

7 RUN FROM THE BEAST!

THREE ANGELS AND YOU

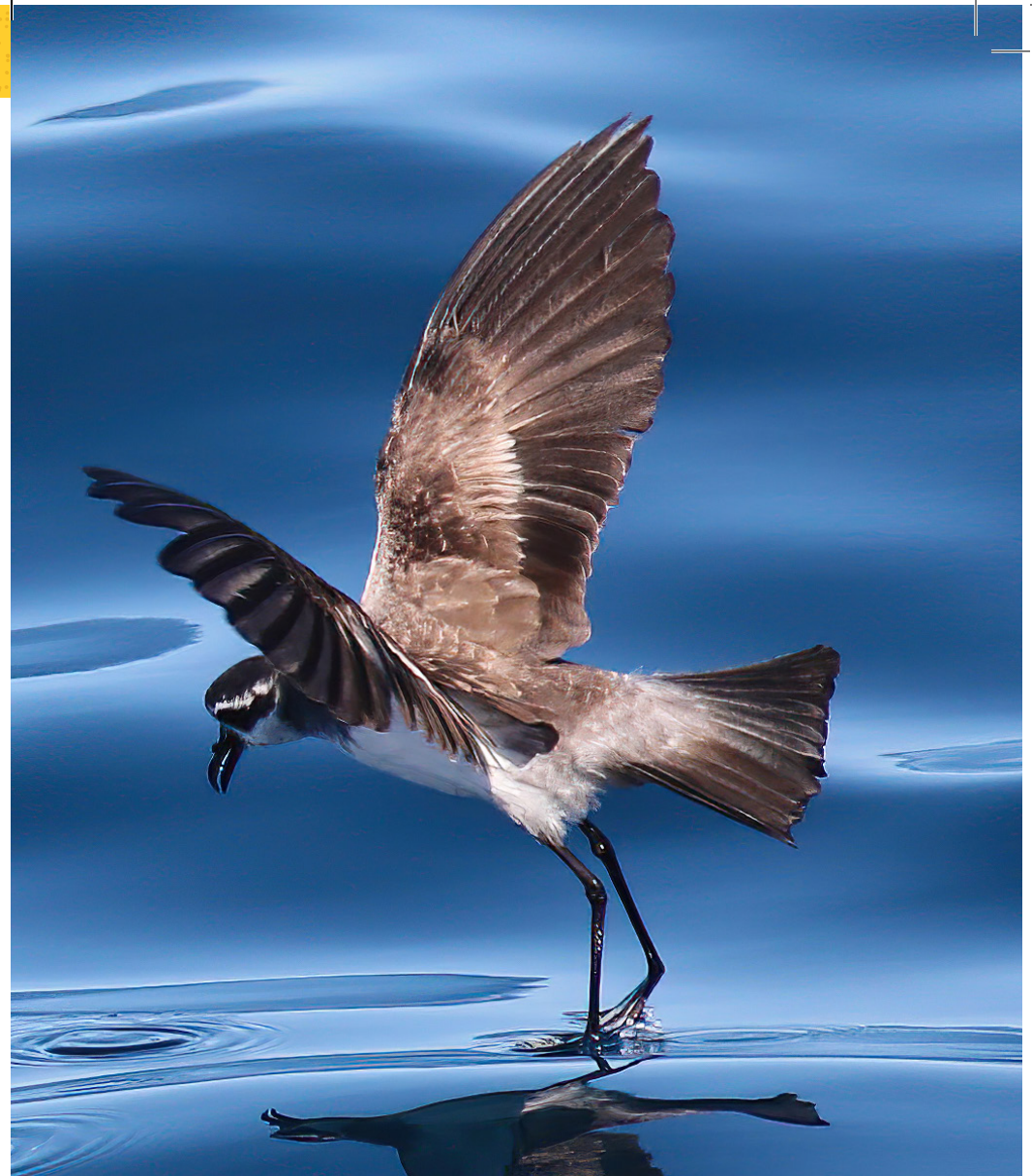
It's Alive!



REVELATION 14 BIBLE GUIDES FOR KIDS

BY RANDY FISHILL

**Each year,
thousands—maybe
tens of thousands—
of species go extinct.
Every once in a
while, though, a
creature that was
thought to be
extinct is found alive.
Here are a
few examples.**



New Zealand storm petrel

This bird was thought to be extinct for at least 100 years. That's before early 2003, when a photographer snapped a picture of one. But the real confirmation came in 2005, when a New Zealand storm petrel landed on a fishing boat! The fisher just happened to be a former New Zealand Wildlife Service officer, who quickly recognized the “extinct” bird and boxed it up for study!

Pygmy tarsier

So this cute little bug-eyed creature didn't really go extinct around 1921 after all! In 2000, scientists in Indonesia were trapping rats and accidentally trapped (and killed!) a Pygmy tarsier. Thankfully, a few more of the evasive creatures were discovered eight years later on the Indonesian island of Sulawesi. Pygmy tarsiers grow to only about four inches, so it's no wonder they're hard to find!



