

## C. Role of the Beast



# Background for Rev. 13:1-10

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Beast of  
Rev. 13:1-10



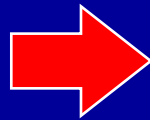
OT text

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# Daniel 7 and Rev. 13:1-10

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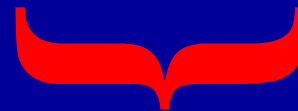
## Daniel 7



## Revelation 13

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

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

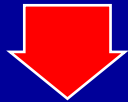


**Composite horror**

# Beast as Demonized State

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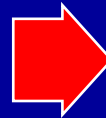
Beast (Rev. 13:1-8)



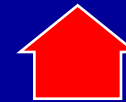
4 beasts (Dan. 7)



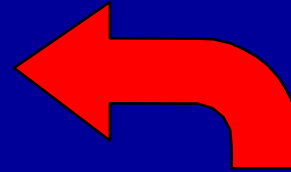
4 idol kingdoms  
(Dan. 2)



Last of the 4  
is Rome

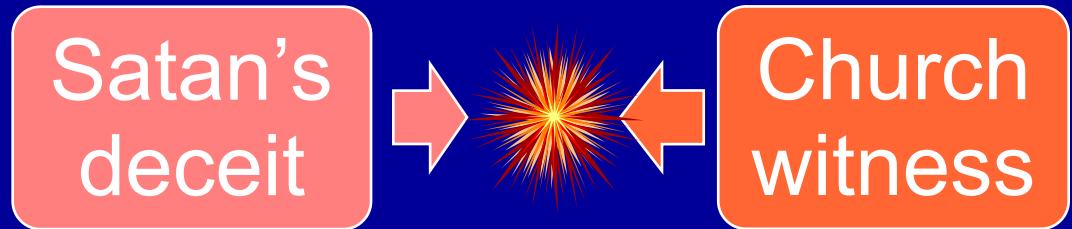


Roman Emperor  
demands worship

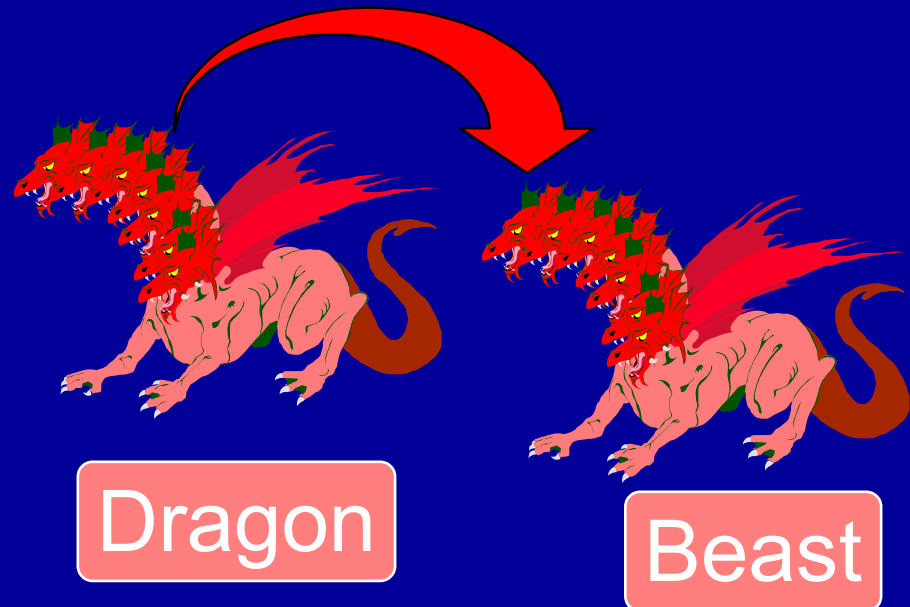


# Satan's Counterfeit "Son"

- ◆ Rev. 12:13-17:  
Not by deceit  
alone.



