welcome back to Wednesday night Bible study tonight is chapter 13 of the book of Revelation this is a very intense chapter and you'll remember when we started this study we decided we would skip ahead and cover chapters 21 and 22 to see how everything ends so that we understand that the book of Revelation is good news it's good news but there is some difficult moments as we lead into the triumphal entry of our Lord and Savior and we are going to get into some intense content in chapter 13 let's open with the word of Prayer and then let's begin our study father we come before you your servants ever so grateful that you have called us out that you have brought us to Jesus Christ that in a world of darkness your gospel your good news is not hidden to us and we're so grateful father that beyond understanding the Gospel message we can understand or begin to understand the content here in this book of revelation and there's a great blessing pronounced on those who will read those who will hear those who will keep the words that are in this book father let that be us we praise you we ask your blessing in Jesus Holy Name so we are going to cover some intense content tonight we're going to be talking about the mark of the beast and the Beast and all of that and there's a lot of you know imagination around these topics we want to take a responsible reading of the scripture however we also want to address what's in the scripture head-on so before we get straight into the chapter we need to go back a little bit I want to take us back to chapter 10 because that ties in to chapter 13 there was a bit of an

interlude where you know things are happening on the earth but what we saw last week was John saw a vision in heaven and he saw things signs in the heavens but now in chapter tima come back to earth we want to go back to chapter 10 where the focus clearly was on the earth because that will help us understand chapter 13 so we'll cover a bit of ten and a bit of eleven and twelve to introduce chapter thirteen in the chapter ten when we covered that it began with John seeing another mighty angel he doesn't name this angel I believe based on content in Daniel that this is Michael some people are saying that it is Christ I don't think it's Christ at all the way but I do think it could be the Archangel Michael but he saw this other mighty angel come down from heaven so he's coming to earth clothed with a cloud on a rainbow upon his head and his face as were as it were the Sun and his feet as pillars of fire and he had in his hand a little book open and we know that this is actually a scroll but the focus here is that it was open there was no longer close to the angel comes down this mighty angel and the content of this little scroll is open and and we believe that or some teaching that this the content assists this book is the prophecies the time based prophecies that were given to Daniel that Daniel told were sealed until the time of the end well this is the time at the end and those prophecies are now opened and he set his right foot upon the sea and his left foot upon the earth this is going to become very important this is why I wanted to go back to chapter 10 that this angel woman covered this he was demonstrating his

absolute authority and dominion over over the the not just the land but the land and the sea that he it's under his feet he has complete authority over anything that's taking place from this point forward on the land and in the sea now let's go back to the prophecy that was given to chapter 12 verse 1 and at that time shall Michael stand up so at the end time this is when Michael stands up the Great Prince which stands for the children of your people and there shall be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time and at that time Daniel your people shall be delivered every one that shall be found written in the book so Michael comes down and everyone that is written in the book is delivered at this time when Michael comes down and it's a time of Great Tribulation there's never been a time like this before and nor will there ever be this is an intense time of great suffering but it's also a time of great deliverance so that's what the same time is and then in verse 4 he's given these instructions but you Oh Daniel shut up the words so this was all shared with Daniel so Nebuchadnezzar had a vision a dream that that enabled him to see what was gonna happen in the future Daniel then deciphered that and Daniel was given additional revelation and additional visions so Daniel had a full view front-row seat into what's going to happen before the return of Christ but then he's told to seal up the words and so shut up the words and seal the book even to the time of the end and again I just want to highlight every time we're talking about time so this is all sealed until the time of the end many shall run

to and fro and knowledge shall be increased so it's going to be a time I'm going to interpret this as it's a time of panic but at the same time because it's a time of the opening it's a time of the apocalypsis it's a time of Revelation that there are going to be many that are going to be understanding what is happening while many are panicking and running up and down and freaking out they're going to be others that understand exactly what is going on verse 5 then I Daniel looked and behold the

stood other two so there is Michael standing and he's standing on the sea and then there's another two angels that are standing the one on this side of the bank of the river and the other on that side of the bank of the river so Michael is standing on the sea and these other angels are standing on the riverbanks one on one side one on the other so Michaels on the sea they're on the land and once said to the man clothed in linen so they're speaking to Michael which was upon the waters of the river how long shall it be to the end of these wonders so this is like wow what's going on here how long how long whatever it is that daniel saw that he was privy to understand how long does this take and you know when does it all end and these are wonders and I heard the man clothed in linen that is Michael which was upon the waters of the river so in Revelation he's got one foot on the sea and one foot on the land here he's on the water the river and the other angels are on the land and he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven and swore by him that lives forever that it shall be for a time times and half and a half so time is one x is two and a half it's

