

# REVELATION'S TWO WITNESSES

## (LESSON 12)

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### ***Bible Study***

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1. What do the seven heads of the dragon in Revelation 17 represent (2 answers)? **Revelation 17:9-10**
2. Where is John the revelator during the vision of Revelation 17? **Revelation 17:1-3**
3. Who else is in the same location? **Revelation 12:1-6**
4. What determines if one is a Jew? **Romans 2:28-29**
5. What is associated with sackcloth? **Revelation 11:3, Genesis 37:32-34**
6. What does the spirit of Sodom (Revelation 11:8) refer to? **Jude 1:7**
7. What was the prevailing spirit of Egypt (Revelation 11:8)? **Exodus 5:2**
8. The two witnesses are killed and are left to lie in the street (Revelation 11:8). According to the Bible, what lies in the street? **Isaiah 59:14**
9. Where is truth found? **John 14:6, John 17:17, Psalm 119:142**
10. What is the most important issue? **John 8:31-32**

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### ***What Else Does the Third Angel Proclaim?***

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Before Jesus returns as described in Revelation 14:14, three timely messengers proclaim warnings so that people do not have to be deceived. Part of the third messenger's message is "And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image" (Revelation 14:9). This lesson will be focusing on the

"image."

What is an image? According to Webster's Dictionary, an image is "a reproduction or imitation of the form of a person or thing."

The dictionary further points out that an image is "a mental conception held in common by members of a group and symbolic of a basic attitude and orientation." Could the image in Revelation actually refer to a mental imitation of the Antichrist without being directly associated with it? Consider this. The reference to worshipping the beast is not a physical bowing down to a beast or even the Antichrist but a declaration of direct support in one form or another despite what the Bible says. The image would then be another form of support despite what the Bible says indirectly supporting the beast.

Even the Bible directly declares this to be so. In Exodus 32:8, it states that when the Israelites rebelled against God because Moses was taking too long communing with God, "*they have made them a molten calf, and have worshipped it, and have sacrificed thereunto.*"

Notice that to sacrifice to something is to worship it. What is greater than sacrifice? "*Hath the LORD [as great] delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey [is] better than sacrifice, [and] to hearken than the fat of rams*" (1 Samuel 15:22). We see obedience is more valuable than going through the motions of sacrifice, which is worship. Hence, all that Antichrist is looking for, or the image of the beast is looking for, is obedience.

Before we study the image of the beast, which is our next lesson, this lesson will set the groundwork leading up to it.

In our last study, the identifying marks of the Antichrist were provided. At the end of the lesson, the meaning of the seven heads referred to in Revelation 17:9 was defined by the Bible as seven mountains, which helped locate the Antichrist, but they also represented something else.

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### **What Other Significance Is to the Seven Heads?**

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Revelation 17:10 tells us, "*And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, [and] the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.*" Did you know that Revelation refers to exactly seven beasts? Where are they identified in the Bible? One of them is in Revelation 13:1-2, which says, "*And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as [the feet] of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.*" This is the Antichrist beast comprised of the parts from four other beasts. Those four other beasts are found in Daniel 7:1-7, which states, "*In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his*

*bed: then he wrote the dream, [and] told the sum of the matters. Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea. And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another. The first [was] like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it. And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and [it had] three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh. After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it. After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it [was] diverse from all the beasts that [were] before it; and it had ten horns.*"

Now, the sixth beast is found in Revelation 11:7, which tells us, "*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.*"

And the seventh beast is found in Revelation 13:11, which says, "*And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.*"

So, who are the five that are fallen? This is actually another timeline. We begin with the earliest kingdom starting from Daniel 7, which also reveals the meaning of the first four beasts. The Lion represents Babylon, which began rule in 606 BC and lasted until 538 BC. The Bear represents the Medo-Persian Empire, which picked up the rule in 538 BC and continued to 331 BC. This gave way to the Leopard, which symbolizes Greece. It ruled from 331 BC through 168 BC. The next empire to come onto the scene is symbolized by a dreadful beast with ten horns. Pagan Rome picked up rule in 168 BC, crucified our Lord Jesus Christ, and continued until the ten barbaric tribes tore it apart in 476 AD. The ten barbaric tribes, identified by the ten horns, then self-ruled until 538 AD giving way to the fifth kingdom that John saw as fallen. The conglomerate beast we discovered in our last lesson represented Papal Rome or the Vatican, which ruled from 538 to 1798.

