



# Bible Prophecy Guide

## America in Bible Prophecy

Summary 10

| <u>Daniel 7</u>                     | <u>Rev. 12</u>               | <u>Rev. 13</u>               |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. begin in OT                      | 1. begin in OT               | 1. begin in OT               |
| 2. 1260 years                       | 2. 1260                      | 2. 1260 years                |
| 3. Rome                             | 3. Rome                      | 3. Rome                      |
| 4. 10 horns                         | 4. 10 horns                  | 4. 10 horns                  |
| 5. Persecutes saints                | 5. Persecutes saints         | 5. Persecutes saints         |
| 6. Wound healed<br><i>(implied)</i> | 6. Wound healed              | 6. Wound healed              |
| 7. Around at the end of time        | 7. Around at the end of time | 7. Around at the end of time |

**Revelation 16:13-14** – There is a third entity in the end time false trinity. We have looked at two but we haven't looked at the prophet.

**Deuteronomy 13:1-5** – The false prophet rises amongst God's people and leads them into false worship and away from God's law.

**Jeremiah 35:15** – True prophets were raised up to bring people back to the straight and narrow.

**Isaiah 28:7** – False prophets are associated with intoxicating drink.

**Jeremiah 6:13-15** – They are covetous. They promise peace when there is no peace. They encourage abomination and the worst was according to Ezekiel 8, the worship of the sun.

**Ezekiel 8:15-16** – The worship of the sun was the great abomination of the day.

**Jeremiah 23:17** – They promise peace even though they say you can do as you please.

**Matthew 7:15-16, 21-23** – False prophets look religious but they are lawless.

**Matthew 24:11-12** – False prophets rise up and lawlessness abounds. The hearts aren't changed from capital hill but from the heavenly throne.

**Luke 6:26** – Ministers and leaders are not called to be popular. People usually hated the true prophets because the prophet was seen as ruffling feathers and stepping on toes.

**Revelation 16:13-14** – There is a third power that plays in this end time drama. We see the second beast in Revelation 13. But note that this beast will seek to speak for Jesus. But it will be a false prophet.

**Romans 13:1-10** – Paul instructs us to submit to the authority of government but he only refers to the last 6 commandments.

## Who is the second beast?

**Revelation 13:11-18** – The 2<sup>nd</sup> beast is sometimes referred to as a false prophet because it speaks on behalf of that first beast which claims to be God on earth. It can be identified by the following six characteristics:

- Arises around 1798 - It arises around the time that the 1<sup>st</sup> beast is going into captivity. This took place according to history in 1798. So we should expect a nation to arise around this time.
- This 2<sup>nd</sup> beast is a nation because beasts are kingdoms or nations according to Bible prophecy as we have already noted from Daniel 7.
- It grows slowly like a plant. – the original Greek word for “coming up” means to sprout and grow. So like a plant slowly emerges from the ground, so this power would slowly rise to power. This is very different from the previous powers described in Daniel 7. It also suggests it would not be in full power in 1798.
- This beast rises out of the earth - in Bible prophecy we understand the sea to represent peoples based on Rev. 17:15 and thus when the text states that this beast arises from the earth, we should assume it is from an unpopulated area.
- It would reign at the same time as the Roman papal power at some point for it cooperate with the first beast.
- It would be worldwide in its influence. It's a global power in as much as it causes all, both small and great to worship the first beast. It would thus be global militarily, economically, and politically according to the text.
- It would make an image to the beast meaning it would share it's characteristics. Thus it would come to the point that it persecutes, unites church and state, make laws that counter God's law and as you will see in a future presentation, will seek to change the words of prophecy as did the Catholic church.
- This beast is lamb like – this usually refers to Christ but now it refers to this beast and thus we might assume it would have Christ like characteristics.
- It would have two horns. Horns represent kingdoms or powers. Jesus spoke of two kingdoms, this world's kingdom and His kingdom. See Matthew 22:21. He said render to Caesar that which is his and to God what is His. So our country was raised with these two principles in mind. A separation of church and state. Protestantism which suggests church without a pope and republicanism which suggests a nation without a king.

The United States is the only power that fits all of these characteristics.

- It began around 1798 with the Declaration of Independence in 1776 and then with the first constitutional convention in 1787. We also formed our first diplomatic relations with a nation in 1798. Interestingly enough, this diplomatic relationship was established with France, the same nation that took the pope captive in that same year.
- The United States is a nation.
- It was only beginning in 1798 as a nation. It was growing in strength like a plant. It has slowly grown in power.
  - “. . . the mystery of her coming forth from vacancy. . . Like a silent seed we grew into an empire.” - G.A. Townsend, The New World compared with the Old. p. 635
  - “Emerging . . . amid the silence of the earth, adding daily to its power and strength.” - Uriah Smith, Daniel & Revelation p. 578
- It began in a land that was relatively unpopulated.