going to be for three and a half and we understand this with other prophecies 1260 days 42 months this is three and a half years so whatever Daniel was privy to understand it was wonderful it was awesome in the true meaning of the word aw you know awful full of all and it's gonna be for three and a half years so this is all about this time period of three and a half years and it's going to be a time of trouble such as never was nor will ever be again and so it's going to be for a time times and a half when he shall have accomplished notice this to scatter the power who of the holy people that for three and a half years the holy people are going to be given over and this beast is going to be able to accomplish the shattering of the power of the holy people and then all these things shall be finished and earlier Michael said that Daniels people that are found written in the book who are in the book of life they conduct themselves in such a way that our names are written in the book of life we will be delivered we will be resurrected to glory but there are going to be others who conduct themselves in such a way Christ tells us that many shall betray one another and so they're gonna be running up and down running to and fro but knowledge will be increased and so there are gonna be some that understand what's going on and they're going to be faithful and true but others are not going to be and then it's all over three and a half years and I heard so tell me Daniel heard this he just couldn't compute it it's like okay I hear what you're saying this just doesn't make any sense to me so he's constantly asking him can we go over

this again like I help me understand I heard but I didn't understand then said I o my lord what shall be the end of these things in other words what on earth is this why are the holy people being shattered or seattered destroyed why is never being

scattered destroyed why is power being given to the Beast what how is this part of your plan I can we go over this again I don't understand and and where is all this lead what won't be the end of all of this and again it's about the time how long does this go on for and he said go your way Daniel for the words are closed up and sealed until the time of the end so now what revelation is showing us is when we come to that final three and a half year period the little book is opened the scroll is opened knowledge will be in priest the wicked are gonna do wickedly but the wise will understand because this this it's God's will for us to understand that's what the apocalypsis is all about it's about understanding it's about a revealing so that the wise those who truly fear God will be able to understand everything that's happening around them so at this time though he's told that these were this prophecy what he chose was privy to understand it's sealed and it's not going to be fully appreciated and understood until the right time and that is the time of the end and that is this final three and a half year period so we come back to revelation 10 and the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven so what Daniel saw was he was standing on the water and the other two angels were on the land but he lifted and he lifted up both hands and swore here now what John sees is he puts one foot on the sea and

one foot on the land and then he lifts up his hand and he swears by him that lives for ever and ever so something is in this scroll that's open but it's all under God's control and the land and the sea are under the feet of this mighty angel to show this is all under God's control and he swore by him that lives forever and ever who created heaven and the things that therein are and the earth and the things that therein are and the sea and the things which are therein that there should be time no longer so this is it this is this is what Daniel like how long is this gonna be like when does this all in this is where it all ends so now the chronology the unfolding of the history of man it's over this is it the scroll is now opened all the final

things are now going to take place in this final three and a half years but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel when he shall begin to sound the mystery of God should be finished again that pointing to time it's now history is over and it's a mystery so Daniel said what will be the end of these wonders this is I don't understand it's a mystery I can't comprehend this well now according to the voice of the saying Joel when the seventh trumpet blows it's over this whole thing now is going to unravel very very quickly and we're going to usher in the kingdom of God as he has declared to his servants the prophets and especially to Daniel but also Ezekiel Jeremiah Isaiah they all had glimpses of this as well so going back to Daniel 12 that the one said the one that was on the land said to the one that was on the water how long shall it be to the end of these wonders these mysteries well this is it

now in the final trumpet when that trumpet when that angel sounds and the little book is opened it's over many shall be purified in Daniel 12 many shall be purified so this is a revealing this is an understanding of what's going on and this commitment to Christ is part of the purification process many shall be purified and we saw that in Daniel sorry in Revelation chapter 7 we saw the symbolic number of 144,000 and when John heard them counted out and he looked he saw multitude that no man could number many shall be purified and made white and he was asked like who are these and he's Noah these are those who came through the Great Tribulation and they washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb many shall be purified and made white and tried it's going to be a testing intense testing period but they're going to be successful knowledge shall increase but many are gonna run to and fro the wicked shall do wickedly they're not gonna understand brother shall betray brother you know never mind though those people who reject Christ altogether but those who know Christ and have tasted of his Holy Spirit are going to do wickedly so says the scripture the wicked shall do wickedly and none of the wicked shall understand but knowledge shall be

priest there is going to be the revealing there is going to be the apocalypsis there's going to be this understanding of what God is doing the wise shall understand so the scroll is going to be opened to the wise now the real understanding of this three-and-a-half Period three and a half year period is about understanding that in fact this three-and-a-half year period is part of the prophecy that was

given to Daniel the 70 weeks prophecy we're in Daniel 9:24 seventy weeks are determined upon your people Daniel and upon your holy city to finish the transgression this is what the wise will understand that the seventy weeks are determined upon the people of God and upon the holy city Jerusalem to finish the transgression God's people have been if they have been anything they've been rebellious they have been against God and now in this 17 weeks plan God is going to bring an end to the transgression and he's going to make an end of the sins of his people and to make reconciliation for iniquity and to bring in to bring in what everlasting righteousness everlasting righteousness and to seal up the vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy so this is a mystery that God is working out until the end time when it's opened and now what we see and how we began this study was this understanding that this is the time of revealing that he says here it's the revelation it's the apocalypsis it's the opening it's about increasing our understanding it's about getting on God's plan and agenda and and his objectives and understanding what's going on knowledge is going to increase the wise are going to understand because of this apocalypsis it is the revelation it's

gave unto him to show unto his servants it's something were to know things which must shortly again this emphasis on time shortly come to pass and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John so its coded it's coated so that the wicked will not understand that's what the scripture says that the wicked are not

