

# THE BEAST (666), THE FALSE PROPHET THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND THE MAN OF SIN (2SR 149)

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**INTRODUCTION:** The primary objective in this study is to clearly identify each of these symbolic entities. There is much controversy and confusion in all Christendom, over the true identity of these symbols, especially over the number 666; hence there is the need of a very prayerful, in depth study of these prophecies, with the aid of the LAW and the TESTIMONY.

'Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is six hundred threescore and six.' Revelation 13:18. Let us pray to be among those 'that hath understanding.'

## 1. **Is The Papacy Represented By:**

- a. The false prophet – Revelation 19:20 ?
- b. The woman on the scarlet colored beast of Revelation 17 ?
- c. The non-descript beast of Daniel 7 ?
- d. The leopard-like beast of Revelation 13 ?

Many superficially conclude that all these beasts are symbols of the papacy; but this is unscriptural and illogical. In this study it will be seen that the papacy is represented by aspects of the non-descript and leopard-like beasts; but it is not correct or Biblical to say that any of these beasts is a symbol of the Papacy.

## 2. **How Is The Papacy Represented?**

- a. By the non-descript beast in its second phase (the first phase represents pagan Rome); by the horn-head with mouth speaking great things Daniel 7.
- b. By the wounded head on the Leopard-like beast Revelation 13.
- c. The 'Man of Sin' represents the Papacy and according to [GREACONTROVERSY page 579](#), was to continue until the end, till the 2nd advent when he is to be destroyed.

## 3. **Who Is The Beast (666)?**

**Read: Revelation 13:11-18**

The Beast here spoken of is commonly understood to represent the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. (See *Great Controversy* 440,441) The pronoun 'he', however, introduces some one else who 'had power to do miracles in the sight of the beast (lamblike).

## 4. **Who Is This 'He'?**

**Read: Revelation 19:20**

Clearly, therefore, the miracles are wrought by the false prophet. The false prophet is not the papacy, the two-horned beast, or the devil,

rather he is the one who precedes the manifestation of Satan himself. (2 Corinthians 11:14). Since the claims of the false prophet cannot be supported adequately by the Bible, miracles are performed, to secure the confidence of the people. The great men and religions leaders will declare that he is a true servant of Christ. He will make a false prediction of the coming of Christ which will be fulfilled by Satan. *Great Controversy* p. 589. The world will be enslaved.

5. **To Whom The # 666 Belongs?**

**Note:** The mystical number '666' as applied to the papacy, by some, is not Biblical. While the numerical letters of the title of the Pope bears the number 666, there are many other titles as well as names of individuals who bear the same number. Since this unscriptural method fits many we need to look for Biblical proof for the application.

6. **The Number '666' Is Linked With The Two-Horned Beast.**

- Proof:**
- a. Revelation 13:11-18 contains the description of the Two-horned beast, and the number is part of its description.
  - b. There are many beasts spoken of in the Bible, but this two-horned beast is the only one that can be termed 'a man'. The two-horned beast is the only one representing a local religio-political government. (The nondescript and Leopard-like beasts represent the entire world in their time). Thus, the number -the last verse describing the Two-horned beast- belongs to it and to none other. Inspiration says, 'However, we may not conclude that no one before it could have such a number'. 2SR:151.
  - c. The Spirit of prophecy describing the 'king of the North' of Daniel 2:45 and the Two-horned beast of Revelation 13:11-18 says they are the same power-the last power that treads down the Saints and his number is 666. *'Word to the Little Flock'* pages 8,19.
  - d. It will be soon shown that this beast, '666', and the papacy come to their destruction at different times, and are thus different entities. It is the beast, '666', and the false prophet that develop the Image of the Beast -a likeness of the combined church and state worship during the 1260 years.

Thus, in brief, whoever shall stand at the head of that persecuting power as described in this chapter, and representing the beast is the one who should bear the mystical number 666.

7. **The Mother Of Harlots – Revelation 17:5 – Who Is She?  
Is She The Papacy?**

—No. She symbolizes false religion.

- Proof:**
- a. She existed before the Papacy. Revelation 18:24; Genesis 4:8
  - b. This woman controls even the Papacy. She sits on seven heads. Revelation 17:9
  - c. Woman meets her destruction before the Papacy Revelation

19:1-6; 17:16 & Daniel 7:11 (around the close of probation) *Great Controversy*, p. 579

Thus, again this woman represents false religion controlling even the Papacy. The destruction of the beast of Daniel 7:11 is prophetic of, or corresponds with the destruction of the 'woman' of Revelation 17:16. They both had corresponding likeness of worship (church and state).

