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No.210

FOUR BEASTS OUT OF THE SEA

THE SAKE OF THE ELECT

The closing of the age of the Adam creation man has arrived. Beastly natures, are rising out of the sea of humanity. We will look into these, but first we must note that at the same time, the Lamb Company or God's elect, are rising in the Spirit and taking their place on Mount Zion, the place of God's government in Christ.

For this reason, the words that we hear from the Spirit, are words of support and encouragement for those who are closing in on the end of the journey. Paul noted that he endured hardship and persecution for their sake. He was not looking to add more Christians to the roll, he was travailing for the elect to obtain their calling. *"Therefore I endure all things FOR THE ELECT'S SAKES, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory."* (II Tim. 2:10)

When the Lord Jesus prayed to His Father, He clearly spoke of those who had been given to Him; God's elect. Jesus atoned for the sins of the world but He did not reveal Himself to the world. *"I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word... I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine."* (Jn 17: 6, 9)

These were chosen from the foundation of the world. They were predestinated and elect for a certain purpose. Most Christians would never pray such a prayer, but our Lord did not hesitate to

declare that His prayer was only for certain ones. He knew those that the Father had given Him and His earnest desire was for them to take their place. Paul wrote, *"For AS MANY as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."* (Rom.8: 14) This shows that only some are led by the Spirit. They are the ones who need to be strengthened today. They are:

THE LAMB COMPANY

"And I looked, and lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred and forty-four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads." (Rev.14: 1)

If anyone had in mind that the "elect" are better than anyone else, they are greatly mistaken. The elect are called to lay their lives down for the brethren. They are seen upon the Mount of Zion with the Lamb. They have their Father's name written in their foreheads which means that the thoughts of God the Father have been engraved in their minds. They have the mind of Christ.

The mind of Christ is the mind of the Father who loves the world and is longsuffering toward all. *"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."* (II Pet.3: 9)

Peter makes it clear that in order to not perish, one must come to repentance. The Lord has devised many ways to bring men to repentance. The elect company are a great part of that plan. We must not

be so narrow-minded as to believe that the elect are only called to be judges and rule and reign as lords over the rest of humanity. The elect have the mind of the Father who loves the world and has planned to turn man's heart toward Him. This is the purpose of the "thousand year rule and reign with Christ."

"And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father. And I will give him the morning star. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches." (Rev.2: 26-29)

This company of overcomers is the Lamb company who will be given the power to break down the old Adam nature and bring men to repentance. They will not bend nor bow to the whims of the flesh but they will be as the potter who breaks the vessels to shivers and rebuilds a new one.

And they will receive the "morning star." The morning star is the first bright light that rises in the very dark sky. This is what Peter describes, *"We have a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the DAY STAR ARISE in your hearts."* (II Pet.1: 19)

The Day Star is also called the Morning Star. Jesus referred to Himself as, *" the root of David, and the bright and morning star."* (Rev.22: 16b) So when He told the church that He would give them the morning star, He was speaking about Himself.

Peter explains that until the DAY STAR appears in our hearts, we have the Bible and the Word of prophecy to guide us. But when Christ is formed in us, the DAY STAR appears and gives us a much brighter light than the Scriptures or the word of the prophets ever did. The Day Star arises in the very early morning hours, before any other light. And so, He is arising even now to give us the Light of His Living Word and prepare us for the great Day that is about to dawn. As we see the Light, we understand the works that the Lord has been doing within each

and all of His elects. We begin to know God's ways and His purposes for us and for His creation.

The false doctrines that we have once believed and the religious works of righteousness that we once felt compelled to do are now falling off of us like a worn out garment. The Lamb company is *"...not defiled with women; for they are virgins."* (Rev.14: 4a) This means that they do not give homage to the works of men. Women are congregations who gather in the name of the Lord but do their own works. The old prophet spoke of such, *"And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, 'We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach.'" (Isa.4: 1)*

Those who stand with the Lamb are not part of any of these groups. They are not part of the one called the "The Mother of Harlots." They no longer bow to the religious systems that men have established in the name of the Lord. They are the ones who have been prepared to appear with the Lamb and to restore God's dominion in the earth.

