CHRISTIANS AND GOVERNMENT
Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study • Fall 2026 • SVCC

THE BEAST: When Government Oppresses God's People

DANIEL 7 — Daniel's Dream of 4 Beasts
7:2-3 — Where did the beasts come from? _____
7:17 — The 4 great beasts are 4 _____ that will rise from the _____.

BEAST #1 (7:4, 12)
• appearance: _____, with wings of an _____
• it was given:
• its destiny:
• *from class discussion:* What nation did this beast represent? _____

BEAST #2 (7:5, 12)
• appearance: _____ — one strange feature:
• in its mouth: • command given to it:
• its destiny:
• *from class discussion:* What nation did this beast represent? _____

BEAST #3 (7:6, 12)
• appearance: _____ — with _____ wings like a bird and _____ heads
• it was given:
• its destiny:
• *from class discussion:* What nation did this beast represent? _____

BEAST #4 (7:7-8, 11, 19-27)
• appearance uncertain, but it was terrifying, frightening, and very powerful, with large iron _____ and 10 _____
• it also had bronze _____
• what it did to its victims:
• what its extra, little horn did (verse 8):
• what the little horn did to God's people (verse 21):
• (verse 24) Each of its horns represents a _____. What will the one represented by the little horn do to God's holy people? _____
  • What will he try to do to "the set times and the laws"? _____
  • How long will the holy people be delivered into his hands?
• its destiny:
• *from class discussion:* What nation did this beast represent? _____
  • Who was the "little horn"? _____

THE SON OF MAN (7:13-14) — Jesus identified himself as this man. What kind of kingdom does the Son of Man rule, according to these verses?

THE DESTINY OF GOD'S HOLY PEOPLE (7:18) — Faced with the ferocity of these "beasts," the holy people of the Most High nevertheless have a glorious destiny. What will they do?

APPLICATION: Knowing this future trouble, what were God's holy people supposed to do in response to these beasts, especially the fourth beast with its "little horn"?

REVELATION 13 — The Great Beast

13:1 — This beast came out of the _____.

13:1 — It had _____ horns and ____ heads, with 10 _____ on its horns, and on each head a blasphemous name.

13:2 — What animals did this beast look like? _____, _____, _____ *(Notice the echoes of Daniel 7:4-6.)*

13:2 — Where did the beast get is power and throne and authority? _____

13:5 — The beast was given a mouth. It used it to utter proud words and blasphemies and to exercise its authority. For how long? _____

13:6 — Against whom did it blaspheme? _____

13:7 — What did it do to God's holy people?

13:8 — What did all the inhabitants of the earth do to the beast? _____

13:11-17 — The second beast is a lesser beast that serves the first beast, compelling the people of the earth to worship the first beast. Notice the penalties for refusing to worship the first beast: death (verse 15) or being barred from doing business (verse 17).

DEALING WITH THE GREAT BEAST

14:9-11 — What does the angel say will happen to anyone who worships the beast and receives its mark?

14:12 — What are God's people called to do in response to the beast?

14:13 — What promise is given to those who die in the Lord—especially (in this context) those killed for refusing to worship the beast?

17:3, 9, 18 — A wicked woman sits on the beast. The beast's 7 heads are 7 _____, *referring to the ancient city of* _____. The woman herself is the great _____ that rules over the kings of the earth, *which in the time of Revelation was* _____.

19:11-21 — What destiny will overtake the beast and its false prophet (the second beast)? And who will bring about this destiny?

APPLICATION: How were Christians in the time of Revelation supposed to respond to this beast? How should Christians today respond to such beasts in our own time?