

The Mark of The Beast

This has been the topic of many discussions and yet most don't have a clear understanding of what it is. Many claim it is a vaccine, some say it is a chip in your hand or it is the 5G technology. Well if in doubt the best place to turn to is the Bible.

First thing we must do in order to know what is the mark of the beast is to identify who or what is the beast. Is it a literal beast or is it symbolic.

Where is the mark of the beast mentioned. In the book of Revelation.

Revelation 13:17

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 14:9

And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship **the beast** and his image, and receive his **mark** in his forehead, or in his hand,

Revelation 14:11

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 15:2

And I saw as it were a sea **of** glass mingled with fire: and **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.

Revelation 16:2

And **the** first went, and poured out his vial upon **the** earth; and **there** fell a noisome and grievous sore upon **the** men which had **the mark of the beast**, and upon **them** which worshipped his image.

Revelation 19:20

And **the beast** was taken, and with him **the** false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived **them** that had received **the mark of the beast**, and **them** that worshipped his image. **These** both were cast alive into a lake **of** fire burning with brimstone.

Revelation 20:4

And I saw thrones, and **they** sat upon **them**, and judgment was given unto **them**: and I saw **the souls of them** that were beheaded for **the** witness **of** Jesus, and for **the** word

of God, and which had not worshipped **the beast**, neither his image, neither had received his **mark** upon **their** foreheads, or in **their** hands; and **they** lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

In identifying the beast we want to look at Revelation 12 and 13.

Revelation 12: 1

And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars:

We have a couple of symbols in this first verse so in order to understand what is happening we must first interpret the symbols.

A Woman in Bible Prophecy represents the people or Church. A pure woman a pure people or Church, a corrupt woman a false people or false Church.

Pure Woman

Jeremiah 6:2

I have likened the daughter of Zion to a comely and delicate woman.

2 Corinthians 11:2

For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

Ephesian 5:23-27

For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

Revelation 19:7,8

Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

Corrupt Woman**Ezekiel 16:15-58**

But thou didst trust in thine own beauty, and playedst the harlot because of thy renown, and pouredst out thy fornications on every one that passed by; his it was.

16 And of thy garments thou didst take, and deckedst thy high places with divers colours, and playedst the harlot thereupon: the like things shall not come, neither shall it be so.

17 Thou hast also taken thy fair jewels of my gold and of my silver, which I had given thee, and madest to thyself images of men, and didst commit whoredom with them,

18 And tookest thy broidered garments, and coveredst them: and thou hast set mine oil and mine incense before them.

19 My meat also which I gave thee, fine flour, and oil, and honey, wherewith I fed thee, thou hast even set it before them for a sweet savour: and thus it was, saith the Lord God.

Hosea 2:5, 3:1

5 For their mother hath played the harlot: she that conceived them hath done shamefully: for she said, I will go after my lovers, that give me my bread and my water, my wool and my flax, mine oil and my drink.

Then said the Lord unto me, Go yet, love a woman beloved of her friend, yet an adulteress, according to the love of the Lord toward the children of Israel, who look to other gods, and love flagons of wine.

The Sun and Moon

The Sun in Bible Prophecy represents the glory of God or the Gospel of Christ or Christ.

Psalms 84:11

For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

Psalm 27:1

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Malachi 4:2

2 But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.

John 8:12

12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

2 Corinthians 4:6

6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 1:19

19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

Revelation 22:16

16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.

This is what we call a prolepsis. John is presenting the future as if it is already happened. Christ is not born as yet but the Church is seen clothed in his glory, the light of the gospel, the glory of the Word. If the Sun represents the Word (Christ - the Gospel), then the moon will represent the Prophets of old.

Hebrew 1:1-3

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high:

Crown

A Crown in Bible Prophecy represents royalty, righteousness, anointed, chosen, reward, grace

Leviticus 21:12

12 Neither shall he go out of the sanctuary, nor profane the sanctuary of his God; for the crown of the anointing oil of his God is upon him: I am the Lord.

Psalms 89:39

39 Thou hast made void the covenant of thy servant: thou hast profaned his crown by casting it to the ground.

Proverb 4:9

9 She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee.

2 Timothy 4:8

Henceforth there is laid up for me **a crown of righteousness**, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me **at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also** that love his appearing.

