

## C. Role of the Beast

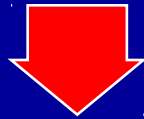


Bamberg Apocalypse

# Background for Rev. 13:1-10

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Beast of  
Rev. 13:1-10



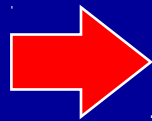
OT text



# Daniel 7 and Rev. 13:1-10

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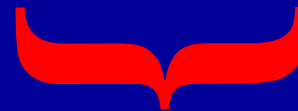
## Daniel 7



## Revelation 13

- ① lion
- ② bear
- ③ leopard
- ④ iron teeth & ten horns

- ◆ lion's mouth
- ◆ bear's feet
- ◆ leopard
- ◆ 10 horns

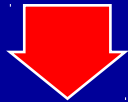


**Composite horror**

# Beast as Demonized State

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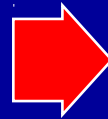
Beast (Rev. 13:1-8)



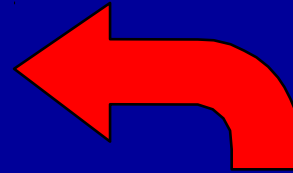
4 beasts (Dan. 7)



4 idol kingdoms  
(Dan. 2)



Last of the 4  
is Rome

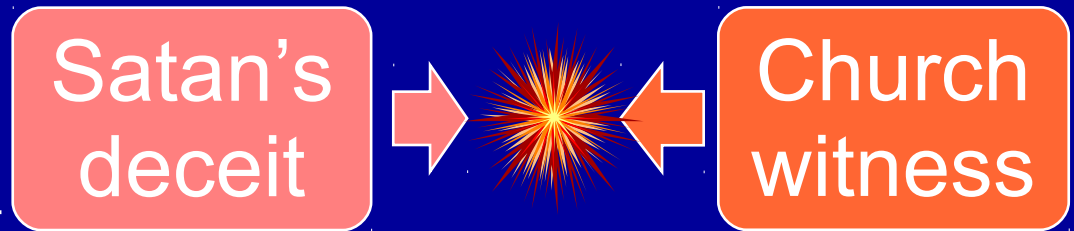


Roman Emperor  
demands worship

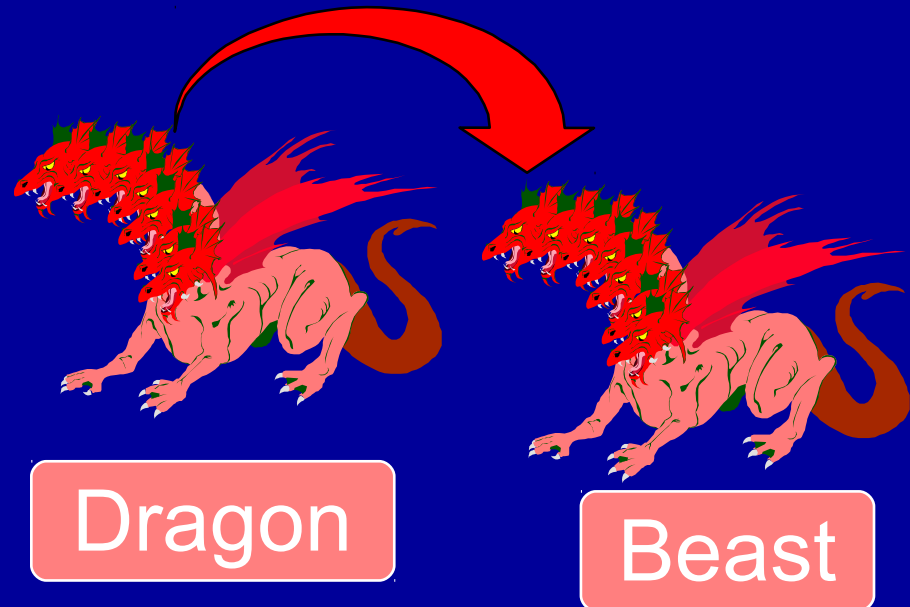


# Satan's Counterfeit "Son"

- ◆ Rev. 12:13-17:  
Satan cannot defeat the church by deceit alone.



