



My Bible School Lessons

Exploring the Word of God

Lesson #26: "The Mark of the Beast"

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

"The most fearful threatening ever addressed to mortals is contained in the third angel's message. That must be a terrible sin which calls down the wrath of God unmingled with mercy. Men are not to be left in darkness concerning this important matter; the warning against this sin is to be given to the world before the visitation of God's judgments, that all may know why they are to be inflicted, and have opportunity to escape them.

"In the issue of the contest all Christendom will be divided into two great classes-those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, and those who worship the beast and his image and receive his mark. Although church and state will unite their power to compel 'all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond' (Revelation 13: 16), to receive 'the mark of the beast; yet the people of God will not receive it. The prophet of Patmos beholds 'them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God' and singing the song of Moses and the Lamb (Revelation 15:2,3)." -*Great Controversy, 449-450*

THE NUMBER AND THE MARK

"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." *Revelation 13:18.*

"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." *Revelation 13:17.*

"The number [is] indicated by the letters of HIS NAME." *The Twentieth Century New Testament.*

"Verse 18, Six Hundred Sixty Six. The numeral letters of HIS NAME shall make up this number." *The Rheims Douay [Catholic] Bible, note on Revelation 13:18.*

"The method of reading, generally adopted, is that known as the GHEMATRIA of the Rabbins, which assigns each letter of a name its usual numerical value, and gives the sum of such numbers as the equivalent of the NAME." *Marvin R. Vincent, D.D., Word Studies in the New Testament, Comment on Revelation 13:18.*

"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." *Revelation 14:11.*

"The beasts of Daniel and John are empires. The ten-horned beast [of Revelation 13] is the Roman power. . The head is the governing power in the body." *H. Grattan Guinness, Romanism and the Reformation, pp. 144-145.*

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"The NUMBER IN THE MARK in Revelation 13 will be found in the title of the leader of '*Mystery, Babylon the Great.*' It is the number of the man of sin of 2 Thessalonians 2, the little horn of Daniel 7, the beast of Revelation 13. It is the number of the one who led out through long centuries in killing the martyrs and uniting Christianity with paganism." *Jean Delacroix.*

"The pope is of such lofty and supreme dignity that, properly speaking, he has not been established in any rank of dignity, but rather has been placed upon the very summit of all ranks of dignities. . He is likewise the divine monarch and supreme emperor and king of kings.

"Hence the pope is CROWNED with a TRIPLE CROWN, as king of heaven and of earth and of the lower regions." *Lucius Ferraris, Prompta Bibliotheca, Vol. VI, pp. 438, 442 [R.C. sourcebook].*

"Q. What are the letters supposed to be in the pope's crown, and what do they signify, if anything?

"A. The letters inscribed in the Pope's miter are these: VICARIUS FILII DEI, which is the Latin for 'VICAR OF THE SON OF GOD.' Catholics hold that the church, which is a visible society, must have a visible head. Christ, before His ascension into heaven, appointed St Peter to act as His representative. . Hence to the Bishop of Rome, as head of the church, was given the title, Vicar of Christ" *Our Sunday Visitor, "Bureau of Information," Huntington, Indiana, April 18, 1915 [nationwide R.C. weekly journal].*

LATIN

V-5	F-0	D-500
I-1	I-1	E-0
C-100	L-50	I-1
A-0	I-1	501
R-0	I-1	53
U-5	53	112
3-0		666
112		

GREEK-Lateinos (Latin Man or Church) 666

HEBREW-Romiith (Roman Kingdom) 666

"Now we challenge the world to find another name in these languages: GREEK, HEBREW, and LATIN (see John 19:20), which shall designate the same number." Joseph F. Berg, *The Great Apostasy*, pp. 156-158.

"Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change [of the Sabbath to Sunday] was her act. . AND THE ACT IS A MARK of her ecclesiastical authority in religious things." From the office of Cardinal Gibbons, through Chancellor H.F. Thomas, November 11, 1895.

"The observance of Sunday by the Protestants is an HOMAGE they pay in spite of themselves to the AUTHORITY OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH. " Monsignor Louis Segur, *Plain Talk About the Protestantism of Today*, p. 213.

"Q. How prove you that the church hath power to command feasts and holy days?

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"A. By the very act of changing the Sabbath into Sunday, which Protestants allow of, and therefore they fondly contradict themselves by keeping Sunday strictly, and breaking most other feasts commanded by the same church.

"Q. How prove you that?

"A. Because BY KEEPING SUNDAY they ACKNOWLEDGE THE CHURCH'S POWER to ordain feasts, and to command them under sin." The Douay Catechism, p. 59.

"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 the Sabbath day to keep it holy.' 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!" Priest Thomas Enright, C.S.S.R, president Redemptorist College, Kansas City, Mo., in a lecture at Hartford, Kansas, February 18, 1884, and published in The American Sentinel [R. C. journal], June 1893, p. 173.

"All dogmatic decrees of the pope, made with or without his general council, are infallible. . Once made, no pope or council can reverse them. . This is the Catholic principle, that the church cannot err in faith." The Catholic World, June 1871, pp. 422-423.

"We have no right to ask reasons of the church, any more than of Almighty God, as a preliminary to our submission. We are to take with unquestioning docility, whatever instruction the church gives us." The Catholic World, August, 1871, p.589.

"Nowhere is dogmatic intolerance so necessary a rule of life as in the domain of religious belief. . There can be but a single true religion, which, by the very fact of its existence, protests against all other religions as false." Catholic Encyclopedia, Vol. 14, p. 765.



A LEGAL SEAL



THE SEAL OF GOD



THE MARK OF THE BEAST

The renowned New Zealand evangelist, Austin P. Cooke, in his pamphlet, *The Antichrist 666, His Rise, Reign, Ruin and Restoration*, page 2, recognizes no less than fifteen identifying features of the first beast. We list them:

1. It is a political kingdom.
2. It rises amid numerous people.
3. It is one of seven political powers or empires opposed to God.
4. It is connected with Western Europe.
5. It arises when the powers of Western Europe are reigning.
6. It is connected with the four kingdoms of Daniel 7—Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome.
7. Its seat or center is given it by Imperial Rome.
8. It becomes a universal or catholic power.

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9. It practices blasphemy.
10. It persecutes and destroys the saints.
11. Its number is 666.
12. Its political supremacy is for 1260 years.
13. It is then fatally wounded.
14. Its wound is healed.
15. It is restored to world preeminence.

With such a surfeit of identifying features, it is quite plain that God wished to leave no doubt as to the identity of this power. It is thus possible to discover with absolute certainty whether or not the Protestant Reformers were correct in drawing the conclusion that the first beast of Revelation 13 represents the Papacy and no other power.