

A BIBLE PROPHECY ADVENTURE

REVELATION SEMINARS



THE MARK OF THE BEAST

The most fearful, awesome and shocking language in all the book of Revelation is used to describe the mark of the beast.

To read how God describes the punishment for those who receive the mark of the beast, Revelation 14:9-11 (1815), is enough to immediately put a sober look on any person's face.

Revelation points out the following specifically:

- a. Any person who receives the mark of the beast is lost.
- b. The vast, overwhelming majority of the people on this earth will receive the mark of the beast.
- c. The civil authorities will endeavor, by starvation and death threats, to compel people to receive the mark of the beast.

God teaches in Revelation that all people on this earth are rapidly dividing into two groups: one group following the God of heaven, and the other following Satan, who is represented by the beast. Those who follow God will receive the sign or mark of God, (We studied God's mark, or sign, in an earlier lesson). Those who follow Satan, represented by the beast, will receive the sign or mark of the beast.

Tragically, unless a person knows for certain what the mark of the beast is, he will inevitably end up with the mark and not even be aware that he has it. Are YOU POSITIVE that you can identify the mark of the beast? Anything less than this can cost you your life.

This subject may cut across something you have loved from childhood. But, surely, since God lovingly sends us a special message from Revelation on this subject we will all be anxious to hear what He is saying and to accept and follow His counsel. This is what Jesus asks us to do in Revelation 1:3 (1800).

This most significant subject is presented in Revelation, chapter 13 (1813).

RS-019

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THE BEAST OF REVELATION 13

1. In order to identify the "mark" we must first identify the "beast". In prophecy, what does a beast represent? Daniel 7:23 (1310); Jeremiah 50:17,43,44 (1192)

Ans: "The fourth _____ shall be the fourth _____".

NOTE: Beasts in prophecy represent kingdoms, governments, or earthly ruling organizations. The term does not denote disrespect. It does not mean beastly characteristics. The description of each beast is a description of the government involved.

2. According to Revelation 13:1 (1813) this beast, with a mark, comes up out of the sea. What does water represent in prophecy? Revelation 17:15 (1819)

Ans: "The waters . . . are _____ and _____
and _____ and _____".

NOTE: Water, in prophecy, represents a populated area.

3. Read Revelation 13:1-8,18 (1813). Notice that this beast, which has a mark that I must not receive, has eight pronounced characteristics. On Exhibit #1, we have listed these eight points and identified the power they describe. Please study this exhibit carefully before going to the next question.

THE BEAST'S MARK OF AUTHORITY

4. Since we have now positively identified the beast as the papacy, let's permit the papacy to tell us what its mark is. See Exhibit #2.

ATTEMPTED CHANGE OF GOD'S LAW

5. It seems incredible that the papacy has been able to change the day of worship from Saturday to Sunday and have virtually the entire world follow. Did the papacy really change God's fourth-commandment-Sabbath to Sunday or only think that they had changed it? Daniel 7:25 (1311)

Ans: "And _____ to change times and _____".

NOTE: Daniel 7 is a parallel prophecy to Revelation 13. The message is clear: the papacy only thought a change had been made. The Sabbath of the commandment is still binding. Sunday is not a holy day.

6. What was God's criticism of His ancient priests or pastors? Malachi 2:7-9 (1392)

Ans: "Ye have caused many to _____ at the law . . . ye have not kept my ways, but have been _____ in my law".

NOTE: God does not change, Malachi 3:6 (1393). He still is hurt when religious leaders are partial to the nine commandments and cause people to stumble over His Sabbath command.



It hurts God
when we
trample
His Law

7. **How did the people in Hosea's day regard the great things of God's law? Hosea 8:12 (1327)**

Ans: "They were counted as a _____ thing".

NOTE: Things have not changed. If you decide to keep the great, holy Sabbath of God's law, people will still consider it a strange thing.

8. **God said that the religious leaders in Ezekiel's day were profaning holy things; putting no difference between profane and holy things and showing no difference between the clean and the unclean. What specifically did He have in mind? Ezekiel 22:26 (1244)**

Ans: "They have _____ their _____ from my _____".

NOTE: It is still happening today. Many religious leaders say, "There is no difference between Sabbath and Sunday", or "any day will do if you are sincere". But God still says, "Thou hast despised mine holy things, and hast profaned my Sabbaths", Ezekiel 22:8 (1243). He also says He will pour out His "indignation", Ezekiel 22:31 (1244), upon those who say, "Thus saith the Lord God, when the Lord has not spoken", Ezekiel 22:28 (1244). To claim that God says Sunday is a holy day when God has, instead, ordained the Sabbath is a very serious matter which He will not overlook.