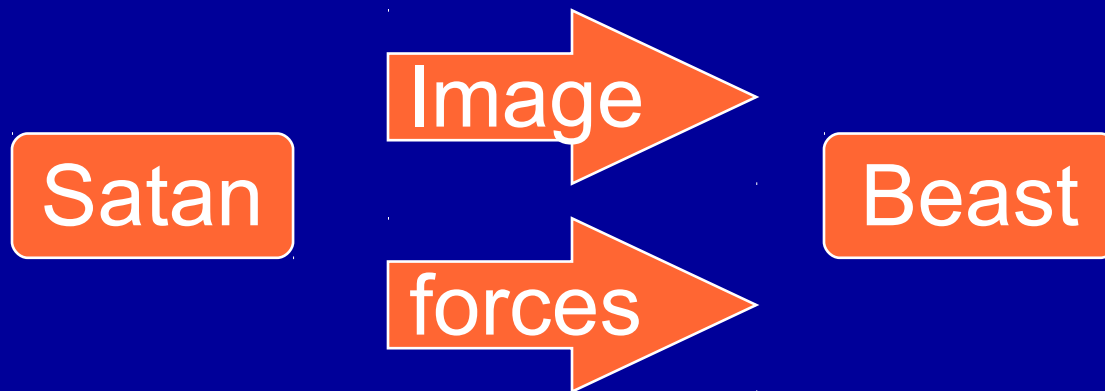
- ◆ Rev. 13:1,2,4:  
he creates a monster in his image.



# Repeated Manifestations

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- ◆ Satan has repeated defeats (pattern or war)
- ◆ The Beast can have
  - repeated manifestations
  - and repeated defeats.



Like father,  
like son.

# Understanding Our Time

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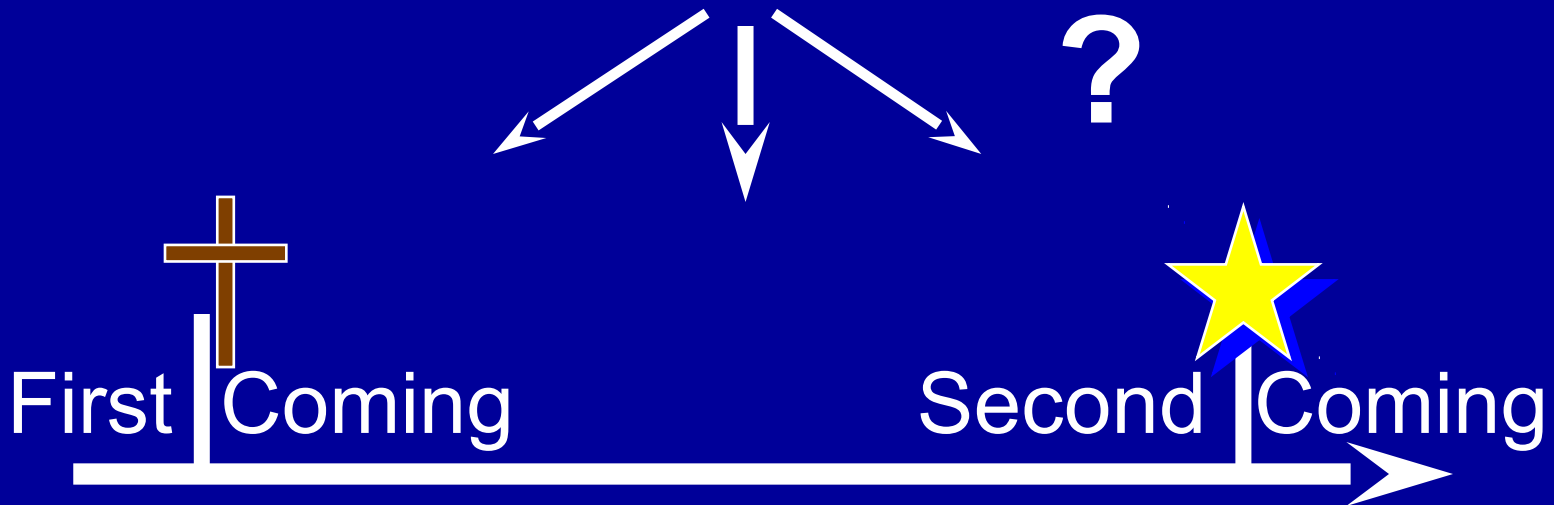
- ◆ What is our era of redemptive history?
- ◆ When does it begin?
- ◆ When does it end?



