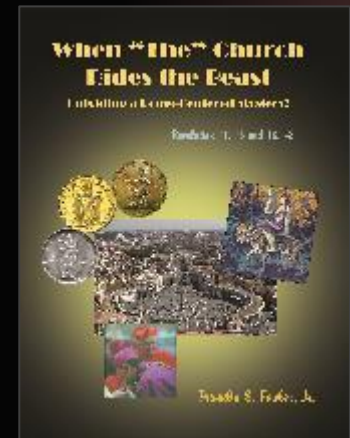


A book that goes along with this Revelation 17 series is *When "The" Church Rides the Beast*, which can be obtained by:

Calling: 760-248-1111

Writing: Prophecy Research Initiative
P.O. Box 829
Lucerne Valley, CA 92356 USA

E-mailing: prophecy-research@earthlink.net



We now continue our studies on:

The Harlot and the Beast (Revelation 17)

**Prophecy Research Initiative
presents**

The Harlot and the Beast



Revelation 17

Franklin S. Fowler Jr., M.D.

**Lesson Four –
Revelation 17**



The Special Numbers “Eight” and “Ten”

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These conclusions are always tentative since new light constantly unfolds.

There is more to Revelation 17 than to simply identify the harlot and the beast – with its seven “papal heads,” centered in Rome!

What they stood for and how they will shortly impede God’s end-time work, under a religious guise, is becoming “current truth.”

God used labels, exposing divine horror:

“harlot”

“mother of harlots”

“drunk with blood”

“martyrs”

“Babylon”

“fornication”

“blasphemy”

“abominations”

This prophecy now moves forward in time!



The story of these demonic characteristics deepens as this lesson progresses:

“And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.” (Rev. 17:11)



We previously reviewed these texts:

*“**The beast** that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit.” (17:8)*

*“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.” (11:7)*

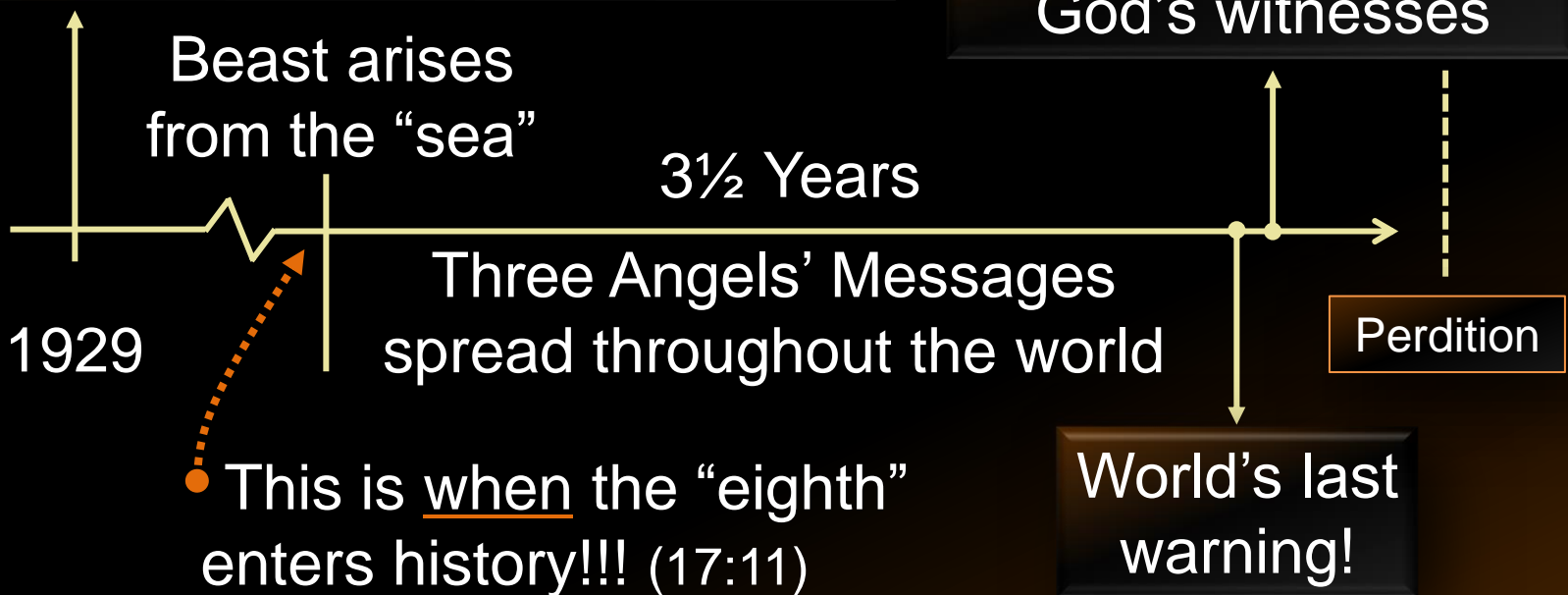
Those two verses span the end-time period of papal world power in an allusion of continuous evil, arising from the abyss:

17:8

Harlot now sits on the **beast** –
Vatican State – arises from the
“abyss” (containment)

11:7 (cf. Dan. 7:21)

The beast is now
permitted to “silence”
God’s witnesses



Revelation 17:11 is an interim, crucial portrayal of that beast – just before that last 3½ years!

