

The Mysterious Number of



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The score was tied. My softball team was in a very important showdown with another rival team. The score was six to six. To top it off, the game was also in the sixth inning. So it was a six to six tie and we were in the sixth inning. When I stepped on the field, I looked at the scoreboard and it spelled out the tie game and sixth inning with the numbers 6 6 6. Yes, it seemed somewhat eerie as we walked out on the field.

On another occasion my wife and I were checking out at the grocery store. The total grocery bill came to \$6.66 and the cashier lady just smiled at us as she read off the number on the cash register. Then there was last summer. We were driving along, following our GPS. It told us to turn left. While turning I looked at the road sign. It read, 666. Yes, we were traveling on route 666!

What is the mystery that is attached to the number 666? Why are so many people intrigued with this number? Why is there a growing interest in this number? How will this number be used in the future? In this prophetic study, we are going to see what the Bible says about this number and come to some Biblical conclusions about the infamous number of 666. We want to take all the mystery away from this number and see what the Bible actually says concerning this number. This study is designed to provide a bit of sanity in the whirlwind of confusion that surrounds the beast and the number 666 presented in the book of Revelation. We are going to study this from a grammatical, literal, and futurist perspective to arrive at the correct answers about this number. Let's introduce these verses as we begin this study.

Revelation 13:13-18 gives us this prophetic portion of Scripture:

“And he (the False Prophet) doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by *the means of* those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast (the Antichrist); saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image (statue) to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live (an alleged reincarnation of a historical figure that had died in the past but has now come back to life). And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak (a demonized speaking statue), and cause (by force) that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. And he causeth (by a worldwide edict that will be enforced) all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark (tattoo) in their right hand, or in their foreheads (a mark of ownership and allegiance to the Antichrist):

“to receive a mark (tattoo) in their right hand, or in their foreheads” Rev. 13:16



“And that no man might buy or sell (their economic well-being will be cut off), save he that had the mark (a scratch or etching, a stamp which is actually describing a tattoo), or the name of the beast (a further description of the mark in that Antichrist’s name will somehow be associated with this mark/marking system during the End Times), or the number of his name (a final description of the mark that reveals how a specific number will be associated with the Antichrist’s name). Here is wisdom. Let him that hath

understanding count the number of the beast (add together the numbers which are associated with the letters of Antichrist's name): for it is the number of a man; and his number *is* Six hundred threescore *and* six" (the Antichrist's name, when calculated numerically, will add up to the number 666).

During the coming day, the Bible teaches that the unsaved will be marked to preserve them from Antichrist's wrath against God's people. The mark will signify that the person bearing it is a worshiper and loyal follower of the Antichrist. In much the same way, the Roman emperors required their subjects to prove their loyalty by offering sacrifices to Caesar. Those who refused, like those who refuse to take the Antichrist's mark in the future, will be subject to execution. This is what is coming upon the world in the future. The stage is being set for this mark in the day in which we live with the rebirth and revival of tattoos and the coding system we already have in the world.

We are going to study about this End Time marking system in more detail later. But I want to introduce to you WHEN this numbering system will occur and HOW the world will get to this place. Unless we understand the "when" "where" and "how", the marking system will not make sense to us.

John was on the isle of Patmos when he was given a prophetic revelation of the future. This revelation was to be recorded down as Scripture and made available to future generations of believers like you and me today. We know it today as the book of Revelation. This book is a panoramic picture that we have of the future. It details many spectacular and dreadfully horrible things that will occur on planet earth during the future Tribulation Period which consists of seven years, when the book and events of Revelation are interpreted literally and with a future understanding as John intended. The book of Revelation was intended to be interpreted from a futuristic viewpoint that would be fulfilled during the End Times.

**Futurist Interpretation of Book of Revelation
Revelation 1:19**

**“things which thou hast seen” = Chapter 1
Vision of Glorified Christ - Now History**

**“things which are” = Chapters 2-3
Message to Churches (applicable for today)**

**“things which shall be hereafter” =
Chapters 4-22
Future events of the Tribulation Period, Second
Coming, Millennium, and Eternal State**

Revelation 1:19 “Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter.”