# Time of Fulfillment

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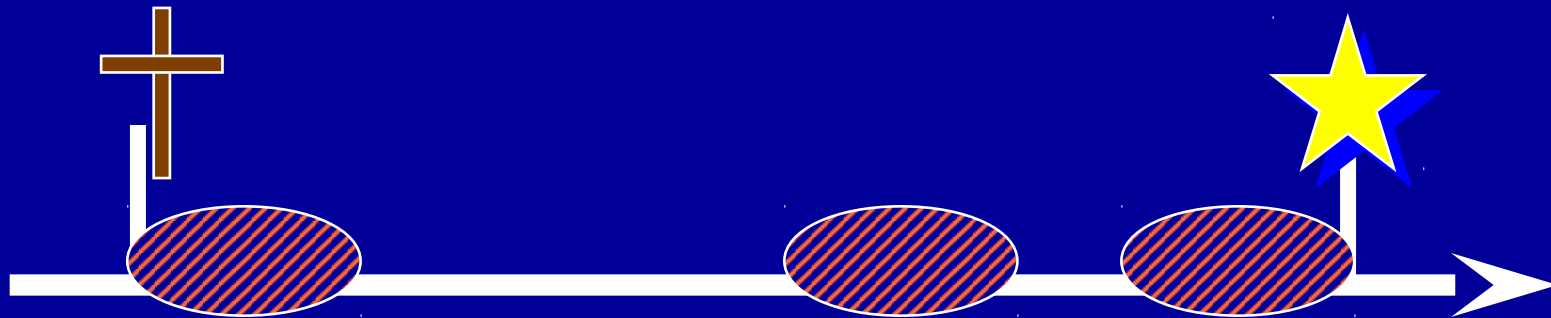
When is the primary fulfillment?





# Foci of Fulfillment

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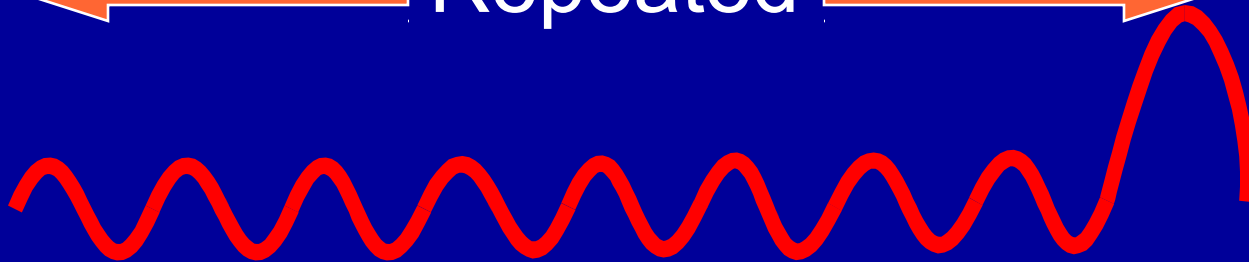


John,  
7 churches

Us

Final  
crisis

← Repeated →



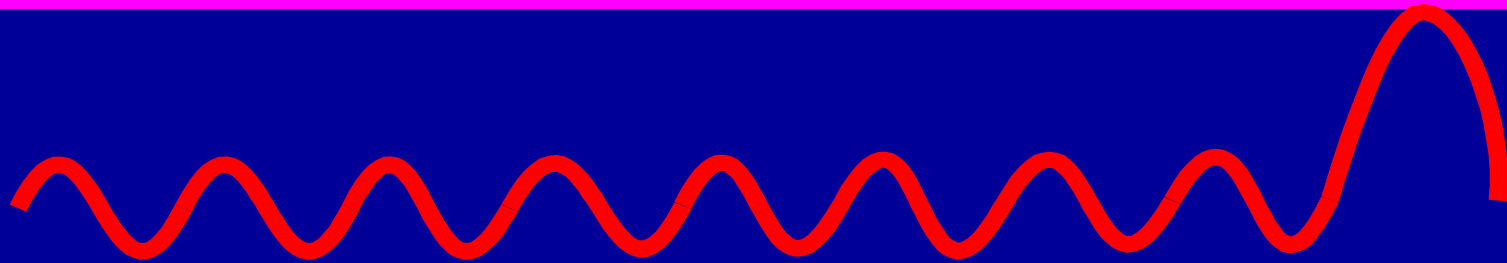
# Fourfold Work of Beast

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- ◆ Roman persecution ◆ Suetonius, *Domitian* 12.2.
- ◆ Final persecution ◆ 2 Thess. 2:6-8
- ◆ Persecution NOW, ◆ Totalitarian aspirations  
2 Tim 3:1,12
- ◆ Repeated persecution ◆ Dan. 7 spans this age; 2  
Tim. 3:1, 12