“And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.” (Rev. 17:11)

The “eighth” is not identified as a “head” but as the beast. The beast that had “ascended” and “come” is now the “eighth.”

It is sequenced as the eighth! This means that this beast is reincarnated after the 7th head! It is prophetically a “new creature!”

This beast comes after Pope Benedict XVI's reign. He emerges as a "new kingdom." The Greek word here is also *therion*, meaning a ferocious, brutal, ruthless creature!

Since he, too, is going into perdition, or everlasting fire, it is distinctly a demonic/satanic/devilish power. Is this the same "Vatican State" we've observed before? We will see that it is far more!



The word "perdition" is God's final "fire and brimstone," the inferno, which annihilates all evil.



In John's fulfillment perdition prophecy, he first addresses the beast and then his friend, the false prophet (described later in Rev. 13):

“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.” (Rev. 19:20)

God chose to report on Satan's “end” later, though by the same “lake of fire.”

“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.”

(Rev. 20:10)

These verses give us a terminal sequence of the destruction of earth's evil forces.

Beast and False Prophet
cast into eternal fire

↑ Heads/horns + earth beast

Satan, the dragon,
cast into eternal fire

↑ All evil destroyed!

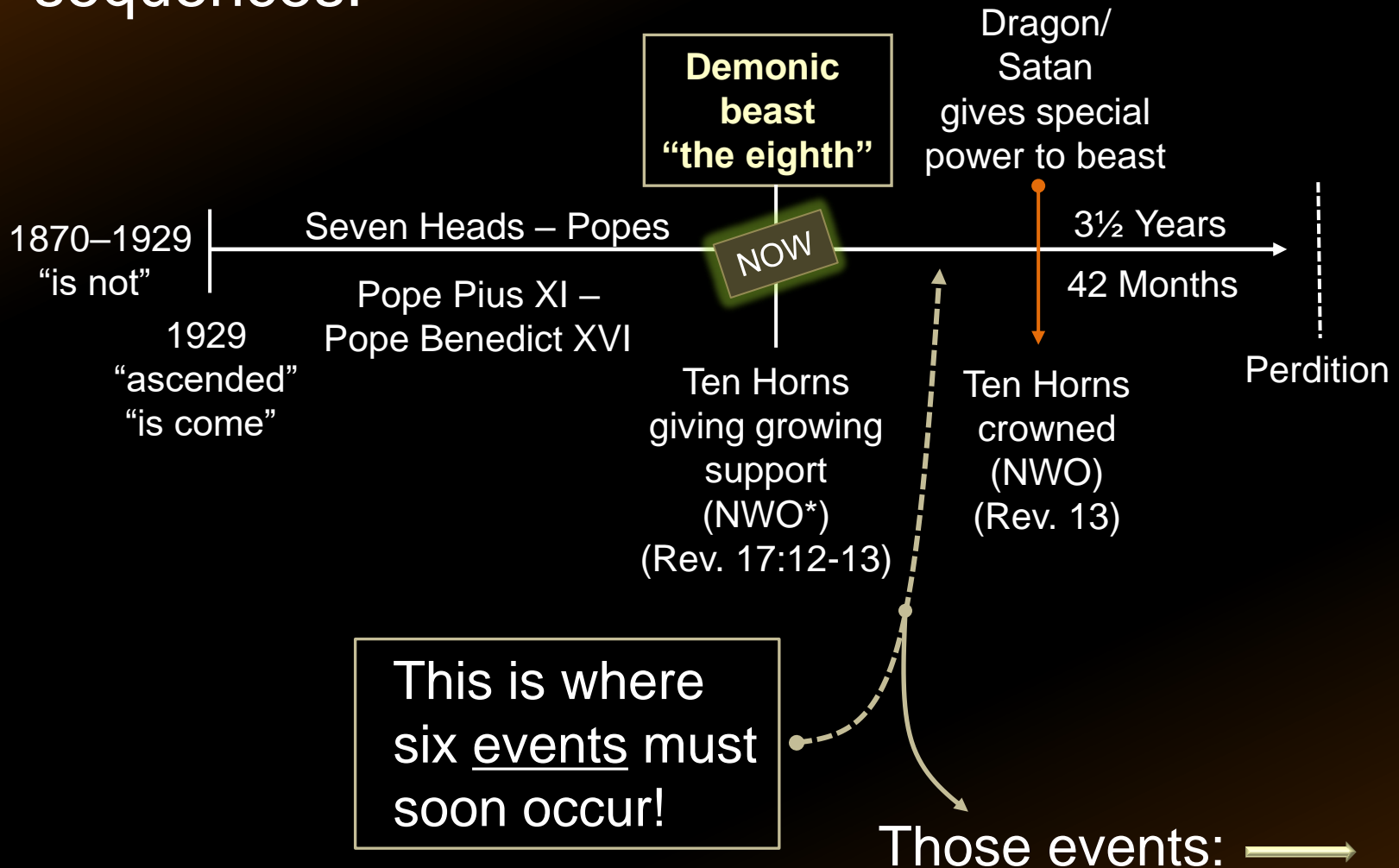
This is the summation of that “perdition!”