PERILOUS TIMES

Because the Light that is appearing is so bright, the earth is plunged in gross darkness. *"Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee."* (Isa.60: 1-2)

While gross darkness is upon the people of the earth, the redeemed of the Lord shine with His light. This is the time when His elect company will rule and reign with Him in the earth. This is the time of great redemption for the people of the world. We stand at the threshold of these great events.

As we look all around us today, we see the perilous times that Paul was announcing to Timothy. *"This know also that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural af-*

fection, trucebrakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God. Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.” (II Tim.3: 1-5)

Paul does not mince words. He makes it clear that we live among those have a form of godliness and try to look pious and holy. This is the gross darkness that has come to the hearts and minds of humanity and it is what has created the terrible conditions that exist in the world today. Men blame God for the bad things that happen to them or in the world, but it is not God who is to blame, it is what is in the hearts of men that is destroying the world.

God has a plan to restore the world, but He does not work as men work. God goes to the heart of the matter. He is the only One who can change men's hearts. He is doing it through the Son who has been appearing in His body unto salvation.

THE FOUR WINDS AND THE BEASTS

Daniel's visions of the four beasts were to be sealed until the times of the end. We have arrived at that season of time and the Spirit is clearly revealing the meaning of these beasts to those who hear.

The Bible translators used the same word “beast” to translate a root word with two different and opposite meanings. The word “beast” may come from the Greek word “therion” meaning a “dangerous, venomous, wild animal.” It can also come from the Greek word “zoon” which describes a “living creature of God.”

When the Lord speaks through dreams and visions, He often uses the animal kingdom to make us understand the natures of spiritual forces at work in us and around us. We may be attacked by a wolf (a false shepherd) or we may be petting a cat (an independent spirit at work in us.) This is why Satan is shown as a serpent or as a roaring lion ready to devour while the Holy Spirit comes in the form of a gentle dove.

Before Daniel reveals his dream of the four great

beasts coming up out of the sea, he speaks of the four winds of heaven that were stirring up the Great Sea. The Great Sea speaks of the Mediterranean Sea. The word “Mediterranean” means “middle of the earth.” We understand that this was not a weather report, Daniel was seeing the spiritual forces that would stir up the hearts of humanity (the center of the earth) in the last days.

*“Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of heaven strove upon the great sea. And four great beasts **came up from the sea**, diverse one from another.”* (Dan.7:2-3) Indeed the heavens are now opened, and fierce strong winds are loosed, blowing at the very center of the hearts of men to reveal the beastly natures within.

These winds are strong spirit forces blowing from every corner of the earth. They are causing the sea of humanity to be agitated, tossed and stirred up to such a degree that the beastly, carnal natures which had been subdued and hid at the bottom of the sea of humanity (the human hearts) are now surfacing and ready to reveal the fierceness of the hatred of their natures in the earth.

These are uncontrollable natures in men who are in high places as well as low places. They are being revealed in men of government and power whether they be civil, political or religious. Those who had been chosen to lead and protect the people are found to have a darker side and an evil nature that the Lord is bringing to light. This also is a sign of the Lord's soon appearing.

Do not be deceived, there is not one system on earth worth saving. If one is not under the authority of Christ, he is under the power of the dragon. Whatever government was once decent and respectable has been swallowed up by the dragon. There was such a season when people had a heart to work for the benefit of others, but the beast of greed, covetousness and selfishness is now in control of their lives. Even if they want to be decent, they cannot survive in the world.

In times past we have pointed the finger at men such as Hitler and Saddam Hussein, but now even

greater abominations are being uncovered in the least likely places of the established world system. One does not need to look for one “Antichrist” man to arise; the dragon has his throne of supreme authority in all of men's governments.

These are perilous times because we are dealing with the wild and lawless “therion” natures that are permeating the hearts of men in high and low places everywhere.

What is so glorious for us today is that these natures no longer have a place to hide. The old bard, William Shakespeare wrote, *“All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players. They have their exits and their entrances; and one man in his time plays many parts...”* This is not in the Scriptures but it is an observation of how men are all actors, adept at hiding their true heart's desires behind a smiling face.

Mankind knows how to look angelic when their hearts are out to devour. Pornography, horror and violence are so popular on the screens of movie houses and televisions because they feed that inner nature of mankind. Men's hearts demand to be fed the same trash that lies way down in the depths of their darkened souls. They take pleasure in identifying with that which they would love to do but dare not.

