The Revelation Chapter 13:11 introduces the third part of the triumvirate of powers mentioned in prior lessons, the **Beast from the Earth**. This power, which is always mentioned third in the sequence among the other two powers of Dragon and Beast from the Sea, is also given a prophetic *nickname* of, **False Prophet** (Revelation 16:13). The Beast from the Earth, in its ascension is described as being lamb-like with two horns, but will speak in time as a *dragon*. Through its power and influence, this Beast will serve as a key enabler for bringing healing to the deadly wound inflicted upon the **Beast from the Sea**, the papacy.

Recall the chapter commenced with John the Revelator standing upon the shores as he observed a beast arise from the sea. In order to view the second beast come forth from the earth in time, John must necessarily have pivoted to witness this historic event. As mentioned in the prior lesson, John in prophetic vision stood in the era between historic events, namely, the rise and fall of the Beast from the Sea, and the rise of the Beast from the Earth. Before we identify and study the works of the Beast from the Earth, it is important to review the following prophecy symbols:

**Q**: A sea or a body of water? See Revelation 17:15

**A**: A densely populated area of the earth

**Q**: A beast? See Daniel 7:17, 23

A: A kingdom [king], or a nation

**Q**: A horn? See Daniel 7:24, 8:21, 22; 2 Samuel 22:3; Psalm 18:2; Luke 1:69; Revelation 17:12; Job 16:15; Psalm 7:5

## A: A kingdom/nation, or a symbol of strength and honor

The Bible makes plain that the sea or a body of water in prophecy refers to a densely populated region of the earth. Therefore, by deduction, land or the earth itself must symbolize a sparsely populated area. We conclude that the Beast from the Earth is a nation, arising in a sparsely populated part of the earth near the time that the first beast, the Beast from the Sea, received a deadly wound, A.D.1798. We reason that the second beast arose approximately when the first beast received a mortal wound for the following reasons:

- 1. The habitable portions of the earth as we know it today are filled. The rise of a new nation and world power from a sparsely populated region (the earth) as a future event is most unlikely. However, there remained much land to explore and inhabit during the era of the first beast receiving its deadly wound, A.D.1798.
- 2. The Beast from the Earth is said to "cause the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast" (v12); a work once committed to the seven monarchs of Europe who converted to Catholicism. This work however, was forsaken after 1,260 years through the infliction of a fatal wound. Therefore, the work of causing the world to worship the beast must coincide with the healing of the deadly wound, an event of the not-too-distant future.
- **3.** Healing of the wound must involve restoration of the *power, seat,* and *great authority* to the Leopard-like Beast from the Sea. As these three things have not yet

been fully restored, and the Beast from the Earth has already appeared, the rise of the Beast from the Earth cannot be coincident with the initial rise of the Beast from the Sea, nor with the healing of its mortal wound. It must then occur near the infliction of the deadly wound.

The lamb in the Bible is consistently a symbol of *Jesus Christ*, Himself once hailed, "the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). The mild-mannered, defenseless animal that is entirely reliant upon the care and protection of a shepherd is a perfect characterization of the humility that Jesus assumed in order to save humanity. This same humility He calls His followers to emulate (Philip. 2:1-8). In a more general sense, the lamb is a symbol of Christianity, the one world-religion that finds strength in weakness, life through death to self, and complete reliance upon God. The Beast from the Earth is thus said to:

- **A.** Be Lamb-like, espousing the tenets of Christianity
- **B.** Arise during the era when the Beast from the Sea received a deadly wound, A.D.1798
- **C.** Arise from a sparsely populated region of the earth

The one nation that perfectly fits the description given for the Beast from the Earth is the *United States of America*. Arising out of a *glorious land*, filled with an abundance of natural resources and beauty, the USA is that lamb-like nation depicted in the Bible. Pilgrim settlers and their families willingly risked their lives in crossing the Atlantic Ocean to pursue the dream of religious liberty and the opportunity for personal wealth and prosperity. Despotic

monarchs and an aloof aristocracy that selfishly hoarded land and riches, leaving the masses in abject poverty and the squalor of over-crowded cities, ruled European nations for centuries. The typical person had no voice in government, neither the opportunity to improve his or her family's lot in life. Medieval European peasant life was one of hardship, scarcity, and near hopelessness.

That which God intended to be man's balm of healing and

source of hope for life's challenges, namely, Biblical

Christianity, the Church of Rome oppressively restricted, robbing men of their right to exercise freewill based on conscience. It was for these two primary ideals, religious liberty and hope for a more just and equitable society for all people, that the pilgrims, in faith, emigrated from Europe to the North American shores. These two tenets, religious liberty and a representative government [a Republic], are the two safeguards and strengths of this nation that have been enshrined in the U.S. Constitution, and which God symbolized in the Bible by the two horns of the Beast from the Earth. The United States was founded upon the Protestant ideals of personal liberties, granted by God Who created all men and women equal, as well as a separation of church and state (Prov. 14:34; Luke 20:21-25; Lev 25:10-14).

