

66-Revelation – 15-Transcript

well good evening and welcome back to Wednesday night Bible study we're in Revelation chapter 13 and this is the chapter that deals with the beast or I should say the beasts we covered one of these beasts last week that's the beast from the sea but there is also a beast that is from the land and both of these beasts are covered in chapter 13 so we'll do a quick review of what we covered last week and then get straight into the rest of the chapter Revelation chapter 13 let's open with a word of Prayer our Heavenly Father we come before you Lord and we just praise You God we thank you so much for your loving kindness toward us we thank you so much for Jesus Christ our Savior we thank you for his great love for us and we pray God that you would fill us with your Holy Spirit so that we can return this love to Christ and have this love for one another and for all mankind father we thank you for your Holy Scriptures we thank you for your Holy Word we pray for greater understanding as we study it together and we ask all of this father in Jesus Holy Name Amen so we are in Revelation chapter 13 and as I mentioned we covered up to verse 9 last week and so we want to continue it halfway there is 18 verses here in this in this chapter so we'll just do a quick review so that we keep the continuity so Revelation chapter 13 it begins in verse 1 where John is standing on the sand of the sea says then I stood upon the sand of the sea and I saw a beast rise up out of the sea having seven heads and ten horns and upon his horns ten crowns and so we saw this image last week of this red beast

this red dragon and it's got seven heads
and ten horns and upon his horns ten
crowns and upon his heads the name of
for me so this is clearly the adversary
or an adversarial political system I
should say political systems that are
working against God that are in the
image of the devil
that really if you want to understand
the devil in his nature we need to look
at these beasts powers because they are
the perfect image of their father the
devil and so it's full of blasphemy and
the Beast which I saw was like unto a
leopard and his feet were as the feet of
a bear and his mouth as the mouth of a
lion and the dragon gave him his power
and his seat and great Authority so we
see here a beast that is very similar to
the beasts that Daniel saw Daniel saw
four of these beasts a leopard and a
bear and a lion and he says here and I
saw one of his heads as it were wounded
to death so one of these seven heads so
this beast really represents the
adversary the political systems the
global political systems have been
working against God's people that have
been devouring God's people from Assyria
straight through to this final beast
power which is yet to come
but this final beast power though sorry
I should say it has come the seventh
head as competent it was wounded it was
crushed it received a fatal wound but
that fatal wound was healed
so this seventh political system comes
back to life and all the world wondered
after the Beast
and they worshipped the Dragon which
gave power unto the Beast and so that
was the whole point and really we know
from from Isaiah that Satan desires to
be like the Most High he wants to be the

most high he he covets that position and so he is using force in his all of his resources basically deception and force and willing human beings and even unwilling human beings to force this agenda so that he can have the whole world worship him and he can be like the Most High so he goes on to say they worshipped the Dragon which gave power unto the Beast now that was the whole purpose of giving power to the Beast is so that he would be worshipped and they worshipped the Beast saying who is like unto the Beast so they worshiped the dragon so they're worshipping two things here they worshipped the Dragon which gave power unto the Beast that's what Satan wants and they worshipped the Beast saying who is like unto the Beast who is able to make war with him so we see from this that this is not just a political system but it is a war like political system it is a war mongering war a loving political system and it is so powerful that you know people believe it's invincible and then they admire it there in all of it they they want to back the winning horse and so they just believe this is the winning horse no no nobody can come up against this power and so they are in awe they're worshipping it and they're worshipping the devil and there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies again that is the devil's purpose he is a blasphemer is an adversary and so he is leading the whole world in blasphemy and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months and we did say last week that this really is the caboose of the prophecy train so everything that John saw that he said these things must shortly come to pass all of these things

that he saw they began to come to pass almost immediately almost immediately and those churches that John was speaking to they had to endure a great hardship from the prophecies that John was seeing but here we are 2,000 years later and this final period which is really the culmination of the prophecies in Revelation they have not yet come to pass but they are going to come to pass and this is the culmination this is this is sort of the moment that the whole world is waiting for because this is when God and Christ finally crush the the evil empire and established the kingdom of God but it's going to be in this three-and-a-half year period which is really the caboose of the prophecy train and so he says and I considered sorry let's just go back to Daniel just very quickly as the beast that John saw had ten horns and the Beast that the last beast that Daniel saw also had ten horns so the seventh head of the Beast that Daniel saw that John saw had these ten horns with ten crowns and then Daniel saw this beast with this beast just before Christ's return with ten horns and so they considered the horns and behold there came up among them another little horn before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots and behold in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth speaking great things so clearly the devil's puppet the devil servant the devil slave and speaking the things that come from the dragon's mind but it is a it's all about war it's all about might might is right it's all about power and this little horn comes up so it seems like it's younger than the others but it uproots

three of these horns and we do have an indication from Daniel who these three horns are because he says here in Daniel 11:40 two he stretched forth his hand also upon the countries and the land of Egypt shall not escape so it looks like Egypt is going to fall to this power but he shall have power over the treasures of gold and silver and over all the precious things of Egypt so it looks like Egypt comes under his power and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his stead so it looks like he does very well in conquering North Africa he takes Libya he takes each of t takes Ethiopia we see Sudan here in this modern map between Egypt and Ethiopia but Sudan these these borders are really drawn and redrawn and based on war and in a sense there are artificial these are tribes of people who intermingle and he is going to subdue Egypt Libya and Ethiopia we might as well throw Sudan in there as these are tribal peoples with artificial borders between them so these empires it looks like these three kings are going to fall to this other horn or this small horn that comes into the interplay so he goes on to say that in verse six this this seventh beast the seventh though Empire he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God of course he's completely animated by the devil he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God to blaspheme his name and his tabernacle is dwelling and them that dwell in heaven so this is really again this this three-and-a-half year period this is really the pinnacle this is when Satan is he's running out of time and he's doing all he can to be like the most high as that is his agenda that's his objective that's his heart's desire