It is a great blessing to be able to see and receive this and to yield to God's consuming fire that burns all the trash that is found hiding deep within us. When we say, *“Even so come Lord Jesus!”* we are asking Him to pass us through the fire and leave no trace of the worthless and offensive junk that years of living in the world had accumulated in us.

GREAT BEASTS OUT OF THE SEA

“I saw in the night vision, and behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven. (Dan.7: 13a) Daniel saw the coming of the Son of man with the clouds of heaven (saints). He saw the stirring of the four winds upon the Great Sea (sea of humanity) and he saw four beasts rising up out of the sea. “The first was like a lion, and had eagles wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked,

and it was lifted up from the earth, and made to stand upon the feet as a man's heart was given to it.” (Dan.7: 4)

Daniel saw that these beasts are revealed just before the Son of man appears with the saints. The beasts represent the natures of the world's rulers that were already in the times of Daniel, and have continued to be multiplied in the kingdoms or nations of the world ever since; the last one being more terrifying than the rest.

The first beast as a lion brings us back to the dream and consequent experience of king Nebuchadnezzar. He was that head of gold, the lion (supreme ruler) but was brought down to the nature of an ox (sub-servant, flesh under submission). Nebuchadnezzar ruled the most powerful kingdom in the earth at that time (Babylon). He learned that the pride of life and of the flesh can rapidly be brought down to nothing under the mighty Hand of God.

In Daniel's vision, the lion has great potential. It has the wings of an eagle, one who can soar in heavenly places. The nation that it represents is not only the greatest power in the earth, it also has great spiritual abilities for it has the wings of a great eagle. It is good to remember that this is a prophetic word which was to come to pass at the time preceding the coming of our Lord to establish His kingdom here on earth.

So the lion-eagle nation represents a power which has been born on eagle's wings, even on the Word of God. However, a great force came against those who lifted up the word and they were overcome. They were no longer able to fly high and hold up the Word among men (wings plucked off).

There is no doubt that this lion-eagle people are the British Empire which once ruled the world. It was King James I who, in support of the Anglican Church, sponsored the translation of the Bible in 1611. However, this same King persecuted the Puritan Christians who then migrated to America in 1620 and founded the Plymouth Colony. All this by the power of God and on eagle's wings. But the true

church had to flee even greater persecutions. One would think that today, God's Word has free flow in our great country, but that is not the case. God's Word has been caught up in the Spirit of His elect, but the majority of people have been lulled into following "another Jesus."

Anyone who comes to this country for the first time and looks around is amazed at the amount of churches and banks that are just about on every street corner of every city or small town. But the message that is heard from the pulpits is filled with appealing psychology and promises of wealth in exchange for money. This soothes and fills the soulish religious natures, but has no power to change the hearts and bring the people into God's kingdom.

A most significant detail of this first beast is that a "man's heart was given to it." The brave little colony at Plymouth grew into a country with HEART. One only has to come in the harbor of New York aboard a great transatlantic vessel as I have several times, and stand on deck gazing at the skyline of NYC and the famous Statue of Liberty holding high her welcoming torch, to feel the emotional impact of what this country has meant to multitudes of people. "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free..." These words come from the hearts of a people moved by God's great love.

This country has been a gift of God to the masses, but as everything that is built by man, it must crumble. Even this great nation which has been and still is God's instrument to propagate the Gospel of salvation in Jesus Christ around the world is now found wanting and suppressing the Truth. It must give way to the Kingdom of God.

The God who gave a heart to this country will never crumble and He has a greater plan for the ages, yea a greater kingdom to establish in the hearts of the people of the earth. He has allowed men to have a taste of His glory among them, but now He will give His glory only to those whose hearts have turned toward Him and who have chosen to follow after Him.

It is with the few that God gave to Jesus that He

will make men free from the bondage of death and corruption and cover the earth with His glory as the waters cover the sea.

THE BEAR

"And behold another beast, a second, like 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." (Dan.7: 5)

This brutal force has a ferocious appetite for flesh. It speaks of a power that crushes multitudes of people. It is a force that breaks the will and character of man by robbing them of their freedom and human rights. A forceful domination that has exploited millions and forced them to labor under their rigorous and unrewarding domination. The spirit of the bear found the home it needed in the rulers of Russia, Cuba, China and now North Korea among others.