Now, who is the one that “is”? Well, that is our current lesson. And, who is the one that “is yet to come”? That is the next lesson.

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### ***Why is Studying the Beasts Important?***

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Recall Satan’s objective in the spiritual warfare is to rule from God’s throne (Isaiah 14:12-14). God predicts that Satan will be brought down to hell and lose the war (Isaiah 14:15). However, Satan is obsessed with God’s throne. Through the many

centuries, Satan has been attempting to deceive the whole world with his false sense of worship as was especially brought to light in the Antichrist study. He figures that if he can get people to at least worship his beast powers, he has them, especially since the goal is just to get people away from worshipping God.

Continuing on, we will see what Satan’s sixth attempt is.

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### ***Where Is John During the Vision in Revelation 17?***

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To fully understand the interpretation of the seven heads, specifically the “one is”, we need to know where John is during this vision. Some say that he was on the island of Patmos around 90 AD. Let us allow the Word of God to tell us.

Revelation 17:1-3 gives us the answer: “*And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.*” John, in vision, leaves the island of Patmos and goes into the wilderness, a method of time travel.

Who else is in the wilderness? According to Revelation 12:1-6,

we are told, “*And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered. And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born. And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and [to] his throne. And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred [and] threescore days.*” What does a woman represent in prophecy? God’s people or the church as Jeremiah 6:2 compared to Isaiah 51:16 reveals. After Jesus, the ruler of God’s people, was born, ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father and His throne, God’s people, the church, goes into hiding (wilderness) for a period of 1,260 years (using God’s day/year principle from Numbers 14:34 and Ezekiel 4:6). By the way, it is not by coincidence that the Antichrist power also ruled for 1,260 years, in fact, that is exactly when the wilderness experience began. You see, God uses the same time period in Daniel and Revelation quite often to represent a specific

period of time. Therefore, when we see 1,260 days in prophecy, that is the years 538 to 1798. This may also appear as 1,260 days, 42 months, or 3½ years.

What is the significance? John has given us a date range for the beast identified as "one is". It comes to power during the fifth beast's reign. Does God reveal a more exact time frame? 1,260 years is a long period of time. Revelation 17:4-6 says, "*And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: And upon her forehead [was] a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.*" According to the Bible, she, who represents a corrupt church or a church gone bad, has already martyred God's people. They are those that followed a "Thus Saith the Lord" or "The Bible and the Bible alone!" The saints were mostly persecuted during the 1500's, 1600's, and early 1700's. So, John further tells us that he is at the close of the 1,260-year period, in other words, just about the end of the fifth kingdom's reign.

What significant event occurred at the close of the 1,260 years? The Napoleonic wars were well underway. This is when Napoleon sent one of his top generals into the Vatican and removed the pope from his

golden chair and marched him back to France where he died in exile. We covered that in our last lesson remembering that event helps later with this study.

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### **What Beast is the "One That Is"?**

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As a reminder, Revelation 11:7 tells us, "*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.*"

What context is the beast in? Revelation 11:1-2 says, "*And there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein. But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty [and] two months.*" When John is given a reed to measure, God is not looking for dimensions, rather a head count. Those inside the temple are saved. Those outside in the court are lost. This theme is repeated in Zechariah 2:1-4, which tells us, "*I lifted up mine eyes again, and looked, and behold a man with a measuring line in his hand. Then said I, Whither goest thou? And he said unto me, To measure Jerusalem, to see what [is] the breadth thereof, and what [is] the length thereof. And, behold, the angel that talked with me went forth, and another angel went out to meet him, And said unto him, Run, speak to this young man, saying, Jerusalem shall be inhabited [as] towns*

*without walls for the multitude of men and cattle therein.*"

Now remember, today Christians are spiritual Jews. John is not counting only literal Jews. The symbols of Revelation signify the real (Revelation 1:1). Those inside the temple, the body of Christ, are identified in Romans 2:28-29, which states, "*For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither [is that] circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: But he [is] a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision [is that] of the heart, in the spirit, [and] not in the letter; whose praise [is] not of men, but of God.*"

What is a Gentile? According to Malachi 1:11, we are told, "*For from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same my name [shall be] great among the Gentiles; and in every place incense [shall be] offered unto my name, and a pure offering: for my name [shall be] great among the heathen, saith the LORD of hosts.*"

What is a Heathen? Ezekiel 39:7 says, "*So will I make my holy name known in the midst of my people Israel; and I will not [let them] pollute my holy name any more: and the heathen shall know that I [am] the LORD, the Holy One in Israel.*" Heathens are those that pollute God's holy name especially when they say, "Thus Saith the Lord" when the Lord did not say thus. How do they do that? They take only a verse or two and build a whole teaching on it or pass off as what looks religious activity without any Bible reference whatsoever. That is why we need to have plenty of verses to support our beliefs.