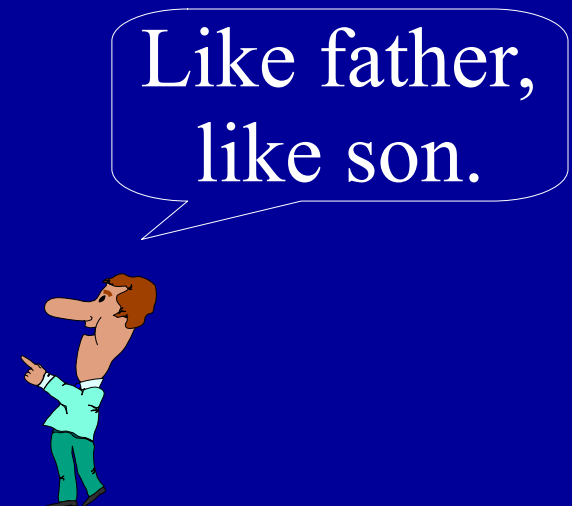
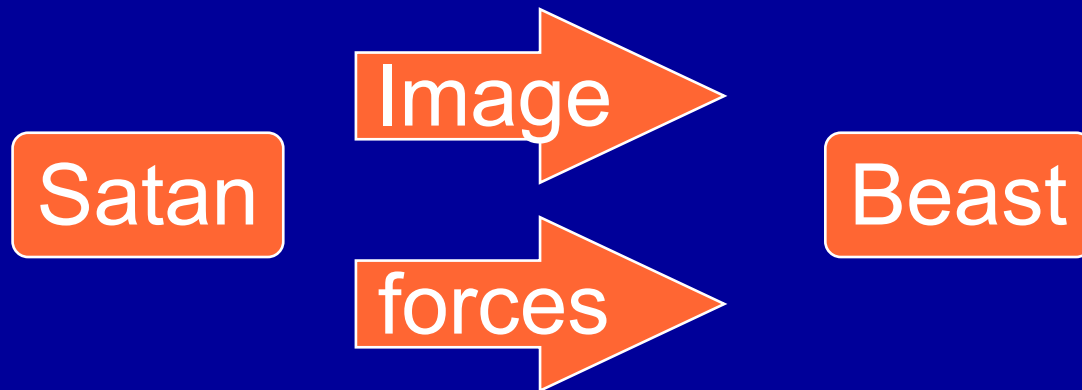
- ◆ Rev. 13:1,2,4:  
a monster



# Repeated Manifestations

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



# Understanding Our Time

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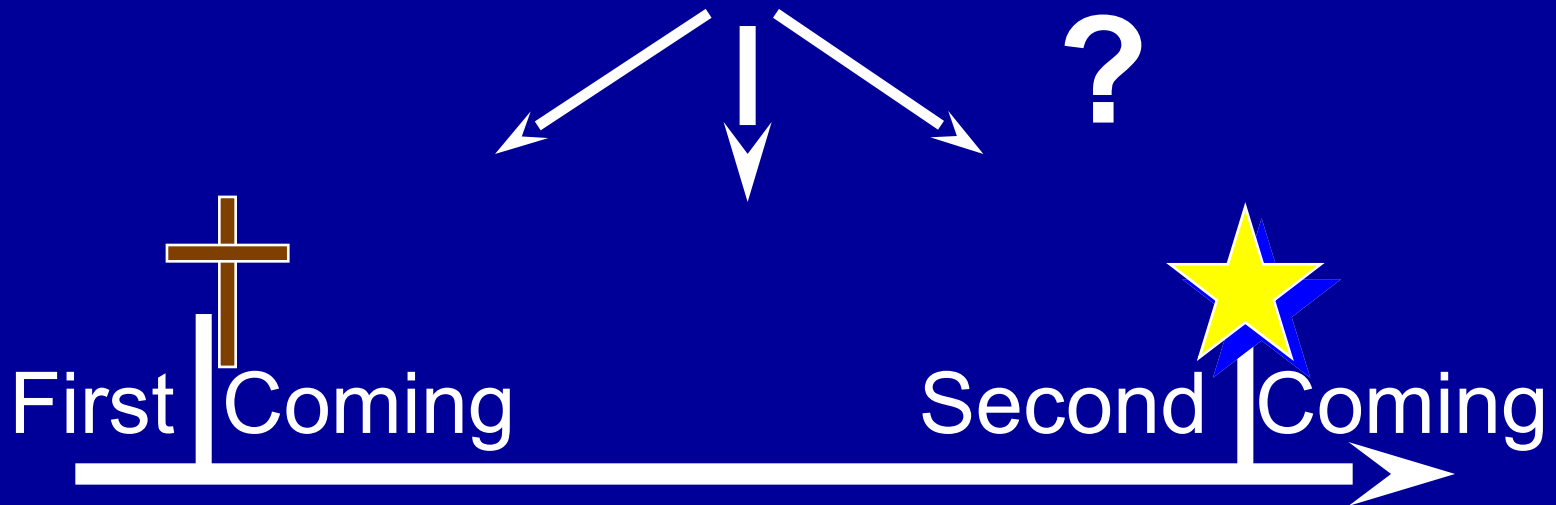
- ◆ What is our era of redemptive history?
- ◆ When does it begin?
- ◆ When does it end?