In this study, we will discover that an actual personage (the Antichrist) will issue a marking system upon planet earth that all mankind will be required to follow. This marking system will in some way involve the number 666.

A mysterious number will one day be required to be displayed on all people living on earth.

There are seven questions that must be answered about the mysterious number 666.

1. When will this number be introduced on earth?

- a. After the church is raptured from planet earth

The Rapture of the church will take place prior to the commencement of the seven-year Tribulation Period which is the time frame when the 666 marking system of the Antichrist will be forced upon the world. This catching away is what we term as a pretribulation Rapture.

Revelation 3:10 says:

“Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.”

Rapture Occurs Before 666 Marking System



The Rapture of the Church is when the Bride of Christ is caught away to Heaven at His return which occurs before the Tribulation Period. Those saints who are still living will be “caught up” or raptured (1 Thess. 4:17) before the Antichrist’s reign of terror occurs. This is reassuring to believers who are alive today. It

means that we are to be looking for the imminent appearing of the Lord Jesus Christ to remove us from planet earth before the days when the 666 coding and marking system is forced upon mankind. The promise given to the church of Philadelphia is a reassuring promise to all believers of the present Church Age that we will not enter the End Time Tribulation Period which consists of seven years.

This verse clearly teaches that we as God’s people will be raptured from this earth prior to the seven-year Tribulation Period. The “hour of temptation” (testing or adversity) is a direct reference to the coming Tribulation Period which is explained in Revelation chapters 6-19 of this End Time book. The Tribulation Period would include the specific time (3.5 years) when the Antichrist will demand worship of Himself and that all his followers receive the 666 marking.

There can be no doubt about the simplicity of this statement. The believers at Philadelphia were patient in all their trials and persecutions as Christ instructed them to be. Therefore, Jesus makes a promise to them that would bring great hope and encouragement to their hearts in view of all their patience. They would not have to endure any more tribulation, especially the future seven-year Tribulation Period. Christ promises that these saints (representative of the Church saints) would be taken out of the world (raptured) before the greatest trial the world has ever endured is unleashed upon mankind.

A simple reading of the Revelation 3:10 text would allow us to see that John was comforting the church by telling them that they would not be part of the future Tribulation Period or the time when the earth and mankind would face its greatest trial. Instead of going through more stress and fiery tests within their Christian life here on earth, they would be rescued or spared from the great coming test and fiery storm that would come upon lost humanity – the seven-year Tribulation Period.

In Revelation 3:10, Jesus promised that each one of them would be removed from the earth before the planet moves into the horror and judgment of these years of trial and adversity. Jesus is promising rapture instead of wrath for these Church Age saints. This is what He promises to the church today. This the promise for the Church Age. The passage states that they would be kept “from” (the preposition “ek”) the hour (the seven-year period of time), not simply through the events of the hour. The use of the preposition which is coupled with the term “the hour” should make it clear that the deliverance is from the period itself, not deliverance through the period.

If the passage intended to teach that these people would be kept through the time of trouble, it would be proper to use another Greek preposition (“dia”) meaning “through.” The writer did not use this preposition because he expected a mass exodus or departure from the earth before the Tribulation Period begins. When Jesus returns, he will take his children back to Heaven with Himself so that we can be where He dwells in Heaven.

John 14:3

“And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”

This is a pretribulation Rapture. This provides the church with the promise and assurance that we will not face the marking system of the Antichrist or any of God’s wrath which is expressed during the Tribulation Period. We will be snatched away before this climactic time period begins. We will escape all seven years of this horrific time of testing that is designed to punish earth dwellers. Therefore, the marking system of the Antichrist will not begin until after the Church has been raptured from planet earth. In

fact, the church will have been gone from earth three and one half years before to the making system is mandated and put into practice.



Someday the paper will read “Millions Missing” for God’s Church Age saints will be removed from this world prior to the coming seven-year judgment on earth. What a wonderful promise! We will not be subjected to the pressures of receiving this mark (666) on our right hand or upon our forehead.

We will be exempt from the enforcement of this 666 number and the terrible persecution and death that will follow those who refuse to receive it. This is good news for those of us who know the Lord as Savior. We will not be exposed to the marking system of the Antichrist since we will be in Heaven rejoicing with the Lord. The believer today must find rest and comfort in this promise. God has not appointed us to the specific wrath of the Tribulation Period. Therefore, we can wait for His return or coming with great hope and assurance.

