The Counterfeit Trinity: Combating Spiritual Corruption Monsters

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A. Counterfeiting
Satan’s Assistant: Rev. 13:1

- Dragon
- 7 heads
- 10 horns
- Crowns on heads
- Pattern

(12:3)

- Beast
- 7 heads
- 10 horns
- Crowns on horns
- Reflected image

(13:1)
### Imaging

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>God the Father</th>
<th>Christ the Son (Col. 1:15)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>God</td>
<td>Adam</td>
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<td>Dragon Pattern</td>
<td>Reflected Image</td>
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**Counterfeiting**

- Dragon
- Beast (Rev. 13:1)
## Counterfeit Trinity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Father</td>
<td>originates</td>
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<td>executes</td>
<td>Beast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spirit</td>
<td>witnesses</td>
<td>False Prophet</td>
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# The Beast Counterfeits Christ

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Christ Feature</th>
<th>Beast Feature</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19:12 Diadems</td>
<td>13:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19:11,12,16 Name</td>
<td>13:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:5,10 Power</td>
<td>13:2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:18 Resurrection</td>
<td>13:3,12</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:6 Worship</td>
<td>13:4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exo. 15:3,11-12 Praise</td>
<td>13:4</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:1; 7:3 Seal</td>
<td>13:16</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:9 Nations’ allegiance</td>
<td>13:7-8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Eschatological War

Christ  <->  Beast

Representative Heads

- Two representatives, 1 Cor. 15:45-49.

Adam  
Descendants

Christ  
Christians
Nature of the Beast

- Beast as Third Man from Abyss.
- A head representing a whole kingdom.
- His worshippers bear his mark, 13:16; 14:9.
Failure of the Beast

- Symbolically speaking, he is a beast.
- Destined to be subdued by man.

In Genesis 1
- Adam rules animals

In Revelation 19
- Christ rules Beast
### Who Counterfeits the Bride?

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<tr>
<td>Bride</td>
<td>gather, worship</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Prostitutes</td>
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</table>
The Role of the Characters in the Course of the Battle

A. The woman-church in creation 12:1
B. The dragon (Satan) 12:3
C. The beasts 13:1-18
D. The virgin church 14:1-5
E. Babylon 17:1-18

E. Judgment of Babylon 18
D. Reward of the virgin 19:1-10
C. Judgment of beasts 19:11-21
B. Judgment of the dragon 20:1-10
A. Reward of the creation church 21:1-2
Lessons from Counterfeiting

- You are either for God or against him.
- Satan as a creature must imitate God (2 Cor. 11:14).
  - Danger in passing off the counterfeit
  - Satan is not the Creator/Originator
- Repulsiveness of the counterfeit.
- Fit punishment for followers is to be under the Beast.
- God controls Satan and all history, Job 1-2; Ps. 76:10; Rom. 8:28.
B. Satan’s Role
Satan’s Repeated Pattern

- Satan cannot create; he **must** imitate.
- Satan always follows the same pattern.
- Spiritual war shows a constant pattern.
- Satan suffers repeated defeats.
Repeated Defeat of the Dragon

- Exodus from Egypt. Isa. 51:9-10; Ps. 74:13-14?
- Restoration from Babylon. Isa. 51:9-11
- Babylon destroys Egypt. Ezek. 29:3-6; 32:2-5
- Time of fulfillment. Isa. 27:1
- First coming of Christ. John 12:31; Luke 10:18; Rev. 12:9; Rev. 20:2?
- Second coming of Christ. Rev. 20:2? Rev. 20:10
Less Obvious Defeats

- Creation. Job 26:12 (and repeatedly); Ps. 104:7/ Ps. 106:9
- Providential rule of the sea. Job 26:12; Ps. 89:10
- Noah’s flood. Ps. 74:13-14? 106:10-11 (similar to flood)
- Crossing the Jordan by Joshua, Elijah, and Elisha. Josh. 3; 2 Kings 2:8,14
Application of Satan’s Defeat to Us

- Satan has been decisively defeated Col. 2:15, Rev. 12:7-12.
- Christ’s crucifixion and resurrection accomplished it, Rev. 1:18.
- We do not fear death, Rev. 1:18.
- We can endure momentary injustices.
- Satan’s final defeat is guaranteed, Rev. 20:10.
The Dragon

- Biblical background of a sea monster
  - Leviathan לִוְיָתָן Isa. 27:1; Ps. 74:14; Ps. 104:26
  - Sea creature תַּנִּין Gen. 1:21; Isa. 27:1; 51:9
  - Rahab רַהַב Isa. 51:9; Ps. 89:11

- Extrabiblical mythology
  - Akkadian creation epic
  - Baal legends
Myths of Combatting Monsters

- Satan threatens monstrous chaos
- People sense the fear of chaos and Satan (general revelation)
- In idolatry they twist the truth
- The Bible unravels the twist
Summary of Defeats

- Spiritual war throughout history
- The dragon is repeatedly defeated
- The pattern of defeat leads up to his final destruction.
Pattern of Combat (Exodus 15)

- Threat to order 15:9
- Appearance of the divine warrior 15:3, 6, 12
- Combat 15:7
- Victory 15:7, 4
Fruits of Combat (Exodus 15)

- (Consignment of foes to the abyss 15:4-5)
- Salvation for adherents of the warrior 15:13
- Praise 15:1-2
- Manifestation of kingship 15:14-16
- House building 15:17
- Fertility of the restored order 15:17
Combat in Revelation

- Motifs of combat pervade Revelation
- They instruct us in persecution and temptation
- See the true situation and persevere, 12:11
- Victory is by endurance in death
- Not direct military resistance, 12:10