# Time of Fulfillment

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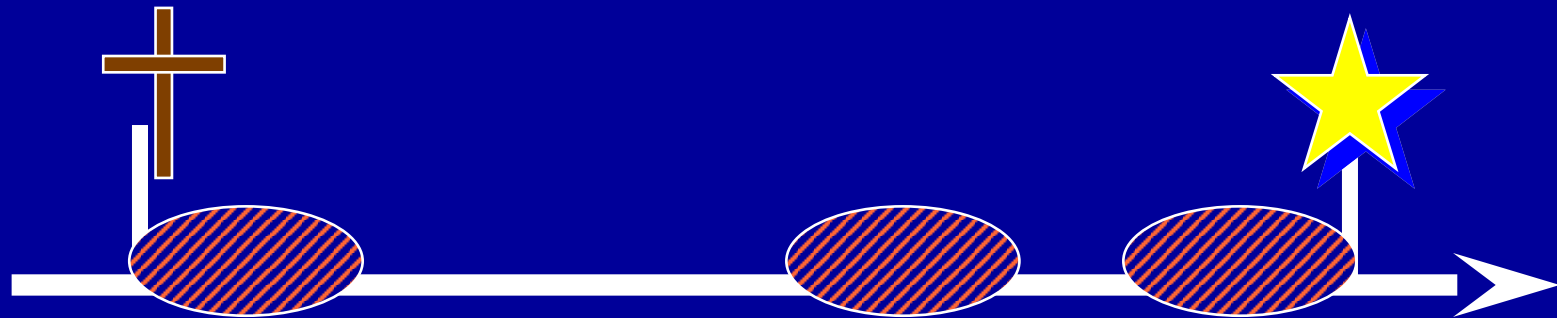
When is the primary fulfillment?





# Foci of Fulfillment

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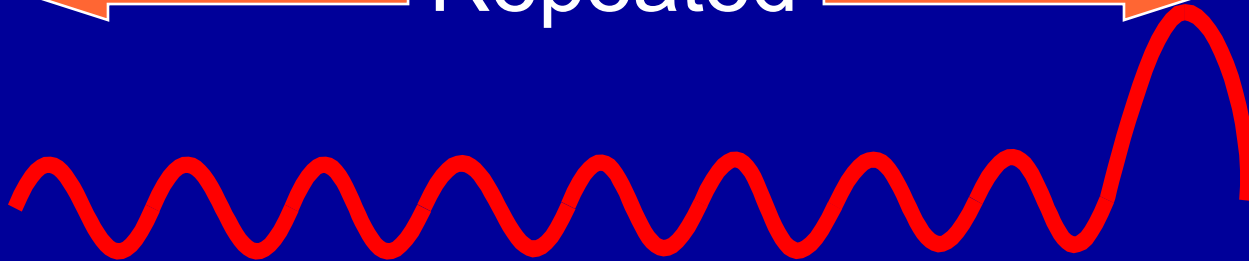


John,  
7 churches

Us

Final  
crisis

← Repeated →



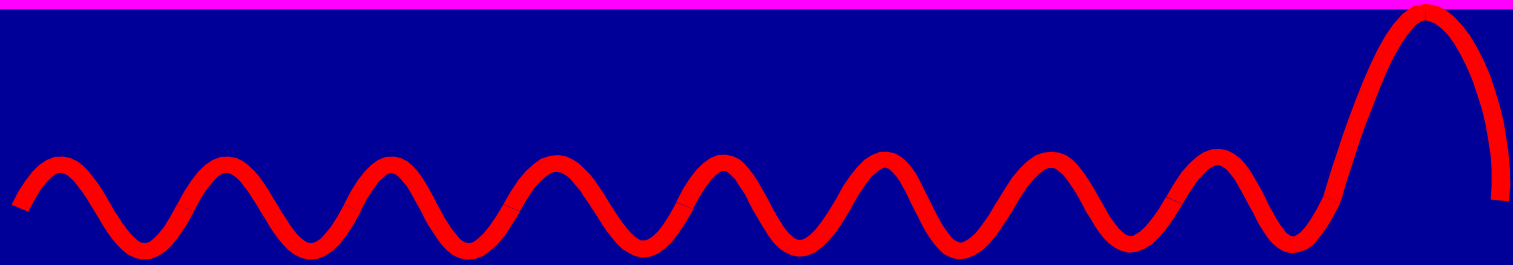
# Fourfold Work of Beast

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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

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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)

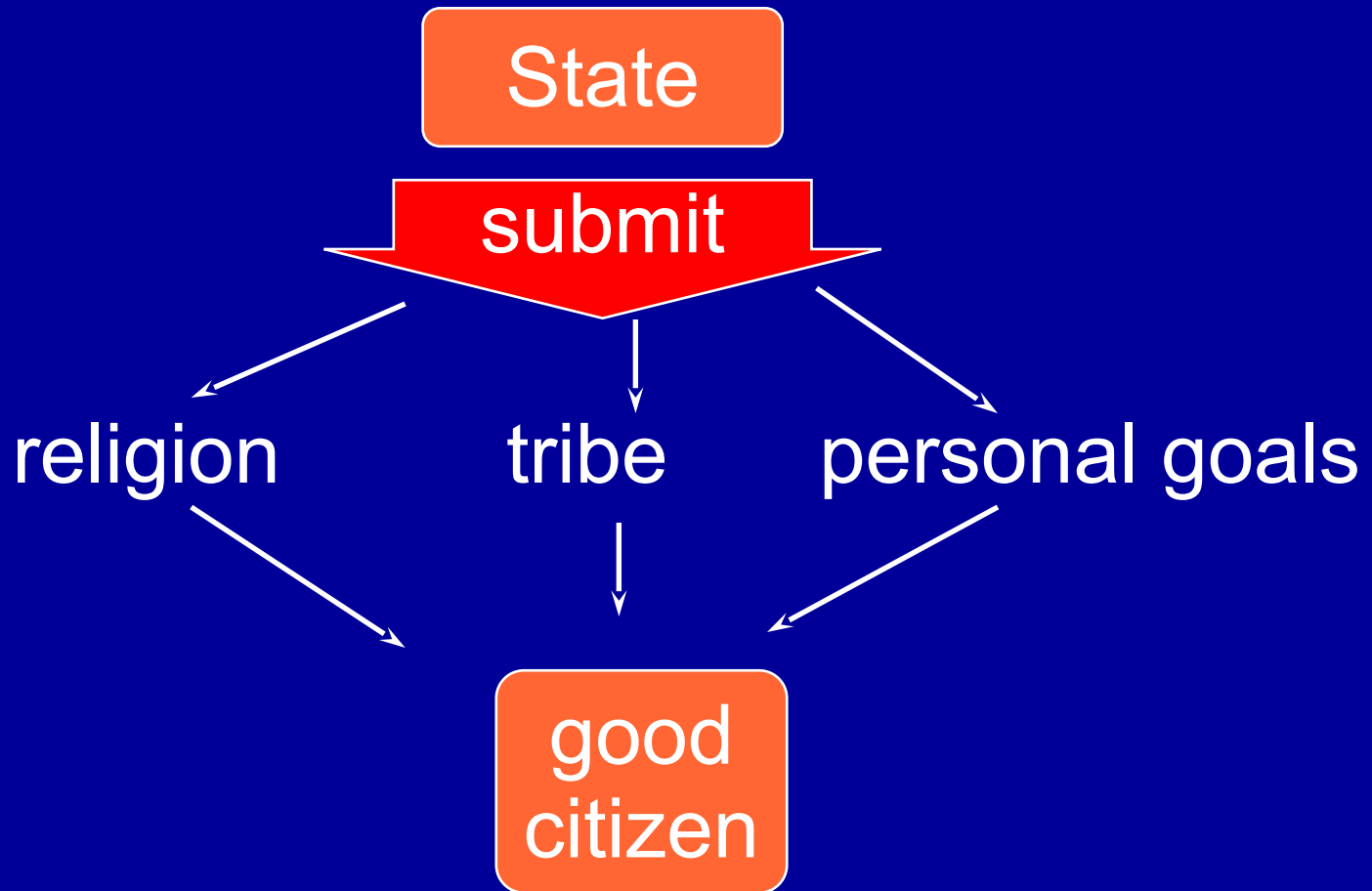
1 John 2:18

many  
antichrists

supreme  
Antichrist

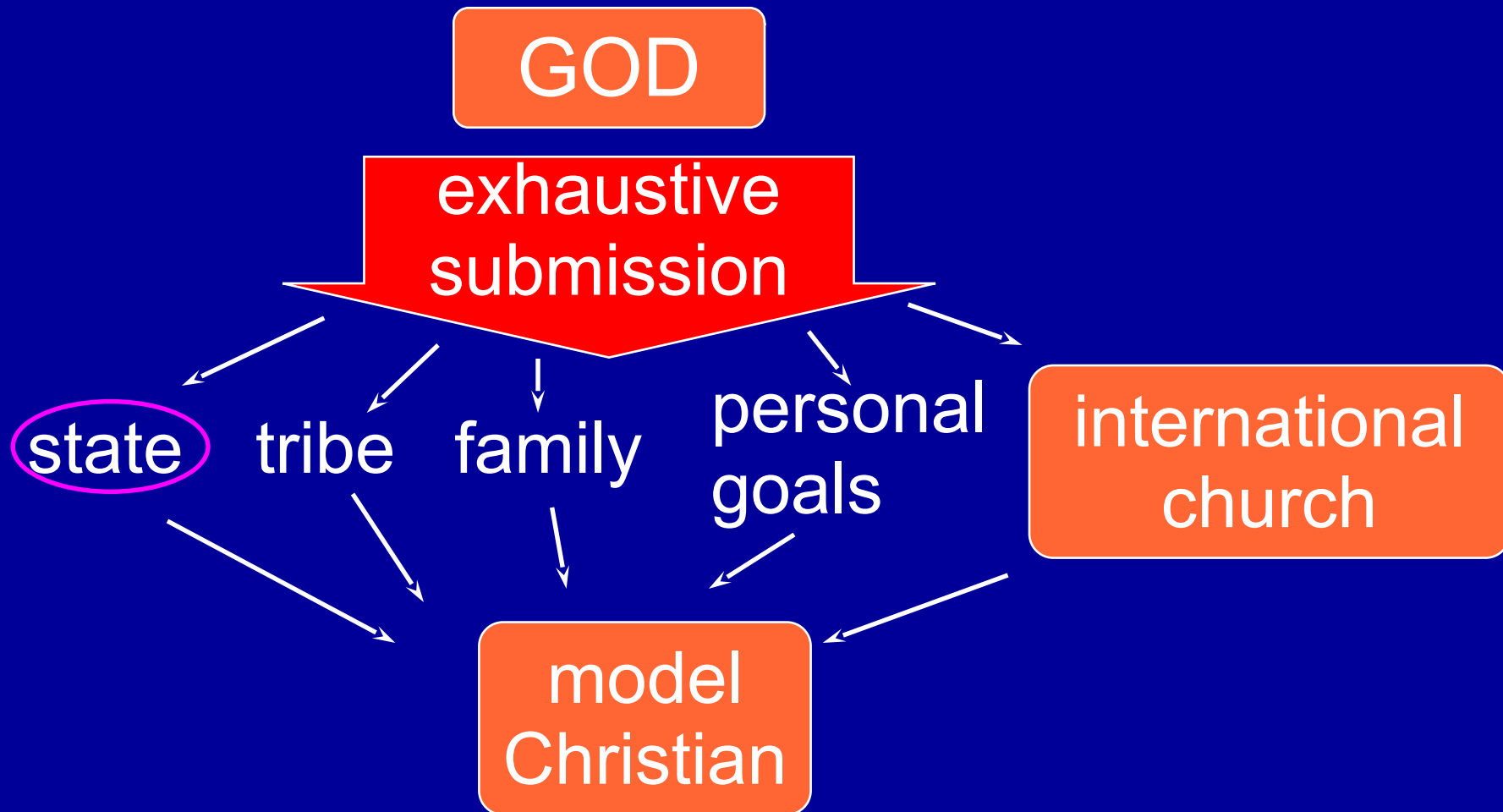
# Modern Totalitarian Dream

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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

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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:

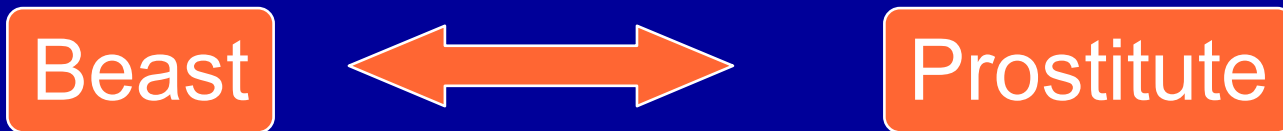
Persecuting power  
of the Beast

