



MARK OF THE BEAST & THE SUNDAY LAW

Revelation 13

The 'Real' Game of Thrones

If you say you are not worried about the 'what' because you know the 'who', you can still be deceived by the 'who' because you do not know the 'what'.

Deception & Coercion



Blessed is he who reads and those
who hear the words of this prophecy,
and keep those things which are
written in it, for the time is near.
Revelation 1:3

JESUS IS THE CENTER OF PROPHECY

Matthew 24
Luke 21
Mark 9
Book of Revelation

touchpoints...

- Recap of 'Mark of the Beast' study
 - History of Blue Laws
- Four Stages of the Sunday Law
 - How should you prepare?

Four Beasts and Little horn



Daniel spoke, saying, “I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the Great Sea. 3 And four great beasts came up from the sea, each different from the other. 4 The first was like a **lion** and had eagle’s wings. I watched till its wings were plucked off; and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand on two feet like a man, and a man’s heart was given to it. 5 “And suddenly another beast, a second, like a **bear**. It was raised up on one side and had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. And they said thus to it: ‘Arise, devour much flesh!’ 6 “After this I looked, and there was another, like a **leopard**, which had on its back four wings of a bird. The beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it. 7 “After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, **dreadful and terrible**, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns. 8 I was considering the horns, and there was **another horn, a little one**, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.

Dan 7:2-8

The composite sea beast



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.

Rev 13: 1-2

What power then is this? What is the beast?

From the specifications given in the scripture, is it possible for anybody who has read either scripture or history, to have any difficulty in knowing what it is? There has been just one power in the world that meets the specifications of the scripture: and that one power meets to the full every single specification. That power is the papacy.

Medical Missionary Sep 12, 1906 page 91

Sea beast - Papacy

- **Babylon** – Roman Catholic doctrines and traditions from pagan sun worship (Mithraism)
 - *infant baptism,*
 - *sprinkling during baptism,*
 - *teachings on death and immortality,*
 - *celibate priests with power over the dead,*
 - *prayers to the dead and to relics,*
 - *repetitive prayers with the use of beads,*
 - *doctrines on forgiveness of sins,*
 - *teachings on hell,*
 - *the mass,*
 - *Sunday worship*

- **Medo Persia** – Laws cannot be changed
- **Greece** – Humanism (laws of man supercede the laws of God)
- **Rome** – persecution of dissenters

Crowns – Diadems (only found in 3 places)

- On the 7 heads of the dragon (Dan 12:3)
- On the 10 horns of the sea beast (Rev 13:1)
- Many crowns on Jesus head (Rev 19:12)

Land beast

Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had **two horns like a lamb** and **spoke like a dragon**. 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: 11-12

Two horns represent:

- Republicanism - government that protects the minority
- Protestantism – principles of civil and religious liberty

A nation speaks through its laws





Sea Beast and Land Beast - Revelation 13

In all the world there is just one place, one state, one nation, where at the beginning there was not only no union of church and state, but also the actual and intentional repudiation of any such thing. That one place, state, and nation, is the United States of America. And in this one place, it has been, and is being, diligently said “unto them that they should make” a union of Church and State, in the very likeness of the papacy. And this is being said and urged by professed Protestantism.

Medical Missionary Sep 12, 1906 page 98

Counterfeit trinity

The issue in the final crisis will be 'worship'

Dragon

Devil and Satan

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

Rev 16:13-14

Rev 19:20

Rev 20:10

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 after resurrection
- Who is like the beast? vs Michael - Who is like God?
- Global authority

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

By reading and comparing Revelation 16:13, 14; 19:20, and 14:12, it will be readily seen that “the false prophet,” and the “image of the beast,” are one and the same thing—only under different symbols.

The beast, we have found to be the papacy. An image of the beast can be nothing else than a religious system formed after the likeness of the papacy, espousing the principles of the papacy, and acting like the papacy.

An image of the beast would be a form of religion different from that of the papacy that would insinuate and exalt itself to dominancy over the state: make the ecclesiastical power superior to the civil; and would use the power of the state to further the ends and purposes of the church.

