

September 14, 2024

## *West Valley End-Time Ministries Newsletter*

### "The Invitation"

**On the last day, that great [day] of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet [given], because Jesus was not yet glorified. John 7:37-39.**

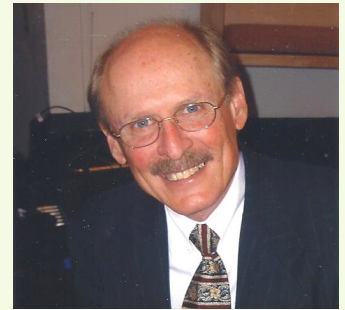
It was 6 months before Jesus gave His life that He stood on the steps of the temple with outstretched arms, in invitation to the crowds who were present for the final ceremony of the Feast of Tabernacles in 30 AD. The priests had poured water into one vessel on one side of the steps and wine into another vessel on the other side, and the two liquids were released to flow from the vessels through troughs that merged beyond the temple steps and flowed, mingled together down the incline to the Kidron Valley below – a valley Jesus would cross on the night before His death as He made His way up the Mount of Olives to Gethsemane. His invitation to those who would be the beneficiaries of His sacrifice was to "Come to Me and drink." Only the "thirsty" would respond – only those who felt their need of a Savior, but to them He called for a faith in Him that would result in the flowing of the Spirit through their thirsty souls.

The invitation still stands today – "He who is thirsty, let him come." At the end of the account of all that is just before a world in need of a Savior – the last few verses of the Book of Revelation, Jesus extends the same invitation:

**The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely. Revelation 22:17.**

Is your soul thirsty? Do you feel the desperate need of a Savior? Jesus says, "Whoever comes to Me, I will never reject." John 6:37.

In Him,  
Pastor Chilson

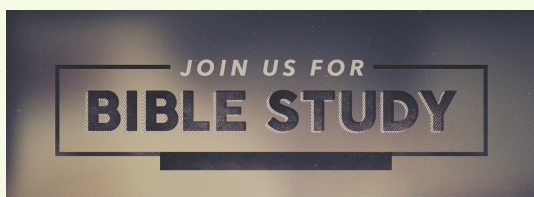


*Pastor Darrell Chilson*

***"We are living in the season of Christ's return."***

***Jesus said, "Watch and be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."***

***The mission of West Valley Ministries is to help Christ's followers recognize the signs of His approaching return and be prepared for that Great Day.***



## John 7 – Part 3

### “The Promise of the Holy Spirit”

**37** On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink.

**38** Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.”

**39** By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

### “Who Is He?”

**40** On hearing his words, some of the people said, “Surely this man is the Prophet.”

**41** Others said, “He is the Messiah.” Still others asked, “How can the Messiah come from Galilee?”

**42** Does not Scripture say that the Messiah will come from David’s descendants and from Bethlehem, the town where David lived?”

**43** Thus the people were divided because of Jesus.

**44** Some wanted to seize him, but no one laid a hand on him.

Unbelief of the Jewish Leaders

### “Rejected by the Authorities”

**45** Finally the temple guards went back to the chief priests and the Pharisees, who asked them, “Why didn’t you bring him in?”

**46** “No one ever spoke the way this man does,” the guards replied.

**47** “You mean he has deceived you also?” the Pharisees retorted.

**48** “Have any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed in him?”

**49** No! But this mob that knows nothing of the law—there is a curse on them.”

**50** Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus earlier and who was one of their own number, asked,

**51** “Does our law condemn a man without first hearing him to find out what he has been doing?”

**52** They replied, “Are you from Galilee, too? Look into it, and you will find that a prophet does not come out of Galilee.”

**53** Then they all went home.



- 1) What is living water, where else have we seen it mentioned? Verse 39
- 2) Sometimes called “the missing verse” — What is Jesus referring to in verse 38 when He says “As the Scripture has said...”?
- 3) Why do you think Jesus waited until the last day of the feast to say these things?
- 4) Does the Old Testament mention living water? Jeremiah 17:13, 2:13
- 5) What is stirring the people’s confusion? Verses 40-44
- 6) Do you think the temple guard believed in Jesus? Why didn’t he bring Jesus in? Verses 45-47
- 7) What irony does Nicodemus’s comment point out? Verses 49-51



## **“THE MARK OF THE BEAST” Part 2**

The “mark of the beast” is mentioned seven times in the Book of Revelation, always in conjunction with related phrases which conjure up the interest and speculation of many as to what is ahead for our world before Jesus returns. Note in the references below the language that is used that indicates the seriousness of this topic:

**And he [*the False Prophet/America*] deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast [*the Papacy*], telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image [*a likeness*] to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived. 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. ... 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. Revelation 13:14, 15, 17.**

**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." Revelation 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. Revelation 15:2.**

**So the first [*angel*] went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image [*the first of seven plagues*]. Revelation 16:2.**


**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. Revelation 19:20.**

**And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then [I saw] the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received [his] mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. Revelation 20:4.**

What is this “mark of the beast” spoken of in the verses above? Is it a visible mark, a tattooed mark, or perhaps a chip on “the hand or forehead”?