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

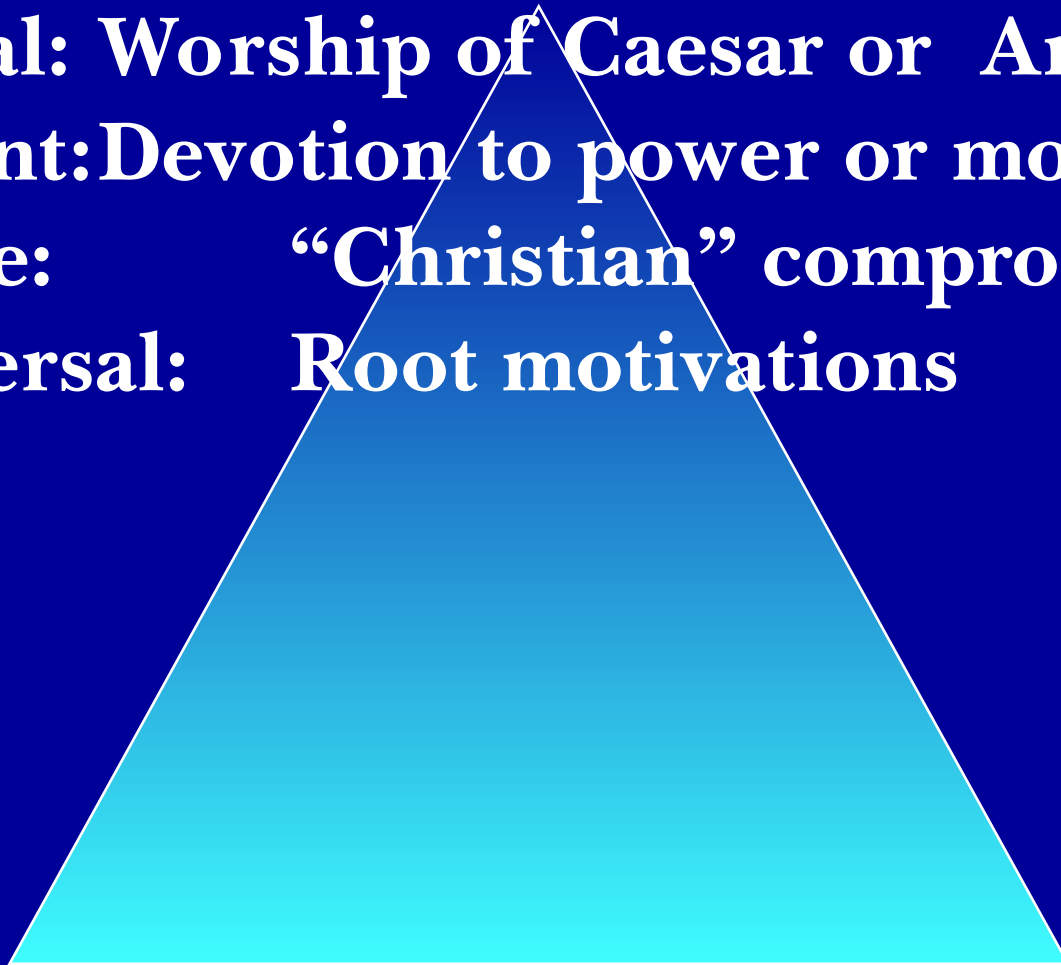
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- ◆ **God vs. Satan:**  
**Transcendence**
- ◆ **Christ vs. Beast:**  
**Power**
- ◆ **Bride vs. Harlot:**  
**Worship**
- ◆ **False religion**
- ◆ **Human autonomy**
- ◆ **Liberation**
- ◆ **Salvation through technique and state**
- ◆ **Integrate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