Medical Missionary Sep 12, 1906 page 98

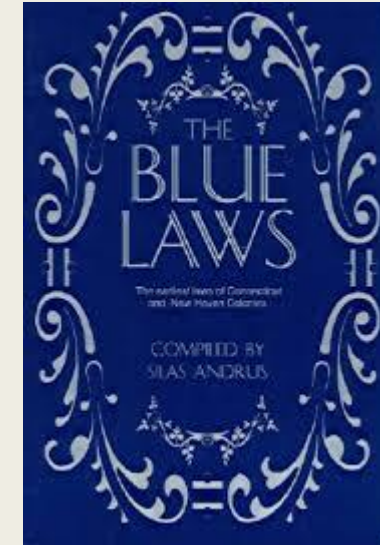
The protestants of the United States will be foremost in stretching their hand across the gulf to clasp the hand of spiritualism. They will reach over the abyss and clasp the hand of the Roman power. And under the influence of this threefold union, this country will follow in the steps of Rome trampling on the rights of conscience. (GC 588)

God's mark – allegiance to your Creator Satan's mark – allegiance to the beast

SUNDAY OBSERVANCE IS BASED ON THE CUSTOM, TRADITION AND COMMAND OF THE ROMAN CHURCH. **WHEN IT WILL BE ENFORCED BY CIVIL LAW, THEN EVERYONE WHO OBEYS WILL RECEIVE THE MARK OF THE BEAST**

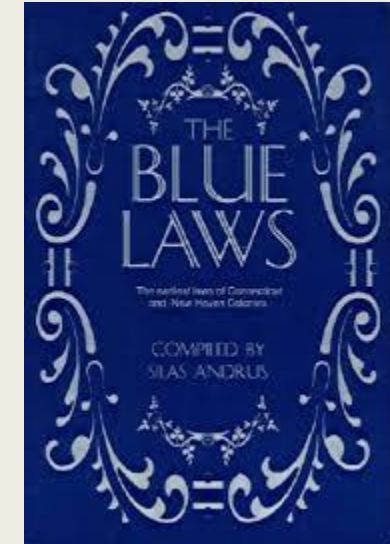
History of Blue Laws

- Blue laws date back to 18th century
- Also known as Sunday laws, they are designed to restrict or ban some or all Sunday activities for religious reasons, particularly to promote the observance of a day of worship or rest
- May have been derived from Samuel Peters's (General History of Connecticut, 1781) which listed stiff Sabbath regulations printed on blue paper
- Based on the 18th century usage of the word "blue" meaning "rigidly moral"
- Forbade certain secular activities on Sunday (buying, selling, traveling, public entertainment, sports)
- Embraced by many religious groups to protect family values



History of Blue Laws

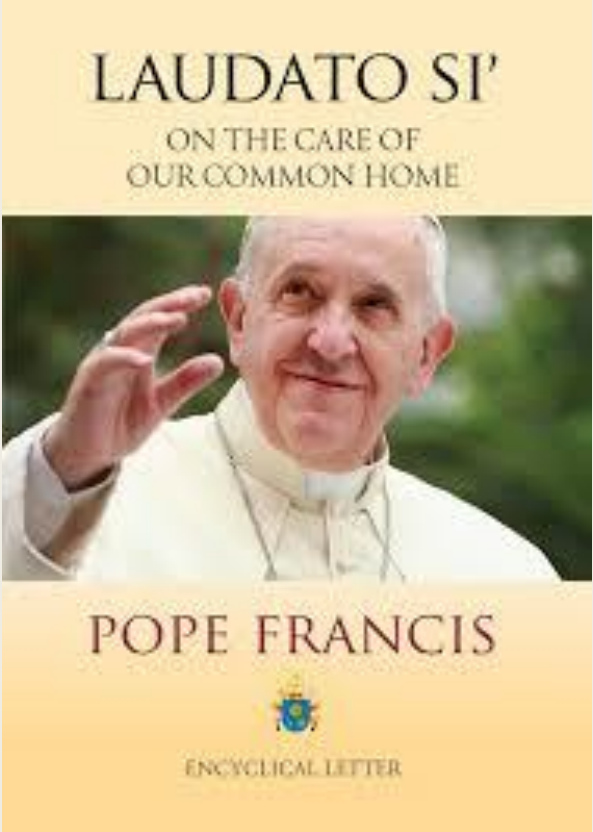
- Existed in all American colonies and generally lapsed after the American Revolution
- Blue laws dwindled across the US except those regarding sale of alcohol which remained on the statutes in some states into the 21st century
- Last statewide full-day restriction on commerce in North Dakota was repealed in 1991.
- In the Lone Star State of Texas, blue laws were enacted in 1961 and repealed in 1985 prohibiting the sale of 42 specific items
- The US Supreme Court has held blue laws as constitutional numerous times
- Labor unions and trade associations have historically supported the legislation of blue laws




