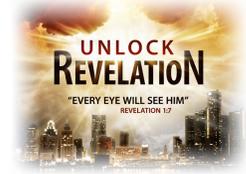




# UNLOCK REVELATION

## “The Mark of the Beast”

### Study Guide #17



\*This study guide uses the New King James Bible.

#### 1. What will the first beast of Revelation 13 (Roman Church) issue upon the world in the last days?

- Bible Answer from Revelation 13:16-17 - *“He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a \_\_\_\_\_ on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.”*

**Note:** In time, the mark of the beast will be given to all who give loyalty to the beast. Since the Roman Church is the beast, it will be the entity that issues the mark.

#### 2. What is God’s compassionate warning to those who live in the last days who are faced with the pressure to receive the mark, and how will it be enforced?

- Bible Answer from Revelation 14:9-10 - *“Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, ‘If anyone \_\_\_\_\_ the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God...’”*

**Note:** God gives a clear, urgent warning to those living on earth not to worship the beast or receive his mark. If God gives such a straight-forward message, then surely we can know exactly what the mark is and how to avoid it.

#### 3. What issue does the Mark of the Beast center upon?

- Bible Answer from Revelation 12:17 - *“And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the \_\_\_\_\_ of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.”*

**Note:** The mark of the beast centers upon worship and the authority of God’s word. Those who are loyal to God will recognize and keep all of His commandments as a sign of their allegiance to Jesus. Those receiving the mark will give their allegiance to the beast and obey the counterfeit he will set up for the world to follow. The final crisis involves those who decide to worship and obey God’s authority or man’s. This is the dividing line for the world at the end.

#### 4. What is the seal of God that all who surrender to Him will receive and must have to be ready for His return?

- Bible Answer from Revelation 7:2-3 - *“Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the \_\_\_\_\_ of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, saying, ‘Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.’”*

**Note:** According to Scripture, (1 Cor. 1:21-22, Acts 5:32, Isa.8:16, and Jn 14:15-17), the seal of God is receiving the Holy Spirit as we obey, through His power, the 10 Commandments. We cannot receive the seal of God at the end of time if we refuse to keep any of the commandments, regardless of which one. Only those who are obedient to Him by His grace are sealed and prepared for His return. We can obey when our lives are surrendered to Him and Jesus dwells within us! God cannot bring rebellious hearts into Heaven. Jesus invites us to choose Him, and we must decide. The Sabbath commandment has the three elements of a common seal: the name (Lord your God), the title (Creator), and the territory (Heaven & Earth). It’s the heart of the 10 Commandments, and the one which the world has forgotten is also part of the seal of God. That’s why it’s important for us to obey not just 9, but all 10 commandments (Ex 20:8-12, Ezekiel 20:12 & 20:20).

#### 5. Is the mark of the beast a literal, physical mark?

- Bible Answer from Ecclesiastes 9:10 - *“Whatever your \_\_\_\_\_ finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going.”*

• Isaiah 59:6-7 - *“Their works are works of iniquity, And the act of violence is in their \_\_\_\_\_. Their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood; Their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; Wasting and destruction are in their paths.”*

- Exodus 13:9 - *“It shall be as a sign to you on your \_\_\_\_\_ and as a memorial between your eyes, that the Lord’s law may be in your mouth; for with a strong hand the Lord has brought you out of Egypt.”*

**Note:** In Hebrews 8:10, it says that we choose God with our heart and mind and then He writes His law there. In the Bible, our actions are symbolized by what we do with our hands and our choices by our minds. The Bible also calls this the forehead, because it contains the frontal lobe part of the brain where choices are made. The mark of the beast is not some tattoo or stamp on the forehead, but rather a choice that each one will make for Jesus **and** His truth, or the beast and his false lies. We cannot have Jesus without having His truth. If we try to do this, Jesus will respond that we worshipped Him in vain through the traditions of men while rejecting the commandments of God (Matthew 15:8-9). Choose Jesus; choose life!

#### 6. How has the Roman Church attacked God’s commandments through setting up counterfeits in the last days?

• Bible Answer from Revelation 12:17 - "And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the \_\_\_\_\_ of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ."

