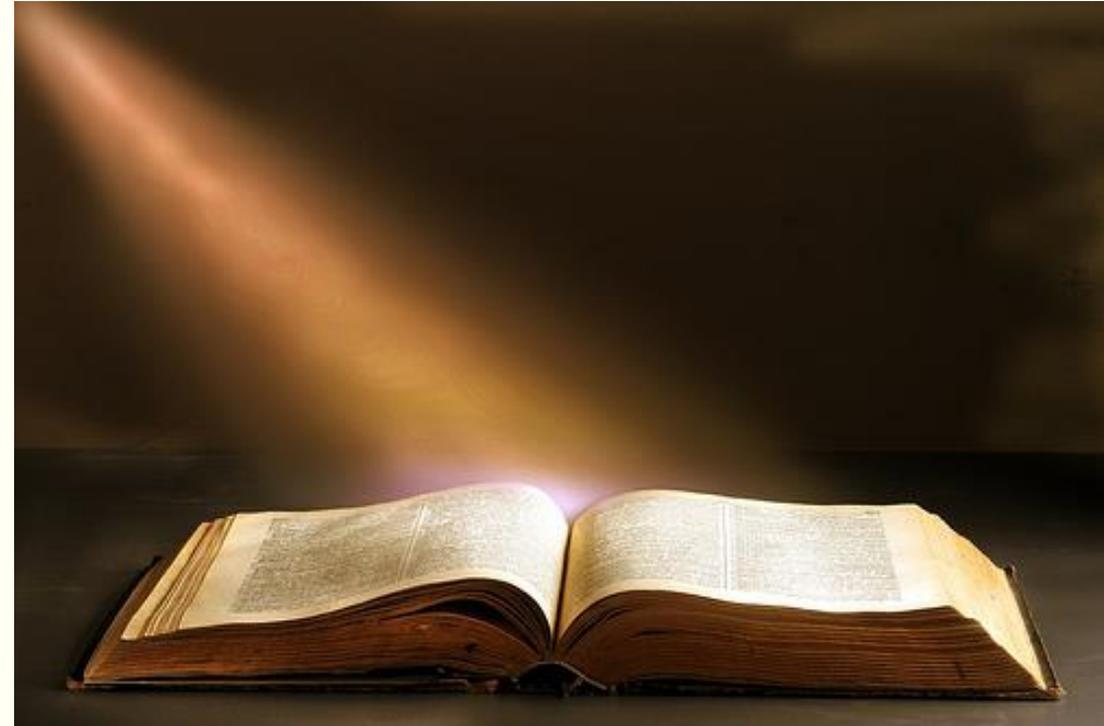


Exploring the Book of Revelation: Verse by Verse

Chapter 13



CHAPTER 13

The Image and Mark of the Beast



Chapter 13



Primary purpose of our Bible study is to understand each message as it applied to the church to which it was given AND its personal application for us today

Introduction

The Beast from the Sea

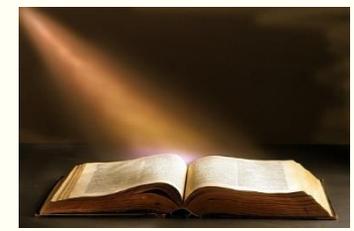
The Beast from the Earth

Image of the Beast

Mark of the Beast

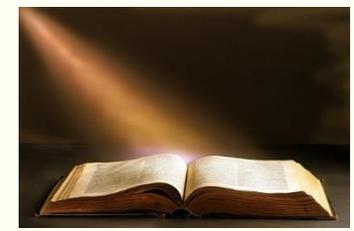
The Number 666

Revelation 13:1-4



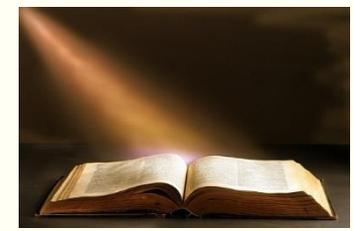
1 Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name. **2** Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority. **3** And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast. **4** So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?”

Revelation 13:5-10



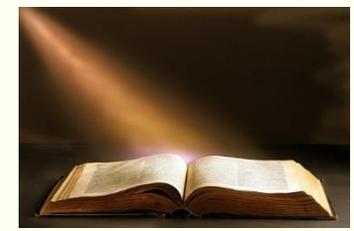
5 And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. **6** Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. **7** It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. **8** All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. **9** If anyone has an ear, let him hear. **10** He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity; he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

Revelation 13:11-14



11 Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. **12** And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. **13** He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. **14** And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived.

Revelation 13:15-18



15 He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. **16** He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, **17** and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. **18** Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666.

Introduction

The dramatic story of the Great Controversy continues from Revelation 12 where the dragon is determined to destroy the remaining of the woman's offspring

He uses his two allies – the beasts from the Sea and the Earth – to make war against Christ and His faithful followers, culminating in the final conflict as earth's history draws to a close

The beast from the Sea is a parody of Christ; the beast from the Earth is a parody of the Holy Spirit

The counterfeit satanic trinity (Dragon, the Sea beast and the Earth beast) are all **persecuting powers** in collusion to deceive the world as the end-time war reaches its climax

Rev 13 is one of the most significant chapters of the prophetic books of Daniel and Revelation

Using the principle of “Repetition and Enlargement”, Revelation 13 expands on Daniel 7

Rev 13	Sweeping Overview
vs 1-4	Introduction of the first ally – the Sea beast identical to Daniel 7 vision
vs 5-7	Identification of the Sea beast by his activities during the 42 months
vs 8	Introduction to the final conflict
vs 9-10	The Sea beast is mortally wounded
vs 11-18	Final conflict at the end of time when the wound is healed

Striking similarities between Daniel 7 and Revelation 13

1. The beasts arise 'out of the sea', 'up from the sea'	Rev. 13:1, Daniel 7:3
2. 'like unto a leopard', 'another, like a leopard'	Rev. 13:2, Daniel 7:6
3. 'feet of a bear', 'like to a bear'	Rev. 13:2, Daniel 7:5
4. 'mouth of a lion', 'was like a lion'	Rev. 13:2, Daniel 7:4
5. 'the dragon', 'a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible'	Rev. 13:2, Daniel 7:7
6. 'seven heads', (the four beasts have a total of 7 heads)	Rev. 13:1, Daniel 7:4-7
7. 'ten horns', 'it had ten horns'	Rev. 13:1, Daniel 7:7
8. 'forty and two months', 'time, times, and dividing of time'	Rev. 13:5, Daniel 7:25
9. 'number of a man', 'eyes of a man'	Rev. 13:18, Daniel 7:8
10. 'blasphemy against God', 'speak great words'	Rev. 13:5-6, Daniel 7:8, 20, 25
11. 'make war with the saints', 'made war with the saints'	Rev. 13:2, Daniel 7:21
12. 'gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority', "fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly... and it had ten horns.'	Rev. 13:2, Daniel 7:7
13. 'wounded to death'	Rev. 13:3
14. 'and his deadly wound was healed'	Rev. 13:3
15. 'all the world wondered ... and they worshipped the beast', "shall be diverse"	Rev. 13:3-4, Daniel 7:24

Introduction

Rev 13	Structure of the Chapter
vs 1-4	Introduction and identity of the Sea beast
vs 5-8	The 42-month reign of the Sea beast
vs 9-10	The Sea beast is wounded
vs 11-12	The restoration of the Sea beast and his ally who accomplishes it
vs 13-15	The method by which it is accomplished
vs 16-17	The medium used to secure his reign
vs 18	A unique identity of the Sea beast

Through much of the Christian era and the great Protestant Reformation, **the general understanding was that the Sea beast was the antichrist, the Church of Rome**

One of the main goals of the Counter-Reformation was to drive an alternative interpretation of prophecy to remove this stigma. The Jesuits devised and disseminated the **futurist interpretation of the prophecies** teaching that the antichrist would be a Jewish false messiah from the tribe of Dan who would arise in the future after the rapture.

“In the warm ecumenical afterglow of Vatican II, **Martin Luther’s identification of the papacy** as the antichrist of Bible prophecy is often seen as narrow-minded, bigoted, and even unchristian. His view, which until recently was shared by a broad spectrum of conservative evangelical Protestants, is now seen as an embarrassment by some members of churches that retain this interpretation. It is no longer socially acceptable to describe the papacy as the fulfillment of a collection of prophecies regarding a powerful spiritual tyranny. Even the United States Congress has put itself on record regarding this issue. In 2000, Congress passed a joint resolution condemning Bob Jones University for promoting this belief. The politicians who passed that resolution were probably unaware that they were **undermining the historical foundations of Protestantism**. It is important to focus primarily on Luther because it was his views on the subject that triggered the Protestant Reformation. It should be noted, however, that he was far from the first person to hold this view. He himself credited John Huss with being the first to call the Pope an antichrist. **Huss did indeed consider the Pope to be the antichrist**, but he was not the first to do so, nor was his mentor, John Wycliffe, although Wycliffe and at least some of his Lolland followers, including Sir John Oldcastle, held this belief. This idea also circulated among the Waldensians, the Albigensians, and the Fraticelli, a group of Franciscans with more regard for the rule of St. Francis than for papal authority.”

MARTIN LUTHER AND THE ANTICHRIST

[HTTPS://DIGITALCOMMONS.ANDREWS.EDU/PD/VOL13/ISS2/1](https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/pd/vol13/iss2/1)

Introduction

“After Vatican II, traditional Lutheran and Reformed claims that the pope was Antichrist have been either forgotten or explicitly rejected. Even the Evangelical Fundamentalists, for whom Antichrist is certainly alive and well, have been uncomfortable with a papal Antichrist.”

