Let Me Show You The BEAST THE B

No End-Time Scenario can be comprehensively portrayed without involving the Entity and its Evil Cabal which many refer to as an individual who is typically referred to as: "the Antichrist".

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In this generation, fundamentalist denominations are focused more on the **person** who they identify as "the Antichrist". Though there's no specific Biblical reference to such an actual person by that title, yet there is a person who will 'head-up' the political system often referred to as "the Beast". We might be better oriented in our understanding of and predictions regarding end-time events if we were to focus on the **political system** rather than on just a single person.

While "antichrist" in scripture is a term used to identify a doctrinal approach, not a person, ¹ the Beast is a well-documented prophetic term. We find it used in places such as Revelation 11:7; Revelation chapter 13; Revelation 14:9 &11; Revelation 15:2; Revelation 16:2,10 &13; Revelation chapter 17; Revelation 19:19-20; and Revelation 20:4 &10. At least eight places in the book all together. And, not just there, but the same **entity** is mentioned in other passages such as Daniel chapter 7.

Identifying Characteristics

These are not just mentions. They contain many specifics identifying the origin, the characteristics and the conduct of this evil civil / religious Beast who is the agency to bring this present age to its conclusion. So, why would churchgoers maintain such a focus on a single individual, leaving aside the obvious political structure that makes his rise to power possible?

To understand the matter comprehensively, we must factor-in what is revealed about the major political and religious components which interplay to make the formation of the Beast a reality.

Its Connection with the Past

In Daniel chapter 7 we read of four Beasts, which upon further investigation (particularly the insight provided by Revelation 13), we realize that the three predatory beasts of Daniel 7 are the founding Empires which lend their characteristics AND their political jurisdictions to form the latter day Entity. Another view of the same entity in Revelation 13 shows us the 'finalized' Beast incorporating the characteristics of its three predecessors.

It's interesting that the four beasts of Daniel 7 are presented in the <u>order</u> of their formation, ² where the same reference in Revelation 13 are retrospective, looking at them in reverse order of their coming to preeminence. Looking forward in time, they're seen as separate Empires, but from an end-time perspective, with the Beast already formed, it is seen as a single empire exhibiting the characteristics of its forming political entities. This aspect of the revealing descriptions about it emphasizes that we are looking at a Beast as a <u>composite</u> of the preceding 'late era' Empires. These Empires, of course, were all based in Europe, which gives us a clue to another vital component: the Ten Kings.

¹ While there is an evil person referred to as "the man of sin" in places such as 2nd Thessalonians 2:8 "And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:"

² The standing **lion**, the leaning **bear** and the **leopard** of Daniel 7 are here considered to be three modern empires: The British Empire, the Russian Empire and the German Empire, all of which were major players in the brutal execution of World War One! It is the remnant of these that will be restored to positions of influence to form the ultimate "Empire" that's referred to as "The Beast".

Ten Important Monarchies

We could never form a clear picture of the Beast without taking into consideration the "Ten Kings" referred to in so many prophecies. They are represented in many different passages, first as: toes, then as kings, crowns or horns. THEY are the primary political operatives that make it possible for the Beast's rise, but not as an idea that they themselves come up with. There are deeply-embedded 'spiritual powers' working to fulfil this prophecy. Both from the positive side and especially from the sinister side! And, there's an earthly agency that represents the sinister spiritual influence hiding behind a 'religious' cloak!

Another Influential Entity

The <u>other</u> religious / political entity factoring into the formation of and conduct of the Beast is referred to as a "little horn", one known as having had political 'intercourse' with the kings of earth ³ over a long period of history. This 'little horn' is also represented as playing a significant role in the agenda of the Beast. Another name given for this entity is the whorish "false prophet"!

The disturbing thing about this 'little horn' is that it's described as being under direct inspiration of what is named as "the Dragon". ⁴ That's what lends a very sinister tone to all these revelations.

The Antichrist?

One question we need to pose at this point is whether the "antichrist" is the head of the civil Beast or the head of the religious beast. It seems that fundamentalists aren't all that clear on this.

Have they even considered the question?

³ Daniel 7:8 & 20. This 'horn' is the head of a religious institution, speaking the words of "the Dragon", destined for destruction by the other ten horns some-time after the Beast's formation. See also Revelation 17:16-17.

From specific prophecies we are told that this false prophet is the primary instigator of the persecutions even to the death of true Christians. It may be the State that will carry out its bidding, but it's the religious beast who will seek to destroy the representatives of the Truth. ⁵

We know there's something unpleasant in the conduct of the false prophet which will eventually turn the hearts of the Ten Kings against him, causing them to 'terminate' the religious beast. We read of that in Revelation 17:16 and again in Daniel 7:11 & 26. The Ten Kings will counsel together in response to their growing disaffection with what the false prophet (little horn) is doing, and will destroy him! This may help answer the question posed above as to the person people want to identity as 'the antichrist'.

