

- a. In verses 1-8 we learn seven things about the first beast:
 - (1) He will have a received deadly wound, and yet he is not dead, but rather alive (verses 3, 14b)
 - (2) He will receive his power and authority and his position from Satan (verse 4)
 - (3) He will utter blasphemous boasts against God, His name, His tabernacle, and His saints (verses 5-6)
 - (4) He will be given power over all the earth (verse 7b)
 - (5) He will receive worldwide worship from the unsaved (verses 4, 8)
 - (6) He will make war on the saints and kill or destroy some of them (verse 7a)
 - (7) He will continue in power for 42 months or 3 1/2 years (verse 5)
- b. In verses 2 and 4 the dragon is mentioned. In Revelation 12:9 we are told that the dragon in the pictorial representations given to John was none other than the serpent of old, the devil, Satan. Thus we learn that the dragon in the picture represents Satan.
- c. In verses 11-17 we learn five things about the second beast (who in Revelation 19:20 is called the false prophet):
 - (1) He also will receive his power and authority from Satan (verse 12a)
 - (2) He will cause the unsaved to worship the first beast (verse 12b)
 - (3) He will cause the unsaved to make a living, speaking image to the first beast, and will cause the unsaved to worship this image (verses 14-15)
 - (4) He will have power to do great lying wonders, and to make fire come down from the sky, in order to deceive the unsaved (verses 13, 14a)
 - (5) He will place the mark of the first beast on the unsaved, and will cause those who refuse this mark to be killed (verses 15b, 16)
- d. In verses 14-15 we learn four things about the image:
 - (1) This image will be made by "those who dwell on the earth," at the direction of the second beast (verse 14)
 - (2) This image (εἰκόνα) will in some sense be like the first beast. It is an image, a likeness of him made in his honor (verse 14)
 - (3) The second beast gives this image power to speak (verse 15)
 - (4) The second beast has the power to put to death those who do not worship the image of the first beast (verse 15)

With regard to the final end and destruction of these two beasts, Revelation 19:19-20 tells us: "And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse (the glorified Lord Jesus Christ) and his army (the saints who come with Christ from heaven). And the beast was taken (i.e., the first beast), and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles (i.e., the second beast who exercised the authority of the first beast in his presence) before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone."