

God Judges the Great City

Scene 3: The Great Ordeal: Exposé on the Powers of Evil
Chapters 12-14



Exposé on the Powers of Evil

1. Plot:
 - a. The Forces of Darkness, Disorder, and Sterility/Death
 - b. Rebel against Divine King of Light/Order Fertility/Life,
 - c. Attempting to overthrow the Divine Order,
 - d. Kill the Newborn King,
 - e. and/Or seize the kingship and establish the rule of Darkness.

- a. They are a Unit Rev. 16:13
- b. Contrast God/Creator, Christ/Lamb, Spirit/Word
- c. War is not against flesh and Blood see Ephesians 6:12

The Characters of the Drama

1. The Woman

- a. Eve (Gen. 3:1-16)
- b. Israel (Ex. 19:4; cf Ps. 74:12-15; Isa. 66:7-9)
- c. Mary (Matt. 2:1-15)
- d. The Church

2. The Child/Messiah

- a. Rules with Iron Scepter (Ps. 2:7-9)

3. Christians

- a. Brethren (12:10)
- b. Offspring/ Seed of the Woman (12:17 again see Gen. 3:15 cf. Rev. 2:18; 21:7 “sons of God”)
- c. Martyrdom/Victory (12:11)
- d. Characterized by Steadfast endurance (13:10)

4. “Earth” Is both a Stage and personified actor. (13:16)

5. Michael and the Angels (12:7; 14:6, 8, 9, 15, 17, 18)

- a. Heavenly Army of God
- b. Delegated Authority of God (Deut. 32:8-9)
- c. Michael is the Heavenly Angelic Champion of the People of God (Dan. 10:13, 21; 12:1)
- d. Michael is the only good angel named in Revelation

6. God the Hidden Actor (12:5-6)

- a. Sovereign “...was given the power” (12:7)
- b. God allows and restrains evil but is not the direct cause of it.

7. The Evil Trinity



8. The Dragon

- a. Parody of God/Creator
- b. His place was in the “heavens” 12:7 cf. Eph. 6:12, 2:2 “Ruler of the kingdom of air”
- c. Throne to delegate 13:2
- d. 7 Heads like Leviathan, Lotan, Tiamat, the “chaos monster”

9. The Beast from the Sea

- a. 7 heads, ten horns, blasphemous names, features of the leopard, bear and lion of Dan 7:1-8.
- b. Comes out of the sea like Leviathan
- c. Worshiped as the Dragon’s representative 13:8
- d. Wars against the Saints 13:7
- e. Beast is an empire. Dan. 7 images of Rome and her Emperors. (see 17:9-10)

- f. Fatal Wound → Nero 13:8
- g. Thus a Parody of the Lamb
- h. Conquers but only by the power of the sword.

- m. Entices Humanity to idolize human empire.

10. The Beast of the earth

- a. Rose out of the Earth as a False Prophet
- b. Parody of the Holy Spirit
- c. Fake Elijah (cf. 1 Kings 18:20-39, cf. 11:4-13 the “two witnesses”)
- d. As the Holy Spirit transforms to live a life in tension with the World’s standards, the Beast creates conformity.
- e. Voice of Holy Spirit (2:1, 2:7 Seven letters) / Voice of Devil Dragon 13:11
- f. Seal of the Holy Spirit/ Mark of the Beast
- g. Control through Money and Economic Pressure.
- h. Who is this in Roman Days: Roman Council in Greek (*koinon*) or in Latin (*commune*)
- i. False Prophets traffic in Miracles Mark 13:22; 2 Thes. 2:9
- j. “Some Scholars have understood the *prophetic* features of the beast as its specific designation with the “false prophet” to point to John’s opponents *within* the Church—the teachers and charismatic prophets who encouraged Christians to accommodate themselves to Roman Culture, Ideology and Cult as an aspect of their “Progressive Theology”¹
- k. Roman Governors, Roman Priesthood, the *commune*, or false Christian prophets and teachers. The beast has characteristics of all.
- l. “Lamb-like” yet really Beastly (wolf in sheep’s clothing)



¹ See Minear, I Saw a New Earth, pp. 119- 27

The Woman and the Dragon

Revelation 12 ¹A great and wondrous sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head. ²She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth. ³Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on his heads. ⁴His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth. The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that he might devour her child the moment it was born. ⁵She gave birth to a son, a male child, who will rule all the nations with an iron scepter. And her child was snatched up to God and to his throne. ⁶The woman fled into the desert to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for 1,260 days.

