

“And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.” Revelation 13:13, 14. We will see that in order to exercise that authority it will do great signs from heaven, as it will make fire descend from there. A clear sign not only of Spiritism that originated in the United States, but also of its air superiority, just as it was seen in the Gulf War and the Kosovo War. The purpose of all of this is to create an image of the beast, a substitute, something similar and equal but with different packaging. A religious movement institutionally separated from the Catholic Church, but united in its teachings. That movement consists of the non-Catholic Christian churches that accept the doctrine of immortality of the soul, the sanctification of Sunday as the day of rest, and other teachings only grounded on human traditions. *“And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.”* Revelation 13:16, 17.

The triple alliance, the Catholic Church, the United States, and False Protestantism will impose the mark of the beast on all inhabitants of this planet. Whoever does not submit will be barred from buying, and selling; and their civil rights will be severed, to the point of being sentenced to death (Revelation 13:15).

These things are being fulfilled before our eyes with the new economic system, with US embargos to other nations, with the categorized and numbered economic registration of inhabitants. Is it really necessary to go into more detail to tell you that the U.S. is commanding the world and directing it at will? Would it be insistent on our part to underline the political influence of the pope in all the world, to the point that all struggling countries request his help?

666

“Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.” Revelation 13:18.

Long ago, some letters represented numbers, such as was the case in Rome. Using this method, we can more accurately identify the beast and number of its name. If we take the name or title of the Pope as reference, we will see that it is “Vicar of the Son of God.” In Latin, it is VICARIVS FILII DEI.

The sum is 666. We appeal to your honesty. Is the papacy 666 or not? We pray that God give you wisdom in understanding Bible truths.



**“VICARIUS FILII DEI”
OR
“VICAR OF THE
SON OF GOD”**

666

LATIN

V = 5
I = 1
C = 100
A = 0
R = 0
I = 1
U = 5
S = 0

F = 0
I = 1
L = 50
I = 1
I = 1

D = 500
E = 0
I = 1

666

THE MARK OF THE BEAST

The Third Angel’s message proclaims with a loud voice, *“If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God...”* Revelation 14:9, 10.

In previous studies, we have seen that the Sabbath is the sign or seal of God. In contrast, Sunday is the sign or seal of the beast. Having it on the forehead or on the hand are not representative of a visible mark, but it is evident when we support its observance with our desires (the forehead) and our work (the right hand). He that keeps Sunday, despite knowing God’s commandments, becomes worthy of the God’s wrath.



THE MINORITY DILEMMA

Many observe Sunday as the day of the Lord, but is it the majority that makes the truth biblical? Very soon, events will unravel that will cause the minority who do not accept the imposition of Sunday worship to be deprived of civil rights and threatened with death. What will be your stance? Will you be in agreement with the majority or will you accept the voice of God? The message is solemn and the consequences are eternal. Once again, God is knocking at your door to offer you the solution to this problem. He promises a crown of life to those who are faithful unto death (Revelation 2:10). You will also be numbered among Christian martyrs such as Paul, Peter, and Jesus Himself. He says, *“Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.”* Matthew 10:32.

There is a heaven to gain! Follow Jesus and decide to be faithful to Him now. **He will be with you!**



THIRD MILLENNIUM BIBLE COURSE

9

International Missionary Society, Seventh-day Adventist Church, Reform Movement

666 GLOBALIZATION AND THE MINORITY DILEMMA

@ news item circled the globe: The United States spies on the world with a network of electronic interception. Its name is ECHELON, a network composed of about 120 satellites capable of intercepting up to one billion signals every half hour. E-mail, fax, telephone calls and the internet are monitored by sophisticated computer algorithms with pre-established words, able to identify telephone numbers, words, keys, and has voice recognition, etc. Journalist Duncan Campbell presented this report in the European Parliament accusing this network of conducting industrial espionage for the benefit of US companies.

In this age of globalization, a system exists to control the world. The United Nations does so with its role of international police, IMF with its control over worldwide economy, and the Vatican with its intervention in the problems of the world. What will be the limit of the pressure to which minorities are subjected that do not submit to the laws dictated by that powerful politico-economic-religious system?

All of this produces uneasiness and leads us to ask: Does the Bible say anything regarding this? Could it be that God keeps silent concerning these very important subjects? According to prophecies, what will happen in the future? Let us ask God; His word in the book of Daniel chapter 7 and Revelation chapter 13 will give us the answer.

HISTORY FORETOLD THROUGH SYMBOLS

Currently, many nations are represented in its national animal symbols: The United Kingdom with a lion, Russia with a bear, China with a dragon, France with a rooster, etc. They exist just like this in the books of Daniel and Revelation; they are representations that symbolize kingdoms, persons, or a particular political power.

For example:

- * **Beats** represent kingdoms. *“... The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth.”* Daniel 7:23.
- * **Heads** and horns represent a division of kingdoms. Daniel 7:24; 7:6; 8:8.
- * **Wings** represent speed. Habakkuk 1:8.
- * **Winds** represent wars. Jeremiah 49:36, 37.
- * **Waters** represent a multitude of people. Revelation 17:15.
- * In prophecy, **a day** equals a year. Ezekiel 4:6; Numbers 14:34.

In Daniel 7:2, 3 we read that four symbolic beasts came up from the wind agitated sea. Using the key above, we conclude that these are 4 empires that arose in the midst of wars and many people.



Keys to prophetic interpretation indicated in the Bible

Beasts=Kingdoms

Heads = Division of Kingdoms

Horns = Division of Kingdoms

Water=People

Wings=Speed

Winds=Wars

1 Day = 1 Year

The Bible says, **“These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth”** (Daniel 7:17).