Revelation 3:11

11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

Stars

Stars represents Angels, messengers or prophets of God.

Job 38:7

7 When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

Daniel 12:3

3 And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

Jude 1:13

11 Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward, and perished in the gainsaying of Core.

12 These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear: clouds they are without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots;

13 Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.

Wandering stars are false prophets or messengers in apostasy.

Revelation 1:20

The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

Angels here represent messengers or leaders of God as Angels were never given the job of proclaiming the gospel.

There are 12 Stars. Now these twelve stars cannot now refer to Israel as at this time the ten tribes are no more. The only group of twelve that we have that are messengers as we recognize that the stars are messengers and not angels would be the disciples. Yet again we have another prolepsis where Christ has not yet started his ministry but his disciples are featured here.

Ok, so through the Jewish nation the savior is about to be born. The Glory of God which is Christ or the Gospel of Christ is to illuminate her. She is about to bring forth a Child. Who is this Child?

Revelation 12:5

5 And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.

John 3:13

13 And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.

Daniel 7:13,14

13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

We have the Child ruling with a rod of Iron. A rod in the Bible was often made of wood and used as a tool to guide or separate or correct, a symbol of strength or a weapon to defend the weak.

Exodus 4:2

2 And the Lord said unto him, What is that in thine hand? And he said, A rod.

20 And Moses took his wife and his sons, and set them upon an ass, and he returned to the land of Egypt: and Moses took the rod of God in his hand.

Numbers 17:3,8,10

3 And thou shalt write Aaron's name upon the rod of Levi: for one rod shall be for the head of the house of their fathers.

8 And it came to pass, that on the morrow Moses went into the tabernacle of witness; and, behold, the rod of Aaron for the house of Levi was budded, and brought forth buds, and bloomed blossoms, and yielded almonds.

10 And the Lord said unto Moses, Bring Aaron's rod again before the testimony, to be kept for a token against the rebels; and thou shalt quite take away their murmurings from me, that they die not.

Psalms 2:9-12

9 Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

10 Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth.

11 Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

12 Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.

Proverbs 26:3

3 A whip for the horse, a bridle for the ass, and a rod for the fool's back.

Psalms 23:4, Psalm 110:2**Rod**

The Rod depicted here is not made of wood but of iron. It shows the surety and perpetual nature of Christ's rulership or sovereignty. The iron rod here symbolizes the eternal rulership of Christ, there are many examples where, many things were referred to as being made of iron, just to emphasize their finality or perpetual nature.

Jeremiah 28:10-14

10 Then Hananiah the prophet took the yoke from off the prophet Jeremiah's neck, and brake it.

11 And Hananiah spake in the presence of all the people, saying, Thus saith the Lord; Even so will I break the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon from the neck of all nations within the space of two full years. And the prophet Jeremiah went his way.

12 Then the word of the Lord came unto Jeremiah the prophet, after that Hananiah the prophet had broken the yoke from off the neck of the prophet Jeremiah, saying,

13 Go and tell Hananiah, saying, Thus saith the Lord; Thou hast broken the yokes of wood; but thou shalt make for them yokes of iron.

14 For thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; I have put a yoke of iron upon the neck of all these nations, that they may serve Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; and they shall serve him: and I have given him the beasts of the field also.

Jeremiah 17:1

The sin of Judah is written with a pen of iron, and with the point of a diamond: it is graven upon the table of their heart, and upon the horns of your altars;

Travailing in birth

The Birth of Christ was accompanied by much wailing and mourning as prophesied by Jeremiah.

Jeremiah 31: 15

15 Thus saith the Lord; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rachel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not.

Matthew 2:16-18

16 Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men.

17 Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying,

18 In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.

At this point another wonder appears. A red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and ten crowns. Who or what is the dragon.

The Dragon

Revelation 12:9

9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

The Bible Identifies the Dragon as satan however, this beast has heads, horns and crowns which imply that it also represents an earthly kingdom. We need to identify who was the earthly kingdom that tried to destroy the Child as he was born.