1 Thessalonians 1:10 says:

“And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.”

Paul was referring to the specific time of wrath (the seven-year Tribulation Period) in this epistle since he repeatedly talks about it in the context of Christ’s imminent return (1 Thess. 1:10; 1 Thess. 4:13 - 5:1-10). The saints were to be waiting for the Rapture so they might escape the coming wrath of the seven-year Tribulation Period that was to be unleashed upon earth, which would include the 666 marking system of the Antichrist. This is why Christ’s coming is such a blessed hope to the church. It’s because Christ will rescue us from the great coming storm that will be unleashed upon planet earth with the one world government and marking system of the Antichrist.

We will be removed before the beast comes to power and establishes this world economic numbering system.

Titus 2:13

“Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.”

I am not looking for Antichrist and the enforcement of his numbering system of 666. I’m looking for the true Christ to return and remove me from planet earth before the Antichrist appears and demands his 666 mark of ownership and worship. Of course, our blessed hope consists of a redeemed body, reunion with our loves once, and rejoicing with Jesus, our Savior! But part of the blessed hope of the Church also includes our removal from planet earth before the seven years of terrible tribulation begins. The New Testament teaches that all of these blessings are associated with the Rapture of the Church.

“Jesus may come today,
Glad day! Glad day!
And I would see my Friend;
Dangers and troubles would end
If Jesus should come today.
Glad day! Glad day!
Is it the crowning day?
I'll live for today, nor anxious be,
Jesus my Lord I soon shall see;
Glad day! Glad day!
Is it the crowning day?”

Those who do not believe Christ can return at any moment and rapture His Church from earth, and who believe the Church is going to pass through the Tribulation Period, must change their church hymnals. Instead of singing “Glad Day” they must change the message to “Sad Day.” There hopeless hymnal sounds like this:

“Jesus can’t come today, Sad day! Sad day!
Dangers and troubles won’t end, If Jesus can’t come today.

Sad day! Sad day! Jesus can't come today.
The Beast and False Prophet I soon shall see,
Jesus, my Lord, I cannot see;
Sad day! Sad day! Jesus can't come today."

I'm glad that Jesus is coming back for His Church BEFORE the Tribulation Period and for this reason it will be a glad day! I will not be here when the Antichrist enforces a 666 mark upon mankind which is his signature of ownership and the worship of himself.

b. During the future Tribulation Period



Although the makings of a numerical calculation system are seen today within the world, it's not until the Tribulation Period that the actual marking system which corresponds to a 666 number will be enforced upon society. The Bible envisions a future time period that is yet to come upon the world. Daniel calls it the 70th or final week of

sevens (a final period of seven years) that is yet to come upon earth during the End Times.

The book of Daniel and other Scriptures predict that there is coming a specific period of seven years ("one week" – a week consisting of seven years), never fulfilled historically, but which will be fulfilled on earth during the future, which will involve intense judgments from the hand of God. This will be the time when the Antichrist will impose upon the world a 666 marking system which will reflect that a person is a worshipper and follower of the Antichrist.

In Matthew 24:21 Jesus predicted of this future time of tribulation that would come upon the earth: “For then shall be great tribulation (during the predicted Daniel’s 70th week – the final week of seven years), such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.”



Jesus connects this future time of earthly tribulation to Daniel’s week of seven years, which is the time when the Antichrist will break His covenant with the Jews during the middle of the week (seven years).

Matthew 24:15

“When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet (Dan. 9:27), stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:).”

Revelation 7:14 also envisions a future time of tribulation on earth:

“And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.”

Daniel, Jesus, and John are synchronized together in their prophetic writings and teachings. They clearly reveal that there is coming a future time when terrible tribulation will fall upon planet earth. It will be an unprecedented time of seven years of terrible judgment which the world has never witnessed before. It’s during this time period (Daniel’s prophesied 70th week) that the marking system will be forced upon humanity. This will occur in the second half of the Tribulation Period.

