

# The Mark of the Beast

## Introduction

The Mark of the Beast is one of the most misunderstood prophecies in the Bible. It is found in chapter 13 of the book of Revelation. It refers to a mark or seal that will be received by every person in the world who consciously or unconsciously, willingly or unwillingly, aligns themselves with a power that the book of Revelation refers to as the Beast, also known as the Antichrist.

The Bible tells us that this mark will be enforced throughout the whole world, and that only those who have the mark will be able to buy or sell. It also gives severe warnings against receiving this mark, and tells us that all who receive the mark will suffer the outpouring of God's full wrath, so it's vitally important that we understand exactly what this mark is, because otherwise how will we know whether or not we have received it, and how will we be able to avoid receiving it? You can be sure that the Mark of the Beast will affect the eternal destiny of every human being who is alive at the time the mark is received.

The identity of the Beast, or Antichrist, was known by all the early Protestants, yet the churches today that originated from these early Protestants have forgotten this truth, which is why there are many different beliefs today about who or what the Antichrist is. Some believe the Antichrist is a world-wide militant religious movement, like Islam. Others believe it is an individual, perhaps a political leader like the President of the United States. Others believe it is simply a term used to describe every power in the world that is against God.

Likewise there are many widely differing interpretations of what the Mark of the Beast is. Many believe it to be a physical mark that will be received on the body, like a bar-code. Some believe it will be a type of microchip inserted under the skin, like VeriChip. Others believe it will be some kind of a world-wide identity card.

Is there any truth to any of these different interpretations? Is it possible to recover the lost truth that was known to the early Protestants? How can we discover the truth about who or what the Beast and Antichrist really are and what the Mark of the Beast really is?

When seeking to understand any teaching of the Bible, there is an overriding principle that must always be followed, and that is to lay aside our preconceptions and let the Bible interpret itself. We do this by following the Bible's own rule of interpretation, given in the book of Isaiah:

[Isaiah 28:10](#) "For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little."

What this means is that the correct way to interpret the Bible is to find every Bible verse that mentions the subject of interest, compare them all and take the weight of evidence. This is how to avoid developing false theories about what the Bible teaches, and so this is what we will do, we will not offer our own theories or opinions but rather we will let the Bible interpret and explain itself.

In order to understand what the Mark of the Beast is, it's also necessary to understand who or what the Beast itself is – we will show from the Bible who the Beast or Antichrist is and what the Mark of the Beast is.

# The Mark of the Beast

So if you'd like to know the Bible truth about all of these things then read on.

But before you proceed, if you have faith in God then we urge you to take a moment to pray and ask God's Spirit to help you understand and accept the truth so that you will not be deceived, we urge you to take your Bible, put aside your preconceptions, and let God guide you into all truth.

[John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.](#)

## Can The Beast Be Identified?

What if someone appeared on the world stage and proclaimed...

- to be God
- to be Jesus Christ in the flesh
- that he is sinless
- that he is infallible
- that he is above the Bible
- that he is able to forgive sins
- that salvation is only through him
- that anyone who rejects him will go to hell
- that he has all power in heaven, earth and hell
- that the kings of the earth should submit to his authority

Would you conclude that they are the Antichrist?

Well for over 1,500 years the Roman Catholic Popes have sat in the temple of God and declared all of these things about themselves. The Bible, the early Protestants and Reformers, and many who study God's word today, clearly identify this beast power as the Roman Catholic Papacy and the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church.

But how can we know if this conclusion is correct? Well the Bible details a number of very specific marks that identify the Beast, or Antichrist. In this study we will examine each of these marks, to see which power clearly fits all of the identifying marks. Each of these marks could easily be a study in its own right, but if you would like more information then we have a series of video presentations available which will help to make these points clear and give you the foundation for the amazing prophecies of the Biblical books of Daniel and Revelation – you can find the video presentations at:

<http://www.sureword.co.uk/index.php?page=VDR>

In revealing who or what the beast is and what its mark is, we must address some very sensitive issues, we must be prepared to be specific. However, in harmony with God's word we would stress here that we are not condemning anyone, we are not talking about any individual, we are not talking about the many sincere people of this system that love and fear God, because God has His faithful people in every denomination, but rather it is the system itself that we are referring to.

# The Mark of the Beast

## The Seal of God and the Mark of the Beast

The final battle between God and Satan is just ahead, and it is described in the book of Revelation. In Revelation we will see that God has an emblem, a seal or mark, which will identify His people, those who worship Him, and likewise Satan also has an emblem, a seal or mark, that will identify those who follow and worship him, even though they may do so ignorantly.

As is always the case, Satan will work through earthly powers, symbolized in Revelation by a beast, to impose his mark. This study will reveal who the Beast is and what its mark is, which every eternally lost person at the end time will receive. So unless you know what this mark is, how will you know if you have it, and how will you be able to avoid receiving it?

Many years ago when social security numbers first came out, people said “don’t take them, if you take the social security number you are going to get the Mark of the Beast”. During the Second World War when rationing stamps came out, people said “don’t take those things, if you take those rationing stamps you’re going to get the Mark of the Beast”.

But when looking to understand Bible prophecy we must not speculate. 2 Peter tells us...

[2 Peter 1:20](#) “Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.”

So although there is a lot of speculation regarding this mark and how a person receives it, we need to listen to what the Bible says, because the Bible contains some very severe words concerning those who receive the mark. It tells us in Revelation...

[Revelation 14:9-11](#) 9 “Then a third angel followed them saying with a loud voice, “If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand” 10 “He himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. 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 ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name”

These verses are referring to those who have received the mark. However, the Bible speaks clearly of two classes of people, it speaks of those who receive the Mark of the Beast and those who receive the Seal of God. There is no in-between, no middle-ground, no sitting on the fence, no abstaining – every person is going to receive either the Mark of the Beast or the Seal of God. Either you will be lost or you will be saved.

It’s interesting to note where those who receive the Mark of the Beast will receive it.

[Revelation 13:16](#) “And he causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads” 17 “And that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.”

So the Mark of the Beast can be received either in the forehead or on the right hand, but you will note that when it comes to the Seal of God, this is not the case; it says that the Seal of God can be received only in the forehead, not on the hand.

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Revelation 7:1-3 “After these things I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree” 2 “Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom is was granted to harm the earth and the sea” 3 “saying, “Do not harm the earth, the sea or the trees till we have sealed the servant of our God in their foreheads”

Revelation 15:2. “And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God.

Revelation 20:4 “And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands.”

It says those people who receive the Seal of God in their foreheads are going to have the privilege of standing on the sea of glass, they are going to worship the Lord, they are going to be with Him in His everlasting kingdom, so it is absolutely vital that you and I understand who the Beast is, we need to establish this clearly because we do not want to be among those who receive the Mark of the Beast and suffer the full wrath of God.

