

Jesus Is The Answer Bible Study Course

(Advanced 1)



Lesson 16

WORSHIP WARS, part 2: THE SEVEN HEADED BEAST

It is a true saying that history repeats itself. Eccl. 1:10 asks the question, “Is there anything of which it may be said, ‘See, this is new?’ It has already been in ancient times before us.” Therefore, according to God’s Word and history, another “Worship War” is headed our way.

Directions: Read the Bible texts at the end of each statement, then circle TRUE or FALSE, or FILL IN THE BLANKS. **PRAY FIRST!**

1. What does a beast represent in Bible prophecy? (Daniel 7:17, 23) A k____ or a k_____
2. The beast of Revelation 13:1-10 rose up out of the sea. What do seas and waters represent in Bible prophecy? (Revelation 13:1; 17:15) P_____, M_____, N_____, and T_____

Note: Revelation 17:15 refers to the beast in Rev. 13:1 as a harlot with a large following of peoples, multitudes, nations, and languages. A harlot is unfaithful to her husband. And this beast/kingdom is a church with political power that is unfaithful to Jesus, who is the Bridegroom/husband of His church.

3. The beast/kingdom in Revelation 13:1-10 is a composite of all four of the kingdoms in Daniel 7. (Revelation 13:2; Daniel 7:2-7) **TRUE-FALSE**

Note: The kingdom in Revelation 13:2 is described as a leopard—Greece; with the feet of a bear—Medo Persia; and the mouth of a lion—Babylon; and the dragon—Pagan Rome “gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.” (Review lesson no. 11 concerning these kingdoms). This means that this kingdom has adopted the practices and teachings of all of the idolatrous worship systems of the kingdoms before it.

4. The following six clues identify what kingdom is represented by the beast in Revelation 13:1-10. To complete the statements, fill in the blanks

1st Clue- A kingdom that received its p_____, s_____, and a_____ from the dragon/Pagan Rome. (Revelation 13: 2)

Note: History tells us that the only kingdom that grew out of Pagan Rome is Papal Rome. Labianca, Professor of History, University of Rome, “To the succession of the Caesar’s came the succession of the Pontiffs in Rome. When Constantine left Rome he gave his seat to the Pontiff.” The word pontiff refers to the Roman Catholic Pope or the Bishop of Rome.

2nd Clue- A b_____ kingdom. (Revelation 13:6; Luke 5:21, John 10:33)

Note: The Bible defines blasphemy as a human being assuming any rights or power that belongs to God alone. For example, the Jewish leaders falsely accused Jesus of blasphemy because He said that He was God's Son and had the power to forgive sins. And Jesus was absolutely correct. He is equal with God the Father, with all the rights and power, because He is God the Son. But when a human makes this claim, it is blasphemy. The following quotations were written by leaders of the kingdom in Rev. 13:1-10. Pope Leo XIII wrote in his 1894 encyclical, "We hold upon this earth the place of God Almighty...." "Were the Redeemer to descend into a church and sit in the confessional to administer the sacrament of penance, and a priest to sit in a confessional, Jesus would say over the penitent: 'Ego te absolvo. The priest would likewise say over each penitent: 'Ego te absolvo.' And the penitents of each would be equally absolved [forgiven].'" *Duties and Dignities of the Priest*, p. 39,

3rd Clue- A worldwide religious/political kingdom that dominates the n_____ of the world, and commands w_____. (Revelation 13:4, 7-8)

Note: Myer's *General History*, p. 455 says, "Under him [Pope Innocent III] was very nearly made good the papal claim that all earthly sovereigns were merely vassals of the Roman pontiff. Almost all the kings and princes of Europe swore fealty [loyalty] to him as their overlord. Rome was once more the mistress of the world."

4th Clue- A kingdom that reigned supreme for ___ months and persecuted C_____ that refused to follow its false teachings. (Revelation 13:5, 7; Dan. 7:25)

Note: according to Ezekiel 4:6 and Numbers 14:34, one day represents one year in Bible prophecy. And since the Hebrew calendar is used in Bible prophecy, which has 30 days in a month, $42 \text{ months} \times 30 = 1260 \text{ days/years}$. The same time span is express in a different way in Dan. 7:25. It is "a time and times and half a time." The majority of ancient and modern interpreters agree that the Aramaic word for "time" in this text means year. Therefore, $(1 \text{ Time- } 360 \text{ days/years}) + (2 \text{ Times- } 720 \text{ days/years}) + (\frac{1}{2} \text{ Time- } 180 \text{ days/years}) = 1260 \text{ days/Years}$. The historical dates covering 1260 years that point to a ruling power persecuting Christians are 538 to 1798 AD. The legally recognized supremacy of the pope began in 538 AD when there went into effect a decree of Emperor Justinian, making the bishop of Rome head over all the churches, the definer of doctrine, and the corrector of heretics. "Vigilius...ascended the papal chair (538 AD) under the military protection of Belisarius." *History of the Christian Church*, vol. 3, p. 327. The time period of 538-1798 AD is known as the Dark Ages. During that time, millions of Christians were labeled as heretics and murdered because they believed in the teachings of the Bible instead of the false doctrines taught by the Roman Catholic Church. Some of those Christians were thrown into the Roman coliseums to be eaten alive by wild animals; while others were burned at the stake for their faith.

5th Clue- A kingdom that received a deadly w_____, but was healed. (Revelation 13:3)

Note: This deadly wound was inflicted at the end of the 1260 year reign in 1798. History records, "In 1798 he (Berthier)...made his entrance into Rome, abolished the Papal Government and established a secular one." *Encyclopedia Americana*, 1941 edition.

Berthier was Napoleon's general who captured Pope Pius VI and put him in prison where he died in exile. The death of the pope was the culminating act causing the deadly wound to the papacy. However, the prophecy says that the deadly wound was healed. The worldwide religious following and the political influence of the papacy today is evident that the deadly wound is healed.

6th Clue- A kingdom that changed God's t_____ and l_____. (Daniel 7:25)

Note: What religious/political kingdom claims the power to change the times and laws instituted by God? This quotation identifies exactly who it is. "The pope has power to change times, to abrogate laws, and to dispense with all things, even the precepts of Christ." *Decretal, De Translat. Episcop. Cap*

"Q. What is the Third Commandment? A. The Third Commandment is: Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day. Q. Which is the Sabbath day? A. Saturday is the Sabbath day. Q. Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday? A. We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday." *The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine*, by Rev. Peter Geiermann C.SS.R., p. 50

"Sunday is our mark of authority...The Church is above the Bible, and this transference of Sabbath observance is proof of that fact." *Catholic Record*, Sept. 1, 1923.

5. The war is over worship! Who are you worshiping; and who will you worship when the last war is fought? Worship should not be based on popularity and convenience, but upon who's worthy to be worshiped. There is only One who is worthy of our worship. Rev. 4:11 says, "You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created." Only the Creator God is worthy to be worshiped! **TRUE-FALSE**