Continuing in Revelation 11:2, notice that the same time period is again identified, that being 42 months, which calculates to 1,260 days remembering a day is symbolic of a year (Numbers 14:34 and Ezekiel 4:6).

What happens during the 1,260 years? Revelation 11:3 tells us, "And I will give [power] unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred [and] threescore days, clothed in sackcloth."

What is meant by sackcloth? Genesis 37:32-34 identifies, "And they sent the coat of [many] colours, and they brought [it] to their father; and said, This have we found: know now whether it [be] thy son's coat or no. And he knew it, and said, [It is] my son's coat; an evil beast hath devoured him; Joseph is without doubt rent in pieces. And Jacob rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his loins, and mourned for his son many days." It is a time of mourning. That means the two witnesses are witnessing during a time of great sadness, which today is known as the Dark Ages. This is the period of time when anyone caught with a Bible verse would have been burned at the stake.

Unfortunately, people today do not appreciate the Word of God. They do not have time for the Word of God. They are not willing to stand up for the truth. It must break God's heart when people utter those words and act in those ways.

Now, here is an important question. Do you know anybody 1,260 years old? No, of course not. That eliminates human beings as the two witnesses.

So, what are the two witnesses

then? Revelation 11:4 tells us, "These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth." Well that helps a lot.

What does that mean? Zechariah 4:1-6 informs us, "And the angel that talked with me came again, and waked me, as a man that is wakened out of his sleep, And said unto me, What seest thou? And I said, I have looked, and behold a candlestick all [of] gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which [are] upon the top thereof: And two olive trees by it, one upon the right [side] of the bowl, and the other upon the left [side] thereof. So I answered and spake to the angel that talked with me, saying, What [are] these, my lord? Then the angel that talked with me answered and said unto me, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord. Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This [is] the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts." They represent the Spirit of God. And what did the Spirit do? 2 Peter 1:21 states, "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake [as they were] moved by the Holy Ghost."

That would refer to the Bible as being the witnesses. What does the Bible say about that in the context of "the two candlesticks" (Revelation 11:4)? Psalms 119:105 tells us, "Thy word [is] a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

And what are the two olive trees? Zechariah 4:11-14 says,

"Then answered I, and said unto him, What [are] these two olive trees upon the right [side] of the candlestick and upon the left [side] thereof? And I answered again, and said unto him, What [be these] two olive branches which through the two golden pipes empty the golden [oil] out of themselves? And he answered me and said, Knowest thou not what these [be]? And I said, No, my lord. Then said he, These [are] the two anointed ones, that stand by the Lord of the whole earth." And focusing on the word ANOINTED, note the experience of Christ in Luke 4:18-21, which says, "The Spirit of the Lord [is] upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. And he closed the book, and he gave [it] again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears." And what is Jesus described as? John 1:1-2, 14 tell us, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth." In the beginning of the whole earth was the word and will continue until the end.

The two witnesses are symbolic of the Word of God or the Bible,

specifically, the Old and New Testament. How is that possible? Well, first we realize by previous lessons what the two witnesses are witnessing against -- a false system. There is no guesswork in identifying the witnesses. The book of Daniel in the Old Testament clearly points out the false system while the book of Revelation in the New Testament also identifies the false system.

But many say the two witnesses are Elijah and Moses come back to life. How does a person come to that conclusion? Revelation 11:5-6 says, *"And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed. These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will."* It is true that under Elijah, the heavens were shut up and did not rain. Also true is that under Moses, many plagues including that of blood were poured out. But where is the source of these things? God and not man. They were just servants. How did Elijah know to warn the people that it would not rain? He was proclaiming a *"Thus Saith the Lord"* (2 Chronicles 21:12). And Moses did the same thing. Many times he told pharaoh, *"Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Let my people go"* (Exodus 5:1). And the greatest opportunity that we have today is to hold a book full of verses containing *"Thus Saith the Lord."* All we have to do is submit to His will instead of our own. And the teachings of the

New Testament are well supported by the Old, and the teachings of the Old Testament are well supported by the New. They are inseparable.