the revealing of Jesus Christ which God

going to understand and the wicked are going to do wickedly but the wise are going to understand we're going to put in the effort we're going to make the effort to to stick with this and wrestle with it and as we wrestle with it and as time unfolds and things happen around us we're going to be able to say yeah that's in the scripture and we're gonna search the scripture I think there's God said something about that in chapter 13 or chapter 12 or chapter 17 and we're gonna go and look and it's gonna become clearer and clearer meanwhile because it's coded though the wicked will have no access to this information now you know there's this sense that we don't have to worry about anything because we're gonna be raptured away we're gonna be in the place of safety and I hope that I knock that on the head when we cover in Chapter 12 that this is just false teaching and Christ in his letters to the churches his personal epistles to the churches here we see this advice fearing none of those things which you shall suffer behold the devil shall cast some of you into prison that you may be tried and Daniel said it's a time of trial and you shall have tribulation 10 days be you faithful unto death and I will give you a crown of life so the Saints in Christ we're not panicking trying to save our skin that's for the wicked who have no hope so they panic and they run to and fro but for the wise knowledge is increasing and we're understanding and we understand just how brief this life is and so we're not doing all we can to you know I must be in the place to safety nothing can happen to me I can't you know I'm too precious to be touched we don't have

this mindset the mindset we have is Christ is Lord Christ must be praised every time we must praise Christ every knee must bow to Christ and we are happy to declare Christ this is our mindset so it says here in chapter 12 when we were in Chapter 12 that the Saints overcome the devil how by the blood of the Lamb remember when we were in chapter 5 that no man was found worthy or no no body no being was found worthy to open the scroll not I'm not in heaven nor on earth nor under the earth but Christ was on his way and he was found worthy to untie repeal what the contents of these of the scroll the tanta to unseal the seven seals why because he's the only one whose blood there is redemption so because of what he accomplished he has the blood of redemption and so now the whole plan of God that is written in these in this scroll and sealed with seven seals now it can be accomplished why because of the blood of the Lamb he's the only one whose blood is able to cover sinners like you and me and able to redeem Israel and they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and what and by the word of their testimony this is the key this is the key what is your testimony whatwhat do you proclaim what do you bear witness to in in a court of law that you don't care I'm gonna say the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth in the beginning was the word and the Word was with God and the Word was God this is my testimony and so I don't care this is the truth and I'm going to speak truth and you're going to speak truth and this is it's by understanding his blood and having as apply to us but then it's not just oh

I'm a Christian everything's great for me I can sit back about nothing to do no I'm a Christian I have a truth to proclaim I have a truth to proclaim I have a testimony and so we overcome the devil by the blood of the Lamb and by our testimony and because we understand we love not our lives unto the death we're not save our skin kind of people we're not I don't care what happens to anybody else as long as I'm safe kind of people we are Christians we are christ-like people we will give our lives for others we will give our lives for our love of Christ and his body and his bride this is who we are so our life is not paramount Christ's life is paramount and the eternal life that he is offering to all those who come into Christ this is what parama this eternal life between Christ and his bride this is what we're about and so you know my personal physical life here yes I'm enjoying it it's wonderful but it's nothing compared to the truth that has been revealed to me and to you so this verse is really important this is how though the wise this is what the wise understand and this is how the wise overcome now what does it mean to have a word of testimony well this same john who wrote the gospel of john writes about a man with a testimony that there was a man sent from God whose name was John this is John the Baptist and they're Cain and the sand came for a witness to bear witness of the light that all men through him might believe this is the point of witnessing that we want men to believe through Christ we we or through us we want men to come to Christ to believe he was not that light but was sent to bear witness of that light that's what John was sent

for and this is our role this is our testimony to bear witness of the light now what was the result mark 616 when Herod heard about Christ and what was happening he said it's John whom I beheaded he's risen from the dead so they're trying to understand who this was and and Herod thought it was John what did he do to John John came to bear witness he was beheaded well this is what we see in the book of Revelation that those who have the testimony of Christ that Satan's favorite way of killing is to behead man made in God's image and likeness to remove his head from his body this is Satan's thrill and this is the cost of testimony but this is the process of washing our robes in the blood of the Lamb and becoming purified and and being tried and the process of living forever Isaiah 33 14 a very powerful scripture the sinners in Zion are afraid brother shall betray brother in other words there are sinners in Zion that we are all by nature hypocrites we like to be thought well-off but what goes on privately in our thoughts in our private moments we would rather people don't see this or hear this now they just see the image well Christ isn't interested in the image he tries the reins and the hearts and he's interested in the substance who are we really and so the wicked shall do wickedly so this process it is a process of becoming christ-like and if we are not engaged in this process fully we are hypocrites and when the moment comes the scripture says as I approach that the sinners in Zion are afraid fearfulness has surprised the hypocrites they thought from week to week day to day week to week month to month year to year it's all gonna be the same and then

suddenly it all changes in they're caught off guard or I should say we're caught off guard we're all hypocrites unless Christ or his Holy Spirit changes us who among us shalt dwell with the devouring fire when this moment comes who's going to survive who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings in this is Isaiah 33 so if you want to see the answer see what isaiah writes in Isaiah 33

