

THE BEAST'S FALSE RESURRECTION

(Rev 17:7-8) 04-05-20

Grace Bible Church, Gillette, Wyoming

Pastor Daryl Hilbert

- I. HARLOT'S SPIRITUAL ADULTERY (Rev 17:1-2)
- II. HARLOT AND ANTICHRIST (Rev 17:3)
- III. HARLOT'S DESCRIPTION (Rev 17:4-6)
- IV. BEAST'S MYSTERY REVEALED (Rev 17:7-17)
 - A. The Beast's Support (7)
 1. Angel's Interpretation - Certain times in Scripture prophets were given revelations which they did not understand (Dan 7:16; 1Pe 1:10-11). Here, an angel will give John the interpretation he was **wondering** about.
 2. Definition of Mystery - A "**mystery**" (*mustêrion*) in the Bible is a truth that was concealed in the OT but is now revealed in the NT.
 3. Mystery of the Woman - The angel will reveal the mystery of the woman in Rev 17:18. The woman is the city Babylon (on the Euphrates) as well as a religious system and commercial system.
 4. Mystery of the Beast - Similar to Daniel (Dan 7:7), John's preoccupation will be on the beast. The beast is identified as the Antichrist by his description of having **seven heads and ten horns** (cf. Dan 7:7-8, 11, 20-21, 24).
 5. Beast Carries Her - The phrase, the "**beast that carries her,**" means that not only does the Antichrist support Babylon's false religion system but also that he is the force behind it. For him, it is a means to an end, and that end will be that the world will worship him (Rev 13:8, 12). In Rev 17:16, the Antichrist will get rid of Babylon's false religion for his own worship.
 - B. The Beast's False Resurrection (8)
 1. His Beginning
 - a. First Stage - Ultimately, this verse refers to the Antichrist's false resurrection. It begins [**"beast was"**] with the fact that the beast starts out insignificantly as the "little horn" (Dan 7:8 cf. Dan 7:17, 24).
 - b. Second Stage - Then he eliminates three of the ten heads and he begins to grow in power and authority (Dan 7:8b, 20, 24). But something will happen that causes a fatal wound and he will supposedly be healed (i.e. raised from the dead).
 2. His Death and Resurrection
 - a. Is Not... Comes Up - I take the next two phrases, "**and is not, and is about to come up**" ("from the Abyss" will be addressed) as a description of the beast's supposed death and resurrection (cf. **Rev 17:11**). This is also taught in other references in Revelation.
 - b. One of the Heads - One of the heads will be fatally wound and be healed (**Rev 13:3a**). Some suggest this is a kingdom rather than an individual but the other references in Revelation depict it as the beast (Antichrist).
 - c. First Beast - Specifically, it is the "first beast" who will be fatally wounded and be healed (**Rev 13:12**).
 - d. Wound of the Sword - The beast will receive the "wound of the sword" (probably while in battle) and will come to life (**Rev 13:14**).
 3. His False Resurrection
 - a. Real Resurrection
 - 1) Kingdom - Some maintain that the resurrection is real because it refers to a revived kingdom and not an individual. However, **Rev 13:12, 14** clearly suggests that it is an individual. That individual is the beast, the Antichrist.
 - 2) God allowed Satan - Some maintain that the Antichrist's resurrection is real, not because Satan has that power, but because God allowed Satan to

have this power in this instance so that the world will be deceived. *It is most likely that Antichrist's death will be staged, and hence his resurrection is a ruse. It is less likely that God, for His own sovereign purposes, may permit Antichrist to genuinely rise from the dead.* (MacArthur in Rev 13:12).

