

## Semester 3 – Week 8 - Class 16

# THE MARK OF THE BEAST AND THE SEAL OF GOD

Today's subject, "The Mark of the Beast and the Seal of God," is a solemn one—one of the most important subjects that you will ever hear in your entire life. The subject of the Mark of the Beast has attracted the attention of millions down through the centuries. Inquiring minds are asking questions. God helping us, today we will see from the Bible in a clear and simple way just exactly what the true answers are.

It's truly a life or death matter. When Jesus comes, there will only be two kinds of people on the earth, the righteous and the wicked, those who are ready and those who are not. Those who are ready, will have the Seal of God and are saved for eternity. Those who are not, will have the Mark of the Beast and are lost for eternity.

There will be a determining issue that will cause all people to make a decision as to what side they will stand on. The issue that divides the world is over worshipping the beast and/or his image, and receiving the Mark of the Beast; or worshipping God, following His truth and receiving the Seal of God.

This message today is not intended to put down any person or any church. We have an immense responsibility under God to share what the Bible teaches.

Hebrews 4:12 **"The Word of God is sharper than any two-edged sword."** It divides . . . it cuts. Sometimes truth hurts. It cuts a little deep. Fables won't get you to heaven. Only the truth will. The warning against receiving the mark of the beast is the most fearful warning in the whole Bible, yet most people, most Christians will get it.

**Question:** The Mark. What does the bible really say?

May the Holy Spirit lead each of us in carefully weighing the evidence that comes from the Bible, and seeing that evidence from Scripture, we put aside past ideas, past traditions, past influences, and allow at this moment, God's Spirit to speak to our hearts.

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, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, ..."**

The subject of the Mark of the Beast is simpler than you might think. Remember that as we study today that it doesn't matter what you or I think on the subject. It doesn't matter what your pastor or any pastor believes about the Mark of the Beast. It doesn't matter what anyone else thinks. The most important thing is to discover what GOD has revealed in the Word.

Jesus said in Matthew 24:37, **"But as the days of Noe [were], so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.."** And if the vast majority of people were opposing God and were wrong in the days of Noah the same will be true in our day.

**Question:** What is the mark of the beast?

It's not a giant computer in Europe, however computers may be used to keep track of people during the time of enforcing the Mark of the Beast, but it is important to keep the distinction in your mind between what the actual Mark of the Beast is, and the separate discussion of how it may or may not be enforced.

We'll see from the Bible that there is coming a time for God's people, that the powers in control will enforce an economic boycott. The faithful of God will not be able to buy or sell unless they go along with the rest of the world that worships the beast and has the Mark of the Beast.

Credit cards and their numbers have nothing to do with what the Mark of the Beast is, and what the image of the beast is. It is not a Social Security card or any government issued ID number. It is not a grocery barcode or any barcode placed on a person's forehead to be read by a scanner. It's not an electronic transponder placed under the skin either. Outside of the truth in the Bible, everything else is nonsense.

In today's Christian world, because of conjecture, speculation and false teachers, there is a lot of confusion concerning the Beast. It is impossible to know who or what the mark is, if you don't know who or what the Beast is. Only then can you identify the mark of the beast. The Bible has all the answers including details about the enforcement.

What was it that put Adam and Eve out of the garden? Ultimately, what is the only thing that will keep us out of heaven? SIN! And it is so important that we know what sin is.

1 John 3:4 **"Whosoever committeth sin, transgresseth also the law for sin is the transgression of the law."**

Romans 4:15 **"Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, [there is] no transgression."** This is one good reason why we know that God didn't do away with the Ten Commandments. No law—no sin. Is there sin in the world today? Then you can be sure of one thing, there is Divine Law.

Point #1: Unconfessed and unforsaken sin is the only thing that is going to cause us to be lost, and sin is the willful transgression of God's law. In order for the devil to trip people up with the Mark of the Beast, he will have to do it by leading multiplied millions to transgress the eternal moral law of God. To take the Mark of the Beast will be a serious sin against God Himself!

Point #2: Millions of people will be deceived, not because the truth was difficult to find out, but because they did not receive the love of the truth. They didn't embrace the truth when they saw it but rather reasoned excuses to get around having to obey it.

