



SAVED TO SERVE

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THE ROLE OF THE USA IN END TIME PROPHECY

1. In this Sabbath School Lesson, we will study Revelation 13 to discover the role of the United States of America in End Time Bible Prophecy.
2. **Current Events:**

Trump's new executive order establishing a White House 'Faith Office' signals his religious advisors' increasing sway
<https://fortune.com/2025/02/10/history-religion-trump-white-house-faith-office/>

Does Trump's anti-Christian bias executive order favor one religion? What experts say

President Donald Trump's executive order promising to "end the anti-Christian weaponization of government" raised questions for some about what it means for the First Amendment right of religious freedom.

The order, issued Thursday, Feb. 6, puts in place a task force — led by U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi — to investigate policies that the administration said target Christians. The next day, Trump signed another order establishing a White House Faith Office to "protect religious liberty."

"The government's job is to protect everyone's rights, not give special treatment to one religion. Will this office defend non-Christians and the nonreligious, or just push a Christian nationalist agenda?" The Freedom From Religion Foundation, a nonprofit working for the separation of church and state, said in a Feb. 7 statement on X, formerly known as Twitter.

<https://www.miamiherald.com/news/nation-world/national/article300055854.html#storylink=cpy>

3. Read Revelation 13:1-3. The leopard-like beast represents the Papacy, Popery, Roman Catholicism. Let's confirm this point. What does a beast represent in Bible prophecy? Daniel 7:17, 23

4. From where did the beast arise according to Revelation 13:1?

5. What does the sea represent? Revelation 17:15; Isaiah 17:12, 13

6. **Note:** This means that this first beast or nation arose out of a populated area with many people and nations. This is accurate of the Papacy which arose out of the nations in the territory of modern Europe (the Old World).

7. What is the name that is written on the head of this beast? Revelation 13:1

8. What does the Bible call blasphemy? John 10:30-33

9. **Note:** Consider the following admissions by Roman Catholics:

"All bishops, with Peter at their head, are vicars, that is, they take the place of Christ on earth."

<https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/teachings/nature-of-papal-primacy-228>

"The title Vicar of Christ is more expressive of his supreme headship of the Church on earth."

<http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/15403b.htm>

10. How else does the Bible define blasphemy? Mark 2:5-7

Even to this day the Roman Catholic Church continues to commit blasphemy. "Pope Francis sends out 1,000 new hand-picked 'super confessors' to forgive those who have sinned so badly that only normally be pardoned by the pontiff himself." <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3441058/Pope-Francis-sends-1-000-new-hand-picked-super-confessors-forgive-sinned-badly-normally-pardoned-pontiff-himself.html>

11. **Note:** The Papacy was given power for 42 prophetic months (Revelation 13:5) which equals 1260 literal years, beginning in 538 A.D. and ending in 1798 A.D. It received a deadly wound or lost its power over the nations when General Berthier of France took the Pope captive.

"Power was given unto him to continue forty and two months." And, says the prophet, "I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death." And again: "He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword." The forty and two months are the same as the "time and times and the dividing of time," three years and a half, or 1260 days, of Daniel 7 - - the time during which the papal power was to oppress God's people. **This period, as stated in preceding chapters, began with the supremacy of the papacy, A.D. 538, and terminated in 1798.** At that time the pope was made captive by the French army, the papal power received its deadly wound, and the prediction was fulfilled, "He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity." {GC 439.2}

12. What did the leopard-like beast receive between A.D. 538 and 1798? Revelation 13:4
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13. What kind of power did the leopard-like beast have between A.D. 538 and 1798? Revelation 13:7
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14. **Note:** Using the previous conclusions, the leopard-like beast or the 'first beast' of Revelation 13:1-10 is a union of church and state. To confirm this, consider that the Pope is both head of the Church (Roman Catholicism) and the head of the state (the Vatican/Holy See). We can also see a similar description of the Papacy as a woman in Revelation 17:3-5. A woman represents a church according to Ephesians 5:23, 25, 31, 32.

15. Read Revelation 13:11. There is another nation seen rising to power around the time when the Papacy lost its power over the nations. Out of where did this second beast arise?
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- a) In contrast to the sea, what would the earth represent? Revelation 12:15-16; Job 38:25, 26
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16. **Note:** Since waters represents many people and nations, the earth would represent the opposite: a place that is scarcely populated. In Revelation 12, the woman, or the church, fled to a place that was largely uninhabited and there she found rest from the persecution of the Papacy. Based on the Bible, the "earth" in Revelation 12:16 must represent a land or nation that was being established around the time period of 1798. History records that the Pilgrims/Puritans came from the Old World (Europe) to the New World (America) seeking civil and religious liberty in the year 1620. Just a few years before 1798, the United States of America was officially declared a nation in the year 1776. It voted the Constitution in 1787 and then, adopted the Bill of Rights in 1791.