9. **What did God say about attempts to change His law or word in any way?**

Ans: a. Deuteronomy 4:2 (295) — Do not _____ or _____ a single thing. b. Proverbs 30:5,6 (1001) — If I add to His word He counts me a _____. c. Luke 16:17 (1526) — _____ and _____ will sooner pass away than for one tittle of the _____ to fail.

POPULAR CHURCHES ARE EMBARRASSED

10. When we ask the papacy, "How could you change God's holy law" they are embarrassed. But their response is even more embarrassing to Protestants. See Exhibit #3.

HOW THE MARK IS RECEIVED

11. Where is the beast's mark placed on people? Revelation 13:16 (1814)

Ans: "In their right _____ or in their _____".

NOTE: The mark is not literal. Remember, we are dealing with symbols. The forehead represents the mind with which we serve God, Romans 7:25 (1656), and the hand is a symbol of work, Ecclesiastes 9:10 (1013). Those who accept Sunday observance willingly are marked in the forehead. Those who agree to work Sabbath to avoid boycott or death are marked in the hand.

12. Do people who now observe Sunday as a holy day have the mark of the beast? Revelation 13:16,17 (1814)

Ans: "And that _____ man might _____ or _____ save he that had the _____".

NOTE: No one has the mark of the beast now. No one will be marked until the law forces a person to stop buying and selling unless he has the mark. When it becomes a major issue and men are forced to decide for either the mark of God or the mark of the beast, then those who work on Sabbath or observe Sunday as a holy day will be marked. Sabbath breaking, however, even today, is a very serious matter, because it involves sin, 1 John 3:4 (1792). Those who knowingly profane God's holy day now, will lose the ability to think and see clearly and will end up in darkness, John 12:35 (1573).

13. In these last days, God has commanded His angels to hold back the winds of strife from the earth until something happens to His people. What is that something? Revelation 7:1-3 (1807)

Ans: "Hurt not the _____ . . . till we have _____
the _____ of God in their _____".

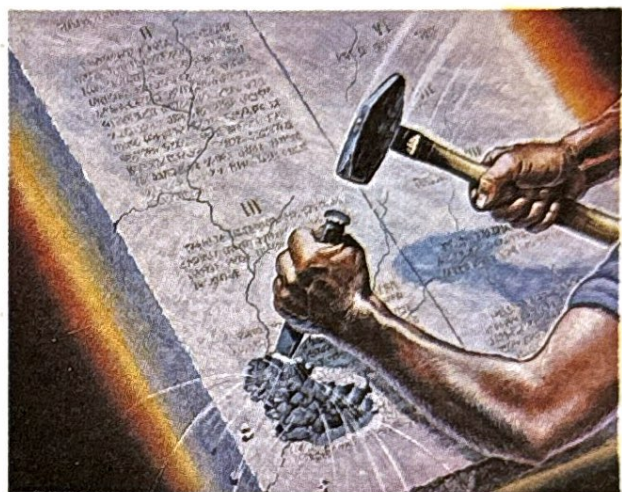
NOTE: God is holding back devastating destruction from the earth until His people receive His seal, sign or mark, which is His Sabbath. Soon every person on earth will be in one of two groups: God's group, with His Sabbath mark, or the beast's group, with his counterfeit Sunday mark. The Holy Spirit is working with almost desperation to clearly show people that loyalty to God is involved here and to impress them to accept God's Sabbath mark which represents His creative and redemptive power. It is not enough to claim that we serve God. We must also obey Him, Luke 6:46 (1502). Winds blowing represent strife, war and commotion, Jeremiah 49:36,37 (1190); 4:11-13 (1112) and Zechariah 7:14 (1382).

14. Who will receive God's wrath in the last days? Revelation 14:9,10 (1815)

Ans: Those who receive the _____ of the _____.

NOTE: God's wrath is contained in the seven last plagues which we will study in a soon coming lesson, Revelation 15:1 (1816); Revelation 16:1,2 (1817).

To tamper
with God's
Law is a
very serious
matter



A TEST OF LOYALTY

15. How does God decide who it is we serve? Romans 6:16 (1654)

Ans: "His _____ ye are to _____ ye _____".

NOTE: God chooses to save everybody, I Timothy 2:3,4 (1742). The devil desperately wants all to be lost. We choose whom we will serve by whom we obey, Joshua 24:15 (391). I obey God and serve Him by accepting his mark. It is not a matter of days but rather a question of loyalty to Christ or anti-christ, which is another name for the beast. God's Sabbath is like a banner or flag. When I obey Him I step under His Sabbath banner. When I, with my eyes wide open, step under the Sunday banner of the beast, God counts me as serving the beast.

16. How does God count me if I am neutral? Matthew 12:30 (1416)

Ans: "He that is not _____ me is _____ me".

17. According to Revelation 13:11 (1814), John saw another beast rise up out of the earth about the time that the beast of verse 1 went into captivity (vs. 10). Whom do you think this beast represents?