Revelation 16:9-11 “So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.”

This is one of the seven last plagues; it says it falls on those people that receive the Mark of the Beast. It also continues on and says...

16:10 “Then the fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain.”

The pain comes from the sores. And it says the seat of the beast was full of darkness, therefore, we don't want to be among those.

11 “They blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and did not repent of their deeds.”

These are the people that will suffer the wrath of God. Therefore we need to find out from God's word exactly what it has to say about the Mark of the Beast - what it is and where it comes from.

## **The Identifying Marks**

We do not have to be in any doubt whatsoever as to who or what the Antichrist and the Beast of Revelation are. The two main prophetic books of the Bible, Daniel and Revelation, make it absolutely clear.

# The Mark of the Beast

The Antichrist cannot be Antiochus Epiphanes, it cannot be Islam or any of the many other theories and opinions that we read about. Why? Because the Bible gives **at least** 20 specific marks to identify this power - this Beast power has to match all of them, not just one or two, but **all**.

So now we will examine in detail each of the 20 specific identifying marks.

The Antichrist / Beast power...

## 1. **Had to come out of the Roman Empire / Western Europe**

*Daniel 7:7-8 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.*

In the second chapter of the book of Daniel, the pagan Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar is given a dream by God, in answer to the king's desire to know the future. The dream is interpreted for the king by God's faithful servant Daniel, after whom the book is named. In this dream the pagan king is shown by God the succession of world empires that would follow his own, the Babylonian empire – these empires are symbolised by a great statue of a man.

Bible scholars are in virtually one hundred percent agreement that the symbolism of the great image of a statue seen by Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel chapter 2 represents the four great world-ruling empires of history:

**Babylon** (605 BC-538 BC)

**Medo-Persia** (538 BC-331 BC)

**Greece** (331 BC-168 BC)

**Rome** (168 BC-476 AD).

After the fall of the Roman empire in 476AD, barbarian tribes overran the territory previously ruled by Rome and it was split into ten smaller territories or kingdoms. The prophecy in Daniel chapter 2 shows us that in the time of these 10 territories the end of human history will come and Christ will return. Daniel chapter 7 shows us that out of these 10 kingdoms a little horn (or kingdom) would spring up, which was different from the others, which had the eyes of a man and which would speak great (blasphemous) things.

History has proven the accuracy of God's word - after 476 AD the territory of the Roman empire was divided among ten barbarian tribes, from which the nations of present-day Europe have evolved.

So this beast power has to come from the territories occupied by the Roman empire because it comes up among the 10 barbarian tribes – represented by the ten toes of the image in Daniel 2 and the ten horns on the dragon in [Daniel 7:8](#).

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The Papacy arose in the heart of the former Roman empire, and in fact inherited the very seat and power of the Roman emperors.

## **2. Rises from sea**

Revelation 13:1

The sea (or water) in prophecy symbolises people, nations and languages, in other words a populated area.

Revelation 17:15

So the beast, or Antichrist, would arise from among the established nations of the then-known world. The papacy arose in Western Europe, so it fits this point.

## **3. Is a composite of the four beasts of Daniel 7**

Daniel 7:2

It would be a composite of the four beasts described in Daniel 7 and Revelation 13.

See the comparison below:

	<b>Daniel chapter 7</b>	<b>Revelation chapter 13</b>
<b>Babylon</b>	Lion-like beast (vs. 4)	"Mouth of a lion" (vs. 2)
<b>Medo-Persia</b>	Bear-like beast (vs. 5)	"Feet of a bear" (vs. 2)
<b>Greece</b>	Leopard-like beast (vs. 6)	"Like unto a leopard" (vs. 2)
<b>Rome</b>	Ten-horned beast (vs. 7)	"Having ... ten horns" (vs. 1)

The four beasts of Daniel 7 are depicted as part of the Antichrist, or the Beast, because the Papacy incorporated pagan beliefs and practices from all four empires. She clothed them in a spiritual garb and spread them to the world as Christian teachings. Here is one of many supporting statements from history:

The Twentieth Century Encyclopedia of Catholicism says the following:

*The missionary history of the [Catholic] Church clearly shows her adaptability to all races, all continents, all nations. In her liturgy and her art, in her tradition and the forming of her doctrine, naturally enough she includes Jewish elements, but also elements that are of pagan origin. In certain respects, she has copied her organization from that of the Roman Empire, has preserved and made fruitful the philosophical intuitions of Socrates, Plato and Aristotle, borrowed from both Barbarians and the Byzantine Roman Empire—but always remains herself, thoroughly digesting all elements drawn from external sources...In her laws, her ceremonies, her festivals and her devotions, she makes use of local customs after purifying them and "baptizing" them.*

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Roman Catholic doctrines such as the [trinity](#), this three-in-one mysterious god, [infant baptism](#), sprinkling rather than immersion, teachings on death and immortality, [tonsured and celibate priests](#) with power over the dead, [prayers to the dead and to relics](#), [repetitive prayers with the use of beads](#), doctrines on [forgiveness of sins](#), teachings on hell, the [mass](#), and [Sunday worship](#). These are doctrines actually derived directly from ancient Babylon, not the Bible. This definitely fits the papacy.

## **4. Eradicated Three Other Kingdoms When It Rose To Power**

Daniel 7:8 *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.*

A "horn" in prophecy = a king/kingdom - [Daniel 8:21](#)

This power would completely destroy three of the 10 horns of Daniel 7 – three of the 10 nations that overthrew the Roman empire:

Heruli - plucked up / destroyed

Ostrogoths - plucked up / destroyed

Vandals - plucked up / destroyed

When Pagan Rome fell in 476AD it resulted in the formation of ten separate kingdoms. Three of these ten kingdoms rejected the idea of a "universal / Catholic faith" – this faith was both religious as well as political so as to better control the people of the fallen nation of Rome.

*"The **three divisions** which were **plucked up** were the Heruli in 493 the Vandals in 534 and the Ostrogoths in 538. Justinian, the emperor, who we see was at Constantinople, working through the general Belisarius, was the power that overthrew the three kingdoms represented by the three horns, and the reason for their overthrow was their adherence to **Arianism in opposition to the orthodox Catholic faith.**"* - The book of Daniel, page 109

*"**Vigilius...ascended the papal chair** (538 A.D.) under the military protection of Belisarius."* History of the Christian Church, Vol. 3, p. 327

*Catholic emperors of the eastern empire found ways to help the pope by eliminating three of the Arian tribes. (These "Arian type" nations would not agree with the popes plans) The Catholic emperor Zeno (474-491) arranged a treaty with the Ostrogoths in 487 which resulted in the eradication of the kingdom of the Arian Heruls in 492. And the catholic emperor Justinian (527-565) exterminated the Arian Vandals in 534 and signifcally broke the power of the Arian Ostrogoths in 538. Thus were Daniels **three horns** - The Heruls, the Vandals, and the Ostrogoths - "**plucked up by the roots.**"* - C. Mervyn Maxwell, God Cares Vol. 1, p. 129

This happened exactly as Daniel prophesied. With the fall of the Ostrogoths in 538AD the political entity we today refer to as the "Roman Catholic institution," began its official reign as the last part of this fourth beast mentioned in the prophecy of [Daniel 7](#).