2 Thessalonians 2:10 **"And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved."**

James 2:10-12 **"For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in (how many?) one point, he is guilty of all. Now, if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become (what?) a transgressor of the law."** (You'll notice it's a law singular. If you throw a rock through a window, you didn't just break part of the window—you broke the window, right? It's one law!) **"So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty."**

Now what law is he quoting from here? The Ten-Commandment law.

It's amazing that billions of professed Christians today, both Catholics and Protestants, break God's law willfully and deliberately, and they don't ask for forgiveness, they don't repent, and they'll tell you, "I just don't think it matters!"

Remember Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron? God had commanded them not to put strange fire upon the altar." (Leviticus 10:1). God had kindled that fire on the altar of incense and they were to keep that holy fire going day and night. And they must have reasoned to themselves, "Fire's fire," because they got common fire and put it on the altar of the Lord. What did God do? He sent fire from heaven and consumed them. Did God mean what He commanded? Is God particular?

Today many reason that some or all of God's commandments are not important, like Nadab and Abihu, but God's holy Ten Commandment law is important! If God said it, we'd better believe it.

Do you remember the Ark of the Covenant that contained and carried God's law inside? God said, *"Don't anyone touch the ark."* Only the priests were allowed to come near and carry it with poles on their shoulders in an exact manner. We learned that God excuses ignorance if we don't know any better and if we don't have an opportunity to know any better.

We know the story of Uzzah. The ark of God had just been returned on an ox cart by the Philistines. The Israelites built a new ox cart and were transporting it when the roadway caused the cart to move and it looked like the ark might fall out. Uzzah reached up to touch the ark to steady it. To us it may seem perfectly innocent, doesn't it? But God said, Don't touch it and Uzzah instantly died! (2 Samuel 6:7). Now was God unjust? No because it should never had been on the oxcart in the first place. The Levites should have been carrying the poles on their shoulders. That is what God had commanded. God was trying to again teach us that He means what He says. He is particular. We should never presume against God! The fact that Christians who break God's commandments wilfully today and are not instantly destroyed, is no cause for presumption.

Why was the ark holy? The ark was holy because inside that ark was God's Ten Commandment Law, which the Bible specifically describes as holy. Romans 7:12 **"Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good."**

Do you think that God feels any different today when finite man puts his hand to that holy law to mar or change it in any way? God never changes. Therefore His holy moral law never changes.

Think of the experience in the Garden of Eden. All over a little piece of fruit.

Revelation 14:9, 10 **"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, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God ..."**

The mark of the beast is received in the forehead or in his hand. Now some Bibles say "on" the forehead or "on" the hand. Now is there a difference between "in" and "on"? There is a huge difference. The next point is that the Mark of the Beast is something that goes in the forehead and in the hand. We will circle that little word "in". So is this "mark" talking about some tattoo that's going to go on the skin?

Money card or microchip or something where people will one day be told to go downtown to some building and brace their necks and hold out their hands because the authorities are now going to "give you the mark"? Don't you suppose that when we're talking about the most serious of all subjects down at the end of time that it holds a significance for us that is more than skin deep?

Revelation 22:4 **"And they shall see his face; and his name shall be (where?) in their foreheads."**

The expressions "forehead or hand" are used other times in the Bible, and when the book of Revelation uses a word or phrase, the best thing to do is to go back to the Old Testament and find out where that phrase comes from and why the Book of Revelation uses that phrase again.

Deuteronomy 6:6-8 **"And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: 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. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes."**

Moses is writing here that the words of God are to be in two places. They are to be in the forehead, between the eyes and also in the hand.

Deuteronomy 11:18 **"Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, (the word "sign" is another word for mark) that they may be as frontlets (bound) between your eyes."**

The entire book of Deuteronomy is between their eyes, or write it on their hand. This is symbolic! When God says He wants His word in your forehead, what do you think He means? IN YOUR MIND!! The Lord wants His Word to be inside your head, in your heart, to shape the way you think.

In our hand, what do you think He means? HE WANTS US TO DO IT! God doesn't just want us to know the Word, but He wants us to live the Word.

Hebrews 10:16 **"This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts (our innermost feelings and emotions, our desires), and in their (what?) minds will I write them;"**

Remember that the Mark of the Beast goes in the forehead and in the hand. If we don't understand this important point, we'll never understand the Mark of the Beast subject. The beast with 7 heads and 10 horns is symbolic itself.

