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# THE TRUE MARK OF THE BEAST

Who or what is the beast?

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What is the mark of the beast? I had always thought that it is a literal number **666** (as mentioned in **Revelation 13:18**)—either embedded in a micro-chip or any other form that the beast will force people to receive it in their right hand or forehead. However, after an in-depth study of the Bible, the mark of the beast is far from what I had thought initially. So many people don't correctly know who the beast is. If you cannot correctly identify the beast, how can you correctly identify its mark? It is essential to understand who or what the beast is before one can properly understand its mark.

In this exhaustive article, we will show you what the true mark of the beast is but first we will identify who the beast is. This article will be based on the Holy Scriptures and not the opinions of men; references to other trusted historical sources will be made as well.

Most people, as I had thought in the past, think that the mark of the beast is always physical but that's not true. Mark doesn't always mean a physical mark; a mark is a means of identification. Anything that identifies something—not necessarily a physical mark, is regarded as a mark.

In this in-depth Bible study, we will illustrate to you that the mark of the beast is not so much of a physical mark but it is the teachings of the beast; it is the teachings that come from this beast that constitute the mark of the beast. Let us begin by identifying who or what the beast is.

## THE BEAST—WHO OR WHAT IS IT?

In **Daniel** chapter 2, King Nebuchadnezzar had a dream and was troubled because he did not understand what the meaning of the dream was; and neither did his wise men. When none among his council could understand the meaning of the dream, he called for Daniel. Daniel stated that the power to interpret dreams comes from God—God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and not from man. The dream that Nebuchadnezzar dreamt had to do with world-ruling kingdoms or governments—gentile dynasties. These dynasties, from the commencement, will last up to the second coming of Christ and setting up His kingdom on this earth. It should be understood that the beast (**Revelation 13:18**) will be one of these gentile ruling dynasties that Nebuchadnezzar dreamt about. Let us start from ground zero and build the picture so that we get the correct understanding of the evolution of these kingdoms. Let us dive into the second chapter of Daniel to understand in detail the dream.

### DANIEL 2:28

“But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these;”

Daniel 31-44

“31 Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible. 32 This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, 33 His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay. 34 Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. 35 Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and

filled the whole earth. 36 This is the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king. 37 Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory. 38 And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold. 39 And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth. 40 And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise. 41 And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay. 42 And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. 43 And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay. 44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.”

From the above passage, through a dream, God made known to Nebuchadnezzar what was to come—future kingdoms. In the dream that he had, the statute was divided into several sections and each section is composed of either metal, alloy, or a mixture of metal and clay. These distinguished compositions represent different world-ruling gentile dynasties. The rulership of Nebuchadnezzar, it was God that gave him the Babylonian kingdom—not a man. The summary of the statue that Nebuchadnezzar saw is given below:

1. Head of gold: Represents the Babylonian empire
2. Chest and arms of silver: Represents the empire of the Medes and the Persians (much more inferior to the Babylonian empire)
3. Belly and thighs of bronze: The ancient Greek empire
4. Legs of iron: The Roman empire—strong as iron
5. Feet of iron and clay: Kingdom of restored Rome
6. The crushing rock: The kingdom of God to be set up at the second coming of Christ.

In **verse 44**, in the days of the last empire shall God set up a kingdom which shall **not be destroyed**; this kingdom which shall not be destroyed is the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ that He will set up at His second coming (see **Daniel 7:18 and Revelation 11:15**).

Let us read further in the book of Daniel to understanding more about these empires:

#### **DANIEL 5:1-9**

“1 Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand. 2 Belshazzar, while he tasted the wine, commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem; that the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, might drink therein. 3 Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which was at Jerusalem; and the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, drank in them. 4 They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone. 5 In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaister of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote. 6 Then the king's countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote one against another. 7 The king cried aloud to bring in the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers. And the king spake, and said to the wise men of Babylon, Whosoever shall read this writing, and shew me the interpretation thereof, shall be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about his neck, and shall be the



third ruler in the kingdom. 8 Then came in all the king's wise men: but they could not read the writing, nor make known to the king the interpretation thereof. 9 Then was king Belshazzar greatly troubled, and his countenance was changed in him, and his lords were astonished.”

#### **DANIEL 5:24-31**

“24 Then was the part of the hand sent from him; and this writing was written. 25 And this is the writing that was written, Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin. 26 This is the interpretation of the thing: Mene; God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it. 27 Tekel; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. 28 Peres; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians. 29 Then commanded Belshazzar, and they clothed Daniel with scarlet, and put a chain of gold about his neck, and made a proclamation concerning him, that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom. 30 In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain. 31 And Darius the Median took the kingdom, being about threescore and two years old.”

From the above passage, when the temple in Jerusalem was destroyed, all the precious vessels of gold and silver in the temple were carried away to Babylon. Belshazzar, his wives, and the concubines drank wine in those vessels which were carried from Jerusalem; and while they drank wine in those wares that belong to the temple at Jerusalem, and praise other gods, God saw it. At the same hour, suddenly, a hand appears and writes on the wall.

The king was troubled and he called for his astrologers and wise men to help interpret what the writing on the wall was but none could read talk less of interpreting it. He called for Daniel to help him interpret the dream.

The writing means that God has numbered the kingdom of Belshazzar and finished it—this was the end of the Babylonian empire. His kingdom was given to the Medes and the Persians.

- **Mene:** God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it.
- **Tekel:** Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting.
- **Peres:** Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.

Now we have seen the Babylonian empire came and gone; the Medo-Persian empire came also. let us go to **Daniel 8** to add more understanding to what we have seen so far.

#### **DANIEL 8:1-9**

“1 In the third year of the reign of king Belshazzar a vision appeared unto me, even unto me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first. 2 And I saw in a vision; and it came to pass, when I saw, that I was at Shushan in the palace, which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in a vision, and I was by the river of Ulai. 3 Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last. 4 I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great. 5 And as I was considering, behold, an he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes. 6 And he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing before the river, and ran unto him in the fury of his power. 7 And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and brake his two horns: and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand. 8 Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward

the four winds of heaven. 9 And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.”

