many dispensationalists expect the second beast to be a Jew.

The False Prophet

The Lord Jesus Christ predicted that in the last days “false Christs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and miracles to deceive even the elect-if that were possible” (Matt. 24:24).

While we have seen many false prophets throughout the centuries, all pale in comparison to the coming “False Prophet” mentioned in Revelation 13:11-18.

The False Prophet

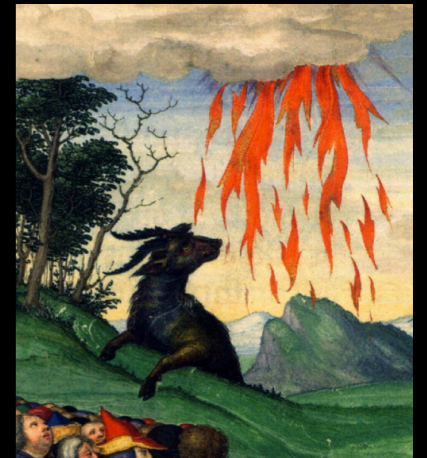
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The False Prophet

“Then I saw another beast, coming out of the earth.” Many Bible teachers suggest that his coming up out of the earth indicates that he will not come up out of the sea of peoples, as the first beast does. That is, he will not be of mixed nationality;

Tim Lahaye says, “that he comes out of the earth may indicate that he will be a Jew. This points to an apostate Jew who, during the first three and one-half years, will lead Israel to make a covenant with Antichrist and deceive them by hiding his apostasy until the middle of the Tribulation period, at which time he will serve his purpose by revealing his apostate beliefs and practices.”

The False Prophet



“**He had two horns like a lamb.**” The Lord Jesus Christ is often referred to in the Gospels and in the book of Revelation as “the Lamb of God.” As such He has taken away the sin of the world. The False Prophet coming on the earth will look like a lamb with two horns. Lambs do not have horns, which are symbols of authority; instead, they are meek and mild animals. The Lord Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount, “Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves” (Matt. 7:15). The False Prophet will come to Israel in sheep’s clothing, but God terms him “a beast.”

The False Prophet

3. “**He spoke like a dragon**” suggests that he will derive power of speech from the devil. This False Prophet, then, will deceive human beings by acting like a lamb; but really he will speak the words of Satan. Let it be understood that Satan is not against religion. He is, however, against personal faith in Jesus Christ.

The False Prophet

“He exercised all the authority of the first beast on his behalf.” The close relationship between these two world leaders is seen in the fact that the False Prophet will be given power by the Antichrist himself. His whole purpose will be to work toward the complete dominance of the earth by the Antichrist, including a form of religion satisfactory to the Antichrist.

The False Prophet

“[He] made the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast.” The False Prophet’s basic purpose and operation with all of this power from the Antichrist and speech from the devil will be to drive people to worship the Antichrist. When indwelt by Satan in the midst of the Tribulation, the Antichrist will be so deceived about himself that he will deem himself God and seek the worship of human beings (2 Thess. 2:3-8). This form of worship will be propagated by the second beast or False Prophet. He may well be described as the high priest of the Antichrist’s religious system during the Tribulation period.

The False Prophet

Revelation 13:13 (HCSB) He also performs great signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to earth in front of people.

The False Prophet

“**And he performed great and miraculous signs**” (Rev. 13:13). The word translated “miraculous signs” is the same word used by the Apostle John in his Gospel, describing the ministry of Jesus. This leads us to believe that the False Prophet will be equipped by Satan and the Antichrist with authority and power to do such supernatural miraculous signs as to “deceive the inhabitants of the earth” (13:14). This should come as no surprise to Bible students, for the devil has great power. When Moses threw down his rod before Pharaoh, it turned into a serpent. The false magicians of Pharaoh, however, were also empowered to make their rods turn into serpents, thus duplicating the miracle of the man of God. However, God caused Moses’ serpent to eat up their serpents.



The False Prophet

“even causing fire to come down from heaven to earth in front of people.” (Rev. 13:13). The fire test of Elijah the prophet, which proved to the children of Israel that the prophets of Baal were powerless to communicate with God, will probably be repeated during the Tribulation period. That may be one of the reasons for the coming of Elijah at the time. The difference between this confrontation and the previous one is that the false prophet will be able to call down fire from heaven. Lest this take us by surprise, we should be reminded that Satan, the real force behind the False Prophet, brought fire down from heaven and burned up Job’s sheep and servants in Job 1:16.

