

Revelation 104 Horns of Dependence

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Revelation 17:12-14



Understand the Metaphor: Understand the Passage



- + Horn(s) {κέρας, keras} – Appendage of an animal, usu. herbivore mammal
 - + Associated with strongest domesticated animals: Beef cattle, oxen, buffalo, etc.
 - + Derived from Hebrew {קרן , qeren} which also means corner
 - + Thus, Hebrew Bronze/Incense altars had raised corners or horns (Ex 27:1-2; 37:25)
 - + Men do not have horns, are not animals though they borrow animal symbols (Ro 1:21-23)
 - + Men's crowns symbolized *horns of power* via upward devices
- + Horns dependent on the animal
 - + Horns elements of the animals to which attached
 - + Used by the animal for its purposes and not their own; totally dependent
 - + No example, nature or Bible, where horns are independent or govern the animal

Differentiate Horns from Mountains: Elements of Control vice Power

- + Father metaphorically depicted as Mountain (Da 2:45)
 - + Mountain bedrock of the Earth that supports inhabitants independent of them
 - + Father *ex nihilo* matter; source of all material Creation – Only source of Power (Ge 1:1)
- + Stone *cut* from this mountain grew into its own Mountain (Da 2:34-35)
 - + Christ is the Rock {Stone} *of our salvation* (1Co 10:1-4)
 - + Christ est. His Kingdom {*Mountain*} which He returns to Father {*Mountain*} (1Co 15:20-24)
- + Ten Horns of Satan/Antichrist (AC) sit on Seven Heads or *Mountains* (Re 17:9-10)
 - + Mountain metaphor is *wishful thinking* of being as powerful as God/Son
 - + They appear as source of all sustenance for the Lost; but they produce **nothing**
 - + They are powerless; clouds without rain, barren effigies of Control (2Pe 2:17-19; Jude 12-13)

Father Delegates to Son: Jesus the Horn of Salvation

- + Jesus, Messiah, totally dependent on Father: Horn of Salvation (1Sa 2:10; Ps 132:17)
 - + Communitive Property: Christ is both Rock and Horn - Cornerstone (2Sa 22:3; Ps 18; Ep 2:19-22)
 - + Spoken of Jesus' as Zechariah announced John Baptist's role (Lk 1:69)
- + Saved are *horns* of Christ, made in image of Firstfruit (Ps 75:10b; 1Co 15:20-23)
 - + Symbolized as *crowns* of righteousness, life, etc. (2Ti 4:7-8; Re 2:10; 4:9-11)
 - + Saved absolutely dependent on Son for salvation – eternal life
 - + Christ the Lamb is not a carnivorous devouring beast of destruction (Re 5:1-6)
 - + Saved walk in His humility exemplified by the Beatitudes (Mt 5:2-12, 38-45)
- + Complete differentiation from the Horns of the Dragon/Beast (Re 12:3-4; 13:1-4)

Ten Horns: One Horn

- + Ten Horns arise during the Great Tribulation
 - + There is no guessing their identity; depends on historical period of occurrence
 - + Ten horns under the domination of the one horn
- + One Horn – Antichrist
 - + Speaks against Father's-Son's Mountains {Kingdoms}; like Satan (Is 14:12-14; Da 7:19-20)
 - + Allowed to defeat, for a time, *True* Jews and those who believe (Da 7:21-25; Ez 28:15-17)
 - + Demonstrates Control by destroying three horns emphasizing its *power*
 - + Only Satan/AC/Lost weakens self as a demonstration of Control: Worship or die
- + Lost are horns of Satan/AC being disciples of these beasts
 - + Pride of self evidence of their sin and downfall; and their delusional lie (Ps 75:4; 10a; 2Th 2:3-12)

Unity of Delusion: *Appears as Good to Destroy True Good*

- + Satan/AC/Ten Horns/Lost united as *light bearers* (2Co 11:14; 2Th 2:3-12)
 - + Entice the foolish and immature believers to willingly follow them (2Pe 2:14-22; Jude 16-18)
 - + Appeals to the Flesh as good when it is evil (Job 40:7-8)
- + Myth of Altar horns protecting one: Custom
 - + Never described in the Law: Custom not supported by Scripture
 - + Adonijah used custom to protect him; his sin overcame him to his death (1Ki 1:50-53; 13-25)
 - + Joab tried the same custom; tried to use God to cover sin w/o repentance (1Ki 2:28-34)
- + People today seek to *use* God as cover for their sins (Mt 7:21-23)
 - + They *appear* godly but are not saved, emulating Satan (2Ti 3:1-5)
 - + They seek their own lusts: Do not be deceived, use Spirit and normative exegetical hermeneutics to understand Bible: your fruit **reveals** your horn (Mt 7:15-20; 1Co 2:14; Ga 5:17-23)