

REVELATION

*The CHURCH TRIUMPHANT
Through CHRIST
(the LAMB of GOD)*

Based upon Jim McGuigan's work on the book of Revelation

REVELATION

The CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

Through CHRIST

(the LAMB of GOD)

Lesson Three

Rome and God's People

LESSON PLAN

1. Past, Present, or Future?
 2. The Old Testament
 3. Rome and God's People
 4. A Woman, A City, and Witnesses
 5. The Serpent and The Christ
 6. Seals, Trumpets, and Bowls
 7. Armageddon, New Jerusalem
 8. Numbers and Their Message
 9. Chapters 1-10 (Two Lessons)
 10. Chapters 11-22 (Two Lessons)
- Basic Background**
- Major Characters**
- Major Images**
- Putting it Together**

Lesson 3: What We Will Learn

- **The Roman Empire shown in 3 images**
 - **The Sea Beast stands for Military Power**
 - **The Earth Beast stands for Religious Power**
 - **The Prostitute/City stands for a Commercial, Trading Power**

Lesson 3: What We Will Learn

- **God is the Central Character, as in all Scripture**
- **The People of God are represented by the Vision of 144,000 marked for Protection against God's anger**

The Central Message

- **God alone is to be worshiped and served**
 - **Despite persecution (from Rome)**
- **The Roman Empire is the expression of the world spirit**
 - **Opposes God's kingdom**
- **The followers of the Lord Christ that are triumphant**
 - **His Lordship is real**

Major Characters

- **Rome**
 - The Sea-Beast
 - The Earth-Beast
 - A Prostitute
 - A Great City
- **God's People**
 - 144,000
 - Great Multitude
 - A Woman
 - A Glorious City
 - Two Witnesses
- **Satan**
 - A Dragon
 - A Star
- **Jesus Christ**
 - The Church's Leader
 - The Faithful Witness
 - The Resurrected Lord
 - The King of Kings
 - The Redeemer from Sin

The Sea-Beast: 13:1-10

- **Seven Heads (1)**
- **Ten Horns (1)**
- **Ten Crowns (1)**
- **Blasphemous Names (1)**
- **Leopard (2)**
- **Bear (2)**
- **Lion(2)**
- **Dragon Gave Power (2)**
- **Death Stroke (3)**
- **World Marveled (3)**
- **World Followed (3)**
- **World Worshiped Dragon (4/8)**
- **World Worship Beast (4)**
- **Spoke Blasphemies (5)**
- **Authority 42 Months (5)**
- **Made War w/ Saints (7)**
- **Authority Over Every Tribe, Tongue, and Nation (8)**

The Beast out of the Sea

- **SEA - Represents the Nations**
 - **Turbulence, stormy upheavals**
 - **Isaiah 57:20. The wicked are like a troubled sea**
 - **Isaiah 17:12-13. Many peoples = Sea**
 - **Rev. 17:15. Many waters = Nations**

The Sea-Beast

- **10 Horns - Great (Human) Power**
- **7 Heads - Great (Worldly) Wisdom**
- **Diadems - Great (Earthly) Authority**
- **Names of Blasphemy**
 - Emperors took names of deity (Dan 7:25)

Daniel's and John's Visions

- **DANIEL CHAP 7 (also look at Daniel 2)**
 - **1st Beast = Lion Babylonian (Vicious)**
 - **2nd Beast = Bear Medo-Persian (Crushing)**
 - **3rd Beast = Leopard Macedonian (Crafty)**
 - **4th Beast = All ROME**
- **JOHN'S SEA-BEAST**
 - **Daniel's 4th Beast = ROME**
 - **This Beast has all the power of the previous world powers COMBINED!!**

The Earth-Beast: 13:11-18

- **Appearance of a Lamb (“like a lamb” vs.11)**
 - Gentle, Docile
 - The Appearance of Religion
- **Reality of this BEAST**
 - Spoke Like a Dragon (vs. 11)
 - Called a false prophet / false religion
- **Acted Under the Authority of the Sea Beast**
 - Religious Parliament
 - The Enforcement of Emperor Worship
 - Power of Life and Death

