

## INTRODUCTION.

- A. Welcome to our study of the book of Revelation using *Victory Assured!* as our guide.
- B. Purchasing the book is not necessary but will help deepen your understanding of the lessons.
- C. *Victory Assured!* is a thematic (or subject study) of the book of Revelation. *Victory Assured!* does not focus on the various details of the Revelation but rather stressed the main subjects and themes to help the reader gain the overall teachings of the book.
- D. Last week, Overcoming Satan (12:1-17).
- E. This week, Overcoming Political Persecution (13:1-10).

## OVERCOMING POLITICAL PERSECUTION

### I. TWO BEASTS.

- A. The sea beast (13:1-10) is **the Roman empire**.
- B. The earth beast (13:11-18) is **the religious enforcement for the worship of the sea beast**.
- C. Another view is that: one is **pagan** Rome, and the other is **papal** Rome.

### II. FOUR BEASTS (13:1-6).

- A. Jesus' kingdom is **not of this world** (Jn. 18:36).
- B. Jesus said His kingdom is **within you** (Lk. 17:21).
- C. Daniel's Four Beasts:
  - 1. The lion is **Babylon**.
  - 2. The bear is **Persia**.
  - 3. The leopard is **Greece**.
  - 4. The beast is **Rome**.
- D. Daniel's prophecy (Dan. 2:44) said that the eternal kingdom will not be left for another people, it will endure forever.

### III. THE WAR AGAINST THE SAINTS (13:7-10).

- A. The imagery is that of a **beast** versus a **lamb**.
- B. The perseverance of the saints is:
  - 1. If anyone is destined for **captivity** to **captivity** he goes.
  - 2. If anyone kills with the **sword** with the **sword** they will be killed.

## CONCLUSION.

- A. This is the perseverance of the saints. The fact that in the everlasting scheme of life, those who persecute the church will meet their doom. Political persecuting power will not stop or destroy the church. Overcoming such problems lie in the fact that they will not be ultimately triumphant. The battle, war, and victory belong to the Lord.
- B. Do not give up, do not quit, and do not waver. The political kingdoms that persecute the church will one day be left for another, but God's kingdom will not be left for another (Dan. 2:44). It will forever stand. Victory is assured!
- C. Next time: Overcoming False Religion (Rev. 13:11-18).