and it was given unto him that to make war with the Saints oh this political system this beastly the little horn who has power over these empires he is given a remember we saw all the way back when we were in chapter 10 of Revelation that this mighty angel placed his foot on the sea and his foot on the land and so the sea in the land are completely under the control of God we saw the way back in chapter 4 of Revelation we were exposed to the throne room of God and we saw very clearly there is order in heaven God is fully in control and so as much power as this beast is going to exercise in this final three and a half year period of mankind's history if we are alive to see this we understand it is only by permission of God that that God has not lost control this is absolutely being carried out according to his will according to his design according to his objectives and justice will be served and so he goes on to say that it was given unto him to make war with the Saints and not just to make war with the Saints

so his target is he's full of blasphemy he hates God he is resisting God he is accusing God and his focus are the Covenant people of God and so he goes after the people in Judea they scramble they those those that are obedient to Christ they make it to the wilderness there's an earthquake that cuts off his armies and then he turns to go after the rest of the remnant who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus and so now he's given permission to make war with the Saints and not just to make war with them but to overcome us and to overcome them and power was given him over all Kindred's and tongues and nations and all that

dwelt upon the earth shall worship Him
so they are going to worship this man
and then worship meaning bow down to him
we be obedient to him do whatever he
says they are going to hold him in high
high regard all that dwell upon the
earth shall worship Him whose names are
not written in the book of life of the
Lamb so this this great dragon has great
power on the earth through this beast
power and and and this is only by God's
permission and he's going to have this
power over all those that dwell upon the
earth

all Kindred's and tongues and Nations
and everyone whose name is not written
in the book of life of the lamb slain
from the foundation of the world so from
the very beginning God determined that
he would rescue mankind and this lamb
was slain from the beginning and God is
working out his purposes step-by-step
everything in order he is working out
his purposes and those of us who are
part of his purpose who are called
according to this great purpose and and
we love him we are written in his book
of life and we will not go along with
this blasphemy we love not our lives to
the death because we love him and we
will stand up for him the whole world
could be against us we don't care we are
developing this ability this backbone we
are developing this backbone today when
everybody's against us we stand by our
principles and we do not budge we do not
compromise one person with God is a
majority and this is our understanding
and so the whole world is against us the
whole world is for this beast they just
love his doctrine they love his ideology
whatever it is he's spouting it's
blasphemy and they're all going with it
and and he's now turning on the Saints

and he's asking us or commanding us to compromise our face and to go along with him and those of us who are written in the book of life we don't we don't compromise our death is nothing because we believe in the lamb that he was he was slain but he was resurrected and because he was resurrected we have all the proof we need to know that we too will be resurrected and we too will live again so it goes on to say that these folks who have not accepted Christ whose names are not written in the book of life at least not at this time they go along with this and then this passage section is where we ended last week if any man have an ear let him hear and that's what we're doing we have an ear we have a heart we have a desire to know God's will and so we are listening very carefully to these prophecies but here it seems that there's a time now where God's word goes out to the whole world and the whole world has heard the invitation the whole world has heard the witness the whole world has heard the testimony from the faithful sings and and we'll see shortly that will also have help will have angelic assistance in this mission but the whole world will be without excuse because they will have heard the testimony of Jesus Christ and the whole world will have to decide do we follow this blasphemous leader this leader of brute force and corruption or do we listen to the testimony of Jesus now in Revelation 7 remember we saw this that John heard 144,000 counted out from all the from the 12 tribes of Israel and then he turned he said after this I beheld and lo a great multitude which no man could number this is what John saw he says he is told to write what he heard and to write what he saw this is

what he saw and this great multitude was of all nations and Kindred's and people and tongues they stood before the throne and before the lamb clothed with white robes and palms in their hands this shows us the effectiveness of our testimony

that when this beast power or this beast comes into power and he seeks to control the whole world and all nations and all Kindred's and all peoples and all tongues that this gospel goes out to all nations and Kindred's and people and tongues and people from all nations and Kindred's and people and tongues they hear it and they repent and so there is now representation from everybody from from every nation in this first fruits harvest so this is again this is about love now there's gonna be a set of people who love Christ love God love his truth and love all mankind and have an attitude like Stephen the first Christian martyr to say forgive them Lord they don't know what they're doing and and like Paul who was willing that he would even give up his own salvation if it put me in the salvation of of Israel it's this love for Israel it's this love for mankind is this love for God this is what gives us power over the devil and this is the triumph of Christ over the devil when the devil through all of his full hatred of Christ Christ's love for Israel his love for this redemptive process that he was engaged in he kept silent and he was a lamb to the slaughter because of love and so Satan gave Christ this opportunity to prove the power of love over hate the power of love over force and so in the very moment that the devil thought he was victorious he lost and in the very moment that the devil thought