# Idols in USA

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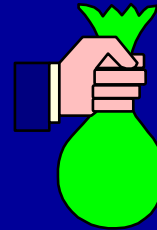
Beast

- ◆ **Power**
  - State



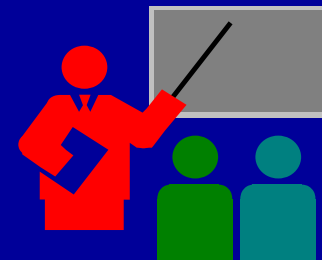
Prostitute

- ◆ **Pleasure**
  - Leisure



False Prophet

- ◆ **Propaganda**
  - Education
  - Media



# Cooperative Evil (17:3,7)

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Power for maintenance

Beast

= statist  
idol

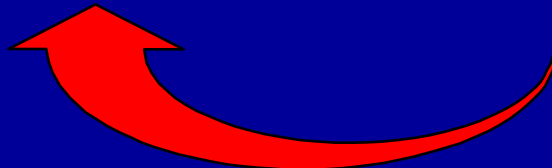
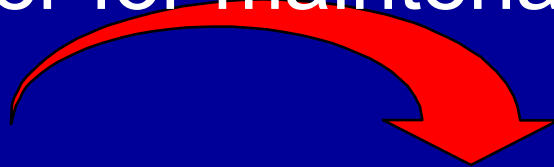
Prostitute

= pleasure  
idol

Justification,  
motivation

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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- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ Worship Satan</li><li>◆ Deceptive redemptions</li><li>◆ Fear false power</li><li>◆ Lust for money</li><li>◆ Lust for sex</li></ul> |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ Worship God (4)</li><li>◆ True redemption in the Lamb (5)</li><li>◆ God's Throne (22:1; 4:2)</li><li>◆ God's Wealth (21:21; 4:3)</li><li>◆ God's Marriage (19:7; 21:9)</li></ul> |
|--|--|--|

