

What is the mark of the beast?

As you read this study, I encourage you to study the corresponding scriptures for yourself to develop a personal, confident understanding of biblical truth. Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. Study like the Bereans, who listened to Paul but did not take his word for it. They studied the scriptures for themselves so they would know for sure.

Acts 17:11 “These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.” I ask that you do the same with this study. Please pray before you begin.

What the Bible says

Many believe 666, a barcode, or a chip is the mark of the beast, but 666 is simply the beast's number. Some believe the beast is a future creature that marks people with a number. Let's examine the beast in the Bible to understand its meaning in prophecy by studying how the term is used and what it represents.

Read Daniel 7:1-8 and Daniel 8:1-8, 15-23. To better understand what a beast symbolizes in Bible prophecy, note that both Daniel and Revelation focus on prophecy. The four beasts shown here in Daniel represent the same world powers. This is confirmed by Daniel 2, which describes a statue symbolizing the four powers mentioned in Daniel 7:17, 23, and 8:1-8, 15-23. In Revelation 13, a beast signifies a world power or kingdom emerging at the end of time, rather than a literal creature or monster.

We now see that the mark of the beast represents a world power that will deceive the unaware into accepting its counterfeit, which mimics God's original. Understanding God's seal, which includes the ruler's name, title, and territory, helps clarify what the beast's mark is.

Read Daniel 1:1: “Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon.” It mentions his name, official title, and the territory he rules. The same three elements appear together in one of the Ten Commandments. Which one? The fourth. **Let's look at Exodus 20:8-11:** “But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God.” “For in six days the Lord created heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them.”

We observe: (Title = Lord), (Name = God), (Territory = Heaven and earth). It is now clear that God's seal or mark is the seventh-day Sabbath. Which seal or mark is most closely associated with the seventh-day Sabbath? The sacredness of the first day, Sunday.

Read Revelation 13:18: It states that 666 is the number of the beast, not the mark. “It is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.”

The leader of the papal hierarchy is the pope, whose official title is “VICARIUS FILII DEI,” meaning “Representative of the Son of God.” In Latin, certain letters have numerical values. When these values are summed for the official title, the number of the beast (the world power) is 666.

V=5	F=0	D=500
I=1	I=0	E=0
C=100	L=50	I=1
A=0	I=1	-----
R=0	I=1	501
I=1	-----	
U=5	53	
S=0		

112		
112 + 53 + 501=666 TOTAL		

While one group will accept the mark of the beast and worship its image, another group is mentioned **in Rev. 14:12**: “here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.”

On one side is the seal of God, meaning Saturday, the seventh-day Sabbath of the fourth commandment. Opposite stands the mark of the beast, namely, **enforced Sunday sacredness**. The papacy considers it the “mark of authority” because, in 364 AD, it claims to have changed the Sabbath to Sunday (The Convert’s Catechism, P. Geiermann). Whoever knowingly keeps the commandments of man as changed by the papacy honors this antichristian system and places himself in opposition to God.

Read Mark 14:36. Here, Jesus states that “all things are possible with God” and asks God, “if it is possible to remove the cup from Him.” **Also, in Matthew 26:39**, we have another account of the same prayer, asking whether it was possible to take the cup from Him.

This reinforces the strongest evidence that the law is unchangeable: Jesus' death on the cross for mankind. He asked the Father, "If it is possible?" This means that no one or nothing can alter God's commandments. If the commandments, including the Sabbath, could be changed, God would have done so, and Jesus would not have sacrificed Himself for us. Since God cannot alter the law, how can anyone or anything else change it? They can't!

Read Rev. 14:9-14. When Sunday observance is established in America and enforced by law, after the world has been instructed about our responsibility to the true Sabbath, all who knowingly transgress God's law will receive the mark of the beast. They can no longer expect God's grace and will await His vengeance and eternal death.

The ultimate control of humanity has been planned for years by the World Council of Churches, leading governments worldwide, and the United Nations.

Read Rev.13:3 "All the world wondered after the beast..." How will this happen? How will the whole world follow and obey the beast power in all its commands? The goal is to create a common unbiblical "Sunday Worship Day," as envisioned by the papacy and the ecumenical movement. The pope's visits to governments, his encyclicals, and worldwide efforts confirm this plan.

Reasons will arise that will prompt many to demand a day of rest protected by legislation:

(1.) Economic havoc, disasters to our planet; global warming is destroying our land. We must return to God and do whatever the Pope says will be the cry. Here are some news headlines: "Slow Sunday; The simple solution to global warming" and "Using Sunday as a day of rest and renewal would be good for our health as well as the health of the planet."

(2.) We need to keep one day sacred for the family so people are not overworked. They will say that we must give at least one day off to rest, and it must be mandated. Pope Leo XIV has reiterated what Benedict said, "Sunday must be a day of rest for everyone, so people can be free to be with their families and with God." Pope Leo XIV also referenced the encyclical of Pope Leo XII, which contains a section on Sunday work and Sunday law. Section 41 of his encyclical RERUM NOVARUM (Of new things) addresses the rights and duties of workers. He also talked about unity and how all Christians should be united with God to build a new world where peace reigns!

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:3: Here, sudden destruction will come upon those who teach peace and safety to the world.

The Sabbath Commandment is the only one repeatedly described as a seal or sign of God's creative and redeeming power. **Read Exodus 31:16–17.** The Sabbath is a perpetual covenant, a sign between me and the children of Israel forever.

Read Ezekiel 20:12, 20. The sabbaths are to be a sign of sanctification between God and his people so that we can know who God is.

You may wonder how the mark is placed on the hand or forehead.

Look at Revelation 13:16-18. Here, we see that an economic boycott will enforce the Mark of the Beast on their right hand or forehead. You won't be able to buy or sell without it.

1. What it means to receive the mark in the forehead:

Those who receive the mark in the forehead have chosen with their minds to submit to the beast's authority. In other words, they will believe in the beast's teachings and authority, follow them, and worship on the enforced Sunday (Mark of the Beast).

2. What it means to receive the mark in the hand:

Those who receive the mark in the hand have yielded to the beast's authority under pressure and will surrender to the enforced Sunday (Mark of the Beast), even if they don't believe in it.

3. What it means to receive the seal of God in the forehead:

Those who receive the seal of God in their foreheads have chosen to submit to God's authority, believe in God's teachings, and worship God on the Seventh Day Sabbath. In contrast, the seal of God can be received only in the forehead. One must make a conscious decision to believe in the teachings and authority of Christ Jesus. God does not force anyone to receive His seal, and we cannot receive the seal of God in the hand.

See Ecclesiastes 12:13: We are told that this is the conclusion of the whole matter and the whole duty of man. That is to fear God and keep his commandments.

Read the 2nd commandment in Exodus 20:5, 8. We are told that only those who love God and keep His commandments will be shown mercy.

Turn to Rev. 22:14. If we do not keep the Ten Commandments, we will not have access to the Tree of Life or enter the city of God.

Consequently, the difference between true and false worship hinges on keeping God's commandments.