Christ lost he won he became victorious through love and this is how we become victorious through love that we have such a steadfast love for God for his people for all mankind that we are we are Christians we are like Christ we are christ-like and in the moment when the Beast believes he's victorious he has lost and we will come into our Thrones because of this love that we have for God for Christ for Israel for all mankind so he says here in John now we need to understand here is this three and a half year period of intense suffering John 16:20 price says this he says truly truly so you know we can have whatever opinion we like you know everybody's free to have their own opinions and we can have the Word of God and the Word of God says truly truly not not one truly he says it twice verily verily I say unto you that you shall weep and lament this is the prophetic word of God that his people shall weep and lament but the world shall rejoice so at the very moment that God's people are suffering and lamenting and weeping the world who's got gone along with the beast power in its blasphemy is rejoicing it's it's you know at the time of John writing he said you know this beast one is and one is yet to come but the one that was was was this Roman Empire and he had suffered through it from Nero straight through until Constantine took power the Roman Empire turned on the Christians and an arrow in particular he would he would set Christians alight at night - to be a light for his parties so while while he's partying with his revelers Christians are weeping and lamenting he would cover them in in wild animal scent and then then or or animal

scents and then put them in a ring and turn wild animals loose on them and everybody this was entertainment everybody was laughing and rejoicing at the suffering of Christians so Christ is warning us this this is the devil we're dealing with the devil we're dealing with the mind of the devil here that the sadistic mind has entered fully into the minds of men the same way we want to have the mind of Christ the devil wants human beings to have his mind and any does and here it's coming to full culmination and so now they are having sadistic pleasure in the suffering of Christians and the target E he has given power to make war with the saints the Saints are the target and so Christ is telling us you shall weep and lament but the world shall rejoice and you shall be sorrowful you shall be full of sorrow but your sorrow shall be turned into joy ever ever lasting joy eternal joy so it is in a moment of intense suffering to prove faithfulness to prove conviction followed by joy for eternity I think it's worth it I think I think it's a fair trade-off that Christ came and died for us so that we could have eternal life and he's asking us to be faithful to the end I think it's a fair trade-off and he wants to give us this eternal joy and so in this time Christ continues the prophecy in Matthew 24 that at this time when it's a time of panic it's a time of great concern it's a time of just all and wonder at how the world is so so changing he says and then shall many be offended and shall betray one another this this scripture gives me goosebumps this scripture just puts me into just a state of befuddlement that brethren who

are close together loved one another
we're going to turn on one another and
it's just it's the intensity of the fear
that's coming it's the intensity of the
the evil that's coming that people will
be thinking of themselves my skin my
family my life and they will take their
mind off Christ and we need to take this
time now to be developing this deep
conviction to the Word of God
that we will do what the Word of God
says and that's what this whole study of
the book of Revelation is all about now
we are studying this book not we're not
studying this book so that we can kind
of show up at a Christian gathering and
say I have special knowledge about the
book of Revelation I know who the Beast
is I can tell you what different parts
of the revelation means o come to me I
have mysterious knowledge this is not
why we're doing this we are studying
this book and these prophecies so that
we can understand how to behave well
what what what is the instruction manual
telling us that if this do this but if
this then do this this this is why we're
studying this and this is where loyalty
comes to comes from this is how we are
faithful to one another we're not
faithful to one another because you know
hey we love one another let's be
faithful know we're faithful to one
another because we love Christ and we
are committed to his word and whatever
his word says we will do this is where
our faithfulness comes from this is
where the inability to deviate comes
from this is where the inability to
betray the body of Christ comes from it
comes from our love for Christ and our
commitment to do what he says and so
there are going to be among us hopefully
not us but certainly among us those that

take their eye off the ball and they
allow themselves to get offended and
they allow themselves allow ourselves to
betray one another and even to hate one
another the body of Christ
turning on itself this is the prophecy
and I every time I ever read this
passage without just pausing on it and
just like how can this be and just like
knowing the reality that's here in red
and white I was gonna say in black and
white but red and white these are the
words of Christ it's here
and so it's
going to happen and he says because
iniquity shall abound it's gonna be all
over the world a world gone mad
and we're seeing we're seeing the birth
pangs here we're seeing indications of
this where the whole world is constantly
in this state of outrage and hysteria
and and no longer than people thinking
you know reason deeply communicate
clearly but no it's just hysteria but
it's gonna be worse and iniquity will be
everywhere the breaking of God's law
even though they might call it law it's
gonna be iniquity and it's gonna be
abounding it's gonna flourish and
because of this the love of many nada
and that's the other thing that sort of
jumps out at me at these scriptures he
doesn't say some and then shall some be
offended and because iniquity shall
abound the love of some shall wax cold
what what frightens me in this if I can
use that term in these passages is the
fact that crisis it's many it's many
well you know the Church of God is is
there's a lot to the Church of God it's
not just one organization there are many
organizations that are part of the
Church of God and so all we can pray and
hope is that we do our part to those

people that we have influence over or with that we encourage each other we edify one another we build up our congregations so that when this time comes those in our community are among those who are found faithful that's all we can do and so he says take heed to yourselves lest at any time your hearts your hearts you faithful believers you be careful and pay attention and take heed to yourselves lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting and drunkenness and cares of this so you know let's eat drink and be merry because you know what tomorrow we die and we're so caught up in what's going on on this side of the Resurrection that this is our priority and what Christ is saying is be careful and make sure that our priorities are based on the other side of the Resurrection what where will we spend our eternity that's how we think and that's how we prioritize and that's what we truly care about not just for ourselves but for all of the body of Christ and we don't allow ourselves to become drunk that is to get off the Word of God and unto other doctrines and ideas so he's warning that this is a serious time for God's people he goes on to say because as a snare shall it come upon all them that dwell upon the whole earth it's going to come as a snare a snare means it's a trap it means you don't see it coming it means you're walking and you don't see that there's a trap there and you walk into it's like an animal being caught in an animal trap it's disguised and you walk straight into it well if we're not sticking to the Word of God if we're not constantly studying and the Bible is a big book with lots of lots of instructions and lots of prophetic warnings and if we're

not studying it we start to forget
that's the the the mind the human mind
is a forgetting machine that is it's a
remarkable machine for forgetting and
that's actually why it's so efficient it
doesn't get bogged down with all kinds
of data if we were to remember all of
the data we come across even in a single
day

we probably go crazy and so the mind
protects us by forgetting by forgetting
it's only by reinforcement that the mind
is able to hold on to anything and so
God has this holy day plan which many
people don't understand and don't
observe these holy days but we observe
these holy days we're now coming up to
start a new cycle a new year with
Passover just less than two months away
we rehearsed these holy days year after
year and and because we're constantly
reinforced