back to Revelation but in the days of the voice of the seventh angel and he shall begin to sound the mystery of God should be finished as he has declared to his servants the prophets and the voice which I heard from heaven spoke to me again and said go and take the little book which is open the contents are now available take this book that's in the hand of the angel it stands upon the sea and upon the earth and again this emphasis of the sea and the earth and when and I went to the angel and said unto him give me the little book that's the scroll and he said unto me take it and eat it up it shall make your belly bitter but it shall be in your mouth sweet as honey so this is the end this is the system this is the contents of this little scroll are what bring us to the end this is the end of the history of man and it's the introduction of the kingdom of God and so this is sweet when we understand finally the Dominion of the devil is over the Dominion of Christ begins this is sweet but oh when we come to understand what Daniel understood where he kept on asking what does this mean what is this in fact he made him sick that's where it's bitter in the belly because there's a whole bunch of slaughter that's going to take place in this final three and a half years there

is intense persecution and many are going to run to and fro and panic and give up their faith and those that retain their faith are going to suffer greatly yes all those who desire to live godly

in Christ shall suffer persecution and so when we come to understand what this all means that it had to be sealed until the time of the end it's bitter in the belly the full understanding of what this is is bitter in the belly and I took the little book out of the Angels hand and ate it up and in fact it was in my mouth as sweet as honey I loved what I heard here and then I came to understand the implications and as soon as I had eaten it my belly was bitter and he said unto me you must prophesy again before many peoples and nations and tongues and kings this is this is where the bitterness is coming from that we have a testimony which the devil hates and in this final three and a half year period we must testify we must bear witness and the devil as we saw and will seem very in our summary here in our review the devil can no longer have access to Christ in heaven he now goes after the woman there is a part of the woman that is in scattering in a panic in the last minute you know don't even come down from the rooftop don't even go into the house run for your life it's not this orderly get your plane to KITT follow the leader it's for the people in Judea who are who are messianic in Christ who obey Christ run for your life scatter and then the rest are subject to the persecution of the devil he he's running out of time he knows his only three and a half year period he can no longer have access to those in Judea he

now turns to the remnant of the seed and so this is necessary so this is the bitterness now that there's a testimony that has to be declared not everyone is going to be faithful they're going to lose out forever and then there are going to be those who are faithful we're going to suffer if we should live into this three-and-a-half year period and then he says there was given me a reed like unto a rod and the angel stood saying rise and measure the temple of God and the altar and them that worship therein as ayah says the hypocrites in Zion are afraid fearfulness has surprised the hypocrites this is the measuring so there's work to be done and it's on pain of death and those of us who are faithful in Christ we will do the work those of us who have been playing Church we will we will become self-obsessed and so there's a measuring who's in who's out but the court which is without the temple leave out and measure it not for it is given unto the Gentiles and the Holy City shall they tread under foot forty and two months again this emphasis on the three and a half year period this is what Daniel saw and so the Gentiles are going to have the upper hand for this final three and a half years the Gentiles are going to be puppets of the devil persecuting the woman for three and a half years and then dropping down to verse 19 of chapter 11 and the temple was opened in heaven so now the scene shifts to heaven and he's looking up and there was seen in his temple the Ark of his Testament this is a pride of place God has a covenant with his people and he will never turn back on it never it's impossible for God to lie it's impossible for God to break it to turn

back on his promise so this is what the wise understand and this is why we are faithful we love him because he loved us first and we are all in Christ we are in Israel and there were lightnings and voices and thunderings and an earthquake and great hail and there appeared a great wonder in heaven this is a great one to remember the devil was just a wonder but this is a great wonder a woman clothed with the Sun and the moon under her feet and under had a crown of twelve stars so we covered this last week that this is Israel this is the Bride of Christ this is the woman with whom God has made a covenant with God is married to Israel and this is this is the great wonder in heaven this is what it's all about this is a sign showing John the significance of Israel to God and before he saw this woman he saw the Ark of the Testament which shows the faithfulness of God which we must never ever forget and don't let anybody tell you that God is unfaithful and then after seeing this Ark of the Covenant he then in in pride of place in heaven he then sees the woman in verse 17 of chapter 12 we covered this again last week that when the dragon no longer had access to Christ no longer had access to those in Judea that the dragon was angry with the woman and he turned then to make war with the remnant the rest of her seed which keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ and this is this is what John came to understand when at first you seen the contents of the scroll was sweet it was sweetness it was like honey just loved it wonderful and then when he digested the implications and what has to happen in the three and a half year

period before we get there this is what really blew him away so they have the testimony John the Baptist had the testimony we must have the testimony but there's a cost to having this testimony and fearfulness surprises the hypocrites but the wise will understand and the wise will hold on to the testimony and this what all of this helps us understand is this is not nothing to be taken personally that this is the hatred that Christ has or that the Satan has for Christ and it goes all the way back to genesis 3:15 that there's going to be in matiee between Satan and the woman and between Satan seed and the woman seed it's the woman that the seed is going to crush destroy Satan by a fatal blow to the head but he saw certainly bruised the heel of the seed now this hatred and this this insane rage from the devil we it's the loss of being able to achieve his dream his vision his goal which we learn in isaiah was to be like the Most High to exalt his throne above the stars of God to be worshipped to to be says to be like the Most High that can't be to most High's it's not that he wants to be like the Most High it's that he wants to replace the Most High and that everybody worships him well because this is now no longer available to him he's kicked out of heaven there's no way he's been overthrown by Michael and now he's on earth and the best he can do now is take out as many potential sons of God as possible now we see that's it that's what's his design on Adam that Adam had Dominion Eve had dominion he took that Dominion away from them and now this is what he's doing to take Dominion away from man made in God's image and likeness so he's wroth with the woman and he's