17. What is symbolized by the "two horns like a lamb" on the beast? Revelation 13:11; Daniel 7:24; Daniel 8:7; Habakkuk 3:4
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18. The U.S.A. is likened unto a lamb. Who is the Lamb a symbol of in scripture? John 1:29; Revelation 13:8
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"And he had two horns like a lamb." The lamblike horns indicate youth, innocence, and gentleness, fitly representing the character of the United States when presented to the prophet as "coming up" in 1798. Among the Christian exiles who first fled to America and sought an asylum from royal oppression and priestly intolerance were many who determined to establish a government upon the broad foundation of civil and religious liberty. Their views found place in the Declaration of Independence, which sets forth the great truth that "all men are created equal" and endowed with the inalienable right to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." And the Constitution guarantees to the people the right of self-government, providing that representatives elected by the popular vote shall enact and administer the laws. Freedom of religious faith was also granted, every man being permitted to worship God according to the dictates of his conscience. {GC 441.1}

19. Although the United States is likened unto a lamb, how will it soon speak? Revelation 13:11

20. How does a nation speak? Daniel 6:1, 8-9; Esther 3:8-14

21. What did Satan, the dragon, say when He spoke to Jesus, the Lamb? What does Satan want to receive? Matthew 4:8-9; Revelation 13:4

22. As we have learned, a nation speaks through its legislative laws. The United States of America, although seemingly passive and spiritual in nature, will make laws to force the conscience. What will the U.S.A. force people to do? Revelation 13:12

“The lamblike horns and dragon voice of the symbol point to a striking contradiction between the professions and the practice of the nation thus represented. The "speaking" of the nation is the action of its legislative and judicial authorities. By such action it will give the lie to those liberal and peaceful principles which it has put forth as the foundation of its policy. **The prediction that it will speak "as a dragon" and exercise "all the power of the first beast" plainly foretells a development of the spirit of intolerance and persecution that was manifested by the nations represented by the dragon and the leopardlike beast.** And the statement that the beast with two horns "causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast" indicates that the authority of this nation is to be exercised in enforcing some observance which shall be an act of homage to the papacy... Only in flagrant violation of these safeguards to the nation's liberty [the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution], can any religious observance be enforced by civil authority. **But the inconsistency of such action is no greater than is represented in the symbol. It is the beast with lamblike horns--in profession pure, gentle, and harmless--that speaks as a dragon.**” {GC 442.2}

23. The previously mentioned point may seem farfetched for some people. How could the United States of America, the land of the free and the home of the brave, force people to worship when it boasts of civil and religious freedoms for all? Read the following excerpts from the book, *The Great Controversy*, to discover how America's first settlers treated their citizens which is a foreshadowing of what will be repeated in the future.

Eleven years after the planting of the first colony, Roger Williams came to the New World. Like the early Pilgrims he came to enjoy religious freedom; but, unlike them, he saw—what so few in his time had yet seen—that this freedom was the inalienable right of all, whatever might be their creed. He was an earnest seeker for truth, with Robinson holding it impossible that all the light from God's word had yet been received. Williams “was the first person in modern Christendom to establish civil government on the doctrine of the liberty of conscience, the equality of opinions before the law.”—Bancroft, pt. 1, ch. 15, par. 16. He declared it to be the duty of the magistrate to restrain crime, but never to control the conscience. “The public or the magistrates may decide,” he said, “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 magistrate 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.”—Martyn, vol. 5, p. 340. {GC 293.1}

Attendance at the services of the established church was required under a penalty of fine or imprisonment. “Williams reprobated the law; the worst statute in the English code was that which did but enforce attendance upon the parish church. To compel men to unite with those of a different creed, he regarded as an open violation of their natural rights; to drag to public worship the irreligious and the unwilling, seemed only like requiring hypocrisy... ‘No one should be bound to worship, or,’ he added, ‘to maintain a worship, against his own consent.’ ‘What!’ exclaimed his antagonists, amazed at his tenets, ‘is not the laborer worthy of his hire?’ ‘Yes,’ replied he, ‘from them that hire him.’”—Bancroft, pt. 1, ch. 15, par. 2. {GC 294.1}

24. Since America is prophesied to speak as a dragon, it will follow in the footsteps of the Papacy, who also received power from the dragon. See Revelation 13:1, 2. Which day does the Papacy, the Pope of the Roman Catholic church, call the day of worship, the Sabbath and the Lord's Day?

“Sunday is our mark of authority The church is above the Bible, and this transference of sabbath observance is proof of that fact” (*The Catholic Record* of London, Ontario, Sept. 1, 1923).

“Protestants do not realize that by observing Sunday, they accept the authority of the spokesperson of the Church, the Pope” (*Our Sunday Visitor*, February 5, 1950).

25. Read Revelation 13:14. The devil will influence citizens, religious leaders, and lawmakers to make an “image to the beast” (the Papacy). An image is a copy or replica. What structure of government did the Papacy have during its reign in the Dark Ages? **Answer:** A church-state form of government with the church controlling the state power. The Apostate Protestants in America will combine forces with the civil government to legislate Sunday as a day of rest and worship (the Papacy’s day of worship). This will begin in America and then go around the world.

26. What will be the penalty for those who choose to obey God’s Ten Commandments and not honor the Papacy’s mark of authority - Sunday as a day of worship? Revelation 13:15-17

27. While the image of the beast is being formed, we should be forming an image to Jesus. Meditate upon the following scriptures and write down your thoughts. Genesis 1:26, 27; Genesis 5:1-3; Colossians 3:5-10; 2 Corinthians 3:16-18; Romans 8:29, 30
