

Link to Lonnie Woodruff's *Revelation for Christians Today*, online:

<http://www.abiblecommentary.com/howtounderstandthebookofrevelation.htm>

## A Study of Revelation 13

### Questions on Chapter 13,

*Revelation for Christians Today*, by Lonnie Woodruff--page 235-37... Answers by DRL.

#### Questions on 13:1-10

01. **What is the symbolic meaning of the “beast”? (Daniel 7)**  
*KING or, more specifically, KINGDOM. Daniel 7:23 defines this fourth beast as the fourth kingdom upon the earth (i.e., fourth from Babylonian). BEAST is a symbolic term used to represent governmental forces which rule in this world.*
02. **Define the sea (13:2). Also see 8:8.**  
*Probably represents the masses of people dwelling upon the earth as explained in 12:16.*
03. **What does it mean for a beast to arise out of the sea? (13:1).**  
*It describes the governmental powers of the world which RISE UP to control the people of the world.*
04. **How many heads did this beast have? (13:1).**  
*Seven.*
05. **How many horns did this beast have? (13:1).**  
*Ten.*
06. **What do the heads represent? (13:1).**  
*Civil governments that control the world.*
07. **Describe this beast out of the sea, and give the meaning of each description (13:2).**  
*It was like a combination of leopard, bear, and lion: thus these governments possess great powers of destruction. The power came from the DRAGON or SATAN. According to 12:17, the dragon/devil has gone out to MAKE WAR against the church.*
08. **Who gives this beast his powers? (13:2).**  
*Satan*
09. **What does the killing of one head and then returning to life represent? (13:3).**  
*Surely it DOES NOT mean that the heads of the beast represent any one person or king. If so, one of them would have had to be raised from the dead! Rather, the meaning of the symbolism lies in the fact that the Roman Empire was DESTROYED and resurrected again in the form of the “Holy Roman Empire.” The Roman Empire was destroyed in A.D. 476 and came back into existence in the form of the Holy Roman Empire with the coronation of Charlemagne by Pope Leo III in A.D. 800.*

**DRL Note:** Here is a definition of The Holy Roman Empire from dictionary.com: a Germanic empire located chiefly in central Europe that began with the coronation of Charlemagne as Roman emperor in a.d. 800 (or, according to some historians, with the coronation of Otto the Great, king of Germany, in a.d. 962) and ended with the renunciation of the Roman imperial title by Francis II in 1806, and was regarded theoretically as the continuation of the Western Empire and as the temporal form of a universal dominion whose spiritual head was the pope.

**10. How did the world react to the healing of this death wound? (13:3-4).**

*The world WONDERED after the beast. True, because the vast majority of the world was directly under its control. Additionally, for a government as strong as the Roman Empire to fall and then rise again would be a feat the entire world would view with amazement. They worshipped the beast and the dragon.*

*The interpretation of this beast as being the Roman Empire REINCARNATED in the form of the Holy Roman Empire is strengthened by the fact that they worshipped this beast. The Holy Roman Empire thrived because it existed in conjunction with the apostate church which devised laws for man to follow in his worship to God. This was totally against God's will and a PERFECT EXAMPLE of a government which received its power from the devil. This government possessed great power.*

**11. How does this beast deal with God and His people? (13:5-7).**

*He spoke blasphemies against God and His people and made war with them.*

**12. How long does this beast have power to continue? (13:5).**

*42 months.*

**13. What period of time does the forty and two months represent? (13:5).**

*It represents the entire Gospel Age. 42 is used rather than 1260 or 3 ½ because it indicates a period of time when God's people will suffer great hardships or persecutions (i.e., suffer physically).*

**14. Who shall worship this beast? Who will not? (13:8).**

*Those dwelling on the earth—those whose names are not written in the Lamb's Book of Life—non-Christians WILL WORSHIP the beast. Christians will not.*

**15. What would it mean to worship this beast?**

*They would obey his laws and be overtaken by his powers. They will hold in high esteem the great things which he speaks (v. 5), and be a part of his blasphemies against God.*

**16. Contrast those who dwell in heaven in verse 6 and those who dwell upon the earth in verse 8.**

*Those who dwell in heaven are faithful Christians who are in spiritual battle against Satan and his followers; those who dwell upon the earth are non-Christians who follow Satan and fight against the faithful.*