Whatever this Roman Catholic power (or Holy See) “morphs” into, it will have a unique, intimate bond with the demonic powers of the “abyss.” That place of “evil angel containment” will be fully opened up later (5th Trumpet) (Rev 9). However, Satan has, in this prophecy, greater freedom than his minions. He will actually become visible to mankind before that 5th Trumpet sounds!

We will show that his appearance comes just before the “appointed time” or 42 months / 3½ years also!



This adds graphic clarity to these end-time sequences:



* New World Order

1. A “leader” is chosen who is charismatic and who the world will quickly “wonder at.” (Rev. 13:3)
2. “He” is fully open to satanic influences. (Rev. 13:2)
3. A New World Order must be activated by those ten horn symbols, giving “sympathetic power” to the “Holy See.” (17:12-13)
4. The Judgment of the Living commences (Rev. 11:1-3 – note it is before the 42 months/1260 days).
5. Calamities occur that are so severe that mankind cries out to God for help, setting the stage for a religious law. (10MR 239; Matt. 24:7)
6. Satan appears as an angel of light. (19MR 282)

Recall that this beast is filled with the names of **blasphemy** – it is a despicable monster, carrying a religious prostitute!



Biblically, the number “eight” represents a “beginning again.” On the “eighth day” a new week begins. On the “eighth day” Christ arose and the Christian dispensation began. At the “eighth millennium” God creates a new heaven and a new earth! Since **this beast is** designated as the “**eighth**,” it is new and distinct.

This “eighth” Biblically alludes to an extremely important beginning again. The implications are ominous and provocative for God’s people! Satan now begins his final push to work against them!

The way this “eighth” transitions, after those seven heads, reveals something amazing! Those seven popes are now history. They are no longer of present interest!

What then does this new understanding mean? This “beast” is preparing to usher in Revelation 13’s issues!

Stunning! Many scholars correctly see this “eighth” as a veiled indicator that this beast will now promote Sunday worship, the “eighth day,” honoring the Resurrection!

Example: “This pattern of seven-to-eight-equals-one was familiar to the early church. It is a concept that those raised in the great liturgical traditions can grasp. The eighth day was the day of the resurrection of Christ, Sunday. It was also the beginning of a new week. The seventh day, the Jewish Sabbath, is held over to be replaced by the first of a new series, namely Sunday.”

[Austin Farrer; Alexander Schememann; Massey Shepherd, as quoted in Gaebelin, Frank E.; *The Expositor's Bible Commentary*, vol. 12 (Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, MI – 1984)].



A false Sabbath, prophetically highlighted in Revelation 13, is a key demonic issue which now emerges from the “darkness” of the Vatican’s veiled “moral goodness.”

These scholars are most insightful! This announces that an abomination will shortly be “set up” (Dan. 12:11). The “friendship” between the “sea beast” and the “earth beast” will soon reach its zenith. The “mark of the beast” and its “image” will quickly become pivotal! The book *When “The” Church Rides the Beast** shows that their “mark” relates to changing that Decalogue requirement!

* Prophecy Research Initiative book



When the prophecy of Revelation 17 moves to 13 and the “eighth” comes with its “mark,” this beast will exercise oppressive world power for 42 months. (13:5)

- “Prophecy foretells a restoration of her power.” (Rev. 13:3) (FLB 329)
- She will “regain control of the world.” (GC 565)

“Romanism as a system is no more in harmony with the gospel of Christ now than at any former period in her history. The Protestant churches are in great darkness, or they would discern the signs of the times. The Roman Church is far-reaching in her plans and modes of operation. She is employing every device to extend her influence and increase her power in preparation for a fierce and determined conflict to regain control of the world, to re-establish persecution, and to undo all that Protestantism has done.” (GC88 565)

Between the beast's ascension/coming and perdition (eternal end), three beast prophecies are sequentially given in Revelation!