This dragon has 7 heads, 10 horns, but 7 crowns. This information is vital to uncovering this kingdom. Let's paint a picture of what we are seeing. Six heads have a horn and a crown, whilst the seventh head have four horns and one of the horns have a crown the other three do not.

Now horns in Bible Prophecy represent kings, kingdoms, power.

Deuteronomy 33:17

17 His glory is like the firstling of his bullock, and his horns are like the horns of unicorns: with them he shall push the people together to the ends of the earth: and they are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands of Manasseh.

Psalms 75:10

10 All the horns of the wicked also will I cut off; but the horns of the righteous shall be exalted.

Daniel 8:20

20 The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia.

Amos 3:14

14 That in the day that I shall visit the transgressions of Israel upon him I will also visit the altars of Bethel: and the horns of the altar shall be cut off, and fall to the ground.

Habakkuk 3:4

4 And his brightness was as the light; he had horns coming out of his hand: and there was the hiding of his power.

We have seven heads with crowns, crowns signify a monarchy. We now must turn to history. History tells us that Pagan Rome was the Kingdom that ruled at the birth of Christ, could this seven head dragon be Pagan Rome? Let's look at the details.

At first glance we see ten horns and we may want to think about the 10 nations of Europe. But this does not fit all together as we have only seven horns with crowns. Now if we assume that the 3 horns are those that will be plucked up, we run into a little

problem as they are plucked up by the little horn which is the papacy or so called christian Rome (The chameleon - master of disguise) . Rome at this time is now emerging as an empire and the papacy is no where in sight as yet. And the three horns that will eventually be plucked up have kings and yet these three horns have no crown.

What we are seeing here is the history of rulership of Rome and it marks the time when Christ was to be born. This seven headed beast tells us when to look for Christ's birth.

Early Pagan Rome was ruled by Kings. Can you guess how many Kings Pagan Rome had? Seven.

Kings of Rome

1. Romulus
2. Numa Pompilius
3. Tullus Hostilius
4. Ancus Marcus
5. Lucius Tarquinius Priscus
6. Servius Tullius
7. Lucius Tarquinius Superbus

Thus we have seven horns with seven crowns. So each king represented by a horn and a crown. So after the sixth king Servius Tullius we have the seventh head with four horns. One horn has a crown representing the seventh king Lucius Tarquinius Superbus, however there is a transition because three other powers would arise that weren't kings or did not represent a monarchy.

Lucius Tarquinius Superbus of all the kings was regarded as violent and tyrannical and when his reign came to an end Rome did not replace him with another king. At this time Pagan Rome became a Republic and Pagan Rome was ruled by two Consuls. The Consuls were Generals that commanded the two arms of Pagan Rome's military. This new rulership was considered to be a democracy. So Rome was under the rule of the Consuls and so this is the 8th horn without a crown.

However, there was a catch. If Pagan Rome was facing a formidable foe which required the unification of Rome, a dictator was then elected with absolute power and the power of the Consuls was then given over to the dictator. The dictator however was only allowed to function in this capacity for six months, after which he would either be again re-elected or power returned to the consuls.

There was one such dictator that was different from the rest. He decided that having received absolute power, he could not relinquish it. He determined to be the sole ruler

of Pagan Rome and so the rule of the consuls came to an end, and the rulership of the dictator succeeded them. The 9th horn without a crown.

This new and powerful dictator is Julius Caesar. So 8th horn without a crown, the consuls, the 9th horn without a crown the dictator.

Julius Caesar was eventually assassinated and his rulership was split between Mark Anthony, Marcus Aemilius Lepidus and Octavian.

Octavian defeated Mark Anthony and Lepidus to become the supreme ruler of Pagan Rome. His rulership signal the end of Pagan Rome as a Republic and The Roman Empire emerged. He then became the first emperor of Pagan Rome. The 10th horn without a crown and it was under the rulership of this third horn without a crown that the man Child Jesus Christ was born.

Luke 2:1

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed.

2 (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

3 And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

5 To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

Emperor Octavian changed his name to Caesar Augustus (After his uncle). The First Emperor of the Roman Empire and the tenth horn without a crown.

