



Bible Prophecy Guide

The Mark of the Beast

Summary 9

Symbols in Prophecy

Daniel 7:23 – A beast represents a kingdom or nation in prophecy.

Daniel 8:20 – Horns equal kings or kingdoms in prophecy.

Revelation 17:15 – The sea represents peoples in prophecy.

Ezekiel 4:6 – A day represents a year in prophecy.

Revelation 7:1-3 – Wind equals war and strife in prophecy. See also Daniel 7

Jeremiah 6:2 – A woman in prophecy is likened to a church.

Isaiah 9:15 – The tail in prophecy represents a prophet who teaches lies.

2 Thessalonians 2:1-12 – In the context of the 2nd coming, Paul tells us that there will be a man of sin appear and that we need to be careful that we be not deceived. The 2nd coming won't happen unless the man of sin appear first. Paul says he will be a blasphemous power and that he will sit in the temple of God as if he were God. Note that he would be revealed in time, that is as prophecy predicts. Jesus came at the fullness of time, so would the antichrist appear at the time prophecy predicted. Then Paul says the mystery of lawlessness was already at work in those days.

1 John 2:18 – Note John makes it clear that there are many anti-christs but he clearly refers to one to that is come. For example, as we saw, Satan was the original anti-Christ, but clearly Scripture paints the picture of the antichrist of the dark ages and of the one to come and from what we have seen and will see, it's the same system. Allow me to show you.

Daniel 7:8, 25 - We found here a dragon who represented Rome which was the power that sought to destroy Jesus at His birth. This power would sprout ten horns. But the dragon was still present as was the iron in the feet in Daniel 2. So the little horn would uproot three and exist but note that the dragon was still present. And notice that the little horn and thus the dragon were present at the end because it says it's dominion is to be taken away then.

Revelation 12:1-6 – Here we see a dragon introduced as Satan but we notice he has ten horns. We also see a woman who is represents God's people fleeing into wilderness for 1260 days.

Revelation 12:13-17 – So the dragon sought to persecute the woman but she was protected in the wilderness for a time, times and half a time which is the same language as Daniel 7. Then after this period the dragon is still enraged with the woman and goes to make war with the rest of her offspring.

Revelation 13:1-5 – Notice in vs 2 that the beast had qualities taken from the previous kingdoms and has ten horns like the beast of Daniel 7 and the dragon of Revelation 12. The little horn was seated

upon the fourth beast, and here the beast in Revelation 13 is said to have as its seat the dragon. So the little horn is likened to a beast here in Revelation 13 and the dreadful 4th beast of Daniel 7 is likened to a dragon. Revelation 12 likened the dragon to Satan but we noted it was pagan Rome based on the fact that Satan used Herod of Rome to attack the Christ child when He was born. Thus the dragon is clearly likened to Pagan Rome as well as Satan and is thus referring to the same power as the 4th beast of Dan 7

Thus we see several stages or periods with this power. There was the period of Rome, then the ten divisions as seen by the horns in 476 AD and then the little horn power as seen from 538-1798. But then as we saw in Daniel 7 and in Revelation 13, the antichrist power will be wounded but later restored in some fashion because it's dominion is taken away during the judgment according to Daniel 7:26 at the end of time but Revelation 13 says it's wound is healed implying it is restored. So the fourth beast will be wounded but later restored and then finally destroyed at the end of time.

Revelation 13:6-10 – The Roman church would take captives but would also be taken captive as we saw in history with Berthea in 1798. But notice it will be wounded by the sword. What does the sword mean?

Ephesians 6:17 - Speaks of the Bible as a sword but that is for God's people. Notice how the sword is used in another context.

Romans 13:1-4 - Makes it clear that earthly powers use legislation and force as a sword. Civil power is referred to in scripture as a sword.

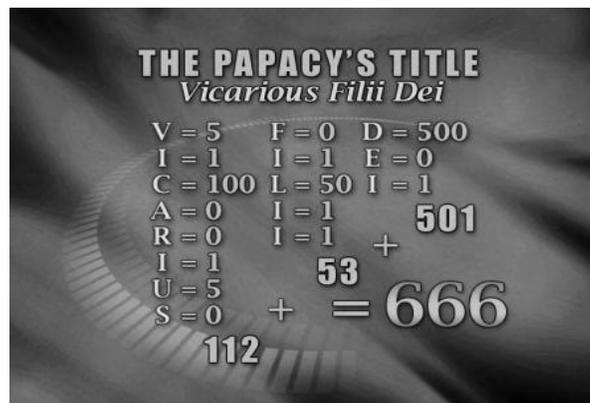
Matthew 26:52 – Peter wanted to use a sword to defend the faith and Jesus said that he who takes the sword will die by the sword.

John 18:36 – Jesus kingdom is not of this world.

Revelation 13:14 – Says that this 1st beast was wounded by the sword and lived. Indeed, on February 10, 1798, France took the pope captive and he later died in prison. France took away their civil power and when France did this, no other country wanted anything to do with the Papacy after that as they had seen the atrocities it had caused.

Revelation 13:12, 15-16 – The word “cause” means that men and women will be forced in the end time to worship the beast and to receive His mark. God never forces us to worship Him. The Bible thus predicts an erosion of our freedom.

Revelation 13:18 – This first beast which we have identified as the church of the dark ages, would have a name that equaled 666. The Roman Catholic church which was the church of the dark ages, claims that the pope's official title is Vicarius Filii Dei which is translated, Vicar of Christ. When you use the roman numbering system to add the numbers up you arrive at the number 666. This is only one of the identifying marks, helping us to realize that indeed, our conclusions have been correct.