1929–2013: Seven sequential popes, ending with Pope Benedict XVI (“heads” – 17:10)

2013–?: Ten world powers (NWO) give growing support to the beast (harlot/beast) (17:12-13 “horns”). They war against Christ (17:14a).

42-month period: Era of the dragon-supported sea beast and earth beast (Revelation 13), which becomes a world power (13:7). This coalition blasphemes God (13:5-6) and wars with His saints (persecution/martyrdom) (13:7, 15; 17:14).

**This now brings us to the
next “beast transition”
verse in our journey
within Revelation 17:**

“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. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.”

(Rev. 17:12-13)

There are two PowerPoint studies on this and the next verse, which are available from *Prophecy Research Initiative*. They relate to the New World Order. We will review only a few key issues here.



“Horns” in prophecy usually represent kings or kingdoms, giving authority or power to the beast they are on (cf. Dan. 7:24). Horns can also represent groups of people in support of their beast (e.g., Daniel 8:8, where the “ram” has two different sized, growing horns).

Since the horns of this beast are later shown to have kingly crowns (Rev. 13), an early phase of ten nations or power divisions is being depicted! This is “phase two.”

Without crowns:
Revelation 17 –
ten divisions –
not yet “nations”



Later, with crowns:
Revelation 13 –
ten divisions –
seen as distinct
world powers



Our text notes: “*which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast*” (17:12). The horn imagery is kingdom-acquisition anticipated!

The story began with this man.



Pope Pius XI was the first of the seven beast heads. In many encyclicals, he attacked democracy, international economic policies, global moral and social standards.

Dr. E. Boyd Barrett was a sinister Jesuit psychoanalyst adviser to this Pope. He published a book that reflected Pius XI's geopolitical thinking:

The following quotations
are from
Jesuit Boyd Barrett's book:
Rome Stoops to Conquer,
Julian Messner, Inc.,
NY, 1935

“... in Pius XI, as few people seem fully to realize, the Catholic Church has for the first time in several centuries a leader of supreme genius, of indomitable purpose and of untiring energy.” [p. 253]

“The Church under Pius XI’s superb leadership has become a world power again.” [p. 254]

“Not only is her prestige enhanced, but her will is largely obeyed by the most arrogant of dictators.” [p. 254] By this time (1935) half of the countries of the world had begun to send ambassadors to the Holy See.

The Church “is an organism capable of *miraculous readjustments and transformations* in the struggle to preserve herself.” [p. 258]



“God-on-Earth he believes himself to be – *and means to be....* He believes that the destiny of the Church will be fulfilled in America and that with the spiritual conquest of America the world-dominion of the Church will be regained.”

[p. 259]

“Meanwhile through his Press he reminds Americans that to the Church alone belongs the right of reforming the social and moral order.” [p. 263]

This is exactly what Pope Benedict XVI (head number seven) claimed through his social encyclical, *Caritas in Veritate* (*Love in Truth*) in 2009. Additionally, in recent documents, he reminded the world of what the Catholic Church “might be able to do” geopolitically!

Barrett continues: “Here in America we are witnessing another of those ‘resurrections’ which may mean for us sooner or later submission to the spiritual overlordship of the Holy See.” [p. 265]



As a reminder, the “Holy See” is the “woman and the beast” – the Roman Catholic Church and its Vatican State!!!



“Should Rome triumph, she will ascend to a higher state than ever she has enjoyed heretofore.” [p. 266] A world power.

“In the fight, as she has ever fought when battles were most desperate in the past, Rome will use steel, and gold, and silvery lie. Rome will stoop to conquer.” !!! [p. 266]

That's hard to believe from a religious leader, representing Pope Pius XI! The Roman Catholic Church will even sin to see that her aims are achieved!

Pius XI died in 1939. In less than two years documents came out of the State Department of the United States, promoting a “new world moral order.” It was to be based on a common monetary system. “All natural resources would be nationalized and distributed to all nations.”

Though the **source** of these ideas was reported to be from the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, the concepts that were printed on a 1942 map of the world were exactly what Pius XI had proposed.

This is when the concept of dividing the world administratively – **yes** – into ten regions was made public. An international criminal court was also suggested. All the regions were to be bound together by a League of Nationalities.

(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Outline_of_the_Post-War_New_World_Map)

This is the map of how the **new moral world** was to look.