Stage 1: Advocating Sunday as day of rest




Work is important,
but so too is rest.
Shouldn't we learn to
respect times of rest,
especially Sundays?
Pope Francis



LAUDATO SI'
ON THE CARE OF
OUR COMMON HOME



POPE FRANCIS



ENCYCLICAL LETTER



What does Sunday, the day of the Lord,
mean for us? It is a day for rest and for
family, but first of all a day for Him.

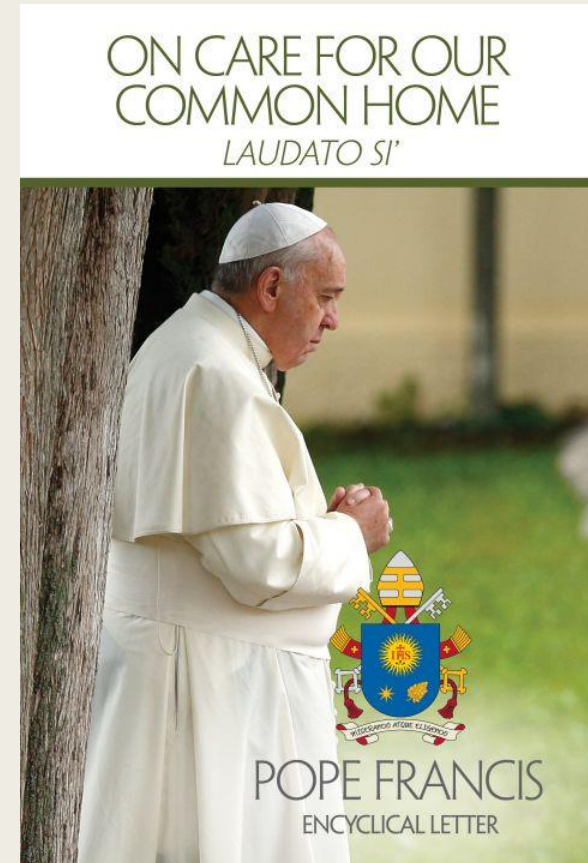
Pope Benedict XVI



Laudato Si: Care for our Common Home (2015)

- Encyclical addressed to every living person on this planet (May 24, 2015)
- Laudato Si special anniversary year (May 24, 2020 through May 24, 2021) – Jubilee time for the Earth
- “The Earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth”
- “Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us”
- “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 it light on the whole week, and motivates us to greater concern for nature and the poor.”

Pope Francis



Global Climate strike: September 21, 2019

- Environmental crisis from a religious point of view rather than with just political and scientific language
- Extinction Rebellion
- Climate activism
- Our planet, Our future
- Declare environment + climate emergency
- Irreversible destruction of environment
- For the “Common Good”
- Universally enforced



50th anniversary: Earth Day – April 22, 2020

- “Humanity has failed to take care of the earth and its inhabitants, sinning against God and his gift of creation. Let us pledge to love and esteem the beautiful gift of the Earth, our common home, and to care for all members of our human family.”
- “In today’s celebration of Earth Day, we are called to renew our sense of sacred respect for the Earth, for it is not just our home but also God’s home. This should make us all the more aware that we stand on holy ground!... the whole international community must cooperate in the protection “of our common home.”

