

***Characteristic #4:** This power must have Great Authority and Influence in the world. You know the Catholic Church has great authority when world leaders bow before him! "Why is it the Pope has such tremendous power? Why, the Pope is the ruler of the world. All the emperors, all the kings, all the princes, all the presidents of the world are as these altar boys of mine." -Father D. S. Phelan (Catholic Priest)

Nanci Pelosi bowed before Pope Benedict XVI

Barack Obama bowed before Pope Francis

George W. Bush, Jr., before Pope Benedict XVI

***Question:** Why do political leaders revere the Pope? "The Catholic Church is the biggest financial power, wealth accumulator and property owner in existence. She is a greater possessor of material riches than any other single institution, corporation, bank, giant trust, GOVERNMENT or STATE of the whole globe." -Avro Manhattan ("The Vatican Billions")

***CHARACTERISTIC #5:** This power must receive a deadly wound that is later healed. The Catholic Church received a deadly wound in 1798 during the French Revolution, when Napoleon's General imprisoned Pope Pius VI! In 1929, the wound was healed when Italian dictator, Mussolini, made a pact with the Catholic church, restoring the power of the Vatican!



6) What other characteristics does the Bible give that will help us define who the first beast represents? -Revelation 13:5-8, 18

6 - It has a "mouth speaking great things and blasphemies."

7 - It had "power" to reign for "forty and two months."

8 - It would "make war with the saints."

9 - It would be led by a "man" whose "number is Six hundred thr_ _score and six_ _." [666]

***CHARACTERISTIC #6:** The Papacy speaks blasphemies. Blasphemy = to claim to be as god. (John 10:33) and to claim to have power to forgive sins. (Luke 5:21) Read these Catholic quotes: "The Pope is not only the representative of Jesus Christ, but he is Jesus Christ Himself, hidden under veil of flesh." - "The Catholic National," July 1895. "The priest does not only declare that the sinner is forgiven, but he really forgives him...so great is the power of the priest, that the judgments of heaven itself are subject to his decision." The Catholic Priest, by Michael Mueller, Kreuzer Bros., 1876. "Don't go to God for forgiveness of sins, come to me." -Pope John Paul II, LA Times, 12-12-1984



Many Catholics confess their sins to a priest instead of Jesus.

***This lesson is continued in Part 2!**

***Download the next lesson at: <https://www.soldiers4christ.us>**



Build on the Rock Doctrinal Lesson Series 2023

Lesson 22:

"The BIG Test" -Part 1



Life is full of tests. Tests determine our spiritual, mental and physical condition so that we can see where we need to improve. In the Garden of Eden, God used a forbidden tree to test Adam and Eve's loyalty to Him. Right before Jesus comes, there will be a BIG test that every living person will have to face. This BIG test will determine whether you go to heaven or whether you are destroyed in hell! It is essential for God's people to know about this test or you will be deceived by Satan's lies and will the FAIL the BIG test! Complete this lesson with the KJV Bible and learn about the BIG test!

1) As natural disasters, diseases and wars continue to escalate, what turn of events will God's people soon face? -Matthew 24:7-10

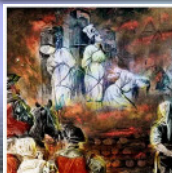
1 - "Nation shall rise against nation,....there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places."

2 - They shall "deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake."

***Note:** According to the Bible, as global calamities continue to escalate, somehow, the governments of all nations and the people will be deceived into seeking to EXTERMINATE God's people from off the earth!!! HOW WILL THIS TURN OF EVENTS TAKE PLACE? YOU WILL SOON FIND OUT!

2) When the nations and peoples of the world attempt to exterminate God's people from the earth, who, ironically, will they claim to be serving? -John 16:2

1 - "The time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service."



ISIS kills Christians in the name of Allah

***Note:** Through the Dark Ages, the Roman Catholic church persecuted and killed millions, claiming they were serving God! Even today, there are certain religious sects that kill in the name of their God, thinking they are doing God a service! Just imagine every government and people being deceived by this doctrine of Devils! This is what Jesus taught on the subject: "For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them." (Luke 9:56)

3) How does John the Revelator describe the BIG TEST that all the world will have to face in the last days? –Revelation 13:15-17.

- 1 - The time will come when the BEAST POWER will “cause.... as many as wo_ld not w_rsh_p the im_ge of the b_ast should be k_lled.”
- 2 - This power will also “causeth all..... to receive a m_rk in their r_gh_t ha_d, or in their f_reheads: And that no man might b_y or s_ll, save he that had the m_rk, or the name of the b_ast, or the n_mber of his name.”