**Q**: How might North America be considered "a wilderness" for God's church in the following verses: Revelation 12:6, 14-16? **A**: Like Palestine for Ancient Israel, North America was set apart by God (Num 23:9) to be a haven for the growth and maturation of *Protestantism* and the proliferation of the *King* 

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James Bible. Protestant Christians found safety in North America from Roman prelates and European state militias organized to restrict worship. Further, the Atlantic Ocean initially proved a formidable barrier for guarding the spread of papal heresies among Protestant families and youth.

From its founding in A.D.1776, the United States became the target of the Papal State. The U.S. Constitution in particular, which safeguards personal freedoms, especially Protestant liberty of conscience, was deemed "a most pestilential error" requiring papal extermination. In fact, the *Monroe Doctrine*, a set of national policies established by *James Monroe*, the 5<sup>th</sup> President of the fledgling nation, was adopted to thwart, on threat of war, any encroachment upon lands in North America by European monarchs under papal guidance. Further, Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States, in expressing his opinion of the role of the papacy through the *Jesuit Order* in inciting the *U.S. Civil War*, wrote,

"This war would never have been possible without the sinister influence of the Jesuits. We owe it to Popery that we now see our land reddened with the blood of her noblest sons. Though there were great differences of opinion between the South and *North, on the question of slavery, neither Jeff Davis nor anyone* of the leading men of the Confederacy would have dared to attack the North, had they not relied on the promise of the *Jesuits, that, under the mask of Democracy, the money and the* arms of the Roman Catholics, even the arms of France, were at their disposal if they would attack us."

Such were the clandestine tactics of the Church of Rome

It is evident that the United States compromised principle

against the United States. Rome's ultimate goal was to gain a foothold in the new nation as it once had with the monarchs of Europe. It did so through craft, influencing government policies, and by <u>provoking anarchy</u> if necessary. As a leopard preys upon the weak and the young, Rome's educational system today boasts 60 Jesuit high schools and 28 colleges and universities in the U.S. alone! By gaining vantage ground in U.S. society, Rome aims at reclaiming that which was lost to the *Protestant Reformation* (Jer 5:6; Isa 47:5, 8; Rev 18:7).

The prophecy of the United States in Revelation 13:11, foretells the once peaceful, lamb-like nation that had been guarded by protestant principles and republicanism, would one day "*speak as a dragon.*"

**Q**: How does a dragon speak? See Genesis 3:1, 4, 5; Ezekiel 29:2, 3; Exodus 5:2, 21:16; John 11:47-53, 16:1-3; Luke 6:45 A: Jesus once said, "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh", indicating our words reveal our true character. He also spoke of the devil and those he engages as his medium, including Pharaoh of Egypt, in the following manner, "...He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it" John 8:44. An early example of the contrasting lamb and dragon-like qualities exhibited by the United States was in its support, justification, and profit from the institution of *slavery*, while proclaiming, "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal".

from its beginnings, leaving vulnerable to further decay the two fundamental tenets serving as pillars, undergirding the entire U.S. Constitution. In time, civil liberties will be fully revoked, and the once passive, Christ-like temperament of the U.S. in domestic and foreign affairs will be changed to aggression, force, and violence. Most strikingly, the nation once established by God to be the bastion of Protestantism, the stronghold from which God would spread the pure gospel of Christianity written in the King James Bible to the world, would first abandon God, speaking as Pharaoh of Ancient Egypt who boasted, "Who [is] the LORD, that I should obey his voice... I know not the LORD..." Secondly, like the role of the dragon of Revelation chapters 12 and 13, the U.S. will leave its protest, and become an ally and accomplice to the works of the *Beast from the Sea*, the papacy.

When the United States, in speaking as a dragon, abandons the principles that have made it one of the greatest nations on earth and enters league with the papacy, it would have assumed the role and character of the False Prophet (Rev 19:20). Professing to uphold a key tenet of the Protestant Reformation, *Sola Scriptura*, the Bible alone, while paying homage to the papacy by holding to a non-scriptural tradition whose founding can be ascribed to the Papal See alone (Eccl. 7:29; Mark 7:7-9), *Protestant America* will play a vital role in the healing of the papacy's deadly wound. We will explore in detail the amazing transformation of the United States of America and its works in future studies.

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## The Lamb-like Beast from the Earth

**Revelation Chapter 13 - Part 3** [Based on verses 11, 12]



Lesson 30