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## **5. Receives its power and authority from the Dragon**

### Revelation 13:2

To identify the dragon, we must go to Revelation chapter 12, where God's end-time church is symbolised as a pure woman. In prophecy, a pure woman represents God's true people or church ([Jeremiah 6:2](#), [Isaiah 51:16](#)).

In [Revelation 12](#) the pure woman is portrayed as pregnant and about to deliver. The dragon crouches nearby, hoping to "devour" the baby at birth. However, when the baby is born He evades the dragon, fulfills His mission, and then ascends to heaven. Obviously the baby is Jesus, whom the Jewish king Herod tried to destroy by killing all the babies in Bethlehem ([Matthew 2:16](#)). So the dragon represents Satan ([Revelation 12:7-9](#)) working through an earthly power, in this case Pagan Rome, of which Herod was a client king. We see that Satan acts through various governments to accomplish his ugly work, in this case Pagan Rome, which eventually turned into Papal Rome.

We will quote just two supportive references from history, though there are many more:

*The Roman Church ... pushed itself into the place of the Roman World-Empire, of which it is the actual continuation; the empire has not perished, but has only undergone a transformation ... That is no mere "clever remark," but the recognition of the true state of the matter historically, and the most appropriate and fruitful way of describing the character of this Church. It still governs the nations ... It is a political creation, and as imposing as a World-Empire, because the continuation of the Roman Empire. The Pope, who calls himself "King" and "Pontifex Maximus," is Caesar's successor.* Source: Adolf Harnack, *What Is Christianity?* trans. by Thomas Bailey Saunders (2d ed., rev.; New York: Putnam, 1901), pp. 269, 270. [Ernest Benn Ltd., London, has recently published a new edition of this book.]

*"The mighty Catholic Church was little more than the Roman Empire baptised. Rome was transformed as well as converted. The very capital of the old Empire became the capital of the Christian Empire. The office of Pontifex Maximus was continued in that of Pope."* New York: Burt Franklin, 1959 pp 148, 149.

These points fit the Papacy perfectly. She received her capital city and power from Pagan Rome, she inherited the very seat of the Roman emperors.

## **6. Will speak great things and blasphemies, claiming to be God**

### Revelation 13:1,5-6

This power would speak great (blasphemous) words against God. But what does it mean to blaspheme God? Is it simply to take God's name in vain as many people think, or is it something greater? Jesus Himself was accused of blasphemy by the Jewish leaders:

John 10:33 <sup>33</sup> *The Jews answered him, (Jesus) saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God.*

John 5:18 <sup>18</sup> *Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.*



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You may answer the question yourself after reading the following quotations from the Roman Catholic church itself:

*"The pope is of so great dignity and so exalted that he is not a mere man, but as it were God, and the vicar of God."... "The pope alone is deservedly called by the name most holy because he alone is the vicar of Christ..."* "Lucius Ferraris, in his Prompta Bibliotheca which the Catholic Encyclopedia.

*"The Pope is of so great dignity, and so exalted that he is not a mere man, but as it were God, and the vicar of God."* - Ferraris Ecclesiastical dictionary.

*"All names which in the Scriptures are applied to Christ, by virtue of which it is established that He is over the church, all the same names are applied to the Pope."* - On the Authority of the Councils, book 2, chapter 17.

*"The Pope and God are the same, so he has all power in Heaven and earth."* Pope Pius V, quoted in Barclay, Chapter XXVII, p. 218, "Cities Petrus Bertanous".

*"The Pope takes the place of Jesus Christ on earth...by divine right the Pope has supreme and full power in faith, in morals over each and every pastor and his flock. He is the true vicar, the head of the entire church, the father and teacher of all Christians. He is the infallible ruler, the founder of dogmas, the author of and the judge of councils; the universal ruler of truth, the arbiter of the world, the supreme judge of heaven and earth, the judge of all, being judged by no one, God himself on earth." Quoted in the New York Catechism.*

So blasphemy is when a man claims to be God, which as we have seen is what the Papacy claims of itself. The Pope claims to be Christ's representative on earth, he claims to be the mediator between God and man, and yet the Bible says:

1 John 2:1 ... *And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.*

Christ Himself is our mediator in heaven, we do not need any earthly mediator.

Apart from the Pope claiming to be God, the Papacy is also guilty of another form of blasphemy:

Luke 5:21 <sup>21</sup> *And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?*

Mark 2:7 <sup>7</sup> *Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only?*

So blasphemy is also when a man claims to have the power to forgive sins. The Papacy blasphemes God by claiming that her priests have the power to forgive sins, when in fact God alone can forgive sins.

1 John 1:9 *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

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We can go directly to God to confess our sins and have our sins forgiven, we do not need to go through any earthly priest or mediator.

## **7. Would persecute and overcome the saints**

### **Revelation 13:7**

This power would war against and persecute the saints; this the Papacy did, it persecuted and killed millions of God's faithful people during the Dark Ages.

Peter de Rosa acknowledges that his own Catholic Church *"was responsible for persecuting Jews, for the Inquisition, for slaughtering heretics by the thousands, for reintroducing torture into Europe as part of the judicial process." The papacy persecuted and destroyed millions of saints during the dark ages just because they would not worship here way, yet the Roman Catholic Church has never officially admitted that these practices were evil, nor has she apologized to the world or to any of the victims or their descendants. Nor could the Pope apologize today because "the doctrines responsible for those terrible things still underpin his position." Rome has not changed at heart no matter what sweet words she speaks when it serves her purpose.*

## **8. Would reign for 42 months (1260 years)**

### **Revelation 13:5**

This power would rule for 42 prophetic months. The Papacy reigned for 42 prophetic months, or 1,260 literal years, from A.D. 538 - 1798.

The Reformers looked at prophecy through the Historicist method. This method is not very popular in our day. Today we have Preterism, which teaches that most of prophecy has been fulfilled way back in the past. We also have Futurism, which teaches that prophecy will only be fulfilled at some future date. In contrast Historicism teaches that Biblical predictions are being fulfilled throughout history, a divinely predicted chain of events leading us into the future. The great prophecies of Daniel span from the time of the Babylonian empire clear down to the restoration of all things at the end of time. Revelation prophecies the history of the Church from the Apostolic Era to the future restoration of all things.