- **“The first was like a lion, and had eagle’s wings...”** (Daniel 7:4). It represents the Babylonian Empire (606 – 538 B.C.). The wings represent King Nebuchadnezzar’s speed of conquest.



- **“And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it...”** (Daniel 7:5). It represents the Medo-Persian Empire (538 – 331 B.C.). The bear raises itself more on one side, which is symbolic of the Persian supremacy over the Medes. It has three ribs between its teeth, meaning that it conquered three provinces: Babylon, Lydia, and Egypt.



- **“...And lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it”** (Daniel 7:6). It represents the Greek Empire (331 – 168 B.C.).

- The four wings represent double the speed on conquest. In only 8 years, the Greek Empire ruled an area of 5 million square kilometers.

- Four heads represent the division of the empire into four parts when Alexander the Great died (323 B.C.):

- Lysimachus ruled over Thrace; Ptolemy I ruled over Egypt; Cassander ruled over Greece; Seleucus I ruled over Syria and Babylon.



- Then came up **“...a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible... it had ten horns”** (Daniel 7:7). The Bible itself explains: **“...the fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth... and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces”** (Daniel 7:23).

- It represents the Roman Empire (169 B.C. – A.D. 476) with its fierceness represented by nails of brass and teeth of iron. The 10 horns represent the 10 nations of Western Europe that remained when the Roman Empire was dissolved (Daniel 7:24).

Another horn comes up, meaning another power. **“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: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things... whose look was more stout than his fellows. I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them...”** Daniel 7:8, 20, 21.



We are further informed about the power: **“And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws...”** Daniel 7:25.

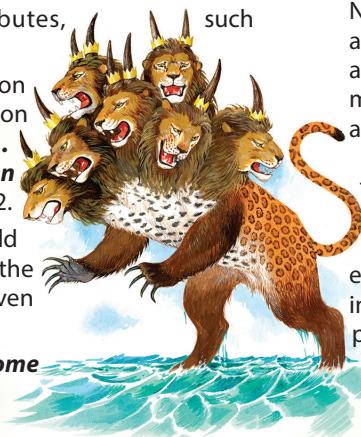
Who is that power that will come up from the ruins of the Roman Empire? It would be different from previous ones, that is, it would not be a political power but a religious one. It would speak blasphemies, persecute the saints by creating the inquisition, it would change the times by repealing the biblical day of rest and introducing its own feast days; and would think to change the law, that is, the Ten Commandments that include the Sabbath as the true day of rest.

A POWER OF UNIVERSAL INFLUENCE

In Revelation 13 is found the same power symbolized in another beast. **“And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.”** Revelation 13:1, 2. Please read Revelation 13:1-18 in your Bible.

Fascinating, is it not? Let’s identify this beast or power. It would have the sagacity of a leopard, the fierceness of a bear, and would be respected as a lion.

- **“And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies...”** (Revelation 13:5). Its power is in its mouth, namely what it says and not in the strength of its weapons. This references a religious power that pretends to be God, which is blasphemy (John 10:33).
- **Its name:** It also uses God’s name and attributes, such as Divinity, Father, and Holiness.
- **Its tabernacle:** It would distort Christ’s intercession by including human mediation for the confession and forgiveness of sins, as well as prayer to God. **“... For there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”** Acts 4:12.
- It would blaspheme the inhabitants of heaven: It would attribute authority such as beautifying, requesting the intercession of saints, and having the keys of heaven and hell (Revelation 13:6).
- It would **“make war with the saints, and... overcome them”** (Revelation 13:7): The Inquisition.



- It was given power over all kindreds, tongues, and nations (Revelation 13:7). Its time of action would be **“forty and two months”** (Revelation 13:5). Let’s take a look: 42x30=1260 (in the Jewish calendar, each month had 30 days). This period coincides with 1,260 days (years) in Revelation 12:6. In Revelation 12:14 and Daniel 7:25 it speaks of a time (one year), times (two years), and half a time (six months). This period is from A.D. 538 to A.D. 1798, in which one religious power had supremacy in the Middle Ages.



What power fulfills those characteristics better than the Roman Catholic Apostolic Church, as led by the papacy, its religious head? Now, who isn’t surprised at the papacy’s progress in all problems related to the earth, just as prophecy foretells? **“... And his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?”** Revelation 13:3, 4. The mortal wound was given to the papacy in 1798 during the French Revolution when the pope was imprisoned and his power was limited. But that wound healed and today the whole world admires it.

Does this power work alone? No, as the papacy is a religious power, and it has neither the political nor military power to become what it once was in the Middle Ages. Therefore, the prophecy doesn’t leave us in the dark. There is a second power that must rise so the work of the papacy can be carried out, namely U.S.A.

THE UNITED STATES IN PROPHECY

“And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.” Revelation 13:11, 12. Please read to verse 17.

Let’s contemplate the clarity with which the Bible details the characteristics of each kingdom. This beast comes out of the earth as opposed to the other beasts of Daniel 7 that come out of the sea with winds, symbolic of many people and wars.

The emergence of this nation was not after a war, but was in peace, in a New World. The similarity of its two horns as **“like a lamb”** denoted youth and goodness, and its two horns are the strength of its power: religious and civil liberty. What is surprising of its characteristic is that when the moment presents itself, that power would become a cover, as **“... he spake as a dragon.”**

It acts in similar manner as the first beast, as **“... he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him”**, which is something the United States is doing by interfering in political and economic problems of all the countries of the earth, just as the papacy did the Middle Ages.

