

Prophecies of Hope

The Mark of the Beast And the Seal of God

- I. The final issues revolve around worship. Worship of the Beast, his image, or receiving his Mark. Verses worshipping God, following His truth and receiving His Seal. Rev. 14:9,10
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- A. To worship the Beast and his image is to receive his mark. Those who do will be lost and will receive the wrath of God. Revelation 15:1
- B. To have the seal of God is to be saved. Revelation 7:2, 3
- C. God will not pour out His wrath (seven plagues) without first telling us who the beast is and what is his mark.
- II. Review of the Beast power of Daniel 7 and Revelation 13. (Nine marks of identification-see also Antichrist Rev.13)
- A. Four beasts come out of the sea. Daniel 7:1-7
- B. A beast in Bible prophecy represents a king or kingdom. Dn 7:23
1. Lion = Babylon Daniel 7:4
 2. Bear = Medo-persia Daniel 7:5
 3. Leopard = Greece Daniel 7:6
 4. Terrible beast = Rome Daniel 7:7
 - a. It had 10 horns representing the division of the Roman empire. Daniel 7:7; 7:24
 - b. From those 10 horns came up a little horn. Dan. 7:8
- C. The Little Horn (Anti-christ beast) of Daniel 7 is the same as the beast of Revelation 13
1. It came up among the 10 European kingdoms. Dan. 7:8
 2. It came up after 476 A.D.
 3. It uprooted three other kingdoms-Heruli, Vandals and Ostro goths. Dn 7:8
 4. It would have a man as the head of the kingdom. Dan. 7:8
 5. It was a different kingdom than any other. Dan. 7:24
 6. It would speak blasphemy against God. Dan. 7:25
 7. It would persecute God's people. Dan. 7:25
 8. It would think to change times and laws. Dan. 7:25
 9. It would rule for 1260 years Dan. 7:25
- D. We found that the Beast of Revelation 13 has the same characteristic as the Little Horn of Daniel 7
1. It was made up of the four beasts of Daniel 7
 2. It would rule for 1260 years (42 months- same as 1260). Rev. 13:5
 3. It would be blasphemous Rev. 13:6

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4. It would persecute Rev. 13:7
 5. Revelation adds some more detail, It would have a deadly wound and be healed. Rev. 13:3
 6. It would have the mystic number 666.
- E. All these characteristics can only apply to one power – The Vatican City -- the Papacy, Catholic Church.
- F. The Beast of Revelation 13, symbolizes the Papacy because it incorporated the same doctrines of Babylon. It then clothed these false teachings in spiritual garb and spread them to the whole world.
- G. God is calling people out of Babylon. (False teachings and doctrines of Babylon) Revelation 18:2-3
1. On one side are those who follow the Beast. Rev 14:9-10
 2. In contrast God's people keep the commandments of God. Rev. 14:12; 12:17; 22:14

III. The Seal of God and the Mark of the Beast.

- A. God's servants are sealed in their foreheads. Rev. 7:2-3
- B. The Seal of God is the Father's name in their foreheads. Revelation 22:4; Revelation 14:1
- C. The Mark of the Beast is the Beast's name in their foreheads. Revelation 14:11
- D. The issue boils down to two sides.

GOD'S SIDE

Worships Him who made...
 Follows the faith of Jesus.
 Keeps commandments of God.
 Follows testimony of Jesus.
 Has Seal of God in forehead.
 The Father's name in forehead.

BEAST'S SIDE

Worships the Beast.
 Follows teachings of Babylon
 Keeps commandments of men.
 Follows the image of the Beast.
 Has Mark of Beast in forehead.
 The Beast's name in forehead.

- E. If you have the seal of God you don't have to worry about having the mark of the Beast!
- F. God seals us through the workings of the Holy Spirit. 2 Corinthians 1:21-22;
- G. When we believe the word of "Truth", we allow the Holy Spirit to seal us. Ephesians 1:13
- H. What is truth?
 1. The Word: John 17:17
 2. The Law: Psalm 119:142
 3. Jesus: John 14:6

IV. Since it is the Holy Spirit who seals us, we want to know what is the work of the Holy Spirit?

- A. Holy Spirit leads to truth (Word). John 16:13
- B. Holy Spirit reproves us of sin, righteousness, and judgment (Law) John 16:8
- C. Holy Spirit comforts and points us to Jesus (Jesus).