#### **DANIEL 8:20-25**

“20 The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia. 21 And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king. 22 Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power. 23 And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. 24 And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practise, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. 25 And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.”

From the above passage, the Medes and the Persians were in rulership; the ram mentioned in **Daniel 8:3** represents the Medes and Persians.

Verse 3 **“and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last.”**

The first horn was the Medes and the last horn was the Persians. In verse 5 **“an he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground:”** The he-goat in verse 5 represents the Greek empire and the notable horn between the eyes of the he-goat represents Alexander the Great. In verse 8 **“Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven.”** When the notable horn was broken i.e., when Alexander the Great died, four generals emerged to take his place. The Grecian empire was divided into four kingdoms when Alexander the Great died and out of these four horns came forth another little horn—and this is the Roman empire. Verse 9 **“And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.”** This little horn brought in the Roman empire.

**Verses 20-25** gives further interpretations of these four kingdoms:

1. The ram with two horns is the Medes and the Persians (second empire).
2. The rough he-goat is the Greek empire and the notable horn was Alexander the Great. When Alexander the Great died, his kingdom was divided into four kingdoms and his four generals took over, and out of one of them came forth a little horn.
3. During the Roman Empire: verse 23-24 **“And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. 24 And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practise, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people.”** At the very latter stage of the Roman Empire—the little horn, **king of fierce countenance and understanding of dark sentences** shall emerge. This king of fierce countenance will be around at the time of the second coming of Christ. The rulership of the Roman empire will be climaxed by the ruthless king who will speak great things against the Most High God.

Let's summarise what we have learned so far about these kingdoms in form of a diagram: **Figure 1.**



	EMPIRE	DANIEL CHAPTER 2	DANIEL CHAPTER 7	DANIEL CHAPTER 8
	Babylon 606 B.C	Head of Gold	Winged Lion	
	Medo-Persia 538 B.C	Breast & Two Arms of Silver	Bear	Ram
	Greece 333 B.C	Belly & Thighs of Brass	Leopard	He Goat
	Rome	Two Legs of Iron	Monster (Beast)	
	Kingdom of Restored Rome	Feet of Clay And Iron	10 Horns Little Horn	
	<b>THE CRUSHING ROCK THE KINGDOM OF GOD</b>			

**Figure 1:** The statue in the dream of Nebuchadnezzar (**Daniel 2**); Daniel also had a dream about these kingdoms and each of them represented by a wild beast. Note: the final kingdom to be set up will be the kingdom of God under the rulership of Christ and will last forever.

Now we can see that the little horn that emerged out of the Grecian empire is the Roman empire. Out of this little horn—the Roman empire—which waxed with great strength, shall come forth **a king of fierce countenance and understanding of dark sentences (Daniel 8:23)**. Now, let us pause and ask a question: Who is this ruthless king referred to as the king of fierce countenance? Remember, this little horn—the Roman empire, will be around at the second coming of Jesus Christ; this king shall emerge out of the Roman empire and will be a key player in directing the affairs of the Roman empire; the empire will be fully resurrected.

This king of fierce countenance is referred to in several parts of the Bible with different titles (**Daniel 11:3; 2 Thessalonians 2:3**).

Verse 25 gives striking qualities of this king: **“and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.”**

This will be at the very end of the Roman empire when Jesus comes the second time.

Prophet Daniel also saw these four kingdoms but represented by ferocious animals—beasts. Let us see Daniel 7:

**DANIEL 7:1-8**

“1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters. 2 Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea. 3 And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another. 4 The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it. 5 And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh. 6 After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also 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, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns. 8 I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.”

#### **DANIEL 7:20-25**

“20 And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows. 21 I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; 22 Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom. 23 Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. 24 And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. 25 And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.”

Don't lose track of what we are trying to do; we are identifying the beast. There will be a succession of kingdoms and the beast, which we want to identify its mark correctly, will be one of these kingdoms (empires).

The four kingdoms that Nebuchadnezzar saw, Daniel saw the same but this time represented by ferocious animals—beasts—different from one another. Let us summarise these beasts:

1. The first was like a lion and had an eagle's wing—the Babylonian empire: **One Head**
2. The second is like a bear: The Medes and The Persians: **One Head**
3. The third beast is like a leopard—the Greek empire: **Four Heads**
4. The Fourth beast, very terrible—the Roman empire—It had ten horns (when Nebuchadnezzar saw it, he saw it with ten toes).

In the Roman empire, the ten horns represent kingdoms and rulership—they represent secular governments that were parts of the Roman empire. The ten horns represent 10 rulers who try to rule the Roman empire: they each came in their own time. The Roman empire fell around 476 AD and there were attempts to revive the Roman Empire to its former glory.

The last Roman emperor, Emperor Romulus Augustulus (475-476AD), was overthrown by Barbarian soldier Flavius Odoacer who was proclaimed king of Italy by his troops. The history



of Rome then merged with that of the Papacy—the religious government of the Roman empire that ruled the Catholic Church.

**Universal Standard Encyclopaedia Volume 20 page 7321.**

#### **DANIEL 7:24-25.**

“24 And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. 25 And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.”

There are very striking qualities mentioned in **Daniel 7:24-25** that are very important; we will use these qualities in identifying the beast; what are the qualities?

- And he shall speak great words against the Most High God.
- And shall wear out the saints of the Most High God.
- And think to change times and laws.
- and they shall be given into his hand until **a time** and **times** and the **dividing of time**.

Don't lose track; we are still building precepts to identify the beast. Let's see Revelation 13:1-7.

#### **REVELATION 13:1-7**

“1 And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. 2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. 3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. 4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? 5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. 6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. 7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.”