Various texts of Scripture give a prophetic calculation of time that is linked to the seven years. Sometimes in the prophetic writings, this period of time (7 years) is divided into two time periods consisting of 3.5 years each. It is described in various ways in Daniel’s writings and throughout the book of

Revelation to indicate what will be occurring on earth during the second half of the Tribulation Period, when Antichrist begins his reign of terror.



3.5 YEARS

Daniel 7:25

“And he (the Antichrist) shall speak *great* words against the most High (blaspheme God as seen in Rev. 13:6), and shall wear out the saints of the most High (persecuting God’s saints during the Tribulation Period), and think to change times and laws: (introducing an entirely new era in which he will abandon all

previous laws of God and institute his debased system of laws) and they (the saints of the Tribulation Period) shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time (3.5 years).

Daniel envisioned the time when the Antichrist will persecute God’s tribulation saints during the second half of the Tribulation Period, the time when he rules as a political and religious tyrant over the earth. The word “time” refers to one year, “times” refers to two years, and “the dividing of time” (half a time) refers to one half of a year, for a total of three and one-half years.

Time = 1 year
Times = 2 years
Dividing of Time
(half a time) =
 $\frac{1}{2}$ year
TOTALING 3.5 YEARS

Revelation 12:14 reveals this same prophetic time description: “And to the woman (Israel) were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.”

Revelation 12:6 gives the same amount of time in another figure: “And the woman fled into the wilderness (Israel fleeing from the Antichrist during the Tribulation Period), where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred *and* threescore



DAYS

days” (the last three and one half years figured by the Jewish calendar of 360 days a year).

In Revelation chapter 12, Satan is cast out of his heavenly domain at the midway point of the Tribulation Period (Rev. 12:9). After the devil is cast down to earth, he will concentrate on persecuting Israel through the Antichrist and his armies for three and one half years which is again referring to the last three and one half years of the Tribulation Period. This is the time Antichrist breaks his covenant and begins persecuting the Jewish people (Dan. 9:27).

42
MONTHS =
3.5 years

Revelation 13:5 gives yet another figure to express 3.5 years: “And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty *and* two months.”

These time designations teach that the Antichrist will establish his totalitarian and terrifying reign over the earth for three and one half years which is the second half of the Tribulation Period. This study will lead us to the conclusion that the marking system of 666 will take place during the second half of Daniel’s 70th week (the final week of seven years) which is the last three and one half years.

Revelation 11:2



Like Cyrus 2,500 years ago, Trump is seen by orthodox Jews as being an instrument used of God. They plan to build the Third Temple on the Temple Mount – where the Muslim Mosque currently stands. A political Middle East analyst would lead us to believe why Donald Trump’s declaration of Jerusalem as Israel’s capital was very important to the Jews. They want to rebuild the temple on this sacred site and apparently they will be given permission by the Antichrist to do this as

he seeks Middle East and worldwide peace during the first half of the Tribulation Period.

The Temple Institute encourages Jews to hope for their temple. This was seen in a new video that was put out. A statement was given on August 7, 2019 that said: "It's time to vote with our feet and send a clear message to the world that we truly believe that the Temple Mount is ours and we truly hope and pray for the rebuilding of the Third Temple."

The Bible teaches that the Jews will be able to rebuild their temple and reinstate their worship (Dan. 9:27) but then the Antichrist will stop the Jews from practicing their Judaism. The chronology of the book of Revelation suggests that after the Antichrist takes over the temple and institutes idol worship, it's then that he will start this marking system.



42
MONTHS =
3.5 years

Revelation 11:2 speaks of the Jewish temple being rebuilt during the Tribulation Period: "But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months."

Again, the figure of 42 months reflects the second half of the Tribulation Period. It's during this time when the rebuilt Jewish temple in Jerusalem will be taken over by the Antichrist and his paganized, Gentile, idolatrous worship will be instituted at the middle of the Tribulation Period. We will talk about this in another point. The text says that the temple will be controlled by Gentile powers for 42 months or three and one half years which implies the time when the Jewish people will be treated terribly and the temple is desecrated by Gentiles. All of this occurs during the second half of the Tribulation Period and is the time when Antichrist establishes his idol in the temple and rules planet earth.

The very next verse also reveals that the two returning witnesses during the second half of the Tribulation Period will prophesy for 1,260 days or three and one half years.

