"The Beast Wants Your Worship"

Revelation 13: 1-4

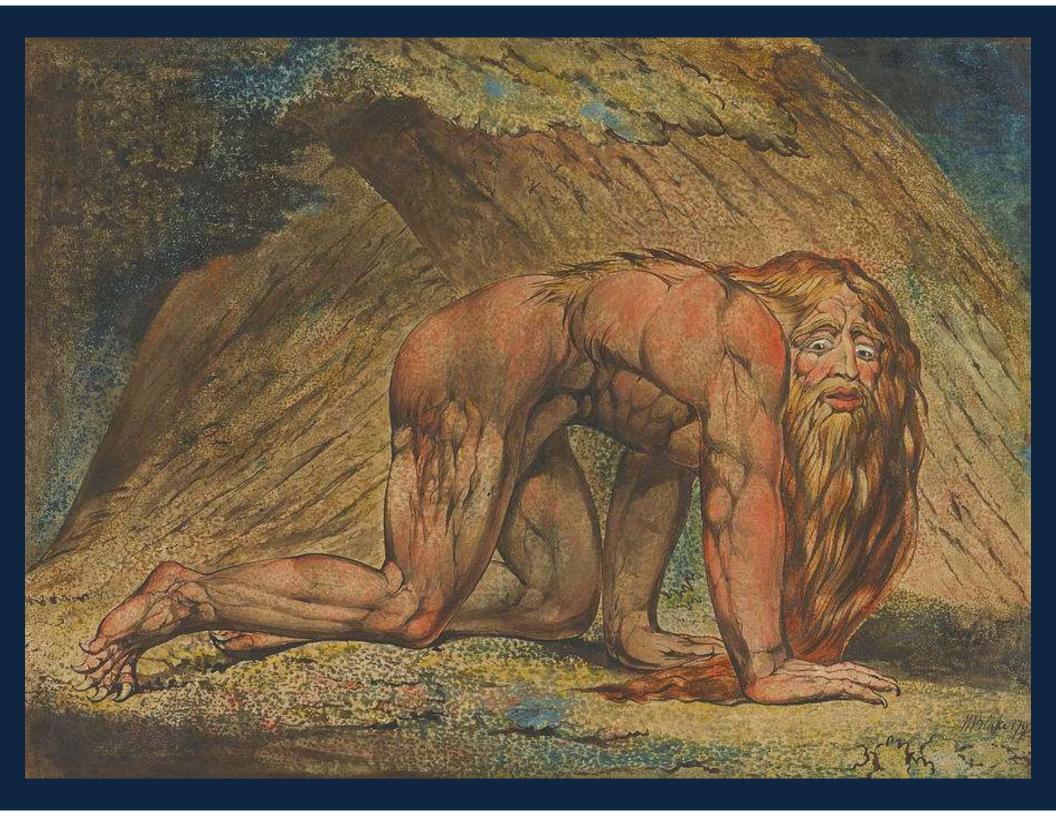
The pressure to cave to the culture's demands is enormous!

Three Hebrew heroes, *Shadrach*, *Meshach*, *and Abed-Nego*, refused to cave to the pressure



God warns Nebuchadnezzar of his demise if he will not repent

Nebuchadnezzar refuses God's warning and experiences "unintended consequences"



All must learn who is really in charge - GOD, not me!

GOD hates pride! - Proverbs 6: 16

How to not conform to indoctrination pressure:

"Daniel purposed in his heart not to defile himself with the king's delicacies" Daniel 1: 8

Verse 1 The Beast from the sea

What is the sea?

Allow Scripture to interpret Scripture - Revelation 17: 15

- The sea is referring to Gentile nations
- Antichrist is a Gentile and will come out of the Roman empire Daniel 9: 26



Daniel's prophesies of coming kingdoms are spot on - predicted hundreds of years beforehand!

Bible Prophecy proves the validity of the Bible!

Who are the seven heads?

The seven heads are seven world kingdoms - Revelation 17: 9-10

Five have fallen; one is, and the other has yet to come

Five fallen = the seven beast kingdoms - Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Persia, Greece

One is = Rome is #6 at the time John was writing

One to come = the ten nation, beast-led, worldwide empire is #7

Everyone of these kingdoms is immersed in the worship of false gods!

The woman sits on seven mountains or kingdoms -

Who is the woman?