⁷And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. ⁸But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. ⁹The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

¹⁰Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say:
"Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God,
and the authority of his Christ.

For the accuser of our brothers,
who accuses them before our God day and
night,
has been hurled down.

¹¹They overcame him
by the blood of the Lamb
and by the word of their testimony;
they did not love their lives so much
as to shrink from death.

¹²Therefore rejoice, you heavens
and you who dwell in them!
But woe to the earth and the sea,
because the devil has gone down to you!
He is filled with fury,
because he knows that his time is short."

The foiled attempt of the Dragon (12:1-6)

- The one who is the true Lord comes as a vulnerable state.
- Enemy the Dragon is foiled and the Son exalted.
- A Brief time (1260, 3 ½ years of trouble and persecution just before the End. (Dan. 7:25; 8:14; 9:27; 12:7, 11, 12) Imperial Persecution of the Saints

The Dragon Defeated in the Real World (12:7-12)

- Satan is "unseated" from the heavenly realms. Ephes. 3:10,11; Col. 2:25
- Communion of the Saints in the suffering victory over Satan (12:10-11; cf. 2:10 "faithful unto death")
- Opposite of Greek Mythology...in Revelation all the "action" happens on the Earth with heavenly cosmic implications for the evil powers in the transcendent world!
- Satan is a defeated foe: the message to Christians is to hang in there for the hellish last 3 ½ minutes of the game and you will win!
- The way to lose is to either join the wrong team or quit!

¹³When the dragon saw that he had been hurled to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. ¹⁴The woman was given the two wings of a great eagle, so that she might fly to the place prepared for her in the desert, where she would be taken care of for a time, times and half a time, out of the serpent's reach. ¹⁵Then from his mouth the serpent spewed water like a river, to overtake the woman and sweep her away with the torrent. ¹⁶But the earth helped the woman by opening its mouth and swallowing the river that the dragon had spewed out of his mouth. ¹⁷Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to make war against the rest of her offspring—those who obey God's commandments and hold to the testimony of Jesus.

13 ¹And the dragon^[a] stood on the shore of the sea.

The Beast out of the Sea

And I saw a beast coming out of the sea. He had ten horns and seven heads, with ten crowns on his horns, and on each head a blasphemous name. ²The beast I saw resembled a leopard, but had feet like those of a bear and a mouth like that of a lion. The dragon gave the beast his power and his throne and great authority. ³One of the heads of the beast seemed to have had a fatal wound, but the fatal wound had been healed. The whole world was astonished and followed the beast. ⁴Men worshiped the dragon because he had given authority to the beast, and they also worshiped the beast and asked, "Who is like the beast? Who can make war against him?"

⁵The beast was given a mouth to utter proud words and blasphemies and to exercise his authority for forty-two months. ⁶He opened his mouth to blaspheme God, and to slander his name and his dwelling place and those who live in heaven. ⁷He was given power to make war against the saints and to conquer them. And he was given authority over every tribe, people, language and nation. ⁸All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast—all whose names have not been written in the book of life belonging to

the Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world.^[b]

⁹He who has an ear, let him hear.

¹⁰If anyone is to go into captivity, into captivity he will go.

If anyone is to be killed^[c] with the sword, with the sword he will be killed.

This calls for patient endurance and faithfulness on the part of the saints.

