

The Mark of the Beast

- PURPOSE:** The loyalty of every person in the world will be tested in the end-time crisis by whose commandments they choose to obey – Christ’s or Antichrist’s.
- FOCUS:** Jesus is alone worthy of worship and the one who can make something holy.
- Introduction** There are many theories about the Mark of the Beast: Chip, tattoo, barcode etc. Today we will study the Mark of the Beast from a biblical perspective.
- It is important to know, since one of the strongest warnings in the Bible deal with this issue...*
- Rev 14:9-12** What will happen to those who receive the mark? Which group is contrasted to those that receives the mark? Is it important to know what the mark is?
- We read about the mark in the previous chapter...*
- Rev 13:15-17** With what will those who do not receive the mark be threatened? Will it be easy to be loyal to God? Note: You don’t buy or sell with the mark. Boycott. IE: Aunt Sue, wrestled down → Eternally lost? The mark of the beast is not a visible gadget or tattoo, it’s about worshiping the beast instead of God.
- The language of a mark in the forehead or in the hand comes directly out of the Old Testament...*
- Deut 6:6-8, 11:18** What were the Israelites to place in their hand and in their forehead? (**Exod 13:9, 16**) The 10 Commandments were given in ch. 5. Were they to attach the literal stone tablets to their bodies? Hand = Action, Forehead = Thought/Belief.
- There is a power who doesn’t think people should have God’s Law in their forehead or hand...*
- Dan 7:25** What does Antichrist think to change? Does he have the right to do so? (Matt 5:18). No, but Antichrist wants to force its changed law on the world.
- Obedience and worship are interconnected terms in the Bible...*
- Mark 7:7-8** What does Jesus think of worship from someone who knowingly lays aside God’s Commandments for the traditions of men? (**Prov 28:9**) The conflict in the last days is about whose law you will obey, God’s or the Antichrist’s.
- But before the world will be forced to obey Antichrist’s laws, the world will be warned...*
- Rev 7:1-4** What do God’s people receive in their foreheads? (Isa 8:16) Either you have God’s seal or you have the mark of the beast. Ancient seals marked a document’s authenticity. It contained the monarchs name, title and territory.
- That commandment that Antichrist especially attacks makes up the seal of the Creator...*
- Ezek 20:12, 20** What is God’s sign/seal? (**Exod 31:15-17**) The Sabbath is the only commandment that reminds us of why we worship God (**Rev 4:11**).
- The fourth commandment is the only commandment that contains all the components of a seal...*
- Exod 20:8-11** What is God’s name, title and territory? IE: Fruit in Eden. It is not just about a day, it is about authority and worship. God alone has the right to make something holy, not human beings at their own convenience. When the Papacy changed the Sabbath, they removed the seal from the Law and replaced it with their own mark of authority (Sunday). This they are proud of and claim as proof of their church’s supremacy over the Bible. [QUOTES] According to Rev. 13, there will be universal Sunday laws, with economic sanctions and death penalty threats against Sabbath-keepers. Those who, at this time, knowingly choose to obey the Papacy, are worshiping the beast and receiving his mark.
- But before Sunday-keepers will receive their condemnation, all honestly deceived will be enlightened...*
- Rev 7:1-3** Who is sealed? Jesus is pleading with the angels that will let lose the condemnation: “Hold on, until all sincere servants have received the Sabbath!”
- APPEAL** Dear friend, Jesus is pleading for you. Is it your desire to be faithful to Jesus? If we want to keep the Sabbath in the end-time crisis, we need to begin today. What makes us think we can be loyal to Jesus when our life is at stake, if we won’t do it in times of peace? Have you ever considered to keep the Sabbath holy? Is there anything that would keep you from beginning right now?

Mark of the Beast Quotes – English

"Ques. --Which is the Sabbath day?

"Ans. --Saturday is the Sabbath day.

"Ques. --Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday?

"Ans. --We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday." --Peter Geiermann, *The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine*, 1957 edition, p. 50

"Question: How prove you that the Church hath power to command feasts and holidays?

Answer: 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.

Question: How prove you that?

Answer: Because by keeping Sunday, they acknowledge the Church's power to ordain feasts, and to command them under sin..." (Henry Turberville, *An Abridgment of the Christian Doctrine*, p. 58, 1649)

"If Protestants would follow the Bible, they should worship God on the Sabbath Day. In keeping the Sunday they are following a law of the Catholic Church."--Albert Smith, Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, replying for the Cardinal in a letter dated February 10, 1920

"the observance of Sunday by the Protestants is an homage they pay, in spite of themselves, to the authority of the [Catholic] Church." -- Mgr. Segur, *Plain Talk About the Protestantism of Today*, p. 213

"But, the Protestant says, "How can I receive the teachings of an apostate church?" How, we ask, have you managed to receive your teaching all your life, in direct opposition to your recognized teacher, the Bible, on the Sabbath question?" ("The Christian Sabbath," from *The Catholic Mirror*, 1893, pp. 29–31)

"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 ho! The entire civilized world bows down in reverent obedience to the command of the Holy Catholic Church."--Priest Thomas Enright, *American Sentinel*, June 1893, page 173

"Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change was her act . . . AND THE ACT IS A MARK of her ecclesiastical power."--from the office of Cardinal Gibbons, through Chancellor H.F. Thomas, November 11, 1895

"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. 'The Day of the Lord' was chosen, not from any direction 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 Adventists, and keep Saturday holy." (Saint Catherine Catholic Church Sentinel, Algonac, Michigan, May 21, 1995)