

Roman Caesars > declared selves DIVINE >> Imperial Priesthood  
 Priests of Roman Cult > PROPAGANDISTS for Divine Caesars > 'SPIN'

SPIN > Advertisement > Propaganda > Publicity > 'Knowledge Industry'  
 BILLIONS Spent > Get MESSAGE OUT > People think CORRECTLY  
 Politics or Pampers > People must get the RIGHT POOP

Influence ATMOSPHERIC > Water in Fishbowl > UNQUESTIONED

2<sup>nd</sup> Beast – Up from the Earth - Completes SATANIC TRINITY  
 Dragon > Counterfeit Father > Plan for World  
 Beast from Sea > Counterfeit Son > Execute Dragon's Plan  
 Beast from Earth > Counterfeit Holy Spirit > Witness for Dragon and Beast

1. Deception by the Beast
2. Demand of the Beast
3. Discernment for Believers

### 1. Deception by the Beast

a. Manner HARMLESS APPEARANCE > Thus, More DANGEROUS

Looks like Lamb v. 11 "He had two horns *like a lamb*"

Not HIDEOUS 1<sup>st</sup> BEAST > 7 Heads, One Split Open by a SWORD  
 CUTE BEAST > WARM and SNUGGLY LAMB > 2 Neat Little Horns  
 HORNS > Authority // NO CROWNS > Authority is NOT POLITICAL

Cannot judge BOOK by its Cover > or a BEAST by its SHEEPSKIN  
 v. 14 "he deceived the inhabitants of the earth."

"Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light." 2 Corinthians 11.14

STEEL FIST in VELVET GLOVE > Looked like LAMB acted like LION  
 v. 12 "He exercised all the authority of the first beast"

v. 13 "causing fire to come down from heaven to earth"  
 v. 15 "all who refused to worship the image...killed"  
 v. 16 "He also forced everyone...to receive a mark"

b. Message 1<sup>st</sup> Beast represents STATE / 2<sup>nd</sup> Beast represents CHURCH

v. 11 “He had two horns like a lamb, *but he spoke like a dragon*”  
Beast OUTWARDLY Resembles Lamb, INWARDLY Conceals Dragon

As Holy Spirit glorifies Christ // False Prophet glorifies the Antichrist  
2<sup>nd</sup> Beast > MESSENGER of One who KILLS, STEALS, & DESTROYS

“the devil...there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies” John 8.44

vs. 14,15 “Because of the signs he was given power to do on behalf of the first beast, he deceived the inhabitants of the earth. He ordered them to set up an image in honor of the beast who was wounded by the sword and yet lived. He was given power to give *breath to the image of the first beast, so that it could speak*”

FIRST Century > Religious TRICKSTERS > SPEAKING STATUES  
Statues that Spoke and Performed Miracles >>> Ancient Literature  
Ventriloquism practiced by Priests of Oriental Cults

## Demand of Nebuchadnezzar > All Citizens must Worship his Gold Image

Throughout the centuries worship has been diverted from God to kings and pharaohs and caesars, and hymns have been sung to tyrants, while those who have refused to participate in this idolatry have been put to death.

Philip Edgcumbe Hughes

c. Method Performs Great & Miraculous Signs > Deceive people of Earth

vs. 13,14 “And he performed great and miraculous signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to earth in full view of men. Because of the signs he was given power to do on behalf of the first beast, he deceived the inhabitants of the earth.”

COUNTERFEIT PROPHET > Beast DISGUISED as a SERVANT of God  
Like ELIJAH called down FIRE in Presence of Prophets of Baal  
False Elijah > Prepares the Way for False Messiah

“Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and did just as the LORD commanded. Aaron threw his staff down in front of Pharaoh and his officials, and it became a snake. Pharaoh then summoned wise men and sorcerers, and the *Egyptian magicians also did the same things by their secret arts*: Each one threw down his staff and it became a snake. But Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs.”