Bernard McGinn, Antichrist: Two thousand years of the human fascination with evil, page 252

The first part of Rev 13 is written in past tense, from a historical point of view

Recap of the Daniel 2 and 7 vision

Head of Gold/Lion: Babylon (605 – 539 BC)

Chest of Silver/Bear: Medo-Persia (539 – 331 BC)

Thigh of Bronze/Four-headed Leopard: Greece (331 – 168 BC)

Legs of Iron/Dragon: Pagan Rome (168 BC – 476 AD)

10 toes of iron and clay/10 horns: Ten Divisions of Western Europe (476 AD – the end of time)



The Beast from the Sea

Picking up from Rev 12:17, early Greek manuscripts uses the phrase “**he stood**” to indicate that the dragon was standing on the seashore waiting the emergence of his first ally, the Sea beast

John is in vision and sees a beast coming out of the water

“Daniel spoke, saying, “I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were **stirring up the Great Sea**. And four great beasts came up from the sea.” – Dan 7:2,3

The Sea beast is a composite beast incorporating the same characteristics of all four beasts from Daniel’s vision (Dan 7:3-7). In both visions, both prophets see beasts rising from the sea

“Those great beasts, which are four, are four kings which arise out of the earth. Thus, he said: “The fourth beast shall be a fourth kingdom on earth.” – Dan 7:17,23

In Bible prophecy, “**beast**” symbolize political powers, kingdoms, or nations

“Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on **many waters**, And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was **full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.**” – Rev 17:1,3

“Then he said to me, “The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.” – Rev 17:15

In Bible prophecy, “**sea or waters**” symbolize a densely populated territory or region



The Beast from the Sea

Winds stirring up the sea symbolize political commotion, civil strife and revolution

The four beasts of Daniel 7 are mentioned in Rev 13 but in reverse order!

History proves that the lion represents the kingdom of Babylon (605-539 BC), the bear symbolizes the kingdom of the Medes and Persians (539-331 BC), the leopard denotes Greece (331-168 BC) and the dragon beast represents Rome.

Daniel was living in the period of the lion (Babylon) and looking forward, but John is living in the period of the terrible beast (Rome) looking backward

“And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads.” – Rev 12:3

The 10 horns are not distributed among the 7 heads, but on the same head

The crowns on the beast and dragon are **diadems**, counterfeiting Jesus (Rev 19:12)

The crowns shift from the 7 heads of the dragon to the 10 horns of the Sea beast as the dragon (parody of God the Father) gives the Sea beast his authority

There are four stages of the fourth beast (Roman Empire)



The Beast from the Sea

There are four stages of the fourth beast (Roman Empire):

1. The United Roman Empire (168 BC – 476 AD) – Legs of iron

“And the **fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron**, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others.” – Daniel 2:40

“Thus, he said: ‘The **fourth beast shall be a fourth kingdom** on earth, which shall be different from all other kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, trample it and break it in pieces.’ – Daniel 7:23

2. The Divided Roman Empire (476 AD – 538 AD) – Ten toes on the feet

“Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter’s clay and partly of iron, the **kingdom shall be divided**; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay.” – Daniel 2:41

“**The ten horns are ten kings** who shall arise from this kingdom.” – Daniel 7:24

The ten horns are the ten divisions of Western Europe into which Imperial Rome separated in AD 476: Franks, Huns, Visigoths, Ostrogoths, Heruli, Lombards, Anglo-Saxons, Suevi, Vandals, and Burgundians.



“The [Roman] Empire was falling into decay. The Barbarians knew that its life was failing, that the old organism was worn out, and they hastened to take possession of the remains. From every direction they came for the spoils. The Saxons and the Angles settled in Great Britain; the Franks invaded Northern Gaul; the Visigoths made Spain and the region south of the Loire their own; the Burgundians took possession of the upper valley of the Rhone; the Vandals made conquests in Africa. The Ostrogoths and Lombards were waiting for their turn to come. Among these new invaders, some were heretics, others were pagans. **What is to become of the Church?** Are its days numbered, and is the Empire to bring it down as its companion into an open tomb? No, the Church will not descend into the tomb. It will survive the Empire. One after another, these barbarian peoples will submit to its laws, and will count it a glory to be the Church’s children. The frontiers of the Church will be extended; its institutions, for a moment shaken by the Barbarians, will be consolidated, developed, and will adapt themselves to their surroundings. The papacy, most sorely tried of all, will make a new advance. At length a second empire will arise, and of this empire the **Pope will be the master** - more than this, he will be the **master of Europe**. He will dictate his orders to kings who will obey them.”

THE LATIN CHURCH IN THE MIDDLE AGES, PAGE V - VI

The Beast from the Sea

3. Papal Rome (Little horn) 42 prophetic months/1260 years (538 AD – 1798 AD)

“And another shall rise after them; he shall be different from the first ones and shall subdue three kings. He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand for a **time and times and half a time.**” – Dan 7:24, 25

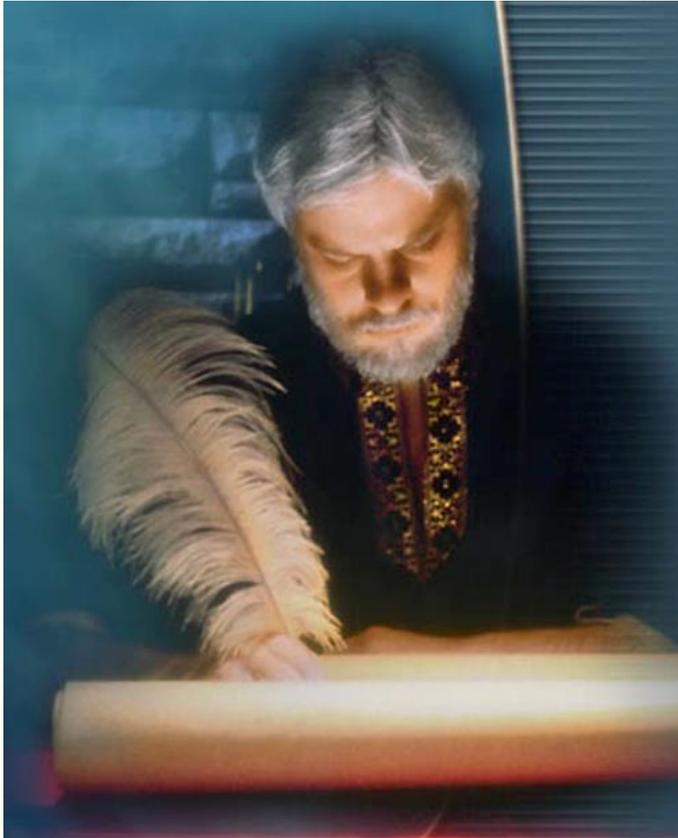
Characteristics of Papal Rome (Little horn) from Daniel 7

- He arose out of the fourth beast (7:7)
- He came up after the ten horns and different from the rest (7:23, 24)
 - He would uproot three horns (7:8)
- Spoke pompous words against the Most High (7: 8, 11, 20, 25)
 - He has eyes and mouth of a man (7:8, 20)
 - Persecuted the saints (7:21, 25)
 - Ruled for time, times and half a time (7:25)
 - Thought he could change God’s law (7:25)
 - Thought he could change God’s times (7:25)



Justinian, the Pagan Roman Emperor, gave to Vigilius II both a civil and religious authority in 538 AD

The Beast from the Sea

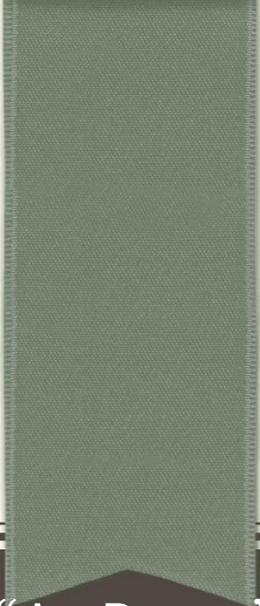


“The Roman church “modified” the law by eliminating the second commandment and splitting the tenth commandment in order to still have ten. The fourth commandment is moved up to third, and the reference to Sabbath being the seventh day is removed.”

The Convert’s Catechism of Catholic Doctrine, p 37,38, 1946 edition

Sunday is our mark of authority. The church is above the Bible, and this transference of Sabbath observance is proof of that fact.”

Catholic Record, Sept 1, 1923



“As Rome’s role in pagan history came to an end, she was destined to play another, a sacred one, in Christian history. . . . Rome’s part in ecclesiastical history had begun. . . . Thus, a Christian Rome, destined, like its pagan predecessor on the Palatine, to conquer a large part of the earth, gradually arose on Vatican Hill. . . . While today the Palatine [the hill of the Roman Emperors’ palaces] is in ruins, St. Peter’s still draws worshipers from all parts of the world.”

Paganism to Christianity in the Roman Empire, pages 6-7

The Beast from the Sea

The beast received a deadly wound after ruling for 1260 years. But the wound will be completely healed, and it would have another period of dominion to the end of time

4. Papal Rome restored to power (Time of the end until Jesus' 2nd coming)

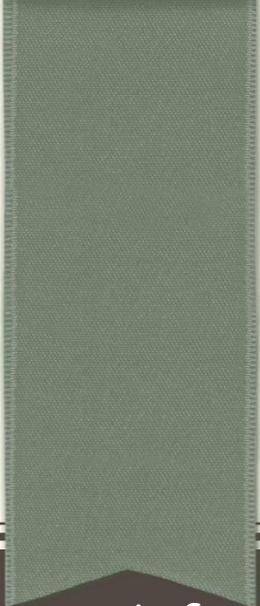
“And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.” – Rev 13:3

“But the court shall be seated, and they shall **take away his dominion**, to consume and destroy it forever. Then the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him.” - Dan 7:26, 27

On **February 12, 1798**, General Berthier entered Vatican City, deposed Pope Pius VI, informed him that his power was at an end, and took him prisoner to France where he later died in exile. The emperor, Napoleon Bonaparte, had given the order that a successor not be elected.

The deadly wound was given to the papacy when the sword of the state that the papacy had used to persecute God's people turned against it. The papacy could no longer use the power of the state to enforce its practices and dogmas.





“We are informed by the texts of the gospels that in this [Roman Catholic] Church and in its power are two swords; namely, the spiritual and the temporal. Both, therefore, are in the power of the Church, that is to say, the spiritual and the material sword, but the former [the spiritual] is to be administered for the Church but the latter [the temporal] by the Church; the former in the hands of the priest; the latter by the hands of kings and soldiers, but at the will and sufferance of the priest.”

Pope Boniface VIII bull (Unam Sanctam), 1302 AD

The Beast from the Sea

The Papacy is not merely a church. It is an amalgamation of church and state. It is the religious-political system that employs the power of the state to compel people to obey its dictates.

The healing of the deadly wound is not the restoration of the Papal confiscated territories, nor is it the restoration of her ecclesiastical powers. It is when she is given the power of the sword to enforce her desires.

“[For] fifteen hundred years and more, Rome had kept as strong a hand as possible in each local community around the wide world. . . . By and large, and admitting some exceptions, that had been the Roman view until two hundred years of inactivity had been imposed upon the papacy by the major secular powers of the world.” – quotes Malachi Martin, Jesuit exorcist and author of best-selling book, “The Keys of this Blood” Christianity Today (November 21, 1986), page 26.