Further, did you know that according to 2 Samuel 1:17-18, Jasher was given power to shut up the heavens and it rained not? According to Amos 4:7, Amos also received the same power. Haggai 1:10-11 and Jeremiah 14:1-4 also state that Haggai and Jeremiah prophesied during a time it was prophesied not to rain. And many of the prophets saw plagues under their time of prophesying including Zechariah who saw both plagues and lack of rain (Zechariah 14:17-18).

To settle the issue regarding Elijah not being expected to show up physically, let us ask Jesus how He understood this? Matthew 17:11-13 states, *"And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things. But I say unto you, That Elias is come already, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they listed. Likewise shall also the Son of man suffer of them. Then the disciples understood that he spake unto them of John the Baptist."* So, Jesus conveyed that it is not literal but spiritual. This is further confirmed in Luke 1:17, which says, *"And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."* How did they know Elijah was to come? Malachi 4:5-6 tells us: *"Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great*

*and dreadful day of the LORD: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse."*

Now, after they have witnessed, what happens next? Revelation 11:7 reveals, *"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."* A beast tries to kill them. How does one try to kill the Word of God? By physical destruction as well as making it seem like a book that cannot be trusted. Take for instance what was happening at the close of the 1700's in France. Napoleon denied the existence of God. He tried to exterminate the Bible and its teachings. He even set up a ten-day week because a seven-day week acknowledges the existence of God. Eventually, the ten-day week would be forgotten because it did not work. God knows the human machinery needs rest every seventh days and not tenth.

Think about it... We have a scientific reason for a year right? That is how long it takes for the earth to go around the sun. We also know why there are thirty days in a month. It takes that long for the moon to go around the earth. We also know why there is a 24-hour day. It takes that long for the earth to rotate one cycle on its axis. But why do we have a week consisting of seven days? There is no scientific reason. If man had created a week, he would have picked something divisible into a month such as 6 days, 5 days, 3

days, or even that 10 day period, but not 7.

Also, at this time, to try to make the Bible less trustworthy Satan used various scholars. "Paine wrote the first part of Age of Reason (1794), a deistic statement of his religious views. All Paine's works reflect his belief in natural reason and natural rights, political equality, tolerance, civil liberties, and the dignity of man" 1996 *Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia*. This led to putting reason above God. When it infiltrated the Christian world, it had a devastating affect. Christians were reasoning things of the Bible away such as creation week, the flood, and much more.

Now, is there any record of trying to kill the Bible physically? "But did France make war on the Bible? She did! And on November 26, 1793 a decree passed the French Assembly preventing the Bible. And under that decree the Bible was gathered and burned and every possible mark of contempt was heaped upon them. And all the institutions of the Bible were abolished. Baptism and Communion were abolished, the being of God was denied, and death pronounced as being an eternal sleep. The goddess of reason was set up in the person of a vile woman and publicly worshipped." *Journal of Paris*, 1793, No. 318. [Quoted in Buchez-Roux, Collection of Parliamentary History, volume 30, pages 200, 201.]

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### ***How Is the Location of the Prophecy Identified?***

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Revelation 11:8 tells us, "*And their dead bodies [shall lie] in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.*" The location is identified as Sodom, Egypt, and Jerusalem, which is where our Lord was crucified, right? Wrong. A key word is overlooked -- SPIRITUALLY. This place is identified as having a spirit like that of Sodom, a spirit like that in Egypt, and a spirit that was present at the crucifixion of Jesus.

What was Sodom known for? Jude 1:7 tells us, "*Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.*" Now, I would like to ask this as kindly as possible, what country is well known for its illicit sexual acts? Here is a hint: During World War I and II, it was one of the most preferred countries by GI soldiers. France is the answer.

What was Egypt known for? Exodus 5:2 tells us, "*And Pharaoh said, Who [is] the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go.*" Under Napoleon, France denied the existence of God and still has its affects today. Though they claim to be a religious country, less than ten percent go to church.

What is meant by "where our Lord was crucified?" Spiritually,

this refers to the killing of every thing that had a religious connotation to it. Every priest, nun, minister, or anybody associated with religion was executed during these times. In studying the beheading of the King and Queen of France during the peasant uprisings, most of the religious world was very corrupt especially in France including both Protestants and Catholics. The peasants finally had enough and revolted.