Ans: _____

NOTE: No other country except the United States can fit here. It came up from an uninhabited area (the earth). It was lamblike (peaceful and docile) and it arose around 1798 when the Pope went into captivity. It was in 1776 that America declared her independence. Obviously, government attitude must change before this prophecy can be fulfilled. But since God predicts that it will do so there is no question about it happening.

18. What two tragic things does this second beast cause people to do? Revelation 13:12,16 (1814)

Ans: To "_____ the first beast" and "to receive a mark" in the hand or _____.

NOTE: America will lead out in forcing people to receive the mark of the beast. That magnificent country will soon repudiate religious freedom and will force people into false worship.

19. How will the second beast convince people they should listen to him? Revelation 13:13,14 (1814)

Ans: "And _____ them . . . by the means of those _____ which he had _____ to do".

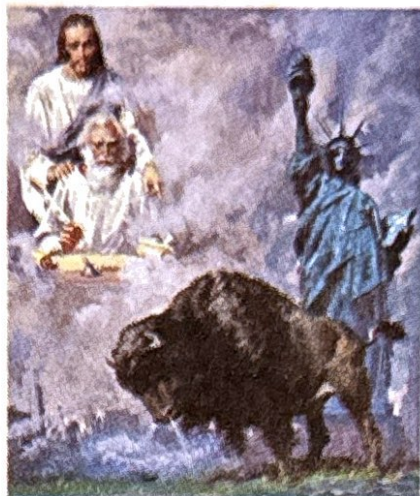
20. To whom will this second beast make an image? Revelation 13:14 (1814)

Ans: "Saying . . . that they should _____ an _____ to the _____ which had the _____ and did _____".

NOTE: An image is a copy. The first beast supported false worship by the arm of the state and persecuted and killed those who refused to comply. The second beast will do the same. We see omens today of such things in the uniting of church and government leaders to enforce religious morality to stem the tide of evil in our decaying society. Their motives are very good but FORCED worship is always evil. FORCED prayer in public schools and FORCED Sunday blue laws can be dangerous for the same reason. The second beast will utilize

boycott and death threats to force people into line, Revelation 13:15-17 (1814). THE IMAGE IS UNION OF CHURCH AND STATE WITH FORCED WORSHIP. Remember God does not force our worship or obedience. In love, He always gives us the freedom of choice.

The lamb-like
beast will
speak as
a dragon



GOD'S PEOPLE LOVINGLY OBEY

21. What did the disciples say about whether we should obey God or man? Acts 5:29 (1599)

Ans: "We ought to obey _____ rather than _____".

NOTE: And Jesus said, "In vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men", Matthew 15:9 (1422).

22. What can I do to make certain I will not receive the mark of the beast? Revelation 14:12 (1815)

Ans: "Keep the _____ of _____,
and the _____ of _____".

NOTE: Revelation 14:9-11 (1815) warns against receiving the mark of the beast. Verse 12 tells what the victorious saints do to avoid the mark. They keep God's commandments and have Jesus' faith. Praise God it is Jesus' faith that makes the miracle of commandment-keeping possible. My faith in Jesus' indwelling presence is the key. Jesus fulfills God's commands IN me by His miracle-working power, Romans 8:3,4 (1656).

GOD'S LAST WARNING MESSAGE

God's last message to the world, Revelation 14:6-12 (1815), includes:

- a. WORSHIP OF THE CREATOR (vs. 7) which means I keep the sign or mark of His creatorship, His Sabbath. For emphasis, verse 7 even quotes part of the Sabbath commandment: "made heaven and earth and the sea," Revelation 14:7 (1815); Exodus 20:11 (120).

b. DO NOT RECEIVE THE MARK OF THE BEAST (vs. 9-10) which means I must not accept and receive the devil's counterfeit sign of Sunday sacredness.

It is God who gives us these two solemn warnings. What could be more sobering? Satan, who hates God, asks for my allegiance through the adoption of his mark. Jesus, my Saviour, asks for my allegiance through the adoption of His sign or mark.

- 23. Is it now clear to you that a person who receives the mark of the beast is lost?**

Ans: _____

- 24. When you decide to accept Jesus and fully follow Him, what happens? Matthew 11:28-30 (1414)**

Ans: "Ye shall find _____ unto your souls. For my yoke is _____, and my burden is _____".

NOTE: Deciding to follow Jesus fully and to accept His holy sign brings rest, peace, joy, happiness, and blessings which are indescribably glorious. It is one of the most exciting decisions of a life time. The word "Sabbath" means "rest". Accepting God's Sabbath sign brings rest and release from the burdens of life. Such blessed relief can come from no other source.

- 25. Jesus is waiting at the door of your heart for your answer, Revelation 3:20 (1804). Will you decide now to receive His glorious sign as evidence that you accept Him as your blessed redeemer?**

Ans: _____