Pinocchio anole lizard

Check out the snout on this creature that was thought to be extinct for at least 50 years. That was disproven, however, in 2005, when a birdwatcher deep in the cloud forests of Ecuador saw a Pinocchio lizard scamper across a road!

Noted Returns

Can you think of some things in areas besides nature, such as fast food or entertainment, where something became “extinct” but eventually reappeared? Write them on the sticky notes.



The Beast is Back

In the world of nature, some things once thought to be extinct weren't actually gone forever. In a certain sense, the same is true in the spiritual world. To discover how that can happen, here's a recap of the first two angels' messages:



FIRST ANGEL (Revelation 14:6, 7)
Accept the gospel, worship the Creator, know that the Cosmic Time of Justice (the Investigative Judgment) is underway



SECOND ANGEL (Revelation 14:8)
Avoid fake religion and their wrong spiritual teachings (souls don't die, Sunday is the Sabbath, sinners burn forever in hell, and more)

Now the vision expands to include another angel bearing a shocking message:



“A third angel followed them and said in a loud voice: “If anyone worships the beast and its image and receives its mark on their forehead or on their hand, they . . . will drink the wine of God's fury” (Revelation 14:9, 10).

What or who is this “beast” and what is its “image”? What about that strange “mark”? Like the creatures mentioned earlier, it all involves a return from apparent extinction. Using the hospital sign on the next page, place the colored words from the sign in the spaces that match their color to complete the Bible verse.



Child injured? Wonder where to go?

1. Our department **heads** are **wound** care experts.
2. We've tamed the **beast** of many potentially **fatal** diseases.
3. We're ranked number one in the **world**!

Don't go anywhere else! KCH is here for you!

"Thanks to Kid's Center Healthcare, I went from hopeless to **healed**!"
—Mateo, age 12



KCH

Bible verse:

"One of the **red** of the **pink** seemed to have had a **brown** **blue**, but the **brown** **blue** had been **green**. The whole **purple** was filled with **orange** and followed the **pink**.

Do you remember the big statue from Daniel 2 in the first lesson? The Bible verse above, Revelation 13:3, points to the legs of that statue. Those legs symbolized the great power of the religion-based Roman kingdom. The top part of the legs were made of iron but farther down the iron became mixed with clay. This symbolized the blending of religious Rome with its state government. Like looking in a mirror, religious Rome now saw in its government an image of itself.

The great Roman power lasted for many centuries, but eventually it came to an end. That was the "fatal wound" mentioned in Revelation 13:3. But like a species that wasn't really extinct after all, the "fatal" wound was "healed." In other words, the Bible said this great power would make a comeback. That seems to be happening today. The "beast," the false Roman religious system, is once again becoming powerful. Of course, this doesn't mean all of its sincere followers are bad people! But according to the third angel, just as in the past, a renewed Roman power (beast) will team up with governments (image) to try and make God's end-time people worship according to its rules.



A Mark to Avoid

Various “marks” of identification have been used throughout history. For example, a badge helps to identify a police officer. A red-tipped white cane signals that its user is visually impaired. But not all marks of identification are welcome. During World War II, Jewish people were forced to wear a six-pointed yellow star. This helped the Nazis identify Jews for various evil purposes, including sending them to deadly concentration camps.



The third angel mentions a mark of identification that shows loyalty to the beast and its image. Reread Revelation 14:9 and circle the two areas where this mark is “received.”



The book of Revelation is filled with symbols, such as this mark and where it is “received.” Read the following Bible verses and respond to the questions.

John 3:16

What does Jesus want us to believe? _____
Which circled picture above do you think best symbolizes what a person believes?

John 14:15

What does Jesus want us to do? _____
Which circled picture above best symbolizes what a person does (their actions)?

The Rest of the Third Angel's Message

The third angel goes on to talk about the dire fate of those who follow the beast and his image. They'll experience mental anguish (“be tormented” and have “no rest day or night”) as long as they're alive. That's because they realize they made the wrong choice about whom to follow. You can help them avoid such a future by sharing God's truth today!





In Revelation 14:9, the forehead symbolizes what a person believes, and the hand represents what a person does, or their actions. At the end of earth's history, God's followers will be pressured to forsake the Bible's way of salvation. The beast and its enforcers will push a false set of spiritual beliefs and actions. Each person will be "marked," or identified, as either a follower of the beast and its image or a follower of the true God.

The next time you hear someone claim that the "mark" of the beast involves a number tattooed on your forehead or a computer chip implanted in your body, you can tell them what the Bible really says. It's all about a person's spiritual beliefs and actions right before Jesus comes back. Of course, you can be ready today by making sure that Jesus has first place in your life. He is "the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6).

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