Exodus 7.10-12

LITERARY STYLE of Revelation's Judgments > Plagues in Egypt  
2<sup>nd</sup> Beast // False Prophets of Egypt // Counterfeit True God's Miracles

“Such ‘wisdom’ does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil.”

James 3.15

MODERN PROPHETS > Bazaar > Astrology Column > Internet Sites  
TELL US OUR FUTURE > Find us a MATE > Winning Lottery Numbers  
THEY MAY BE RIGHT! That is the Problem

“If a prophet, or one who foretells by dreams, appears among you and announces to you a miraculous sign or wonder, and if *the sign or wonder of which he has spoken takes place*, and he says, “*Let us follow other gods*” (gods you have not known) “and let us worship them,” you must not listen to the words of that prophet or dreamer. *The LORD your God is testing you to find out whether you love him with all your heart and with all your soul.* It is the LORD your God you must follow, and him you must revere. Keep his commands and obey him; serve him and hold fast to him.”

Deuteronomy 13.1-4

PROPHETS of Internet / Bazaar / Advice of your Astrological Consultant  
MAY COME TRUE > THEN, you will RETURN with More DEVOTION  
Lead you FURTHER Away from God of Truth > New Spinmeister Now!  
EYES are OPENED > You are LIKE GOD > Knowledge of Good & Evil  
You No Longer NEED God!!

“The true prophet lives in the presence of God, taking his orders from Him and doing His pleasure; the False Prophet stands before the Beast, whose interpreter and servant he is.”

Henry Barclay Swete

## 2. Demand of the Beast

### a. Everyone Cannot ESCAPE the Sticky Tentacles of this Beast

v. 12 “he...made the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast”

Apostle JOHN> 2 Distinct Peoples> EARTHdwellers & Heaven’s Citizens

ULTIMATE Love & Loyalty EARTHLY v. 14 “the inhabitants of the earth

v. 16 “He also forced everyone, small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark”

“In the last days there is to be a great division in the human race. Some will remain true to the faith even in the face of death; others will turn in worship to the Antichrist.”

Robert H. Mounce

### b. Everything Beast requires All > Mark on Right Hand or Forehead

vs. 16,17 “to receive a mark on his right hand or on his forehead, so that *no one could buy or sell unless he had the mark*, which is the name of the beast or the number of his name”

COINS > 1 Way Rulers impress SOVEREIGNTY on Subject Peoples  
Portrait of Emperor > Declare DIVINE TITLES > Praise their VIRTUES

13.17 Without MARK of the BEAST > “No one can buy or sell”

MARK > SYMBOL of ULTIMATE LOYALTY and SERVICE

“In the end Satan, by means of his control over secular society, will demand ultimate allegiance and deceitfully use every method available to gain the worship of the inhabitants of the world.”

Robert H. Mounce

SLAVES > Branded with Name of Owner

SOLDIERS > Tattooed with Name of Favorite General

CONTRACTS > Sworn Commitment > Royal STAMP of the EMPEROR

COINS > Imprinted with IMAGE of Emperor claiming to be God

CERTIFICATES > given to worshippers at Roman Temples, devotee of Caesar, and thus a denier of Christ

“The two beasts – antichristian government and antichristian religion – work in perfect cooperation. That is ever the case.” William Hendriksen

Godless State & Secular Church claim MINDS & DEEDS / Head & Hands  
KINGS FACE is in EVERYTHING > Nothing happens without MONEY  
King Jesus owns our Foreheads and Hands > our MINDS and DEEDS

Mockery > Jewish PHYLACTERIES > Wearing Portions of the TORAH

Parody > God’s SEAL on His People “144,000 who had his name (Lamb’s) and his Father’s name written on their foreheads” Revelation 14.1

c. Eternal > More than CONSUMER’S Choice > Baraholka or Promenade

Will You BUY from Satan’s Kiosk or SAVIOR’S CHOICESTS WARES?  
EARTHLY DECISION for your ETERNAL DESTINY > Heaven or Hell?

“Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare...*Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near.* Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.”      Isaiah 55.1-7

“all have sinned and *fall short of* the glory of God” Romans 3.23

“The profound religious insight that lies behind these kaleidoscopic pictures in chapter 13 is that men and women are so constituted as to worship some absolute power, and if they do not worship the true and real Power behind the universe, they will construct a god for themselves and give allegiance to that. In the last analysis, it is always a choice between the power that operates through inflicting suffering, that is, the power of the

beast, and the power that operates through accepting suffering, namely, the power of the Lamb.”

Bruce M. Metzger

### 3. Discernment for Believers

“Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves.”

Matthew 7.15

“dragon, sea beast, and land beast are a satanic trinity that infiltrates the political world in order to deflect our worship from the God whom we cannot see to the authorities that we can see, and to deceive us into buying into a religion or belief-system that has visible results in self-gratification.”

Eugene Peterson

#### a. Discern

v. 18 “This calls for wisdom. If anyone has insight, let him calculate the number of the beast, for it is man's number. His number is 666.”

Difficult Passage in Revelation > Many Diverse Interpretations Given

MANY BIBLE STUDENTS > Attempt Mathematical Calculations

Number 666 makes LETTERS that Points to Some World Leader

666,000 DIFFERENT THEORIES > The Possibilities are Legion!

After PRESIDENT REAGAN was SHOT and SURVIVED  
RADIO PREACHER > R-o-n-a-l-d W-i-l-s-o-n R-e-a-g-a-n = 666

Nero CAESAR = GREEK form of LATIN Name w/ HEBREW Characters

Why would John's Readers use Hebrew Letters in this Greek Document?

v. 18 “This calls for wisdom. If anyone has insight, let him calculate”  
Book not only for MATH WHIZES & GEMATRIA SPECULATORS

Not call to CLERVERNESS but SPIRITUAL DISCERNMENT

Unbelievers can SOLVE Math Problems as well as CHRISTIANS

“Despite all man's imaginative calculations, we must confess that no one knows the meaning of this number and name.” Warren W. Wiersbe

6 > Number of Man > Created on 6<sup>th</sup> Day > 1 SHORT of PERFECTION

“The number may be meant to indicate not an individual, but a persistent falling short...‘it is the number of man’...unregenerate man is persistently evil. He bears the mark of the beast in all he does. Civilization without Christ is necessarily under the dominion of the evil one.” Leon Morris

“Threefold six may be a humanistic trinity...a counterfeit of the divine Trinity, with all the pretensions to supreme power and authority that such a counterfeit implies...this pseudo-trinity is Satan (the dragon) plus antichrist (the first beast) plus the false prophet (the second beast) united in one diabolical objective - to dethrone the Creator and to enthroned the creature and to substitute the image of the beast for the image of God in man”

Philip Edgcumbe Hughes

“Six repeated three times indicates the completeness of sinful incompleteness found in the beast. The beast epitomizes imperfection, while appearing to achieve divine perfection.” G.K. Beale

“The ‘mark of the beast’ is the God-opposing, Christ-rejecting, church-persecuting spirit of antichrist, wherever and whenever it manifests itself. Six means missing the mark, failure...666 is failure, upon failure, upon failure.”

William Hendriksen

b. Different “The inhabitants of the earth” = Unregenerated Humanity

v. 8 “All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast--all whose names have not been written in the book of life”

“There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people--*everyone whose name is found written in the book--will be delivered.*” Daniel 12.1

“Revelation tells us over and over: You cannot trust the way things look to you, and you cannot trust the religious trendsetters who peddle a palatable message that never assaults our pride, never throws us on our knees before the awesome majesty of a God whose fullness of holiness casts the elders of his heavenly council on their faces. Keep the words of the prophecy of this book. Hold fast to the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. This alone is your sure guide through a world swarming with pleasing and plausible lies.”