we don't forget the mind begins to make
new connections and it goes deeper and
deeper and deeper the same with our
Bible study we have to be in God's Word
daily daily in the word so that we don't
forget but if we start to slip away and
that's that's Satan's technique get us
distracted we've got high-definition
television and Dolby sound and you know
everybody's gotta have the highest most
attractive gadgets in the things that
are gonna distract us into entertainment
and so while our lives are falling apart
we're happy because we're we're being
entertained and we're slipping away from
the instructions of God we have to be
studying the word daily because that's a
snare shall it come upon all them that
dwell on the face of the whole world
Satan deceives the whole world and
they're gonna worship this beast because
they're deceived so he says watch you

therefore and pray always always be praying this that you may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass and to stand before the Son of man and so now we meet to ask ourselves a question based on our study of the book of Revelation what we have covered so far what does this passage mean to pray that we be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass and to stand before the son of man does this mean that we need to pray so that our skin is not touched and that we don't have to suffer when the scripture says that all those who desire to live godly in christ will suffer persecution when the scripture clearly shows us in Revelation we understand these prophecies in Revelation and in Daniel when we when we look at the examples of past saints even the Apostles themselves and the holy prophets does this make sense that the most important priority is that we don't suffer or does being accounted worthy to escape all these things focus more on being worthy to escape the deception of the devil that we don't fall into the devil's trap that we see the deception for what it is and even if we have to lose our lives so what Christians have been losing our lives since Christ came and even before Christ came the prophets and all the holy men of God have suffered persecution even fatal persecution so to become cowards where we are afraid to face death and suffering is this is this the point of our prayers or is the point of our prayers to stay in God's Word and to be among those who understand what's going on and know men who have the conviction to stand up for God that no matter what

happens we're laser being focused we are on our way to the kingdom and we love Christ and we love the father and we love his people and we love his word and we're not deviating we're not deviating and no matter what happens we're gonna do what the word says is this the proper way to be counted worthy so that then we can stand before the Son of Man or is it that were just these sniffing cowards and because we were sniffing cowards we get to stand before the Son of Man I think we need to think about what this means

so in Revelation 10 he said to me he said unto me you must prophesy again before many peoples and nations and tongues and kings and we see that these many peoples and nations and tongues and kings have they're hankering after the beast power they love him they admire him who can make war with him and yet we have to give the testimony of Christ and we understand what that means what the implications of that are as he turns to make war with the Saints and so Christ tells us that this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations

and so we do see repentance from all nations but at the same time it's clear that all nations are going after the Beast and even though the Beast has this horrendous power given to him by the devil himself all the force that he has we continue to preach the gospel with courage and conviction without fear of death because we are committed to live with Christ eternally so this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations and then shall the end come so continuing now in Revelation chapter 13 it says that he that leads into captivity shall

go into captivity he that kills with the sword and actually saw I was just thinking that I wanted to emphasize this actually the endurance I've just before going to because they are they're related and so we want to make sure we understand this there is this sense that Christ wants us to have of this is a long haul this is not this is not something that you know it's not a sprint it's a marathon and and and successful marathon runners have one thing in mind to cross the finish line to cross the finish line they are not going to have on their on their on their ballot DNF did not finish even if they have to drag themselves across the finish line they are going to finish the race that they've begun and so those runners that start out sprinting in a marathon not understanding what kind of race they're running they're going to suffer and so we need to be very very clear this we're running a marathon and we must cross the finish line and so we have to just pace ourselves and set ourselves we're going to the end we've started this race Christ has started this work in us he's gonna finish it we're gonna cross the finish line and so no matter what we are going to be preaching gospel message no matter what it's very easy now and there has been in the West or started to be a little bit difficult but in the West basically Christian countries are helping Christian countries and it's been fairly easy to speak truth it's changing all this post-modernism this Marxism is cultural Marxism it's changing and now people don't want to hear a Christian message and this is just going to intensify but we have the

word of truth and we are going to speak truth so this enduring to the end comes from an understanding that John is giving us in the book of Revelation continuing then in chapter 13 verse 10 it says that he that leads into captivity shall go into captivity so slaves are going to be taken all over the world anybody who does not worship this beast power is going to be enslaved but the understanding that we are getting from this prophecy is that he that leads into captivity shall go into captivity and he that kills with the sword must be killed with the sword and then John writes this here in this understanding that there will justice will be served justice will be done there will be a reversal it doesn't matter how powerful this beast's power is the angel had one foot on the sea and one foot on the land meaning he is under the Dominion of God and eventually God is going to say enough it's this understanding that John says in this understanding is the patience and faith of the saints so we endure to the end because of this understanding God is in control and so whatever victory that he has whatever joy that he has now or the people following the beast now have it's it's short-lived it's temporary and so this we know the finish line is coming and it's this understanding that gives us patience so John says it and this understanding is the patience and faith of the saints he doesn't say this once he repeats it we'll see this next week when we're in chapter 14 God willing he says again here is the patience of the saints going through again this understanding here are they that keep the commandments of