going after those who have the commandments and have the testimony of Christ and he wants to take Dominion away from the Bride of Christ who's gonna reign with him forever with all of that now we come to chapter 13 and I just want to remind you that the we had talked about the because I say this when when John said at the beginning that these are things that must shortly come to pass that that's shortly coming to pass was in fact true that a lot of people say like you know where is everything and I like him the prophecy - being like a train that when John says these things must shortly come to pass and he's writing to the seven churches there in that Asia Minor these things in fact did shortly come to pass all of those churches in Turkey in Asia Minor they were all slaughtered within a few hundred years the Muslims came in and completely savaged those cities and today those all those areas are Muslim cities now as Christians hardly exist in in the Middle East and so yes those things did shortly come to pass but people read revelation and they're basically saying where are these things where are these things is it you know 2,000 years later they still haven't come to pass well 2,000 years later they are coming to pass and we mustn't confuse we mustn't confuse the train with the caboose when the train is running believe me the caboose is coming so the three and a half year period is the caboose and this is where people think this is what Revelation is all about well no revelation is about everything from the first century when John received the vision right up until the kingdom of God but the three and a half

year period at the very end that is the caboose and that's what we're getting into now as we enter into chapter 13 and verse 1 so now we come to chapter 13 with all of that backdrop we have to understand what we've read and remember what we've read in chapter 10 11 12 now we're coming into 13 and I stood upon the sand of the sea so he saw this angel standing on the sea and with one foot on the sea one foot on the land now he's standing on the sand of the sea and he saw a beast rise up out of the sea so he's looking he's looking at the sea and he sees you know this angel that was just - had one foot on the sea and one foot on the land and now he's looking out at the sea and he sees this beast rise up from the sea and he describes this beast that he sees saying that it has it has seven heads and ten horns and it's scarlet red it's being worshipped in it it's coming up out of the sea he says I saw this beast rise up out of the sea so again remember this is all signified this is all code this is all symbolic the Beast is a symbol the sea is a symbol it had seven heads and ten horns and upon his horns ten crowns and upon his heads the name of blasphemy so he has blasphemy we have a testimony he has blasphemy upon all seven heads so this is gonna be so these things are gonna be significant as we're trying to uncover and decode excuse me what these symbols are there's a symbol of the sea there's a symbol of a beast there's a symbol of seven heads there's a symbol of ten horns there's a symbol of crowns we need to unpack what all these are now just going back now I just want to just call your attention to something we covered a couple of weeks back that when the angel cried with a

he had cried seven thunders uttered their voices and when the seven thunders had uttered their voices I was about to write and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered and write them not and then you know I had mentioned that we have somebody in the Church of God movement that wrote a book that has nine chapters and he said you know if you remove the first chapter and you move to set the last chapter it has seven chapters it has seven thunders well I would be very careful about writing a book that I claim has the content of what these seven thunders uttered now so we covered that but I want to cover something else now and it's this number seven that the seven thunders uttered and that word uttered means to babble they babbled they uttered their voices and he was about to write what they said but there was a voice from heaven that said don't write what they uttered what they babbled this is the book of the revealing God wants us to understand he wants his servants to understand what's in the scroll the scroll is open and yet what they say is to be sealed there whatever they wrote was to be sealed why do we assume that the seven thunders that the source of this talk is from God I just want to ask the question what if it's not you see these seven thunders the next

loud voice as when a lion roars and when

you see these seven thunders the next time the number seven is mentioned after the seven thunders uttered their voices and then John is told not to write what they said the next time that the number seven is is mentioned is in Chapter 12 when this beast with seven heads and ten horns is mentioned seven heads means

seven mouths so chapter 12 and and we'll come back to this so if we could look at the 7 so 7 is here there's a 7,000 mentioned in chapter 11 but that's 7,000 that's not 7 so the next time 7 is mentioned is in Chapter 12 when the devil is mentioned having 7 heads that's 7 mouths and now we come to the Beast in chapter 13 also having 7 heads so and in the end the names are full blasphemy so if we're in the revealing where God is doing everything to show us everything there's no more secrets now he wants us to understand so that we can get through this and yet in the very presence of the open scroll John is told not to write what the seven thunders babbled what if those seven thunders were the source of thought was Satan and it was so blasphemous that it doesn't add anything to our understanding to record the blasphemy of the devil and so Don is instructed you don't need to write that it doesn't add anything you know stick to the script here stick to the revealing we don't need to hear God's name blaspheme just a question because seven and the next time seven ISM is mentioned is when the devil is being described and now what we also want to see is that this description of the devil having seven heads and ten horns that when we get to the Beast power it has the same description as the devil so like father like son and that's where Christ says you know the enmity between you and the woman and between your seed and her seed that Satan has a seed and so here like father like son so in twelve three we see that the devil is a red dragon having seven heads and ten horns and seven Crown's upon his heads in chapter 17 we just fast forward