**17. What is the symbolic dwelling place of these?**

- a. Christians--Heaven
- b. Sinners—The Earth

**18. Discuss the meaning of this vision of the beast out of the sea.**

*This vision is talking about the source of much persecution and hardship for those who wish faithfully to follow the Lord is civil government. Satan uses them in a powerful way to attack Christianity. It may seem like these governments have tremendous power, but Christians must keep in mind that God has greater power and the kingdom to which we owe our loyalty and allegiance will ultimately win in this spiritual warfare.*

**19. What is the concluding thought of this vision? (13:10).**

*The war or conflict being discussed in this chapter is between the BEAST and CHRISTIANS. The first CAPTIVITY spoken of refers to being captive to the devil by worshipping the beast. From this we see that the beast (the civil powers of man), are used by the devil to overcome people spiritually*

and make them captives unto himself. The second CAPTIVITY is the eternal punishment of HELL into which Satan leads his followers. Those people who lead others into the captivity of the devil by teaching his sinful ways will eventually themselves be captive in the devil's hell.

20. **Who leads people into captivity? (13:7, 10).**  
*Followers of Satan who teach his evil ways.*
21. **What will be the end of those who lead others into captivity?**  
*Eternity in HELL.*
22. **What will be the end of those who take physical life with the sword? (13:10).**  
*Those who kill or persecute Christians on this earth with the physical sword are doomed to an eternity in hell by the spiritual sword, the GOSPEL.*
23. **What is the symbolic meaning of the sword? (Ephesians 6:17).**  
*The Word of God (the gospel).*
24. **What sword will be used to kill those who have taken physical life with a physical sword?**  
*The Spiritual Sword of God's Word.*
25. **When will this take place?**  
*Judgment Day.*
26. **When will these people who have persecuted and killed others go into captivity?**  
*God may not avenge immediately the blood of saints, but eventually it will come to pass (6:10).*
27. **Discuss why the sayings of verse 10 are the patience and faith of the saints.**  
*If we keep the commandments of God, we will finally win that spiritual battle FOREVER! We must be PATIENT and HAVE FAITH (i.e., be faithful, believe that God will keep His promise).*

### Questions on 13:11-18

28. **What is the symbolic meaning of the beast? (Daniel 7).**  
*KING or, more specifically, KINGDOM. Verse 23 defines this fourth beast as the fourth kingdom upon the earth. BEAST is a symbolic term used to represent governmental forces which rule in this world.*
29. **The earth is sometimes used as the symbolic dwelling place of what group of people? (12:12; 13:8).**  
*People who practice false religion.*
30. **What would it mean to be like a lamb? (13:11).**  
*The use of a LAMB as a symbolic description immediately implies that this is a RELIGIOUS BEAST because LAMB is often used as a symbol to describe Christ. Here, though, it is LIKE A LAMB—indicating that it only seemed to be religious, or it appeared to be like Christ.*
31. **What is the symbolic meaning of the two horns? (13:11).**  
*In the Old Testament the HORN is used to signify divisions of powers within a kingdom. In Daniel 7:24, ten horns symbolize ten kings which arise in a kingdom. Here, the two horns indicate there are*

two divisions of power making up this one beast. The Holy Roman Empire and the Apostate Church, which eventually became the Roman Catholic Church, joined forces to form a BEAST with a single purpose: **to rule the world**. This beast possesses great strength, both civil and religious, which it uses to WAR against the people of God.

**32. What does it mean to speak like a dragon? (13:11).**

*In 12:9 the DRAGON is used as a symbol to describe the devil. The dragon has always been symbolic of a powerful force capable of destroying even the strongest people. This beast is LIKE THAT. He speaks with powerful sayings which are from the devil and deceives many people.*

**33. Whose powers did this beast out of the earth possess? (13:12).**

*The FIRST beast. This religious beast (Holy Roman Empire) exercised all the powers of the beast which received the death wound, but was healed (Roman Empire).*

**34. What is represented by the healing of the death wound? (13:12).**

*Raising to life again the first beast in another form.*

**35. What governmental power must this two-horned beast out of the earth represent?**

*This actually says that by worshipping this religious beast, people were also worshipping the Holy Roman Empire which was the Roman Empire resurrected.*