Christ's Empowered Witnesses

A factor which may amplify the false prophet's crusade against genuine believers is that a great deal of anger and backlash will result from God's "two witnesses" whose 42-month commission will coincide with the time of the Beast's control of the world. The careers of these two witnesses are related for us in Revelation chapter 11.

While the two witnesses are themselves protected by being endowed with supernatural powers until just before the end of this age, their activated counterparts in the Church age don't share the same. During this period, the situation will exist that we read in a number of places in the book of Daniel. There will be a period of exploits by, as well as severe trials focused upon, God's people.

End-Time Martyrdom of Saints

Daniel 11 explains this: "...but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits. [33] And they that understand among the people shall instruct many: yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, many days.

[34] Now when they shall fall, they shall be holpen with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with flatteries.

⁴ Rev. 13:11 "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." Rev. 16:13 "And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet." Rev. 13:2 "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."

⁵ Daniel 7:21

[35] And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end: because it is yet for a time appointed."

Daniel 7:21 explains further: "I beheld, and the same (little) horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;" (This of course is the religious beast.) This prophecy falls within the timeframe of the 3-1/2 years (known as the Great Tribulation) which is identified in other places as the 42 month period. In verse 25, we read: "And he (the little horn / religious beast) 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: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time." (This expression is yet another way of identifying the same 3-1/2 years.) The religious beast will retain the 'upper hand' as it regards severely persecuting God's Saints right up to the time of the Second Coming.

If this isn't sufficient indication, a passage in Revelation 6:9-11 explains: "And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:

- [10] And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?
- [11] And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, (waiting) until their fellow-servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled."

This interlude in Revelation's narrative shows the spirits past of martyrs being awakened to a state of consciousness briefly to show – us more than them – that there is to be an end-time condition, much like what was experienced by Saints in the early New Testament Church. After being made aware of the situation, they are then returned to their unconscious 'sleep-like state' until the time of the First Resurrection. We can see from their spirits being kept 'under the altar' that there is a special regard for such individuals!

If these martyred individuals were all 'alive and conscious' in heaven, this 'under - the - altar' confinement would be an odd thing to explain.

Reviewing Its Descriptions

The books of Revelation and Daniel provide us an enormous amount of information regarding the BEAST Power to come. Revelation chapter 13 begins with this: "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.

- [2] 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.
- [3] And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.
- [4] 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?
- [5] And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.
- [6] And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.
- [7] And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.
- [8] And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.
- [9] If any man have an ear, let him hear.
- [10] He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints."

A Religious Cohort

[11] "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.

- [12] 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.
- [13] And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men,
- [14] 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.
- [15] And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.
 [16] 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:
- [17] 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.

A Numerical Identifier

[18] 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. [666]

Revelation 14:9 -11; "And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,

- [10] The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:
- [11] And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

This refers to the worshippers, while giving some insight into the beast. It doesn't say their torment is to last forever, only that the smoke of their consumption in the 'lake of fire' will continue rising up and not settle back to earth.

Revelation 16:10 &13-14; "And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain, ... And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

- [14] For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.
- [11] And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds." We can see from this that spiritual influences will be so deeply embedded that they will resist any semblance of repentance. Why are they so opposed to God and His correction? Of course, we know that genuine repentance must first be God-inspired. 6

It's also important that we take note here that this darkness and pain will affect the 'seat of the Beast'. Apparently, not the entirety of the world, because we see a desperate appeal for military reinforcement from other participating regions. The seat of the Beast apparently refers to his homeland, <u>not</u> where his military center has been located at the time. That of course is to be the Jerusalem area, as Daniel 11:45 explains.

The Deceiving Harlot's Demise

Revelation chapter 17; "And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the **judgment of the great** whore that sitteth upon many waters:

- [2] With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.
- [3] So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet colored beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. This mention describes the civil Beast that 'she' rides upon.
 [4] "And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious

⁶ 2nd Timothy 2:25

stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: This describes the religious beast.

[5] And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

- [6] And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration. These are modern day martyrs!
- [7] And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns. This shows us that it's the religious beast that presides over the seven heads (seven restorations of the HRE) and the civil Beast that has the ten horns (another ten kings) upon it. Verse 9 clarifies the distinction between the two further.
- [8] "The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is. This one is the civil Beast. The wording of this creates a picture of a power that has a history, which was made extinct, but which became restored again.
- [9] And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth." The religious beast will have presided over the seven risings-to-power of the seven successive political 'empires'. ⁷

Political Intrigue and Interference

[10] "And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space. These seven kings are not the ten. The reference here is to the restorations of the "Holy Roman Empire". The "one that is" refers to the WW2 Axis Power, suggesting that the time when this prophecy would become understood more

comprehensively would be the middle of the twentieth century. (which was the case!)