we see that John is carried away in the spirit into the wilderness will come to this woman come to chapter 17 I just want to point out here that he sees this woman sitting upon a scarlet coloured Beast like father like son the devil is red assist symbolically this beast is red symbolically the devil is full of blasphemy this beast is full of names of blasphemy the devil has seven heads and ten horns this beast has seven heads and ten horns in fact Christ when he was on earth he said have I been with you such a long time that you have not seen me that he that has seen me I'm sorry let me just say it again have I been so long time with you and yet have you not known me fella

he that has seen me has seen the father how sayst you then show us the father we could say the same thing here that whoever sees these beasts systems of the devil has seen the devil like father like son

revelation 17 and he said unto me the waters so the Beast comes out of the sea here we get the decoding he said unto me the waters which you saw where the sits are people's and multitudes and nations and tongues so John when the scroll was opened he was told you have to prophesy again before many peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues we have testimony they have blasphemy so these waters are Gentile peoples that's what the sea symbolizes so this beast which represents a political power is ascending out of Gentile nations with a blood thirst for Israel with a hatred for Israel as I have further decodes this that says in the future to Israel then shelley's then shall see then you shall see and flow together and your

heart shall fear and be enlarged because the abundance of the sea shall be converted unto you in other words the wealth of the Gentiles the forces of the Gentiles shall come unto you so again this we have a very clear decoding of what the sea is the sea our Gentile peoples

and the beasts our political systems that come from these peoples that have a great hatred for Israel and they destroy Israel they destroy the people of God and the angel said unto me why do you Marvel I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the Beast that carries her which has the seven heads and ten horns the Beast that you saw was and is not and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit

and going to Perdition and they that dwell on earth shall wonder whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world same prophecy that was given to Daniel that if those who are not written in the book of life are going to perish at this time but we see just as we saw earlier that this and the angel will come down from heaven with a key to the bottomless pit it'll unlock the bottomless pit and then this beast is going to arise from these Gentile nations and it's going to be a political system full of blasphemy and it's going to hunt down those who have the testimony of the Lord whose name is not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world when they behold the Beast that was and is not and yet is so this beast it disappeared it was on the scene and then it disappeared and then it comes back for one final hurrah the devil knows that his time is short he's got three and a half years this is going to be his most intense activity

but this is the seventh head this is this is it times run out and so he's gonna take out as many of God's people as he possibly can through deception and force and whatever mean by whatever means necessary and here is good again we're going to come to 17 later but I just wanted to pull it into 13 and here is the mind which has wisdom so knowledge shall increase the wise shall understand but the wicked will do wickedly many will run to and fro but knowledge shall increase and here is the mind which has wisdom the seven heads are seven mountains so it's decoding it for us so the dragon has seven heads this beast comes out of the sea with seven heads and ten horns in in the first case the Crown's were on the heads of stood devil but in this case the Crown's are on the horns because this is all about this final three and a half year period the seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits so we're going to talk about the woman later but right now we're talking about the beast that has seven heads these seven heads are seven mountains and what are these seven mountains and there are seven kings so there's a king to go with the kingdom so the mountains are kingdoms and there are seven kings which represent these kingdoms and there are seven kings five are fallen and one is and the other is not yet come so this is again the same vision that Daniel had but Daniel only saw four kings beginning with Nebuchadnezzar John sees seven so john sees the whole complement john sees a gets a full comprehensive comprehensive listing daniel only saw four he saw three and then one that wasn't like the others here john sees

seven they seized two before Nebuchadnezzar and then he sees five more and there are seven kings in John's time five were fallen so five heads of this beast had fallen one is and this very clearly is referring to Domitian that the Domitian persecution which john had to live through in here that's actually why he was exiled because he would he refused to refer to worship Domitian who declared himself god full of blasphemy and so one is that's the Roman Empire five before Rome were fallen the other is not yet come and when he comes he must continue a short space again this referral to this intense three and a half year period so Daniel had a vision which were sorry Nebuchadnezzar had a vision of these beasts so whenever God's people see these empires they are portrayed as beasts Nebuchadnezzar was a Gentile he was a Gentile King a great gentle King

the vision given to him was of this glorious image it was just wonderful it was it was just full of all it was beautiful he so to a Gentile that's how it's perceived but to the people of God this is a beast this is a devouring maniac --all beast so you know he's given these this vision of four kingdoms that are centered around or centered from Babylon was the iron the clay and he explains that what these are but he says at the end that this image is bettered by what he says that no place was found for these kingdoms and the stone that struck the image became a great great mountain so this tells us what a mountain is a mountain is a kingdom so there are seven mountains and then this final mountain comes to replace those seven this is these the