#### **REVELATION 13:11-12**

“11 And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. 12 And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. 13 And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, 14 And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live”

What Daniel saw in Daniel chapter 7, the dream where different kingdoms were represented by animals, each of these empires came and left at their own time: he saw the rise and fall of the



Babylonian empire, the Medo-Persian empire, the Greek empire, and then the Roman empire. Although the Roman empire died in 476AD, it will be revived again and will be very much alive at the time of the second coming of Jesus Christ. What John saw in Revelation is after all the three empires had gone (the Babylonian empire, the Medo-Persian empire, the Greek empire); he saw the Roman empire.

When Daniel saw the dream, there was no mention of 7 heads but in Revelation John saw 7 heads. The Roman empire assimilated all the strength and qualities of the previous empires. So, where did the beast (the Roman empire) get the 7 heads from? Let us see further:

The qualities of beasts before the Roman empire:

1. Like a leopard (qualities of the Greek empire).
2. Feet like that of a bear (qualities of the Medo-Persian empire).
3. Mouth like that of a lion (qualities of the Babylonian empire).

### **The 7 Heads:**

1. The Babylonian empire (1 Head).
2. The Medo-Persian empire (1 Head).
3. The Greek empire (4 Heads).
4. The Roman empire (1 Head).

All totalled 7 heads.

The Roman empire possesses all the qualities of the three previous empires and thus has seven heads. The head that was wounded unto death was when the Roman empire died in 476 AD. This wound will be fully healed when the Roman empire is fully back to power.

It should be understood that the Roman empire is a system and has two arms: the secular government and the religious arm—both of these two are used interchangeably and are both referred to as **the beast**.

Verse 5 **“And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.”**

As a student of the Bible, you may recognise what verse 5 is talking about; these are the very last days towards the second coming of Jesus Christ—when the **self-willed King** will rule for 3 ½ years. The empire will have power over all tongues and people.

Notice verse 11:

**“And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon”**

Who is this beast in verse 11? He has two horns like a lamb but speaks like a dragon (the Devil). How does a dragon speak? The Devil—the dragon—speaks lies and deception. The Bible says that Satan (the dragon) deceived the whole world and he is the father of lies (**John 8:44; Revelation 12:9**)—that’s how a dragon speaks! The beast that John saw represents the Roman empire and the two horns represent the secular and religious arms of the Roman empire.

Now, from what we have established so far, **who is the beast? THE BEAST IS THE ROMAN EMPIRE**—comprising of the religious arm and the secular arm. The beast—the Roman empire, will be revived and be fully active at the second coming of the Lord. Let us dig deeper in Revelation:

### **REVELATION 19:11-12**

“11 And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. 12 His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.”

#### **REVELATION 16-20**

“16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, King Of Kings, And Lord Of Lords. 17 And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; 18 That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great. 19 And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. 20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.”

Now we have identified the beast: **the Roman empire** and the empire is divided into two—the secular ruler and the religious ruler (the Papacy). Verse 19 mentions that the beast and the kings of the earth gathered to make war against Jesus when He comes the second time. **The beast (the Roman empire)** will be around, active, and fully revived when Jesus comes the second time. So, it is clear that the Roman empire (the Roman system) has two arms—the two horns—the secular government and the religious arm headed by a false prophet.

#### **THE NUMBER OF THE BEAST—666: WHERE DID IT COME FROM?**

##### **REVELATION 13:13-18**

“13 And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, 14 And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. 15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. 16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: 17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. 18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.”

From the passage above, it is very clear that we are dealing with the beast, and we have correctly identified that the beast is the Roman empire—comprising of religious arm and secular government, and will be fully active and in power at the time of the second coming of Christ. Verses 16-17 say: he forces people to receive the mark of the beast; this shows that the beast—the Roman empire, will have significant power to implement this. The beast got its power from the dragon—the devil.

**“16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: 17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.”**

In the above two verses, we are dealing with the beast, and the beast is the Roman empire comprising of the religious arm and the secular arm. Here is a question, **what is the mark that the beast causes people to receive in their right hand or forehead?** We will soon find out. Verse 18 says: let him that has understanding count the number of the beast; can we count this number? Let us see:

**“18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.”**

The above passage says that the number of the beast is the number of a man. Then, the question that should be asked is, who is this man whose number is 666? How did this number **666** come about? As the Bible rightly says, it will require wisdom to count the number of this man; what wisdom? Let us see further:

Before we attempt to decode the mysteries surrounding this number, let us get more understanding concerning the title of the religious leader of the Roman empire; the wisdom to count this number will come from understanding one of the titles of this religious leader. According to **World Book Encyclopaedia** Vol. 15 p 587, the titles of the Pope are:

- The Bishop of Rome.
- Vicar of Jesus Christ: which means replacement of Jesus Christ; in other words, the office of the Pope is Christ's replacement.
- Your Holiness: How can a man be your Holiness? This title belongs to the Lord only but this religious leader bears it.
- Servant of the servants of God: this title belongs to Jesus but this religious leader claims and uses it.

We are going to deal with one of the titles that he uses: VICAR OF JESUS CHRIST (Vicar of the Son of God). As rightly pointed out, the official language of the Catholic Church is Latin, and this title in Latin is **Vicarius Filii Dei** (Vicar of the Son of God).

Using the value of Roman numerals, the sum of the letters in the title mentioned above is 666. How is the calculation done?

Let us see how this number 666 came about. Similar to Greek and Hebrew, some Latin letters are used for numbers. “I” = 1; “V” = 5; “X” = 10; “L” = 50; “C” = 100; “D” = 500; “M” = 1000. Letters that have no numerical value are to be ignored in calculating the numerical significance of a name. The letter “U” is treated as “V.” Since there is no “W” in Latin, it is rendered as “VV.”

In light of the above, the Latin title **Vicarius Filii Dei** would be VICARIVS FILII DEI. Note that the “U” has been replaced with “V”. When this numbering scheme is applied to it, you get these numbers: 5 (V) + 1 (I) + 100 (C) + 1 (I) + 5 (V) + 1 (I) + 50 (L) + 1 (I); + 1 (I) + 500 (D) + 1 (I). The total is 666.