Most Christians who claim to understand the Mark of the Beast have only a superficial or surface analysis of this serious topic. This subject goes to the very heart of your relationship with God! (John 17:3)

#### REVIEW

- 1) The Mark of the Beast is some deceptive point that the devil, working through the Beast, will put into the minds and into the actions of the majority of mankind.
- 2) This deceptive Mark is going to be somewhere against the Word of God because God wants His Word to be in the forehead.
- 3) It's going to be against the law of God because God wants His law in the New Covenant to be in our foreheads or minds.
- 4) It is something that goes against the Creator, because we've read in Revelation that those who truly worship the One who made "heaven and earth, the sea and everything in it", will not get the Mark.

To know what the Beast's mark is very important. However, a more important subject is to know what God's sign, seal or mark is. There are many interpretations of what the Beast's mark is, but they've never found out what God's mark is! If I have the Seal of God in my forehead, I don't have to worry about the Mark of the Beast.

There is only one Christian Church that's clearly preaching about the Seal of God. After we establish what the Seal of God is, then we'll identify the Mark of the Beast and continue in that more.

Revelation 7:2,3 **"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, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads"**

What do you have in your foreheads? The frontal lobes of your brain which is your reason and judgment center. With that part of the brain we have the ability to judge, weigh, and make moral decisions. In our mind we must understand truth and be loyal to God.

Hebrews 8:10 **"I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:"**

So according to Scripture, the seal is placed in the mind, (the heart of your affections) but so is the law of God. Is there a connection between the seal of God and the law of God?

Isaiah 8:16 **"Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples."**

**Question** What is the seal that is placed in the forehead of the righteous?.

A seal is an emblem or a stamp of authority. It makes a document or a law official. The seal of the lawgiver must show three things:

1. The name of the lawgiver;
  2. The title;
  3. The territory, jurisdiction or dominion of the lawgiver. For example: The Presidential Seal.
1. Name: Barack H. Obama;
  2. Title: President;
  3. Territory: United States of America.

A seal authenticates a document.

What is the basis of God's authority and why is the Lord worthy of our worship? What gives Him authority to give us commandments in the first place? And what is the basis of all true worship?

Revelation 4:11 **"Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for (or because), thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created."** God receives glory and worship as the Creator of all things!

God's seal will point to Him as the Creator. Why? Because a seal denotes authority and the Bible tells us that God's authority originates in the fact that He created us. And because He is the Creator of the universe and has all authority, God too has a seal of that authority. How and where does God show us His seal? In His law, the Ten Commandments.

**Question:** Which of the Ten Commandments contains all the elements of a seal?

Exodus 20:8-10, **"Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy."** Most of the Ten Commandments begin with "Thou shalt not" God is saying Remember. Now where do you remember? You remember in your forehead!

**"Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:** (Now what do you work with? Your hands! So the fourth commandment itself has reference to the forehead and the hand right in it.) **But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God:** (it's not the Sabbath of the Jews—it never has been) **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:"**

Without the Sabbath commandment, the Ten Commandments become the Ten Suggestions because the authority has been removed. And the fourth commandment shows the basis of His sovereign authority and does contain the three elements of God's seal.

Exodus 20:11 **"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."**

Now does the 4th commandment have within it the elements necessary for a seal?

Name: "The LORD" Isaiah 42:8 **"I am the Lord: that is my name . . ."**

Title: "Maker, or Creator"

Territory: "Heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is"

One commandment, the one largely forgotten by the world, the 4th, which is also the longest one, enshrines all three elements that make for the characteristics of a seal.

God has a seal and He puts His seal on His document, and as a seal will, it clearly show's God's authority!

**Question** What has God given as a special sign of his power?

Exodus 31:13 **"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."**

Exodus 31:17 **"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."** According to the Bible, the Sabbath is God's special sign of Him sealing the law in our hearts under the New Covenant with Jesus. Without the witness of God's fourth commandment, no one could tell which deity is meant or who gave the Law.

Ezekiel 20:20 **"Hallow my sabbaths and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the LORD your God."**

Ezekiel 20:12 **"Moreover also I gave them my sabbaths, to be a sign between me and them, that they might know that I [am] the LORD that sanctify them."**

Notice how Paul puts these two together, sign and seal. Sign and seal are used interchangeably. Romans 4:11 **"And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised."**

Paul tells us that there remains a Sabbath rest to the people of God. Hebrews 4: 9-11 **"There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God [did] from his. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief."** The Sabbath will be the outward sign of God sealing His people with the inward New Covenant promise of writing His holy law in their minds and thereby sanctifying His children.