“Let the restraints now imposed by secular governments be removed and Rome be reinstated in her former power, and there would speedily be a revival of her tyranny and persecution.” The Great Controversy, page 564

The **dominance of the Papacy will be global**, and the worship it receives is to the dragon

A counterfeit Michael (“Who is like God?”) claims, “Who is like the beast?”

The unlikely nation would restore the sword to the Papacy and the healing of the wound



The Beast from the Sea

The Papacy was established during the rule of Rome, the fourth beast. It emerged after Rome was divided into ten kingdoms.

Grew and supplanted 3 kingdoms (Heruli in 493, Vandals in 534, Ostrogoths in 538)

The Papacy was different from the ten political kingdoms. The Roman Church State combined religious and political authority

“The Pope is of so great authority and power, that he is able to **modify, declare, or interpret even divine laws.**” (Lucius Ferraris, Prompta Bibliotheca “Papa,” article 2)

Divine laws changed (2nd commandment = removed, 4th commandment = modified, 10th commandment = divided)

Blasphemy involves taking what only belongs to God

“Why does this Man speak **blasphemies** like this? **Who can forgive sins but God alone?**”
Mark 2:7

“The Jews answered Him, saying, “For a good work we do not stone You, but for **blasphemy**, and because **You, being a Man, make Yourself God.**” – John 10:33

“All the names which in Scripture are applied to Christ, by virtue of which it is established that He is over the church, all the same names are applied to the Pope.”
(On the Authority of Councils, book 2, chapter 17, 1619 edition)



The Beast from the Sea

Blasphemy is the practice of usurping the position or claiming the prerogatives of God

It is emphasized three times in Revelation 13 (vs 1, 5, 6)

Blasphemous name indicate the Papacy's political power and religious power is in opposition to God and His people. It exercises ecclesiastical as well as civil authority.

Blaspheme God's Name: The pope claims the title, "The Vicar of Christ"

"A title of the pope implying his supreme and universal primacy, both of honor and of jurisdiction, over the Church of Christ. The title Vicar of Christ (**Vicarius Christi**) is more expressive of his supreme headship of the Church on earth" - Catholic Encyclopedia

"Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body...as the church is subject to Christ...For we are members of His body." - Eph 5:23, 24, 30

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth." - Matt 28:18

"The Pope is of so great dignity and so exalted that he is not a mere man, but as it were God, and the vicar of God...Hence the Pope is crowned with a triple crown, as king of heaven and earth and of the lower regions...The Pope is as it were God on earth, sole sovereign of all the faithful of Christ, chief king of kings, having a plenitude of unbroken power, entrusted by the Omnipotent God to govern the earthly and heavenly kingdoms."
(Lucius Ferraris, Prompta Bibliotheca "Papa," vol 5, column 1823)

"We hold upon this earth the place of God Almighty."
(The Great Encyclical Letters of Leo XIII, page 304)



The Beast from the Sea

Blaspheme God's tabernacle: The tabernacle was God's system for dealing with the sin problem and find forgiveness for sins through faith in the merits of Christ's blood

Absolution is an integral part of the Sacrament of Penance (one of the seven sacrament of the church) as the church through their priests claim the ability to forgive sins

Prayer of Absolution: "May our Lord and God, Jesus Christ, through the grace and mercies of his love for humankind, forgive you all your transgressions. And I, an unworthy priest, by his power given me, forgive and absolve you from all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."

"The priest not only declares that the sinner is forgiven, but he really forgives him...so great is the power of the priest, that the judgments of heaven itself are subject to his decision."
(Michael Muller, The Catholic Priest, page 79)

Absolution forgives the guilt associated with the penitent's sins and removes the eternal punishment (Hell) associated with mortal sins...The penitent is still responsible for the temporal punishment (Purgatory) associated with the confessed sins, unless an indulgence is applied or, if through prayer, penitence and good works, the temporal punishment is cancelled in this life. (Theology of Absolution, Wikipedia)

"The priest has the power of the keys, or the power of delivering sinners from hell, of making them worthy of paradise, and of changing them from the slaves of Satan into the children of God. The Sovereign Master of the universe only follows the servant by confirming in heaven all that the latter decides upon earth." (de Liguori, Dignities and Duties of the Priest, pg 27)



"There is only one mediator between God and men, and that is Jesus Christ."
(1 Timothy 2:5)

The Beast from the Sea

The Pope is not simply the representative of Jesus Christ. On the contrary, he is Jesus Christ Himself, under the veil of the flesh...Does the Pope speak? It is Jesus Christ who is speaking...Does he teach? It is Jesus Christ who teaches.
(Pius X, quoted in Evangelical Christendom (Jan 1, 1895))

God dwells in the sanctuary in heaven where Christ's mediatorial work is on behalf of mankind

The sea beast attempts to replace it with a human priesthood that claims to administer salvation and the forgiveness of sins, which is blasphemy as these powers belong only to God

Blaspheme those who dwell in heaven: The Papacy blasphemes the angels by claiming the priests are greater than the angels and usurps the position of the Holy Spirit

"The sacerdotal [priestly] dignity also surpasses the dignity of the angels...All the angels in heaven cannot absolve from a single sin...the holy archangel can chase away devils, but he cannot free his client from their claims till a priest comes to absolve him...If I saw an angel and priest, I would bend my knee first to the priest and then to the angel."
(de Liguori, Dignities and Duties of the Priest, page 31)



The Pope is crowned with a triple crown, as king of heaven and earth and of the lower regions...so that if it were possible that the angels might err in the faith, or might think contrary to the faith, they could be judged and excommunicated by the Pope.
(Ferraris, Papa in Prompta Bibliotheca, Column 1826)

But when the Helper [Holy Spirit] comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. – John 15:26

"Christ is the voice of the Father, and the Pontiff is the voice of Christ. The Son continues to speak to us by His Vicar." (Henry C. Sheldon, History of the Christian Church, pg 60)

The Beast from the Sea

Clovis, king of the Franks was the first who officially gave temporary power to the papacy in 508 AD. Ironically, France who was the very nation that had first given the Papacy the sword now leads her into captivity, giving her the deadly wound in 1798 AD.

The papacy received a further wound on September 20, 1870 when King Victor Emmanuel II confiscated the Papal States and united Italy. As a result, the papacy lost most of its territory (except for a handful of buildings in Vatican City). In protest, Pope Pius IX and his successors declared themselves prisoners of the Vatican and as a result no pope left Vatican City for the next 59 years.

In 1929, Mussolini, dictator of Italy official restored to the papacy her political power and the papacy was once again recognized as a political entity

“The Pope is again an independent sovereign ruler, as he was throughout the middle Ages, though his temporal realm, established today, is the most microscopic independent State in the world, and probably the smallest in all history.”
(The New York Times, Tuesday, February 12, 1929)

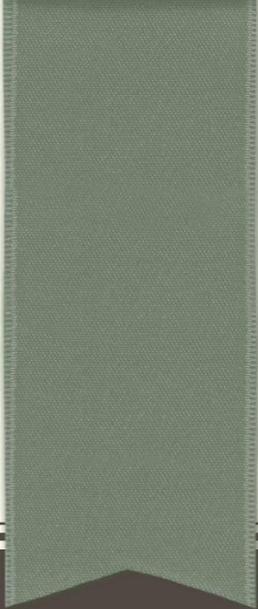
“Since then [1798], the Papacy has been lifted to a pinnacle of spiritual power, unreached it may be since earliest Christian history.”
(Joseph Rickaby, Jesuit historian, Lectures on the History of Religion, 1)

“The place of the Papacy in world affairs seems to stand out in bolder relief than at almost any other epoch of its long existence.”
(Direct Diplomatic Relations with the Vatican advised, New York Times, May 12, 1940)



“The Catholic Church has never given up the hope to re-establish [she must have once had it and lost it] the medieval union of church and state, with a global state and a global theocracy as its ultimate goal.’ The Roman Church-State is a hybrid—a monster of ecclesiastical and political power. Its political thought is totalitarian, and whenever it has had the opportunity to apply its principles, the result has been bloody repression. If, during the last 30 years, it has softened its assertions of full, supreme, and irresponsible power, and has murdered fewer people than before, such changes in behavior are not due to a change in its ideas, but to a change in its circumstances [the secular governments keep her at arms’ length]. . . . The Roman Church-State in the twentieth century, however, is an institution recovering from a mortal wound. If and when it regains [so it must have lost it] its full power and authority, it will impose a regime more sinister than any the planet has yet seen [the deadly wound will be healed].”

JOHN W. ROBBINS, ECCLESIASTICAL MEGALOMANIA, PAGE 195



“No holds barred because, once the competition has been decided, the world and all that’s in it - our way of life as individuals and as citizens of the nations; our families and our jobs; our trade and commerce and money; our educational systems and our religions and our cultures; even the badges of our national identity, which most of us have always taken for granted - all will have been powerfully and radically altered forever. No one can be exempted from its effects. No sector of our lives will remain untouched. Nobody who is acquainted with the plans of these three rivals [Capitalism, Communism, and Roman Catholicism] has any doubt but that only one of them can win.”

Malachi Martin, The Keys of this Blood, page 16

The Beast from the Sea

In the final conflict soon to envelop the world, **there will only be two sides:** those who worship and give allegiance to the beast, and those who worship and give allegiance to the Lamb

The Papacy will soon attain world dominance. Jews, Muslims, Protestants, Evangelicals, and other world religions have expressed their support for Pope Francis (Jorge Bergoglio, the first Jesuit pope) and pledged to work with him to bring about world peace.

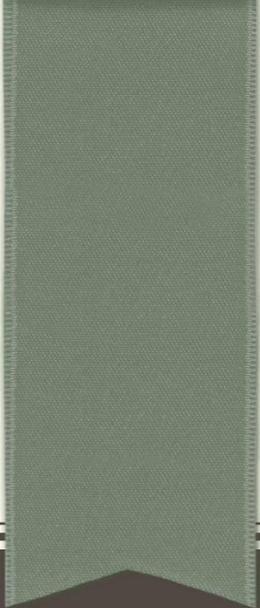
We are called to **unity in truth** not unity in glory or ecumenism (John 17:17-19)

“As to the time factor involved, those of us who are under seventy will see at least the basic structures of the new world government installed. **Those of us under forty will surely live under its legislative, executive and judiciary authority and control.**”

Malachi Martin, The Keys of this Blood,
page 15-16



Check out the video clip
All the world will wonder after the beast



“She [the Papacy] is silently growing into power. Her doctrines are exerting their influence in legislative halls, in the churches, and in the hearts of men. She is piling up her lofty and massive structures in the secret recesses of which her former persecutions will be repeated. Stealthily and unsuspectedly, she is strengthening her forces to further her own ends when the time shall come for her to strike. All that she desires is vantage ground, and this is already being given her. We shall soon see and shall feel what the purpose of the Roman element is. Whoever shall believe and obey the word of God will thereby incur reproach and persecution.”