God and the faith of Jesus so so Satan is sending his forces after those who keep the commandments of God and who have the testimony of Jesus but we are able to hold on to the commandments of God and able to preach our testimony and speak our testimony because of our understanding that he who leads the captivity will be taken in captivity and he who kills by the sword will in fact be killed by the sword so he says that we must endure to the end to be saved now this understanding that we this confidence we have comes from the prophets the prophets and again all these prophets converge into the book of Revelation so let's just look at some of these prophets where we can see that in fact he that lives by the sword shall in fact to die by the sword and he that leads into captivity shall in fact be led into captivity look at the prophet amos behold the day's come says the Lord that the plow man shall overtake the Reaper and the Treader of grapes him that sow seed and is speaking specifically of Israel and the mountain shall drop sweet wine and all the hills shall melt notice verse 14 of chapter 9 and I will bring again this is God speaking I will when God says I will there's no deviation and I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel so this is the second Exodus that the profits speak up anew - Christ Himself spoke of that the exodus of bringing history a lot of Egypt that won't even be mentioned anymore because the second Exodus is going to be of such a scale that is going to dwarf the first Exodus so the second Exodus didn't occur I will bring again the captivity of my people

of Israel and they shall build the waste cities so there's going to be such destruction on the cities of Israel but they shall build them again and inhabit them they won't just build them they're going to inhabit them and inhabit them safely and they shall plant vineyards and drink the wine thereof and they shall also make gardens and eat the fruit of them and I will plant them upon their land God is saying this that he's going to do this for Israel I will plant them upon their land and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them so again Satan wants to be like the Most High he wants to take this land that God has given to Israel and he wants to give it to his servants and he's going to take God's servants captive but he's under the Dominion of God and he only has a short time and then God is going to ask when to crush him put him away going to crush his servants and establish Israel and they will dwell in their land and they won't be pulled up out of their land which I have given them so with the by implication they're being pulled up now they're going to be pulled up in that three and a half year period but then it's gonna stop and that won't be done it says the LORD thy God God has promised through through Abraham to give this to Israel in Isaiah he Isaiah writes

that the Lord said unto Him you are my servant o Israel Israel is God's servant Israel is God's servant in whom I will be glorified in all nations that repent will be grafted into Israel because God will be grafted in Israel and nobody else God will not be glorified in Gentiles he will be glorified in Israel she said unto me you are my servant o

Israel in whom I will be glorified verse 25 of the same chapter but thus says the Lord even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away this beast power that is so powerful that everyone who can make war with the Beast is such all like who can make war with them you know what even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered for I will contend with him that contends with you anyone who contends with Israel and I don't mean today what we call the nation of Israel is just the Judah Israel is all of Israel and anyone who contends with Israel God says I will contend with with them with them and I will save your children I will contend with him that contends with you and I will save your children Israel so God is going to act on Israel's behalf and I will feed them that oppress you so this beast power that all seven heads of the Dragon have been oppressing God's people I will feed them that oppress you with their own flesh and they shall be drunken with their own blood as with sweet wine so the same way they just love the wine drink the wine and they're gonna drink their own blood and all flesh so we saw all flesh hankering after the beast worshiping the Beast obeying the Beast God through Isaiah says all flesh shall know that I the LORD so whatever religion they have whatever belief system they have their spewing out blasphemy God says to Isaiah that all flesh shall know that I the Lord and your Savior and your Redeemer that's he speaking specifically to Israel the whole world will know all flesh will know that I the Lord the creator of the universe I am the savior of Israel and I am the

Redeemer of Israel he calls himself he wants to be known as the Mighty One of Jacob this is Christ he came as a son of Jacob and he came as the faithful Israelite to redeem Israel and the whole world will know that the Creator the logos the sustainer of the whole universe is the Mighty One of Jacob and he's coming to save Jacob in chapter 14 of Isaiah he says and the people shall take them and bring them to their place and the house of Israel shall possess them in the land of the Lord for servants and handmaids and they shall take them captives this was gonna take their enemies captives whose captives they were so they were these people's captives but there's gonna be a reversal he that leads into captivity shall be taken into captivity and he that kills with the sword must be killed with the sword and in this is the patience of the saints now we understand this is God's Word and God it's impossible for God to lie so even though it appears like this political power it cannot be stopped that this is this is that they they have won they've established their Kingdom all around the world their empire I should say over these all various kingdoms over around the world we understand that they haven't won that he that leads into captivity will be led into captivity he that kills with the sword shall be killed with the sword and we'll be patient we will he's our God we'll wait for him we'll wait whose captors they were and they shall rule over their oppressors Israel will rule over their oppressors in chapter 33 is just tons of these prophecies we'll just look at a few of them woe to you that spoils and you weren't spoiled and deals treacherously and they dealt not

treacherously with you just a
treacherous treacherous group of people
when you shall cease to spoil you shall
be spoiled this great reversal that's
coming and when you you shall make an
end to deal treacherously they shall
deal treacherously with you so you know
we are comforted by the Word of God we
understand where this is all going and
hear from King David rest in the Lord
Psalm 37 rest in the Lord this is where
our patience comes from and wait
patiently for him he we it's impossible
for God to lie we'll wait we'll wait
well we'll have sorrow now but our
sorrow will return to joy and no one
will be able to take our joy from us
we'll wait he's faithful rest in the
Lord and wait patiently for him fret not
yourself because of him who prospers in
his way because of the man who brings
wicked devices to pass don't don't worry
about it it's gonna happen it's
prophesied to happen
we'll wait we'll rest in the Lord and
wait back to Revelation verse 11 so now
he says here he behold another beast so
he says you know so far he has seen one
beasts come up out of the sea and last
week what was showed was that the sea is
a symbol for Gentile peoples so these
beasts the seven heads the seven
iterations or manifestations of the
Dragons Empire come out of Gentile
peoples and they pursue and consume the
people of God the people of God are the
people of the land
we saw it just now in Amos and in Isaiah
that God promises to give the land to
his people
so the sea represents Gentile peoples
the land represents Israel and so now we
read here in verse 11 that he beheld
another beast so there's one from the

sea

this one coming up out of the earth so
this is a different beast now this one's
coming up out of the earth and this one
had two horns like a lamb hmm but he
spoke like a dragon so this now clearly
is about deception that this is clearly
a deceiver and if you look clearly your
Christ warns us that by their fruits we
shall know them so they're gonna say
things that are going to betray them
that out of the abundance of the heart
the mouth speaks and so he you know he
looks like a lamb so the scripture is
warning us that this beast is going to
come from the Christian world this beast
is gonna look like it represents Christ
and it's gonna have two horns of a lamb
it's an imitator he's gonna sound like
he's all about Christ but when we listen
to him carefully he's the devil
he's a representing representative of
the dragon so we have two beasts we have
a political beast coming from the
Gentiles and we have a religious beast
coming out of Christianity or appearing
to come out of Christianity and so we
have this warning from our Lord where he
says Jesus answered and said unto them
take heed that no man deceive you so
again we're praying always that we will
be accounted worthy to escape all these
things how do we escape all these things
we escape all these things by no one
deceiving us you know the person who
saves their life
they save their skin but they lose their
eternal life what's the point of that
but the person who loses their life for
Christ's sake because they are not
deceived they are accounted worthy to
stand before Christ
so what we're praying for is not that no
harm should ever come to us their life

involves suffering even people who don't know God can't get through life without suffering so let's not be weak and cowardly sniveling cowards let's have some backbone and some courage and so suffering is just a part of this life where we're all about the resurrection the first resurrection we're then in the new creation there's no suffering all tears are wiped away so take heed be careful now that no man deceive you here we are you know we can feel quite confident that everything's cool we kind of understand what's going on but there's a wave of deception that is coming that is going to be so powerful that if we're not constantly praying to escape these things we're gonna be overtaken by it so take heed pay attention that no man deceives you he says in verse 23 then If any man shall say unto you lo here is Christ so this beast has two horns like a lamb but it speaks like a dragon this is dragon speak lo here is Christ or there don't believe it it's the dragon it's the dragon speaking it sees he's disguised don't fall for it for there shall arise false Christ's okay there's gonna be false messiahs and false prophets speaking of Christ as Messiah and what are they gonna do they shall show great signs and wonders this is gonna be so awesome it must be true that the miracles and you know it's a lot of uhm Christians even even among the Church of God who are very experiential they're very kind of charismatic and it's all about experience and they don't study the Word of God and so these people who are all about experience this is gonna be quite an experience and it's gonna feel so true

I just I just feel the Lord but they're
not studying the Word of God and they're
gonna be taken away with this we have to
stick to the Word of God and everything
has to line up with the Word of God or
it's not true thy Word is truth shall
show great signs and wonders in so much
that if it were possible they shall
deceive the very elect that's their
desire that's that's the pursuit to go
after the saints and if possible deceive
us to take our salvation away from us
behold I've told you before so there's
no chemist we don't know what's coming
brethren but it's a wave of massive
deception the whole world is going to be
going along with it and Christ is
telling us look I've told you before and
what I said earlier is we are a
forgetting machine so if we're not
constantly refreshing our understanding
we're gonna forget and then when
somebody says all here's Christ or all
these over there we're gonna fall for it
but he said look I've told you before
this is what's gonna happen therefore
because he's told us already
to avoid this deception and we're
praying constantly to not be deceived
therefore if they shall say unto you
behold he is in the desert so somebody
is gonna make a claim that they have
Christ with them and he's with them in
the desert so we gotta be aware of this
we're not gonna fall for any desert
representation of the coming of Christ
do not go forth the whole world is gonna
go for it
we're not gonna go for it behold he's in
the secret chambers so some secret
chambers most likely in the desert don't
believe it don't believe it
we know you know the early church
suffered from this deception that Christ

was gonna return any minute here's
Christ there's Christ and the Apostle
Paul wrote to the Thessalonians and he
said let no man deceive you by any means
same thing that Christ taught him he's
now teaching the Thessalonians we now
understand that Satan wants to deceive
us and take our salvation away from us
let no man deceive you by any means for
that day shall not come except there
come a falling away first there's going
to be an apostasy brethren will betray
one another the love of men is going to
wax cold there's gonna be hatred we have
to see this first we also know from
Scripture that when Christ returns all
eyes will see him at once
it's not going to be he's in the secret
chambers so that it must be an apostasy
and that man of sin be revealed the son
of perdition so this is his final three
and a half year period this man of sin
will be revealed and then shall that
wicked be revealed whom the Lord shall
destroy with the spirit of his mouth and
shall destroy with the brightness of his
coming I'm back to Revelation 13 let me
just pick up a little bit on the white
bull we'll never finish revelation 13
it's such a rich chapter and I beheld
another beast coming up out of the earth
and he had two horns like a lamb and he
spoke like a dragon and he exercises all
the power of the first beast before him
so we know that this power was given to
the first beast by the dragon and so by
implication the dragon gives the second
beast the same power so we have two
beasts now one from the Gentile peoples
one from the Christian world that are
exercising tremendous power of the devil
this second beast that's exercising all
the power of the first beast has a
purpose of the first beast is getting

people to worship him and to worship the dragon the second beast causes the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast so there really is an agenda here that man must work the political power of the first beast Adri was made a king the devil was under Adam but Adam through his kingdom his his crown away and submitted to the devil and man made in God's image the devil wants to crush us and have us about to him and so the agenda is political the agenda is political it's about Dominion and so the whole agenda here is to get mankind made in God's image made to rule with God to bow before the dragon and he does that with his proxy his Nimrod proxy this human being that as we as we bow if we bow to this human being were in effect submitting to the political power of the devil so this second beast that that speaks like that looks like a lamb but speaks like a dragon his agenda is the cause mankind to worship the first beast whose deadly wound was healed so so this political power lost a decisive battle it looked decisive but in a sense he's been ready it's been resurrected and it's coming back to power and this second beast is basically saying it's okay now Christ would want you to do this it's good go and worship the first beast and this this term worship which really means to prostrate Christ says why do you call me Lord Lord and you don't do the things which I said so worship is really about obedience and so the whole world becomes obedient and prostrate to the first beast and does whatever he says and we do what the Lord says we worship the Lord we do what he says why call him Lord if we don't do what he says and he that's the second