# Repeated Wickedness

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already

- ◆ 2 Thess. 2:7
- ◆ restrained mystery
- ◆ “mystery of lawlessness”

yet to come

- ◆ 2 Thess. 2:8
- ◆ unrestrained, revealed
- ◆ “man of lawlessness”

# Analogous Climaxes

already

yet to come

**2 Thess.  
2:7-8**

**mystery (7)**

**man of  
lawlessness (8)**

**Rev.  
17:1-18**

**Beast that was  
(8)**

**eighth king  
(11)**

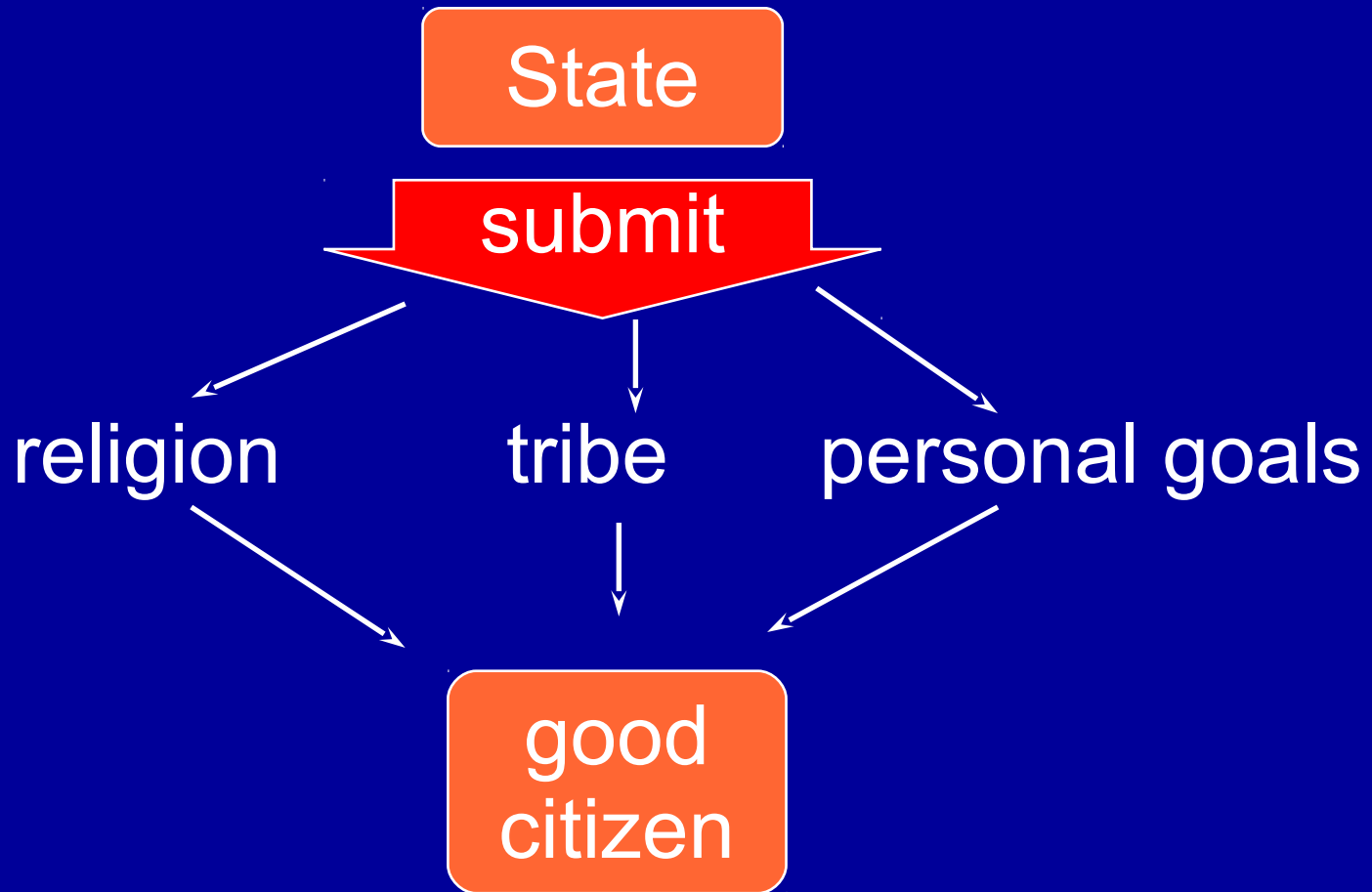
**1 John 2:18**

**many  
antichrists**

**supreme  
Antichrist**