*Note: According to the Bible, the time is coming when God’s true followers will NOT be able to buy or sell! The governments of the world will pass laws that will strip God’s people of their rights and even allow them to be KILLED!!! This will be the BIG TEST for every living person on the EARTH! The TEST: Will you OBEY God and be persecuted by MAN, or will you take the MARK and face the WRATH of God?

4) Will the Great Tribulation and Mark of the Beast take place before or after the Second Coming of Jesus (commonly referred to as the rapture)? –Daniel 12:1.

- 1 - The Bible says first there will be a “T_me of Tr_uble”, then, Jesus will come and His “pe_ple sh_ll be d_livered.”

***Question: So, what is the Mark of the Beast? Some think it is a microchip, but let’s find out what the Bible says!**



5) How is the first beast of Revelation 13 described? -Revelation 13:1-4

- 1 - It rises “up o_t of the s_a.”
- 2 - It has “s_ven h_ads and t_n h_rns.”
- 3 - It has the characteristics of a “Le_pard,” a “B_ar” and a “Li_n.”
- 4 - It has “Gr_at A_thority”.
- 5 - It received a “de_dly wo_nd”, which was later “h_aled.”



*Note: Remember, you learned in Lesson 16 that a BEAST in prophecy represents a kingdom or political world power. (See Daniel 7:23) Therefore, this 10 Horned, Leopard-like beast represents a political power, which is also religious, because it receives worship! “And they worshipped the beast.” (Rev. 13:4.)



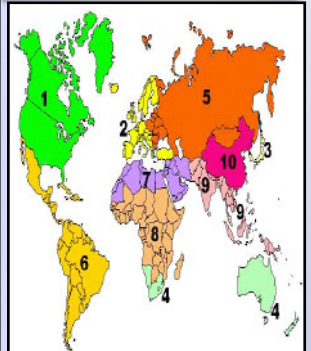
*Note: The ONLY world power that fits all of the characteristics of the Leopard Beast is the Roman Catholic Church. The Roman Catholic Church is not, technically, a kingdom, but has it’s own private state and a representative from every major country of the world that meet regularly at Vatican City.

***Note: BOTH the LITTLE HORN of Daniel 7 and the FIRST BEAST of Revelation 13 represent the same power – the Roman Catholic System, also known as the Papacy! Let’s now examine the characteristics to see if they accurately fit:**

*CHARACTERISTIC #1: This power must arise out of the “Sea.” Seas or water represents a highly populated area. “And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.” (Revelation 17:15) In fulfillment, the Catholic Church was organized in Rome, Italy, which is a highly populated area of the world!

*CHARACTERISTIC #2: This power must have 7 heads and 10 horns. “The seven heads are seven mountains.” (Revelation 17:9) Rome, Italy is where the Catholic Headquarters dwells and is known as a city that sits upon 7 hills! The 7 hill are as follows: *Aventine Hill, Caelian Hill, Capitoline Hill, Esquiline Hill, Palatine Hill, Quirinal Hill, Viminal Hill.*

“The ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings.” – Revelation 17:12 In 1968, an organization called the “Club of Rome” was established at Rockefeller’s estate in Rome, Italy. Their purpose is to unite the whole world under one power! In 1973, the club released a report called “Regionalized and Adaptive Model of the Global World System,” which stated “there is no other viable alternative to the future survival of civilization than a new global community under a common leadership.” In the report, they announced their goal to divide the world into 10 regions / kingdoms in fulfillment of Revelation 13:1 and 17:12!



*CHARACTERISTIC #3: The mouth of the lion, the feet of the bear and the leopard have metaphorical characteristics that help to describe the first beast of Revelation 13. The lion’s mouth is known for it’s ferocious roar, which causes the animal kingdom to tremble and flee. The powerful and deadly feet of the bear are used to fight it’s enemies. The Leopard is known for their stealth. BBC.com stated of the leopard: “*When they do hunt, they do so with stealth. Leopards are superbly camouflaged hunters that creep to within a few meters of their unsuspecting quarry before lunging, using powerful jaw muscles, to exert a lethal hold.*”



As the LION’S ferocious roar causes the animal kingdom to flee, Catholic religious intolerance caused the Christians to flee into the mountains and to America to escape persecution. The Catholic Church stated: “No man has a right to choose his religion.” (New York Freeman, official journal of Bishop Hughes, Jan 26, 1852)



As the BEAR swings his dangerous clawed feet at his enemies to force them into submission, the Catholic Church also used weapons of war and torture to enforce her doctrines during the Dark Ages. Painful torture devices such as the Rack, the Iron Maiden and the Strappado were used by Roman Catholic Inquisitors during the 16th century AD.



As the leopard stealthfully hunts it’s prey, the Catholic Church has used stealth to regain her power and control over the nations of the earth after losing her authority in 1798. The Catholic Church through the Jesuit Order has infiltrated the educational system, governments and even churches.