8. **More On The Mother Of Harlots**

**The Woman's Exploits:**

- a. She sits on many waters – Revelation 17:1
- b. She sits on the seven heads – vs. 9
- c. She sits on the beast – vs. 3

It's a spiritual fraud in three different periods.

Her sitting on the waters denotes her dominion over 'peoples, multitudes, nations and tongues' Revelation 17:15. These inhabitants had fallen into her trap of deception - especially during the dark ages.

Her sitting on the heads projects us to a time after the deadly wound was healed. Heads (Mountains) represent churches (Isaiah 2:2,3; Daniel 9:16,20; etc.) These heads represent present day apostate Christendom (2 *SR* 88-96), showing that Christendom will submit to be governed by one head of which the woman is a symbol. (See *Great Controversy* 588 and 574-51). This church federation of apostate Protestantism, Catholicism and Spiritualism prepares the way for the woman riding the beast and her causing the perdition of the world. When they clasp hands is when the woman sits upon the heads.

After the woman unites the heads, she mounts the beast. Her sitting on the beast (symbol of present world both civil [ten horns] and religious [seven heads]), denotes that internationally that church and state are now governed by the same head (woman) during the mark of the beast and loud cry period. A combination of church and state similar to the time of the middle ages (image of the beast in effect). The great Multitude must then be called out of the system and then the plagues fall.

9. **Significance Of Her Cup, Jewels And Loud Colors**

The cup in her hand being of gold and as she is decked with gold and precious stones, it denotes a most ever-whelming temptation — accomplished through the miracle-working power of the false prophet and Satan himself. Her cup (books) contains false doctrines, and being 'golden' shows that they are plated with Christianity. Its great power can be seen in Revelation 13:15-17. From her golden cup she hands out false, but very pleasing and plausible (golden) doctrines. "Her costly garments of loud colors and precious ornaments vividly portray the magnificence of this most vile woman and her kingly pomp, and vain glory. By the power of her attraction, so irresistible to the human eye, she has conquered men of the

strongest intellect.”

“‘With whom the kings of the earth hath committed fornication’ Millions of these strong, and even gigantic intellects, have fallen helpless victims in her trap. Drunk with her wine of false doctrines they do not recover from their spiritual adultery with the ‘woman’.”

10. **The Destruction Of These False And Corrupt Entities**

a. The Woman:

As previously stated, her destruction is around the close of probation. Revelation 19:1-6; 17:16; 16:19 —the dissolving of the union with the destruction of the head.

From the destruction of the non-descript beast (prophetic of the woman's destruction) to the end of the world will be “a season and a time” (Daniel 7:12) which is fifteen literal months.

b. The Beast And The False Prophet: Read Revelation 19:20,21

They are cast into a lake of fire, while the rest of the world (“the remnant”) were slain with the “sword which proceeded out of his mouth; and the fowls were filled with their flesh.”

This lake of fire cannot be at the second coming of Christ for the wicked are not destroyed by fire at this time but by the brightness of His coming. 2 Thessalonians 2:8.

11. **When:**

They are cast into the lake of fire after the sixth plague and before the end of the world. This destruction of the “remnant” those that were left after the destruction of the beast and the prophet, is not after the millennium, for the wicked at that time are not destroyed by the sword that “proceeded out of His mouth” but by fire that came “down from GOD out of heaven and devoured them”. (Revelation 20:9) After the millennium and the destruction of the wicked no living creature will eat another.

The beast and the false prophet are cast into the lake of fire before the millennium; that lake of fire becomes a type of the destruction of the wicked on the other side of the millennium —the second death. Revelation 20:14,15. This type shows that all the wicked will be thrown alive into a lake of fire. The beast and the false prophet do not come up in the end resurrection, exemplifying that there is no resurrection from the second death.

12. **Destruction Of Papacy? —At 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent (GC 579).**

“The fire coming down out of Heaven upon the beast, denotes the second death of the wicked, one hundred years after the second resurrection. Then the prophecy of Enoch shall meet complete fulfillment: ‘Behold, the Lord cometh...to execute judgment upon “ALL” and to convince “ALL” that are ungodly...of their ungodly deeds which they have committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against HIM.’” (Jude 14,15).

While the fourteenth verse of Jude applies to Christ's coming to the Most Holy apartment in the heavenly sanctuary, and the fifteenth

verse to His second advent, the completeness of the words find their fulfillment after the millennium, for at that time only can He execute the final "judgment upon all the ungodly," from Cain to the end of this present world."

**Conclusion:** To escape the great deception and mark of the beast trap, we need to be diligent students of the word and be doers of that word and not hearers only. (*GC 593*). Let us therefore strive with all the power God has given us to be among the 144,000.

**Education Department  
Davidic Levitical Institute  
Mt. Carmel Center  
Mountain Dale, New York 12763**