

**1 John 3:12a** - Not as Cain, who was of the evil one [the devil] and slew [σφάζω (*spházō*): murdered] his brother. (NASB)

σφάζω means “to slay an animal,” “to slaughter,” or with reference to men “to kill,” “to murder,” “to slay.” The word belongs to the stem σφάγ-, cf. σφάγανον “knife,” or “sword.” Usually by stabbing or slitting the throat. The description of a sacrifice in Homer, *The Odyssey*, Book 3,<sup>10</sup> shows that σφάζω denotes neither knocking down nor dividing the animal, but just opening the artery; once done, the blood spurts out. In this connection it should be noted that anatomically σφαγή can mean the throat. (p. 926)

In the New Testament σφάζω occurs only in the Johannine writings, once in 1 John and 8 times in Revelation. In 1 John 3:12 σφάζω is a strong term for Cain’s fratricide analogous to the ancient use for the murder of brothers or relatives.<sup>11</sup> (p. 934)

38. Lucifer will delegate his power, throne, and authority to the Beast-Dictator in the Tribulation:

**Revelation 13:2b** - And the dragon [Satan] gave him [Beast-Dictator] his power and his throne and his authority. (NASB)

39. In monarchies, the position of rulership is referred to as “the throne.” It represents the power of who sits on it but with the idea that the throne is what imputes that power.

40. The throne bestows great privileges and prestige to the one it supports. Consequently, the throne becomes a symbol of government and this represents the system which grants power and authority to its occupant.

41. Satan’s throne represents the evil world system of *cosmos diabolicus*:

<sup>10</sup> “When they had done praying and sprinkling the barley meal Thrasymedes [Θρασυμήδης (*Thrasumédēs*)] dealt his blow, and brought the heifer down with a stroke that cut through the tendons at the base of the neck, whereon the daughters and daughters-in-law of Nestor [Νέστωρ (*Néstōr*)], and his venerable wife Eurydice [Εὐρυδική (*Eurudikē*)] screamed with delight. Then they lifted the heifer’s head from off the ground, and Pisistratus [Πεισίστρατος (*Peisístratus*)] cut her throat” (Homer, *The Odyssey* in *Great Books of the Western World*, ed. Mortimer J. Adler [Chicago: Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1952], Book 3, lines 447–456).

<sup>11</sup> Otto Michel, “σφάζω,” in *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*, ed. Gerhard Friedrich, trans. and ed. Geoffrey W. Bromiley (Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1971), 7:926, 934.

That sphere in which man lives. It is what he sees, what he employs. To the uncounted multitude it is all they ever know so long as they live on this earth.<sup>12</sup>

42. Among the qualifications for selecting the Beast-Dictator is his willingness to submit to and be a supporter of the satanic system the throne represents.

**Revelation 13:3b** - The whole world admired him and followed after the beast [ **Gentile dictator of the revived Roman Empire** ];

**v. 4** - they worshiped the dragon [ **Lucifer** ] because he gave his authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who is like the beast, and who is able to wage war with him?”

**v. 5** - There was given to him [ **by the indwelling Lucifer** ] a mouth speaking [ **στόμα + λαλέω (stóma + laléō): to utter rhetorical veils with eloquence** ] **arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for forty-two months [last 3½ years of the 70th heptad]** was given to him. (EXT)

43. Satan is the ruler over his cosmic kingdom and has the power to delegate its power and authority to whomever he pleases.
44. Not only does the Beast-Dictator have Satan’s delegated power, he also has the privileges, prestige, and advantages which come to the one who represents the system.
45. Thus, Satan has delegated to the Beast-Dictator his power to promote utilization of the Cosmic Systems, plus the various powers associated with his angelic genius and abilities.
46. What is terrifyingly impressive, the man is a genius in the human realm while being indwelt by the ultimate genius among the angels.

<sup>12</sup> Lewis Sperry Chafer, “Angelology,” in *Systematic Theology* (Dallas: Dallas Seminary Press, 1947), 2:78.

47. The Beast-Dictator's IQ is, without question, off the chart. His inventory of ideas is described by the word "polymath," a person of encyclopedic learning of multiple disciplines.
48. This polymathic phenomenon is awarded rulership over the entire organization which Satan has constructed for global control: *cosmos diabolicus*.
49. Finally, the verse says the Beast-Dictator is delegated all the authority which goes with his position as head of Satan's organization.
50. He gradually establishes his authority over Europe's economics, religion, politics, and armed forces.
51. Among these tactics were "signs and false wonders." "Signs" is plural of the noun **σημείον (sēmeíon)**: "extra-natural phenomena in the spiritual realm. This would include miracles, acts of healing, speaking in tongues or the tactics associated with visible or aural prestidigitation and legerdemain.
52. A person with the ability to perform such acts is granted credibility by those who are impressed by such things.
53. The power to work apparent miracles wins the Antichrist acceptance from the benighted masses. This results in winning a huge following from the masses and willingness to submit to his power.
54. The verse concludes with the phrase, **τέρας + ψεῦδος (téras + pseúdos)**: "wonder miracles of the lie."

55. The NASB translates this term, “false wonders.” The word “wonders” is the noun **τέρας (téras)** which in the New Testament is never used without being accompanied by **σημεῖον (sēmeíon)**: “miracles.”

It is no accident that Paul, when he refers to [signs and wonders] (Romans 5:19; 2 Corinthians 12:12), has **δύναμις [dúnamis: “power”]** in the vicinity even when speaking of the manifestation of antichrist (2 Thessalonians 2:9), the point being at least to make it clear that what matters is the power deployed by him.<sup>1</sup>

56. The Antichrist is empowered by the indwelling Satan to perform what appear to be miracles and wonders.
57. To perform these efficiently, the Beast-Dictator has mastered all the propaganda Satan has taught in the Cosmic Academy.
58. It is by inculcation of the lie that captures the souls of the benighted who are easily maneuvered by the allurements of the Beast-Dictator.
59. We are warned by Paul regarding the strategies and tactics of the Dark Side in:

**2 Corinthians 2:11** - So that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, we are not ignorant of his devices.

60. Ignorance of doctrine places a believer in danger of suffering:

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<sup>1</sup> Harald Rengstorf, “τέρας,” in *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*, ed. Gerhard Friedrich, trans. and ed. Geoffrey W. Bromiley (Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1972), 8:125.