mountainous symbol symbolic of a kingdom and this mountain filled the whole earth so we'll come back to the scripture now where we're talking about this beast and it says verse 2 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 so this is this is the dragon that supporting him and this one comes from the sea the angel had one foot on the sea and another foot on the land and so we're gonna see a beast come from the sea and a beast come from the land and these are powerful beasts and in this three-and-a-half year power-up period they seem invincible but we have to remember the angel had one foot on the sea and one foot in the land and the scroll open so all of this is according to God's plan his orchestration and it's always revealed to Daniel and now John is understanding it and now we are beginning to understand it we won't fully understand it until you know the time comes for this three and a half vear

we'll be fully revealed but we're beginning to understand it that these beasts are that they're coming from the sea which means Gentile peoples and the dragon is what gives him his power so this is the unholy trinity and God Satan you've got the beast from the sea and the beast from the land and so Daniel explains to him you know you saw nebuchadnezzar you saw this great image and he says that the image was gold and he talks about the different parts of the body and and then he names what these kingdoms are that this is the kingdom of babylon followed by persia followed by greece and then he says a

fourth kingdom he doesn't actually name it daniel spoke and said so now in chapter 7 Daniel sees the same reality but he sees it very differently than the way it was shown to Nebuchadnezzar Nebuchadnezzar it's glorious to Daniel as a servant of God it's blasphemous it's evil

these are beasts these are destroyers Daniel spoke and said I saw in my vision by night and behold the four winds of heaven strove upon the great sea that is the Gentile peoples and four great beasts came up from the sea the Gentile peoples they were very different from one another the first was like a lion and had eagle's wings and I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand upon the feet as a man and a man's heart was given unto it so this is all speaking of the kingdom of Babylon and specifically the King Nebuchadnezzar and I behold and I beheld another beast a second like two a bear so this is now speaking of Persia and it raised up itself on one side and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it and and they said thus unto it arise devour much flesh this is why they're called beasts they consume much flesh and it's much unfortunately the flesh of the people of God

that's where Satan's hatred is targeted so this is now speaking of the Persian Empire and some symbolism there around Persia and after this I beheld and lo another like a leopard which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl and the Beast also had four heads and Dominion was given to it so this is now speaking of the Grecian Empire and Alexander the Great who at the speed of

a leopard and this I saw in the night visions and behold a fourth beast dreadful and terrible and strong exceedingly and it had great iron teeth and it devoured and broke in pieces and stamped the residue with the feet of it so he seized four beasts John saw seven John said I'm seeing one that right now is but there's another one yet to come so John also said there's one coming before the end of time Daniel is seeing this one that's coming at the end of time and this is the one that's going to be struck the one that john saw is the one that was in his time and it was diverse from the other it was different from the other beasts that were before it and it had ten horns I 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 so this is all to do with might is right this is a strongman movement and you know three of these horns are subsumed by this fourth one this little one and behold in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth speaking great things remember seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered this is full of blasphemy coming back to Revelation 13 and I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death but his deadly wound was healed so again here were with this this is a military wound this is this was a great political power that was in consuming much flesh and then it died so there's some sort of political system that we're looking for that is going to be resurrected and his deadly wound was healed and all the world wondered after the Beast this was again this this great military power and the Beast just fast forward again to

seventeen the Beast you saw was and is not and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit so this key this angel comes down from heaven with the key to the bottomless pit and it comes out but it's gonna go into perdition and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world when they behold the Beast that was and is not and yet is saw some fearsome power were looking for which collapsed everyone thought it was over but then it's coming back and the Beast that was and is not even he is the eighth so what John is saying is actually there are eight beasts Daniel saw four john saw eight but the eighth is of the seventh so if this is this deadly woman the seventh beast is wounded mortally but then a key to the bottomless pit is given to this angel and the bottomless pit is opened and this resurrection of the seventh beast is the really the eighth beast but it's the seventh is of the seventh and it goes into perdition and they worshipped the dragon look how they be huh beheld him they just they just loved this dragon they worshipped the Dragon which gave power unto the Beast so the Beast power comes from the devil and all of the people worship the Beast that the Lord tried they worshiped the dragon they worshiped the devil that's what the devil wants I will be like the Most High so through deception he's able to get them to worship Him they worshipped the Dragon which gave power to the Beast and they worshipped the Beast saying who is like unto the Beast who is able to make war with him it's war machine and there was given him a mouth speaking great things it was given

him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies that's what these seven heads have they have seven mouths and they speak blasphemy and then the dragon gives this mouth to the Beast and so the beast with seven heads speaks blasphemies and power was given unto him to continue how long forty and two months this distal little book that's opened is all about the final forty and two months this is the caboose and so there's great power is temporary it's for three and a half years and so that's where we saw in Revelation 12:15 that the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood these blasphemies come out of his mouth and that's what empowers and enables and emboldened these wicked Gentile people to go after the woman with hatred and the dragon so we saw that he's gonna now go after the remnant that have the testimony and we saw that you know Daniel saw that this one was upon the waters of the river and again it's gonna be for three and a half years and what he's gonna do in this three and a half years he's going to have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people this is actually by design Daniel didn't understand it but the wise are going to understand it this is necessary this is this is going to separate rise and measure the temple whose then who's out whose true who is false who's a hypocrite who is true a true Christian this is what's going on but what is the end result of our faithfulness even to the point of beheading and I saw Thrones in chapter 20 and they sat upon these Thrones and judgment was given unto them and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus those that have the testimony of Christ and for the word of

