REVELATION: PART 41 · STUDY GUIDE

Revelation 13: The False Prophet, the Image and the Mark

Revelation 13:5–17 | Sunday, April 30 | Revelation Series

Hal Lindsey Media Ministries · hallindsey.com

OVERVIEW

Hal works verse by verse through the rest of the chapter. The beast is given a mouth: the greatest speaker human beings have ever heard, and Hal suspects it is through his oratory that he gains such control — negotiating between people at animosity with each other with what looks like superhuman knowledge of what both sides are thinking. He blasphemes God, God's tabernacle and those who dwell in heaven, which Hal says is us, because one of the first things this man has to do is explain away the people who disappeared. Then a second beast comes up out of the land: two horns like a lamb but the voice of a dragon, a Jew out of the land who comes to Israel as a false Messiah, works signs, and calls fire down from heaven to upstage Elijah. He tells the world to make an image of the first beast, gives it breath, and has everyone marked on the right hand or the forehead. Hal reads that mark as the beast's name, digitised, prefixed to a person's own number and carried on a chip.

KEY SCRIPTURES

Verse 5 — A mouth given to him — Hal suspects his oratory is how he gains control

Verse 6 — He opens his mouth in blasphemies against God, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven

Verse 7 — War with the saints, and authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation

Verse 8 — All who dwell on the earth worship him — everyone not written in the Lamb's book of life

Verse 10 — If anyone is destined for captivity … here is the perseverance and faith of the saints

Verse 11 — Another beast coming up out of the land — two horns like a lamb, but speaking as a dragon

Verse 14 — He tells those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast

Verse 15 — Breath given to the image; whoever will not worship it is killed

Revelation 20 — The book of works, still to be dealt with

KEY TERMS

The land — the word in verse 11 which, with the definite article, means the land of Israel — where the second beast comes up, as the first came up out of the nations

Semeion — the Greek for the signs the second beast performs — the same word used of the miracles of Jesus, signs with great meaning in them

The book of life — the book in which, before the earth was founded, the name of every person who would ever live was written

The Lamb's book of life — the book your name is entered into when you believe in God's salvation and in Jesus Christ

Those who dwell on the earth — a phrase used seven times in the book of Revelation; it means to settle down in and live in, and here it describes the unbelievers

The false prophet — what this second beast is called later — a Jew out of the land who comes as a false Messiah and makes Israel worship the first beast

The image of the beast — an image of the Antichrist from Rome, given breath so that it can even speak, which everyone is required to worship

The mark — the name of the beast, which is the number of his name; without it no one can buy, sell or hold a job

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Answer from the message itself. Every answer is in the teaching.

1. What is given to the beast in verse 5, and what does Hal suspect it means?

2. What is his message, and whom does it appeal to?

3. Whom does he blaspheme in verse 6, and why does Hal say that matters?

4. What are the two books Hal describes, and how does the bookkeeping work?

5. Verse 7 says he makes war with the saints. Where do those believers come from, if the Church is gone?

6. What happens when those two prophets are killed?

7. What does verse 10 say about fighting back, and how does Hal apply it?

8. Where does the second beast come from, and what are his two horns?

9. Why does Hal say the word “but” matters in verse 11?

10. How does the second beast deceive, and whom does he upstage?

11. What is the image, and what does it do?

12. What does Hal call Satan’s clever ruse, and how does the mark work?

DISCUSSION AND REFLECTION

1. The beast wins the world by speaking. What makes you trust a speaker, and how easily could that be used against you?

2. His message is that human nature has the power to do anything. Where do you hear that same message today?

3. Verse 10 says that in that day fighting to survive is futile, and calls it the perseverance and faith of the saints. What is the difference between giving up and enduring?

4. Refusing the mark costs a person the ability to buy, sell or work. What smaller costs of following Christ have you already paid?

5. Hal says only a believer would have the courage to refuse. Where do you get courage you do not naturally have?

6. The second beast has two horns like a lamb and looks like the real thing until he speaks. How do you test something that looks like Christ but is not?

MEMORY VERSE

“And he had two horns like a Lamb, but he spoke as a dragon.”

— Revelation 13:11, as Hal reads it in this message