**36. What did this beast do in order to deceive the people of the world? (13:13-14).**

*Great Wonders! Miracles! This is a symbolic representation of the powers the religious beast claimed to possess. We should NOT view these as actual miracles but as great deceptions which the beast used to control people. The fire from heaven indicates how persuasive these deceptions were. Verse 13 does not mean that the beast ACTUALLY had the power to bring fire down from heaven, but he did have the ability to do those things which would deceive men into thinking he could perform such miracles.*

*Causing fire to come down from heaven brings to mind the great prophet Elijah who DID bring down fire from heaven by praying to God (1 Kings 18:37-38). This may be the reason this particular symbolism is used to describe the deceptions of this beast. Elijah WAS A TRUE AND FAITHFUL PROPHET of God who actually performed this miracle. This beast is A FALSE PROPHET (16:13; 19:20), who deceived many people by working great wonders in their sight.*

**37. What does it mean to make an image to anything?**

*To make an image means to make a representation or COPY of something. Images are used in idol worship to REPRESENT THE GOD which people are worshipping. Verse 15 says that people were forced to worship this image of the Roman Empire.*

**38. What was the image made to the beast which had a death wound and was healed? (13:14).**

*This IMAGE was a religious structure set up which patterned itself after the governmental organization of the Roman Empire. The structure of the Roman Catholic Church is an image of the Roman Empire. Just as the Emperor was the supreme authority in the Roman civil government, the Pope became the supreme authority of the Roman Catholic Church. He claimed infallibility here on earth with the authority to make laws dictating how people should worship God*

**39. What powers are represented by the two horns of this beast?**

*This beast possesses great strength, both CIVIL and RELIGIOUS, which it uses to war against the people of God.*

**40. How did these two powers work together in order to cause people to worship the image? (13:15).**

*The laws of the land were used to force the subjects of Rome to worship according to the edicts of Roman Catholicism. History records many accounts of people who were persecuted, tortured, and even killed because of their refusal to worship as directed by Rome. The Catholic Church sought out “heretics” and turned them over to the civil government of Rome for punishment. In this manner, the civil government of Rome gave life unto the religious beast and caused many to worship the religious image of that government.*

**41. What does it mean to receive a mark in one’s hand or forehead? (13:16).**

*It means that this person owes all of his works, thoughts, and allegiance to the one whose mark he wears. In this case, the mark indicated that all men of all walks of life, small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, were forced to give their allegiance to the Roman Catholic Church.*

*We must remember that this mark was NOT a literal mark which could actually be seen by others. it is a figurative way of indicating who one pledges himself to, gives his allegiance to, or worships.*

*Cf., 14:1-- And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads. Christians do not have God's name literally written in their foreheads, but they do commit their minds and will to Him. They figuratively have God's name written in their foreheads. When men render their labors and allegiance to anything, they figuratively wear that mark in their right hand and forehead.*

**42. What were the people who wore these marks allowed to do? (13:17).**

*When a person worshipped according to the directions of the beast, he could BUY AND SELL without fear of reprisal from the religious or civil authorities.*

**43. Discuss the meaning of the beast out of the earth.**

*This beast COMING OUT OF THE EARTH presents the idea that the beast is born out of those people who practice false religion. Of all the interpretations which have been proposed as the meaning of this beast, none fit so precisely as does the apostate church which grew into the system of Roman Catholicism.*

**44. How does this beast out of the earth relate to the beast out of the sea?**

*It is very much like it; similar, the image or copy of it.*

**45. Discuss how the two powers of this beast worked together to rule the world.**

*The second beast worked hand in hand with the civil powers of the Holy Roman Empire to rule the world. This beast hurled the world into the DARK AGES when only “priests” were allowed to read the Bible and all men were forced to give their allegiance to the beast in both physical and spiritual matters.*

**46. What is the number of this beast? (13:18).**

*666*

**47. How are numbers used in the book of Revelation?**

*As SYMBOLS—descriptive!*

**48. What period of time do the sixth seal, the sixth trumpet, and the sixth plague describe?**

*They bring us to the time of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming, or the END OF ALL THINGS.*

49. **What does the number “666” describe about the beast? (13:18).**

*His DESTINY. The number 666 figuratively shows that this beast will be completely destroyed upon Christ's 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming. They physical powers of this beast will come to an end. There will be no powers in existence except God's. The spiritual nature of this beast will also be destroyed. The ONLY PEOPLE who have any SPIRITUAL HOPE at this time will be those who have trusted in Christ, NOT THE BEAST! This beast will be brought before God in a very sorrowful state to receive its judgment and the final plagues of God. This beast will be totally destroyed as described by the number 666.*