While some may dispute how this number came about, we cannot deny the fact that the beast being referred to in **Revelation 13:18** is referring to the Roman empire—its religious system (the Catholic Church), and the secular government. This is the beast, the empire that will be around at the second coming of Jesus Christ (**Daniel 2:44**). However, whichever method you may want to use to count this number, one thing you cannot dispute is the fact this number is tied to the highest office of the religious system of the Roman empire—the Papacy.

From the **Last Two Million Years**, Pope Innocent the III was the first to use the title **Vicar of Christ**. Vs 18 says: the number of the beast is the number of a man, what is the number? The number that we calculated.

Now we can see the man whose number is 666, it comes from the title **Vicarious Filli Dei** and sums up to 666. So, **what is the mark of the beast?** Is it just 666? Is it a vaccine? Is it a microchip that will be planted in people's bodies? Before we delve into understanding what the mark of the beast is, it will be essential to understand what are the marks of God. If we can understand the marks of God, it will be easy to understand the marks of the beast, as its marks oppose that of God. The marks of the beast are opposite the marks of God. Bear in mind, marks are a means of identification and God has His marks. If we can establish what the marks of God are, we can establish what the mark of the beast is. The mark of the beast is its teachings—when people obey these teachings, they have things that identify them as children of the beast. Even in a situation where physical marks are used, they are used to indicate that one has complied with a set of rules and regulations.

## **MARKS OF GOD: HOW GOD USE THEM FOR IDENTIFICATION**

It should be realised that God started marking people long before Satan came along and started marking his people as well. Satan is a copycat—always attempting to replicate what God has done. Let us see:

### **GENESIS 8:8-15**

“8 And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him. 9 And the Lord said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper? 10 And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground. 11 And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand; 12 When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth. 13 And Cain said unto the Lord, My punishment is greater than I can bear. 14 Behold, thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the earth; and from thy face shall I be hid; and I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass, that every one that findeth me shall slay me. 15 And the Lord said unto him, Therefore whosoever slayeth Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the Lord set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him.”

From the above passage, we can see that the Lord started marking people in the beginning—Genesis; he marked Cain. Now, the mark that the Lord put on Cain—whether it was physical or otherwise, was used as a means of identification. However, we will see as we go further that a mark does not always mean a physical mark.

Let us see further:

### **GENESIS 17:1-4**

“1 And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. 2 And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly. 3 And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying, 4 As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations.”

### **GENESIS 17:9-14**

“9 And God said unto Abraham, Thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations. 10 This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and



you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised. 11 And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you. 12 And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which is not of thy seed. 13 He that is born in thy house, and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be circumcised: and my covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant. 14 And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant.”

The above passage shows when God made a covenant with Abraham; verses 9-14 show that Abraham and his household were to be circumcised, and the circumcision was to be **a sign of an everlasting covenant** with God. It is very clear here that God is using circumcision as a means to identify Abraham and his descendants—that there is a covenant between God and Abraham (and of course all his descendants). Although the sign used here is a physical one, marks are not always physical as we will see later in this article.

Let us explore **Exodus 12:1-13** to see another situation where God used a mark to distinguish His people:

#### **EXODUS 12:1-13**

“12 And the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt saying, 2 This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you. 3 Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house: 4 And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next unto his house take it according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your count for the lamb. 5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats: 6 And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening. 7 And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it. 8 And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; and with bitter herbs they shall eat it. 9 Eat not of it raw, nor sodden at all with water, but roast with fire; his head with his legs, and with the purtenance thereof. 10 And ye shall let nothing of it remain until the morning; and that which remaineth of it until the morning ye shall burn with fire. 11 And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the Lord's passover. 12 For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord. 13 And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.”

As already pointed out, marks don't always mean literal marks. Mark is a means of identification—whether used by the beast or by God. From the above passage, God instructed the Israelites to do something to escape the judgement of death that was to come upon the Egyptians. The Israelites were to put a sign of blood on their doorpost; this was to be used by angels to identify the true children of God. The blood was a mere sign but it shows whether one has **obeyed God or not**—and that's what distinguishes the true children of God—obedience! This is a mark of God—it sets you apart and keeps you from judgement—it shows you have obeyed God and carried out His instructions. Are there more situations where God used a mark to identify His children? Yes, there are, let us explore more:

#### **EZEKIEL 9:1-11**

“9 He cried also in mine ears with a loud voice, saying, Cause them that have charge over the city to draw near, even every man with his destroying weapon in his hand. 2 And, behold, six men came from the way of the higher gate, which lieth toward the north, and every man a slaughter weapon in his hand; and one man among them was clothed with linen, with a writer's inkhorn by his side: and they went in, and stood beside the brasen altar. 3 And the glory of the God of Israel was gone up from the cherub, whereupon he was, to the threshold of the house. And he called to the man clothed with linen, which had the writer's inkhorn by his side; 4 And the Lord said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof. 5 And to the others he said in mine hearing, Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity: 6 Slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at my sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house. 7 And he said unto them, Defile the house, and fill the courts with the slain: go ye forth. And they went forth, and slew in the city. 8 And it came to pass, while they were slaying them, and I was left, that I fell upon my face, and cried, and said, Ah Lord God! wilt thou destroy all the residue of Israel in thy pouring out of thy fury upon Jerusalem? 9 Then said he unto me, The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah is exceeding great, and the land is full of blood, and the city full of perverseness: for they say, The Lord hath forsaken the earth, and the Lord seeth not. 10 And as for me also, mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity, but I will recompense their way upon their head. 11 And, behold, the man clothed with linen, which had the inkhorn by his side, reported the matter, saying, I have done as thou hast commanded me.”

From the above passage, God used a mark as a means of identification. Israel did what was terrible in the sight of the Lord and God issued an instruction for marks to be set on the foreheads of those that repented before the angels of destruction destroy the city. The mark was to distinguish those that cry and repented, and this sets them apart from the rebellious ones. Again, here we can see the mark of God. God has a mark that he puts on his servants, and who is the servant of God? The servant of God is the one that obeys God. The mark—whether physical or otherwise, means that you have obeyed God and carried out His instructions accordingly. Let us see more examples:

#### **REVELATION 7:1-4**

“1 And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. 2 And 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 given to hurt the earth and the sea, 3 Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. 4 And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.”