(Published in 1942)





In 1968 the Club of Rome was formed by Aurelio Peccei, an Italian industrialist, and Alexander King, a Scottish scientist at David Rockefeller's estate in Bellagio, Italy. The Club of Rome was a "think tank" with the singular objective of creating that "new" world.

Its publications became world famous: *Limits to Growth* and *The First Global Revolution* are examples.

Out of this, the "environmental movement" gained momentum.



According to their philosophy, divided nations require common enemies to unite them. Quoting: “... either a real one or else one invented for this purpose” [must develop]. Because of the sudden absence of traditional enemies, “new enemies must be identified.... In searching for a new enemy to unite us, we came up with the idea that pollution, the threat of global warming, water shortages and famine would fit the bill.... All these dangers are caused by human intervention, and it is only through changed attitudes and behavior that they can be overcome. The real enemy then, is humanity itself.”

[Alexander King & Bertrand Schneider, *The First Global Revolution* (Club of Rome), 1993 Edition]

Again, it is most interesting that many of the issues that the Club of Rome later outlined were initially proposed by Pope Pius XI!

They, too, divided the world into ten divisions or regions!



We are suddenly reminded that Nebuchadnezzar's image had “ten toes” that were destroyed all at once; the same collective destruction occurs to the “ten horns” on the beast of Revelation 17 and 13!

Daniel was given a message that the giant image of Nebuchadnezzar would have two distinct timing applications:



1. “Thou art this head of gold.” (Dan. 2:38)
2. “In the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom.” (Dan. 2:44)

At the time the stone is “cut out of the mountain ... it brake in pieces [all at one time] the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold.” (Dan. 2:45)

When that “stone” arrives, the whole image is taken down!

That second application comes when the image symbols are collectively together, and then come to their end. God's eternal kingdom then follows!

Lest this not be seen, Daniel was later told regarding the four beasts:

“As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away [historical application]: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time [end time].” (Dan. 7:12)

The implication? There is an end-time meaning for those ten toes and ten horns!



In the context of those “ten horns” on this Revelation 17 beast, we are again told:

“These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.”

(Rev. 17:12-13)



The number “ten” in prophecy reflects fullness, completion; there is no need to go beyond. The “ten commandments” or the Decalogue is “complete” – a full summary of God’s will!

These ten horns represent planet earth’s final divisions of power (vs 2) – which makes the papacy a geopolitical force with unbridled power.



In 2009 the United Nations divided the world by what they called a ten “Regional Grouping.” It is **close** to what the Club of Rome had proposed.

Reflecting again on Revelation 13,
we note regarding that beast:

*“Power was given him over all kindreds,
and tongues, and nations. And all that dwell
upon the earth shall worship him.”* (Rev. 13:7-8)

John was warned that at this Time, Satan would know that he has only a “short time.” (12:12)



He panics, knowing that this is his last chance to conquer or be conquered. *“Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath.”*

As his poster child, the papacy prepares the way for Satan to personally make his debut. *“And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.”* (II Cor. 11:14)

Since the Bible's number "eight" does stand for "beginning again," God gives Satan a final chance to prove that his "moral" arguments are right.

This "new beginning" will only become the wicked's destructive "end."

*"The prince of this world
cometh"* (John 14:30)

*"Satan ... deceiveth the
whole world"* (Rev. 12:9)



When does Satan begin his
“kingdom push?”

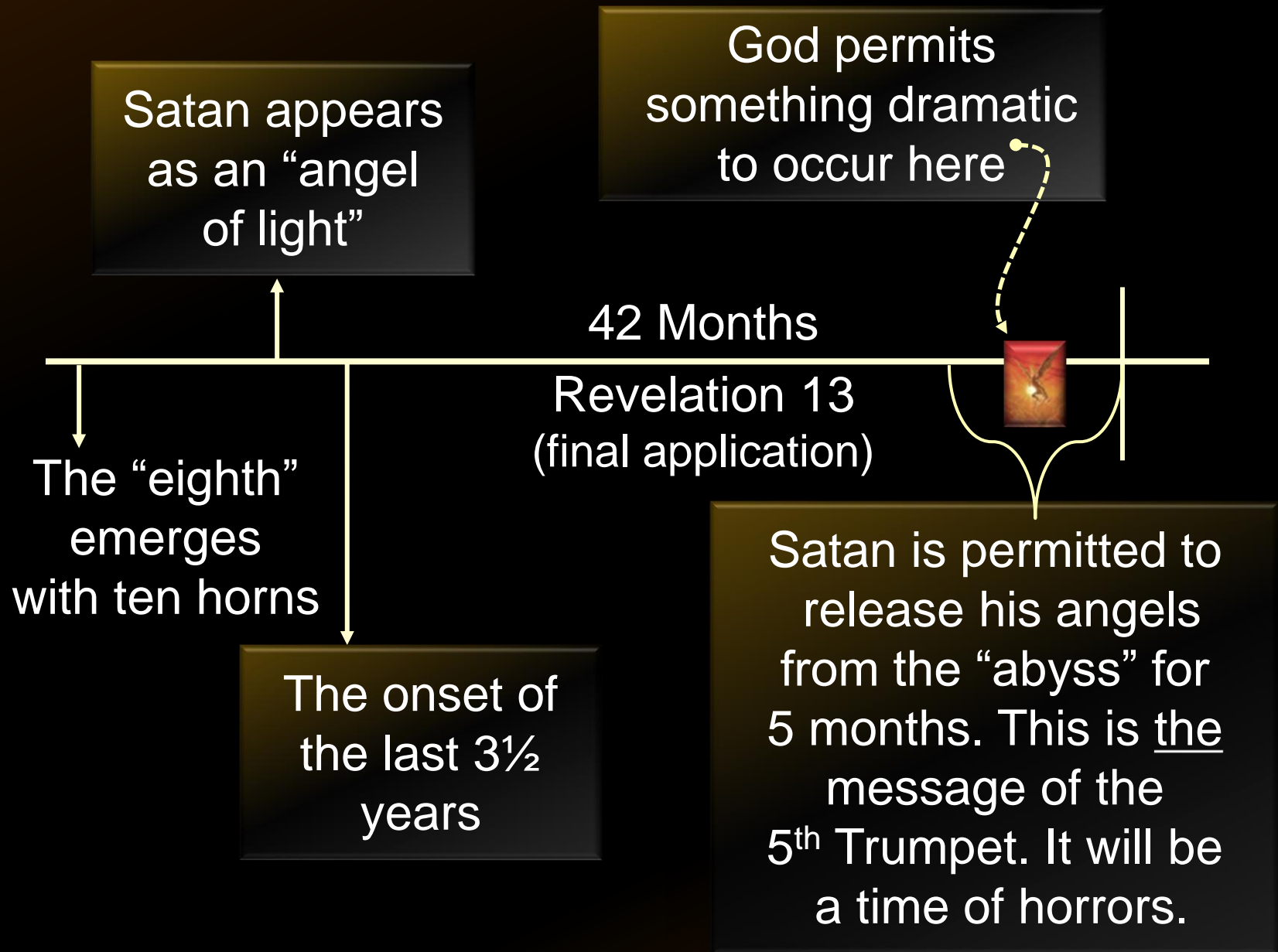



Note carefully this insight:

“In the last days Satan will appear as an angel of light, with great power and heavenly glory, and claim to be the Lord of the whole earth. He will declare that the Sabbath has been changed from the seventh to the first day of the week; and as lord of the first day of the week he will present this spurious Sabbath as a test of loyalty to him. —→

“Then will take place the final fulfillment of the Revelator’s prophecy. ‘*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?*’ ‘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.’” [she then quotes the rest of the chapter].
(19MR 282)

Now we know “when!”



“Satan sees that he is about to lose his case. He cannot sweep in the whole world. He makes one last desperate effort to overcome the faithful by deception. He does this in personating Christ. He clothes himself with the garments of royalty which have been accurately described in the vision of John. He has power to do this. He will appear to his deluded followers, the Christian world who received not the love of the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness ... as Christ coming the second time. 

“He proclaims himself Christ, and he is believed to be Christ, a beautiful, majestic being clothed with majesty and, with soft voice and pleasant words, with glory unsurpassed by anything their mortal eyes had yet beheld. Then his deceived, deluded followers set up a shout of victory, ‘Christ has come the second time! Christ has come! He has lifted up His hands just as He did when He was upon the earth, and blessed us....’ The saints look on with amazement. Will they also be deceived? Will they worship Satan?” (*The Truth About Angels*, p. 274)



Jesus



Satan

How will you tell the difference?

The only ones who will not be deluded are those who know with precision what the Bible teaches:

“For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first [the first event at Jesus’ Second Coming]: “Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord [the second event].” (I Thess. 4:16-18)

*“And then shall that Wicked [antichrist] be revealed, whom the Lord shall destroy with the **brightness of his coming.**”* (II Thess. 2:8)

*“And then shall appear ... the Son of man in heaven ... and they [earth’s inhabitants] shall see the **Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.**”*

(Matt. 24:30)

*“When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and **all the holy angels with him,** then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory.”* (Matt. 25:31)

The arrival of Jesus will be dramatic, and every person will see Him.