- America has become a global power today and the Roman Catholic church is continuing to be restored to a World power today. In fact, they call the pope the moral leader of today.
- America is a global political, economic and military power in the world today.
- Today we are seeing signs of a growing partnership between America & the Roman Papal system.
- We see protestant America reaching out to the beast power today both theologically and politically. For most protestants not only keep Sunday as their day of worship, but protestants have over the last 150 years come to embrace the prophetic teachings of the papal system, something we will look at more later. And so today, we see protestant leaders reaching out to the Catholic church, seeking to unite on shared points of belief, ignoring in many ways the points upon which they removed themselves from the church of the dark ages in the first place.
- It is lamb like in that it promises liberty and freedom for all who crossed its borders. The first amendment promises the freedoms as represented in the two horns.
  - *Every man conducting himself as a good citizen and being accountable to God alone for his religious opinions ought to be protected in worshipping the Deity according to the dictates of his own good conscience. - George Washington 1789*
  - *When religion is good, it will take care of itself. When it is not able to take care of itself and God does not see fit to take care of it so that it has to appeal to the civil power for support, it's evidence to my mind that the cause a bad one. - Benjamin Franklin*

**Revelation 13:15 -17** – The second beast supports the first beast and a death decree results for those who won't worship the first beast. Thus one day the United States according to prophecy will lead the world in forcing men and women to receive the mark of the beast which is the worship of Sunday as commanded by the Roman Catholic Church. It's hard to imagine that we could lose our freedom of religion that we have for so long enjoyed.

**Revelation 13:3, 14** - The deadly wound will be healed. In 1929, Mussolini sat down with Cardinal Gasparri and signed a historic pact that reinstated the Catholic Church as a sovereign power.

*"The Roman question tonight was a thing of the past and the Vatican was at peace with Italy. In affixing the autographs to the memorable document healing the wound. . .extreme cordiality was displayed on both sides. – San Francisco Chronicle Feb. 11, 1929*

Since then we have seen a continual healing of the wound. In the early 80's, then President Reagan began sending ambassadors to the Vatican and so we continue today. A former Jesuit wrote the following:

*Willing or not, ready or not, we are all involved in an all-out, no-holds-barred, three way global competition. Most of us are not competitors, however. We are the stakes. For the competition is about who will establish . . .the first one-world system of government that has ever existed in the society of nations. It is about who will hold and wield the dual power of authority and control over each of us as individuals and over all of us together as a community. - Malachi Martin, "The Keys of this Blood" p. 15*

Indeed, a struggle has existed and communism has fallen due in part to an alliance between the late President Reagan and late Pope John Paul II as reported by Carl Bernstein in February of 1992.

So it was that at the death of Pope John Paul II we saw the president along with two former presidents and other world leaders kneel before the deceased pope. We have seen the current pope address the joint session of congress. We are seeing all the world wander after the beast. Indeed, the world has changed and the union between church and state is growing.

One cannot force worship, for matters of the heart are far too fragile. As we have seen and will continue to see, the issue of the last days center on worship. The beast will try to force it, but God will not. He will let us choose whom we will place our trust in.

We have already noted that the Sabbath is the seal of God and that the mark of the beast will be Sunday worship. No one has received the mark of the beast as of yet. It's only when the test comes that the mark will be given. In the final days, the United States will decree that anyone who fails to recognize this man made decree will be put to death. Such a notion may seem strange but prophecy has spoken.

**Revelation 19:20** – The beast and false prophets perform signs and wonders. The end time issue is over obedience and so the false prophet seeks to deceive people into taking the mark of the beast.

**Revelation 13: 13-14** - People will be deceived by the signs of the false prophet. Now remember, the lamb had two horns, Protestantism and Republicanism. What should we make of these false signs? The story here reminds us of Elijah when fire came down and burned the sacrifice and altar when the test was had on Mt. Carmel. The prophets of Baal were unable to bring fire down but the true God of heaven sent fire down and consumed the offering. We also see fire coming down as tongues of fire upon the disciples at Pentecost in Acts 2. Such was a sign of God's presence through the Holy Spirit. So we would expect a false Pentecostal movement in the last days along with false signs and miracles so that all the world would wander after the beast.

**Revelation 13:15 -17** – The beast is granted power which speaks to when the people demand the government to act out their requests. So it is given power to make an image to the beast which means at this time America will begin to behave like the little horn in that it blends church and state and eventually uses force to carry out its decrees. For the text says it will speak which when a beast speaks it speaks through its laws. And it "causes" those who won't obey to be killed, thus persecution. It all depends on whether you have the mark or not.

Sunday laws are already on the books of more than half of the United States. We call such laws blue laws. In the 1880's Sunday laws were enacted so that dissenters were placed in chain gangs and punished. But these laws were for the most part put in check so that we no longer live under such decrees though there are remnants of such laws today in many states.

As Americans becomes more and more corrupt, we should expect and are seeing a backlash. Already the government has engaged in the controversy over gay marriage, an institution that originated in the Garden of Eden. Another such institution originated there called the Sabbath. It is only a matter of time before it is brought to the forefront. Already there are initiatives such as the Lord's Day Alliance that are pushing for a Lord's day initiative. It's just a matter of time.

Will you take your stand today to be amongst those listed among the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus? (Rev. 14:12) Will you surrender all and by his strength follow all 10 of His commandments including the Bible Sabbath which contains His mark of authority in our lives? You may be tempted to wait and take your stand later, but such a choice is dangerous at best for it is essentially a choice to trust God later. And if your relationship is put on hold, often such relationships die or grow numb as a result. Choose ye this day whom you will serve before it's too late.