#### **REVELATION 7:9-14**

“9 After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; 10 And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. 11 And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, 12 Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen. 13 And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white

robes? and whence came they? 14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15 Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. 16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. 17 For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.”

The Lord is about to pour judgment on the earth but He restrained the judgement until his servants are sealed. Now, here is another question: Who are the servants of God? They are going to be sealed within their foreheads—what kind of seal? Is it a literal mark that will be marked on their foreheads? These servants of God are those that have obeyed God and kept His commandments, and the seal is the word of God. To be sealed in their forehead means they have the word of God sealed in their minds. The mark referred to here is not a physical mark.

#### **REVELATION 14:1-9**

“1 And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads. 2 And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps: 3 And they sung as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth. 4 These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb. 5 And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God. 6 And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, 7 Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters. 8 And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.”

Again, we can see from the above passage that the servants of God have the name of God written on their forehead; what does this mean? It means they have the word of God written in their minds. It is not a literal mark; it is all about having the word of God in your mind and obeying it. These are servants that were not defiled with women but are virgins; it is talking about spiritual fornication here and not a physical one. Apostle Paul talks about being a virgin unto Christ (**2 Corinthians 11:2**). These servants have followed and obeyed the word of God, and are without blemish—there was found no guile or deceit in them. Bear in mind what we are trying to establish: a mark is a means of identification, it identifies people who have complied with certain rules and regulations, and those who have not.

#### **REVELATION 14:9-20**

“9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, 10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: 11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. 12 Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.”

Similarly, in the above passage, it is very clear the **seal of God** is about **keeping the commandments of God**. Verse 12 simply sums it as **keeping the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus**; having the word of God in your mind and obeying it seals and separates you from those that have not—that’s what the mark is all about. Don’t lose sight of what we are putting together; a mark is simply a means of identifying something, and God has a way of marking his people—people who listen to the word of God and obey it. Let us see more situations where God used a sign to distinguish His people.

#### **EXODUS 20:8-11**

“8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. 9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: 10 But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: 11 For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.”

#### **LEVITICUS 23:1-3**

“1 And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, 2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the feasts of the Lord, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my feasts. 3 Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall do no work therein: it is the sabbath of the Lord in all your dwellings.

Furthermore, in the above passages, God issued the instruction to keep the weekly Sabbath; God hallowed, sanctified, and blessed the Sabbath day and issued a decree that it should be kept. Here is a question, why is God setting this day aside? Why did God sanctify this day? To answer these questions, let us read further.

#### **EXODUS 31:13-18**

“13 Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the Lord that doth sanctify you. 14 Ye shall keep the sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. 15 Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord: whosoever doeth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. 16 Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant. 17 It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed. 18 And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God.”

The answers to the questions we raised are found in verses 13 and 17; the sabbaths—weekly sabbaths and high day sabbaths, are a sign between God and His people. The reason for enacting these signs is that they may know He is the God that sets them apart (or sanctify them). God is setting Israel apart, and keeping the sabbaths is a sign that they are different and separate from other nations. It is a sign for a **perpetual covenant** and it should be kept **forever—through their generations**. Let us pause and ask a further question: people who keep



the sabbaths, is it ever written on their foreheads or any parts of their body that they keep the sabbath? Of course, the answer is no but it is a sign. Keeping the sabbaths sets you apart—it shows obedience to the instructions of God. Sabbath-keeping is a sign; it is a mark of God—it separates people who are children of God and those who are not. Again, the Lord established a sign with His people—the sabbath—it is a means of identification.

If you are under the new covenant, you have got the laws of God written in your heart (**Hebrews 10:16-26; Jeremiah 31:31-34**). Let us pause and ask a further question, do you have all words of God inscribed on your body? Of course, no; you have it in your mind and your heart, and you obey it—that's what it means to have it written in your heart—it is a sign between you and God. Whatever sign is given to the children of Israel, it is also for all people who want to serve the God of Israel.

Sufficiently, we can see that God uses the sabbaths and other commandments as a sign between God and the children of Israel (and of course all who have accepted and serving the God of Israel faithfully); He uses this to set them apart (sanctify them). Bear in mind that in the new covenant, the law is not done away with but written on your heart.

#### **DEUTERONOMY 6:4-8**

“4 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord: 5 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. 6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: 7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. 8 And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.”

From all the precepts that we have presented, a sign/mark of God shows you have obeyed and carried out the instructions of God. The above passage is no different from what we have seen earlier. People are to learn the word of God, teach them to their children, and obey them. Verse 8 says: you are to bind them upon thine hand and they shall be **as frontlets between thine eyes (Psalm 119:105; Psalm 119:11)**. This is simply saying that you put the word of God in your mind and your heart, and they are to guide you; they are to serve as a sign between God and His children. These are not literal words written and bound to your hand or forehead—they are not physical (**Psalm 119:105; Psalm 119:11**).

The seal/mark of God, **what is it? it is the word of God and obeying it. The sign of God, what is it? it is having the word of God in your heart and mind, and obeying it.** Marks, not necessarily physical, are a means of identification.

Now that we have seen the marks and signs of God, let us see the mark of the beast. The beast has its teachings, and its teachings are in opposition to that of God.

## **THE MARK OF THE BEAST—THE TEACHINGS OF THE BEAST**

#### **REVELATION 13:15-17**

“15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. 16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: 17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. 18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.”

Now we are very clear about the beast we are dealing with; we are dealing with the Roman empire—the Roman Church and the secular arm of the Roman empire. As already mentioned, the mark of the beast is not just a literal 666, it is the teachings of the beast. The beast, like the Most High God, will also want to distinguish those that have obeyed its teaching and those that have not. Before we enumerate the teachings of the beast, let us see what prophet Daniel prophesied concerning this beast:

#### **DANIEL 7:25**

“And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.”