Great Controversy, page 581

The Beast from the Earth

Prophecy states that in the time of the end, the beast from the sea (Papacy) will win the allegiance and worship of the entire world EXCEPT those whose names are written in the Book of Life

Jesus calls on His saints, especially at this time, to **patient endurance and strong faith**. Why? Even though we are on the winning side, we are still in enemy's territory

Never forget, this War of the Ages is between the devil and Christ. As it reaches its climax, everyone will have to decide which side to be on. Who will you give allegiance?

The earth beast, the second ally of the dragon, appears on the scene as the first ally (the sea beast) goes into captivity with a deadly wound caused by the sword

Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time (Rev 12:12)

Earth and Sea signify the universal and worldwide scope of Satan's end-time activities

The earth, where the second beast comes up from, had initially helped the woman (church) to swallow up the flood from the dragon's mouth (Rev 12:16)

The earth beast symbolizes a new empire rising in a sparsely populated area, in the territory that protected the woman. It is a world power with influence like the sea beast. An end time player, it rises after the sea beast receives the deadly wound.



The Beast from the Earth

As we transition from historical events to the future, we will see that it is easier to interpret prophecies already fulfilled in the past than those yet to be fulfilled. While we know what would happen at the end, **the prophecies do not tell us when and exactly how the final events will unfold.**

The earth “beast” (Greek – therion) refers to a wild or ferocious animal. The earth beast is still a beast and not a lamb; it only has two horns **like a lamb**

Horns represent kingdoms or governments (Daniel 7:24; 8:21)

Revelation uses the word “lamb” 29 times. 28 times, they refer to Christ. The lamb-like horns indicate the power of this new empire will have Christ-like characteristics

“The history of the United States was separated by a beneficent Providence from the wild and cruel history of the rest of the continent, and like a silent seed we grew into an empire.”
(G. A. Townsend, *The New World Compared with the Old*, quoted in *Why America Happened*, *Signs of the Times*, October 1976, page 26)

“The papal captivity...took place in 1798, and the new power was seen emerging at that time. **The United States declared its independence in 1776**, voted the Constitution in 1787, adopted the Bill of Rights in 1791, and was clearly recognized as a world power by 1798. The timing obviously fits America. No other power could possibly qualify.”
(Amazing Facts, *The USA in Bible Prophecy*)

“What nation of the New World was in 1798 rising into power, giving promise of strength and greatness, and attracting the attention of the world? The application of the symbol admits of no question. One nation, and only one, meets the specifications of this prophecy; it points unmistakably to the United States of America.” (The Great Controversy, p. 440)



The Beast from the Earth

The two horns without crowns represent the two kingdoms co-existing within the United States: **Republicanism (state without a king) and Protestantism (church without a pope)**

“And He [Jesus] said to them, “Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” – Luke 20:25

Civil Liberty and Religious Liberty were the principles upon which the United States were founded on. Keeping politics out of religion and keeping religion out of politics. The **separation of Church and State** was forged in its constitution

The founding fathers were familiar with the history of church and state alliance in the Middle Ages and the persecution that followed from the loss of civil and religious liberty

“The founding documents of the United States are remarkable indeed. In 1776 the Declaration of Independence affirmed that all men are created equal and that they have certain inalienable rights among which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness...An examination of the writings of the constitutional fathers reveals that they firmly believed in the existence of two kingdoms in the United States that were to forever remain separate. According to their view the church was to use the spiritual sword of the Spirit to persuade through the preaching of the Word while the state was to use the material sword to preserve the civil order. The constitutional fathers established a revolutionary system of government that flowed from the bottom up—a **government of the people, by the people and for the people in which citizens would enjoy full civil and religious liberty.** The foundational idea behind this concept was that of two kingdoms in one nation, each with its own sword and separate from one another.”

Studies in Revelation 12 &13, Secrets Unsealed, page 80



“Among the Christian exiles who first fled to America and sought an asylum from royal oppression [an oppressive state] and priestly intolerance [an oppressive church] were many who determined to establish a government upon the broad foundation of civil [state] and religious liberty [church]. Their views found place in the Declaration of Independence, which sets forth the great truth that ‘all men are created equal’ and endowed with the inalienable right to ‘life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.’ And the Constitution guarantees to the people the right of self-government, providing that representatives elected by the popular vote shall enact and administer the laws. Freedom of religious faith was also granted; every man being permitted to worship God according to the dictates of his conscience. Republicanism [a state without a king] and Protestantism [a church without a pope] became the fundamental principles of the nation. These principles are the secret of its power and prosperity. The founders of the nation wisely sought to guard against the employment of secular power on the part of the church, with its inevitable result - intolerance and persecution.”

“The refugees who established its government came primarily from Britain, Holland, and Germany. These peoples had passed through extreme periods of persecution and intolerance by both church and state in their countries. They had learned through bitter experience the need for religious and political tolerance. This cemented their resolve to have a church without a pope and a state without a king. Scholars are convinced that America fulfilled this prediction to a great degree, for she opened her arms and her vast empty territories. The wilderness became a refuge for the oppressed of Europe. A nation after a new order was established. In forming their constitution, Americans adopted as the motto on the great seal of their government the words “Novus ordo seclorum,” which means “New Order of the Ages.” The establishment of a government upon such principles had a profound effect in many other parts of the world.”

THE LIFE OF JOHN MILTON, VOL 1, PAGE 318-319

THE NEW WORLD COMPARED WITH THE OLD: A DESCRIPTION OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT,
INSTITUTIONS, AND ENTERPRISES, PAGE 462-463

The Beast from the Earth

The sea beast, whose deadly wound is healed, and the earth beast co-exist in time

Contrary to its Lamb-like horns, the earth beast speaks like a Dragon (using deception)

As the Dragon (devil) is opposite to the Lamb (Christ), the character of the earth beast contrasts with its young, gentle, and harmless appearance

“And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.” – Rev 16:13

In the rest of the book of Revelation, the earth beat is referred to as the false prophet

The Bible predicts an ominous future that America, once providing protection for the church, will play a persecuting role in last day events and command worldwide worship of the sea beast



For the United States to go contrary to its Protestant principles and enforce worship to the Papacy, it would have to change its attitude to the Roman Catholic church from anti-Catholic since its inception to pro-Catholic. It would also need to change or bypass its constitution, so church and state are no longer separate. It would have to suppress civil and religious liberty so religious oppression will be legalized.

The Papacy has been intent and successful with changing the United States of America to become pro-Catholic

The Beast from the Earth

Archbishop Ireland speaking at the Centennial Conference of Catholics, Baltimore, 1890

“Catholics of the United States...are called...to make America Catholic...The church triumphant in America, Catholic truth will travel on the wings of American influence, and with it encircle the universe.” **The Pope and The New Era, being Letters from the Vatican in 1889, Page 222-223**

“It seems to me that the main support of Protestantism comes from the United States and England. If we put an end to this effort in England and the United States by making these nations predominantly Catholic, we will have removed the chief obstacle to the conversion of the world to the true faith. In the course of another century, the Protestant sects will be a study for the historian and antiquarian, along with Arianism.” Facts of Faith, page 240

Roman Catholic policy has been effective. Many Americans today see the Catholic church in a favorable light.

The Catholic Church is larger than any other single religious institution in the United States. There are roughly 51 million Catholic adults in the U.S., accounting for about 1/5th of the total U.S. adult population, according to Pew Research Center's 2014 Religious Landscape Study.

According to the Pew Research Center, Catholics now make up 30.5 percent of Congress, making it the largest group of any denomination.

According to Wikipedia, Most Supreme Court justices have been Protestant Christians. Currently, of the nine Supreme Court justices, 2 profess Judaism, 7 are Catholics, and **there are no Protestants**. By June 2010, the Court had an entirely non-Protestant composition for the first time in its history.



“We, the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic church expect all loyal children of the church to assist the President [Franklin Roosevelt] with all our strength to see that the individuals comprising the United States Supreme Court shall obey the President’s injunctions. And if necessary, we shall change, amend or blot the present Constitution so that the president may enforce his or rather our humanitarian program on all phases of human rights as laid down by our saintly popes and the Holy Mother Church. We elected our worthy president by the greatest majority ever recorded in history. We are going to have our laws made and enforced according to the Holy See and the popes and the canon law of the Papal throne. Our entire social structure must be rebuilt on that basis. Our educational laws must be constructed to the end – that atheism, the red peril of totalitarianism, Protestantism, communism, socialism and all other like ilk and stamp, be driven from this fair land. The cross was planted on our shores by a staunch Roman Catholic [Columbus]. This land belongs to us by every right. Long enough have we compromised on every important question. Now we demand what is really ours, and we are going to have it. We will support our President in every way to obtain it, peacefully, honestly, if we may. If necessary, we are ready to fight and die for it. We Want cabinet members children of the Holy Mother church holding important positions in the entire structure of our government. We control America and we do not propose to stop, until America or Americans are genuinely Roman Catholic and remain so, God help us.”

LETTER BY FATHER PATRICK HENRY O’BRIEN OF ROCHESTER NEW YORK PRINTED IN LA-AURORA
MAGAZINE BY ITALIAN BAPTIST PUBLISHING HOUSE TO REVEREND A. DOMINICA

ROMAN CATHOLIC TOLÉRANCE, THE GOSPEL GUARDIAN, JANUARY 3, 1952, VOL 3

The Beast from the Earth

The ultimate desire of the sea beast (Papacy) is “global worship” which it will gain through **deception, persuasion and coercion**

“However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me...” – John 16:13-14

The earth beast is a parody of the Holy Spirit. Through the earth beast, the sea beast exercises its authority just as the Spirit exercises the authority of Christ. In exalting the sea beast, it imitates the Holy Spirit who is to magnify Jesus

There is a change in tense beginning in verse 12 (exercises, causes, performs, deceives). It is in the present tense. However, “to worship” implies an act in the (near) future

The friendly earth beast who protects the woman (church) turns to give allegiance to the sea beast and opposes the woman’s offspring

The first strategy the earth beast uses to make the world worship the sea beast is through miraculous signs; the greatest sign is fire from heaven

“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know...Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.” – Acts 2: 22,43



The Beast from the Earth

On the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was poured out on the disciples as tongues of fire from heaven (Acts 2:1-4). In answer to Prophet Elijah's prayer, fire from heaven was an evidence that demonstrated the true God, and Elijah, God's messenger (I Kings 18)

“So, Satan answered the Lord and said, “Does Job fear God for nothing?...And the Lord said to Satan, “Behold, **all that he has is in your power**; only do not lay a hand on his person...While he was still speaking, another also came and said, “**The fire of God fell from heaven** and burned up the sheep and the servants...and I alone have escaped to tell you!” – Job 1:9,12,16

“And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are **spirits of demons, performing signs**, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.” – Rev 16:13,14

“Then the beast was captured, and with him the **false prophet who worked signs in his presence**, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.” – Rev 19:20

The earth beast is a counterfeit of the Holy Spirit and exercises his power to bring fire from heaven, the pinnacle of all miraculous signs, to deceive the world to worship the antichrist.