50. **How would this number also be the number of a man? (13:18).**

*It will be the number of ANY MAN who puts his trust in something other than God.*

51. **Discuss the fate of the beast and any man who worships it.**

*They will be TOTALLY DESTROYED.*

52. **Does this beast exist in the world today?**

*Yes.*

Questions Based on LW's End of Chapter 13 Questions

**True/False**

01. \_\_\_\_ Brother Woodruff discovers the symbolic meaning of BEAST from Moses' writings.
02. \_\_\_\_ The symbolic dwelling place of sinners is the earth.
03. \_\_\_\_ Chapter 13 helps us to see that Satan sometimes uses civil government to attack Christianity.
04. \_\_\_\_ LIKE A LAMB (11) indicates this second beast only appeared to be like Christ.
05. \_\_\_\_ Powers suggested by the TWO HORNS are civil and religious.

**Fill in the Blanks**

06. The number **666** describes the \_\_\_\_\_ of the beast, which is that it will be \_\_\_\_\_ upon Christ's \_\_\_\_\_.
07. The Holy Roman Empire began with the coronation with \_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_ in A.D. 800.
08. The ones who will worship the beast are the ones whose names are \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ of life.
09. If we keep the \_\_\_\_\_ of God, we will finally win the great spiritual battle \_\_\_\_\_.
10. The second beast speaks with \_\_\_\_\_ sayings which are from \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ many people.

**Place the symbol in the space next to its description:**

11. \_\_\_\_\_ Civil and religious power.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ Describes the destiny of the second beast.
13. \_\_\_\_\_ Make a representation or COPY of something.
14. \_\_\_\_\_ Ephesians 6:17
15. \_\_\_\_\_ The masses of people dwelling upon the earth (cf., 12:16).

**Answers to Revelation 12 Questions:** [(01) True, 14.4; (02) True, 25; (03) False, 31; (04) False, 5; (05) True, 3; (06) Jewish, Old, Law, Messiah, church, 2; (07) earth, sea, 23; (08) disobedient, God's, law, 17; (09) 1260, 10; (10) wanderings, children, Israel, 9; (11) Now is come salvation, 14.1; (12) The devil casting out a flood, 28; (13) Clothed with the sun, 01; (14) Wilderness, 8; (15) Devil cast out of heaven, 16].

<b>Revelation 13 (KJV)</b>														
		1					2			3				
									4					5
6		7												
8										9				
		10		11										
					12									
13										14				
<b><u>ACROSS</u></b>							<b><u>DOWN</u></b>							
04) The first beast had ten of them.							01) The first beast had ____ as the ____ of a bear.							
07) The beast's number: six hundred ____ and six.							02) The first beast had this name on his head.							
08) The ____ and the faith of the saints.							03) Found seven times in this chapter.							
11) In order to ____ you need the mark.							05) First beast had this many heads.							
12) The second beast spoke like one.							06) Animals mentioned: ____, bear, and lion.							
13) Only book mentioned is the one of ____.							09) A gift from the dragon to the first beast.							
14) 42 of them.							10) Happened to one of the first beast's heads.							

S E H T F Y L D A E D H  
 D H T U O M A K E E R E  
 S W O N D E R S I S A A  
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 I T O P F L E S C P K I

<b>BEAST</b>	<b>BLASPHEMY</b>	<b>COME</b>	<b>DEADLY</b>	<b>DRAGON</b>
<b>DWELL</b>	<b>EARTH</b>	<b>FEET</b>	<b>GAVE</b>	<b>GIVEN</b>
<b>GREAT</b>	<b>HEADS</b>	<b>HEALED</b>	<b>HEAVEN</b>	<b>HORNS</b>
<b>IMAGE</b>	<b>LIKE</b>	<b>MAKE</b>	<b>MOUTH</b>	<b>NAME</b>
<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>POWER</b>	<b>SAINTS</b>	<b>SAYING</b>	<b>SPEAK</b>
<b>SWORD</b>	<b>WONDERS</b>	<b>WORLD</b>	<b>WORSHIP</b>	<b>WOUND</b>