The False Prophet

Revelation 13:14-15 (HCSB) He deceives those who live on the earth because of the signs that he is permitted to perform on behalf of the beast, telling those who live on the earth to make an image of the beast who had the sword wound and yet lived. 15 He was permitted to give a spirit to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast could both speak and cause whoever would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

The False Prophet

The False Prophet will cause an image of the Antichrist to be built and will have power to “give a spirit to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast could speak” (Rev. 13:14-15).

In the midst of the Tribulation, after the Antichrist has been slain and resurrected, the False Prophet will cause people to build an image like Nebuchadnezzar’s image and will demand that it be worshiped. By some mysterious means, he will give life to that image.

This speech will be caused by the False Prophet, who in turn will get his authority from the Antichrist and the dragon, Satan himself. He will issue an order that all who do not worship him will be killed. Revelation 20:4 tells us that many will be slain by the guillotine.

The False Prophet

This scene is so similar to what happened to the Israelites as a result of Nebuchadnezzar's image that we begin to realize Satan's tactics do not vary significantly. Once again, an order will be given that those who do not bow down and worship him will be killed; instead of confronting a fiery furnace, they will be beheaded (Rev. 20:4).

The Mark of the Beast

What is the Mark of the Beast?

- Some Bible teachers understand the mark of the beast to be some sort of physical implant or mark that will be required during the future great tribulation. Without this mark, people will not be able to buy or to sell (Revelation 13:17).

What is the Mark of the Beast?

- Other interpreters point out how, in the Old Testament, God commanded his people to place the memory of their redemption “as a mark on your hand, even bound between your eyes” (Exodus 13:16). The original intent of these words seems to have been to allow God’s redemption and God’s Word to mold the hearer’s thoughts (“bound between your eyes”) and actions (“a mark on your hand”). In the same way, a mark “on the right hand or forehead” could imply acting and thinking in accordance with this beast. In John’s day, this would have meant worshiping the emperor. Cities such as Pergamum and Thyatira had well-established trade guilds that could prevent persons from conducting business if they refused to participate in the emperor cult; it is quite possible that Christians in other cities experienced similar persecution in their buying and selling (Revelation 13:17). [Timothy Paul Jones (2013). Rose Guide to End-Times Prophecy. Rose Publishing. Retrieved from <https://app.wordsearchbible.lifeway.com>]

A
Typical
Barcode



A
Typical
Six

6

6

6

Is the Modern UPC Symbol the Mark of the Beast?

- “the three longer “guide bars” in each code – one at the front, one in the middle, and one at the end – do not represent 6’s.”
- George Laurer - Inventor of the Modern UPC Symbol.



RFID Chip

The Mark of the Beast

Revelation 13:16-18 (HCSB) And he requires everyone — small and great, rich and poor, free and slave — to be given a mark on his right hand or on his forehead, 17 so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark: the beast's name or the number of his name. 18 Here is wisdom: The one who has understanding must calculate the number of the beast, because it is the number of a man. His number is 666.

The Mark of the Beast

“We only know that six is the number of a human being. It is one short of the perfect number seven, and humankind was created on the sixth day; therefore in Bible numerology it is used to refer to humankind.”

Tim LaHaye, *Revelation Unveiled* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2010).

The Mark of the Beast

The False Prophet will use them as a means of forcing people to worship Antichrist. He will demand that everyone have his mark on their foreheads or on their hands in order to buy or sell. This economic pressure will be instrumental in causing many weak, worldly individuals to succumb to the establishment of this monarch, which will be tantamount to the personal rejection of Christ and acceptance of Antichrist. One can scarcely imagine the pressures of having to possess such a mark in order to secure the necessary food for his family.

The Mark of the Beast

Physically speaking, it will be necessary for every human being to have the mark of the beast. Spiritually speaking, it will be fatal. For we have repeatedly seen that those who are redeemed by the Lamb, those who have the seal of God, do not have the mark of the beast. But those who receive the Antichrist's mark will have made the final decisions for eternity to reject Christ and worship his archenemy.

The False Prophet - His Judgment

Revelation 19:20 (HCSB) But the beast was taken prisoner, and **along with him the false prophet**, who had performed the signs in his presence. He deceived those who accepted the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image with these signs. **Both of them were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur.**