

Handout 1: Revelation Lesson 16

LIST OF ROMAN EMPERORS (First Century AD)

The Roman Historian Tacitus in *The Annals*, begins his list of Roman emperors with Augustus Caesar (Octavian), but the Roman historian Suetonius begins his list in *Lives of the Twelve Caesars* with Julius Caesar as the first of the Roman Emperors as does Dio Cassius in *Roman History* and Josephus in *Antiquities of the Jews*. There were, therefore, two official lists in use in the first century AD.

Suetonius' List	Tacitus' List
1. Julius Caesar died 44 BC	
2. Augustus Caesar died AD 14	1. Augustus Caesar
3. Tiberius died AD 37	2. Tiberius
4. Caligula died AD 41	3. Caligula
5. Claudius died AD 54	4. Claudius
6. Nero died AD 68	5. Nero
7. Galba died AD 69	6. Galba
8. Otho died AD 69	7. Otho
9. Vitellius died AD 69	8. Vitellius
10. Vespasian died AD 79	9. Vespasian
11. Titus died AD 81	10. Titus
12. Domitian died AD 96	11. Domitian

THE TEN IMPERIAL PROVINCES (First Century AD)

- Italy
- Achaia
- Asia
- Syria/Judea
- Egypt
- Africa
- Spain
- Gaul
- Britain
- Germany

LIST OF THE HERODIAN RULERS

1. Herod the Great died 1 BC	5. Herod of Chalcis died AD 48
2. Archelaus deposed AD 6	6. Herod Agrippa I died AD 44
3. Herod Antipas exiled AD 37	7. Herod Agrippa II died AD 100
4. Philip Herod died AD 34/37	

Handout 2: Revelation Lesson 16

The NJB scholars reversed the horns and heads in 13:1 to match the description of the Dragon in 12:3. However, in doing so, they have theologically disrupted the message that the Beast is not the Dragon/Satan of 12:3, he is in the image of the Dragon. This difference will be significant in Revelation Chapter 17.

- *Then a second sign appeared in the sky: there was a huge red dragon with seven heads and ten horns, and each of the seven heads crowned with a coronet (Rev 12:3, NJB).*
- *Then I saw a beast emerge from the sea: it had seven heads and ten horns, with a coronet on each of its ten horns, and its heads were marked with blasphemous titles. I saw that the beast was like a leopard, with paws like a bear and a mouth like a lion (Rev 13:1-2, NJB).*
- *Then I saw a beast come out of the sea with ten horns and seven heads; on its horns were ten diadems, and on its heads, blasphemous names (Rev 13:1, IBGE, vol IV & NAB).*

In Daniel Chapter 2, Daniel had a vision of four successive kingdoms followed by a fifth kingdom that was everlasting:

Daniel's Interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's Dream	Historical Fulfillment of Daniel's Prophecy
1. head of fine gold	Babylonian Empire
2. chest and arms of silver	Medo-Persian Empire
3. belly and thighs of bronze	The Greek Empire – Alexander the Great
4. legs of iron with feet of iron and clay	Roman Empire (legs) and Province of Judea (feet)
5. the stone that struck and destroyed the statue became an everlasting 5 th Kingdom	Jesus is the stone, and the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth, the Catholic Church, is the 5 th Kingdom

The world kingdoms (beasts under the influence of Satan) that persecute God's holy people in Daniel Chapter 7. Revelation 13:2 repeats these same beast images.

Lion	Babylonian Empire (612 BC-539 BC)
Bear	Medo-Persian Empire (539 BC-330 BC)
Leopard	Alexander the Great: Greek Empire divided into four Kingdoms (four wings and four heads) in 323 BC
Beast with ten horns	Roman Empire (same beast as Rev Chapter 13) conquered the Greek Seleucids in 190 BC. Rome took Judah as a Roman province in 63 BC and renamed it Judea, making it one of ten Roman Provinces.