Exodus 20:8-10, **"Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy."** "Remember".

That is the one that the world as a whole and Christendom in particular has forgotten and been trampling upon, and doing it in the name of the Lord, and calling Sunday the "Lord's day."

God's people will keep the Sabbath because God is the true God; as Creator He made heaven and Earth; and He sanctifies His people, making them holy.

Because of Satan's hatred for God and His law; God's Sabbath has been the object of his attack, because it is the seal of God's law.

Can we be saved by the law? No! Neither can we be saved by works? Ephesians 2:8, 9 **"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: [it is] the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."**

The only way of salvation is through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace always leads to obedience; never disobedience.

Psalm 19:7 **" The law of the LORD [is] perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD [is] sure, making wise the simple."**

The seal involves faith, faith that God knows best and is sanctifying us. God's Seal is God's seventh day Sabbath! The outward sign of God's inner sealing of His holy law under the New Covenant is the keeping of the 7th Day Sabbath. As the scripture says, God's true people will be keeping all the commandments of God. The central issue involves WORSHIP.

Now that we know what the Sign or the Seal of God is, let's move on to the Mark of the Beast. Do you really want to know what the mark of the beast is? God's seal stands in contrast to the Beast's Mark.

Revelation presents these two groups. The group with the seal worships the Creator. The group with the mark worships the Beast. John is contrasting those who receive the Mark of the Beast with those who keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus. Therefore the Mark of the Beast must do something to the law of God and faith in Jesus. Because if you honor God's law and have faith in Jesus Christ, (which is the only way you really could keep God's law), you're not going to receive the Mark of the Beast.

Has the beast power done anything to affect God's law? Keep in mind that the Bible warned us in Daniel 7:25 that the little horn antichrist beast power would **"... think to change times and laws."** It would attempt to change the eternal law of God.

In our last session we studied about the little horn. We carefully listed 11 powerful points of identification given in scripture.

One of the reasons many people do not understand the book of Revelation is they failed to grasp the book of Daniel.

Remember that Daniel told us in Daniel 7:23 that a beast did not represent one certain individual, but a system, a kingdom, a power in the earth.

We know from studying these identifying marks on previous nights that this power could be none other than the Roman Catholic Church or the Papacy. The Beast is a false system of worship that arises in the name of Christ.

Our message today is not a condemnation of individuals of any religious persuasion. It doesn't mean all who have followed the Catholic Church have been lost. This does not mean that individual Roman Catholics do not love Jesus Christ. Most of them do not know these truths in the Bible. But it means that this particular church-state power was singled out as doing all these things throughout its history.

First pagan Rome ruled, then papal Rome ruled. The Papacy drew many of its doctrines, beliefs, practices, and teachings from all these pagan kingdoms, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome and mingled them with Christian terminology, clothed them in a spiritual garb, and spread them to the whole world.

Under this Christian cloak, paganism or false worship walked right into the church.

The Devil has counterfeited, through the papal system, the beautiful truths of the Bible. For example:

#### GOD'S TRUTH

The Bible  
Sacrifice of Christ  
Baptism by Immersion  
Communion  
Tithe  
Death—A Sleep  
Righteousness by Faith  
Prayer to God

#### SATAN'S COUNTERFEIT

Pope and Papal Tradition  
Mass (A continual sacrifice)  
Sprinkling  
Transubstantiation  
Indulgences (Paying for God's favor)  
Purgatory and Immortality of the soul  
Penance (Meritorial forgiveness)  
Confession to Priest

This was the "falling away from truth" that Paul wrote about and warned us of 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4: **"Let no man deceive you by any means: for [that day shall not come], except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God."** The only religion that will lead us to God, is that which comes from God. It's very clear who the Beast is. But our subject today is more about the Mark of the Beast. The Beast itself is not the Mark of the Beast.

A “beast” in prophecy represents an earthly kingdom or power. The “mark” of the “beast” would constitute the distinguishing feature or characteristic of such a power. What is the distinguishing “mark” of the papal power? What does the Papacy say gives them authority? Could it be tampering with God's sign or mark of authority so it could place its own sign or mark of authority in opposition to God's—thereby fulfilling Daniel's prophecy of “thinking to change God's times and law?”

