Research article

THEORETICAL WRITINGS ON THE BEASTS OF THE BOOK OF REVELATIONS

Johannes Sikoka

Bible Studies Zealous

Email: johannessikoka@gmail.com

Doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.54513/BSJ.2022.4104

ABSTRACT

The study is based on the beasts of prophecy that are talked about in the book of revelations. The study is pure theory and signals on the beast that rises from the Earth as well as the one that rises from the sea. The purpose of the study is to examine the text in the book of revelations and highlight this text where necessary. By carefully examining the text describing the two beasts of revelation 13 encryptions in the text of this part of the bible become visible. The supposed encrypted text that was pointed out in the study signals on the disseat of the beast that arises from the Earth. The disseat is at the expense of the inhabitants of the Earth, when the time that the 10 kings talked about in revelations 17 can give their power to the first beast is no longer possible and it was also discovered by examining the text of revelations 13 that the second beast gives the 10 kings a kingdom (be it the 1 promised to them in prophesy or that the kingdom given to the 10 kings by the second beast is because of the one promised to them in prophesy that they would have already claimed before the second beast gives them another one).
Introduction

The telling of Revelation 13 tells that the second beast of prophecy was seen coming out of the Earth. The beast had two horns like a lamb and spoke as a dragon. The first beast of Revelation 13 comes from the sea, as John the Apostle states “and I saw a beast coming out of the sea. It had ten horns and seven heads, with ten crowns on its horns, and on each head a blasphemous name” (Rev 13:1) - The beast I saw resembled a leopard, but had feet like those of a bear and a mouth like that of a lion. The dragon gave the beast his power and his throne and great authority” (Rev 13:2). By the first beast emerging from the sea, it received authority “The beast received from the dragon the dragon's power, throne, and great authority” (Rev 13:2) and this is relevant to the world as the dragon which gave the beast of the sea it’s authority wages war against the saints “the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to wage war against the rest of her offspring” (Rev 12:17). The beast of the sea receives authority because as the dragon “turned from pursuing the woman to pursuing her descendants, it stood on the sand of the sea, waiting” (Rev 13:1). The beast from the sea was tasked by the dragon in numerus ways “the beast received a mouth to utter arrogant and blasphemous words, the beast was allowed to exercise authority for 42 months” (Rev 13:5), but the most major task the beast from the sea received from the dragon was to wage war on the saints and conquer them “the beast was allowed to make war on the saints and conquer them” (Rev 13:7). The beast of the sea had an enigmatic appearance “It had ten horns, seven heads, ten diadems on its horns, Blasphemous names on its heads” (Rev 13:1) – “it was like a leopard, a bear's feet, a lion's mouth” (Rev 13:2) - “it had a mortal wound on one of its heads, but the wound was healed” (Rev 13:3). The beast of the sea’s actions were to curse God and his dwelling place “It blasphemed against God. It blasphemed God's name. It blasphemed God's dwelling place and those who are in Heaven” (Rev 13:6) – “It made war against the saints and conquered them” (Rev 13:7). The exhibition of the beast from the sea is not permitted by God as it breaks the first commandment (I am the lord your God, you shall not have any other God besides me) “They worshiped the dragon because of the beast, they worshiped the beast - all those whose names were not written in the Lamb's book of life (Rev 13:8). They marvelled, expressing that no one is like the beast and that no one can fight against it” (Rev 13:4). The second beast of Revelation 13 comes from the Earth, as John also states that he saw another beast arise from the Earth “Then I saw a second beast, coming out
of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb, but it spoke like a dragon” (Rev 13:11). The second beast emerging from the Earth is relevant to the world in that it made the Earth and all those who dwell therein to worship the beast from the sea “It exercised all the authority of the first beast on its behalf, and made the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose fatal wound had been healed” (Rev 13:12). The beast from the sea was tasked with performing many great signs “and it performed great signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to the earth in full view of the people” (Rev 13:13). The greatest task of the beast from the Earth was to deceive the inhabitants of the Earth “because of the signs it was given power to perform on behalf of the first beast, it deceived the inhabitants of the earth. It ordered them to set up an image in honour of the beast who was wounded by the sword and yet lived” (Rev 13:14). Like the first beast before him the actions of the second beast were to curse God, because the beast from the Earth exercises all the authority of the first beast “It exercised all the authority of the first beast on its behalf, and made the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose fatal wound had been healed” (Rev 13:12). The exhibition of the beast from the sea is not permitted by God because it firstly breaks the first commandment “The second beast was given power to give breath to the image of the first beast, so that the image could speak and cause all who refused to worship the image to be killed” (Rev 13:15). Secondly the beast from the Earth breaks the 8th commandment (You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour) “because of the signs it was given power to perform on behalf of the first beast, it deceived the inhabitants of the earth. It ordered them to set up an image in honour of the beast who was wounded by the sword and yet lived” (Rev 13:14). The prophet Daniel had a vision in which he saw 4 beasts rise from the sea “In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream, and visions passed through his mind as he was lying in bed. He wrote down the substance of his dream” (Dan 7:1) – “Daniel said: “In my vision at night I looked, and there before me were the four winds of heaven churning up the great sea” (Dan 7:2) – “four great beasts, each different from the others, came up out of the sea” (Dan 7:3). In the vision an angel came to him and explained to him that the 4 beasts that he saw represented 4 kingdoms of man that will endure for all eternity “I, Daniel, was troubled in spirit, and the visions that passed through my mind disturbed me” (Dan 7:15) – “I approached one of those standing there and asked him the meaning of all this. “So he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things” (Dan 7:16) – “The four great beasts are four kings that