Historicists teach the "Year-Day" principle. In prophetic language, a day of symbolic time represents a year of actual, historic time. The "Time, Times and Half a time," "3 1/2 years," "1260 days", and "42 month" time period, which occurs seven times in Daniel and Revelation, is understood by Historicists to be 1,260 literal years fulfilled in history.

The day/year principle is an old principle already recognized by the Jews, even before the time of Christ. The Jews also identified the four beasts of Daniel as Babylon, Media Persia, Greece and Rome.

This 1,260 day time period is referred to 7 times in the Bible's prophecies; three times as "a time, times, and half a time"; twice as 42 months; and twice as 1,260 days. [Daniel 7:25](#), [Daniel 12:7](#), [Revelation 11:2](#), [Revelation 11:3](#), [Revelation 12:6](#), [Revelation 12:14](#), [Revelation 13:5](#)

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Based on 30 days in a Biblical month (see the story of Noah), these time periods are all the same amount of time: 3 1/2 years = 42 months = 1,260 days.

One prophetic day equals one literal year ([Ezekiel 4:6](#); [Numbers 14:34](#)).

And what is the appointed time period of this persecution? Daniel 12:7 says it is for a time, times and half a time (1260 years/42 months) that the power of the holy people shall be shattered.

So for 1,260 prophetic days or 1,260 literal years, a terrible persecution of God's people existed. Millions were martyred because they refused to go along with the heretical views of the Papacy.

This time period of Papal primacy and oppression began when Justinian's decree went into effect in 538 A.D., declaring the Pope's authority over all churches and authorising him to deal with all "heretics". The period ended in 1798 A.D. when Napoleon sent his general Berthier to Rome. Rome was then declared a republic, the Pope was imprisoned and died there. The new Pope operated under Napoleon's new laws, this removed from him all former primacy. The primacy law lasted exactly 1260 years, from A.D. 538 to 1798.

## **9. Receives a deadly wound**

### **Revelation 13:3**

This power would receive a deadly (mortal) wound, which would make it appear as though it were dead, but from which it would later fully recover.

The deadly wound was inflicted when Napoleon's general, Alexander Berthier, entered Rome and took Pope Pius VI captive in February of 1798. Napoleon decreed that at the death of the Pope, the Papacy would be discontinued. The Pope died in France in August of 1799. To all intents and purposes, the Papacy had ceased to exist.

"Half of Europe thought ... that without the Pope the Papacy was dead."

Revelation 13:10 *He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity; he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword.*

The Papacy had been the power that for 1,260 years had lead others into captivity, wielding the military might of other nations as a sword to do its bidding and killing millions of martyrs. This same sword that had been wielded by the Papacy was now turned against it to inflict a mortal wound.

## **10. Deadly wound is healed**

### **Revelation 13:3**

The deadly wound would eventually be healed, this beast would regain its power and influence over the world, and the entire world would give homage to the beast...

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Malachi Martin, consummate Vatican insider and intelligence expert, reveals the following in his best-selling book *The Keys of This Blood*:

*Since its healing, the strength of the papacy has grown and increased until today she is one of the most powerful religio-political organizations and influence-centers in the world.*

On February 11th, 1929, an historic treaty was signed between the Italian Government and the Vatican, re-establishing the political power and diplomatic standing of the Catholic Church, which had been lost when Italy seized Rome, the last of the [Papal States](#), on September 20th, 1870. Since then the Papacy has gone from strength to strength.

According to Malachi Martin, in *The Keys of This Blood*, he says...

## ABOUT THE POPE:

- The Papacy is as determined to be world ruler as was Constantine in his day (p.49)
- He is protected by four governments (p120)
- He is the best-known person of the 20th century (p123)
- He is personal friends with the leaders of 91 countries (p490)
- People of the world seem to him ready for strong worldwide moral government with control (p160)
- Sixteen thousand journalists covered his American visit (p 490)
- The American ambassador says the Vatican is unmatched as a "listening post" (p120)
- The Vatican knows by Saturday what will happen on Monday anywhere in the world (p 439)
- Papal structure is prepared for worldwide rule now (p143)

The deadly wound is almost fully healed, the eyes of the nations are once more upon the Vatican, the Papacy has almost fully regained the power, influence and control that it once had.

This is yet another point that perfectly fits the Papacy.

## **11. Would become a strong political power**

### **Revelation 13:3, 7**

He dresses in his fine clothes and talks of putting the world to rights, calling all the different Christian and sometimes not so Christian groups into unity. He mingles with heads of state and has meetings and telephone calls with them; none are worshiped by the masses as is this man.

Five American presidents in a row eagerly sought audiences with Pope John Paul II, even when the pontiff expressed strong opposition to some of their policies. These presidents were Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George H. W. Bush, Bill Clinton, and George W. Bush. George Bush beat a path to the Vatican three times during the life of John Paul II and once more at his funeral, as the first US president to attend a funeral mass for a pope.

John Paul was eulogized and buried as if he were a king. Other dignitaries and political leaders who attended the funeral were: Islamic leaders from Iran, Syrian President Bashar Assad, Spain's Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero, King Juan Carlos and Queen

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Sofia, Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Fradkov and Metropolitan Kirill, the foreign minister for the Russian government, German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, EU President Jose Manuel Barroso, the presidents of many of the former soviet bloc states and Britain's Prince Charles, who postponed his Friday wedding plans to come to Rome (amazing) and lead the British delegation which included Prime Minister Tony Blair.

Notice that he shall be mighty, but not by his own power. The scripture says in [Revelation 17:12-13](#) that the kings of the earth "have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast."

In other words, the governments of the world will eventually give their power and strength to the Papacy. The Papacy is destined to rule the world, and the Pope is the figurehead that guides the Papacy. Therefore the nations of the world will one day use their power to support the directions and dogmas of the Pope and the Papacy. In order to accomplish this, the Papacy has to become immensely respected and popular. Everyone can see that this is exactly what is happening today.

## **12. Would become a very powerful religious power**

### **Revelation 13:3, 8**

The Roman Catholic Church is the largest group of Christians in the world. There are about 1 **billion** members, mostly in Europe, North and South America. The leader of the Roman Catholic Church and **successor** of Jesus Christ on Earth is the Pope. He **governs** the church from [the Vatican](#), a small state **situated** in the heart of Rome.

The Roman Catholic Church has influenced history more than any other organization. It **exercised** its power **throughout** the [Middle Ages](#). **Missionaries** travelled to other continents to **spread Catholicism**. Great architects created churches and [cathedrals](#), artists drew paintings and made **frescoes**.

In the U.K., Roman Catholics have overtaken Anglicans as the country's dominant religious group. More people attend Mass every Sunday than worship with the Church of England. The rise of Catholicism has been bolstered by an influx of immigrants from Eastern Europe and Africa, who have packed the pews of Catholic parishes that had previously been dwindling.

