

THE LAST DAY OF PROPHECY

DISCOVER THE REST OF THE STORY

THE UNITED STATES IN BIBLE PROPHECY

Can it really be true? Is America mentioned in Bible prophecy?

Absolutely! And when you think about it, it actually makes a lot of sense that the most powerful and influential nation on earth will play a vital role in the stunning, soon-coming events of the world's closing history. Let's take a look . . .

END-TIME WORLD POWERS

Did you know two world powers are symbolized in Revelation 13?

The first power is the beast with seven heads (**REVELATION 13:1–10**) and is the papacy. The Bible predicted that this religious-political beast power would actually lose its world influence for a while—and this was fulfilled in 1798, when Napoleon's commanding general, Berthier, took the pope captive, giving the beast power its deadly wound to the head.

Now, another beast power—or nation state—was predicted to arise around the same time the papacy received its deadly wound. "Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon" (**REVELATION 13:11**).

This nation arises "out of the earth" instead of out of the water, as did the other nations mentioned in Daniel and Revelation. We know that water symbolizes areas of the world that have a large population. "The waters which you saw . . . are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues" (**REVELATION 17:15**).

Therefore, we can know that the symbol of "earth" means that this new nation would arise in an area of the world that had been sparsely populated before the late 1700s. It wouldn't arise among the crowded nations of the Old World. Indeed, America arose on a sparsely populated continent.

THE TWO LAMB-LIKE HORNS

This second beast is also depicted as having two lamb-like horns and no crowns. These two horns represent America's two governing principles: civil and religious liberty. These principles have been labeled republicanism, a government without a king, and freedom of religion.

Most nations in ancient times taxed people to support a state religion. Most also oppressed religious dissidents. But America established something new: Freedom to worship as you wish without government interference or control. The absence of crowns for the second beast signifies the lack of a monarchy.

Lamb-like horns denote the appearance of a non-oppressive, peace-loving, and spiritual nation. Jesus is referred to as a lamb 28 times in Revelation. So this new government would claim to uphold His principles. No power besides America fits the characteristics of the lamb-horned beast.

SPEAKS LIKE A DRAGON

Revelation 13:11 says this second beast will ultimately speak like a dragon. What does this mean?

The Bible tells us the dragon is Satan (**REVELATION 12:9**), who always works to establish his kingdom and crush God's church by persecuting His people. Satan's aim always has been to usurp God's throne and to force people to worship and obey him. So "speaking as a dragon" means that the United States, under the influence of Satan, will, in the end-times, force people to worship or be punished with economic sanctions and, eventually, with death.

Could a government really control buying and selling? Yes. During World War II, for instance, buying was controlled for certain items—sugar, tires, and auto fuel—by requiring ration stamps. Without these stamps, money was worthless. In this highly computerized age, an economic sanction punishing dissidents could easily be set up. We do not know precisely how all this will come about, but we can be positive it will happen because in **REVELATION 13:16, 17**, God says it will.

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TWO EMERGING POWERS

Revelation 13 is clear. Two powers will emerge in the end times. History confirms that these symbols represent the United States of America and the papacy. The United States will lend its support to the papacy by leading a drive to force the people of the world to worship the beast (papacy) and receive his mark—or else face death.

The Bible says during this time Satan will deceive the masses: “And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived” (**REVELATION 13:14**).

Let us all be ready!

STUDY QUESTIONS

Q. What will America do that will cause it to speak as a dragon?

1. “He exercises all the authority of the first beast” (**REVELATION 13:12**). America will grow into a persecuting power that will eventually force people into false worship, as did papal Rome, which is portrayed in the first half of Revelation 13.

2. He “causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed” (**REVELATION 13:12**). The United States will lead the nations of the world in forcing worship of, and allegiance to, the Antichrist. The issue is always worship. Who will you worship and obey? Will it be Christ your Creator and Redeemer, or Antichrist? Every soul on earth will end up worshipping one or the other.

3. He “[tells] those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived” (**REVELATION 13:14**). The United States will make an image to the beast by legislating religious practice. It will pass laws requiring worship and force people to either obey them or face death. This action is a copy—or image—of the church-state combination that the papacy utilized at the height of her power during the Middle Ages, when millions were slain for their faith. America will combine civil government and apostate Protestantism that will support the papacy. It will then influence all the nations of the world to follow her example; thus, the papacy will gain worldwide support.

4. He “[causes] as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed” (**REVELATION 13:15**). The United States, as head of this international movement, will next influence the nations of the world to impose a universal death sentence upon all who refuse to worship the beast or his image. Another name for this worldwide coalition is “Babylon the Great.” This worldwide alliance will, in the name of Christ, substitute the policeman’s power for the Holy Spirit’s persuasion and will force worship.