One of the striking things that the beast has done and will continue to do is: **think to change times and laws (Daniel 7:25)**. What times and laws did the beast change? There are numerous laws of the Most that the beast has changed already. What are they? Let us see:

### **CHANGING THE DAY OF WORSHIP FROM THE SEVENTH DAY TO THE FIRST DAY**

Throughout the Scriptures, it is clear that the Lord never changed the Sabbath day from Saturday to Sunday—the Lord never did! Who changed it? It was the beast who changed the day of worship from the Sabbath day to Sunday; this was against the commandment of the Most High God. The Lord never stamped His approval on this change, and all who obey this change are doing so in compliance to the beast—as harsh as it may sound—it is the truth! While this would require another article to expound on this, in nutshell, Emperor Constantine and the Council of Nicaea changed Saturday to Sunday as day worship and rest. See our articles on: [When Did People Start Keeping the Sabbath?](#) [The Lies Behind Sunday Worship Exposed](#). [Christ Resurrection Was Not on Sunday](#).

According to Catholic Information concerning **The Sunday Question**:

“The divine institution of a day of rest from ordinary occupation and religious worship transferred by the authority of the Church from the last day to the first day.”

The beast changed it supposedly claiming that it has the authority to do so. Authority was not been granted to anyone or any church body to change the laws and times of the Most High God.

Sunday worship goes against the laws of the Most High God and it is NOT from God but the beast.

### **GOOD FRIDAY AND EASTER SUNDAY RESURRECTION—ANOTHER TEACHING OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Again, this teaching that Jesus died on Good Friday and rose on Easter Sunday is not from God and does not agree with the Bible. Where did these teachings come from? It came from the Catholic Church—the religious arm of the Roman empire. Let us see the Bible so we can verify when Jesus died and was resurrected.

#### **MATHEW 26:1-2**



**“1 And it came to pass, when Jesus had finished all these sayings, he said unto his disciples, 2 Ye know that after two days is the feast of the passover, and the Son of man is betrayed to be crucified.”**

According to Jesus’ words, He was going to be crucified on Passover day. So, when was the Passover day the year when Jesus was Crucified? The answer is in **Daniel 9:26-27**

#### **DANIEL 9:26-27**

**“26 And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. 27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.”**

The above passage, contrary to the popular belief that it is referring to the antichrist, is referring to the Messiah (Jesus Christ). Jesus will confirm a covenant with many and bring an end to animal sacrifice in the middle of the week. The one week referred to in the above passage has dual prophecy meaning:

One week means seven-week years but it also means a literal week.

- Christ's ministry was intended to last for seven years but in the middle of His ministry (3 and half years), He shall be offered as a sacrifice for the sins of many.
- Also, **in the middle of the week** is talking about when Jesus was to die; He was to die in the middle of a literal week.

So, according to Daniel, Christ was going to die in the middle of the week; Christ died on Wednesday and was resurrected on Saturday just before sundown. So, who changed the day of Christ’s death and resurrection? The religious arm of the Roman empire did—**changed the times and laws (Daniel 7:25)** of the Most High God without the approval of God. See our article on [Christ Resurrection Was Not on Sunday](#).

## **WHO CHANGED THE FEAST DAYS TO CHRISTMAS, EASTER, LENT, ASH WEDNESDAY, ETC?**

God is very clear regarding the feast days that should be kept and observed. Which passage of the Bible talks about the feast days true Christians are to keep? Let us see:

#### **LEVITICUS 23:1-2**

**“1 And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, 2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the feasts of the Lord, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my feasts.”**

The entire chapter contains the feasts Christians are to keep. So, here is a question, why are the majority of people not keeping the feasts of the Most High God? Why are people keeping Christmas, Easter, Lent, Ash Wednesday, Halloween, and other holidays not mentioned in the Bible instead? The answer is not far-fetched; the beast—the religious arm of the Roman empire **changed the times and laws of the most High (Daniel 7:25)** and tricked people into keeping feasts that God never instructed people to do. Keeping Christmas, Easter, Lent, Ash Wednesday, etc. go against the commandments of the Most High God—it is not from God.

## WHO CHANGED WHEN THE DAY & YEAR START?

If you look around, there are numerous “new year” and calendars—which one is right? God is not the author of confusion (**1 Corinthians 14:33**). Chinese New Year; Muslim New Year; the Gregorian New Year: why this confusion? The Gregorian calendar and time system that almost the entire world is using does not come from God and go against the times and laws of the Most High. The Gregorian calendar was instituted by Pope Gregory XIII in October 1582 and this was not from God—**the beast changing the times and laws of the most High**. The beginning of the new year was changed to begin in January (the winter) to honour the god Janus—the god of beginnings, as the case of other holidays of the Roman empire.

According to the Bible, the new year begins in the Spring and a day does not start at midnight but sunset. How do we know this? Let us see:

The time system in the Bible is different from the Gregorian calendar. According to the Bible, a day begins at sunset. When sunsets, a day has ended and another has begun—how do we know this?

**GENESIS 1:8 “And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.”**

**“13 And the evening and the morning were the third day.”**

**“19 And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.”**

It can be seen that a day starts at sundown; and this is the time cycle which God created **for days, years and seasons to work**. How do we know this? Read this:

**GENESIS 1:14**

**“And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:”**

The sun rules the day, the moon and stars rule the night; how can a day be composed of both light and darkness? Things don't add up here; some people changed the laws and times of the Most High.

Were people following this time cycle? Yes, people were using it—it was used throughout the Bible. How do we know this? Watch this:

**NEHEMIAH 13:19**

And it came to pass, that when the gates of Jerusalem began to be dark before the sabbath, I commanded that the gates should be shut, and charged that they should not be opened till after the sabbath: and some of my servants set I at the gates, that there should no burden be brought in on the sabbath day.

It can be seen from the above passage that the time system that God sets in place, that is what was being used. As the sun was setting, the Sabbath was approaching. This means the Sabbath (and any other day) starts from sunset and ends at sunset—and that is what Nehemiah and all the children of Israel were using.