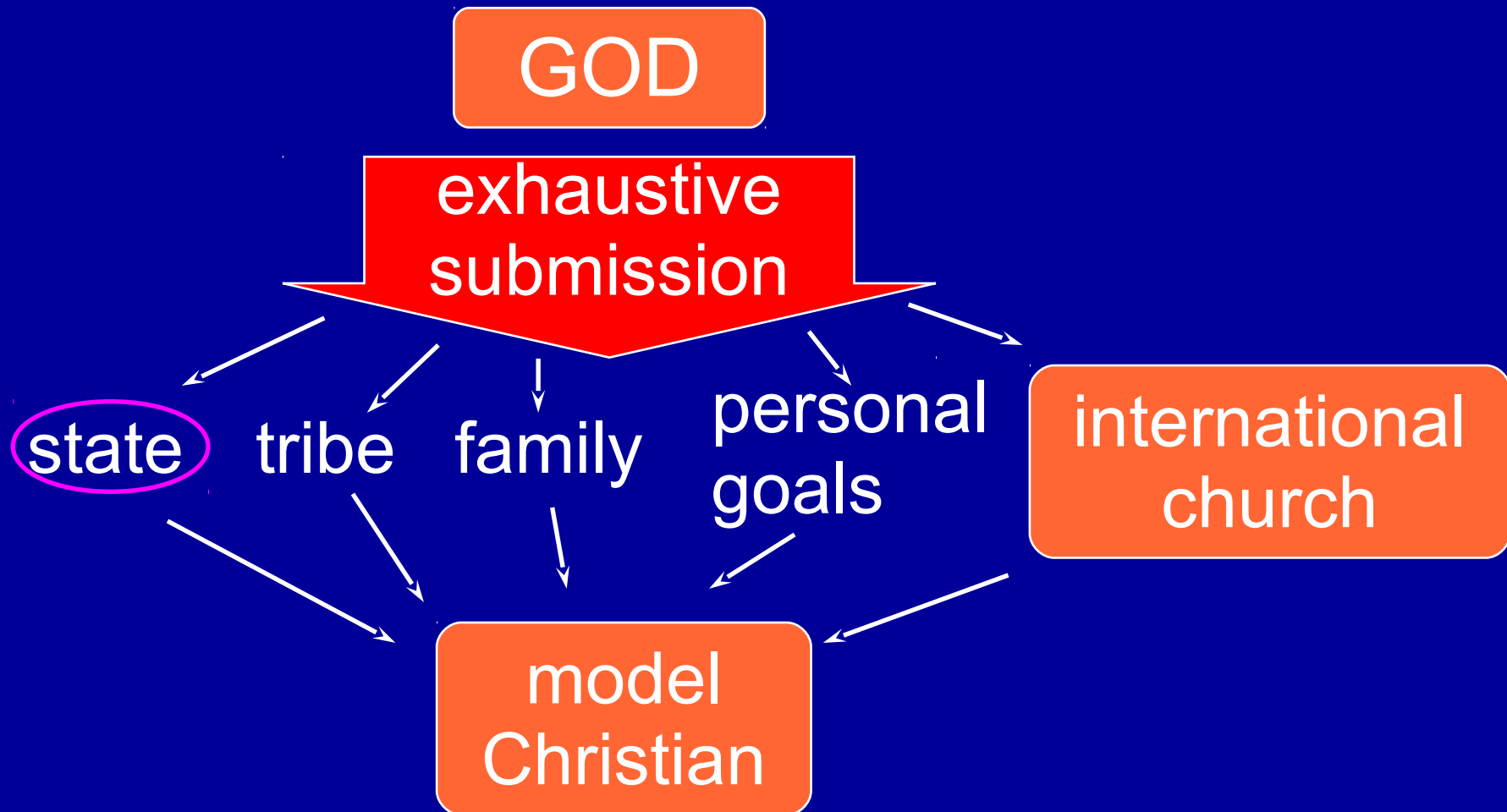
# Modern Totalitarian Dream

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# Christian Loyalties

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## D. The False Prophet

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# Two Monsters

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Rev. 13:1-10

A beast  
from the sea

Called  
“The Beast”

Rev. 13:11-18

A beast  
from the earth

Called  
“The False Prophet”

Note Rev. 16:13; 19:20; 20:10.