Revelation 14:9-12 - Those who have the mark receive the Lord's wrath unmixed. Evidently the mark has something to do with worship based on the warning given here.

Before we unravel what the mark of the beast is, let's first study the true, the seal of God. If we understand this, we will more easily discover the mark of the beast. If we have the seal of God, we can know that we won't have the mark of the beast.

Revelation 6:12-17 – John is describing the scenes that transpire at the second coming of Christ. Here comes Jesus and as he returns a question is left, "Who is able to stand?"

Revelation 7:1-4 – Here we find the answer to the question left at the end of chapter 6. It answers it by saying the 144,000 can stand. So the 144,000 are those who are alive at the 2nd coming of Christ. It's not some Jewish sect but merely those who are still alive when Jesus returns. Jesus seals His saints in the forehead. You can get the mark of the beast on your hand or forehead but God can only seal you in the forehead.

Revelation 14:1-5 – God's name is written on the foreheads of those who are a part of the 144,000.

In the Bible a name represents character. We see this demonstrated with folks like Saul who became Paul and Jacob who became Israel, and Simon who became Peter.

Exodus 33:18-23 & Exodus 34:1-8 – Moses wants to see what God is like and God says I will show you my name. So God's name is synonymous with who he is or his character. Then God writes His character on the tablets of stone to help Moses understand His character which was later placed in the ark of the covenant.

God's law, God's name, and God's character are one and the same.

Deuteronomy 6:6-8 - Moses tells them to bind this as a sign on their hands and forehead. God wants their heart and action to be filled with the law or shall we say character of God.

Revelation 12:17 – Satan is upset with those who keep the commandments and is out to make war with them.

Revelation 14:9-12 – John contrasts those who worship the beast with those who keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus.

Thus if I keep God's law and have His faith, then I will not receive the mark of the beast. But don't be confused, we are not saved by works, we are saved by grace, because the only way I can obey His Holy law is to have Him write it in my heart and the only way He can do that is if I daily am in relationship with Him. So having His law in my heart and life is Righteousness by Faith alone.

Hebrews 8:8-10 - As heirs of the promise, we can have the law written in our mind and hearts.

Ezekiel 20:12 – Sabbath is a sign that God alone can make us holy. Sabbath is a sign of creation & redemption.

1. Jesus created the Sabbath in the beginning.
2. Jesus commanded the Sabbath at Mt. Sinai.
3. Jesus worshipped on the Sabbath in His life.
4. Jesus observed the Sabbath in His death.
5. Jesus continued the Sabbath in His church.
6. Jesus says His last day people will keep the Sabbath.

Since the mark of the beast is the mark of the 1st beast of Revelation 13 and having identified the beast power as being the Roman State Church, then the mark of the beast must be the mark of the Roman State Church's authority.

Daniel 7:25 – In talking about the same power, Daniel says the little horn power would try to change times and laws.

Revelation 13:8 – Violates the 1st commandment in that all the world worship the beast instead of God.

Revelation 13:15 – They worship the image of the beast which violates the 2nd commandment.

Revelation 13:17 – You must take the name of the one who claims to take the place of God which violates the 3rd commandment .

The 4th commandment is violated by receiving the Roman Church's mark of authority. They tell us the mark in their own writings.

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

*Of course the 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, Letter, Oct. 20, 1895

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 church alone. The Bible says "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." The 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 [Roman] church. – Priest Thomas Enright. President of Redemptorist College, Kansas City, MO., Feb. 18, 1884

No one has the mark of the beast until it is enforced as predicted in Revelation 13. This reminds us of the test that came to those who stood on the plain of Dura in Daniel 3. The same scenario will appear in the end of time. God is calling for a people who will stand up and stand out for Jesus. This last day test based on our study will center around this fourth commandment.

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. – Saint Catherine Catholic Church Sentinel, May 21, 1995

To me it seems unaccountable that Jesus, during three years' discussion with His disciples, often conversing with them upon the Sabbath question, discussing it in some of its various aspects, freeing it

from its false [Jewish traditional] glosses, never alluded to any transference of the day; also, that during the forty days of His resurrection life, no such thing was intimated. Nor, so far as we know, did the Spirit, which was given to bring to their remembrance all things whatsoever that he had said unto them, deal with this question. Nor did the inspired apostles, in preaching the gospel, founding the churches, counseling and instructing those founded, discuss or approach the subject. Of course I quite well know that Sunday did come into use in early Christian history as a religious day, as we learn from the Christian Fathers and other sources. But what a pity that it comes branded with the mark of Paganism, and christened with the name of the sun-god, then adopted and sanctified by the Papal apostasy, and bequeathed as a sacred legacy to Protestantism. - Dr. E.T. Hiscox author of 'The Baptist Manual'

Reason and sense demand the acceptance of one or the other of these alternatives: either Protestantism and the keeping of Saturday, or Catholicity and the keeping holy of Sunday. Compromise is impossible. - The Catholic Mirror, December 23, 1893

2 Thessalonians 2:13-15 – Paul here makes it clear that we should not be a part of such a system. But he says we should reach out to them and seek to instruct them about the truth that they be not deceived.

Revelation 14:6-7 – The appeal in earth's last days includes the command to worship the creator. John appears to be quoting loosely from the 4th commandment here in Revelation 14:7. See Exodus 20:10-11.

James 4:17 – When we learn truth and continue to ignore it, we are guilty of sin.

Matthew 15:7-9 – Now that you have seen truth, what will we do with it? May God grant you the strength and courage to stand up and stand out for Him.