

USA in Bible Prophecy

PURPOSE The United States has an important part to play in Bible prophecy in relation to religious liberty.

FOCUS Jesus is the rightful ruler of our conscience, not people or the government.

INTRODUCTION USA is the world's greatest superpower today. Does Bible prophecy say anything about it?

The answer is yes.

Rev 13:1-7 What are the characteristics of the Antichrist beast? How long would it rule? Remember: 1 day = 1 year (**Ezek 4:6, Numb 14:34**). When did it receive its deadly wound? 538-1798. IE: Napoleon took pope captive in 1798.

In Revelation 13 there are actually two beasts.

Rev 13:11-14 What characteristics can we find about the second beast?

#1 It is a kingdom/nation

Dan 7:23 What does a beast represent in Bible prophecy?

#2 This kingdom doesn't have a king...

Rev 13:1 Compared to the other beast from the "Old World" (**Rev 12:3**), this new beast has no crowns on its horns. Why? It's not a monarchy.

#3 It rises in the New World...

Rev 17:15 The first beast rose from the waters (Rev 13:1). What does the water represent? Where does the second beast rise from? (Rev 13:11) By contrast, what would the earth represent? An unpopulated area, not in Europe.

#4 It rises around 1798

Rev 13:10-11 When was the papacy taken into captivity and killed with the sword? 1798. Immediately around the same time, the second beast rises.

#5 It is a Christian nation

John 1:29 Who does the Lamb represent? The lamblike horns must represent Christian characteristics of the nation, even though it speaks like the Devil (Rev 12:9).

#6 It has worldwide influence

Rev 13:12 If this nation is going to cause the whole world to follow the first beast it surely needs to have worldwide influence. What nation fits the 6 characteristics?

In its early days, USA became a refuge for people who sought religious liberty.

Rev 12:15-16 During the religious persecution in the Old World, the earth (USA) helped the woman (church) and swallowed the water (persecution in Europe).
IE: History of the Mayflower, Roger Williams & founding of USA.

These principles were Christ-like principles...

Joh 18:36 Does the state have the right to control people's consciences? Did Jesus give any encouragement to conversion by legislation?

But according to the prophecy the nation would begin to speak like a dragon

Rev 13:11-18 It is the USA that will enforce the mark of the beast on the world. They will use force (through their legislation) to make the world worship the first beast whose wound will be healed. USA used to be a Protestant nation but will give up its founding principles of Protestantism and Religious Liberty. Prophecy says it will not end with USA. (**Rev 13:3**)

But there are those who will not bow to the beast

Rev 15:2-3 Will anyone have victory over the beast during this time? (Rev 13:8)

APPEAL Do you wish to be among them that sing the victory song in heaven?

APPENDIX

Religious Liberty

“Unless therefore I am convinced by the testimony of Scripture or by the clearest reasoning, unless I am persuaded by means of the passages I have quoted, and unless they thus render my conscience bound by the word of God, I cannot and I will not retract, for it is unsafe for a Christian to speak against his conscience. Here I stand, I can do no other; may God help me. Amen.” (Martin Luther, D’Aubigné, *History of the Reformation in the 16th Century*, vol 7, ch. 8)

“The year was 1620 when 135 English Puritans, known today as the Pilgrims, decided to brave the treacherous open seas in search of religious freedom in a new promised land.” (Sean M. Holt, “The Mayflower sails again”, *The Maritime Executive*, 09-28-2020)

“The public or the magistrates may decide what is due from man to man; but when they attempt to prescribe a man's duties to God, they are out of place, and there can be no safety; for it is clear that if the magistrates has the power, he may decree one set of opinions or beliefs today and another tomorrow; as has been done in England by different kings and queens, and by different popes and councils in the Roman Church; so that belief would become a heap of confusion.” (Roger Williams, quoted in Carlos Martyn, *The Life and Times of Martin Luther*, vol. 5, p.340)

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press...” (Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson et.al., *Bill of Rights*, First Amendment)

“When religion is good, it will take care of itself. When it is not able to take care of itself, and God does not see fit to take care of it, so that it has to appeal to the civil power for support, it is evidence to my mind that its cause is a bad one.” (Benjamin Franklin, *Letter to Dr Price*)

“I contemplate with sovereign reverence that act of the whole American people which declared that their legislature should ‘make no law respecting establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,’ thus building a wall of separation between church and state.” (Thomas Jefferson, *Letter, Danbury Baptist Assn.* January 1, 1802)