Revelation 11:3

“And I will give *power* unto my two witnesses (Elijah and Moses), and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred *and* threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.”



“Two hundred and threescore days” (1,260 days) = 3.5 years

The prophetic calculation (“two hundred and threescore days” or 1,260 days) once again speaks of the last three and one half years of the Tribulation Period. It will be during this time period that the Antichrist will establish his marking system. In fact, the very next chapter (Revelation 13) talks about the marking system being established in the world. This would suggest that after the temple is taken over by the first beast (Antichrist) and after the devil is cast out of heaven, only then will the marking system of 666 begin. In summary, this is the time period known as forty-two months, 1,260 days, a “time, times and half a time” and “two hundred and threescore days.” All of these time figures teach that the marking system will occur during the second half of the Tribulation Period.

These prophetic calculations would lead us to believe that the numbering system is yet future during the second half of the time period known as the Great Tribulation (Matthew 24:21). The progress in numerical codes along with the prominence of tattoos in our present day is paving the way for this End Time numbering code system to be established on a worldwide basis.

Tattoo Bar Codes that Can Be Scanned Are Here!



We have code numbers on all food and purchasing items today. But someday, a tattoo code 666 will have to be displayed on one’s body in order to be able to purchase or sell. It may very well be the specific number 666 tattoo that is displayed, or a numerical bar code that adds up to 666. Whatever the case might be,

this code will be scanned by a laser which gives permission for people to buy and sell. All economic workings and survival itself will depend upon this code. This is not fanaticism; it is Biblicism.

Some have suggested that if we needed to wait for scanners, lasers, and barcodes that the Rapture could not have happened until after the invention of these particular items in the 20th century. That's like saying Jesus could not come until the invention of the printing press! Of course, this type of reasoning is flawed. This same prophetic scenario could have been fulfilled in another way, without lasers and barcodes. But with the advancement of technology today, you can see how easily the marking system can be passed upon the entire world. More on all of this later.

As we finish our first point, we can conclude that the mark of the Beast, 666, has caused many to be afraid. But we as Christians shouldn't be afraid of this mark. First, the Church will be raptured before this marking system comes upon the earth (1 Thess. 1:5-10). Second, the mark signals the time of Satan's end is getting closer. Therefore, we should not fear this mark. The entire book of Revelation reminds us that the countdown to the Rapture, Satan's defeat at the Second Coming, and His demise after the Millennium in the Lake of Fire, and the Eternal State is about to get underway.

Introduction: When I was in elementary school, during the early 70's, I remember watching a film that caught my attention. I don't recall all of the content but it was about some kind of government takeover that would rule the lives of people. It was scary for a grade school boy. The film talked about "Big Daddy" and how the world was overtaken by a centralized government and individual. Looking back, it seemed to be depicting what the book of Revelation is speaking about. Revelation chapter 13 envisions the time when the personal Antichrist will seek to rule the lives of everyone on planet earth through a 666 marking system. The earth is headed toward dreadful times of deception where there will be a centralized form of world government, worship, and commerce.

2. What will be the significant events that lead to the establishment of this number?

We must understand that no person on the world scene today would be able to automatically say, “A statue is going to be built of me and be placed in the Jewish temple of worship. Furthermore, everyone on earth is now going to receive a 666 mark. The mark will be a sign that they want to worship me. Every person on earth will need this mark for economic and survival reasons. If they don’t receive the mark, they will be killed.” Of course, if anyone would try to impose this upon the world nations today, they would be laughed at and run out of town. So, the Bible teaches that there will be some significant events that occur which pave the way for this implementation of this marking system. It’s these events that we want to address before looking at the actual marking system of the End Times. How will the Antichrist be able to demand and impose a worldwide marking system upon the entire earth? What events transpire that lead to this universal marking system?

a. The return of the Beast from death (Antichrist)



A key event that will bring about the fame, worship, and power of the Antichrist is that he will falsely claim to have died in the past and to come back to life, as some legendary figure, which has been either resurrected or reincarnated from the realm of death to lead the world during what we know are the End Times (Tribulation Period).

We have some strange sayings in our country. When someone wants you to duck, we have an unusual expression that says, “Heads up!” You know, this does not even make sense! If you want to avoid getting your head hit by a ball or something else, you don’t want to lift up your head, you want to put it down and make your body as small as you can.