Also known as **Pentecostalism**, these great miracles, signs, and wonders are the ways the false prophet is **unifying denominations under false doctrine**. Many of these experiences are full of emotionalism and euphoria, with manifestations of tongues and healings. When Christ prayed for unity within His Church, He never meant unity through compromise, but always unity in truth. **The Protestant churches who join themselves to Rome by accepting papal supremacy become part of Babylon and thus form this third component of end time Babylon, the false prophet.** (Amazing Discoveries, The Final Confederacy: End Time Babylon's Components)



“Pentecostalism is a charismatic religious movement that gave rise to a number of Protestant churches in the United States in the 20th century and that is unique in its belief that all Christians should seek a post-conversion religious experience called baptism with the Holy Spirit...Baptism with the Holy Spirit is also believed to be accompanied by a sign, the gift of tongues. This “speaking in tongues” occurs as glossolalia (speech in an unknown language). Pentecostals believe that those baptized by the Holy Spirit may receive other supernatural gifts that...existed in the early church: the ability to prophesy, to heal, or to interpret speaking in tongues. Faith healing is also part of the Pentecostal tradition, which reflects patterns of faith and practice characteristic of the Baptist and Methodist-Holiness churches—the Protestant denominations from which most of the first generation of Pentecostals came. However, Pentecostals never formed a single organization; instead individual congregations came together to found the various denominations that constitute the movement today. Charles Fox Parham, one of many ministers who was influenced by the Holiness movement, believed that the complacent, worldly, and coldly formalistic church needed to be revived by another outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Parham was the first in a long line of Pentecostal evangelists (more recently Oral Roberts, Kathryn Kuhlman, and Benny Hinn) who taught that Christ’s atonement provides deliverance from sickness and is, therefore, the privilege of all who have the requisite faith. As members of the historic Protestant churches embraced Pentecostal beliefs and practices, they did so without any intention of withdrawing from their own churches. They merely wanted to be agents of reform and revival, helping to rid their churches of formalism and worldliness.”

HISTORY OF PENTECOSTALISM: ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA

[HTTPS://WWW.BRITANNICA.COM/TOPIC/PENTECOSTALISM/INTERNATIONAL-GROWTH-OF-PENTECOSTALISM](https://www.britannica.com/topic/pentecostalism/international-growth-of-pentecostalism)

“They strove to transform their congregations into Spirit-filled communities like those described in the New Testament book Acts of the Apostles. Many Pentecostals believe that their revival is a sign of the end time, and hence a call to bring the world to salvation before Christ’s Second Coming. Like the Apostles who spoke to people from many nations in their own tongues on the first Pentecost, Pentecostals believe that speaking in tongues facilitates the conversion of the world’s peoples. Thus, Pentecostalism developed into an international missionary effort almost immediately. The movement spread first among ethnic communities in North America and was quickly transferred to Europe...into the rest of Latin America, where it became especially popular in the latter decades of the 20th century. Pentecostalism became a mass movement across sub-Saharan Africa. The growth of Pentecostalism in the late 20th century was not limited to its traditional constituency, however, and included members from the larger Protestant and Roman Catholic churches. This success with mainstream Protestants and Roman Catholics in the 1970s was one of the more important events in Pentecostal history and led to the formation of Charismatic (from Greek charis, “gift”) fellowships in most of the major American denominations... Although statistics on Pentecostalism are difficult to obtain, it has been estimated that there are more than 10 million Pentecostals in the United States.”

“During the last three decades of the twentieth century Pentecostalism grew very strongly and there are now over 250 million Pentecostals around the world, who make up more than 10% of all Christians.”

[HTTPS://WWW.BRITANNICA.COM/TOPIC/PENTECOSTALISM/INTERNATIONAL-GROWTH-OF-PENTECOSTALISM](https://www.britannica.com/topic/pentecostalism/international-growth-of-pentecostalism)

[HTTPS://WWW.BBC.CO.UK/RELIGION/RELIGIONS/CHRISTIANITY/SUBDIVISIONS/PENTECOSTAL_1.SHTML](https://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/subdivisions/pentecostal_1.shtml)

The Beast from the Earth

“Before 1960, Rome’s Counter Reformation was mostly accomplished through the introduction of new doctrine. But by the beginning of the 20th century, the reformed churches had begun to move towards ecumenism, and in 1948, the World Council of Churches was formed, embracing most of the Protestant Churches, but excluding the Orthodox and Catholic churches. The Papacy needed a carefully-crafted plan to overcome the prejudices towards Rome still lingering in the minds of many. The Vatican II Council in 1960 changed the way people perceived Catholicism. No Roman doctrine had to be altered, but instead people were led away from doctrinal issues and introduced to experiential religion. In fact, Pentecostalism is strengthening Catholicism's pillars.” (Amazing Discoveries, Pentecostalism)

With the power of the dragon and through the agency of spiritualism and religious ecumenism, the false prophet (apostate Protestant America) ignites global false revival

Through the outpouring of a false spirit, **the counterfeit revival is marked with miracles, healing, ecstatic experiences, signs and wonders and evidenced by a false gift of tongues.** The deception will be so strong as to even deceive the very elect.

Just as the fire from heaven in the days of Elijah was a powerful proof that Elijah was God’s prophet, many will believe that the counterfeit revival is the power of God at work, that God is in their midst, and that the men of God are true prophets and teachers.

“Then many **false prophets will rise up and deceive many. For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive**, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand.” – Matt 24: 11,24,25



Many will be ensnared through the belief that spiritualism is a merely human imposture; **when brought face to face with manifestations which they cannot but regard as supernatural, they will be deceived, and will be led to accept them as the great power of God.**...A belief in spiritual manifestations opens the door to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, and thus the influence of evil angels will be felt in the churches...The popular ministry cannot successfully resist spiritualism. They have nothing wherewith to shield their flocks from its baleful influence. Much of the sad result of spiritualism will rest upon ministers of this age; for they have trampled the truth under their feet, and in its stead have preferred fables...Satan has long been preparing for his final effort to deceive the world. The foundation of his work was laid by the assurance given to Eve in Eden: "Ye shall not surely die." "In the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." Genesis 3:4, 5. Little by little he has prepared the way for his masterpiece of deception in the development of spiritualism. He has not yet reached the full accomplishment of his designs; but it will be reached in the last remnant of time. **Except those who are kept by the power of God, through faith in His word, the whole world will be swept into the ranks of this delusion.** The people are fast being lulled to a fatal security, to be awakened only by the outpouring of the wrath of God. Then the question arises, "If Spiritualism is of the devil, how is it that men are often healed of diseases, and helped in various ways by it?" "The devil wouldn't do people good, would he?" right here is where thousands will be swept into Spiritualism in spite of themselves. These texts show that the devil performs his wonders solely for the purpose of deception. To deceive means to impose upon; to delude; to ensnare by artifice. **Satan has an object of his own to serve in all his deceptions, and that is the ruin of mankind.** Just as we would not receive favors from a villain who had ends of his own to serve by offering them to us, so we ought not to accept favors at the hands of the devil. We do not care to be under obligation to him, for we are sure that for everything he gives he will exact more than tenfold in return. By means of his pretended good services, he is now fastening the chains of error around thousands. Remember, he "deceived those that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do."

SIGNS OF THE TIMES, AUGUST 19, 1886, PAGE 502 - 506

GREAT CONTROVERSY, PAGE 561

Counterfeit Trinity

“And I saw **three unclean spirits like frogs** coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. – Rev 16:13-14

Characteristics of frogs	Analogy
Amphibians: Lives in both water and land	Sea and Land Beast
Makes croaking sounds to attract	Counterfeit tongues
Uses sticky tongue to catch its prey with speed	Like the serpent
Ability to camouflage	Conceals its true nature
Some frogs have toxic skin	Destruction
Can be found in every continent	Worldwide influence



“The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason, God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.” - 2 Thess 2: 9-12

Counterfeit trinity

Dragon

Devil/Satan

- Parody of the Father
- Seeks equality with God
- Has a throne
- Gives power and authority to the sea beast
- Desires worship



Sea Beast

Papacy

- Parody of Jesus Christ
- Begins ministry coming out of the water
- Receives authority from the dragon
- Diadems on head
- 42 months = 3-1/2 yrs. of activity
- Was slain - mortal wound
- Came back to life and rise to greater authority
- Receives worship and global authority after resurrection
- Who is like the beast? vs Michael - Who is like God?

Earth Beast / False prophet

Apostate Protestantism

- Parody of the Holy Spirit
- Exercises all the authority of the sea beast
- Signs and wonders
- Fire from heaven (Pentecost)
- False prophet Elijah
- Counterfeit tongues
- Gives breath to the image
- Applies mark of the beast
- Directs worship to the beast

Image of the Beast

First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion [the establishment clause] or prohibiting the free exercise thereof [the free exercise clause] or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances [the civil right clause].”

The establishment clause

In Daniel 3, King Nebuchadnezzar attempted to establish a state religion. He created an image and commanded all nations, tongues and people to worship it. With the loss of religious liberty, anyone who refused would lose their ultimate civil liberty – life!

The free exercise clause

In Daniel 6, King Darius gave a religious decree forbidding the free exercise of religion by forbidding everyone to pray for their God for 30 days. The inevitable result was persecution of Daniel who insisted upon his right to worship his God according to the dictates of his conscience. The penalty for disobedience was the death decree.

In both instances, God intervened to save the lives of His faithful followers, not by preventing them from going through the time of trouble, but by intervening to protect them from being destroyed.