The Mark of the Beast

- **God Seals His People (7:3; 9:4; 14:1)**
 - He promises to write His name on our foreheads
 - Spiritual Mark / Seal as a sign of devotion
- **The Beast also Marks his Followers**
 - “He caused” = He requires it
 - Reflects the character and conduct of paganism
 - No Mark? No buying or Selling
 - 3rd Seal showed economic scarcity

The Prostitute & the City

- **INVITATION (17:1-2)**
 - “Come I will show you the judgment”
- **DESCRIPTION (17:3-6)**
 - Prostitute - How she is dressed, Drunk, Killed Saints
 - Scarlet Beast - 7 Heads, 10 Horns, Supports Prostitute.
- **EXPLANATION (17:7-18)**
 - Prostitute - is Rome.
 - Scarlet Beast - Is the Roman Empire

Who is the Prostitute?

- **Sits on Many Waters**
- **Kings of Earth commit fornication with her**
- **Sits on the Scarlet Beast (sea beast)**
- **Held a golden cup full of abominations**
- **Drunk on the blood of the Saints**
- **A Great City - Reigning over Kings**

Other Prostitutes

- **NINEVEH (Nahum 3:1-4)**
- **TYRE (Isaiah 23:15-17)**
- **BABYLON (Isaiah 47:5-15)**
- **JUDAH**
 - (Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Hosea, Micah)
- **ROME (Revelation 17)**
 - “Mother of all Prostitutes.”

The 144,000

- **This is a Symbolic Number**
 - “12” God’s people, Organized Religion
 - “1000” Whole, Complete to the nth degree
 - It is then multiplied by itself and by 1000
 - Represents all faithful people of God on Earth
- **The Great Multitude**
 - No longer need protection on Earth
 - They praise God!
 - They have come through Tribulation



The 144,000 Are Sealed (chapter 7)

- **A Seal had several purposes**
 - **Protection against tampering (Matt 27:66)**
 - **Marks of ownership (Song of Solomon 8:6)**
 - **Certifies (Esther 3:12)**
- **All apply to the Christian**
 - **We are under God's protection**
 - **We have been bought by His blood**
 - **The Spirit certifies we are God's children (Eph 1:13; Rom 8:16)**

What is the Sealing?

- **All Suffering Is Not The Judgment of God**
- **The Righteous Are Exempt From Punishment But They May Still Suffer**
- **How Can This Be Reconciled?**

The 144,000

Vs 4 = 144,000

Vs 3 = ALL

Note: If the Number is not Literal, then maybe the tribes are not literal either!

| 12 SONS OF JACOB | 12 TRIBES OF ISRAEL | TRIBES IN REVELATION |
|------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Rueben | Rueben | Rueben |
| Simeon | Simeon | Simeon |
| Levi | | Levi |
| Judah | Judah | Judah |
| Dan | Dan | ? |
| Naphtali | Naphtali | Naphtali |
| Gad | Gad | Gad |
| Asher | Asher | Asher |
| Issachar | Issachar | Issachar |
| Zebulun | Zebulun | Zebulun |
| Joseph | Ephraim | Joseph ? |
| | Manasseh | Manesseh |
| Benjamin | Benjamin | Benjamin |

Lesson 3: What We Learned

- **The Roman Empire in three images**
 - **The Sea Beast stands for Military Power**
 - **The Earth Beast stands for Religious Power**
 - **The Prostitute/City stands for a Commercial, Trading Power**

Lesson 3: What We Learned

- **As with the rest of the Bible, God is the Central Character of Revelation**
- **The People of God are represented by the Vision of 144,000 marked for Protection against God's anger**

REVELATION

The CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

Through CHRIST

(the LAMB of GOD)

Next Lesson:

**A Woman, A City, and
Witnesses**