Pope Francis



Stage 1: Sunday - day of rest

“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

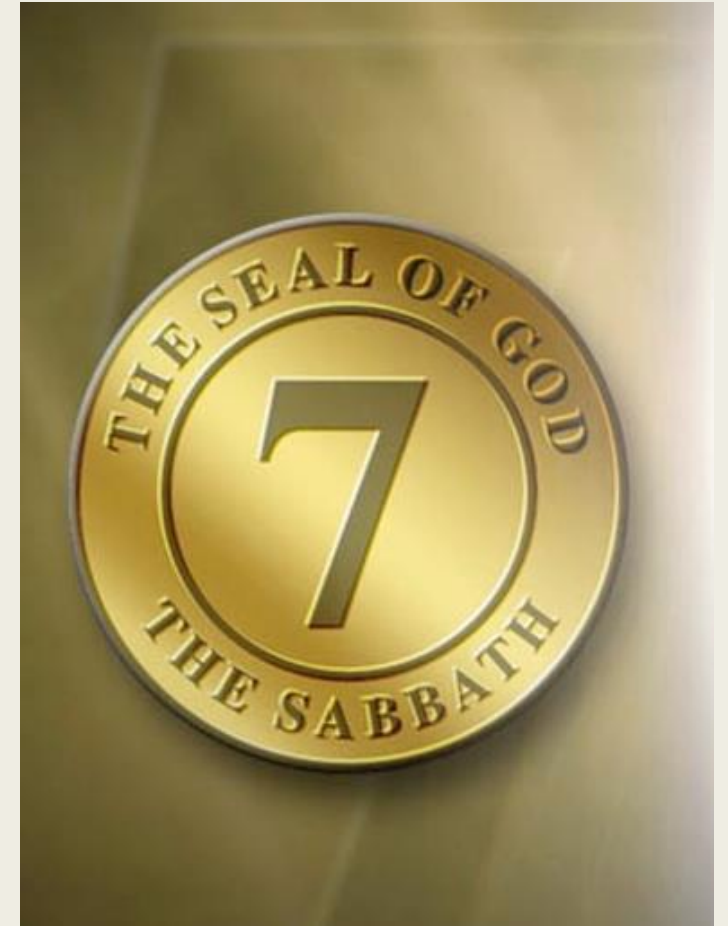


Catholic News Agency

“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.”

Great Controversy page 605

“**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.**”



Stage 2: Enforced Sunday worship

“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

“And another angel followed, saying, “Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has **made all nations** drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.”

Rev 14:8



Stage 2: Enforced Sunday worship

- Sunday Law is enacted
- Everyone is required to honor Sunday as the day of rest and worship
- Can still worship on Saturday
- Sunday Law will empower the church to give the loud cry
- Beginning of the crisis – the little time of trouble



Testimonies Vol 9 page 232

Dear Brother,

I will try to answer your question as to what you should do in the case of Sunday laws being enforced. The light given me by the Lord at a time when we were expecting just such a crisis as you seem to be approaching, was that when the people were moved by a power from beneath to enforce Sunday observance, Seventh-day Adventists were to show their wisdom by refraining from their ordinary work on that day, **devoting it to missionary effort**. To defy the Sunday laws will but strengthen in their persecution the religious zealots who are seeking to enforce them. Give them no occasion to call you lawbreakers. Keep right on with your missionary work, with your Bibles in your hands, and the enemy will see that he has worsted his own cause. One does not receive the mark of the beast because he shows that he realizes the wisdom of keeping the peace by refraining from work that gives offense, doing at the same time a work of the highest importance.

Testimonies Vol 9 page 232

The law for the observance of the first day of the week is the production of an apostate Christendom. Sunday is a child of the papacy, exalted by the Christian world above the sacred day of God's rest. In no case are God's people to pay it homage. But I wish them to understand that they are not doing God's will by braving opposition when He wishes them to avoid it. Thus they create prejudice so bitter that it is impossible for the truth to be proclaimed. **Make no demonstration on Sunday in defiance of law.**



Stage 3: Prohibits Saturday worship (consequences)



“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

“He shall have **power over the treasures of gold and silver**, and over all the precious things of Egypt; also the Libyans and Ethiopians shall follow at his heels.”

