

When Men Become Beasts

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I. Introduction. Text: Revelation 13:1-18.

II. The beast is a manifestation of Satan as a worldwide ruling power.

- A. The beast in Daniel represented the four great empires, and John notices these ideas.
- B. The fourth beast is the Roman Empire in Daniel and all of this seems to be incorporated during the time of the Roman Empire in Revelation.
- C. One of the beasts had a fatal wound that was healed.
 - 1. This is representative of the Roman Empire.
 - 2. This suggests a revival of the Roman Empire in these days.

III. The activities of the beast.

- A. The beast blasphemes by claiming godlike powers.
- B. The revived Roman leader is given great power, and thousands will die at his hand.
- C. The only group that resists this leader are those who tabernacle in heaven with their names written in the book of life.
- D. Jesus comforts the listeners in the law of consequences. The beast will face what is coming to it.

IV. The second beast.

- A. This beast comes out of Israel.
- B. This beast is the Anti-Christ.
- C. This beast is a false-prophet leading others to worship the first beast.
- D. This one will bring peace to the Middle East.
- E. He will make a covenant with Israel, but he will break it and claim to be God.
- F. He will rebuild the world's economic system.
- G. The mark of the beast is an imitation of the seal of the Holy Spirit.
- H. The number of the beast is 666, but it is foolish to try to associate it with names today because the names considered are in English and the number is man's number referring to someone who teaches that man is independent and in charge.

1. The weapons of Satan are force and fantasy.

2. Laugh at the devil and refuse to follow the fantasy, but be prepared to hold out unto death.

Application questions:

1. Why is an understanding of end times important for today?

2. How would you summarize the activities of the beasts in this passage?

3. What is the mark of the beast, and why is it important not to try to associate it with names today?