Image of the Beast

“And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it **to worship the first beast**, whose deadly wound was healed...telling those who dwell on the earth **to make an image to the beast** who was wounded by the sword and lived.” – Rev 13:12,14

The war between Jesus and the Devil is approaching its climax

It is time to heed the call to faithfulness, to take a stand on Jesus side, to reject compromise, and to determine to be obedient, no matter the cost

The Bible is clear that **the central issue at the end time will center on worship.**

The Papacy (sea beast) is not merely a church. It is an amalgamation of church and state. It is the religious-political system that employs the power of the state to compel people to obey its dictates.

An image to the beast is a replica or likeness

The symbolic image of the beast is an amalgamation of church and state where the power of the state will legislatively be used to enforce a religious decree of the church

The earth beast “tells those who dwell on earth” implies a democratic legislation

The earth beast grants power to make the image (the union of church and state) speak



Image of the Beast

“The ‘speaking’ of the nation is the action of its legislative and judicial authorities. By such action it [United States] will give the lie to those liberal and peaceful principles which it has put forth as the foundation of its policy.” **The Great Controversy, pg 442**

The purpose of the Ecumenical movement is to realign the Protestant churches with Rome, with the acknowledgement that the Pope is the head of the global church

The charismatic worship has crossed denominational boundaries and effectively fostered unity of all churches to the Roman Catholic church

A new Church & State union will be created when the United States civil power combine with the United churches to form the image of the beast and enforce the Papacy decrees

Oppressive laws will be enacted which will lead to religious intolerance and persecution against any dissenters who refuse to submit to the wishes of the Papacy

The healing of the deadly wound is when the Papacy is given the power of the sword to enforce her desires. The unlikely nation that would restore the sword to the Papacy is the United States.

The United States will soon violate both establishment clause and free exercise clause of the First Amendment by compelling all to worship the Papacy



“When the leading churches of the United States, uniting upon such points of doctrine as are held by them in common, shall influence the state to enforce their decrees and to sustain their institutions, **then Protestant America will have formed an image of the Roman hierarchy**, and the infliction of civil penalties [the state using the sword] upon dissenters will inevitably result.”

“The Roman Church now presents a fair front to the world, covering with apologies her record of horrible cruelties. She has clothed herself in Christlike garments; **but she is unchanged**. Every principle of the papacy that existed in past ages exists today. The doctrines devised in the darkest ages are still held. Let none deceive themselves. The papacy that Protestants are now so ready to honor is the same that ruled the world in the days of the Reformation, when men of God stood up, at the peril of their lives, to expose her iniquity. She possesses the same pride and arrogant assumption that lorded it over kings and princes and claimed the prerogatives of God. **Her spirit is no less cruel and despotic now than when she crushed out human liberty** and slew the saints of the Most High. The papacy is just what prophecy declared that she would be, the apostasy of the latter times. 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4. It is a part of her policy to assume the character which will best accomplish her purpose; **but beneath the variable appearance of the chameleon, she conceals the invariable venom of the serpent**. “Faith ought not to be kept with heretics, nor persons suspected of heresy” (Lenfant, volume 1, page 516), she declares. Shall this power, whose record for a thousand years is written in the blood of the saints, be now acknowledged as a part of the church of Christ?”

The Mark of the Beast

“The future of American politics lies in the growing strength of Evangelicals and their Roman Catholic allies. If these two core constituencies—evangelicals comprising the swing vote in the south, Catholics holding sway in the north—can cooperate on issues and support like minded candidates they can determine the outcome of almost any election in the nation. Nasty nativism and dark distrust about Popery and foreign influence have been swept into the ash heap of history. John F. Kennedy’s election in 1960 buried the Catholic bogeyman forever. No longer burdened by the past, Roman Catholics, Evangelicals, Greek Orthodox and many religious conservatives from the mainline denominations are forging a new alliance that promises to be among the most powerful and important in the modern political era.” – **Ralph Reed, President of the Christian Coalition, Politically Incorrect, page 16**



“The wall of separation between church and state is a metaphor based on bad history; a metaphor which has proved useless as a guide to judging; it should be frankly and explicitly abandoned.” - **William Rehnquist, Late Chief Justice of United States Supreme Court, The Saving of America**

“No constitution is more in harmony with Catholic principles than the American constitution and no religion is more in accord with that constitution than the Catholic religion (Ralph Reed in a speech)...The truth my friends is this. Catholicism never has been, is not today, and never will be a threat to American democracy. It was and remains the most colorful and the most vibrant thread running through the tapestry of American democracy.” - **Ralph Reed, Sunday’s coming, page 72**

The Mark of the Beast

Commandment 1: **You shall have no other gods before Me.**

God is the only one worthy of our worship

“So they **worshiped the dragon** who gave authority to the beast; and they **worshiped the beast...** All who dwell on the earth will **worship him**, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.” - Rev 13: 4, 8

Commandment 2: **You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything**

We are not to worship idols or images

“telling those who dwell on the earth to make **an image to the beast** who was wounded by the sword and lived...and cause as many as would not **worship the image of the beast** to be killed.” - Rev 13:14-15

Commandment 3: **You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain**

We are to revere God's name

“no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the **name of the beast**, or the **number of his name.**” - Rev 13:17



The Mark of the Beast

Commandment 4: Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it. – Exodus 20: 8-11

The Sabbath day is God’s special sign with His people

“Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the Lord who sanctifies you. You shall keep the Sabbath, therefore, for it is holy to you.” - Exodus 31: 13-14

Moreover I also gave them My Sabbaths, to be a sign between them and Me, that they might know that I am the Lord who sanctifies them... hallow My Sabbaths, and they will be a sign between Me and you, that you may know that I am the Lord your God.’ - Eze 20: 12, 20

The Catholic church has kept only 5-8 of the original 94 words: **Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy**

A seal authenticates an official document. The seal of God authenticates the Ten commandment, and it is embedded in the 4th commandment

Name: Lord Title: Creator Territory: Heaven and Earth



The Mark of the Beast

In Revelation 13, the mark of the beast represents human attempt to substitute man's law for God's law and enforce this with a decree, economic boycott, and eventually the death penalty

A mark is a sign, seal or symbol of identification of ownership or submission

God's mark – sign of allegiance to your Creator
Satan's mark (or mark of the beast) – sign of allegiance to Satan

“Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and **worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.**” – Rev 14:7

“Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, **“If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.”** – Rev 14: 9-11

Sabbath is the sign of God's sanctification, freedom from sin and recreation

In Revelation 14, God calls every person on planet earth to worship Him their Creator and not to worship the beast and his image, or to receive his mark.



The Mark of the Beast

“For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore, the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.” - Exo 20:11

“Moreover, I also gave them My Sabbaths, to be a sign between them and Me, that they might know that I am the Lord who sanctifies them... hallow My Sabbaths, and they will be a sign between Me and you, that you may know that I am the Lord your God.”
Eze 20: 12, 20

The mark of the beast (Sunday worship) is the counterfeit of God’s sign or seal (Sabbath)

“Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, saying, “Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.” - Rev 7:2-3

“Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father’s name written on their foreheads.”
Rev 14:1

Seal of God = forehead (intellectual acceptance) = transformation to Christ’s character
vs
Mark of the beast = forehead OR right hand (submission or compliance)



The Mark of the Beast

The Sabbath attests and validates God's law. It is a visible symbol that we accept Jesus Christ as our Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, and Savior. It will be the ultimate test of loyalty and obedience to God.

“Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.” - Rev 14:12

Sunday is our mark of authority. The church is above the Bible, and this transference of Sabbath observance is proof of that fact.” **Catholic Record, Sept 1, 1923**

“Sunday, like the Jewish Sabbath, is meant to be a day which heals our relationships with God, with ourselves, with others and with the world. Sunday is the day of the Resurrection, the “first day” of the new creation...the law of weekly rest forbade work on the seventh day, And so the day of rest, centered on the Eucharist, sheds its light on the whole week, and motivates us to greater concern for nature and the poor.

Pope Francis, Laudato Si

Pope Francis has also spoken out in defense of Sunday as the traditional day of rest and relaxation. He hinted at current discussions in the European Union (EU) about laws restricting required work and commercial activity on Sundays. "While ... poor people need jobs to have dignity, opening stores and other businesses on Sundays as a way to create jobs wasn't beneficial for society. The abandonment of the traditionally Christian practice of not working on Sundays has a negative impact on families and friendships."

The Catholic leader has emphasized the social benefits of not working on Sunday and not referenced religious reasons. "Maybe it's time to ask ourselves if working on Sundays is true freedom," He also said that not working on Sundays was an "ethical choice" for both believers and non-believers.



“If the Sabbath was Saturday, why do we emphasize Sunday? The move from Saturday to Sunday, from Sabbath to the Lord’s Day, is intimately connected to the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

The day of Jesus’ resurrection is not only the first day; it is also the eighth day. The seventh day completes the first creation, and the eighth begins the new creation (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church 349). The work of creation culminates in the work of our redemption. The first creation finds its meaning and fulfillment in the new, with the glorious resurrection of our Lord. St. Ignatius of Antioch tells us that, “Those who lived according to the old order of things have come to a new hope, no longer keeping the Sabbath, but the Lord’s Day, in which our life is blessed by him and by his death” (CCC 2175). As well, we know that Christ’s resurrection points ahead to the resurrection of the body of all humanity on the last day. **Sunday is thus distinguished from the Sabbath in that it replaces it, fulfills the truths of it and announces man’s eternal rest in God (cf. CCC 2175). So, it is primarily the resurrection that leads to worship and adoration of our Father on Sunday instead of Saturday.** “On Sundays and other holy days of obligation, the faithful are to refrain from engaging in work or activities that hinder the worship owed to God” (CCC 2185).”

CATHOLIC NEWS AGENCY

[HTTPS://WWW.CATHOLICNEWSAGENCY.COM/RESOURCE/55703/A-NEW-SABBATH](https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/resource/55703/a-new-sabbath)

The Mark of the Beast

“These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast.”
Rev 17:13

“For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled. And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth.” - Rev 17:17-18

“In his latest encyclical letter, Fratelli Tutti, Pope Francis spoke of a need for all nations of the world to **submit their governmental powers** to a reformed and more powerful United Nations in the hope of leading to **one world government** to benefit all mankind. He noted that the time is now right to make this move, since globalized economic conditions in the twenty-first century have weakened the political power of nation states. **A single, global authority**, he wrote, “ought at least to promote more effective world organizations, equipped with the power to provide for the global common good, the elimination of hunger and poverty and the sure defense of fundamental human rights.” Francis further suggested that his ally, the UN, would need to be reformed in order to handle such a responsibility, citing the desire of his predecessor, Pope Benedict, to see “**real teeth**” given to the idea of international governance. He recommends that any reform should include clear limits that would prevent any one nation or small group of nations from having too much power. Francis also called for a **standardization of the rule of law** across all nations.”



