



PROPHECY EXPO

The Beast from the Sea

I. The topic of the “The Beast from the Sea” is a topic we might call, “the Same Old Thing.” It seems that whatever God does or wants man abuses.

- A. In the Garden of Eden, God gave man a perfect garden with only one rule, Do not eat from this one tree and man ate from that tree

“The LORD God commanded the man, saying, ‘From any tree of the garden you may eat freely;
¹⁷ but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die.’”
(Genesis 2:16-17; NASB2; SP2)

- B. God chose a special people and said, keep my commandments, treat your neighbors right, and live, but any reading of the books of Isaiah, Ezekiel, or Jeremiah reveals the stubbornness of the Israelites

“Cast away from you all your transgressions which you have committed and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! For why will you die, O house of Israel?”
(Ezekiel 18:31; NASB601; SP831)

- C. Again, when Jesus left this earth, he left only one command. It seems so simple, yet humans make every simple thing as difficult as they can

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,
²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."
(Mathew 28:19-20; NASB; SP)

D. God even warned the early church that evil forces would quickly come among the church

"But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons,
² by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron,"
(1 Timothy 4:1-2; NASB163; SP1171)

"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but *wanting* to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires,
⁴ and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths."
(2 Timothy 4:3-4; NASB163; SP1171)

Let no one in any way deceive you, for *it will not come* unless the apostasy comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction,
⁴ who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.
(2 Thessalonians 2:3-4; NASB161; SP1168)

Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I was telling you these things? And you know what restrains him now, so that in his time he will be revealed. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains *will do so* until he is taken out of the way. Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming; *that is*, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved. For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false."
(2 Thessalonians 2:5-11; NASB161; SP1168)

II. The beast from the sea is the same old the same old beast (Revelation 13:1-3). We should call him the "Morphing Beast," because he may change his appearance, his form, but he remains the same

A. Note that the "Morphing Beast" has a part of all the beasts of the apocalyptic past. All of the earlier beasts, the lion, bear, leopard, and dragon, were only important because they captured, controlled, and often persecuted God's people (Daniel 7:1-8; 17-28)

"And the dragon stood on the sand of the seashore. Then I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns *were* ten diadems, and on his heads *were* blasphemous names. And the beast which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like *those* of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority. *I saw* one of his heads as if it had been slain, and his fatal wound was healed. And the whole earth was amazed *and followed* after the beast."
(Revelation 13:1-3; NASB195; SP1219)

B. The same can be said about the Dragon; he has different forms but, he is the same accuser of humans and opposer of God

“Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, ‘Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night.’
(Revelation 12:10; NASB195; SP1218)

“And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him”.
(Revelation 12:9; NASB195; SP1218)

III. Revelation 13: 5, 7 says that one of the heads of this beast is wounded, almost like a fatal wound, which eventually is healed. At the same time, we see that this power’s authority is limited to 42 months, during which time he persecutes the saints

There was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for **forty-two months** was given to him.
(Revelation 13:5, emphasis supplied; NASB195; SP1218)

It was also given to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them, and authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation was given to him.
(Revelation 13:7; NASB195; SP1219)

A. The “Morphing Beast’s” time of unbridled authority is said to be 42 months, which is 1260 days, the same time the woman hides in the wilderness

42 months
X 30 days in a month
1260 days

“Then the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she would be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.”
(Revelation 12:6; NASB195; SP1218)

B. The comparison time given when the woman is hidden in the wilderness as time, times, and half a time, is also the same amount of time written about in Daniel 7:25

‘He will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he will intend to make alterations in times and in law; and they will be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.’
(Daniel 7:25; NASB635; SP875)

“But the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, so that she could fly into the wilderness to her place, where she was nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.”
(Revelation 12:14; NASB195; SP1218)

III. Revelation 13:2 and its mention of each part of the four beasts found in Daniel 7, especially since it mentions specifically the “dragon gave him his power,” plus the similarities between the “Little Horn” and the Morphing Beast insists that we return to the characteristics of the “Little Horn” which we uncovered a week ago

A.

“And the beast which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like *those* of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power and his throne and great authority.”
(Revelation 13:2; NASB195; Sp1219)

B. The Characteristics of the Little Horn

1. The Little Horn would arise from the rubble of the Roman Empire
2. The Little Horn power would become the dominate power in Europe
3. The Little Horn power would be a fundamentally different power
4. The Little Horn power would uproot at least three other kingdoms
5. The Little Horn power would blaspheme God
6. The Little Horn power would persecute God’s people
7. The Little Horn power would imagine it could change times and laws
8. The Little Horn power would control for a specific period of time

1. Arise from the rubble of the Roman Empire

“But still another power, of a different sort, and even more significant, rose to pre-eminence at a period when Rome’s fortunes were at their lowest ebb. And this power carried the name of Rome into a different realm, gave it a new significance, raised it to new heights and world-wide fame. This power was the little church of Rome to which Paul addressed his epistle, and which in the course of time should become the seat of a vast ecclesiastical empire.”