John 16:7

1. To receive the seal of God you must let the Holy Spirit guide you into all truth. Many will never receive it because they don't want to change or they never spend anytime in His word.
 2. The Holy Spirit reproves us of sin which is the breaking of God's law. 1 John 3:4
 - a. If we won't let the Holy Spirit reprove of sin, then we won't allow Him to put God's seal on us.
 3. The Spirit leads us to a full surrender to Jesus.
 4. As these three things are done God can seals us with His name.
- D. One area where we see clearly His seal - Law. Isa. 8:16
1. All governments have a seal made up of,
 - 1) Name 2) Title 3) Territory.
 2. God has a seal: Name = The Lord God; Title = Maker or Creator. Jeremiah 10:10-12 Territory = Heaven and Earth. Genesis 2:1-4
 3. One commandment in the law contains all three parts of the seal = the 4th commandment. Ex. 20:8-11
 4. The sides and issues will become plain - the people of God who have His seal will worship Him and keep His Sabbath day holy.
 5. They love Him and keep His commandments.
 6. They follow His Word and rejoice in the truth.
 7. They are filled with the Holy Spirit and have the Seal of God - The Father's name in their fore heads.
 8. Obviously the seal is not a literal visible seal. Your forehead represents your mind where you make decision.
- E. The Beast counterfeits the law of God because it is sealed in the saints. Daniel 7:25
1. Only one commandment deals with law and time-- the fourth commandment.
 2. Bible writers warned about this Antichrist power changing the law. 1 John 4:3; 2 Thess. 2:3,4,7
 3. Remember the devil wanted to be worshiped as God. He has used a system to get the world to worship him by following false teachings and worshiping on a day God did not give. Sabbath already taken Worship of true God So he picked Sunday the pagan worship day. Mohammed wanted worship too-- he chose Friday. Far East wanted worship as well so they chose Wednesday.
 4. The Protestant Reformation began to challenge the

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- authority of the church on the principle of the Bible and the Bible only. This began to destroy Catholicism.
5. The Papacy was faced with a dilemma. How could they convince the world that tradition was above the scriptures?
 6. In the 1500's the church put traditions above the Bible on the basis that they changed the Sabbath to Sunday and all people were following them in this.
 7. Catholic Record, "The church is above the Bible and this transference of Sabbath to Sunday is proof of that fact."
 8. Canon and Tradition, Holtzmann, p.263. "The Arch bishop of Reggio made a speech in which he openly declared that tradition stood above Scriptures...the church had changed...Sabbath into Sunday, not by the command of Christ, but by its own authority."
 9. Faith of Our Fathers, p. 14, C.F. Thomas, Chancellor of Cardinal Gibbons. "Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change was her act. And the act is the MARK of her ecclesiastical power and authority in religious matters.
- F. The Mark of the Beast is a simple step by step counterfeit to the Seal of God.
1. First step in receiving the Mark of the Beast is refusing to love the "truth" (truth is what is sealed in the saints) 2 Thessalonians 2:10 You don't have to do anything wrong, just refuse to do what's right.
 2. The second step in receiving the Mark of the Beast is to break the law of God. 2 Thessalonians 2:11
 - a. What is that lie? Saying that you can still go to heaven while breaking the law! 1 John 2:3-4
 3. The third step in receiving the Mark of the Beast is not letting the Holy Spirit lead you to Jesus Christ. 2 Thess. 2:12
 - a. Willful decision to follow the Beast, and it's false teachings and practices. The Beast's name will be placed in their foreheads and they are lost.
 4. The process is a step by step counterfeit to the Holy Spirit's work of giving us the Seal of God.
- G. Notice the seal of God can only be received in the forehead. Rev. 7:2-4
- H. The Mark of the Beast can be received in the forehead, or hand.
- Revelation 14:9
1. In the forehead means they will believe the "lie".
 2. In the hand will be those who are not believers of the "lie" but are going along for conveyance sake. This

can be Christian or non-Christian.

- a. Hand symbolizes work or action. Proverbs
 - b. While these people don't believe in the Beast power their work reveals that they follow its teachings and errors.
 - c. They are on the Beast's side not by decision but their life style shows their allegiance.
- I. The whole thing is a matter of allegiance. Romans 6:16
- J. It's also a matter of worship. Matthew 15:8-9
- K. We must have victory over the beast and its mark to stand on the sea of glass. Revelation 15:2

Note: God will abundantly bless you as you choose to receive His Seal in your forehead and to reject the Mark of the Beast!

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