After his death in 14 A.D. he was succeeded by Tiberius Julius Caesar Augustus. The ten horns does not mean Pagan Rome had only ten rulers but the ten horns mark the birth of Christ.

Thus we can rightly Identify this red dragon as Pagan Rome.

The tail of the Dragon which we know to be Pagan Rome drew a third of the stars of heaven.

In the Bible a tail represents a false prophet

Isaiah 9:15

15 The ancient and honorable, he is the head; and the prophet that teacheth lies, he is the tail.

Revelation 9:19

19 For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails: for their tails were like unto serpents, and had heads, and with them they do hurt.

The Emperor of Rome carried the title of Pontifex Maximus, which means the greatest priest. Obviously not a true priest but a false priest as he led pagan worship. So this false priest cast down a third of the stars of heaven to the ground.

Since stars we have seen so far represent the people of God or his messengers, who did this false priest cast down to the ground. The Jews had three levels of leadership, the King, the priest and the Sanhedrin.

The Pontifex Maximus, permanently removed from the Jews the ability to restore their monarchy. It is for this reason everyone thought the messiah would come as a king to rule the Jews and establish their independence. However the Emperor allowed the Jews to retain the priesthood and practice their religious rites and also he allowed them to retain the Sanhedrin council which was responsible for the judiciary and civil rule but in a limited sense as they could not put a man to death.

So a third part of the rulership was removed. The King.

Just a note. Some understand this to mean also that Satan drew to himself one third of the Angels of heaven. It is a fact that the Bible calls Satan the dragon and so this is absolutely true. There is no need to argue for both interpretations are factual. And both reveal the truth about Satan as the dragon and pagan Rome the earthly kingdom doing the dragon's bidding.

This dragon sought to devour the Child.**Matthew 2:13-15**

13 And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.

14 When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt:

15 And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.

Hosea - 11:1 - The prophecy spoken of in Matthew 2:15

The object of this study is to know what the mark of the Beast is, however you cannot know what the mark of the beast is if you cannot identify the beast.

We have so far identified the dragon, which will help us to identify the beast, so let us now go to Revelation 13.

Revelation 13:1

And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

Once again we are dealing with symbols as there is no animal alive that can fit this description that lives in the sea. Let's list the important information that this verse gives us as we try to identify the beast.

1. It comes out of the Sea.
2. Seven heads
3. Ten horns with ten crowns
4. Name is blasphemy

What does the Sea represent in Bible Prophecy?

2 Samuel 22:1-5,17,18

And David spake unto the Lord the words of this song in the day that the Lord had delivered him out of the hand of all his enemies, and out of the hand of Saul:

2 And he said, The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer;

3 The God of my rock; in him will I trust: he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me from violence.

4 I will call on the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies.

5 When the waves of death compassed me, the floods of ungodly men made me afraid;

17 He sent from above, he took me; he drew me out of many waters;

18 He delivered me from my strong enemy, and from them that hated me: for they were too strong for me.

Job 30:7-14

7 Among the bushes they brayed; under the nettles they were gathered together.

8 They were children of fools, yea, children of base men: they were viler than the earth.

9 And now am I their song, yea, I am their byword.

10 They abhor me, they flee far from me, and spare not to spit in my face.

11 Because he hath loosed my cord, and afflicted me, they have also let loose the bridle before me.

12 Upon my right hand rise the youth; they push away my feet, and they raise up against me the ways of their destruction.

13 They mar my path, they set forward my calamity, they have no helper.

14 They came upon me as a wide breaking in of waters: in the desolation they rolled themselves upon me.

Psalm 88:17

17 They came round about me daily like water; they compassed me about together.

Isaiah 17:12,13

12 Woe to the multitude of many people, which make a noise like the noise of the seas; and to the rushing of nations, that make a rushing like the rushing of mighty waters!

13 The nations shall rush like the rushing of many waters: but God shall rebuke them, and they shall flee far off, and shall be chased as the chaff of the mountains before the wind, and like a rolling thing before the whirlwind.

Isaiah 57:20

20 But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt.

Jeremiah 47:2

2 Thus saith the Lord; Behold, waters rise up out of the north, and shall be an overflowing flood, and shall overflow the land, and all that is therein; the city, and them that dwell therein: then the men shall cry, and all the inhabitants of the land shall howl.