will rise from the earth” (Dan 7:17) – “But the holy people of the Most High will receive the kingdom and will possess it forever—yes, for ever and ever” (Dan 7:18). While Daniel looked at the fourth beast, he was distracted by the little horn that had to uproot 3 others to make room for itself “While I was thinking about the horns, there before me was another horn, a little one, which came up among them; and three of the first horns were uprooted before it. This horn had eyes like the eyes of a human being and a mouth that spoke boastfully” (Dan 7:8). The little horn appeared to be blaspheming god and it was very boastful “The ten horns are ten kings who will come from this kingdom. After them another king will arise, different from the earlier ones; he will subdue three kings” (Dan 7:24) - “He will speak against the Most High and oppress his holy people and try to change the set times and the laws. The holy people will be delivered into his hands for a time, times and half a time” (Dan 7:25). The beast from the sea; which is the first beast of Revelation 13, this beast is believed to be the same beast that Daniel saw which had the little horn uprooting 3 others to make room for itself “After that, in my vision at night I looked, and there before me was a fourth beast—terrifying and frightening and very powerful. It had large iron teeth; it crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left. It was different from all the former beasts, and it had ten horns” (Dan 7:7). The last beast that will be discussed in this paper is the scarlet beast of Revelation 17 “One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, “Come, I will show you the punishment of the great prostitute, who sits by many waters” (Rev 17:1). This beast was seen by John, in a wilderness after an angel had carried him away in the spirit “Then the angel carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness. There I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was covered with blasphemous names and had seven heads and ten horns The scarlet coloured beast was full of names of blasphemy it had seven heads and ten horns” (Rev 17:3). The source of emergence of the scarlet beast is relevant to the world in that it symbolizes the inhabitants of the Earth whose names have not been written in the book of life “The beast, which you saw, once was, now is not, and yet will come up out of the Abyss and go to its destruction. The inhabitants of the earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the creation of the world will be astonished when they see the beast, because it once was, now is not, and yet will come” (Rev 17:8). The task of this beast is to rise from the bottomless pit and cause the dwellers on Earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world to marvel at
the site of this beast “The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to rise from the bottomless pit and go to destruction. And the dwellers on earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world will marvel to see the beast, because it was and is not and is to come” (Rev 17:8). The most detouring task of this beast is to make war on the two prophets that stand before the lord of the Earth and to make war on them and conquer them “And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth.” (Rev 11:3) – “These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth” (Rev 11:4) – “And when they have finished their testimony, the beast that rises from the bottomless pit will make war on them and conquer them and kill them” (Rev 11:7). This beast was seen by John in the spirit and an angel guided him to the beast, while the first 2 beasts he saw, he was not guided by an angel when he saw them “Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, “Come, I will show you the judgment of the great prostitute who is seated on many waters, (Rev 17:1) - with whom the kings of the earth have committed sexual immorality, and with the wine of whose sexual immorality the dwellers on earth have become drunk.” (Rev 17:2) - And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness, and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns (Rev 17:4). This beast is ridden by a woman, the beast is scarlet red in color, it has blasphemous names and seven heads and ten horns “And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness, and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns” (Rev 17:3). This beast has a relation to the cursing of God as it is full of blasphemous names “And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness, and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns” (Rev 17:3). This beast’s exhibition is not permitted by Christ as it kills the two witnesses granted authority unto by the heavens “And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth.” (Rev 11:3) – “And when they have finished their testimony, the beast that rises from the bottomless pit will make war on them and conquer them and kill them,” (Rev 11:8) - and their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city that symbolically is called Sodom and Egypt, where their Lord was crucified” (Rev 11:9). The day of judgment, according to Mathew 24:42-44 Jesus said he would return like a thief in the knight “Therefore, stay
awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.” (Mat 24:42) – “But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into.” (Mat 24:43) – “Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.” (Mat 24:44). The second coming of Christ is the final judgment by God of the people of every nation “The nations raged, but your wrath came, and the time for the dead to be judged, and for rewarding your servants, the prophets and saints, and those who fear your name, both small and great, and for destroying the destroyers of the earth.” (Rev 11:18).