What is the “name of the beast or number of his name”? And what is the number “666” – what does this number represent?

What is the “image of/to the beast”?





These are questions which we will be addressing in the chapters to come. But following are some thoughts that will give some preliminary answers to get this discussion started.

### **The Mark of the Beast vs. The Mark/Seal of God –**

Note that Ezekiel speaks of a “mark” of God in the Old Testament:

**Now the glory of the God of Israel had gone up from the cherub, where it had been, to the threshold of the temple. And He called to the man clothed with linen, who [had] the writer's inkhorn at his side; and the LORD said to him, "Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and cry over all the abominations that are done within it." Ezekiel 9:3, 4.**

John also speaks of a “mark” or “seal” [*same usage in the Bible*] “of the living God”:

**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." Revelation 7:2, 3.**

And the “name” of God on the “foreheads” of the redeemed:

**They were commanded not to harm the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only those men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. Revelation 9:4.**

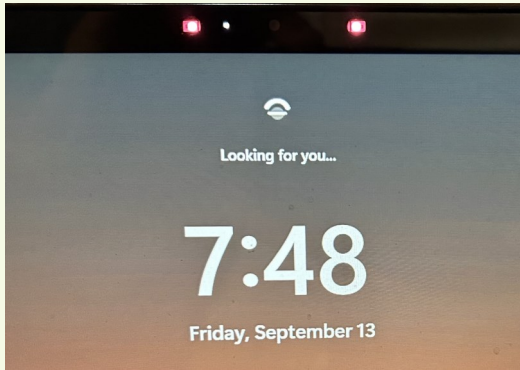
**Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred [and] forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads. ... They shall see His face, and His name [shall be] on their foreheads. Revelation 14:1, 4.**

### **Two Different Marks – Similar in Nature: One mark identifies one's allegiance to the evil powers of earth at the end of time, and the other one's allegiance to the God of heaven –**

- ◇ There could be a physical or digital mark which will be used by the powers of evil in the future, but the real issue will be whatever means is chosen by government to indicate one's participation in and allegiance to the political, religious and financial system approved by the Beast and the False Prophet as they unite to cause the world to give allegiance to the power and authority of papal Rome – just as the “mark/seal” of God and His “name in the forehead” will indicate one's allegiance to God in contrast to an allegiance to the powers of earth.
- ◇ The hand and forehead are already being used to verify one's identity, without any tattoo or chip! Technology in our world today has far exceeded the need for anything visible, as has been suggested by many in the past. When I open up my computer to write the newsletter — or pay bills, or whatever I need to do on the computer, the computer looks for my face to identify and authorize my access, instead of by the old way of entering a password. When I swipe my phone to access text messages or check the weather, the phone uses facial recognition to authorize access. And now, Amazon One uses palm recognition, instead of a credit card, to authorize purchases at the store. Note the images on the next page!





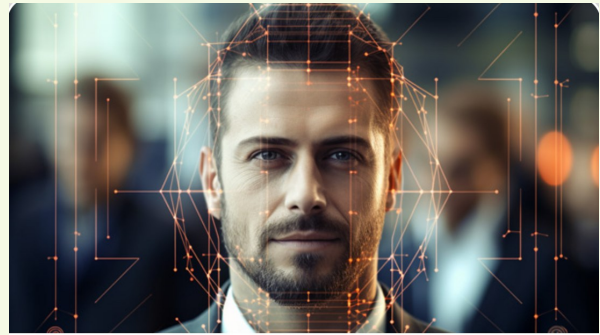


My computer looking for my face!



Amazon palm payment system Amazon One...

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## Digital ID (DID)

Features include:

**Authentication:** The system verifies identity using facial features and static identifiers, enhancing security.

**Authorization:** Post authentication, the system determines resources or services the user can access. This approach ensures secure and user-friendly digital interactions.

- ◇ A visible mark is no longer needed to identify you, and ultimately your loyalty and compliance with the mandates of the False Prophet of Revelation 13, as per the prophecy. And it is unlikely that the “mark of the beast” will be a visible mark on the hand or forehead! Digital technology is now being used in nearly every facet of life, and everything about us is known by medical and government agencies. Once one’s identity is verified by digital technology, every person’s “profile” — their political views, their religious beliefs, and ultimately their loyalties to the corrupt system — all will be known and our identity authenticated. Our allegiance to the religious-political system now materializing will determine our ability to buy and sell, to participate in the world’s financial system, and to reap the benefits of one’s loyalty to the papal system and the evil system of the government of America, in her position of power and influence in the world. And just as a credit card can be cancelled by the government system today, soon a person unwilling to comply with the mandates of the combined efforts of corrupt religion and corrupt government will also be “cancelled” and forbidden to have the benefits of the existing financial system — no loyalty to the world system, no access to the financial system!

In future chapters, we will discuss several more very important words, phrases and facets of these issues, and the verses in Revelation 13:11-18 which describe the scenes just ahead on the world stage.

Stay tuned!