The Gregorian calendar is contrary to what God has established and goes against the word of God. During the 1000 years of Christ's Millennial reign, Jesus will restore things properly and there will be no confusion. A day does not start at midnight and the new year does not start in the Winter but the Spring.



Further, with regards to when a day and a year begin, I do fully understand that people have little or no control over these time systems—that’s understandable. However, there are numerous things that people have control over. If you don’t have the power to determine when a year starts, for example, you have the power to say no to Christmas, Easter, and all the pagan-derived feast days that God never commanded people to keep; you have the power to observe the feast days of the Most High God.

## **THE ROMAN CATHOLIC INQUISITIONS—THE BEAST ENFORCING ITS MARK IN THE PAST**

According to the Catholic Church, a heretic person is anyone who does not agree with the teachings of the Catholic Church. The Catholic Inquisition was therefore set up within the Catholic Church to root out heresy throughout Europe and the Americas. The Inquisition was well known for the persecution of non-Catholics—especially Jews and **true** Christians (history.com). The Spanish Inquisition, which lasted for more than 200 years, resulted in more than 32,000 executions. Pope Lucius III sent bishops to southern France to track people who did not agree with the teachings of the church—the Catharists. People were forced to renounce their genuine Christian beliefs and to embrace the teachings and doctrines of the Catholic Church. People who refused to embrace the teachings of the Catholic Church were tortured, and most of them were executed. The Inquisitions lasted for a long time and it was ended in 1826—i.e., the last person to be executed. In nutshell, the Roman Catholic Church, during the Inquisitions, made great wars and persecutions against the real Israelites (Jews and non-Jews) and non-Israelites. Please read the history of the Inquisitions from any trusted source to understand more.

As already mentioned, the mark of the beast is its teachings. We have correctly identified the beast: the Roman empire and its religious arm—the Roman Church. The beast has enforced its mark in the past. Will the beast enforce its mark in the future again? Yes, the beast will enforce its mark again, similar to that of the Inquisitions. let us see further in the Scriptures.

### **DANIEL 7:19-24**

“19 Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet; 20 And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows. 21 I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; 22 Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom. 23 Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. 24 And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.”

The above passage talks largely about the fourth beast—the Roman empire and its systems. Let us attempt to correlate history and what Daniel saw. Verse 21 says: that the same horn (the Roman empire) made war with the saints and prevailed against them: where is this in history? This happened during the Catholic Inquisitions and will happen again in the future close to the second coming of Jesus Christ. Verse 22 talks about the second coming of Christ, when Jesus will put a permanent end to the beast and establish the Kingdom of God. So, the saints have experienced war and great persecution from the beast in the past (the Inquisitions), and the

saints will experience similar war and persecutions towards the tail end of the Roman empire during the great tribulation—also known as the time of Jacob’s trouble (Jeremiah 30:7). Friends, don’t allow yourself to be deceived by anyone that the beast and 666 will be a random person or a random politician somewhere—it is not. Don’t be deceived! The past is a perfect preview for the future. How the beast (the Roman empire and its religious arm) forced its teachings on the saints in the past, will repeat itself towards the second coming of Jesus—during the great tribulation.

#### **REVELATION 6:9-11**

“9 And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held: 10 And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? 11 And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.”

In addition, in the above passage, these are souls that were slain for the word of God. They were killed because they obeyed the word of God. The souls of those that were killed as martyrs for Jesus were told to rest a little **until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were.** The saints’ blood was shed by the beast, and their souls await judgement. More of the saints will be killed and will join them. The beast has shed the blood of the saints in the past and will do so again in the future during the time of the great tribulation. When Jesus comes the second time, it will be a time of fury and vengeance and the Lord will avenge the blood of the saints on them that dwell on the face of the Earth.

#### **REVELATION 17:1-6**

“17 And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: 2 With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. 3 So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. 4 And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: 5 And upon her forehead was a name written, Mystery, Babylon The Great, The Mother Of Harlots And Abominations Of The Earth. 6 And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.”

The **great whore** is the beast and its religious system; the “many waters” represent a sea of people—over a billion people are being led by the religious system of the beast. Many rulers of the earth have committed fornication with this great whore. The fornication referred to here is spiritual fornication. Why is the beast referred to as a **great whore**? Because the beast has perverted the truth of the word of God with its teachings—teachings that are not from God.

To be drunk with the wine of her (the great whore) fornication means to be perverted with her teachings: Christmas, Easter, Lent, Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, etc. The scarlet-coloured beast with 7 heads and ten horns is the Roman empire. The woman riding the beast is **the church system** and it is the secular arm who carries out what the woman desires. The woman is drunk with the blood of the saints and martyrs of Jesus. Who killed the saints (the true Israelites and people who genuinely followed the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob)? The beast—the Roman empire and all its systems—killed the saints and is drunk with the blood of the saints.

#### REVELATION 17:12-14

“12 And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. 13 These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. 14 These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.”

We have been talking about the Roman empire; so, the question that should come to your mind is, **where is the Roman empire today?** That’s a good question. The Roman empire is before our very eyes—how? The European Union operating with a common market. The European Union was enacted under **the treaty of Rome**. What is happening now is the old Roman Empire coming back to full glory in form of the European Union with its common market.

The ten horns represent ten kings—who are the ten kings? These are the resurrected Roman empire that we know today as the EU—the European common market. When they set it up, they had to sign **The Treaty of Rome**. The EU is simply the Roman empire resurrected.

According to verse 14, they shall make war with the Lamb (Jesus Christ) at His second coming but Jesus will overcome them.

#### REVELATION 20:4-6

“4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. 5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. 6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.”

According to the above passage, these are people who didn’t follow the teachings of the beast—the Roman Empire and its religious system. If you refuse to follow the teachings of the beast, God will give you eternal life; you will reign with Christ. The beast is the Roman empire—its religious system and teachings of the Roman Church. People who will stand in the last days and not give in to the beast will be saved. Let us compared the teachings of the beast and the teachings of the Most High God.