Jeremiah 51:10-14

10 The Lord hath brought forth our righteousness: come, and let us declare in Zion the work of the Lord our God.

11 Make bright the arrows; gather the shields: the Lord hath raised up the spirit of the kings of the Medes: for his device is against Babylon, to destroy it; because it is the vengeance of the Lord, the vengeance of his temple.

12 Set up the standard upon the walls of Babylon, make the watch strong, set up the watchmen, prepare the ambushes: for the Lord hath both devised and done that which he spake against the inhabitants of Babylon.

13 O thou that dwellest upon many waters, abundant in treasures, thine end is come, and the measure of thy covetousness.

14 The Lord of hosts hath sworn by himself, saying, Surely I will fill thee with men, as with caterpillars; and they shall lift up a shout against thee.

Revelation 17:15

15 And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.

So this beast is surrounded by many people. This beast has overwhelming support, this beast has a vast following. The majority of the people follow this beast.

Seven Heads - Ten Heads - Ten Crowns

We will come back to this.

Revelation 13:2

2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

This beast is unlike the dragon that we saw earlier. The dragon although it was not a natural beast had a consistency through out, however this beast is a combination of other animals. What is the significance of this? Have we seen these animals before and what do they stand for?

The short answer to these questions is yes.

We have met the leopard, the bear and the lion before.

Daniel 7:1-7

7 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters.

2 Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea.

3 And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another.

4 The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it.

5 And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh.

6 After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it.

7 After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.

Here we see that this beast of Revelation 13 is heavily influenced by these beasts of Daniel 7 that went before.

The body of the beast is that of a leopard. The leopard in Daniel 7:6 is Greece(compare Daniel 2 & 7). What was Greece known for? Education and the pursuit of Knowledge.

The feet of the beast is that of a bear. The bear in Daniel 7: 5 is Media and Persia (compare Daniel 2 & 7). What were the Medes and the Persians Known for? Laws that could not be changed.

The mouth of the beast is that of a lion. The Lion in Daniel 7:4 is Babylon (compare Daniel 2 & 7). What was Babylon known for? Wealth and power, Gold.

This beast is going to create a vast educational system as it body which is the biggest part of the beast is easily visible. It is education that will be foremost in this institution. The legs which represents the movement and walking also depicts a way of life. Laws

will be its way of governance, laws that cannot be broken, without consequences. The mouth which is used to speak, command, to share ideas or thoughts, will by its commands and decrees weald wealth and plenty power.

This is a powerful beast, very powerful beast, however there is more. The dragon gave to the beast his power, and his seat, and great authority.

The dragon, we have identified as Rome, to be more specific pagan Rome and the reason we refer to Rome during this time period as pagan is that it is totally in creature worship, human worship and does not claim in any way to be Christian. Paganism is the national religion. The historical data show us this which you are free to check out and confirm it is so.

The dragon as we established is Satan. The Bible tells us so in Revelation 12:9. Revelation 12 by its imagery also gives more information about the dragon. While it represents Satan it also represents the earthly institution through which he works. Satan first worked through Rome as a pagan state governed by the Emperors that carried the title Pontifex Maximus. Who was this great power transferred to. Who did this powerful pagan state give his seat too.

This is easy just look to history and we shall find the answer.

In 533 A.D. Emperor Justinian, who ruled from Constantinople in the east, decreed that the Bishop of Rome was the Universal Bishop over the entire Church. (today the Pope remains the universal bishop over the Roman Catholic Church by reason of this decree) But the Catholics were suffering a violent persecution from the Arian Vandals of northern Africa.

They were intolerant of the Catholics and termed them heretics. Thus unless they could be removed the Papacy could not rise to the power of Justinian's decree. Justinian sent his ablest General Belisarius to North Africa and totally wiped the Vandals from the face of the earth in the year 534 A.D.

This only left the Arian tribe of the Ostrogoths, who had the throne of Italy and were restraining the power of the Papacy. They too were defeated by Belisarius in the year 538 A.D., leaving not enough of them to have their heritage remain. Justinian's decree could take effect now as the opposition had been removed.