Dennis E. Johnson

PERSISTENT TENDENCY > Be LIKE World > PLEASE the World  
CLOTHES we WEAR > CHOICES we MAKE > CHURCHES we Plant

GNAWING Voice > Make sure you “FIT IN” > Don’t look TOO WEIRD  
Japanese Proverb “Nail that stands up alone will be POUNDED DOWN”

People of God > Going to COMPLETELY DIFFERENT Eternal Home  
People under God's Roof > PRAISE & PLEASE Him > NOW & Forever!

“You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. *Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God;* once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. Dear friends, I urge you, as *aliens and strangers in the world*, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul.”

1 Peter 2.9-11

Fundamental Characteristic of PEOPLE of GOD > DIFFERENT  
We DON'T Belong to the World > Will not Remain in THIS WORLD

“If anyone serves God with all his heart he will not be taken in by the empty miracles of the deceiver. But one who turns from God predisposes himself to believe the lies of the second beast.” Leon Morris

c. Defend > Aggressive Attacker > Persuade, Persecute, and Put to Death

- v. 12 “He exercised all the authority”
- v. 13 “even causing fire to come down from heaven”
- v. 14 “he was given power to do on behalf of the first beast”
- v. 15 “to be killed”
- v. 16 “He also forced everyone”

EVIL Charges around Earth like a THUNDERING HERD > Relentless  
Will not GO AWAY > or LEAVE us ALONE > Neutrality not an Option

“Has this not been the pattern for the church’s conflict with evil over the centuries? Whether the ruler has been a Caesar, a Hitler, a Stalin, or an agnostic humanist, Satan has energized and motivated him. The ruler has

promised the people all that they want and need, only to lead them into slavery.”

Warren W. Wiersbe

World's Motto: “Might is Right” // Believer: “***Right is Might***”

Iraqi VOTERS > Right Index Finger dipped in INK > 50+ Paid in Blood

Jesus “To the church in Smyrna: I know your afflictions and your poverty-- yet you are rich!”

Revelation 2.8,9

“Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. *Resist him, standing firm in the faith*, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you *strong, firm and steadfast*. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.”

1 Peter 5.8-11

d. Distance Christian Life is NOT a SPRINT > It is a MARATHON

v. 10 “This calls for *patient endurance and faithfulness* on the part of the saints.”

Believer in HS > ‘Jesus Movement’ in S. California in 70’s > **1970’s!!**

Hundreds of Young People > Raised Hands > Prayed Sinners Prayer

Where are They? > Only God Knows > Many NOT FOLLOWING Now

“Half-hearted Christians do not surrender their lives for a cause in which they do not really believe.”

Robert H. Mounce

“We are engaged in spiritual warfare, locked in mortal combat against a foe whose strength and cunning are intimidating... Yet our foe has been defeated decisively by the One who came in weakness, the son of a woman, the Lamb whose blood overcame the dragon on behalf of all those who hold the testimony of Jesus.”

Dennis E. Johnson

\*\*\*\*\*

11. Then I saw another beast, coming out of the earth. He had two horns like a lamb, but he spoke like a dragon.
12. He exercised all the authority of the first beast on his behalf, and made the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose fatal wound had been healed.
13. And he performed great and miraculous signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to earth in full view of men.
14. Because of the signs he was given power to do on behalf of the first beast, he deceived the inhabitants of the earth. He ordered them to set up an image in honor of the beast who was wounded by the sword and yet lived.
15. He was given power to give breath to the image of the first beast, so that it could speak and cause all who refused to worship the image to be killed.
16. He also forced everyone, small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on his right hand or on his forehead,
17. so that no one could buy or sell unless he had the mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of his name.
18. This calls for wisdom. If anyone has insight, let him calculate the number of the beast, for it is man's number. His number is 666.

---