**Note:** In the 10 Commandments, the first four deal with our relationship to God. Through each one, the Roman Church has given a counterfeit. In the first commandment, it says we shall have no other gods. However, they present the case that the pope is God on earth, thus creating another god. The second commandment speaks to not bowing to idols. The church venerates saints and creates statues of Jesus, Mary, and others that people bow and pray to. The third commandment states not to take the Lord's name in vain. While claiming that the pope is divine and the priest has the right to forgive sins, they openly violate the third commandment and lead the world to do so. Certainly, as they have replaced the first three with their own, they have also done the same with the fourth in the change of the Sabbath to Sunday. Numerous statements from them confirm this. This violates the truth that God's word is the supreme authority for the Christian. This brings us directly to the mark of the beast issue. What is the mark of the beast (Roman Church)? They themselves plainly tell us what their mark is:

"Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change (Sabbath to Sunday) 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.*

"Sunday is our **mark** of authority. The church is above the Bible, and this transference of Sabbath observance is proof of that fact" *Catholic Record Publication.*

"Tradition, not Scripture, is the rock on which the church of Jesus Christ is built." *C. Doctrine & the Council of Trent, p 157*

"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" (dies Dominica) was chosen, not from any directions noted in the Scriptures, but from the Church's sense of its own power. The day of resurrection, the day of Pentecost, fifty days later, came on the first day of the week. So this would be the new Sabbath. People who think that the Scriptures should be the sole authority, should logically become 7th Day Adventists, and keep Saturday holy." *Sentinel, Pastor's page, Saint Catherine Catholic Church, Algonac, Michigan, May 21, 1995*

"Reason and sense demand the acceptance of one or the other of these alternatives: either Protestantism and the keeping holy of Saturday or Catholicism and the keeping holy of Sunday. Compromise is impossible." *The Catholic Mirror*

\*A few of the recent Sunday law movements include: 1) Croatia Enforces Sunday Laws banning work in 2009 (<http://religionclause.blogspot.com>); 2) Sunday Alliance is Formed in Switzerland in 2012 (<http://www.europeansundayalliance.eu/site/newsevents/>); 3) Sunday Rest Bill Preliminary Approval in Argentina in 2013 (<http://www.datasantafeonline.com>); 4) UK Court Recognizes Sunday as a Day of Rest in 2013 (The European Newspaper, December 2013); 5) European Alliance for Sunday formed in 2013 (<http://www.europeansundayalliance.eu>); 6) German bans work on Sundays (CBS News, 2015).

**Note:** The Roman Catholic Church system will press the Sunday laws until they come to America and the rest of the world.

## 7. Does anyone have the mark of the beast now?

• Bible Answer from Revelation 13:17 - "and that no one may \_\_\_\_\_ or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name."

**Note:** No one has the mark now, because there are no restrictions to buy and sell. The mark will only be in effect when we are forced by law to worship contrary to God's law and accept a false day of worship. God invites us to freely worship Him who made heaven and earth. How could the majority of the world be wrong about this issue? Keep in mind that it was the majority that were outside Noah's ark and who also crucified Christ. It's rarely the majority that's right. Satan's plan is to deceive the world. We must faithfully stand steadfast in Jesus and the truth of His word. We must choose His commandments over the traditions of men.

## 8. What about Christians who were faithful but died not knowing about the true Sabbath? Are they condemned?

• Bible Answer from Acts 17:30 - "Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but \_\_\_\_\_ commands all men everywhere to repent."

**Note:** Certainly, God is just and fair. There are many from times past who faithfully kept Sunday thinking they were doing the right thing. In their misunderstanding, God overlooked it. He does not hold us accountable for that which we don't know. However, those who truly loved Him would have followed the truth if they had known it. Likewise, today, when we know the truth, Jesus calls us to follow it. To know the truth and turn away from it is sin. After these studies, you know the truth.

## 9. What does Jesus invite each of us to do out of our love to Him and His love to us in these last days?

• Bible Answer from Revelation 18:4 - "And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come \_\_\_\_\_ of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues." John 14:15 - "If you love Me, \_\_\_\_\_ My commandments."

**Note:** Jesus lovingly invites us to come out of error to be a part of His people who are keeping the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus.

## 10. Out of love for Jesus, will you reject the mark of the beast by choosing Him alone, walking in His truth, obeying all of His commandments, and "worshiping Him who made heaven and earth?" (Revelation 14:7) \_\_\_\_\_