The Roman Catholic Church continues to see its membership increase in the U.S., while most Protestant churches are shrinking, according to an annual report by the National Council of Churches.

## **13. Would be different than previous kingdoms (a combination of Church & State)**

### **Daniel 7:24**

This beast power, arising after the other beasts, would be different from them. The other beasts were purely political powers. This beast would be different in that it would be a combination, a blending, of church and state. It would have not only religious power and influence, but also political power and influence, it would be a sovereign state power in its own right.

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A "woman" in prophecy = a church **Jeremiah 6:2**

A "harlot" woman, therefore = an unfaithful/apostate/corrupt church

The Papacy rules both **Church** and **State** - **Revelation 17:18**

*The office of the Pope is the papacy. His ecclesiastical jurisdiction is often called the "Holy See" (Sancta Sedes in Latin), or the "Apostolic See" based upon the Church tradition that the Apostles Saint Peter and Saint Paul were martyred in Rome. The pope is also head of state of Vatican City, a sovereign city-state entirely enclaved within the Italian capital city of Rome.*  
Wikipedia Encyclopedia.

The Papacy fits this identification point perfectly.

## **14. Will be worshipped by the whole world**

### **Revelation 13:4**

Who is like the beast? Talking of the Popes visits to various countries it is said...

"More than one million outsiders circulated in Madrid," said Alfonso del Álamo. "A major event like winning the World Cup is only 500,000. We've never seen anything like this."

In the U.K. the final cost to the taxpayer (excluding policing costs) of the Pope's visit was £10 million ... MPs queried the decision to spend £1.85m of overseas aid cash on the Pope's U.K. visit.

Tens of thousands of people turned out on Rio de Janeiro's streets to greet Pope Francis, joyfully swarming his car and chanting his name...\$53 million spent on the pope's visit.

Mexico...Guanajuato state officials said the government has spent nearly \$11 million preparing for the visit.

In Germany the air force escorted him into the country. He is welcomed with honors and escorts everywhere he goes. He has audiences with presidents and chancellors. 70,000 fill a stadium to listen to him.

In the U.S.A., the super power of the world, he is revered and honored. \$72 million was the estimated cost of the celebration for youth day in the U.S.; but they suspected this cost would rise with the extra security, the collecting of rubbish and extra stress on health systems; millions spent of the taxpayers money to a country that is trillions of dollars in debt.

When he went to Australia, the turnout was actually larger than the Olympics. The Pope's visit to Australia was so influential that the Australian government decided for the first time in history to send their very own ambassador to the Vatican.

How many other church leaders around the world get welcomed by prime ministers and heads of state? The Pope gets special treatment - why is that? Because the Pope is playing a very important role, he's empowered by somebody behind him - this system that we are

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talking about (not the sincere people of this faith), the Roman Catholic system. The Bible makes it very clear that it will be used to deceive the world.

## **15. Calls itself the Mother Church**

Revelation 17:5 *And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.*

As we have already seen, a woman in Bible prophecy represents a church. An impure woman represents an impure church. The Roman Catholic Church refers to itself as the "Mother Church". By this statement Rome is calling herself "mother", and she considers all the other churches to be her "daughters".

*We celebrate today the Dedication of the Basilica of St. John Lateran in Rome because it is the head and mother church of all churches in the world. On the façade of the basilica there is an inscription in Latin which reads, "the mother and mistress of all churches of Rome and the world."* Homily for November 9th - Dedication of the Basilica of St. John Lateran.

The Catholic News Service, Pope-Parishes Jun-17-2014 reports the Pope as saying...

*"The great challenge of the church today is to become mother," he said. "If the church is not a mother -- I know it is bad to say this, but she becomes an 'old maid,'" and cannot bring forth children..... The church does not need cosmetic surgery, the pope said, but it needs the energy and joy that come from being a mother, seeing her children gather at home and welcoming their friends as well.* Catholic News Service Pope-Parishes Jun-17-2014

The Roman Catholic Church matches what the Bible describes in Revelation about the whore/harlot (prostitute) in Revelation 17 - she is the great harlot and all her daughters are also harlots. Why is this woman called a harlot? It tells us in Revelation 17:

Revelation 17:2 *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.*

Wine in Bible prophecy represents teachings or doctrines. Fornication (sexual immorality) represents unfaithfulness, specifically unfaithfulness to God. So, as we already saw in point 3, this woman (church) has deceived and corrupted the earth with her false teachings and doctrines which she took from paganism, she has passed those doctrines onto her daughters (the other churches), who have also become deceived and corrupted by them. The world in general, and the other churches in particular, have all been made drunk and confused by the intoxicating wine of this great harlot.

## **16. Has the mysterious number 666**

### **Revelation 13:18**

The Bible says this beast would have the mysterious number 666. [Revelation 13:18](#) says, "It is the number of a man," and [Revelation 15:2](#) says it is "the number of his name." What man do you think of when you think of the Papacy? Naturally, we all think of the Pope - but that is not his official name. Here is a Catholic quote:

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*"The title of the pope of Rome is "Vicarius Filii Dei" (English: "Vicar of the Son of God").*

Malachi Martin, in *The Keys of This Blood*, uses the same title for the Pope on pages 114 and 122 of this book. A footnote for [Revelation 13:18](#) in some Douay [Catholic] versions of the Bible says, "The numeral letters of his name shall make up this number."

In Roman numerals, some letters are given a numerical value. If we take the official Latin title of the Pope and convert this to Roman numerals, we get the following:

## VICARIUS FILII DEI

THE LITERAL MEANING: VICARIUS - substituting for, or in place of  
FILII - means son  
DEI - means GOD

V = 5	F = no value	D = 500
I = 1	I = 1	E = no value
C = 100	L = 50	I = 1
A = no value	I = 1	-----
R = no value	I = 1	501
I = 1	-----	
U/V = 5	53	
S = no value		
-----		
112		112 + 53 + 501 = 666

So the Pope's official Latin title, "Vicarius Filii Dei", in Roman numerals = 666.

## **17. Sits on seven hills**

### **Revelation 17:9**

Only one city has for more than 2000 years been known as the city on seven hills. That city is Rome.

The Catholic Encyclopaedia states: *"It is within the city of Rome, called the city of seven hills, that the entire area of Vatican State proper is now confined."*

*Seven Hills of Rome - "...group of hills on or about which the ancient city of Rome was built. The original city of Romulus was built upon Palatine Hill (#1) (Latin: Mons Palatinus). The other hills are the Capitoline, (#2) Quirinal, (#3) Viminal, (#4) Esquiline, (#5) Caelian, (#6) and Aventine (#7) (known respectively in Latin as the Mons Capitolinus, Mons Quirinalis, Mons Viminalis, Mons Esquilinus, Mons Caelius, and Mons Aventinus)." - Encyclopedia Britannica*

## **18. Is clothed in purple and scarlet, and is adorned with gold and jewels**

### **Revelation 17:4-5**



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Catholic cardinals frequently wear scarlet. Catholic priests wear red on Good Friday, Palm Sunday, Pentecost, and other special occasions. They wear purple on Advent, Lent, and at funerals. On some of those days, other colors are also worn, including white, green, black, rose, and gold.