By 538 A.D. the Church of Rome had full supremacy. The longer time went on the less safe it was to live or mingle in populated areas where one could easily be recognized as or found out to be a so called heretic. To teach contrary to or stand up against the Papal Power could very easily and most likely result in the death of the so called offender. The only safety was in the mountainous regions and places of obscurity to where God's Church fled.

<https://www.revelationbibleprophecy.org/revelation12.html>

<https://m.egwwritings.org/en/book/988.935#935>

EGW Mobile App - Adventist Pioneer Library - Pioneer Authors - Jones, Alonzo Trevier
Book Ecclesiastical Empire (ECE)- Chapter 12(XII) - The Papal Temporal Power
Established.

Today the Pope carries the title Pontifex Maximus , making him the supreme pontiff. The title that was once carried by the Emperors is now conferred upon the Pope of Rome.

The beast of Revelation 13, represents the Roman Catholic system of beliefs and doctrines, with the Pope as its head. This is the earthly power that satan now works through to do his bidding. Pagan Rome or Imperial Rome as she is sometimes called was succeeded by Papal Rome or the Papacy. The Holy See, is the office of the Pope of Rome. The Vatican is a recognized state. The Pope wields total religious power at this time. He is yet to regain civil power.

Revelation 13:17

17 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.

What is the mark of the Roman Catholic Church. What is the sign of her supremacy.

The day of the Resurrection: the new creation

2174 Jesus rose from the dead "on the first day of the week."¹⁰⁴ Because it is the "first day," the day of Christ's Resurrection recalls the first creation. Because it is the "eighth day" following the sabbath,¹⁰⁵ it symbolizes the new creation ushered in by Christ's Resurrection. For Christians it has become the first of all days, the first of all feasts, the Lord's Day (*he kuriake hemera, dies dominica*) Sunday:

We all gather on the day of the sun, for it is the first day [after the Jewish sabbath, but also the first day] when God, separating matter from darkness, made the world; and on this same day Jesus Christ our Savior rose from the dead.¹⁰⁶

Sunday - fulfillment of the sabbath

2175 Sunday is expressly distinguished from the sabbath which it follows chronologically every week; for Christians its ceremonial observance replaces that of the sabbath. In Christ's Passover, Sunday fulfills the spiritual truth of the Jewish sabbath and announces man's eternal rest in God. For worship under the Law prepared for the mystery of Christ, and what was done there prefigured some aspects of Christ:¹⁰⁷

Those who lived according to the old order of things have come to a new hope, no longer keeping the sabbath, but the Lord's Day, in which our life is blessed by him and by his death.¹⁰⁸

2176 The celebration of Sunday observes the moral commandment inscribed by nature in the human heart to render to God an outward, visible, public, and regular worship "as a sign of his universal beneficence to all."¹⁰⁹ Sunday worship fulfills the moral command of the Old Covenant, taking up its rhythm and spirit in the weekly celebration of the Creator and Redeemer of his people.

The Sunday obligation

2180 The precept of the Church specifies the law of the Lord more precisely: "On Sundays and other holy days of obligation the faithful are bound to participate in the Mass."¹¹⁷ "The precept of participating in the Mass is satisfied by assistance at a Mass which is celebrated anywhere in a Catholic rite either on the holy day or on the evening of the preceding day."¹¹⁸

2181 The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reason (for example, illness, the care of infants) or dispensed by their own pastor.¹¹⁹ Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin.

2182 Participation in the communal celebration of the Sunday Eucharist is a testimony of belonging and of being faithful to Christ and to his Church. The faithful give witness by this to their communion in faith and charity. Together they testify to God's holiness and their hope of salvation. They strengthen one another under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

2183 "If because of lack of a sacred minister or for other grave cause participation in the celebration of the Eucharist is impossible, it is specially recommended that the faithful take part in the Liturgy of the Word if it is celebrated in the parish church or in another sacred place according to the prescriptions of the diocesan bishop, or engage in prayer for an appropriate amount of time personally or in a family or, as occasion offers, in groups of families."¹²⁰

A day of grace and rest from work

2184 Just as God "rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had done,"¹²¹ human life has a rhythm of work and rest. The institution of the Lord's Day helps

everyone enjoy adequate rest and leisure to cultivate their familial, cultural, social, and religious lives.¹²²

2185 On Sundays and other holy days of obligation, the faithful are to refrain from engaging in work or activities that hinder the worship owed to God, the joy proper to the Lord's Day, the performance of the works of mercy, and the appropriate relaxation of mind and body.¹²³ Family needs or important social service can legitimately excuse from the obligation of Sunday rest. The faithful should see to it that legitimate excuses do not lead to habits prejudicial to religion, family life, and health.