# The False Prophet

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- ◆ **False Prophet assists the Beast.**
- ◆ **He promotes worship of the Beast, 13:12-15.**
- ◆ **He counterfeits the Holy Spirit.**

# False Prophet as Counterfeit

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## Holy Spirit

- ◆ Promotes worship of Christ
- ◆ Leads into truth
- ◆ Works miracles
- ◆ Exercises authority of Christ

## False Prophet

- ◆ Promotes worship of the Beast
- ◆ Deceives
- ◆ Counterfeit miracles
- ◆ Exercises authority of the Beast

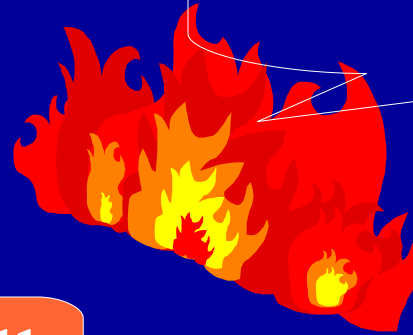
# E. The Prostitute



West Flemish Apocalypse

# Two Opponents

Who will defeat God's people for me?



I will



I will



# Strategy of Opposition

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How?



Persecution!



Seduction with  
money and sex!



# Response to Opposition

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## Calling of the church:

Light-bearing  
Witness

Endurance  
(13:10)

Virgin  
purity

Separation  
(18:4)

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## Opposition:

Persecuting power  
of the Beast

Seductive luxury  
of the Prostitute

# Prostitute Depends on Beast

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- ◆ Prostitute sits on the Beast (Rev 17).
- ◆ Beast and Prostitute go together.

- ◆  Fourfold manifestations of the Beast lead to fourfold manifestations of the Prostitute

# Beast and Prostitute

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Beast



Prostitute

- ◆ Roman persecution
- ◆ Final persecution
- ◆ Persecution NOW
- ◆ Repeated persecution

- ◆ Roman seduction
- ◆ Final seduction
- ◆ Seduction NOW
- ◆ Repeated seduction



# Fourfold Work of Prostitute

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- ◆ Roman seduction
- ◆ Final seduction
- ◆ Seduction NOW
- ◆ Repeated seduction
- ◆ Jezebel (2:20-23)
- ◆ 2 Thess. 2:10-11
- ◆ Compromise with worldliness:
  - money
  - sex
- ◆ Dan. 7 spans this age