[11] "And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition. Daniel 7:8 & 20 explains this 'eighth' king more fully. The various restorations are empowered by the 'little horn', so the Beast's existence is at the behest of it, and the little horn itself will at the end rise to replace the three kings that it caused to be 'plucked-up' (demoted) becoming number eight with the remaining seven.

[12] "And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast." Here a distinction is made between kings and horns to illustrate that the 'seven kings' are not the same as the 'ten kings'. The seven kings are successive restorations of the HRE, and the other ten kings are concurrent end-time monarchs that create a 'combine' of powers to form the seventh 'kingship'. The next verse explains this concurrent aspect further.

[13] "These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. They think alike and collaborate to effect this situation.

Obscene Self-Exaltation

Daniel 11:34 "And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done.

- [37] Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all.
- [38] But in his estate shall he honour the God of forces: and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things.
- [39] Thus shall he do in the most strong holds with a strange god, whom he shall acknowledge and increase with glory: and he shall cause them to rule over many, and shall divide the land for gain.

War Against Christ

[14] "These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of

⁷ These were under Justinian; then Charlemagne; Otto the Great; the Hapsburgs; Napoleon; the Hitler/Mussolini Axis and the Beast to come. Appendix "A" in the *Beast and False Prophet* booklet explains these in detail.

lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful. [15] And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues." This describes a multi-national, multi ethnic and multilanguage conglomeration.

Ten Kings Destroy the Whore!

[16] "And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.

[17] For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled [18] And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth." At some point, likely late in the fourty-two month reign of the Beast, the ten kings will become so extremely fed up with the sinister actions and intrigues of the religious beast, that they will conspire together to bring her down. This shows that the ten kings retain a degree of real power under the seventh restoration. Though lending their individual powers to empower the Beast, they will still have considerable powers.

Daniel Saw the Same

Daniel 7:2-27 "Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea.

- [3] And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another.
- [4] The first was like a **lion**, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it.
- [5] 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 between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh.
- [6] After this I beheld, 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.

- [7] After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.
- [8] 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.

Just Prior to the Second Coming

[9] "I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. This compares to the description given in Revelation 1:13-16.

[10] A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened. This period where 'the books are opened' is the same as described in Revelation 20 verse 12, which is in the millennial age.

[11] I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame. The ultimate end of the Beast System will be at the Second Coming.

Contributors Kept On Temporarily

[12] "As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time." Where this verse is significant is that it shows the ongoing existence of the 'contributing powers' even after the Beast that they formed is destroyed. Only if they are still in existence after the composite Beast, which they and their ten kings had merged to form, can we realize that they are contemporaries of one another into the end time. These in Daniel 7 are NOT successive empires as are described in Daniel chapter 2.

The prevalent teachings that the four beasts in Daniel 7 are the same four as are in Daniel 2 cannot be the actual case if we're to understand these verses correctly. The remnant empires represented by the Lion, the Bear and the Leopard are to remain in existence during the transitional phase in the establishment of the Kingdom of God on Earth. However, they will do so shorn of all their temporal powers. This is unlike the defeat of the Axis Powers in WW2, when the Third Reich was completely obliterated – the 'wounded to death' condition – spoken of in Revelation 13:3.

The Wave Sheaf Offering Event

At this point in the narrative, we're taken back in time to that day in which Christ was brought back before His Father to be given His governmental mandate to overcome all evil and to rule all the world. This was awarded on the morrow after His resurrection, in that interval between when He couldn't be touched, ⁸ and later in the day when He asked to be touched. ⁹ This event occurred on the day when the Wave Sheaf Offering was made, the 'morrow after the Sabbath' (a Sunday) occurring within the Days of Unleavened Bread. Here's the account:

[13] "I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. ¹⁰

[14] And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed."

Daniel Seeks Explanations

As we return to the running narrative of Daniel 7, we're given an angelic explanation of the vision. [17] "These great beasts, which are four, are four

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kings, which shall arise out of the earth. These are the four modern empires that will exist before and right up to the Second Coming when the Saints with Christ will assume world control. [18] "But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.

More on the Composite Beast

[19] "Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet; [20] And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other (horn) which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows. (Apparently a short obese guy.)

[21] "I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; With this, we're given a concise synopsis of all that will be going on under this consolidation of powers. The actual Civil Beast is nowhere referred to as a 'horn', so we can know that the horn's mention in this place refers to the religious beast.

[23] "Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.

[24] And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. This particular 'difference' will be that he is a religious power as opposed to a civil power.

[25] 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: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time. The 'they' in this place are the Saints. But, this will end!

The Replacement Realm

[26] "But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end.

⁸ John 20:17

⁹ Luke 24:39-40

Psalm 110:1 relates what was said at this occasion. This verse, blended with Daniel 7:13 was the verse that Christ used to assure His death sentence there on that Passover evening.