The Dragon persecutes the woman on the Earth (12:13-16)

- The anti-Creator attacks the Woman but the unseen God/Creator protects her.
- There will be no miraculous help...
- "Nature" is on the side of the People of God.
- The Natural World will be redeemed too! (Rev. 21:1-22:6; Rom. 8:19-28)

The Beast from the Sea appears to conquer the Saints (12:17-13:10)

- Is the Imperial Power
- Unable to kill the Church at large, Satan attacks portion of the offspring. Through enlisting help from the two Beasts...
- False Messiah, fatal wound that has been healed.
- Rescue from Death? It will get ugly...see Daniel 3:17-18
- Call to Saints: Patient Endurance

The Beast out of the Earth

¹¹Then I saw another beast, coming out of the earth. He had two horns like a lamb, but he spoke like a dragon. ¹²He exercised all the authority of the first beast on his behalf, and made the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose fatal wound had been healed. ¹³And he performed great and miraculous signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to earth in full view of men. ¹⁴Because of the signs he was given power to do on behalf of the first beast, he deceived the inhabitants of the earth. He ordered them to set up an image in honor of the beast who was wounded by the sword and yet lived. ¹⁵He was given power to give breath to the image of the first beast, so that it could speak and cause all who refused to worship the image to be killed. ¹⁶He also forced everyone, small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on his right hand or on his forehead, ¹⁷so that no one could buy or sell unless he had the mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of his name.

¹⁸This calls for wisdom. If anyone has insight, let him calculate the number of the beast, for it is man's number. His number is 666.

The Beast from the Earth and its promotion of Emperor Worship (13:11-18)

- a. Enforces Imperial Power
- b. Uses Deception through Show, Economic Manipulation and Control by Force
- c. Call to Saints: Wisdom and Insight—look for man's number: 666

Mark of the Beast

- Parody of Seal of Holy Spirit
- Sign of Ownership and Security
- Dualism of Decision-no lukewarm
- Real, but not literal
- Coinage of Caesar
- 7 is complete, 6 is penultimate.
- Not who, but what
- Where in our time do we see the idolization of a “human savior”.
- Nero

The Lamb and the 144,000

Revelation 14:¹Then I looked, and there before me was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads. ²And I heard a sound from heaven like the roar of rushing waters and like a loud peal of thunder. The sound I heard was like that of harpists playing their harps. ³And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders. No one could learn the song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. ⁴These are those who did not defile themselves with women, for they kept themselves pure. They follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They were purchased from among men and offered as firstfruits to God and the Lamb. ⁵No lie was found in their mouths; they are blameless.

The Three Angels

⁶Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. ⁷He said in a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water."

⁸A second angel followed and said, "Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great, which made all the nations drink the maddening wine of her adulteries."

⁹A third angel followed them and said in a loud voice: "If anyone worships the beast and his image and receives his mark on the forehead or on the hand, ¹⁰he, too, will drink of the wine of God's fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of his wrath. He will be tormented with burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb. ¹¹And the smoke of their torment rises for ever and ever. There is no rest day or night for those who worship the beast and his image, or for anyone who receives the mark of his name." ¹²This calls for patient endurance on the part of the saints who obey

God's commandments and remain faithful to Jesus.

¹³Then I heard a voice from heaven say, "Write: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on."

"Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them."

The Harvest of the Earth

¹⁴I looked, and there before me was a white cloud, and seated on the cloud was one "like a son of man"^[d] with a crown of gold on his head and a sharp sickle in his hand. ¹⁵Then another angel came out of the temple and called in a loud voice to him who was sitting on the cloud, "Take your sickle and reap, because the time to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is ripe." ¹⁶So he who was seated on the cloud swung his sickle over the earth, and the earth was harvested.

¹⁷Another angel came out of the temple in heaven, and he too had a sharp sickle. ¹⁸Still another angel, who had charge of the fire, came from the altar and called in a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, "Take your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of grapes from the earth's vine, because its grapes are ripe." ¹⁹The angel swung his sickle on the earth, gathered its grapes and threw them into the great winepress of God's wrath. ²⁰They were trampled in the winepress outside the city, and blood flowed out of the press, rising as high as the horses' bridles for a distance of 1,600 stadia.^[e]

The Truth about Salvation and Judgment (14:1-20)