False

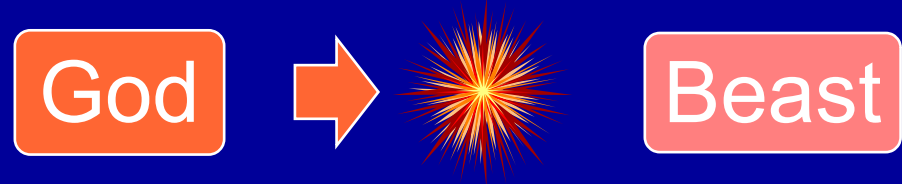
replaced by

True

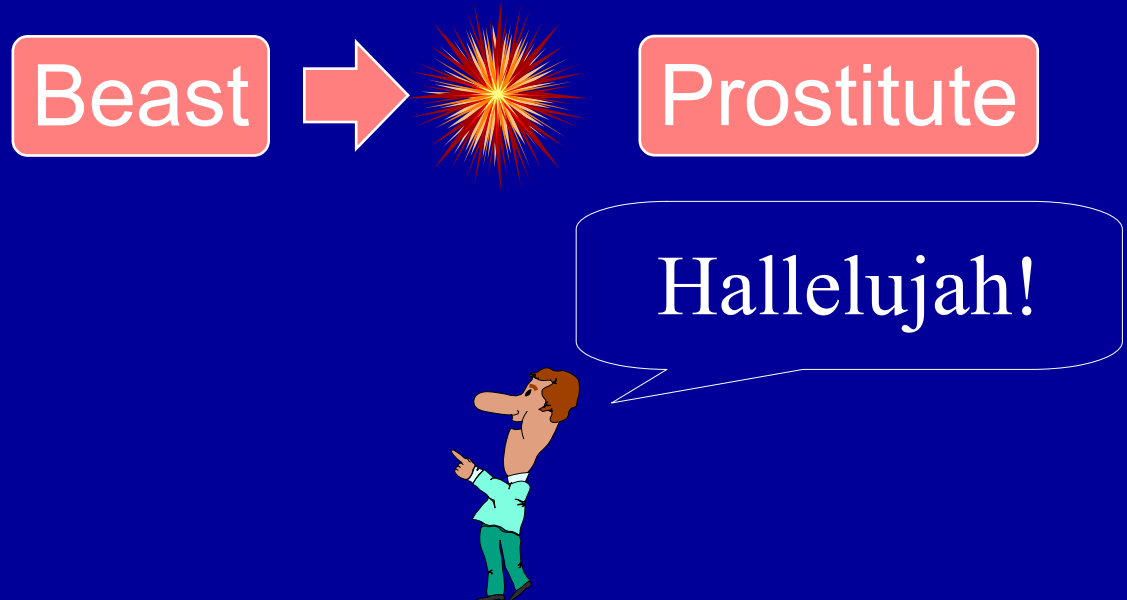
# Destruction of Idols

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- ◆ God judges idols, 15:1.



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



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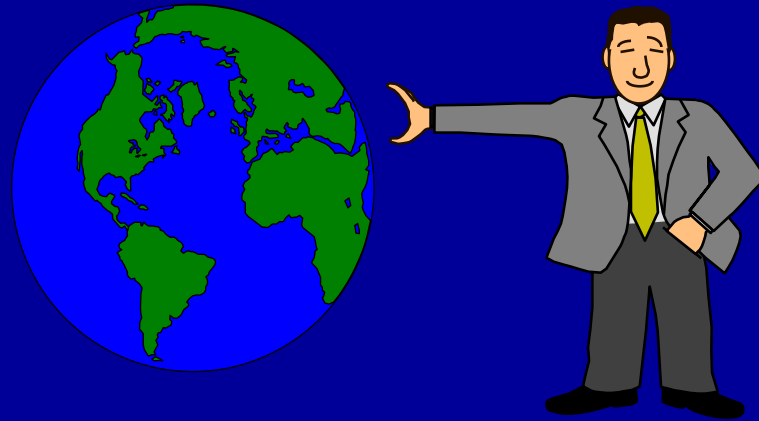
- ◆ False ideas are counterfeits
- ◆ Institutionalized
- ◆ Containing enough truth to be plausible
- ◆ Containing spiritual poison
- ◆ Originating in Satanic deceit
- ◆ Useful for Christians?



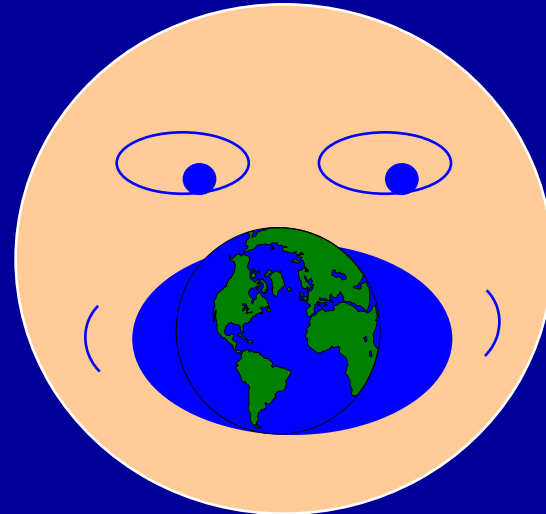
# Bad Reactions to Counterfeits

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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
- ◆ Revelation as promoting discernment
- ◆ Ultimate failure of the deceit

# The Spiritual Battle: Go

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