

The figurative beast, head, horn, and tail

A beast with 7 heads coming up from the sea

Then I saw a **beast coming up out of the sea**, having **ten horns and seven heads**, and on his horns were ten diadems, and on his heads were blasphemous names. And the beast which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like those of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a

**lion. And the dragon gave him his
power and his throne and great
authority. (Rv 13:1-2)**

The dragon's tail that sweeps stars from the sky

**Then another sign appeared
in heaven: and behold, a
great red dragon having
seven heads and ten horns,
and on his heads were seven
diadems. And his tail swept
away a third of the stars of**



Then I looked, and behold, the **Lamb was standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one**

hundred and forty-four thousand, having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads. (Rv 14:1)

Tell me

Spidey, have you
given your life to
Jesus?

Woof?

Man versus beast

more limited.

- While men use words to communicate even abstract concepts clearly, communication among beasts is much
- While man's logic and reason can alter our behavior, beasts live only by instinct

according to the desires of their flesh.

- Men have spirits, which God meant to rule over our flesh. If our flesh rules instead, we are like the beasts who don't even have a spirit.

Mere flesh

Reactive

Spirit over flesh **Proactive**

Spiritual man versus spiritual beast

- When we accepted Satan's lies and turned away from God, we were born again of the seed of beasts.
- *Man in his pomp, yet without understanding, is like the beasts that perish. (Ps 49:20)*
- From God's perspective, we became like unreasoning animals living to fulfill our own desires, and yet at the same time being destroyed by them (Jude 1:10).

Sin

God Satan

Man Beast

Living spirit Dead spirit

Deception

**But these men revile the things
which they do not understand;
and the things which they know
by **instinct**, like **unreasoning****

animals, by these things they
are destroyed.

Jude 1:10

I said to myself, “God will judge both the righteous man and the wicked man,” for a time for every matter and for every deed is there. I said to myself concerning the sons of men, “**God has surely tested them in order for them to see that they are but beasts.**” For the fate of the sons of men and the fate of beasts is the same. As one dies so dies the other; indeed, they all have the same breath and

there is no advantage for man over beast, for all is vanity. All go to the same place. All came from the dust and all return to the dust.

Eccl 3:17-20

Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near when you will say, “I have no delight in them.”

... The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His

**commandments, because this applies
to every person.**

Eccl 12:1, 13

Specific kinds of animals: good

and evil Wild,

dangerous

Domesticated

Useful to their master

**“As for you, My sheep, the
sheep of My pasture, you are
men, and I am your God,”**

declares the Lord God.

Ez 34:31

For it is written in the Law of Moses, “You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing.”

God is not concerned about oxen, is He?

1 Cor 9:9

You **serpents, you brood of
vipers, how will you escape
the sentence of hell?**

Mt 23:33

Specific animals: those that return to the

wild Lost sheep Dogs Pigs

**But He answered and said, “I
was sent only to the **lost**
sheep of the house of Israel.”**

Mt 15:24

For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and are overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first. For it would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn away from the holy commandment handed on to them. It has happened to them according to the true proverb, “A dog returns to its own vomit,” and, “A sow, after washing, returns to

wallowing in the mire.”

2 Pt 2:20-22

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**but speaking the truth in
love, we are to grow up in
all aspects into Him who is
the head, even Christ**

Eph 4:15

The head is the elder and

**honorable man, and the prophet
who teaches falsehood is the
tail. For those who guide this
people are leading them astray;
and those who are guided by
them are brought to
confusion. Is 9:15-16**

Here is the mind which has wisdom. The seven

heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits, and they **are seven kings**; five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come; and when he comes, he must remain a little while. The beast which was and is not, is himself also an eighth and is one of the seven, and he goes to destruction. The **ten horns** which you saw are **ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom**, but they receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour.

Rv 17:9-12

Discerning the beast in Rv 13

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Summary and conclusion

- **Man vs. beast:** Beasts in the Bible represent people who lack understanding of God and His word.
- **Kinds of animals:** Domesticated animals useful to their masters belong to God (cow, ox, sheep), while wild and dangerous animals belong to Satan (wolves, lions, serpents, etc.). Lost sheep, dogs, and pigs were God's people but they return to Satan by following their wild instincts.
- **Heads** are spiritual leaders, **horns** are authority figures, and **tails** are false teachers.

- Let's discern our own beastly nature and continue to learn God's word so we can overcome the desires of our flesh as true "men" of God.

Spirit over flesh **Proactive**

Mere flesh

Reactive

Let's pray  