beast does great wonders so that he makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men and so this is what Christ warned us about is going to be great signs and wonders and people are going to fall for it in Deuteronomy in fact this is right in the Torah that if there does arise a prophet this false prophet rises

and he gives us a sign or a wonder even if it comes to pass if he's telling us to go after other gods to go after this beast and worship the Beast that's his hole at some point he uses all this power of the devil to get mankind to worship the first beast and in worshipping the first beast mankind is now worshipping the dragon so if he comes in then there's going after other gods besides we know that Christ is our Lord we're not gonna budge we're not going to deviate he saw not hearken unto the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams

the Lord has proven us to know whether you love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul and right here in Deuteronomy is how we succeed it's to love the Lord our God with all our heart and all our soul we love him because he loved us first chapter 13 verse 14 the second beast deceives them that dwell on the earth by means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the Beast and no doubt he's doing these miracles in the name of Jesus Christ and he's proclaiming how wonderful Jesus Christ is and he's doing these miracles he's doing them in the sight of the Beast and he's deceiving mankind to worship the beast from the scene saying to them that dwell on the earth that they should make an image to the Beast which had the wound by a sword so some

kind of military battle and did live and
it's come back to life so he's now
telling them to make an image of this
second beast and he had power to give
life unto the image of the Beast
so again wonderful signs signs and
wonders he's going to give they're gonna
make this image of the Beast he's gonna
have the ability to give life to this
image and the image of the Beast that
the image of the beast should both speak
and cause as many as would not worship
the image of the Beast should be killed
and these brethren who are blessed to be
killed for Christ will be accounted
worthy to stand before
him and to rule with him forever so
being killed in Christ is it that's not
something that we should fear and oh no
it could you know anything but that no
no no this this is we we love God with
all our heart and our soul and we have a
testimony and we're not going to bow to
blasphemy and we're not gonna bow to
pressure we're just going to declare in
the beginning was the word and the Word
was God and the Word was with God the
Word was with God and he was God and and
all things that were created were
created by him so because of this these
Saints will not worship the image of the
Beast despite what the false prophet is
saying and the the beast causes them to
be killed he's making war against the
Saints and so we know from Leviticus
again going right back to the Torah
we're not to make graven images nor rear
up a standing image neither should we
set up any image of stone in our land
nor were to bow down to it because the
Lord is God so take heed to yourselves
that your heart be not deceived that you
turn aside and serve other gods and
worship them so he looks like a lamb

he's talking about Christ but he speaks like a dragon he's - he's getting us - to worship the sea beast and when by proxy or really doing his worshipping the devil

if we worship the beast from the sea so Christ warns us to beware of false prophets which come in sheep's clothing but inwardly they speak like a dragon wolves so daniel warns us that ave of understanding among the people shall instruct many so this is even right into this three-and-a-half year period there are gonna be people who understand they're going to instruct many yet they shall fall by the sword so these are accounted worthy this is not oh no we cannot be that we cannot know no matter what we mustn't die no no we no matter what we mustn't be deceived and even those who understand among the people who are instructing the people they shall fall by the sword by flame by captivity and by spoil many days this beast is thorough he Satan wants to be the most high he wants the whole world to worship Him and so he's now on a rampage he's gone he's running out of time he's out to destroy anybody who will not worship Him but there are people who have understanding who are telling the people what's what and what is really happening and even these people particularly are being targeted but they die faithful in the Lord and that's that's good so we've got to get it out of her head that to somehow suffer persecution for Christ is a terrible thing and we must pray against it when we must pray against this deception now when they shall fall they shall be helped with a little help but many shall cleave to them with flatteries and some of them of

understanding shall fall to try them we just saw that in Leviticus to try them and to purge and to make them white even to the time of the end because it is yet for a time appointed and we know that through the tribulation we see this that many will be arrayed in white robes and they shall wash their robes in the blood of the Lamb so

I'll just skip over Psalms here that you know David says who will rise it up against me and unless the Lord had helped him this soul had almost dwelt in silence and we we are very much like David that when we're in this situation it looks like all is lost

but God is gonna help us with with help and so we'll be fine let me just get down now well I think I'll just read this and then I won't comment on it you know show the throne of iniquity have fellowship with you which frames mischief by a law just because you have a law you frame mischief with it iniquity will abound they gather themselves together against the soul of the righteous and condemned the innocent blood but the Lord is my defense and my God is the rock of my refuge and he shall bring upon them their own iniquity and shall cut them off in their own wickedness yes the Lord our God shall cut them off so lots in the Psalms a lot of prophecy in the Psalms just as we wrap up now in Revelation 13 and he causes all both small and great rich and poor free and bond very thorough causes all to receive a mark in their right hand or in their foreheads and so what is this mark that's in the right hand or in their foreheads and many speculated and there are a lot of different ideas out there many saying that it's a kind of technology it's a barcode or a chip

system and because of the whole economy will be based on this technology but I think we just need to be careful not to be too dramatic in our imaginations here because you know what is this mark remember Satan is a counterfeiter he's trying to be like the Most High and here what we see in earlier in the book of Revelation it was commanded the Angels that they should not hurt the grass of the earth neither any green thing neither any tree but only those men which have not the seal of God on their foreheads so there's a stamp in the foreheads of the people of God is this a barcode is this a chip remember this book is apocalyptic literature so John is seeing things that are primarily symbols that point to something and so this seal that the saints have it's not that we have a barcode on our head or on our hand it's a symbol so that we are known by our commitment to the commandments and our commitment to our testimony of Christ we are known as the people of God and the Angels know not to bring the special judgment that they have for the wicked down upon us the devil is trying to be the Most High and so in the same way there is a mark on his servants and it's all those who bow down and worship the image of the Beast that this marks them this they've accepted the ideology they've accepted the blasphemy and that's what's in their minds and so they are marked with the devil's mark now could there be technology involved in the future to do with the worship of the Beast absolutely they're good but our focus is really on understanding the things that will shortly come to pass that have been