Riches are lavished on the icons of Catholicism. Gold, pearls, and precious stones and pearls deck the statues of Mary and the saints in the Vatican. The rebuilding of St. Peter's Basilica in the 16th century involved the genius skill of Michelangelo, Bernini, Raphael, and the other great artists of the day. The riches and treasures lavished on the stately buildings of the Roman Catholic Church are beyond description.

The official clothing worn by the Pope on [special occasions](#) is richer in gold and jewelry than any earthly crown. The papal tiara on display in the Vatican Museum is valuable beyond comprehension. The papal tiara, or triple-crown, is the Papacy's reminder that the Pope's power is threefold, according to [the Vatican website](#):

The Holy See press office states: *The Triregnum (the Papal Tiara formed by three crowns symbolizing the triple power of the Pope: father of kings, governor of the world and Vicar of Christ) from the XVIII Century, with which the bronze statue of Saint Peter is crowned every June 29<sup>th</sup>, the feast day of the Saint.*

## 19. Practices celibacy

In Daniel it tells us that this power will have no desire for women.

Daniel 11:37 Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, [nor the desire of women](#), nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all.

The Vatican boldly declares in their catechism...

*Celibacy is the renunciation of marriage implicitly or explicitly made, for the more perfect observance of chastity, by all those who receive the Sacrament of Orders in any of the higher grades."* Catholic Encyclopedia - Celibacy of the Clergy

## 20. Would think to change times and laws

### Daniel 7:25

The times and laws that this power would seek to change cannot be referring to human times or laws, as earthly rulers regularly do such things, and so this would have no significance - it can only mean that this power would seek to change **God's times and laws**.

### Has the Papacy tried to change God's laws?

Yes. In three different ways: In her catechisms she has (1) omitted the second Commandment against veneration of images, and (2) shortened the fourth (Sabbath) Commandment from 94 words to just eight. The Sabbath Commandment [Exodus 20:8-11](#) clearly specifies Sabbath as the seventh day of the week. As changed by the papacy, the Commandment reads: "Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day." Written thus, it can refer to any day. And, finally, she (3) divided the tenth Commandment into two Commandments.

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## Has the Papacy attempted to change God's times?

Yes again. In two ways: (1) She has changed the time of the Sabbath from the seventh day to the first day. (2) She has also changed God's "timing" for the beginning and closing hours of the Sabbath. Instead of counting the Sabbath day from sundown Friday night to sundown Saturday night as God mandates [Leviticus 23:32](#) she adopted the pagan Roman custom of counting the day from midnight Saturday night to midnight Sunday night. God predicted these "changes" would be attempted by the beast/Antichrist.

Notice the following section from a Catholic catechism:

*Question: Which is the Sabbath day?*

*Answer: Saturday is the Sabbath day.*

*Question: Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday?*

*Answer: We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday.*

Here is further Catholic statements:

*"The Church is above the Bible and this transference of Sabbath observance from Saturday to Sunday is proof positive of that fact." Catholic Record of London, Ontario, September 1, 1923.*

*"Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change (Saturday Sabbath to Sunday) was her act...And the act is a mark of her ecclesiastical authority in religious things."*

H.F. Thomas, Chancellor of Cardinal Gibbons.

*"Protestants...accept Sunday rather than Saturday as the day for public worship after the Catholic Church made the change...But the Protestant mind does not seem to realize that...In observing the Sunday, they are accepting the authority of the spokesman for the church, the Pope." Our Sunday Visitor, February 15, 1950.*

In these references the Papacy is saying that its successful change of Sabbath observance to Sunday worship is proof that its authority is greater than, or "above", the Bible.

Tragically, both Catholicism and Protestantism stand guilty before the judgment bar of heaven for rejecting God's holy Sabbath, His sacred sign of identification.

The Papacy fits all 20 identification points perfectly. The beast with the "mark" is the Papacy. **No other** power in history could possibly fit these divine descriptive points. Not just one or two isolated points, but at least 20 when correctly interpreting the Bible. The Bible will always interpret itself. **No other** power can claim to fit so clearly the beast power as does Papal Rome.

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We have seen beyond question who the Beast/Antichrist is. If you still think it is someone or something else then they or it must match all of the above points according to the word of God.

The Bible tells us that the Mark of the Beast is placed in the forehead. The forehead in scripture represents the mind, the will, the seat of intelligence, it's where we make our decisions and give mental assent to something, so when it says the mark is received in the forehead it means that we willingly accept it.

Hebrews 10:16 <sup>16</sup> This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;

It also says that the Mark of the Beast can be received in the right hand, this is because the right hand in the Bible represents co-operation, if we give our hand to it we not only accept and go along with it but we will co-operate with the beast power.

Ecclesiastes 9:10 <sup>10</sup> Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.

A person will be marked in the forehead by a decision to keep Sunday as a holy day. In fact, the frontal lobe is considered to be the very seat of your emotions and your ability to make judgments, the hand is a symbol of work, therefore, a person will be marked in the hand by working on God's holy Sabbath or by going along with Sunday laws for practical reasons (job, family, etc.). The sign, or mark, for either God or the beast will be invisible to people. You will, in essence, mark yourself by accepting either God's sign or mark, the true Sabbath, or the beast's mark, Sunday, the false sabbath. Though invisible to men, God will know who has which mark.

2 Timothy 2:19 <sup>19</sup> Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, let everyone that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

God knows who are His, this is why the Seal of God is not placed in the hand, it is placed only in the forehead, because there is nothing we can do to work our way to Heaven, and God will not force Himself upon us, He will only accept us if we love and trust in Him. The only way to gain entrance to Heaven is through Christ and all He has done for us; the devil on the other hand will take us any way he can get us - we can work our way to Hell but not to Heaven.

Revelation 14:9-11 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, <sup>10</sup> 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: <sup>11</sup> 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.

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Here we see the tragic consequences of those who accept the Mark of the Beast, but what about the people who do not receive the Mark of the Beast, but through love and trust in God receive the Seal of God?

## The Commandments of God and the Faith of Jesus

[Revelation 14:12](#) Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

Here we see the reason why one group receives the Mark of the Beast and one group does not. According to Revelation 14:12, it's because this second group keep the Commandments of God, and have faith in Jesus. You see faith is very important. The Bible uses words like "faith" and "following" - to follow is to have faith. If we follow the Lord then we will walk with Him by faith.