# F. Levels of Application

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# Idols Worldwide

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Beast

- ◆ **Totalitarian Power**
  - **Communism**

Prostitute

- ◆ **Immoral Pleasure**
  - **Corrupt business**
  - **Corrupt sexuality**

False  
Prophet

- ◆ **Propaganda**

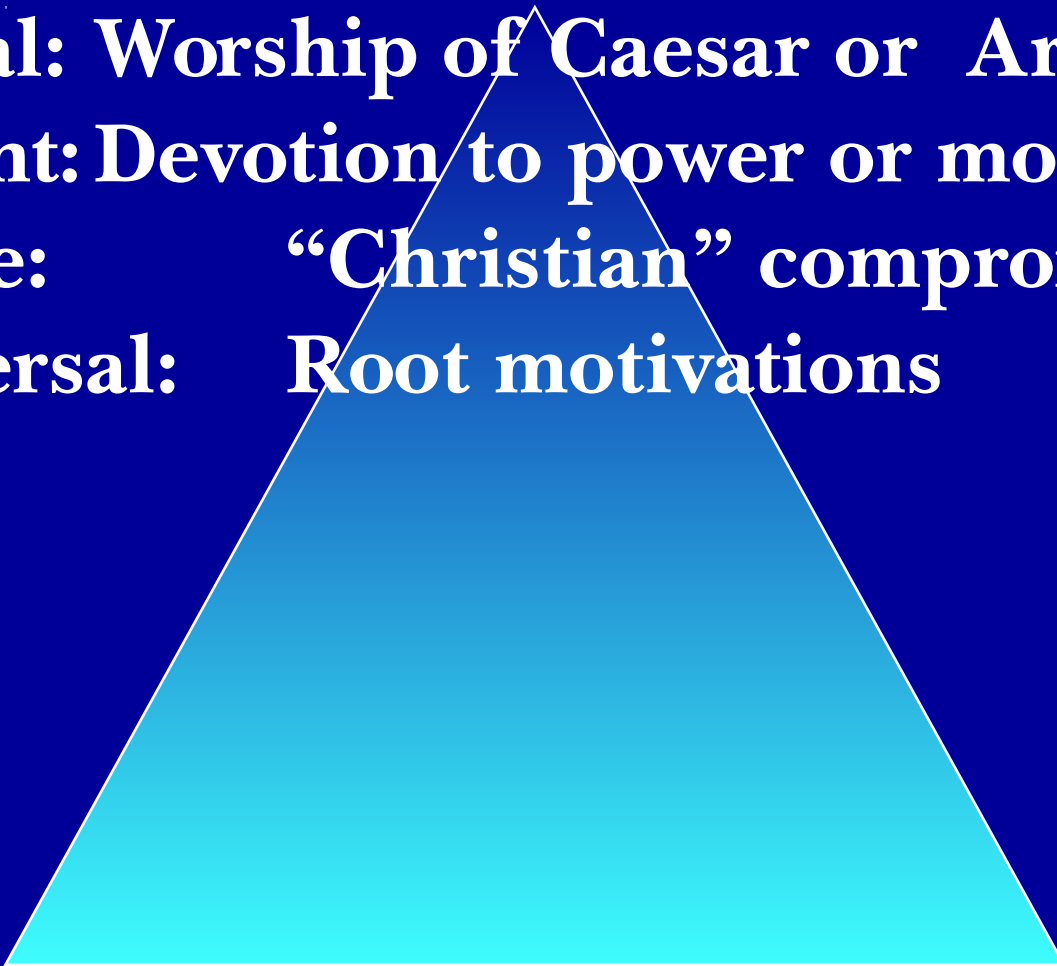
# Revealing Contrasts

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- ◆ **God vs. Satan:**  
**Transcendence**
- ◆ **Christ vs. Beast:**  
**Power**
- ◆ **Bride vs. Harlot:**  
**Worship**
- ◆ **False religion**
- ◆ **Human autonomy**
- ◆ **Liberation**
- ◆ **Salvation through technique and state**
- ◆ **Integrate native religions**
- ◆ **Money, pleasure**

# Forms of Idolatry

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- ◆ **Literal: Worship of Caesar or Artemis**
  - ◆ **Blatant: Devotion to power or money**
  - ◆ **Subtle: “Christian” compromises**
  - ◆ **Universal: Root motivations**
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# Idols in USA

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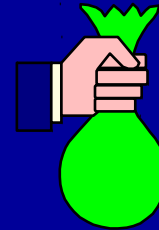
Beast

- ◆ **Power**
  - State



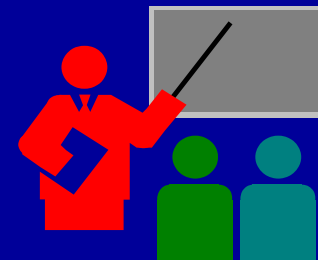
Prostitute

- ◆ **Pleasure**
  - Leisure



False  
Prophet

- ◆ **Propaganda**
  - Education
  - Media



# Cooperative Evil (17:3,7)

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Power for maintenance

Beast

= statist  
idol

Prostitute

= pleasure  
idol

Justification,  
motivation

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False Prophet

rationalizes (13:12-17)

# Blatant and Subtle Idolatry

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Beast

- ◆ **Statism**
- ◆ **Manipulation**
  - Pressuring
  - Pleasing man

Prostitute

- ◆ **Money, sex**
- ◆ **Fantasizing**
  - Being rich
  - Sexual flirtation



It's tempting.



# Money as Subtle Idol

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- ◆ After a tithe, greed. It's MINE.
- ◆ Or monk's poverty.
- ◆ Or self-righteous simple life-style.
- ◆ Or Marxism (let experts do it for me).