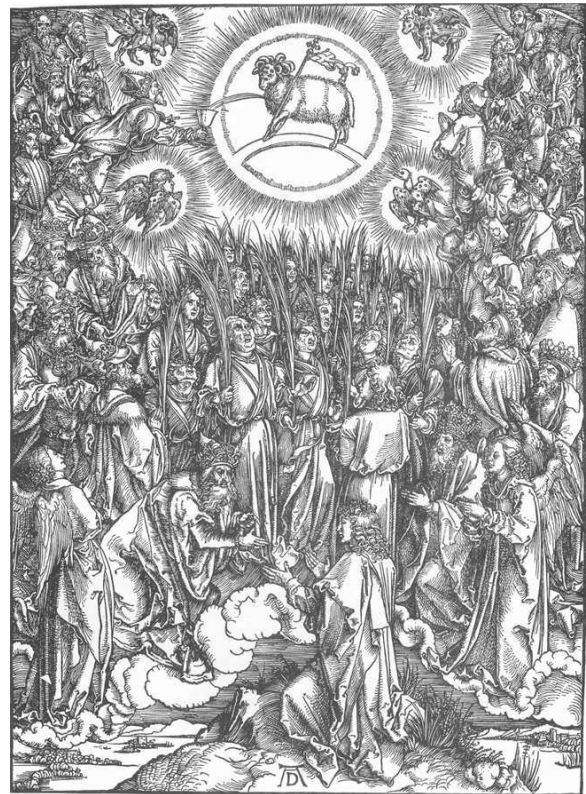
Real Salvation: The Lamb, His Mark, His Followers (14:1-5)

- a. Breath of Fresh Water and Clearing the Air—Real Power
- b. Triumphant, Glorious and Chaste—Contrast with the Adultery of the people of Babylon
- c. First fruits of a great soul harvest yet to come (like a grain offering, Ex. 34:22)

Real Judgment: God the Creator and Judge (14:6-20)

1. Three Angels Contrast with the "sham" judgment of the third beast in the Roman Courts.
2. Angel of the true Gospel Promise
 - a. True Good News vs. false good news of Caesar
 - b. Good News to the believers in God
3. Angel of Judgment against Empire
 - a. Babylon/Rome will fall
 - b. The Evil Empire is going down!
4. Angel of announcing judgments against individuals who bear the mark of the beast.
5. Grain Harvest--Grape Harvest! (see Matt 10:28)
6. Call to the Saints: Patient Endurance and Remain Faithful

Blessed are those who die in the Lord – rest from labor (the seventh day) and work will be rewarded.



1-WORLD ORDER²

Banking group calls for global currency Seen as remedy to looming exchange wars



10/11/10

In advance of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank meeting in Washington last weekend, the Institute of International Finance, a group that represents 420 of the world's largest banks and finance houses, issued yet another call for a one-world global currency.

"A core group of the world's leading economies need to come together and hammer out an understanding," Charles Dallara, the Institute of International Finance's managing director told the Financial Times in London.

An IIF policy letter authored by Dallara and dated Oct. 4 made clear that global currency coordination was needed in the group's view to prevent a looming currency war.

"The narrowly focused unilateral and bilateral policy actions seen in recent months – including many proposed and actual measures on trade, currency intervention and monetary policy – have contributed to worsening underlying macroeconomic imbalances," Dallara wrote. "They have also led to growing protectionist pressures as countries scramble for export markets as a source of growth."

Dallard encouraged a return to the G-20 commitment to utilize International Monetary Fund special drawing rights to create an international one-world currency alternative to the U.S. dollar as a new standard of foreign-exchange reserves.

U.N. calls for 1-world currency

A United Nations report released in July calls for the replacement of the dollar as the standard for holding foreign-exchange reserves in international trade with a new one-world currency issued by the International Monetary Fund.

The 176-page report titled "United Nations World Economic and Social Survey 2010," was issued at a high-level meeting of the U.N. Economic and Social Council and published in its entirety on the U.N. website.

"The risk of exchange-rate instability and a hard landing of the dollar could be reduced by having a global payments and reserve system which is less dependent on one single national currency," the report noted.

The solution the U.N. report recommended was expanding Special Drawing Rights, or SDRs, at the International Monetary System, with the goal of replacing the dollar as the accepted international standard for holding foreign-exchange reserves.