The Bible says that if we do not have faith in Christ we won't make it into the kingdom no matter how religious we are, no matter how many scriptures we can recite. This may come as a surprise to some people, but you see it does not matter how religious we are, we will not make it into the kingdom of Heaven if we don't exercise faith. If we truly love and follow God then we will also be keeping His Commandments and be willing to give our lives rather than disobey His law.

This is what it talks about in Matthew 7...

[Matthew 7:21](#) Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

We might be the one crying "Lord, Lord", but we are not going to get into the kingdom unless we do the will of God and surrender all to Him. When we surrender all then that's following, that's trusting, and accepting.

[Matthew 7:22](#) "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works?"

Here are people that prophesied in his name who cast out devils, who did wonderful works, but what does Jesus reply...

[Mathew 7:2](#) "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!"

Jesus says; "I don't know who you are, depart from me." Why? Because they didn't follow by faith. You see faith involves following and trusting in God completely for everything, doing as He has asked us to do.

Now, the question we have to ask ourselves is; has the beast power that we are identifying, done anything that affects faith in Jesus Christ; because the Bible says this is what this power will do. Here are a couple of statements that shed light on this...

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“If anyone says that the sacramental absolution of the priest” (this means the priest forgiving you of your sins) “is not a judicial act but a bare ministry of pronouncing and declaring sins to be forgiven to him who confesses, provided only he believes himself to be absolved, or (even though the priest absolve not in earnest, but as a joke; or saith that the confession of that pennant is not required in order that the priest may be able to absolve him, let he be an anthem”

Dogmatic Canons and Decrees Council of Trent. P118.

So it's saying here that when the Catholic priest says he has the power to forgive sins, even if he says it as a joke, you are forgiven, and if a person does not believe, he is lost.

These statements affect our faith in God. Let's look at one more Catholic statement of belief...

The authority apostolic and ecclesiastical traditions and of the Holy scripture” (This is talking about tradition, it's talking about the Word of God) ”Which we must interpret and understand only in the sense which our Holy Mother the Catholic Church has held and does hold” (its saying the only way we can understand this is as she interprets it) “and everything else that has been defined and declared by the sacred canons and by the General Councils and particularly by the Holy Council of Trent”.

This certainly affects our faith and trust in Jesus. We need to understand that OUR SALVATION IS NOT IN A CHURCH, WHATEVER CHURCH THAT MAY BE - OUR SALVATION IS NOT IN A MAN, WHOEVER HE CLAIMS TO BE - OUR SALVATION IS IN JESUS CHRIST, AND IN JESUS CHRIST AND HIS WORD ALONE.

Revelation goes on to say that the people who have the seal of God not only have faith in Jesus, but they keep the Commandments of God. Jesus said...

John 14:15 “If you love me, keep my commandments”.

It says “if you love Me” - to love someone means you walk with them, you want to please them...

John 14:21 “He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”

Jesus is saying that He has given us the Commandments not because they save us but because they show us our need for Him. Sin is transgression of the law of the Commandments of God. Of ourselves we cannot keep God's law, but with Jesus abiding in our hearts He will overcome for us, so that we can keep his Commandments and be found faultless before God the Father. The Commandments are based on love, and God is love...

1 John 5: 3 “For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome”.

This is what it means to love of God – it means to keep his Commandments, to follow Him, that's what He asks us to do.

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Has this beast power done anything to the Commandments of God? Because those that have the patience of the saints and keep the Commandments of God do not receive the Mark of the Beast. Some of you may have heard of the catechism - the catechism is used in the Catholic Church and is in question and answer form, that's how it's put together, so let's have a look at what it says...

Question: "have you any other way of proving that the Church the Roman Catholic Church has the power to institute festivals or precepts"

Answer: "Had she not such power, she could not have substituted the observance of Sunday the first day of the week for the observance of Saturday, the seventh day, a change for which there is no scriptural authority"

So here the Catholic church is saying there is no scriptural authority for the Sabbath day being changed from Friday sunset to Saturday sunset, the Biblical day of worship, there is not one word in scripture to authorise the change to Sunday, but, it was their act, it was changed on their authority. This is God's Commandment, which no one has the right to change. In fact the Bible gives us a stern warning about changing God's word...

Revelation 22:18-19 <sup>18</sup> For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: <sup>19</sup> And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

Here is another quote from the Catholic Encyclopaedia...

"The Church, on the other hand after changing the day of rest from the Jewish Sabbath, or the seventh day of the week to the first, made the third commandment referred to as Sunday as the day to be kept holy, as the Lord's day"

So here the Catholic church admits this was their change. This it is not something you find taught in scripture, it is a change that the Catholic church made. They also refer to the Sabbath as the Jewish Sabbath, however, when you study God's word you find that His Commandments were kept from the time of Adam, if this had not been so then Cain would not have been punished for killing his brother Abel and Joseph would not have known it was a sin to sleep with his master's wife. Also if there had been no law then there would have been nothing for Satan to transgress and he would not have been thrown out of Heaven. The 10 Commandments are God's universal law, they are the foundation of His government of all creation, and will be kept throughout eternity...

Isaiah 66:23-24 <sup>22</sup> For as the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before me, saith the Lord, so shall your seed and your name remain. <sup>23</sup> And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD.

So we see that the Commandments were not just for the Jews but for all mankind to keep for eternity, for all those who love and follow God.

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## When Will the Mark of the Beast be Received?

Now the Bible makes it very clear that that Mark of the Beast has to be enforced; nobody at this present time has the Mark of the Beast and the reason they don't is because it will be enforced by government, which has not yet happened, although we are very close to this happening...

Revelation 13:15<sup>15</sup> “He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed”

When the Bible says that the beast will “speak” and “cause”, that means legislation and enforcement - “speak” means to legislate, “cause” means to enforce, so this is saying that Sunday worship will be enforced.

Now the image is an image to the beast, and the beast power is the unification of church and state, these will come together and when they do you will see religious observance enforced on people. Is there any indication of that happening today? Well the United States Supreme Court has this to say about it...

“The essence of appellants’ establishment argument is that Sunday is the Sabbath day of the predominant Christian sects; that the purpose of that enforced stoppage of labour on that day is to facilitate and encourage church attendance that the purpose of setting Sunday as a day of universal rest is to induce people with no religion or people with marginal religious beliefs to join the predominant Christian sects ; that the purpose of the atmosphere of tranquillity created by Sunday closing is to aid the conduct of church services and religious observance of the sacred day”

U.S. Supreme Court by Justice Earl Warren October 1960 McGowan –v - Maryland p 431-434.

Here they are talking about enforcing people to go to church on Sunday. In other words there are plans to enforce this upon people. How does the Papal power relate to this?