POPE CALLS FOR ONE WORLD GOVERNMENT

<https://www.tomorrowworld.org/news-and-prophecy/pope-calls-for-one-world-government>

The Mark of the Beast

“For years, the Vatican has promoted the pope’s *Laudato Si’* message. This plan, “designed to encourage strategic actors to commit to achieving total sustainability with Pope Francis’s environmental advocacy as a guide,” kicked into gear this year (CruxNow, May 25, 2021). “Pope Francis said humanity has a duty to future generations to overcome selfishness, indifference, and ‘irresponsible’ habits, asking faithful to respect creation and ‘inaugurate a lifestyle and a society that is finally eco-sustainable.’” According to a Vatican official, **the plan is designed to be seven years long because of the biblical significance of the number seven.** Year one is a planning year, followed by five years of environmental action. The final, seventh year “will be a ‘sabbatical’ year dedicated to ‘praise and thanking God.’”

The idea is to begin with Catholic churches and organizations and then bring in other churches and organizations, ultimately involving the whole world. **Integral to the plan is a mandatory weekly day of rest.** “The Pope’s encyclical calls for Sunday to be implemented as a weekly day of rest to save the environment.” (OpenPr.com, Dec 11, 2020)



THE POPE, ENVIRONMENT, AND SUNDAY LAW

<https://www.tomorrowworld.org/news-and-prophecy/the-pope-environment-and-sunday-law>



UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

Vatican to host 'Faith and Science' talks to raise stakes ahead of U.N. climate summit



The Vatican will host a major gathering of world religious leaders and scientists ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in November in Britain to take a common stand at "a key moment in the history of humanity". The **October 4th 2021 conference**, called "Faith and Science: Towards COP26," is being organised by Britain and Italy.

It will bring together some 40 leaders from the world's major religions and 10 scientists and issue a joint appeal for COP26. At a news conference on Thursday presenting the Oct. 4 event, the Vatican's foreign minister, Archbishop Paul Gallagher, said religious leaders should press their politicians to make courageous, ambitious decisions at the U.N. conference in Glasgow, Scotland.

He said the religious leaders should urge "our statesmen and women to be able to grasp the nettle, see the issues and make courageous decisions".

COP26 will held in Glasgow, Scotland on November 1-12, 2021.

"COP26 will perhaps be a key moment in the history of humanity," Gallagher said.

Nations' Climate Sunday Service

The Nations' Climate Sunday Service – 1,950 churches and charities prepare for COP26

- 'Climate Sunday' is the biggest ecumenical christian movement for climate justice.
- 1,950 churches from 40 denominations call on the UK government to act on climate.
- Over 600 churches have signed the 'Time is Now' Declaration, joining around 150,000 signatories across UK civil society. 9,248 churches involved in church greening schemes.
- The service is a key milestone on the road to COP26, the final total of participating churches and commitments will be presented to the Government during the COP26.



Slow Sunday: The simple solution to global warming



One thing we can easily do to achieve this goal: we can declare Sunday to be a fossil fuel-free day or a low-carbon day or at least an energy-saving day.

Not long ago Sunday used to be a day of rest, a day of spiritual renewal, a day for families to come together, but we have changed Sunday from a day of rest to a day of shopping, flying and driving. However, in the context of excessive carbon dioxide emissions into the atmosphere, which are bringing catastrophic upheavals, we can and should restore Sunday to a day for Gaia, a day for the Earth.

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2009/sep/17/slow-sunday>

Climate Sunday: an opportunity for churches to act for creation



The Climate Sunday initiative is inviting local churches across Great Britain, Ireland and across the world to hold a climate-focused service on any Sunday before the United Nations climate change conference (COP26) begins in Glasgow on 31 October-12 November.

More than 1,600 churches have already joined the initiative, which aims to leave a lasting legacy of thousands of churches better equipped to address this critical issue as part of their discipleship and mission, and to make a significant contribution to civil society efforts to secure adequate national and international action at COP26.

251 medical journals warned world leaders not to wait until COVID-19 is over to address the climate crisis, calling it the 'greatest threat to global public health'



The editors of the world's top medical journals have written a joint warning to world leaders saying that they must urgently focus on the climate crisis even before COVID-19 is under control.

The article was released Sunday in 228 top journals worldwide, and endorsed by a further 23. _____



Get ready for the left's climate-change 'emergency' lockdowns

President Biden claims recent hurricanes prove we're in a "[climate crisis](#)" — "code red" for the world, he warns.

White House climate adviser Gina McCarthy adds that climate is now a "health emergency."

It's convenient for politicians to treat every hurricane, tornado and flood as an apocalyptic sign from Gaia — and then blame political apostates for offending the goddess. But it's an irrational way to think about the world. Because our situation is, in most ways, quantifiably better than before on nearly every front...

As a recent Nature journal piece notes, COVID-19 lockdowns have prepared people for "personal carbon allowances." Restrictions on individual freedoms "that were unthinkable only one year before" have us "more prepared to accept the tracking and limitations" to "achieve a safer climate," the piece notes.



Climate change: COP26 'a turning point for the world' - Johnson

The November COP26 summit on climate change is the moment when "we have to grow up and take our responsibilities", the UK prime minister has said.

Boris Johnson said the gathering of leaders in Glasgow, would be "a turning point for the world".

He said people should be "optimistic" about the move from hydrocarbon sources to "new, green, clean technology".

The PM has been discussing climate change with other world leaders at a United Nations meeting in New York.



Climate strike: Greta Thunberg's Fridays for Future strike returns on Friday

Greta Thunberg gained support all around the world after she started a movement encouraging children and young people to help her raise awareness about the impact of climate change.

Now, the 18-year-old activist says the **Fridays for Future** movement will be returning with another march on Friday 24 September to demand that world leaders take action on important climate issues.

It comes as global leaders including prime minister Boris Johnson gather together in New York to discuss what they need to do to tackle important environmental problems.

Physical Fridays for Future protests weren't able to go ahead for a while due to the pandemic. Friday's action will be a global strike taking place in locations around the world, with Greta expected to attend an event in Germany.

COP26 is vital, multifaith environment declaration tells world leaders



GOVERNMENTS must take urgent action at the forthcoming COP26 climate summit "to avert the loss, damage, and forced migration threatened by climate change", a new declaration signed by religious leaders in the UK says.

The declaration is signed by 52 faith leaders from Scotland and across the UK. Anglican signatories include the Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, the Most Revd Mark Strange; the Bishop of Bangor and senior bishop in the Church in Wales, the Rt Revd Andy John; and the Bishop of Norwich, the Rt Revd Graham Usher, who is the C of E's lead bishop on the environment.

Earlier this month, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Pope Francis, and the Ecumenical Patriarch, Bartholomew, released a joint message which called on people to make "meaningful sacrifices for the sake of the earth which God has given us"

The Mark of the Beast

Stages of Enforcement:

Stage 1: **Recommendation of Sunday as a day of rest** (Green Sabbath, day for the family) with voluntary compliance, rewards, incentives, public acceptance and advocacy

Stage 2: **Enforcement of Sunday worship** (All business closed, work is forbidden) followed with shaming, mandates, legal restrictions and compulsion

“And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.”
Rev 13:12

Stage 3: **Prohibition of Saturday worship** with civil penalties (restriction of transactions, limit purchasing ability, substantial fines, imprisonment)

“He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that **no one may buy or sell** except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name”. - Rev 13:16-17

Stage 4: Overwhelming hatred against God’s people who continue to be obedient to Him and refuse to give allegiance to the beast will result in their **death decree**

“He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.” - Rev 13: 15



Principles of the dragon:
deception, persuasion, coercion, compulsion, persecution

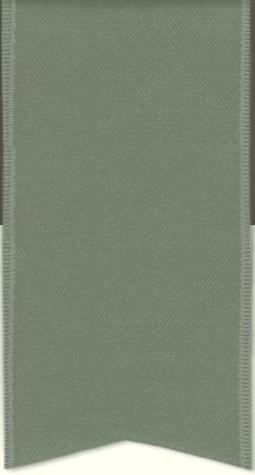
The Mark of the Beast

“The first public measure enforcing Sunday observance was the law enacted by Constantine in A.D. 321. His edict required townspeople to rest on “the venerable day of the sun,” but permitted countrymen to continue their agricultural pursuits. Though virtually a heathen statute, it was enforced by the emperor after his nominal acceptance of Christianity.

The royal mandate not proving a sufficient substitute for divine authority, Eusebius, a bishop who sought the favor of princes, and who was the special friend and flatterer of Constantine, advanced the claim that Christ had transferred the Sabbath to Sunday. Not a single testimony of the Scriptures was produced in proof of the new doctrine. Eusebius himself unwittingly acknowledges its falsity and points to the real authors of the change. “All things,” he says, “whatever that it was duty to do on the Sabbath, these we have transferred to the Lord's Day.”— **Robert Cox, Sabbath Laws and Sabbath Duties, page 538.**

As the papacy became firmly established, the work of Sunday exaltation was continued. For a time, the people engaged in agricultural labor when not attending church, and the seventh day was still regarded as the Sabbath. But steadily a change was effected. Those in holy office were forbidden to pass judgment in any civil controversy on the Sunday. Soon after, all persons, of whatever rank, were commanded to refrain from common labor on pain of a fine for freemen and stripes in the case of servants. Later it was decreed that rich men should be punished with the loss of half of their estates; and finally, that if still obstinate they should be made slaves. The lower classes were to suffer perpetual banishment. The decrees of councils proving insufficient, the secular authorities were besought to issue an edict that would strike terror to the hearts of the people and force them to refrain from labor on the Sunday. At a synod held in Rome, all previous decisions were reaffirmed with greater force and solemnity. They were also incorporated into the ecclesiastical law and enforced by the civil authorities throughout nearly all Christendom.” – **Great Controversy page 575**





When Protestants of the United States will be foremost in stretching their hands across the gulf to grasp the hand of spiritualism; they will reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the Roman power; and under the influence of this threefold union, this country will follow in the steps of Rome in trampling on the rights of conscience.

“When Protestant churches shall unite with the secular power to sustain a false religion, for opposing which their ancestors endured the fiercest persecution, then will the papal sabbath be enforced by the combined authority of church and state. There will be a national apostasy, which will end only in national ruin.