b. False Resurrection

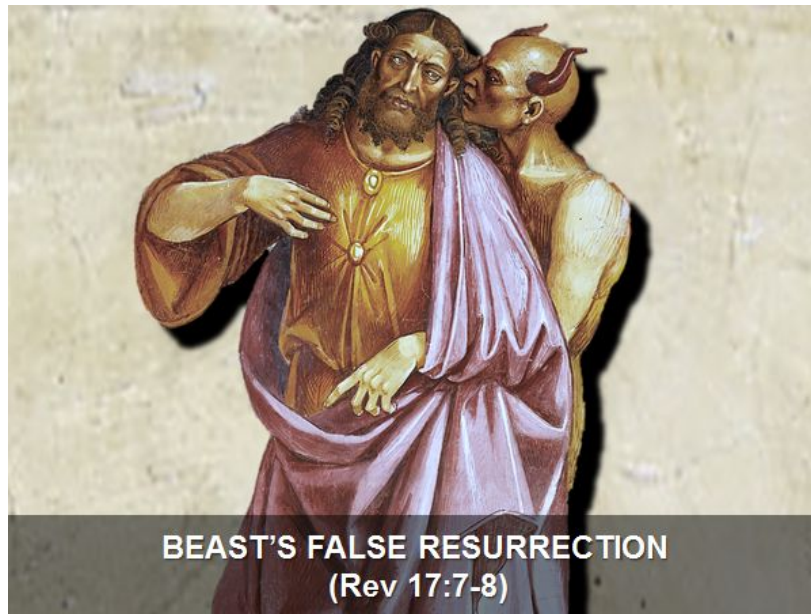
- 1) Remains Dead - The other view is that the Antichrist does die but his resurrection is faked by deception, trickery, and technology. The problem with this view is that the Antichrist will not only be alive when Christ comes back but will be seized and cast into the Lake of Fire (Rev 19:20).
- 2) Does not Die - This view of a false resurrection is that the Antichrist comes close to death but does not die. He deceives the world that his life was restored rather than his health.
- 3) No Biblical Passage - There is not one biblical passage that shows that Satan has the power to create life, give life, or raise the dead. Satan cannot even take a life (kill) unless it is allowed by God (Job 2:6).
- 4) Satan is a Created Being - Scripture is clear that Satan is a created being not the Creator, nor a co-Creator (Job 38:4-7). He is an angelic being but not divine. Therefore, he is not omnipresent, omniscient, or omnipotent (Job 1:6-7).
- 5) Strategy is Deception - A main characteristic of Satan is his deception (2Co 11:14). This was Satan's main weapon since the beginning ("Indeed, has God said" - Gen 3:1). Revelation uses the word "deceive" seven times (Rev 12:9; 13:14; 18:23; 19:20; 20:3; 20:8; 20:10). Even the false (*pseudos*) prophet will produce "false wonders" (2Th 2:9-10). Therefore, a false resurrection is consistent with the nature of Satan and his strategies.
- 6) Antichrist is a Counterfeit - By his very title, the "Antichrist" (1Jo 2:18, 22; 4:3; 2 Jn. 1:7) is a deceptive counterfeit to Christ and His work. The prefix *anti* can mean "to oppose" or "in place of." Both are true of the Antichrist who opposes Christ and seeks to be His counterfeit. See chart.
- 7) Title Antichrist - It is true that the title "Antichrist" is not used in the book of Revelation by John who used it five times in his epistles (1Jo 2:18 [twice], 1Jo 2:22; 4:3; 2Jo 1:7). But there are other names like the "man of lawlessness" (2Th 2:3) that also are not used. John does use the titles "beast" (Dan 7:3, 7, 11, 19; cf. Rev 13:1-4, 12, 14-15, 17-18; 14:9, 11; 16:10; 17:3, 7-8, 11-13, 16; 19:19-20) and "little horn" (Dan 7:7-8, 20, 21, 24; cf. Rev 13:1; 17:3, 7, 12, 16) from Daniel that identify Antichrist.
- 8) Only God Gives Life - Only God has the power to create life, give life, and raise the dead. Christ, being God the Son, has the same power (Ruler's daughter-Mat 9:23-25; Widow's son-Luk 7:11-17; Lazarus-Joh 11:39-44).
- 9) Prophets and Apostles - At times, God raised the dead through prophets (Widow's son - 1Ki 17:17-24; Shunammite woman's son - 2Ki 4:32-35) and apostles (Dorcas - Act 9:36-41; Eutychus - Act 20:9-10). Nevertheless, the credit and glory went specifically to God (1Ki 17:21).

C. Beast's Results of His False Resurrection

1. Wonder - The unbelieving world ("**whose name has not been written in the book of life**") will be "**wonder**" at the false resurrection and fake miracle (Rev 17:8 cf. Rev 13:3b).
2. Worship The unbelieving world will worship the beast (Rev 13:12).
3. Image - The unbelieving world will make an image to the beast (Rev 13:14).
4. Third Stage - The unbelieving world will be ruled by the Antichrist (Rev 13:4). The Antichrist's rule will come from Satan (Rev 13:4), demon possession (Rev 17:8), battle of God and Magog (Rev 13:4), and his false resurrection.

