



Revelation Week 10  
October 20 | Weekly Devotionals

**OPEN with prayer.**

Begin this devotional exercise by finding a quiet place where you can spend time with God in his word. Before reading, pray that the Holy Spirit would open your eyes and heart to what God wants to say to you.

**READ Revelation 13:1-14:20.**

- What is the basic content of this passage? Like last week, try to summarize it in your own words.
- In Revelation 13, there are two beasts described. Where are the two different beasts coming up from? Who presides over them (see 13:1)? What actions/descriptions are given to each of them?
- How do Revelation 17:9 and 12 clarify the identity of the first beast? Who was in charge politically at the time that John wrote Revelation? What kings or emperors, then, does the beast represent?

- What is the relationship of the second beast to the first beast? What does the second do for the first? What does this potentially tell you about the identity of the second beast?
  
- What is the fate of those who worship the beast according to Revelation 14:9-20?

## **REFLECT**

- Many scholars believe that the main point of Revelation 13 is to showcase how oppressive and unjust systems of government are antithetical to the kingdom of God and how any oppressive and unjust regime ultimately has Satan pulling their strings. Have you ever thought of the beast of Revelation in this sense? In what ways have you seen or heard of, via news or other outlets, oppressive governments embodying the plans of the evil one?
  
- Note how believers are described as being “marked” by their heavenly Father. On a day-to-day basis, do you live into your identity of someone who belongs to God? Explain.
  
- Revelation 13 presents a stark choice between worshiping “the beast” or remaining faithful to God. How do you see this choice reflected in your own life today? What pressures or temptations challenge your allegiance to God, and how do you respond?

## **PRAY**

Take anything that you reflected on above and spend time praying that to God. Pray for wisdom and strength to discern and resist the pressures of the world that challenge your loyalty to God. Ask God to deepen your faith and endurance, and to help you live out your identity as one sealed by him, with a heart ready to share the gospel.