[27] And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

Two Witnesses are Overcome

Just prior to this, the two witnesses' complete their God-given commission: Revelation 11:7; "And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them." It is as the two witnesses' commission draws to a close that the Beast is able at last to achieve their deaths.

It's the 3½ years that we need to remain focused on. A number of developments will take place both before and during this interval. Prior to it, the Beast, which in Daniel 11 is alternately known as the "king of the north", will get into a 'pushing match' with another combination of nations to its south. It'll invade the "king of the south" and take possession of its territory, energy resources and wealth. Perhaps it's the threat of this premeditated intention that will be a motivating factor in the ten kings coming together.

[40] "And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.

[41] He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon.

[42] He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape.

[43] But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps.

Accomplishing this conquest, which will include controlling the flow of oil, the Beast Power will think to sell control of the earth's regions to the highest bidder. We can see that in the concluding verses of Daniel 7:23 and Daniel 11:39.

Extremely Disturbing News!

But, the 'peace' achieved will be only temporary. Soon word will come of a massive invasion from the east, ¹¹ first invading west and then turning south. A desperate appeal will be sent out to all world leaders (kings of the earth) who are allied with him to rush military reinforcements to stand with him against this 200 million man invasion force from the Orient. There, with him, these will marshal on the Plains of Megiddo with intent to fight the final battle for preeminence. But, things will not occur as expected, nor will the outcome be as hoped for. Their positioning for battle will be with one strategic intention but another unexpected situation will interrupt their objective.

A Major Prophetic Indicator

Though this passage is not in strict sequence, it provides more of the character of his regime. It also ties-in a significant prophetic development that will be impossible to miss when it happens. The faithful will recognize it for what it is. Jesus Christ made specific reference to it, ¹² so we know with certainty that Daniel 11 (at least the latter half of the prophecy) is relevant to this age.

Daniel 11:31-45 "And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate. This in violation of the 'peace agreement' made just a few years earlier.

Lead-Up to the End Time

Likely, it's back around the beginning of the 3½ years that the king of the north invades and conquers the king of the south. His unchallenged reign after that conquest will, for the most part, establish the Great Tribulation period. We know from Matthew 24:21 that the Great Tribulation will involve the land of Israel about the time of the Abomination of Desolation.

[44] "But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go

¹¹ Revelation 16:12 and 9:14-16 explains that this 200-million man army is to kill a third of humanity.

¹² Matthew 24:15

forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many.

[45] And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him. We have to question why he relocates his military headquarters to the Jerusalem area. Is it a reaction to what has occurred back north in his homeland? Does his presence in the Levant provide an open opportunity for the 200 million man army to first invade Europe?

A Final Great Battle

While the forces are arrayed intending to battle it out with one another, what appears to them to be a 'space invader' will come on scene. That will change everything! Revelation 19:19-21; "And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army.

[20] And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

[21] And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.¹³

Aftermath of Complete Defeat

Revelation 20:4 &10. "And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. ... Here we are again reminded of two things: one, that there will be a few holdouts who will not have worshipped the Beast, and two, that their martyrdom will have occurred during the time of its supremacy.

"And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever." This explains the Devil being perpetually punished. It doesn't necessarily apply to the final destiny of deceived humanity.

In conclusion, we should note that in all of these scriptures, there is no use of the term "antichrist"! It's not applied to, nor is there a major reference to the <u>individual</u> who heads up the Civil Beast. The individual who **is** referenced specifically is the one who heads up the religious beast, even describing his portly physical appearance.

Recapitulation:

The Civil Beast rises out of the sea The sea is defined as masses of humanity Exhibits characteristics of three predatory empires Exhibits seven heads with the sixth being 'dead' Had previously been 'dealt a lethal blow' That lethal situation was reversed Ten horns (crowns) are upon the seventh head The Dragon's representative backs its development Those who worship the Dragon worship the Beast Will achieve a militarily superior position Blasphemes even the powers in heaven Is given 42 months (3½ years) to continue Has strong control over economic commerce Will carry out a crusade against the Saints of God Will generously fund a massive military arm Will conquer the nations of southern coalition Will call-in all allies against the Asian forces Will himself be massively defeated militarily Works in concert with a religious cohort Religious beast rises out of the land Has promoted many kings thru history Is the major promoter of this Civil Beast also Exercises all the powers of the first Beast Performs apparent miracles to deceive people Makes an image of the first Beast Enforces worship of the first Beast Imposes a mark to identify complicit worshippers Has authority to enforce lethal coercion These both will be overcome by Christ's army

The Saints of God will inherit world rulership.

¹³ Some regard Revelation 14:20 as describing this battle, but as we can see here, the disposition of these casualties is very different than what Revelation 14 describes.