North Korea is a good example of the rule by force of the bear regime in our day. Its despotic and brutal system tortures and kills anyone who opposes the views of its "Dear Leader." It is a regime that not only robs the people of their freedom but also brainwashes them and keeps them from worshiping any god other than their Dear Leader. This is a "bear" force at its deadliest, most menacing and threatening position, and it is in place just before the appearing of the Son of Man in the earth.

THE LEOPARD

Jeremiah asked the question, *"Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots?"* (Jer.13: 23a) The skin of this beast cannot be changed. Daniel describes it as being *"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."* (Vs.6)

Savage leopards are as fierce as lions or tigers. They can even be notorious man-eaters. A leopard's nature is to destroy and devour with great speed.

After the Medes and the Persians conquered the great Babylonian Empire, the Grecian Empire swept through them with the swiftness of the leopard. The

Spirit through Paul wrote, *“For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom.”* (I Cor.1: 22) He also said that *“The world by wisdom did not know God.”* (Vs.21a)

The swift Grecian leopard has the ability to fly (four wings of a fowl) therefore seems spiritual, but it is not as the eagle flying high in God's Spirit; it is a fowl flying in the realm of sophisticated, carnal wisdom. The wisdom of man is a product of the carnal mind and is at enmity against God. It can never redeem or in any way remove the spots that defile the flesh, just as the spots on the leopard can never be removed.

Paul wrote, *“But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jew a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness; but unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.”* (I Cor.1: 23-24)

The spirit of the Greek leopard, with the philosophies of men's wisdom and the love for competitive exploits, has infiltrated most Christian doctrines today. Sports and physical strength have become a god to be sought after in most circles. The Olympic games, football, baseball and the like are indeed the gods of many. Striving for physical perfection has taken precedence over seeking spiritual growth in our churches. This is all in place before the appearing of the Son of man.

DREADFUL AND TERRIBLE

“After this I was 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.

I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.” (Dan.7: 7-8) While both the KJV and the Amplified versions of the Bible translate a mouth speaking

great things, the NKJ translates “pompous words” and the International Version says, “a mouth speaking boastfully.”

Daniel describes the fourth and last beast as “Dreadful and Terrible.” The hellishness of these beasts caused Daniel to become exceedingly grieved and troubled. He writes, *“Hitherto is the end of the matter. As for me Daniel, my cogitations (meditation, thoughts) much troubled me, and my countenance changed in me: but I kept the matter in my heart.”* (Dan.7: 28)

The horns denote the power of this beast. It describes powerful nations controlling multitudes. It is obvious that the horn called “the little horn,” has not much land nor great army, but it has a mouth that cannot be ignored for it is powerful through the stately, impressive words that it speaks. It boasts great things, even as if it was God.

Daniel wants to know more. *“Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast which was diverse from all others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet; and of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows.”* (Dan. 7: 19-20)

When God shows the reality of the powers that have governed and devoured the souls of men, it is difficult to conceive. I remember when the Lord began to reveal to us, through dreams and night visions, the spiritual condition of the church we had revered and respected, it was such a shock!! Some could not believe it. And when the Lord went deeper and revealed that the reason men were attracted to these places was because the same decay and death was working in us all, it was nigh to impossible to comprehend or accept.

The reason, these powerful kingdoms and nations were able to rise up and take over the world, is because the hearts and souls of men are filled with the same decay and death. Decay and death is the result

of sin in men's hearts and souls, and until it is completely conquered within, men will remain in its bondage.

The fourth beast speaks of the Roman Empire which was in force when our Lord Jesus Christ came to earth. It was then the great super-power of the world. It numbered millions of people under its domination. The beast had ten horns which represents all the nations under that great Roman Empire. The number ten is the number of the "law." It denotes the organized systems of laws which were put in place to rule over the nations of Europe and Mediterranean Africa.

Julius Caesar was a relentless conqueror with teeth of iron. There was nothing too tough that he could not chew and devour (take into his belly.) He went through Europe and some of Africa as well as some middle Eastern nations. He took over nations who spoke various languages and worshiped different gods and united them under his military power and government.

The city of Rome grew from a farming village in Central Italy to being the capital of this huge empire. The Romans provided the basis for LAW of most nations. They built roads, aqueducts and bridges so skillfully that many are still in use today. Building based on Roman architecture still stand throughout Europe and North and South America.