(Rev. 1:7)



God's people will be caught up into the clouds to meet Jesus – “in the air!” (I Thess. 4:16-18)

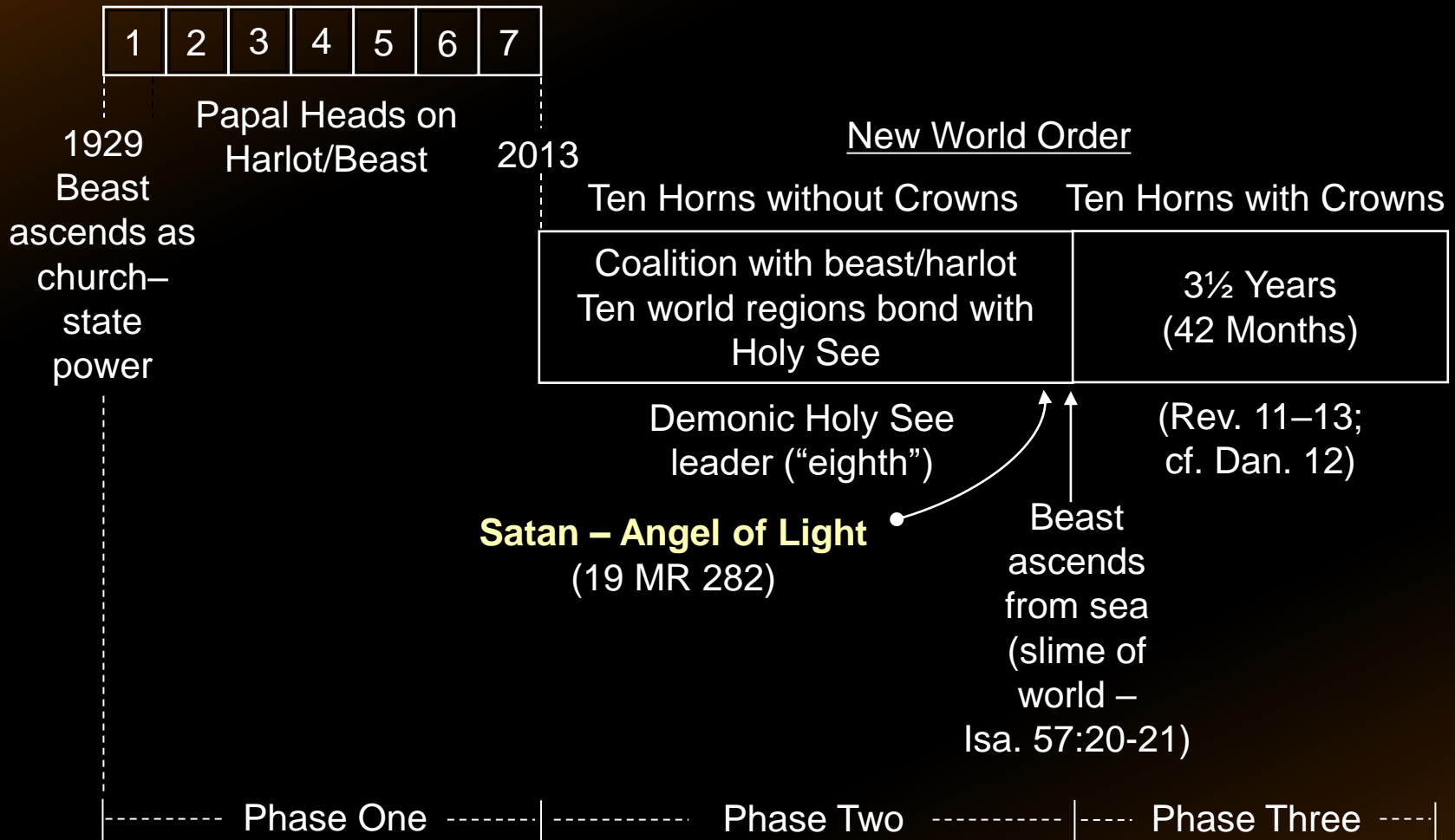
Recall the three great prophetic beast expressions in Revelation 13 and 17:

1929–2013: Seven sequential popes, ending with Pope Benedict XVI (17:10)

2013–?: Ten world powers (NWO) give growing support to the beast (harlot/beast) (17:12). They war against Christ (17:14a). Satan will appear as the Messiah!

42-month period: Era of the dragon-supported sea beast and earth beast (Rev. 13) with world power (13:7).

Beast Prophecies – Revelation 17, 13



Satan knows his time is short because he is a student of prophecy. In fact – he has used demonically inspired followers to write parallel prophecies of the apocalyptic end.

These are very insightful because they help to affirm how the devil will deceive and persecute in his final “stand-off” with Christ.