The Dragon/Satan is the antithesis of God, but the sea and land beasts are the antitheses of the Lamb and the authority of the Church. The Satanic Parody of the Dragon and his beasts:

God the Father	Dragon
The Son (image of the Father)	Beast (image of the Dragon)
Angels/Bishops (given authority by the Son)	False Prophet/land beast (authority by the Sea Beast)
Church (image of the Son)	Synagogue of Satan (image of the Beast)

Parallels Between Daniel's Visions in Chapter 7 and St. John's Visions in Revelation:

The Vision	Book of Daniel	Book of Revelation
Three-and-a-half-time period (a time, two times and ½ a time)	Chapter 12:7	Chapter 11:9, 11
The lion, the bear, and the leopard	Chapter 7:4-6	Chapter 13:2
The ten horns	Chapter 7:8	Chapters 12:3, 13:1; 17:3, 8
The beast mouthing boasting and blasphemies	Chapter 7:8, 11	Chapter 13:5
The Son of Man coming on the Glory-Cloud	Chapter 7:13	Chapter 1:7 & 14:14
The war against the Saints	Chapter 7:21	Chapter 13:7
The worship of the beast's statue	Chapter 3:5-7, 15	Chapter 13:15
The Son of Man coming on the Glory-Cloud	Chapter 7:13	Chapter 1:7 & 14:14

Satanic Parody of the Dragon/Satan and his beasts:

God the Father	Dragon
The Son (image of the Father)	Beast (image of the Dragon)
Angels/Bishops (given authority by the Son)	False Prophet beast (authority by the first beast)
Church (image of the Son)	Synagogue of Satan (image of the beast)

Chapter 13 has several comparisons between the Dragon's land beast and sea beast/false prophet and Jesus' two faithful witnesses/prophets in Revelation Chapter 11. This contrast animates the idea of conflict between good and evil, and between God and Satan.

The Lamb's Two Prophets: Chapter 11	The Dragon's Two Beasts: Chapter 13
They witness for 1,260 days (11:3)	Land beast is active for 42 months (13:5)
The two witnesses serve God (11:4)	The two beasts serve Satan/Dragon (13:2 & 13:12)
The witnesses are two prophets who warn people to be faithful to the true God (11:3)	The land beast is the false prophet (14:13; 19:10; 20:10); he leads people to worship false gods, the Dragon, and the land beast (13:4; 13:14-15)
They perform miracles/signs (11:6)	The land beast performs great wonders/signs (13:13-14)
They stand before the Lord of the earth in attendance on Him (11:4)	The land beast exercises the full authority of the first beast (13:4)
The witnesses are the two lampstands and the two olive trees (11:4)	The land beast has two horns like a lamb and receives power and authority from the beast in the image of the Dragon (13:11-13)
They have special power to call down fire (11:5)	The false prophet/land beast makes fire come down from heaven (13:13); he
They are revived with the "breath of life from God" (11:11)	animates the statue with the "breath of life," mimicking the power of God the creator (13:15)

When God resurrects the witnesses, humanity is convinced of God's supreme power (11:11)	The land beast kills all who do not worship the image (13:15) because the first beast has recovered from his fatal wound (13:3, 12, 14); his miracles lead people astray, and he compels everyone to worship the statue of the sea beast (13:15-17)
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Examples of the Gematria for Neron Caesar, Nero Caesar, and Jesus

Hebrew	Hebrew	Greek
Nrwn Qsr - Neron Caesar	Nrw Qsr - Nero Caesar	Iesous - Jesus
Q=100	Q=100	I= 10
S= 60	S= 60	E= 8
R= 200	R= 200	S= 200
N= 50	N= 50	O= 70
R= 200	R= 200	U= 400
W= 6	W= 6	S= 200
N= 50		
666	616	888*

8 is the number signifying salvation; Jesus' gematria is a trinity of 8s.

The Gematria of Roman Numerals

(The symbol for 1,000 was two Ds = 500 back to back; the archaic Latin alphabet lacked an "M" symbol: A B C D E F I J K L M N O P Q R S T V Y X)

I	1
V	5
X	10
L	50
C	100
D	<u>500</u>
	666

666 is a trinity of 6s never to be a 7. 6 is the number of mankind, especially as humanity in rebellion against God. Goliath was 6 cubits and a span (see 1 Sam 17:4). King Nebuchadnezzar erected a statue of himself for worship. It was 60 cubits high and 6 cubits across (Dan 3:1)

666 is the number of the beast. Then too, Caesar claimed to be God. The word god in Greek is *theos*. Kaiser Theos (Caesar god) is 616, also the alternate number in some manuscripts:

K	20
A	1
I	10
S	200
A	1
R	100
T	9
E	5
O	70
S	200
Total	616