## THE TEACHINGS OF THE BEAST AND TRUE TEACHINGS OF JESUS COMPARED

ELEMENT	THE BEAST	THE TRUE GOD
Day of worship	Sunday	Saturday Sabbath
When did Jesus die?	Good Friday	On Passover—Wednesday
When did Jesus rise from the dead?	Easter Sunday	Saturday, just before sundown
Which feast days should be kept?	Christmas, Easter, Lent, Ash Wednesday etc.	The feast days stated in <b>Leviticus 23</b> .
When does a new year start?	In middle of Winter to celebrate the god Janus	In the Spring
When does a day start?	12 am	At sundown (sunset)
Can we keep the dietary law?	You can eat anything, just pray over it.	The dietary law is still in effect.
Approach God through who?	Through the mother of God	Through Jesus
Is the law done away with?	Yes, the law is done away with.	No, the law is not done away with.
Easter or Passover?	Easter	Passover
When was Christ born?	December 25	In late Autumn
The description of Jesus	Image of Cesare Borgia	True depiction in <b>Revelation 1:13-14</b>
Easter Sunrise Service	Celebrates Easter sunrise services	Condemns sunrise services
Weeping for Tammuz	Observes Lent—weeping for Tammuz	Don't weep for Tammuz—condemns it

**Table 1:** A table comparing the teachings of the beast and the teachings of the Most High God. The teachings of the beast are in opposition to that of the Most High. Why would people be tricked into following teachings that are never found in the Bible? Why would people think disobedience to God does not matter? The beast, enabled by the dragon, is a great deceiver.

## EVERYONE IS SEALED WITH A SEAL—EITHER THE SEAL OF GOD OR THE SEAL OF THE DEVIL

If you ask an average Christian, would you like to receive the mark of the beast? The answer to this rhetorical question is plain: no one would like to receive the mark of the beast—the mark of the Devil. However, here is the irony: many ignorant Christians don't know that the mark of the beast, largely, has to do with the teachings and doctrines of the beast. The mark of the beast is not markedly different from the past. The beast has enforced its teachings and doctrines in the past. The future, the time of the great tribulation, will be no different. So many Christians follow the teachings and doctrines of the beast not knowing they are being sealed for the beast and the dragon. So many people who profess to be Christians do things that God commands against. The question is, whose seal are you being sealed with when you go against the word of God?

When you go against the word God, as illustrated in the examples below, who is sealing you—is it the devil or God? The answer is plain:



- When you celebrate Ashtoreth in the name of Easter (**1 Kings 11:5-6; Ezekiel 8:15-16**).
- When you set up trees in the name of worshipping Christ (**Jeremiah 10:1-5**).
- When you observe Lent (Weeping for Tammuz) (**Ezekiel 8:13-15**).
- When you bake a cake to the queen of heaven in the name of Easter hot cross bun (**Jeremiah 7:18**).
- When you worship Ashtoreth in the name of Easter (**Jeremiah 44:19-29**).
- When you disregard the feast days outlined by God in **Leviticus 23**.
- When you disregard the dietary laws in **Isaiah 66:15-18, Leviticus 11, Deuteronomy 14, Isaiah 65:4**.
- When you disobey the fourth commandment—the Lord’s sabbath (**Exodus 31:14-17, Isaiah 56:4, Isaiah 56:6, Isaiah 58:13, Nehemiah 10:31**).
- When you teach people that the Law is done away with (**Matthew 5:17; Romans 6:1**).
- When you celebrate Christmas, Easter, Halloween, Valentine’s day, and all other holidays God never commanded.
- The list goes on

Now we can see that those who indulge in the above (and even much more) are sealing themselves with the seal of the enemy of God—the devil. At the moment, people are voluntarily complying with the teachings and doctrines of the beast (because they have been deceived); a time will come when the beast will enforce its doctrines and teachings during the great tribulations—at that time it will be compulsory. The enforcement will not be different from the past. When the son of perdition (the Antichrist, the man of sin, the self-willed king, king of fierce countenance) is revealed, he will speak great things against the true God and declare himself to be the Most High; and he will force people to acknowledge that.

## **MARKS & SEALS: THEY ARE A MEANS OF IDENTIFICATION**

Marks and seals are a means of identification. Apostle Paul, while writing to Timothy, strongly charges him to depart from iniquity as he has the seal of God.

### **2 TIMOTHY 2:19**

“Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.”

To have the seal of God means one is obedient to the commandments, statutes, and laws of God. If you don’t have the spirit of God, you are not of God; watch this:

### **ROMANS 8:9**

**“But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.”**

Now, the question is, who is sealing you—the devil or God? Don’t be deceived! So many people have been carried away by the idea of a physical mark in the form of a vaccine, or a microchip; however, these very people are busy breaking the commandments of God and obeying the teachings and doctrines of the beast—what an irony!

Further, get this clearly, the mark of the beast is going to be largely **not a physical mark**; it will be more of its teachings and doctrines. However, even if there is going to be a physical mark, that physical mark will be like a stamp to signify that one has observed certain rules and regulations. Physical marks are used to identify something; they are not randomly used for empty reasons. Physical marks—if they are NOT used to identify something, they mean nothing.

The mark of the beast is not going to be an empty physical mark; it will be all about the devil identifying people that belong to him—people that have complied with the teachings of the devil.

The choice is yours; you can choose to seal yourself with the seal of God or the seal of the beast—the devil. You have to obey the word of God to be sealed with the seal of God.

## **SUMMARY**

We have correctly identified the beast: The Roman empire and its religious system. The Roman empire is a system comprising of secular government and a religious arm. Today, the European Union is the Roman empire that has come back to life—it was enacted under **the treaty of Rome**.

Marks are not always physical; they are a means of identification. God uses marks and likewise the dragon and the beast. Receiving a mark does not always mean receiving a physical mark; in this context, it largely means receiving and obeying the teachings of the beast.

The mark of the beast is the teachings of the beast. If at all there is a physical mark, that physical mark will be like a stamp to identify people who have obeyed the rules, regulations, and doctrines of the beast.