The woman is the harlot world religious system - religious Babylon - Revelation 17: 1-3

Religious Babylon will permeate the earth during the first half of the tribulation

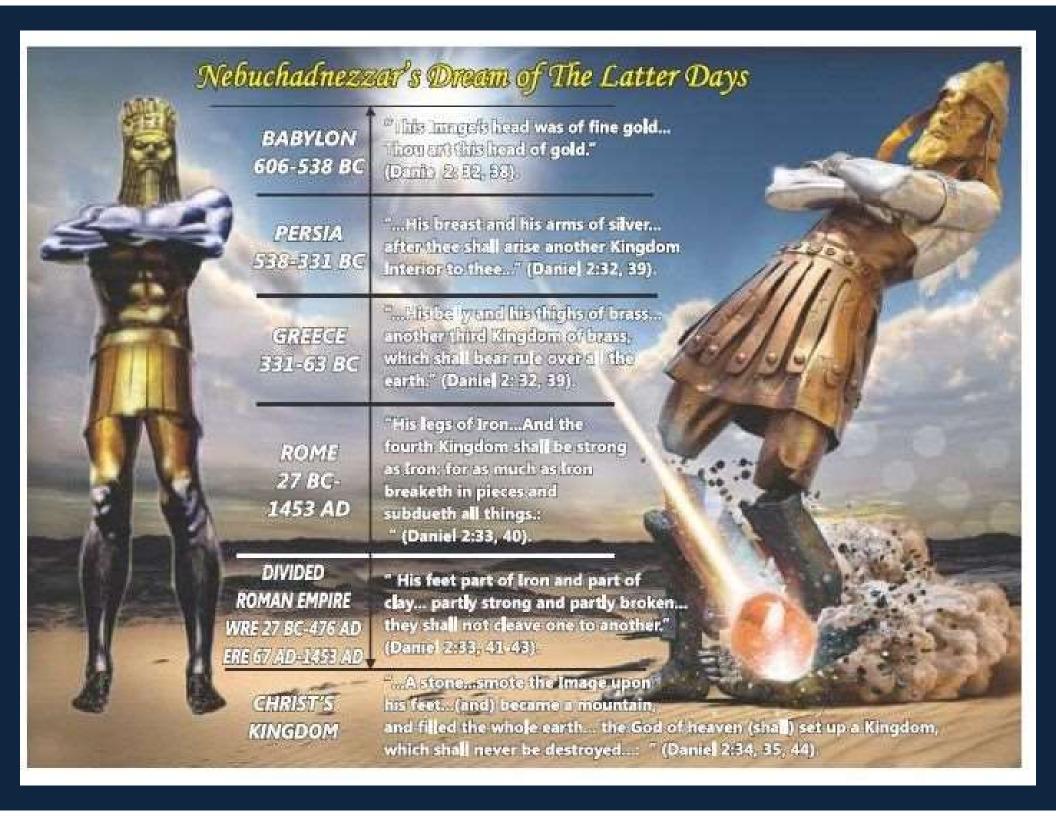
A one-world religion (syncretism) = COEXIST

The beast will hate this system and eventually turn on it and destroy it Revelation 17: 16

Ten horns with ten crowns -

The ten horns are identified for us - Revelation 17: 12-13

These are the ten toes of part clay and part iron in Daniel's vision of world kingdoms



Verse 2 The dragon gave him his power

Antichrist is Satan's man, and he gives him power, his throne, and authority

Why the leopard, bear, and lion?

These are symbolic of powerful, satanic world kingdoms in the past (Greece, Persia, Babylon)

Each kingdom takes on characteristics of the previous kingdom and builds on it

The final kingdom, Rome, is the most dreadful of all!

Verse 3 Antichrist is killed and resurrected

What about the mortal head wound (antichrist is killed and resurrected)

Allow Scripture to interpret Scripture - Revelation 17: 8, 11

How does the world (earth dwellers) respond to this?

"all the world marveled and followed the beast"

Satan possesses the antichrist in the middle of the Tribulation

He performs miracles that will mesmerize the world

Satanic/Demonic Miracles

- Exod 7–8
- Deut 13:1-3
- Matt 7:21-23; 24:24
- Acts 8:9; 16:16
- Gal 1:6-9
- 2 Thess 2:9
- Rev 13:3, 13, 15; 16:13-14



Verse 4 Satan possesses antichrist

The earth marvels and directs worship to whom?

The dragon!

This gives credence that the antichrist is possessed

Satan is getting what he always wanted - worship and adoration!

Two people in Scripture are called the son of perdition:

Judas - <u>John 17: 12</u>

Antichrist - 2 Thessalonians 2: 3

Both possessed by Satan himself!!

CLOSING: THE BEAST WANTS YOUR WORSHIP

The Revelation of Jesus Christ is the unveiling of future events *Godwants you to know!!*

This study is not an easy one; the journey is difficult and current events are scary!

One must dig for the gold!

This takes time and effort and COMMITMENT!!

Those who are committed to the process are given a promise in Revelation 1: 3

Blessed = "markarios" = fully satisfied, content, pleased, complete, because GOD INDWELLS YOU!!

When you feel unsettled or disturbed, remember our God is sovereign and in control!

Allow God to enter your chaos and bring peace to your storm!

Calm waters are found close to our Savior!!



Our lives are not always pastoral, calm or tranquil

You may be in the middle of a storm.....

This painting is entitled, "Peace!"



God has a peace place just for you!

Simply, walk in what He has given you!!

SELAH - PAUSE AND REFLECT!