



In Revelation 13, John continues recording the drama that began in chapter 12. This time the focus is on two evil characters symbolized as a water monster and an earth monster. These symbolize the final corrupt political leader (Antichrist) and Religious figure (False Prophet) that will come to worldwide prominence before Christ's return.

Outline

- **Chapter Preview** Introduction
- **The Beast from the Sea** Revelation 13:1-10
- **The Beast from the Earth** Revelation 13:11-18



Truths & Principles

- ✓ Political power and religious power always risk becoming evil and oppressive.
- ✓ In the last days a powerful Antichrist and a powerful False Prophet will rise to global power.
- ✓ The original meaning of the number 666 has been lost for centuries, so we should not expect to understand it until its final fulfillment.

Preview

Two beasts rise on the prophetic scene. The first is the beast out of the sea, symbolizing the Antichrist. The second is the beast out of the earth, symbolizing the False Prophet. These two diabolical characters are empowered by Satan himself and with him form the satanic trinity. They are evil and deception personified. Together they will control the entire world in the Last Days – economically, politically, and religiously.



Applications

- ✓ Do not believe that just because people do miracles they are from God.
- ✓ Trust in God's power to limit the extent and duration of evil.
- ✓ Ask God to give you patient endurance and faithfulness when evil comes your way.
- ✓ Stay away from speculations about the meaning of 666.



Test all things; hold fast what is good. 1 Thessalonians 5:21

1. What was on the horns of the beast with seven heads (13:1)? _____
2. The beast that John saw in Revelation 13 was like a (13:2)? _____
3. Who worshipped the dragon that gave authority to the beast? (12:3-4) _____
4. Authority was given to the creature to continue for (13:5)? _____
5. The beast that had two horns like a lamb spoke like a (13:11)? _____
6. What happened to the wound of the first beast (13:12)? _____
7. Where did both rich and poor receive a mark (13:16)? _____
8. What is the number of the beast? (12:18) _____

Study Questions

1. The beast out of the sea represents political power.
 - ❖ What impact does he have on believers?
 - ❖ How can political systems test believers' allegiance to God?
2. The beast out of the earth represents religious but not necessarily Christian authority.
 - ❖ What impact does he have on believers?
 - ❖ How can the exercise of religious authority challenge believers' allegiance to God?
3. Read Daniel 8:23-25.
 - ❖ Why will people be so attracted to the Antichrist if he is such an evil person?
4. The final Antichrist and False Prophet will evidently be experts at using politics, religion and economics as levers to their advantage.
 - ❖ What are some ways that the devil is already using these three forces today?
 - ❖ Can you think of examples from Christian history?
5. What impact do you think this chapter made on the persecuted bands of Christians who first read it?
 - ❖ Should the chapter have a similar impact on more comfortable, non-persecuted Christians who read it today?
 - ❖ If so, how? If not, why not?