



## “The Call for Endurance & Faith.”

September 7, 2025

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### Revelation 13

<sup>1</sup> And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, with ten diadems on its horns and blasphemous names on its heads. <sup>2</sup> And the beast that I saw was like a leopard; its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. And to it the dragon gave his power and his throne and great authority. <sup>3</sup> One of its heads seemed to have a mortal wound, but its mortal wound was healed, and the whole earth marveled as they followed the beast.

<sup>4</sup> And they worshiped the dragon, for he had given his authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who is like the beast, and who can fight against it?”

<sup>5</sup> And the beast was given a mouth uttering haughty and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months. <sup>6</sup> It opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven. <sup>7</sup> Also it was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them. And authority was given it over every tribe and people and language and nation, <sup>8</sup> and all who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain. <sup>9</sup> If anyone has an ear, let him hear:

<sup>10</sup> If anyone is to be taken captive,  
to captivity he goes;  
if anyone is to be slain with the sword,  
with the sword must he be slain.

Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the saints.

<sup>11</sup> Then I saw another beast rising out of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb and it spoke like a dragon. <sup>12</sup> It exercises all the authority of the first beast in its presence, and makes the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose mortal wound was healed. <sup>13</sup> It performs great signs, even making fire come down from heaven to earth in front of people, <sup>14</sup> and by the signs that it is allowed to work in the presence of the beast it deceives those who dwell on earth, telling them to make an image for the beast that was wounded by the sword and yet lived. <sup>15</sup> And it was allowed to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the

beast might even speak and might cause those who would not worship the image of the beast to be slain.<sup>16</sup> Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave,<sup>[e]</sup> to be marked on the right hand or the forehead,<sup>17</sup> so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name.<sup>18</sup> This calls for wisdom: let the one who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man, and his number is 666.

## SUMMARY

In the latter half of the Great Tribulation, two prominent world leaders, one political and one religious, will rise in opposition to God's people. How should God's people respond when evil is permitted to thrive and even appear to triumph in the world? Through the Apostle John, the Church receives a difficult yet vital perspective, one that remains timeless and instructive for Christians in every generation.

## PASSAGE OUTLINE

The Antichrist - Revelation 13:1-8

The Call to the Saints - Revelation 13:9-10

The False Prophet - Revelation 13:11-18

### 1 Kings 10:14-15

<sup>14</sup> Now the weight of gold that came to Solomon in one year was 666 talents of gold,<sup>15</sup> besides that which came from the explorers and from the business of the merchants, and from all the kings of the west and from the governors of the land.

### 1 Kings 11:1-2

<sup>1</sup> Now King Solomon loved many foreign women, along with the daughter of Pharaoh: Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian, and Hittite women,<sup>2</sup> from the nations concerning which the Lord had said to the people of Israel, "You shall not enter into marriage with them, neither shall they with you, for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods." Solomon clung to these in love.

### What Can We Say About the Antichrist and False Prophet?

They are global leaders who are allowed to persecute the Tribulation saints and deceive the world as servants of Satan. They are the evil foil to the two faithful witnesses in the first half of the Great Tribulation. Their coming defeat by Christ seals their fates.

### What Did This Mean?

Tribulation Saints Will Suffer at the Hands of Satan's Servants.

### What's Always True?

God Always Calls His People to Endure Suffering & Difficulty.

### 1 Peter 4:12-19

<sup>12</sup> Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.<sup>13</sup> But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's

sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup> If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. <sup>15</sup> But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. <sup>16</sup> Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. <sup>17</sup> For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? <sup>18</sup> And

“If the righteous is scarcely saved,  
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?”

19 Therefore let those who suffer according to God’s will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

## WHAT MUST WE DO?

Endure Difficult Days by Faith

- Trust Jesus When You’re Afraid.
- Tell Others About Jesus.
- Train Your Family In Faith.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Who is the most famous person in the world right now? What has led to his/her notoriety?
2. Read Revelation 13:1-4. People will worship Satan and his servant, the Antichrist (the beast of the sea). What reasons are given for their worship of these figures?
3. Read Revelation 13:5-10. The Antichrist will be allowed to wage war against and conquer those whose names are in the book of life during the second half of the Great Tribulation. How do you explain why God allows and prescribes suffering in the lives of His people?
4. Read Revelation 13:11-18. The second beast will be a religious figure who calls the world to worship the Antichrist. Compare/contrast these two “beasts” with the two witnesses who will call people to Christ in the first half of the Great Tribulation (Revelation 11:1-14).
5. When has God allowed a season of difficulty in your life that tested your faith? What helped you remain faithful during that time?
6. Revelation 13:18 points to 666 as “the number of man”. How does 1 Kings 10:14-11:8 better inform our understanding of what is meant by man’s number being 666?
7. The exhortation to the Church is a call for the saints to endure in faith through the hardships God allows. How is your endurance and faith being tested right now?
8. What was your takeaway from the sermon?

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