

WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

The Revelation of St. John the Divine

THE BEAST OUT OF THE SEA

And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed and all the world wondered after the beast.

And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?

And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and the power was given unto him to continue forty and two months

And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.

And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them; and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.

And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world

If any man have an ear, let him hear.

He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

—*Revelation 13:1-10.*

In occult symbology water signifies the emotions and the word "sea" is usually used to indicate the Desire World, the substance of which furnishes the material for the desire body of man and animal. Since the impregnation in the Lemurian Epoch by the Lucifer Spirit of the desire body of man with the demoniac principle of passion, much evil (action contrary to God's laws) has been

committed, and it is the sum of this evil in all of a person's past lives that constitutes the "beast" rising "up out of the sea," or the Dweller on the Threshold, for him.

The collective evil embodied in all the peoples of the earth, the anti-Christ, is a potent force in the world. Man, as an individual entity, is both sevenfold and tenfold, being a threefold Spirit with a threefold body and a threefold soul connected by the mind.

Concerning the Dweller on the Threshold and how this "beast" can be overcome, Max Heindel has this to say:

"When the neophyte enters the Desire World consciously, having left his physical body in sleep, he must pass an entity. This is the embodiment of all the evil deeds of his past which, having not yet been expiated, await eradication in future lives. He must recognize and acknowledge that entity as a part of himself. He must promise himself to liquidate, as soon as possible, all debts represented by yon terrible shape.

"This entity is a demon, and is offset by another shape which represents all the good a man has done in the past, and may be called his guardian angel. However, these twin forces are invisible to the ordinary man at all times, though ever potent in his life."

People who strive to expiate the wrong-doing of their past by living lives of purity and unselfish service to others are those who have their names "Written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world."

Those who continue to respond to the evil within their natures, "who killeth with the sword," will eventually be left behind in evolution and have to begin again in a later time.