

Revelation

Lesson Eight: The Vision of the Seven Visions

Revelation 12:1-13:1a *The Woman & The Dragon*

1. At first glance, the woman of Rev. 12 seems to be the Virgin Mary. She isn't. How do the following details help you identify who she is?
 - (v. 17) her offspring—those who obey God and hold to the testimony of Jesus –
 - (v. 1) clothed with the sun (cf. Philip. 2:15) –
 - (v. 1) a crown of twelve stars on her head –
 - (v. 1) moon under feet (cf. Rev. 2:26) –
2. The red dragon (12:3) is identified as Satan (12:9). What do the following characteristics of the dragon tell us about Satan?
 - (v. 3) enormous –
 - (v. 3) red –
 - (v. 3) seven heads, seven crowns [diadems] –
 - (v. 3) ten horns –
 - (v. 4) swept a third of the stars out of heaven (cf. Jude 6) –
3. Who are the dragon's targets in the following verses?
 - vs. 4b, 5 –
 - vs. 7-9 –
 - vs. 13-16 –
 - v. 17 –
4. How can we weak and sinful human beings hope to overcome the devil? (cf. Rev. 12:11)
5. Someone once said, "If you want to laugh at the devil, read Revelation 12." What did he mean?

Revelation 13:1b-10 *The Beast out of the Sea*

6. How does Daniel 7:2-7, 17 help us understand what the beast from the sea is?

7. In Rev. 13:3, John says that one of the heads of the beast received a fatal wound, which was later healed. How is the reign of the Roman emperor Constantine an example of this?

8. Give examples of how the beast of the sea (evil government) ...

- ✓ blasphemes God (v. 6a) –
- ✓ slanders God's dwelling place (the church militant cf. Eph. 2:19-21) and those who live in heaven (v. 6b) –
- ✓ makes war and conquers the saints (v. 7) –
- ✓ is worshipped by those whose names have not been written in the book of life (v. 8) –

Revelation 13:11-18 *The Beast out of the Earth*

9. Who is this beast that “looked like a lamb but spoke like a dragon” (v. 11)?

10. According to Rev. 13:13, 14, the beast of the earth was able to produce signs (“miracles”) to deceive people. How does Matt. 24:24 support our identification of this beast?

11. The beast of the earth is allied with the beast of the sea. Identify historically how...

- ✓ the beast of the earth has led people to worship the beast of the sea (vs. 12, 14) –
- ✓ the beast of the sea has persecuted Christians on behalf of the beast of the land (v. 15) –
- ✓ the beasts of the sea and land have practiced economic discrimination against believers (v. 17) –

12. “Rev. 13:18 (the “666” verse) is perhaps the most perplexing verse in the whole of Revelation,” wrote one commentator. First, it's highly unlikely that this number will be physically tattooed on unbelievers, just as baptism hasn't left a physical mark on Christians. Which of the following interpretations for the number 666 do you favor and why?

- ❖ 666 = numerical value of _____, the Greek word for _____. Identifying the anti-Christian influence the _____ and the _____ would exert?
- ❖ 6 is half of 12 (the number for the _____), so 6 is the number for the _____?
- ❖ 666 = the _____ (the dragon as Satan, evil government as the beast of the sea, and false prophets as the beast of the earth)
- ❖ 6 is one short of 7. Satan and his allies try to _____ God and _____ him, but can't quite do it.
- ❖ 666 = the nature of _____?