D. Beast's False Resurrection vs. Christ's Resurrection

1. The Antichrist's false resurrection will be an imitation of a non-glorified resurrection. But Christ's resurrection was a glorified resurrection.
2. The Antichrist's false resurrection will be to glorify Satan. But Christ's resurrection was done to glorify God.
3. The Antichrist's false resurrection will do nothing for his followers. But Christ's resurrection will provide glorified resurrected bodies fit for heaven to his saints (Php 3:21).
4. The Antichrist's false resurrection will prove that he was a counterfeit. But Christ's resurrection proved that He was the Son of God (Rom 1:4).
5. The Antichrist's false resurrection will accomplish nothing but death. But Christ's death and resurrection accomplished salvation for those who trust in Him (1Co 15:17; Rom 4:25).
6. The Antichrist's false resurrection can only give a false hope. But Christ's resurrection is and gives a sure hope (1Pe 1:3).



THE BEAST'S FALSE RESURRECTION
(Rev 17:7-8) 04-05-20

- I. HARLOT'S SPIRITUAL ADULTERY (Rev 17:1-2)
- II. HARLOT AND ANTICHRIST (Rev 17:3)
- III. HARLOT'S DESCRIPTION (Rev 17:4-6)
- IV. BEAST'S MYSTERY REVEALED (Rev 17:7-17)
 - A. The Beast's Support (7)
 - B. The Beast's False Resurrection (8)
 - C. Beast's Results of His False Resurrection
 - D. Beast's False Resur. vs. Christ's Resur.

Christ	Antichrist
Miracles, signs, and wonders (Matthew 9:32-33; Mark 6:2)	Miracles, signs, and wonders (Matthew 24:24; 2 Thessalonians 2:9)
Appears in the millennial Temple (Ezekiel 43:6-7)	Sits in the Tribulation Temple (2 Thessalonians 2:4)
Is God (John 1:1-2; 10:35-38)	Claims to be God (2 Thessalonians 2:4)
Is the Lion from Judah (Revelation 5:5)	Has a mouth like a lion (Revelation 13:2)
Makes a peace covenant with Israel (Ezekiel 37:26)	Makes a peace covenant with Israel (Daniel 9:27)
Causes men to worship God (Revelation 1:6)	Causes men to worship Satan (Revelation 13:3-4)
Followers sealed on their foreheads (Revelation 7:3-4; 14:1)	Followers sealed on their foreheads or right hands (Revelation 13:16-18)
Worthy name (Revelation 19:16)	Blasphemous names (Revelation 13:1)
Married to a virtuous bride (Revelation 19:7-10)	Married to a vile prostitute (Revelation 17:3-5)
Crowned with many crowns (Revelation 19:12)	Crowned with ten crowns (Revelation 13:1)
Is the King of kings (Revelation 19:16)	Is called "the king" (Daniel 11:36)
Sits on a throne (Revelation 3:21; 12:5; 20:11)	Sits on a throne (Revelation 13:2; 16:10)
Sharp sword from his mouth (Revelation 19:15)	Bow in his hand (Revelation 6:2)
Rides a white horse (Revelation 19:11)	Rides a white horse (Revelation 6:2)
Has an army (Revelation 19:14)	Has an army (Revelation 6:2; 19:19)
Violent death (Revelation 5:6; 13:8)	Violent death (Revelation 13:3)
True Religion (John 14:6; Acts 4:12)	False Religion (Revelation 13:8, 12; 17:1-6, 16)
True Resurrection (Matthew 28:6; 1Co 15:20)	False resurrection (Revelation 13:3, 12, 14; 17:8, 11)
Second Coming (Revelation 19:11-21)	Second Coming (Revelation 17:8)
1,000-year worldwide kingdom (Revelation 20:1-6)	3½-year worldwide kingdom (Revelation 13:5-8)
Part of a holy Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) (2 Corinthians 13:14)	Part of an unholy trinity (Satan, the Antichrist, and false prophet) (Revelation 13)