The charity of truth seeks holy leisure- the necessity of charity accepts just work.¹²⁴

2186 Those Christians who have leisure should be mindful of their brethren who have the same needs and the same rights, yet cannot rest from work because of poverty and misery. Sunday is traditionally consecrated by Christian piety to good works and humble service of the sick, the infirm, and the elderly. Christians will also sanctify Sunday by devoting time and care to their families and relatives, often difficult to do on other days of the week. Sunday is a time for reflection, silence, cultivation of the mind, and meditation which furthers the growth of the Christian interior life.

2187 Sanctifying Sundays and holy days requires a common effort. Every Christian should avoid making unnecessary demands on others that would hinder them from observing the Lord's Day. Traditional activities (sport, restaurants, etc.), and social necessities (public services, etc.), require some people to work on Sundays, but everyone should still take care to set aside sufficient time for leisure. With temperance and charity the faithful will see to it that they avoid the excesses and violence sometimes associated with popular leisure activities. In spite of economic constraints, public authorities should ensure citizens a time intended for rest and divine worship. Employers have a similar obligation toward their employees.

2188 In respecting religious liberty and the common good of all, Christians should seek recognition of Sundays and the Church's holy days as legal holidays. They have to give everyone a public example of prayer, respect, and joy and defend their traditions as a precious contribution to the spiritual life of society. If a country's legislation or other reasons require work on Sunday, the day should nevertheless be lived as the day of our deliverance which lets us share in this "festal gathering," this "assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven."¹²⁵

IN BRIEF

2189 "Observe the sabbath day, to keep it holy" (Deut 5:12). "The seventh day is a sabbath of solemn rest, holy to the Lord" (Ex 31:15).

2190 The sabbath, which represented the completion of the first creation, has been replaced by Sunday which recalls the new creation inaugurated by the Resurrection of Christ.

2191 The Church celebrates the day of Christ's Resurrection on the "eighth day," Sunday, which is rightly called the Lord's Day (cf. SC 106).

2192 "Sunday . . . is to be observed as the foremost holy day of obligation in the universal Church" (CIC, can. 1246 § 1). "On Sundays and other holy days of obligation the faithful are bound to participate in the Mass" (CIC, can. 1247).

2193 "On Sundays and other holy days of obligation the faithful are bound . . . to abstain from those labors and business concerns which impede the worship to be rendered to God, the joy which is proper to the Lord's Day, or the proper relaxation of mind and body" (CIC, can. 1247).

2194 The institution of Sunday helps all "to be allowed sufficient rest and leisure to cultivate their amilial, cultural, social, and religious lives" (GS 67 § 3).

2195 Every Christian should avoid making unnecessary demands on others that would hinder them from observing the Lord's Day.

http://www.vatican.va/archive/ccc_css/archive/catechism/p3s2c1a3.htm

“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 of London, Ontario, September 1, 1923.

Having Identified the beast and the mark of the beast we need to come back to the seven heads and ten horns with ten crowns.

The seven heads represent the seven regions of europe. Throughout the seven regions we have ten horns with ten crowns which represent ten kings. The Papacy unlike its predecessor allowed the kings of nations to remain and instead controlled them to do her bidding. At this time we have concluded the purpose of this study.

We have been able to identify the beast of Revelation 13 and the mark of the beast mentioned in Revelation 13. There are many parts of Revelation 13 that this study did not cover as it was was not a verse by verse study. I do apologize for any disappointment, but we will definitely cover more ground in upcoming studies.

I do hope that this study was a blessing and that the issue discussed has been de-mystified.

God's blessing.