“When our nation shall so abjure the principles of its government as to enact a Sunday law, Protestantism will in this act join hands with popery. Protestants will throw their whole influence and strength on the side of the papacy. By a national act enforcing the false sabbath they will give life and vigor to the corrupt faith of Rome, reviving her tyranny and oppression of conscience. The prophecy of Revelation 13 will be fulfilled when the United States shall enforce Sunday observance, which Rome claims as the special acknowledgment of her supremacy.

The Mark of the Beast

“Fearful is the issue to which the world is to be brought. The powers of earth, uniting to war against the commandments of God, will decree that “all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond” (Rev 13:16), shall conform to the customs of the church by the observance of the false sabbath. All who refuse compliance will be visited with civil penalties, and it will finally be declared that they are deserving of death. On the other hand, the law of God enjoining the Creator's rest day demands obedience and threatens wrath against all who transgress its precepts. With the issue thus clearly brought before him, whoever shall trample upon God's law to obey a human enactment receives the mark of the beast; he accepts the sign of allegiance to the power which he chooses to obey instead of God.”

“The Sabbath will be the great test of loyalty, for it is the point of truth especially controverted. When the final test shall be brought to bear upon men, then the line of distinction will be drawn between those who serve God and those who serve Him not. While the observance of the false sabbath in compliance with the law of the state, contrary to the fourth commandment, will be an avowal of allegiance to a power that is in opposition to God, the keeping of the true Sabbath, in obedience to God's law, is an evidence of loyalty to the Creator. While one class, by accepting the sign of submission to earthly powers, receive the mark of the beast, the other, choosing the token of allegiance to divine authority, receive the seal of God.”



The Number 666

“There are only two religions in the world. One is the worship of God, and the other is the worship of Satan. The latter is the foundation of all pagan religions and all apostasies.

Satan has craved worship and has succeeded in becoming the god of this world

To understand the meaning of the symbolic number, 666, we must go back to the art and writings of Babylon and Egypt. This principle is crucial to the understanding of pagan and apostate religions and the sacred numbers used as symbols in them.

All sacred numbers without exception have astrological and Babylonian connections. Babylon was the home of Astrology.

The church during the medieval period was largely controlled by astrology. The sun god is the ruler of the zodiac pictured on ancient temples as a being with hoofs, horns, a tail and a pitchfork. The zodiac was carved on the papal throne and everywhere in her arts, on her staffs, church windows, and on her cathedral floors.

We find popes seated on the zodiac, each with his private astrologer.

This is the foundation for applying the sacred numbers of astrology to the individual who heads the system and to the whole organization which has gathered up all the threads of ancient man’s religion, with none lost.”



SUN
666

6	32	3	34	35	1
7	11	27	28	8	30
19	14	16	15	23	24
18	20	22	21	17	13
25	29	10	9	26	12
36	5	33	4	2	31

The Number 666

“Demon worship disguised as nature worship and centered chiefly in the sun. It began in the astrological religion of ancient Babylon and has continued to this day throughout the entire world.

In the astrological religion of Babylon, every god had his sacred number or numbers which were often used in place of god’s name. These numbers indicated the god’s place and power among the astrological gods.

The sun was “God 1”, the chief god among the gods. The ancients made much over summary or triangular numbers. The number 6, for example, is the sum of the numbers $1 + 2 + 3$

666 is the summary of 1 through 36

As the summary number of the father, the mother and the son, 6 therefore embraced all the powers of the three gods. There is definitely significance to the fact that our number 6 represents the cobra rising from its coil and that the sixth letter (and therefore the number 6) of nearly all alphabets is the direct descendant of a serpent hieroglyph.”

Murl Vance, The Trail of the Serpent



The Number 666

In the Catholic Douay version of the Bible, 1914 Edition, there is a footnote inserted by the Catholic translators which reads: "666. The numeral letters of his name shall make up this number." This name represents the number of a man. The man predominant in the Papal system is unquestionably the Pope.

Six Catholic authorities are unanimous that the official name or title of the Pope is Vicarius Filii Dei, that is, Vicar of the Son of God.

"Lateinos was the god of the year, the sun god, from whom the Latins claimed descent...they also claimed their language was a sacred language dedicated to the worship of their god...it seems little less than genius that the Latins were able to devise a numerical system in which when these six letters were chosen they added up to the number 666."

Murl Vance, *The Trail of the Serpent*



Latin - In the Latin language there are seven numerals (originally there were six).

V	=	5	F	=	0	D	=	500
I	=	1	I	=	1	E	=	0
C	=	100	L	=	50	I	=	1
A	=	0	I	=	1			
R	=	0	I	=	1			
I	=	1						
U	=	5						
S	=	0						
<hr/>								
		112	+		53	+		501 = 666
<hr/>								

L A T E I N O S
 $30 + 1 + 300 + 5 + 10 + 50 + 70 + 200 = 666$



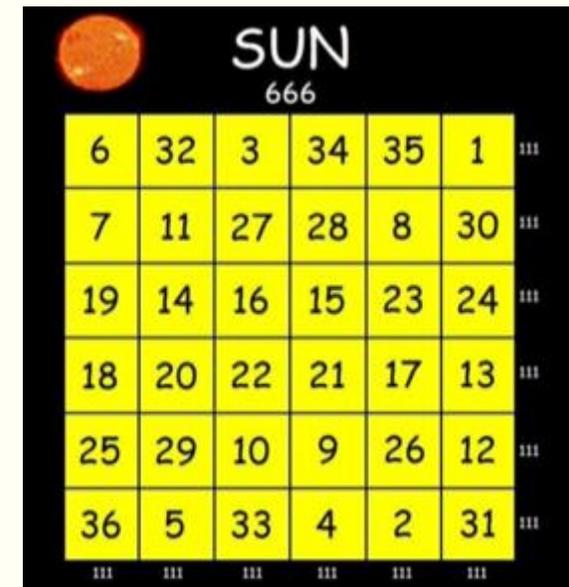
The Number 666

“The number 666 was sacred to sun worship. It originated in Babylon and had great significance. It was the great master summary number of paganism. It sums up all 36 gods of the Babylonian astrological system. (summary number of 36 is 666). 666 had a widespread use in the mysteries as a secret number referring to Lucifer and to his earthly representative or mouthpiece...there may be far more to the number 666 found so frequently in mystic and church art than appears on the surface.

The sacred solar seal with its 36 numbered compartments added up to 666. This was the Sigillum Solus, seal of the sun, with which Jesus was sealed in the tomb (Matthew 27:62-66). This number ‘holds in its embrace the whole realm of pagan deities. This number summarizes, as does no other sacred number in all paganism, the gamut of pagan idolatry – it is above all others the truly universal number of the apostasy ... these numbers apply in a peculiar and significant way to any religion which is based on astrology and claims universality’. The number 666 lies in the very nature of pagan idolatry, which as we have seen, is nothing but disguised demon worship.

There is also a connection between the three fingers of the “blessing hand” and three ‘waws’ or 6’s which we must not overlook. The Jesuit Kircher pictures this hand with three commas on the upraised fingers and we find the same marking repeatedly in the works of the secret societies...the history of three upraised fingers, or two fingers and a thumb, as used in the blessing hand runs very deeply into paganism. Thus, whenever the Pope presents his hand in blessing, he is actually invoking the power of Lucifer. The Babylonian priests wore a popular amulet which contained numbers in a square that added up to 666. The Roman priests wore a similar amulet which had the same numbers.”

Murl Vance, The Trail of the Serpent



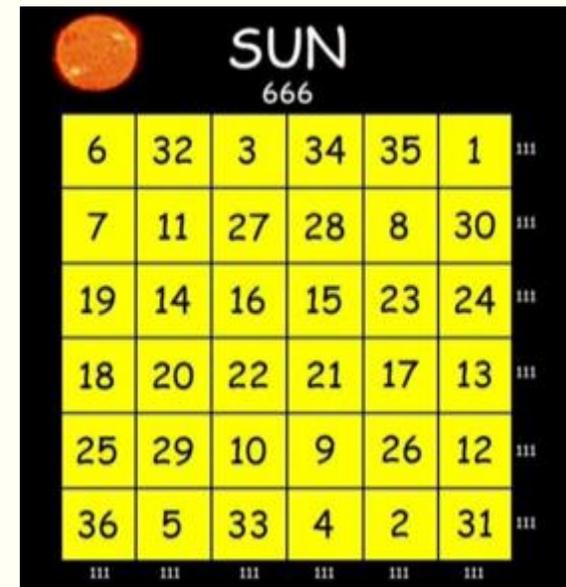
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7	11	27	28	8	30
19	14	16	15	23	24
18	20	22	21	17	13
25	29	10	9	26	12
36	5	33	4	2	31

The Number 666

Murl Vance was considered by some to be the greatest authority on the number 666. He was a theology graduate from Pacific Union College in the United States of America. He spent twenty years researching the number 666, and produced 25,000 pages of microfilmed evidence in support of the claim that the number 666 is the master number of paganism and of the secret societies such as Freemasonry and, in particular, Catholicism. Vance proved beyond question that 666 truly applies to the Pope and identifies him as the disguised High Priest of Witchcraft, a position which originated in ancient Babylon.



The ex-Jesuit Alberto Reveira has confirmed this. He claims that the Popes, in their use of the twisted crucifix - the insignia of witchcraft - are demonstrating that the Papacy is ancient witchcraft under a Christian cloak. While the author was visiting Murl Vance in Los Angeles in 1956, Murl Vance donated to him a copy of his extended research. This was subsequently published in India in two volumes entitled, *The Trail of the Serpent* and *Breaking the Code of the Secret Societies*. The penalty for disclosing such secrets is death. It appears that as a result of his disclosures, Murl Vance was found dead in his private quarters after a visit by two large individuals disguised as Catholic nuns. Further indisputable evidence in regard to the number 666 is found in this recent outstanding scholarly work of *Dr. Edwin de Kock, The Truth About 666! The Story of the Great Apostasy*



SUN					
666					
6	32	3	34	35	1
7	11	27	28	8	30
19	14	16	15	23	24
18	20	22	21	17	13
25	29	10	9	26	12
36	5	33	4	2	31

The End of the Beast

Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, “If anyone worships the **beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.**”

Rev 14: 9-11

“And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and **those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God.**”

Rev 13:18

“Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived **those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.** These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.”

Rev 19:20



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- Amazing Discoveries: Walking through Revelation, **Walter Veith**
- Great Controversy, **Ellen G White**
- Salvation in Signs & Symbols, **Ivor Myers and James Rafferty**