Dan 11:43

Great Controversy page 608

“As the storm approaches, a large class who have professed faith in the third angel's message but have not been sanctified through obedience to the truth, abandon their position and join the ranks of the opposition. By uniting with the world and partaking of its spirit, they have come to view matters in nearly the same light; and when the test is brought, they are prepared to choose the easy, popular side. They become the most bitter enemies of their former brethren. **When Sabbath-keepers are brought before the courts to answer for their faith,** these apostates are the most efficient agents of Satan to misrepresent and accuse them, and by false reports and insinuations to stir up the rulers against them”.

“As the defenders of truth refuse to honor the Sunday-sabbath, some of them will be **thrust into prison**, some will be exiled, some will be treated as slaves. To human wisdom all this now seems impossible; but as the restraining Spirit of God shall be withdrawn from men, and they shall be under the control of Satan, who hates the divine precepts, there will be strange developments. The heart can be very cruel when God's fear and love are removed.”



Stage 3: Prohibits Saturday worship



- Sunday worship only allowed
- Cannot buy or sell
- Fines
- Imprisonment

If you are used to compromising to pay the bills (tithing, working on the Sabbath), it will be easier to give in

Stage 4: 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

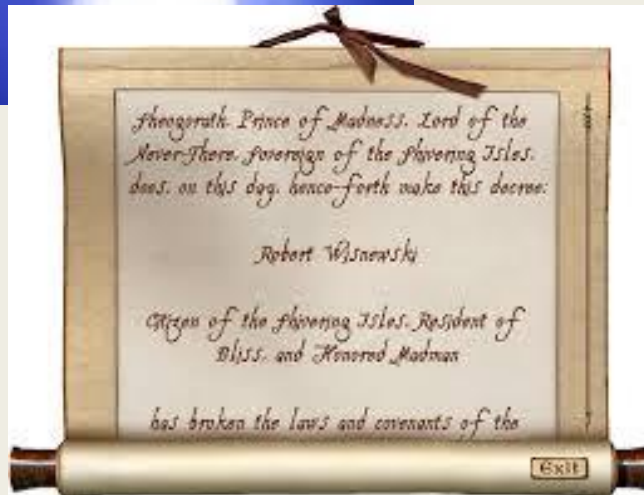
Stage 4: Death decree



“But news from the east and the north shall trouble him; therefore he shall go out with **great fury to destroy and annihilate many**. And he shall plant the tents of his palace between the seas and the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and no one will help him.

Dan 11: 44-45

Stage 4: Death decree



- Satan impersonates Christ's coming
- Jacob's time of trouble
- Civil penalty – death decree
- Protection of God's people

Overwhelming hatred against God's people who continue to be obedient to Him and refuse to give allegiance to the beast

Great Controversy page 604

“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.**”

How should you prepare?

Therefore, let us not sleep as others do, but let us watch and be sober. I Thess 5:6

But not one is made to suffer the wrath of God until the truth has been brought home to his mind and conscience and has been rejected. There are many who have never had an opportunity to hear the special truths for this time. The obligation of the fourth commandment has never been set before them in its true light. **He who reads every heart and tries every motive will leave none who desire a knowledge of the truth, to be deceived as to the issues of the controversy.** The decree is not to be urged upon the people blindly. Everyone is to have sufficient light to make his decision intelligently.

Great Controversy page 603



How should you prepare?

- Allow God to strengthen your faith especially through difficult experiences
- Study, understand and know clearly why you believe what you believe
- Do not forsake the assembly of believers
- Beware of self-sufficiency
- Actively share your faith
- Be vigilant – don't be ignorant of the devil's devices to make you lose your salvation (2 Thess 2: 3, 4, 9-12)
- Beware of counterfeits and deception (2 Cor 11:13-15)
- Live like a pilgrim