When I was at a Phillies game, the baseball players were trying to hit home runs before the game. One ball came into the crowd and everyone was

yelling, “Heads up!” I suppose the expression “heads up” means to concentrate on what is being said and is used as an advance warning system when a ball is headed toward your head! When we come to the prophetic Scriptures that talk about seven heads, I want to prepare you for this and give you an advance warning: “Heads Up!”

Revelation 12:3 introduces to us a seven-headed dragonish type of monster: “And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.”

Revelation 13:1 also reveals this same End-Time prophetic scenario to us: “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.”

The Course of World History in Rev. 12:3 & 13:1



The seven-headed beast imagery in the book of Revelation refers to both kingdoms and kings, with one of them which will be significant in the End Times. The prophetic language confirms the dual nature of the heads on the Beast vision (Dan. 2:44; 7:17, 24). The seven heads with their seven diadems (royal crowns symbolizing power and authority) represent seven

consecutive world empires with their corresponding kings, which have existed throughout the course of earth's history, and which were under Satan's dominion. The books of Daniel and Revelation reveal this to us, with the seven-headed Beast vision, taking us all the way back to Babylon and beyond.

Revelation 17:9-10

"And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads (on the Beast vision) are seven mountains (a prophetic symbol that speaks of kingdoms – Jer. 51:25; Dan. 2:35), on which the woman sitteth (the harlot system has influenced both the past, present, and prophetic nations on earth). And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, *and* the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space."

The Course of World History

"five are fallen" (Revelation 17:10)



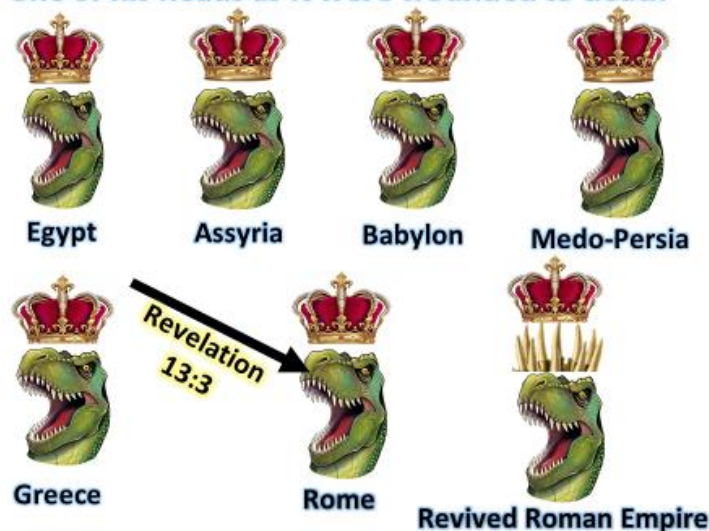
These historic and prophetic world powers would be Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome, and Antichrist's future empire which is the Revived Roman Empire, which consists of ten kings under his military authority (Rev. 17:9–10). This is why the ten horns are on one of the heads of the beast, which would be the seventh head, since this head represents

the Revived Roman Empire during the End Times. It will consist of ten kingdoms as we will confirm in a moment.

Revelation 13:3 goes on to speak of the death of the Beast:

“And I saw one of his heads (one of the first six heads which represent a historical king and kingdom of the past as also seen in Revelation 17:9-10 = Egypt Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome) as it were wounded to death (a king and kingdom that died in history); and his deadly wound was healed (through the deception of resurrection or reincarnation which occurs during the Tribulation Period): and all the world wondered after the beast (a resurrected or reincarnated historical Pharaoh, Nebuchadnezzar or Caesar of a past kingdom which has now come back to life). And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?”

“one of his heads as it were wounded to death”



One of the heads on the seven-headed beast vision is wounded and dies. This must be one of the first six heads since the seventh head is representative of the Revived Empire and the Antichrist which is not stated to die or be destroyed until the Second Coming (Rev. 13:10; 17:12-13; 2 Thess. 2:8; Dan. 2:44; 2 Thess. 2:8; Rev. 13:10; 19:19-20). This means that the Antichrist will claim to have died during one of the previous periods of history (represented as heads 1-6 on the Beast vision) and has come back to life in the period of the seventh head (Tribulation Period). For this

reason, it seems better to understand the Antichrist not dying and being raised back to life in the period of the seventh head but claiming that he died in another historical period and has now come back to life through reincarnation.