God and which had not worshipped the Beast neither His image neither had received his mark their foreheads or in their hands and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years we have to be strong in the Lord because this is eternity this is not just a thousand years we're talking about reigning with Christ this is forever for this short three-and-a-half year period the Y's are gonna understand this is a necessary process it's about measuring the temple the wicked are not gonna understand and he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God this is this is what comes out of the mouth of the devil and this is why I'm saying you know seven heads seven miles seven thunders babbling are these all connected and that's why John was told don't write don't write what did what what they say doesn't matter though the servants have to understand things which must shortly come to pass not blasphemy and he open his mouth in blasphemy against God to blaspheme his name and his tabernacle and them that dwell in heaven and I just wanted to quote here that what's gonna happen to those who speak proud things week this is what the wise understand and it was given unto him to make war with the Saints this is he doesn't have the power to do this and if anything that he does it is God that has given him the power that's why we saw the mighty angel with one foot over the sea he's under the Dominion of God but same thing that Daniel saw John is now seeing it that was given unto him to make war with the Saints this is by God's permission and not just to make war with them to overcome them and this is where we have to be ready we have to understand this

is a necessary process and don't believe people are saying or you're gonna be whisked off to heaven in the rapture or you gonna be whisked off you know just buy your plane ticket we'll follow the leader we're gonna go to Petra and have these caves and no one's gonna touch us safe minh is busy in this three and a half year period and he's making war with the saints that are who have the honor to

and for Christ in this final period the final chapter of man's history that there are going to be some who are wise who have the honor the distinct privilege of standing for Christ against the dragon and against the beast and overcome he's gonna over it look like he's gonna overcome us and that's what I said I believe I said this last week when we were in Chapter 12 that just as he overcame Christ but in the point of overcoming Christ Christ overcame him that love conquered violence love conquered hatred in the same way with these Saints that when it appears that he has overcome us because of our love for Christ we remain true we remain faithful this is how we overcome Satan that we wash our robes in the blood of the Lamb and with the testimony of Christ it was given him to make war with the Saints and to overcome them and power was given him who was given to him this is where Daniels couldn't understand like what is the end of all this how does this actually happen but John now got the whole picture so that he could give it to us so that we can have the whole picture and over time we're gonna go just thick in Revelation we're gonna understand more and more that it was given to him to make war with the Saints this is the hatred that

he has he's gone after the woman he couldn't get those that were in Jerusalem that flee that obey Christ and flee as soon as they see the abomination of desolation he turns and he canal bows after those who have the commandments who are faithful they're keeping the commandments of God and they have the testimony of Christ and he's making war with the same this is this this is the blasphemy though it's like the whole purpose of this global government system is to stamp out Christ so he makes war with the Saints and to overcome them it's given him the privilege and that's what Daniel sought to scatter the power of the holy people to overcome them and power was given him over all Kindred's and tongues

and Nations and John was told that we must now prophesy the you know vishton is three and a half year period we must prophesy to all Kindred's and tongues and nations but they're going to be under the puppeteer the dragon is the puppeteer and they are puppets but we are going to be proclaiming Christ and there are many who are going to repent and they are going to wash their robes in in the blood of the Lamb and they're going to be grafted into Israel from all Kindred's and all tongues and nations this is why our work is so important and in in Daniel 8 he says and his power shall be mighty but not by his own power so he's gonna be it's given to him from from God the mighty angel stood over the water he's under the foot of God and God's angel but it's gonna not by his own power he shall destroy wonderfully and shall prosper and practice and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people this this is the prophecy this is what was sealed up until the time of the

end and this is when when all of this has happened many are gonna be running to and fro and panicking but knowledge will increase because that's the unsealing the unveiling the apocalypsis and all that dwell upon the earth shall worship Him whose names are not written in the book of life so same thing that Daniel saw is the same thing that John is seeing all that dwell upon the earth shall worship Him whose names are not written in the book of life of the lamb slain from the foundation of the world and here just as we wrap up here what Michael started what Daniel saw that this is the time when Michael stands up in this terrible time of trouble and that this is when the people are delivered those that are found written in the book and so he says if any man have an ear let him hear so these are some very very intense offices that God wants us to know and but we all we know where this all leads but we have to put put this puzzle together and understand what is Christ telling us what is it that we must understand because when we understand it we will be faithful knowledge will increase the wicked are going to do wickedly we're going to understand so this is one beast from the sea there's another beast from the land to sea representing the Gentile peoples the land the land is really given to to God's people so now there's going to be another piece that comes from the land and these two beasts are under as I call it this is the unholy trinity here this is the real Trinity got the dragon the beast from the sea the beast from the land but why don't we stop here if any man have an ear let him hear these things must shortly come to pass were

coming to the caboose that final three and a half year period which is going to be intense but those of us who commit our lives to Christ we have nothing to fear in fact we have so much to look forward to as the first resurrection is right around the corner Jesus Christ is Lord thanks for joining tonight we're gonna go through this again next week going on continuing chapter 13 as we look at the beast from the land Christ is king Christ is Lord Christ is the lamb the conquering Lion of the tribe of Judah