

ZOOM MEETING - AUGUST 10

“The Lord has shown me clearly that **the image of the beast will be formed before probation closes**; for it is to be **the great test for the people of God, by which their eternal destiny will be decided**. Your position is such a jumble of inconsistencies that but few will be deceived.

“In Revelation 13 this subject is plainly presented; [Revelation 13:11–17, quoted].

“This is **the test that the people of God must have before they are sealed**. All who proved their loyalty to God by observing His law, and refusing to accept a spurious sabbath, will rank under the banner of the Lord God Jehovah, and will receive the seal of the living God. Those who yield the truth of heavenly origin and accept the Sunday sabbath, will receive the mark of the beast.” *Manuscript Releases*, volume 15, 15.

“But **what is the ‘image to the beast’?** and how is it to be formed? The image is made by the two-horned beast, and is an image *to* the beast. It is also called an image *of* the beast. **Then to learn what the image is like and how it is to be formed we must study the characteristics of the beast itself—the papacy.**

“When the early church became corrupted by departing from the simplicity of the gospel and accepting heathen rites and customs, she lost the Spirit and power of God; and **in order to control the consciences of the people, she sought the support of the secular power**. The result was the papacy, **a church that controlled the power of the state and employed it to further her own ends**, especially for the punishment of ‘heresy.’ In order for the United States to form an image of the beast, **the religious power must so control the civil government that the authority of the state will also be employed by the church to accomplish her own ends.**” *The Great Controversy*, 443.

“There is nothing that the great deceiver fears so much as that we shall become acquainted with his devices.” *The Great Controversy*, 516.

“**Anti-**”: This prefix generally means “against” or “opposite,” but in names, it can also suggest “**in place of**” or “**corresponding to**.” “**ochos**”: This part of the name comes from the Greek verb “echo”, meaning “to hold” or “to possess.” The suffix “ochos” is often associated with **holding or maintaining something, such as power or a position**. Thus, the name “Antiochus” can be interpreted to mean “**maintaining a position**.”

Satan is “against” Christ and has sought to stand “in place of Christ.” He attempts this through his proxy, the pope of Rome.

“The determination of **antichrist** to carry out **the rebellion he began in heaven** will continue to work in the children of disobedience.” *Testimonies*, volume 9, 230.

Antichrist is both Satan and the pope, who is Satan’s earthly representative.

“To secure worldly gains and honors, the church was led to seek the favor and support of the great men of earth; and having thus rejected Christ, she was induced to yield allegiance to **the representative of Satan—the bishop of Rome**.” *The Great Controversy*, 50.

The “man of sin” is a form of antichrist.

“In the days of the apostle Paul, the Thessalonian brethren were laboring under the erroneous impression that the Lord would return in their day, and Paul wrote to correct this false impression, stating **what events must transpire before the advent could take place**. He declared: ‘Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.’ The man of sin was to arise, and do his work of exaltation and blasphemy, before the brethren could look for the coming of Christ. That great event was to be preceded by **a falling away**. **There would be revealed a form of Antichrist, and the leaven of apostasy was to work with increasing power to the end of time**. We are not to be surprised beyond measure to see the widespread declension of faith and piety. **I have been bearing my testimony for the last forty years, that there would be those who would fall away from the path cast up for the ransomed of the Lord to walk in**. God has been sending warnings, reproofs, and encouragements to his people. He has warned them that some would depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits.” *Review and Herald*, July 31, 1888.

Seleucus Nicator, whose father was Antiochus. The Seleucid or Syrian Empire began with Seleucus and following kings often took the name of Antiochus to honor the father of the empire. Seleucus was made the satrap (governor) of Babylon, and when he conquered the three geographical areas of the east, the west and the north he became the first king of the north in chapter eleven of Daniel. He was initially a general for Ptolemy, the king of the south. Ptolemy and Seleucus worked together to secure his kingdom.

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. Daniel 7:8.

And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward **the south**, and toward **the east**, and toward **the pleasant land**. Daniel 8:9.

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**. Revelation 13:2.

VERSES TEN THROUGH FIFTEEN—

Fourth Syrian War, verse ten
Raphia, verse eleven and twelve
Panium verses thirteen through fifteen

ANTIOCHUS OR ROME?

Protestants 1843—Antiochus Epiphanes = Antiochus = the United States
Currently—the United States = Antiochus

URIAH SMITH’S KING OF THE NORTH = ROME

Verse thirty-six = France
Verse forty = Turkey

THE INSECTS OF JOEL = ROME

Insects = Islam

THE DAILY = PAGAN ROME

2 Thessalonians 2:3–10; Revelation 16:12–16

DANIEL CHAPTER ONE

Daniel 12:9, 10

Three tests, the last is Nebuchadnezzar

DANIEL CHAPTER TWO

The Hidden dream of the image of beasts

“.. the image of the beast will be formed before probation closes; for it is to be the great test for the people of God, by which their eternal destiny will be decided. . . .

“In Revelation 13 this subject is plainly presented; [Revelation 13:11–17, quoted].

“.. This is the test that the people of God must have *before* they are sealed.”

“The ‘image to the beast’ represents that form of apostate Protestantism which will be developed **when the Protestant churches shall seek the aid of the civil power** for the enforcement of their dogmas. The ‘mark of the beast’ still remains to be defined.” *The Great Controversy*, 445.

“The enforcement of Sundaykeeping on the part of Protestant churches is an enforcement of the worship of the papacy—of the beast. Those who, understanding the claims of the fourth commandment, choose to observe the false instead of the true Sabbath are thereby paying homage to that power by which alone it is commanded. **But in the very act of enforcing a religious duty by secular power, the churches would themselves form an image to the beast; hence the enforcement of Sundaykeeping in the United States would be an enforcement of the worship of the beast and his image.**” *The Great Controversy*, 448, 449.

“The speaking of the nation is the action of its **legislative and judicial** authorities.” *The Great Controversy*, 443.

“As America, the land of religious liberty, shall unite with the Papacy in forcing the conscience and compelling men to honor the false sabbath, the people of every country on the globe will be led to follow her example.” *Testimonies*, volume 6, 18.

“Foreign nations will follow the example of the United States. Though she leads out, yet the same crisis will come upon our people in all parts of the world.” *Testimonies*, volume 6, 395.

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.**

And **he exerciseth all the power of the first beast** before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein **to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed**. And **he** doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by *the means of* those miracles which **he had power to do** in the sight of the beast; **saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live**. And **he had power to give life unto the image of the beast**, that the image of the beast **should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed**.

And **he** causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had **the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom**. Let him that hath understanding count **the number of the beast**: for it is **the number of a man**; and **his number is Six hundred threescore and six**. Revelation 13:11–18.

And **here is the mind which hath wisdom**.

The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth. 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. And **the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven**, and goeth into perdition. Revelation 17:9–11.