Results and discussions
The second beast of Revelation 13 exercises all the power of the 10 kings giving them a kingdom (but who for 1 hour will be given authority as kings alongside the beast) (and they have one purpose and will give their power and authority to the beast). This is if the second beast of Revelation13 really is the anti-Christ and represents the second coming of Christ, because the reign of the anti-Christ is only for time, two times and half a time. The reign of the anti-Christ ends on the second coming of Christ and on that day he is thrown in the pits of hell for all eternity so the 10 kings cannot give their power to the first beast of Revelation 13 after the second coming of Christ because on the second coming of Christ, that day is judgment day. Because the 10 kings are inchoate with the second beast of Revelation 13 they can be viewed as being part of the same kingdom. The second beast of Revelation 13 also possibly exercises the power and authority the first beast was given over every tribe nation and language (the first beast was given authority over every tribe nation and language), (the second beast exercises all the power of the first beast before him). The disseat that the second beast of Revelation 13 tells the inhabitants of the earth is that they should paint an image to the first beast that had the wound by a sword because the deadly wound of the first beast of Revelation 13 had been healed (by the wonders the second beast did on behalf of the first beast before him, the second beast deceived the inhabitants of the Earth telling them to paint an image to the beast that had the wound by a sword), (and he causes the Earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast before him whose deadly wound had been healed).
Conclusion

All the results in the study were resulted on by the careful examination as well as analysis of the book of revelations, that of Daniel and some analysis between the text of Mathew and revelations. What was found was that the text in this three books are related and when brought together, they can highlight bible prophecy more.

Bibliography

Bible gateway, The beast out of the earth (Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.)


Berthold Hub, ...e fa dolce la morte: Love, Death, and Salvation in Michelangelo’s "Last Judgment", https://www.jstor.org/stable/1483778?Search=yes&resultItemClick=true&searchText=final%20judgment&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3Dfinal%2Bjudgment%26so%3Drel&refreqid=fastly-default%3AIf0c34f5a56c077b791cf31d1e9a1


Jacob Milgrom, Did Isaiah Prophesy during the Reign of Uzziah?, https://www.jstor.org/stable/1516379?Search=yes&resultItemClick=true&searchText=bible%20prophesy&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3Dbible%2Bprophesy%26so%3Drel&ab_segments=0%2Fbasic_search_gsv%2Fcontrol&refreqid=fastly-default%3A4564d7e9cc09888d15444d8468789a6

Jason A. Kerr, Prophesying the Bible: The Improvisation of Scripture in Books 11 and 12 of "Paradise Lost", https://www.jstor.org/stable/24462170?Search=yes&resultItemClick=true&searchText=bible%20prophesy&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3Dbible%2Bprophesy%26so%3Drel&ab_segments=0%2Fbasic_search_gsv%2Fcontrol&refreqid=fastly-


Tim Meadowcroft, Daniel's Visionary Participation in the Divine Life: Dynamics of Participation in Daniel 8-12, https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.5325/jtheointe.11.2.0217?Search=yes&resultItemClick=true&searchText=daniels%20vision%20of%204%20beasts&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3Ddaniels%2Bvision%2Bof%2B4%2Bbeasts%26so%3Drel&ab_segments=0%2Fbasic_search_gsv2%2Fcontrol&refreqid=fastly-default%3Ae0e8b679b169159d691ca26b928bced4


John F. Walvoord, Signs of the End of the Age, https://bible.org/seriespage/3-signs-end-age


Sinéad Morrissey, THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST, https://www.jstor.org/stable/43959372?Search=yes&resultItemClick=true&searchText=second%20coming%20of%20christ&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3Dsecond%2Bcoming%2Bof%2Bchrist%26so%3Drel&ab_segments=0%2Fbasic_search_gsv2%2Fcontrol&refreqid=fastly-default%3Ae0e8b679b169159d691ca26b928bced4


Tim Meadowcroft, Daniel's Visionary Participation in the Divine Life: Dynamics of Participation in Daniel 8-12, https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.5325/jtheointe.11.2.0217?Search=yes&resultItemClick=true&searchText=daniels%20vision%20of%204%20beasts&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3Ddaniels%2Bvision%2Bof%2B4%2Bbeasts%26so%3Drel&ab_segments=0%2Fbasic_search_gsv2%2Fcontrol&refreqid=fastly-default%3Ae0e8b679b169159d691ca26b928bced4