Before we continue onto the next verse, there was another reference to who the two witnesses are. Notice that "*their dead bodies [shall lie] in the street.*" Does the Bible and the Bible alone identify what lies in the street? Yes, it does! Isaiah 59:14 says, "*And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter.*" It is the "truth." Remember, truth is found in three locations: "*Thy law [is] the truth*" (Psalm 119:142), "*Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life*" (John 14:6), and "*Thy word is truth*" (John 17:17). Of all three locations, only the Word is most applicable and also affirming.

How long will the Word remain dead in the streets? Revelation 11:9-10 tells us, "*And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves. And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth.*" Now applying God's

day/year principle, a three and a half-year period would pass. On November 26, 1793, France voted the Bible and religion out. After three years of anarchy, France reconsidered. It was brought up during the assembly in January 1797. Now that would only be three years. God said it would be three and a half years. For some mysterious reason, the subject was tabled until June 7, 1797, which is the fulfillment of the prophecy.

What happened to the two witnesses after this period of time? Revelation 11:11-13 states, "*And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them. And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them. And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven.*" The Bible would be well appreciated. Notice the following quote: "Beginning in 1795 and expanding tremendously through the 1840s, a new revival known as the Second Great Awakening appeared. Evangelists such as Charles G. Finney emphasized free will, divine forgiveness for all, and the need of each person to freely accept or reject salvation" *The 1995 Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia*. An American born movement, by the early 1800's, the Second Great Awakening stormed Europe.

"The model for most Bible societies, the British and Foreign Bible Society, was founded in 1804" *The 1995 Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia*. Ever since this movement, there has never been a repressing of the Word to the same degree. In fact, the movement of taking the Word around the world finds its roots during this period of time.

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### ***Which Kingdom Is the Beast That Was Released?***

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Now since the beast of Revelation 11:7 is released during the time that the Bible was cast down and belief in God was thrown out, we ask, what one word means "No belief in God"? Atheism. And what country is most associated with Atheism? Russia, specifically, the old USSR or Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

How do we get USSR from the beast coming out of France in the late 1700's?

- George Hegel, born 1770 and died 1831, mixed atheism with the Bible. He reduced the Bible to simple stories and fables.
- Charles Darwin (1809-1882) took those writings and formulated the theory of evolution and in 1859 released the theory on the *Origin of Species*, which directly goes against the true origin. If there is no God, we need to answer the question: Where did we come from?
- Sigmund Freud (1865-1939) instituted sexual permissiveness. If there is no God, there is no

consequence for our pleasures.

- Karl Marx (1818-1883) introduced Communism. Note that Hegel's theories were born during the atheistic period and influenced Karl Marx whose theories developed into a country's beliefs and ways.

This is substantiated by the following quote: "[The] Germanic philosophical influence, that eventually contributed to statism and economic cartels in both countries, colored the political philosophy of American reformers of the period. People like John Dewey and Charles Beard were influenced early by George Hegel and Karl Marx. Hebert Croly was influenced by the French Positivist, Auguste Comte, who had some similarity to Hegel." (*Chambelain, John, Farewell to Retorm*, Pages 202, 203 and 230; Peter Smith, Gloucester, Ma., 1958).

All of them have greatly influenced our world that even today there is no way, short of the second coming, to right all the wrongs.

What is the significance of Karl Marx? His writings lead to the most Atheistic country known as Russia and its system known as Marxism or Communism. This system seemed unstoppable. There was the red threat of the 1940's and 1950's. The 1960's brought the system to our back door during the missile crisis. It seemed that there was no way to stop it. But God said it would not last and it came to an end so abruptly in 1991 that historians are still baffled.

So, USSR is the sixth head. The ideology was born around 1797



and lasted until 1991.

But what is the ultimate desire of Satan? Revelation 13:4 says, *"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?"* He desires to be worshipped. A system pushing the thought that there is no God would mean that even Satan himself would not be worshipped and he could not have that. Why did he use USSR? To get people so fired up about religion that they would be willing to accept just about

anything. In other words, Satan has prepared the world for the seventh head, which constructs the image to the beast.

How is the seventh head identified? Revelation 17:10 tells us, *"And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, [and] the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space."* Since John was in vision in a period of time around the end of the 1700's, the system that would come after 1991 is definitely *"not yet come"* from his perspective. Who is it? That is our next lesson.

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***What Is the Most Important Issue?***

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John 8:31-32 tells us, *"Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, [then] are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."*

May God bless you and warm your heart with His Word.