L. E. Froom, Faith of Our Fathers,” Vol 1, p. 493

“Civil as well as religious disputes were frequently referred to the bishop of Rome for settlement. And the Eastern emperors increasingly recognized his high claims in order to gain his assistance. Thus gradually became established the principle of primacy that ultimately created the medieval Papacy. This was the process.”

L. E. Froom, Faith of Our Fathers”, Vol 1, p. 496

2. The Little Horn power would become the dominate power in Europe
3. The Little Horn power would be a fundamentally different power

4. The Little Horn power would uproot at least three other kingdoms

Visigoths

“Weakened by warfare with the Franks and the Basques and by Byzantine penetration in Southern Spain, the kingdom recovered its vigor in the late 6th cent. under Leovigild and under Recared, whose conversion to Catholicism facilitated the fusion of the Visigothic and the Hispano-Roman populations of Spain. King Recceswinth imposed (c.654) a Visigothic common law on both his Gothic and his Roman subjects, who previously had lived under different codes (see Germanic laws). The church councils of Toledo became the main force in the government, and the royal power was weakened accordingly.”

Encyclopaedia Orbis latini

“On December 15, 533, Gelimer and Belisarius [general for the Byzantinian empire under Justinian] clashed again at Tricamarum, some 20 miles (32 km) from Carthage. Again, the Vandals fought well but broke, this time when Gelimer's brother Tzazo fell in battle. Belisarius quickly advanced to Hippo, second city of the Vandal Kingdom, and in 534 Gelimer surrendered to the Roman conqueror, ending the Kingdom of the Vandals.”

Wikipedia

“The Ostrogoths were a branch of the Goths an [east Germanic tribe](#) that played a major role in the political events of the late [Roman Empire](#). The other branch was the [Visigoths](#).

The Ostrogoths established a relatively short-lived successor state of Rome in [Italy](#) and the [Balkans](#), even briefly incorporating most of [Hispania](#) and southern [Gaul](#). They reached their zenith under their Romanised king [Theodoric the Great](#), who patronised such late Roman figures as [Boethius](#) and [Cassiodorus](#), in the first quarter of the sixth century. By mid-century, however, they had been conquered by Rome in the [Gothic War \(535–554\)](#), a war with devastating consequences for Italy.

Wikipedia

5. The Little Horn power would blaspheme God

“Jesus said to him, ‘You have said it *yourself*, nevertheless I tell you, hereafter you will see THE SON OF MAN SITTING AT THE RIGHT HAND OF POWER, and COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN.’ Then the high priest tore his robes and said, “He has blasphemed! What further need do we have of witnesses? Behold, you have now heard the blasphemy.”
(Mathew 26:64-65; NASB24; SP965)

And he opened his mouth in blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, *that is*, those who dwell in heaven.
(Revelation 13:6; NASB195; SP1219)

“The pope takes the place of Jesus Christ on earth. . .By divine right the pope has supreme and full power in faith and morals over each and every pastor and his flock. He is the true Vicar of Christ, the head of the entire church, the father and teacher of all Christians. He is the infallible ruler, the founder of dogmas, the author of and the judge of councils; the universal ruler of truth, the arbiter of the world, the supreme judge of heaven and earth, the judge of all being judged by no one, God himself on earth.”

New York Catechism, (cited by *Roman Catholicism*, by Loraine, Boettner, p. 127

For there is one God, *and* one mediator also between God and men, *the* man Christ Jesus,
(1 Timothy 2:5; NASB163; SP1170)

“The Catholic Church is the only organization authorized by God to teach religious truth and to conduct public religious worship. Consequently, they (Roman Catholics) hold that any creed which differs from that of the Catholic Church is erroneous, and that any religious organization which is separated from the Catholic Church lacks the approval and the authorization of God. The very existence of any other church is opposed to the command of Christ, that all men should join His one church. From this it follows that we far as God’s law is concerned, no one has a real right to accept any religion save the Catholic Church.”

Francis J. Connell, [Imprimatur by Cardinal Spellman] *Freedom of Worship, The Catholic Position*

6. Persecute God’s people

“The Catholic Church has the right and duty to kill heretics because it is by fire and sword that heresy can be extirpated. Mass excommunication is derided by heretics. If they are imprisoned or exiled they corrupt others. The only recourse is to put them to death. Repentance cannot be allowed to save them, just as repentance is not allowed to save civil criminals; for the highest good of the church is the duty of the faith and this cannot be preserved unless heretics Are put to death.”

Dr. Marianus de Luca, S. J., Professor of Canon Law at the Georgian University in Rome, *Institution of Public Ecclesiastical law* [personal commendation from pope Leo XIII], 1901

7. See supplement

8. The Little Horn power would control for a specific period of time—1260 years

A.

“General Berthier marched to Rome, entered it unopposed on February 10, 1798, and, proclaiming a Roman Republic, demanded of the Pope the renunciation of his temporal authority. Upon his refusal he was taken prisoner, and on February 20 was escorted from the Vatican to Siena, and thence to the Certosa near Florence. He died on August 29, 1799, having then reigned longer than any Pope.”
Wikipedia

B. When the pope was taken captive and lost his temporal power all the world thought the papacy was dead

C. 538 BC was the point at which the papacy got its temporal authority by the elimination of the Germanic tribes