**Question** What is that mysterious number that identifies the beast?

Revelation 13:18 **“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.”**

It doesn't say the number is the mark of the beast, it says his number is 666; therefore it is only an additional mark of identification to join the other 11 points.

Our Sunday Visitor April 18, 1915 - What are the letters on the Pope's crown and what do they signify? The letters on the Pope's crown are these: **Vicarius Filii Dei** which is Latin for “Vicar of the Son of God.”

That is the Papacy's title: **Vicarius Filii Dei**. We were just instructed to ‘**count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man.**’ There was a time that everyone's name had a number. You would add the total of the Roman numerals in the name.

As is often seen on older buildings, a ‘U’ would often be shown as a V. The Roman numeral value of the ‘V’ is 5. U's and V's were considered the same and each would = 5 in computing the number of a name.

VICARIUS would be V=5, I=1, C=100, A=0, R=0, I=1, U=5, S=0.  $5+1+100+1+5 = 112$

FILII would be F=0, I=1, L=50, I=1, I=1.  $1+50+1+1 = 53$

DEI would D=500, E=0, I=1 = 501.  **$112 + 53 + 501 = 666$**

We know what God's seal is, and we know the Papacy is the beast. Now let's see what the mark is.

We know that 7 is God's number representing perfection or completeness. In contrast the number 6 represents the opposite – imperfection. 7= Perfection 6=Rebellion

In Latin Vicarius means Substitute. The Pope is the substitute of Son of God. In Greek the word Anti means ‘in place of.’ Antichrist means “In place of Christ.”

The Pope: A Scandal and a Mystery Page 3 – “Confronted with the Pope, one must make a choice. The leader of the Catholic Church is defined by the faith as the Vicar of Jesus Christ (and is accepted as such by the believers). The Pope is considered as the man on earth who represents the Son of God, who ‘takes the place’ of the Second person of the omnipotent God of the Trinity.”

“Antichristos” – “Antichrist” – “Men who set themselves up in the place of Christ.”

**Question:** What two things does the antichrist power attempt to change?

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: ...”**

In the future, the final issue of loyalty, centers around **WORSHIP**.

**Question:** Since the final issue revolves around worship, what religious power claims that it has the authority to change God's law?

Roman Catholic testimony:

The Catholic Ferraris's Ecclesiastical Dictionary, article under the Pope - “The Pope is as it were GOD ON EARTH, ... entrusted by the omnipotent God, direction not only of the earthly but also of the heavenly kingdom.”

Pope John XXII in one of his edicts, Milmans History of Latin Christianity, Vol. VII, Book XII, Ch VI – “He (the Pope) alone promulgates (proclaims) law. He alone sits in the chair of St. Peter, not as a mere man, but as man and God ... his will is law; what he pleases has the force of law.”

Decretal de Trpanslation, Episcop Cap – The Pope has power to change times, to abrogate (abolish) laws, and to dispense with all things, even the precepts of Christ.”

Daniel 7:25 **“... think to change times and laws: ...”**

In “Converts Catechism of Catholic Doctrine”, p.49 we find that God's law has been changed.

**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.

The Catholic Press, Sydney, Australia, August 25, 1900 - "Sunday is a Catholic institution and its claims to observance can be defended only on Catholic principles ... from the beginning to the end of scripture THERE IS NOT A SINGLE PASSAGE OF SCRIPTURE that warrants the transfer of a weekly public worship from the last day of the week to the first."

OFFER NEVER TAKEN!

Father Enright, C.S.S.R. Kansas City, MO. President of Redemptorist College – I have repeatedly offered \$1,000 to anyone who can prove to me from the Bible alone that I am bound to keep Sunday holy. There is no such law in the Bible. It is a law of the Holy Catholic Church alone. The Bible says, Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day. The Catholic church says, No, by my divine power I abolish the Sabbath day, and command you to keep holy the first day of the week. And lo! The entire civilized world bows down in reverent obedience to the command of the holy Catholic Church.

"It's the **mark of our authority** to over-rule God's law." *Father Enright C.S.S.R., president of the Redemptorist College, Kansas City, MO., History of the Sabbath, page 802.*

What specifically is the Mark of the Beast? The Mark of the Beast must be the sign of the Roman church's authority.

