

Vicarius Filii Dei Fact or Fiction? DEBUNKED?

VICARIUS FILII DEI – DEBUNKED - FOR HISTORY OF CLICK HERE TO WIKIPEDIA

A depiction of the [gematria](#) principle employed by Andreas Helwig in 1612. ([Wikipedia: Full History of VFD link here](#))

What Br Russell “said”? A question meeting at a convention gets turned into *much* more than was ever said?

We believe it is FICTION and feel you will as well once this is explored. To our understanding and research, Br Russell *NEVER* specifically wrote about VFD in any of the Volumes nor ZWT. The *ONLY* statement we are aware of is Q37 as shown below this diagram – of course Q37:1 was printed in 1917. When this question was posed to Brother Russell in 1911, over 100 years ago, he likely would have believed that on the Pope’s crown were the words Vicarius Filii Dei as this was said to be true, and of course it would have been impossible to verify back in those early days of the 20th century. In fact many have thought this to be a true fact, and to prove otherwise would have been very difficult until very recent technology/ internet advancements etc.- This being said – Br Russell NEVER mentions in the answer below that the Roman Numerals = 666. His answer focuses on the fact that the “title of Vicarious Son of God is an illegitimate one, he is not the son of God” And of course as it turns out, the official title of the pope is “VICAR OF JESUS CHRIST” which contains 18 letters(666) 6+6+6 = 18 per his teachings in R323pg9

“BEAST--Number Of. Q37:1:: QUESTION (1911) What about the number of the beast, 666?

ANSWER.-

-There are various interpretations given to this. I am not specially prepared to say all about my view of the matter, except that I believe it would represent the title of papacy. There are three Latin words inscribed on the Pope's crown, Vicarius Felii Dei, the Vicarious Son of God. This title attached to the Pope would seem to be an illegitimate one. He is not the vicarious Son of God; he is not the vicar of Christ ; he is not reigning instead of Christ ; and therefore every intimation to the effect that he is the substitute or representative of Christ in reigning power would seem to be that much of a blasphemy. Not that the Pope and the Catholics understand that they are blaspheming. I presume they feel fully confident that this is all very true of him. But to our understanding it is untrue, and he is in a false position, and is really anti-Christ, or the counterfeit Christ, as the Bible would express the matter”

1. Immediately we see the Pastors first statement, *“There are Various Interpretations given to this. I am not specially prepared to say all about my view of the matter, except...”*

2. Secondly, what we notice is that that Vicarius **FELII** Dei is spelled incorrectly. The proper spelling is **“FILLI”**. At first, we wondered if this was a typo on HTDB and Most Holy Faith as they both have Felii spelled incorrectly. Upon further examination it proves in our hard copy of the Question Book from 1917

on page 37, we confirm that it is in fact also the incorrect spelling, "Feliu". We then went online and found the Original Convention Report from 1911 and here as well it was also not the correct spelling.

The problem, that by misspelling the title incorrectly as Vicarius Felii Dei = 665. The "e" that should have been an "l". "e" has zero numerical value. Certainly, a major mistake, problem, and something the Pastor would have never authorized in our opinion. Perhaps the Lord overruled this and allowed for this misspelling for a reason? Documentation below.

WE BELIEVE THE LORD INTENTIONALLY ALLOWED THIS SIGNIFIGANT SPELLING MISTAKE FOR A REASON. By using the spelling below and applying the supposed "method" it would = 665



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and take a vote; that would settle it very quickly. He could be elected any time. It is not necessary to elect an elder at a certain, particular date. He could be elected in the middle of the year or the next month after, or any time, if it is found to be necessary, and if the class considers he is a suitable person. I should think it would be very well in such a case as this to have the matter brought to the attention of the class, consider it for a month or so, and on a certain Sunday ask the class to vote on the question. That would be giving them full opportunity, and if they voted, then the vote would decide.

Question 55.—What about the number of the beast, 666?

Answer.—There are various interpretations given to this. I am not specially prepared to say all about my view of the matter, except that I believe it would represent the title of papacy. There are three Latin words inscribed on the Pope's crown, **Vicarius Felii Dei, the Vicarius Son of God.** This title attached to the Pope would seem to be an illegitimate one. He is not the vicarius Son of God; he is not the vicar of Christ; he is not reigning instead of Christ; and therefore every intimation to the effect that he is the substitute or representative of Christ, a reigning power would seem to be that much of a blasphemy. I presume they feel fully confident that this is very true of him. But to our understanding it is untrue, and is in a false position, and is really anti-Christ, or the counter-Christ as the Bible would say.