

“THE PANORAMIC VIEW OF REVELATION”

Revelation 13: 3 – 5

And I saw one of his heads as it were [had been] wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast (v. 3). And they worshipped the dragon which gave power [authority] unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, who is like unto the beast? Who is able to make war with him (v. 4). And there was given unto him a mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two mouths (v. 5).

INTRODUCTION

Now prospectively we have discovered from our previous studies that Satan himself have been cast out of his heavenly realm **[as the prince of the air]** were he had limited access into the presence of God and the earth **(Reader, Revelation 12: 10 – 12)**. As the prince of the air, Satan have come down to the earth with his limited power to fully establish his demonic world kingdom **(Reader, Matthew 12: 25 – 26)** and throne **(Revelation 2: 12 – 13)** who opposes and seeks to exalt himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God **(2 Thess. 2: 4)**.

So as the **“Prince of the Air”** he has from the time of the fall of man, in the Garden of Eden, continued to work through his sinister influence through the mind of kings and kingdoms [Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome to set up this world power with the help of the antichrist and false prophet.

Therefore, to deceive those that are on the earth, Satan through the antichrist has to do something miraculous to draw them to him. Most scholars believe that the wounding of the head of this best was the first of seven Roman emperors, possibly Nero **(17: 9 – 10)**, or the revival of Rome.

1. And I saw one of his heads as it were [had been] wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast (v. 3).

V. 3a - And I saw one of his heads as it were [had been] wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed:

A. The phrase in the verse **“his as it were wounded to death”** is surely a contrast to what John saw and was told concerning Jesus. **“And I beheld, and lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four best, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been wounded” (Revelation 5: 6).**

As Jesus was truly put to death on the cross, this phrase was meant to indicate that the antichrist would be put to death, actually be a fake death. Though this statement could refer to one of the kingdoms that was destroyed in the pass, it will be revived through the working of Satan. It is believed that the statement actually refers to a fake death and resurrection enacted by the Antichrist as a part of his sinister skim to deceive the whole world to worship and follow him **(Reader, Revelation 12: 9). And the great dragon was cast out, the old serpent, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.**

V. 3b - And all the world wondered [marveled] after the beast:

B. The phrase **“And all the world wondered”** is another contrast wherein the world rejected the resurrection of Christ and followed after the beast **[the Antichrist]**.

The people in this world will be astounded and fascinated when the Antichrist appear to have risen from the dead. Now from the thought of it being the revival of the Rome Empire that Satan and the Antichrist will work through, it will cause amazement throughout the world. Because through its charisma, brilliance, and attractiveness with deluding powers they will cause the world to follow after Satan unquestioningly **(Reader, 2 Thess. 2: 8 – 12)**. Yes, the people will believe a lie rather than the truth and be damned. Can that take place even right now?

2. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power [authority] unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, who is like unto the beast? Who is able to make war with him (v. 4).

V. 4a. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power [authority] unto the beast:

A. The phrase **“And they worshipped the dragon”** doesn’t just speak of single individuals – though believers are excluded – but the whole world of unbelievers which were marveled by the risen beast and worshipped him **(Revelation 17: 8b)**. The world worshipped the dragon in that the people believed a lie, thereby

upholding the death of innocents instead of the sanctity of life; wherein they practice immorality instead of striving to live a moral and up right life.

However, on the other hand, as always in life when it comes to the presence of Satan he's always working in the back ground and seeks to be praised. So John want to make clear that the worship of the dragon is the same as the worship of the beast, because he gave the beast power to deceive people who is an instrument in the hand of Satan.

V. 4b, c - And they worshipped the beast, saying, who is like unto the beast? Who is able to make war with him.

B. This particular phraseology **“who is like unto the beast”** is like a taunt and marking at the Godhead. The readers and hearers of John's time were familiar with the hymnody derived here from the Old Testament and knew that the question from the unbelievers is a parody [**an imitation**] of the songs of Zion.

Who among the gods is like you, O Lord? Who is like you-majesty in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders, according to (**Ex. 15: 11; Ps. 35: 10**). The point here is, is that Satan is a copycat and he will always try to exalt his throne above God on every level. Notice how he wants to occupy God's place, but he comes in the form of this beast, and questions whether there is any one like the beast. So he challenges God's people to war.

C. Now the phrase **“Who is able to make war with him”** seems to be in the mind of Satan and his demons, that they have already won the battle. The question in itself should expect to get a negative answer. The beast has challenged God's people that are sealed and being saved (**Reader, Revelation 7: 1 – 4**) to engage him in battle. His aim is obvious and that is to overpower them and kill them.

D. The phrase **“Who is able to make war with him.”** Is a quote from Revelation **11: 7**, “the beast that came up out of the abyss will make war against them and will overcome them and kill them.” The outcome of this war for those that find salvation is that the one who conquers is defeated and those who are defeated by him [Satan] are in the end designated as conquerors, because they died in Christ. They may have lost their lives while on earth in their opposition to the power of the Antichrist, but they will spend eternity with Christ living and reigning with Him.

V. 5 - And there was given unto him a mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two mouths (v. 5).

A. The statement “**And there was given unto him a mouth in blasphemy against God**”: Satan is the one who gave the beast power and authority, yet the ultimate power and authority wheels from the hand of God. In his inscrutable wisdom, God allows the beast to blaspheme, exercise authority, and wage war against the saints.

To be continued

PRESENTED BY BISHOP PAUL MOSS, JR., PASTOR

<https://www.smfwbc.org/paulemossjr>

ST. MATTHEWS FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH, INC.

6700 N W 2ND AVENUE, MIAMI, FL 33150

Church Website: <https://www.smfwbc.org>