signified that have been put in symbolic form so that we can look at the symbols and understand that it's pointing to something and the symbol of a mark is either pointing to obedience in Christ or it's pointing to disobedience in Christ and the obedience to the dragon because the dragon is trying to be like Christ

so here in songs he speaks about you know their right hand is a right hand of falsehood so the mind that the forehead represents the mind how we think what we think about the hand represents what we do so as a result of what we think we behave a certain way so forehead and hand represent belief and doing and so this mark he says that no man might buy or sell except that he had the mark so this is where people say that this mark has to be some sort of technology because unless you have the mark you cannot buy or sell so clearly you know you look at Amazon grocery stores and different forms of technology everybody's you know technology is just becoming a part of every aspect of our lives that the beast gets control over this and then we cannot buy or sell without this technology no now notice it doesn't say we cannot eat or drink without this mark you know we can there's always bartering systems and there's ways that human beings survive but in this political system this political economic system you have to have the mark but it's not just the mark you might not have the mark it says that they had the mark or the name of the beast or the number of his name so it's one of these three things you either have the mark you have the name of the beast or you have the number of his name in any case you are part of the system

you have bowed down to the devil and
you're the devil you're part of the
devil's community so if you're part of
the doubles community you're part of the
act in the economy of the devil system
if we have the mark of God we're not
part of this we will not accept the mark
we will not accept the name of the beast
will not accept the new number
and so again we talked about the sealing
of God the servants of God in our
forehead so his honey there's there's no
in-between that as as the history of
mankind comes to its conclusion you are
either on God's side or you're on the
devil side and there's no such thing as
agnostic there's no such thing as yeah I
believe in everybody and everything you
either believe in Christ or you believe
in the devil and that's it you either
have the mark of God on your forehead or
you have the mark of the beast or his
image or his name or the number of his
name and then in verse 18 he says the
last verse here in Revelation 13 here is
wisdom 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
so 666 what is this and there are you
know there's probably 666 different
theories about what this 666
yes I certainly have some ideas I'm sure
you have some ideas what I want to say
at this point is we know that six is the
number of man that seven is the number
of completion that seven is them is the
thing the Sabbath but blue and the
dwelling of man with God with his God
with our God this is what seven pictures
is pictures complete maturity perfection
six is the number of men man was made on
the sixth day and through all prophecies
we see how the number six or throughout

the scriptures we see all the number six is used to point to men so this is certainly you know the the focus is on the man the Beast and what I'll say here is I'm not gonna give any theory about what this number means that we know that the prophecies are opening up and they are there they will continue to open up and there will come a time when this will be crystal clear to us and there will be teachers who will teach the Saints what this is I don't think it's helpful right now to speculate because we don't need to know this right now this this is not upon us right now so I'm not going to give any Theory here except to say that here is wisdom so we saw earlier where there was patience here is the patience of the Saints it's the understanding that God will act but here is wisdom that we need to understand the numbers name because it's a part of the system that we either have the mark the image or the number of his name and so Daniel says here that at this time many shall be purified and made white and tried but the wicked shall do wickedly and none of the wicked shall understand but the wise shall understand this is prophecy so when when we need to know we will know the wise shall understand God will raise up teachers who will give us what we need when we need it and right now I just don't believe it's helpful to be speculated in Hosea says who is wise and he shall understand these things prudent and he shall know them for the ways of the Lord are right and the just shall walk in them but the transgressors shall fall at therein so God will always provide for us and we will walk with the Lord and we will walk in his truth so in second

Peter given on the whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises that by these we might be partakers of the divine nature having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust and I think this is our focus right now our focus is to expunge out of our natures this selfishness this self-centeredness where it's all about ourselves and we need to become christ-centered and that way lust has no power over us we are just truly christ-like and as we become christ-like the devil has no power of us this needs to be our focus right now the scripture says again he says here's wisdom that we need to count on these scriptures are opening up they are opening up and that's why when we begin this study we focused on this verse blessed is he that reads and they that hear the words of this prophecy and that the Greek if you look at the tenses of these verbs to read and to hear they are in the present active tense it really means blessed is he that reads and keeps reading and keeps reading and keeps reading and blessed are those who hear and keep hearing and keep hearing and keep hearing the Word of God is life it's alive and so it's not that we read this once we have to figure everything out right now it's that oh we get this this is a book that we don't put down this is a book that we read this is a prophetic word that we just keep reading and this is a prophetic word that we just keep hearing because over time the prophecies are opening up the scroll is opening so we just have to remain faithful and understand that the scroll it keeps opening it keeps opening as time unfolds it keeps opening me we come to

understand more and more so let's not
get into this we have to figure
everything out and we have to be the
ones in the know let's just be faithful
and blessed is he that reads and they
that hear the words of this prophecy and
keep those things and keep keep on
keeping these things which are written
in this
that word for the time is at hand so
let's just stay faithful let's stay with
it and we have enough we have what we
need right now and we'll just keep
reading this and studying it and as
things unfold God will raise up teachers
to teach us the Holy Spirit will guide
us and we'll always know and be
convicted that Jesus Christ is Lord
we'll have this is our testimony pray
God that it will be the last words on
our lips Jesus is Lord Christ is king he
is our Savior we will wait for him