# Sex as Subtle Idol



- ◆ **Promiscuity: “if it feels good, do it.”**
- ◆ **Selfishness within legal boundaries**
- ◆ **Monk’s celibacy**
- ◆ **Prudery: despising the body**
- ◆ **Feminism (let experts do it for me).**

# Universal Idolatry

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## Beast

- ◆ Fear
- ◆ Passive, retreating
- ◆ Avoid pain
- ◆ At any cost
- ◆ For ME

## Prostitute

Lustful desire  
Active, advancing  
Get pleasure  
At any cost  
For ME

# Solution for Idolatry

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- ◆ Worship Satan
- ◆ Deceptive redemptions
- ◆ Fear false power
- ◆ Lust for money
- ◆ Lust for sex

- ◆ Worship God (4)
- ◆ True redemption in the Lamb (5)
- ◆ God's Throne (22:1; 4:2)
- ◆ God's Wealth (21:21; 4:3)
- ◆ God's Marriage (19:7; 21:9)

False

replaced by

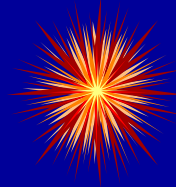
True

# Destruction of Idols

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- ◆ God judges idols, 15:1.

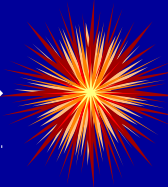
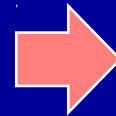
God



Beast

- ◆ Idols destroy idolaters, 17:16-17.

Beast



Prostitute

Hallelujah!



# Examples of Self-Destruction

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- ◆ Statism consumes wealth (communism).
- ◆ Self-pity needs suffering.
- ◆ Self-righteousness is self-willed.
- ◆ Self-love repels would-be lovers.
- ◆ God will purify you to the utmost.

# G. Truth and Error

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# Counterfeit Ideas

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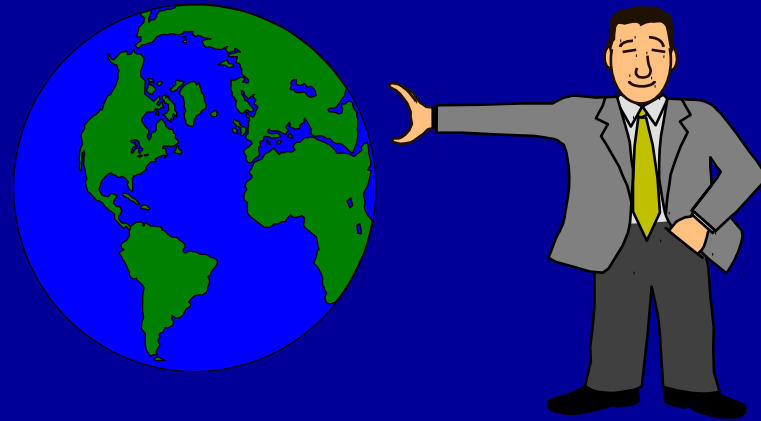
- ◆ **False ideas are counterfeits**
- ◆ **Institutionalized**
- ◆ **Containing enough truth to be plausible**
- ◆ **Containing spiritual poison**
- ◆ **Originating in Satanic deceit**
- ◆ **Useful for Christians?**



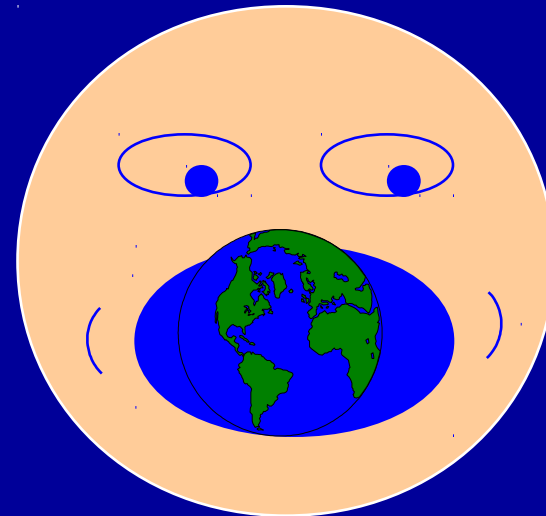
# Bad Reactions to Counterfeits

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◆ Pure rejection



◆ Pure acceptance



# Using Counterfeit Ideas

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- ◆ **Extract the truth**
- ◆ **Set in a Christian context**
- ◆ **But will we fall prey to deceit?**
- ◆ **The importance of spiritual discernment in scholarship and cultural analysis**
- ◆ **Revelation as promoting discernment**
- ◆ **Ultimate failure of the deceit**