² <http://redalert.wnd.com/index.php?fa=PAGE.view&pageId=1471>

"A new global reserve system could be created, one that no longer relies on the United States dollar as the single major reserve currency," the U.N. report said.

By placing this statement in print, the United Nations has formally gotten behind a plan that was first advanced by Robert Mundell, the creator of the euro, and later funded through the G-20 by the Obama administration, even though the plan to advance IMF SDRs ultimately means the death of the dollar as the world's standard for international trade.

Let's quickly review the background and the history of the issue.

What are IMF Special Drawing Rights?

SDRs are international reserve assets that are calculated by the IMF in a basket of major currencies that are allocated to the IMF 185 member nation-states in relation to the capital, largely in gold or widely accepted foreign currencies that the IMF member nation-states have on deposit with the IMF.

As Red Alert previously reported, the proposal originally advanced by China and Russia would issue SDRs to central banks of IMF member states far in excess of any gold or currency reserves the member states have on deposit with the IMF.

The idea is to utilize the little-understood and largely-ignored SDRs in a new capacity, as a sort of an international overdraft facility made available to bankrupt or financially failing IMF member nation-states, originated with Ted Turner, formerly a senior official at both the Federal Reserve and the U.S. Treasury.

The IMF created SDRs in 1969 to support the Bretton Woods fixed exchange-rate system.

"The international supply of two key reserve assets – gold and the U.S. dollar – proved inadequate for supporting the expansion of world trade and financial development that was taking place," a document on the IMF website explains. "Therefore, the international community decided to create a new international reserve asset under the auspices of the IMF."

When the Bretton Woods fixed-rate system collapsed, major world currencies, including the dollar, shifted to a floating exchange-rate system where the price of the dollar and other major world currencies was created by trading on international currency exchanges.

Until the current global economic crisis, SDRs issued by the IMF have been used by IMF member nation states primarily as a reserve account to support international trade transactions, not as an alternative international currency available to settle international debt transactions in danger of default.

Fathers of the '1-world currency'

WND has previously reported that strong support for the idea of a one-world currency has come from Canadian economist and Nobel Prize winner professor Robert Mundell, an influential proponent who is credited with having formulated the intellectual basis for creating the euro.

Mundell, currently an adviser to China, was the originator of the suggestion that the IMF should utilize SDRs to replace the dollar as a new world standard for holding foreign-exchange reserves in international trade transactions.

WND has also reported Benn Steil, a senior fellow and director of international economics at the Council of Foreign Relations, wrote in the May/June 2007 issue of the Council of Foreign Relations' Foreign Affairs magazine an article titled, "The End of National Currency," in which his major conclusion was that "countries should abandon monetary nationalism."

Steil tempered his embrace of one-world currency, writing, "Governments should replace national currencies with the dollar or the euro or, in the case of Asia, collaborate to produce a new multinational currency over a comparably large and economically diversified area."

G20 meeting in London supported IMF 1-world currency

Red Alert also reported that the G20 summit meeting in London in April took an important step to create a new one-world currency through the International Monetary Fund that is designed to replace the dollar as the world's foreign-exchange reserve currency of choice.

Appearing on Fox News' "The Sean Hannity Show," political consultant Dick Morris and Hannity agreed the decision by the G20 proved the "conspiracy theorists were right" and there is now clear evidence of a plan to create a one-world currency.

Point 19 of the final communiqué from the G20 summit in London on April 2, 2009, specified that, "We have agreed to support a general SDR which will inject \$250 billion into the world economy and increase global liquidity," taking the first steps forward to implement China's proposal that Special Drawing Rights at the International Monetary Fund should be created as a foreign-exchange currency to replace the dollar.

"I think the dollar is now under question," billionaire investor George Soros told CNBC, commenting that the goal was to create an IMF rather than the dollar to use in international trade.

Red Alert has also reported that the United Nations has supported the IMF plan, to utilize SDRs as an alternative to the dollar to settle international trade transactions.

Red Alert believes we are witnessing the death of the dollar under the Obama administration.