Here are a few to rivet home what we are now transitioning into.

St. Malachy O'Morgair (1102 A.D.) predicted sequential papal heads, which has been uncannily accurate.



His “last pope” – Benedict XVI – was to be followed by a leader called *Petrus Romanus* (Peter the Roman). Then, he said – the understanding of “Babylon’s mysteries” would occur (the harlot of Revelation 17:1-6)!

Petrus Romanus is number “eight” according to St. Malchych per Revelation 17:11). He said that he would guide the final period of the “Church.” But at the end – it will be destroyed.

Following Malachy, Saint Francis of Assisi (1182–1226) noted that at the time of the end “a man, not canonically elected, will be raised to the Pontificate, who, by his cunning, will endeavor to draw many into error and death ... [he will not be] a true Pastor, but a destroyer.”



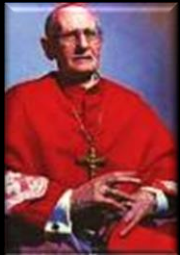
Works of the Seraphic Father Saint Francis of Assisi (1182–1226), Washbourne, 1882 A.D., p. 248.



Then came a Marian apparition from LaSalette, France (1846), approved by Popes Pius IX and Leo XIII, regarding apostasy within the Catholic Church when it would become the seat of the Antichrist:

“The earth will be struck by calamities of all kinds (in addition to plague and famine which will be wide-spread). There will be a series of wars until the last war, which will then be fought by the ten kings of the Antichrist [Rev. 17:12], all of whom will have one and the same plan [Rev. 17:13] and will be the only rulers of the world. The wicked will give themselves over to all kinds of sin ... this will be the hour of darkness. The Church will suffer a terrible crisis ... Rome will lose the Faith and become the seat of the Antichrist” (“Apparition of the Blessed Virgin on the Mountain of LaSalette,” <http://www.thepopeinred.com/secret.htm>.)

More recently (1955), Father Herman Bernard Kramer wrote that the last pope would rule with a rod of iron the whole world as the Man of Sin. [Father Herman Bernard Kramer, *The Book of Destiny* (Buechler Publishing Co.; Belleville, IL – 1955), p. 277]



It was revealed to Cardinal Mario Luigi Ciappi (1909–1996) that the last papal leader will lead the Church into apostasy. “Terrible things are to happen.”

[John Vennari, “The Fourth Secret of Fatima,” *Catholic Family News*.
Published Testimony: Cardinal Alonso (1975–1981), *Fatima.org*,
<http://www.fatima.org/thirdsecret/fralonso.asp>]

The late Malachi Martin (Jesuit) noted in his book, *Windswept House*, that Lucifer was formally “enthroned” in the Roman Catholic Citadel June 29, 1963. Why?

To raise within the Church Lucifer as the true prince over Rome. To assure “sorcerous ... embodiment ... of that ...spirit” into a priest who would later become “*Petrus Romanus.*” Shortly thereafter, Pope Paul VI was inaugurated. With knowledge of that event, Martin said: “*The smoke of Satan has entered the Vatican.*”

http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/paul_vi/homilies/1972/documents/hf_p-vi_hom_19720629_it.html



Mystic, Roman Catholic theologian and prolific author, Ronald I. Conte, Jr., said (2004) that the final pope “will reaffirm the authority of the Roman Pontiff over the Church” and “will emphasize the supremacy of the Roman Catholic faith and the Roman Catholic Church above all religions and denominations, and its authority over all Christians and all peoples of the world.” Conte added that during this pope’s reign, the “first part of the tribulation during our generation” will begin. Ronald L. Conte, “The Future and the Popes,” *Catholic Planet*, November 14, 2004; <http://www.catholicplanet.com/future/future-popes.htm>.

The record of spiritualistic manifestations regarding end-time prophecy is protean. Suffice it for now (2013) – we have passed into the second phase of the beast's apocalyptic prophecies recorded in Revelation 17!



Ponder the words of the late Malachi Martin:

The papacy “insists that men have no reliable hope of creating a viable geopolitical system, unless it is on the basis of Roman Catholic Christianity.”

[M. Martin, *Keys of This Blood* (Simon and Schuster, N.Y. – 1990), p. 492]

The raw power of that oldest religious tradition will soon show that it is everything but Christian.

Revelation 17 tells us
exactly where we are
in end-time events!



When Satan appears as an angel
of light, we will know that those six
areas previously noted* will have
been accomplished. Then – laws
that will coerce the conscience
of God's people will be enacted.

God has given to us wonderful insight regarding this period. This promise is special information for us now:



“These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.”

(Rev. 17:14)

Will you be one of His “overcomers?”

The End

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