“Protestantism in discarding the authority of the church, has no good reason for its Sunday theory and ought, logically, to keep Saturday as the Sabbath, with the Jews and the Seventh day Baptists. For their present practice Protestants in general have no authority but that of the church which they disown, and there cannot be a greater inconsistency than theirs in asking the state to enforce the Sunday laws. It is not a mere legal holiday; it is the Lord’s Day, set apart by the Catholic Church. It is a religious holiday, and so long as it is maintained by law it is therefore only a sorry farce to tell us that in this country there is no union of church and state”

American Catholic Quarterly Review by John Gilmary Shea. page 153

It says here that Protestantism, by tossing out the Catholic Church, has no good reason for its Sunday theory.

Any time that you enforce people to keep a religious day, then you have unification of church and state, you have exactly what the Bible reveals when it talks about the beast enforcing this, and there are many organisations and movements today that want this enforced observance. In Revelation 13 it says...

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Revelation 13:17 “and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name”

In other words it says here that observance will be enforced on the people and if you don't have the Mark of the Beast you won't be able to buy and you won't be able to sell.

This may worry some people, but if you have trust in God then it should not worry you, because if the Lord could feed millions of people in the wilderness for 40 years then he won't have any trouble feeding those who are faithful to Him in these last days.

However, it says you won't be able to buy or sell. Now, you may wonder how this can be, if you have money how can they stop you, because if you can't buy it at the front of the store you can buy it at the back of the store, money always talks, there has always been the black market, so they would have to take control of the monetary system, and we are moving in that direction very quickly, much more quickly than you may imagine.

Most people now have credit cards, and many now have smart cards. A smart card resembles a credit card in size and shape, but inside it is completely different. First of all, it *has* an inside -- a normal credit card is a simple piece of plastic. The inside of a smart card usually contains an embedded microprocessor, the microprocessor is under a gold contact pad on one side of the card. Think of the microprocessor as replacing the usual magnetic stripe on a credit card or debit card. Such a card will have your entire bank account details in it. So when you go to the store all you have to do is take your card, punch your number in and it subtracts the amount for what you are buying and it takes it automatically out of your bank account.

This may seem a wonderful invention, but it will also permit you to be boycotted, because all they have got to do is say “don't accept that number” and you have been boycotted.

We are moving very quickly towards the day in which the Bible says that people will be forced to do what the church/state says, or pay the penalty. In this fast moving age of technology they are making it easier and easier to track and control the people of the world and punish those who will not comply with them.

## **The Patience and Faith of the Saints**

In Revelation we read...

Revelation 13:10 <sup>10</sup> He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

In other words God is looking for people that are willing to take Him at his word, who are willing to trust him, who are willing to follow Him and who are willing to let God lead. This is talking about people right down at the end of time, and one of their characteristics is that these people will have the patience and the faith of the saints.

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



# The Mark of the Beast

So when it contrasts the two groups of people it is saying that these people who are followers of the Lord are going to walk with the Lord by faith, they are going to keep his Commandments.

1 John 2:4 He who says, "I know him" and does not keep His commandments, is a liar and the truth is not in him".

You see there are no two ways, no half measures - we cannot walk contrary to what the Lord says; we either follow His word completely as the Bible shows us, or we will be following the beast.

Matthew 7:14 <sup>14</sup> Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

1 John 2:6 "He who says he abides in him ought himself to walk just as He walked".

You see we are to follow Jesus, walk as he walked. This is the way you and I should be.

"And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him".

Jesus said I do the things that please my Father; and it says you and I are to do the things that please God.

Here's what the Apostles said...

"But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men".

You see we must walk as Jesus walked.

God is looking for men and women today that belong to him, men and women that say "I belong to the Lord, I'm going to walk with him, I'm going to follow him, I'm God's man, I'm God's woman", that's what he is looking for, that's what he is asking from you and I today.

We have the benefit of historic records at our fingertips today. History is behind us! We have PROOF that the prophecies were fulfilled in the exact years as well as the exact manner that the Bible said they would be.

You see the Mark of the Beast is all about worship, who you give your allegiance to. Satan has always wanted the worship that is due only to God and His Son. Worship is the key factor in the ongoing warfare between God and Satan. People were created to be happy and fulfilled only when they worship God their Creator solely; but Satan has always desired and sought that worship for himself, and because of this, war broke out in Heaven and Satan was cast out to the earth...

Isaiah 14:13-14 <sup>13</sup> For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: <sup>14</sup> I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

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[Revelation 7:9.](#)

Since Satan was cast out of heaven to the earth, he has continued to try to gain worship in whatever way he can. He started with Eve, then centuries later when he tempted Jesus in the wilderness, worship was still the central issue.

[Matthew 4:8-11.](#)

In these last days, God is calling upon all people to worship Him their creator.

[Revelation 14:6-7](#)

This so infuriates Satan that he will try to force people to worship him or else be killed.

[Revelation 13:15](#)

And so he works through earthly powers to accomplish his ends.

## **Who Will You Worship?**

The prophetic books of Daniel & Revelation are not only complex but also go hand-in-hand - one can't be correctly understood without the other, and unless you have a clear understanding of both you risk being confused.

Our prayer is that you will prayerfully study this message for yourself, because your eternal life truly does depend on it - who you worship - it will either be God or Satan, there is and will be no middle ground.

If you are uncomfortable with this message it is because you are wrestling with the Holy Spirit, you have to vent your anger and frustration out on somebody or something and so you do so at this message, but all we have done is to deliver the word of God. Not all truth sits comfortably at first, but this is only because of our preconceived ideas, but as Joshua said...

[Joshua 24:15 ...choose you this day whom ye will serve...](#)

**The Mark of the Beast is about worship – who you worship - it is about the unification of church and state that will come together, and when they do you will see Sunday as a religious day enforced on all people.**

The end of history is almost upon us, prophecy is fulfilling fast, it is time for each of us to make our choice; we will all either choose the **Seal of God** or **The Mark of the Beast**.

Which will you choose?

# The Mark of the Beast

Summary of the identifying marks:

1. **Had to come out of the Roman Empire / Western Europe**
2. **Rises from the sea (a populated area)**
3. **Is a composite of the four beasts of Daniel 2**
4. **Eradicated three other kingdoms *when rising to power***
5. **Receives its power and authority from the dragon**
6. **Will speak great things and blasphemies, claiming to be God**
7. **Persecuted and overcomes the saints...**
8. **Would reign for 42 months (1260 years)**
9. **Receives a deadly wound**
10. **Deadly wound is healed**
11. **Would become a strong political power**
12. **Would become a very powerful religious power**
13. **Different than other kingdoms (combination of both Church & State)**
14. **The whole world will wonder after and worship the beast**
15. **Calls herself the Mother Church**
16. **Has a mysterious number 666**
17. **Sits on 7 Hills**
18. **Arrayed in purple & scarlet, adorned with gold & precious stones**
19. **Practices celibacy**
20. **Would think to change times and laws**