Revelation 4:11 **"Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for (or because), thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created."**

Ezekiel 20:20 **"Hallow my sabbaths and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the LORD your God."**

What does the Roman church claim is the sign of its authority? "Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change was her act. . . **AND THE ACT IS A MARK** of her ecclesiastical power and authority in religious matters." C. F. Thomas, Chancellor of Cardinal Gibbons.

A Doctrinal Catechism, by Stephen Keenan, page 174.'

**Question:** "Have you any other way of proving that the church has power to institute festivals of precept?"

**Answer:** Had she not such power, she could not have done that in which all modern religionists agree with her, ... 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."

The Catholic Record September 1, 1923 - The church is above the Bible, and this transference of Sabbath observance is proof of that fact.

**Conclusion** – The change of the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday is a MARK of the authority of the VATICAN. The Papacy is the antichrist beast power, and therefore this is the MARK OF THE BEAST. It, Sunday, is the direct opposite of the Seal of God, the Sabbath. The central issue regarding the Mark of the Beast is WORSHIP.

Daniel 7:25 **"... and think to change times and laws: ..."** Daniel predicted the change and the Roman Catholic Church admits it. Once again history testifies to the truthfulness of Revelation's prophecies.

Webster's Dictionary 1929 edition – "Sunday – so called because this day was anciently dedicated to the sun, or to its worship. The first day of the week."

## The real truth about the Antichrist beast

### Daniel 7

Lion  
Bear  
Leopard  
Dragon  
10 Horns  
Mouth (Blasphemes)  
War on the Saints  
Overcomes them  
Rules 3-1/2 years (1,260 years)  
Changes Times and Laws

### God's Truth

The Bible  
Sacrifice of Christ  
Baptism by Immersion  
Communion

### Revelation 13

Lion  
Bear  
Leopard  
Dragon  
10 Horns  
Mouth (Blasphemes)  
War on the Saints  
Overcomes them  
Rules 42 months (1,260 years)  
The Mark of the Beast

### Satan's Counterfeit

Pope and Tradition  
Mass – a continual sacrifice  
Sprinkling  
Transubstantiation

Tithe  
Death – A sleep  
Righteousness by faith  
Pray to God, forgiven by God  
7<sup>th</sup> day Bible Sabbath

Indulgences  
Purgatory, immortality of the soul  
Penance (earning forgiveness)  
Prayer to dead saints and confession to Priests  
1<sup>st</sup> day Sunday

Cardinal Gibbons, The Catholic Mirror, (A Baltimore Newspaper) December 23, 1893 "Reason and sense demand the acceptance of one or the other of these alternatives: either Protestantism and the keeping holy of Saturday or Catholicity and the keeping holy of Sunday. Compromise is impossible."

Saint Catherine Church Sentinel – "Perhaps the boldest thing, the most revolutionary change the church ever did, happened in the first century. The holy day, the Sabbath, was changed from Saturday to Sunday ... not from any directions noted in the scriptures, but from the Church's sense of its own power ... People who think that the Scriptures should be the sole authority should logically become Seventh-day Adventists and keep Saturday holy."

When we accept a change in the holy moral law of God, on the basis of the beast power only, then we have accepted the sign or mark of the beast's authority! We have accepted man's way instead of God's way. Man's tradition instead of God's commandment.

Matthew 15:9 **"But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men."**

Revelation 13:8 **"And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world."**

Romans 6:16 **"Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; ..."**

Revelation 13:3 **"... and all the world wondered after the beast."**

Daniel 7:25 **"... think to change times and laws: ..."** says the beast power would think to change God's times and laws. Where do you think? In the forehead. The battle is between remembering one thing or thinking something else! The battle over the Mark of the Beast is a spiritual battle that goes on right inside the mind of every single human being.

When Protestants hold to Sunday as their day of worship, they're accepting the authority of the Beast power for that change.

John 14:15 But Jesus says, **"If ye love me, keep my commandments."**

Millions of honest, conscientious Christians do not understand this Bible truth concerning the "Mark of the Beast." Many are inhibited by a feeling that the Mark has to be something more complicated—almost mystical. But every person will be given the opportunity by the Spirit of God to understand for themselves the truth concerning this issue of "worship" in order to make an intelligent decision for or against God.

Exodus 20:8 **"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy."** God has made His TRUE position clear and if we choose to receive His seal in our foreheads, our choice of worship will collide with the FALSE, the mark of the beast. The Mark of the Beast is the rejection of the sovereignty of God. — To go our own way and do our own thing, is in short a mark of rebellion.