The Romans advocated justice, tolerance and the desire for peace. However, Roman cruelty and greed as well as severe persecution of Christians caused untold misery. The use of torture brought hardship and death even though they pretended to be the saviors of the masses. Their hearts and actions were that of a fierce and terrible beast. This seed multiplied into the European nations.

THE LITTLE HORN AND THE MOUTH

Later, the Roman Emperor Constantine the Great converted to Christianity and made it a State requirement. He gave huge estates to the church in Rome and built the first great Christian cathedral there. He also built other famous churches. This was

the birth of that little horn speaking great pompous words. This little horn ruled kings and peoples in the name of the Lord; it was called the Papacy.

From the loins of the Roman Catholic Church came forth the Protestant daughters or those who protested against the rules of the Papacy. Martin Luther was a monk and a faithful son of the Catholic Church. He received a doctor's degree in theology from the University of Wattenberg Germany.

Luther became a leader in the reformation when he found, by his own experience in the monastery, that a person could say more prayers, fast more strictly and even whip himself more mercilessly to achieve favor with God, yet the harder one tried to please God with these methods the more they were depending on their own efforts and not on God.

Luther concluded that only when a man stops trying to achieve God's favor by his own abilities and accomplishments can he understand the grace of God. He also concluded that justification comes by faith in God's grace and not by works. Luther's doctrine was well received but as time went, the movement that he started established its own rules of worship for the people as well.

Today, millions still bow down to the great and pompous words that issue out of the mouths of their religious leaders. For centuries, God's true saints have been persecuted by those who try to impose the words of their "little horn" upon them. They are trained to be submissive unto it as if it was the voice of God.

If we examine ourselves and follow the work that our Lord has been doing in our own hearts, we can see clearly that we also had been duped by the "little horn" and that only as He walked us through the fire did we come out of the belly of that beast.

THE END OF MYSTERY BABYLON

On Patmos one of the seven angels came to John. *"So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit on a scarlet*

coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.” (Rev.17: 3) John was about to see the judgment of “*Mystery Babylon The Great, The Mother of Harlots and Abominations of the earth.*” (Vs.5).

John also heard “*Another voice from heaven saying 'Come out of her my people.'*” The destruction of the religious system, established in the name of the Lord, was at hand. The “Other voice” is the Holy Spirit warning His people to come out and escape her plagues. (Rev.18:4)

Then he reveals how it will take place. The “ten horns” which at the time had not yet received a kingdom, will receive authority or one hour with the beast. “*These (ten horns) 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.*”(Vs.14)

Then comes this startling declaration of how God is going to judge that harlot church system: “*And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire. For God hath put in their hearts to fulfill his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom to the beast, until the word of God shall be fulfilled. And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.*” (Vs.16-18)

The ten horns are the nations of the world. They represent the “global” government that is now forming in the world. They began with the European nations but now the world is being united through commerce and the Internet. It is also being united against Christendom and the Church that is visible in the world.

The great whore system began with the Roman Catholic Church but has not stopped there. It has been very fertile and has many branches under various names everywhere. It is the system that names God and His son Jesus Christ as their God but is indeed far from Him. It includes those who prophesied and did many good works in His name but

were rejected by Him.

The Harlot system will be persecuted and destroyed by the world's global government. This is already in progress. The “Ten Horns,” that is the global power of the nations will strike and overcome the Great Harlot who has done her abominations in the name of Christ. God has put it in their hearts to do this.

But God's true church is hid in Him. The old prophet saw that day, “*Come my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee; hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast.*” (Isa.26: 20)

The terrible “little horn” has ruled the hearts of kings (rulers) and multitudes with “pompous” words, but “*...her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities.*” (Rev.18: 5)

This all comes to pass before the Lord of lords and King of kings appears with the armies of heaven. This is when the “*Supper of the great God*” takes place and the “*birds*” or “*fowls*” of heaven come and eat the flesh of kings and of captains and of mighty men and the flesh of horses and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great.” (Rev.19: 18)

Beloved this is the victory of the ages. It is the time when all of Adam's creation is totally consumed. It is also the time when only the Christ creation remains. This is the time of the end of “death and the grave!” We are actually living to see this happening.

There are so many beautiful verses to read in the last few chapters of the book of Revelation. I cannot go over all of them here, but I pray that the Spirit of the Lord will quicken the Word that you need to continue on the path and rejoice in the plan of our God for His creatures.

Because of His love, *Jackie Caporaso*