Benjamin Franklin once said, "Right is right even if everyone is against it, and wrong is wrong even if everyone is for it."

And so there is the **mark** of Jesus' authority, the Sabbath, and the mark of the beast's authority, Sunday worship. The issue is much greater than merely Saturday or Sunday. It has to do with whose authority is to rule over our lives. It ultimately shows who we choose to worship as our leader, the Creator or the creature, Jesus or the Papacy.

Proverbs 14:12 **"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man but the end thereof is the way of death."**

Matthew 7:13, 14 **"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction and many there be which go in thereat, because straight is the gate and narrow is the way that leadeth unto life and few there be that find it."** Few find it, not because they can't find it, not because the Sabbath is hard to see, but because they won't find it. They won't humble themselves before God, won't let go of their pride, they won't let go of their traditional past, and admit that they are going the wrong way.

**Question:** Does anyone have the mark of the beast now? NO! No one has the Mark of the Beast right now.

The Bible says they will get it when it is enforced. The Mark of the Beast is one of the final developments of the end time. The Mark will not be enforced until legislation comes denying religious freedom.

**Question:** What does the future hold?

Revelation 13:16, 17 **"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: 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. ”** When this country, under a church-state influence, enacts legislation, and this issue is brought to the forefront, the issues of loyalty and obedience and Sabbath-keeping will come before the world for all to see. People will lose their right to buy and sell, have property confiscated and lose their freedom because they refuse to break God's commands. On the otherhand, those who willingly choose to turn their backs on God's true sign, will be men and women who will receive the Mark of the Beast.

Now I want you to notice that the saved receive the Seal of God in the forehead, while the lost get the Mark of the Beast in the forehead or in the hand.

And again for reinforcement, the Beast represents a false religious system with:

- Human authority in the place of Christ
- Man's tradition in place of God's Word
- A substitute sytem of laws in place of the commands of God
- A counterfeit Sabbath in place of the true Sabbath.

Comparing the little horn antichrist beast power with the Son of God:

#### **Beast**

Beast Marks his people  
They are surrendered to his authority  
Not protected from the plagues

#### **Jesus**

Jesus marks His people  
They are surrendered to His authority  
Protected when the plagues are poured out

Once again, the issues revolve around worship. 1. Worship the Creator – Revelation 14:7 2. Worship the Beast - Revelation 13:4.

Who do we worship? According to the 3 angel's messages of Revelation 14 people in the end time either worship God, "who made heaven and earth", or they worship the beast. Who do we worship?

Revelation 14:6 **“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, ...”**

Revelation 14:7 **“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.”** Worship Him, the Creator, Who gave us the Ten Commandments, with His seal on the 4<sup>th</sup> commandment that commands us in Exodus 20:8 to, **“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. “**

And once again, the most fearful warning in the Bible, Revelation 14:9, 10 **“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, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, ...”** The wrath of God will be the seven last plagues, poured out without mixture, meaning no mercy and no grace. No God to hear the too long delayed prayers, or the screams, or the curses. Too late. They will say as quoted in Jeremiah 8:20, **“The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.”** The realization that it is eternally too late will cause indescribable distress.

From the Catholic Record September 1, 1923 – The Church is above the Bible and this transference of Sabbath observance is proof of that fact,”

The Beast power has boasted of the change of the Sabbath as in the quote from C.F. Thomas, Chancellor of Cardinal Gibbons, November 11, 1865 - “Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change was her act. And the act is a **mark** of her ecclesiastical power and authority in religious matters.”

In the days of Noah, God invited His people to take a stand; In the days of Daniel, God invited His people to take a stand; In the days of Jesus, God invited His people to take a stand; The Apostles took a stand in Acts 5:29, **“Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.”** In the days of early Christianity, God invited His people to take a stand; In the dark ages, God invited His people to take a stand; In the last days, God invites His people to take a stand. The message is given by a God whose heart is filled with love. Will you accept His offer?

### **End Semester 3 – Week 8 - Class 16**

## **The Next Class** Semester 3 – Week 8 - Class 17

The U.S.A. in Bible Prophecy

## **The Following Class** Semester 3 – Week 9 - Class 18

Armageddon and the Seven Last Plagues

## **The Next Following Class** Semester 3 – Week 9 - Class 19

Revelation's Saints – A Peculiar People