Humanity will be amazed and marvel at what seems to be an alleged return from death either through resurrection or reincarnation. In my humble opinion, it seems that an alleged reincarnation might be a better explanation or option of how the beast allegedly comes back to life, since he is seen to be reemerging from the ancient past.

Also, we must remember that Satan hates the resurrection of Christ and will not seek to duplicate it. Instead, he will likely oppose and be against everything that Christ stands for, including the resurrection (1 John 2:18). The resurrection also means his defeat (Heb. 2:14) and therefore Satan may create another lie that will stun the people of earth – the lie of reincarnation. Reincarnation also fits the scenario of a deification of a past Caesar or some other leader and hero of worship (Nimrod or Nebuchadnezzar whose nations were eventually absorbed into the historic Roman Empire) but who will once again reemerge on the world scene and demand worship once again, as in the days of old (Rev. 13:12).

The Antichrist may make the bold claim that he has appeared from the ancient past as a popular historic figure who ruled during one of the ancient and historical periods that the first six heads represented on the beast. You will notice that one of the heads (which represent kings with their appropriate corresponding kingdoms) dies or passes off the earthly scene. The sixth head (a specific Caesar and the Roman Empire) or another ancient head of the past (like Babylon and Nebuchadnezzar which was eventually absorbed into the Roman Empire) dies but then is seen coming back to life in the End Times as representative of the Revived Roman Empire under the Antichrist's rule and regime.

The death-to-life sequence seems to suggest that the Antichrist will make the bold claim to be an historical king that has actually died in the past, along with his ancient empire, which is representative in one of the six historical heads on the beast, and that he has now come back to life, which is represented by the seventh head (the final world empire). The Antichrist through his “lying wonders” (2 Thess. 2:9) will claim that he is one of the leading figures of ancient history, who lived in the area of the Roman Empire (heads 1-6), but who has now come back to life via reincarnation or karma (head 7). He might claim to be a Caesar, a Nero, or Nimrod, since all of these ancient figures were eventually absorbed into the Roman Empire and since they lived within the boundaries of the ancient Roman Empire (Rev. 13:1-3).

“his deadly wound was healed”
(Rev. 13:3) via REINCARNATION



In a day when Eastern Mysticism is very popular, it would seem that people on a worldwide scale would be inclined to believe in reincarnation more than resurrection. Today reincarnation is regularly mentioned in feature films, books, and popular music today. The concept of transmigration of the soul is very popular throughout the world.

Dr. Paul DeBell, a popular trained psychiatrist said:
“But nearly a billion Hindus and a half-billion Buddhists — not to mention the ancient Greeks, certain Jews and a few Christians — have for thousands of years believed something entirely different (than a one-time death which is followed by Heaven or hell). Theirs is, as the theologians say, a cyclical view. You are born. You live. You die. And because nobody’s perfect, your soul is born again — not in another location or sphere, and not in any metaphorical sense, but right here on earth.”

Janet Cunningham, president of the International Board for Regression Therapy, a professional standards group for past-life therapists and

researchers, said: “I can remember, 30 years ago, if a person wanted to learn about reincarnation, they would go into a bookstore and go into a very back corner, to a section called ‘Occult.’ It felt sneaky. Now the East is in our backyards, accessible on the Internet and in every yoga studio.”

NOTE: The designation Antichrist means Christ’s or Messiah’s opponent. Since the Antichrist (1 John 2:18) will be “against” Christ, he will seek to deify himself above anything and everything that is called God (2 Thess. 2:4). Therefore, he may not choose to imitate the resurrection of Christ. Instead, he may promote the delusion of reincarnation, which seems to fit the End Time picture and is a very plausible option of Revelation 13:3. The world will believe the lie of this man’s reincarnation and the Antichrist will then be worshipped even as unsaved people worshipped their leaders in the ancient, pagan civilizations of the past (2 Thess. 2:4-11).

When Revelation 13:3 says: “and all of the world wondered after the beast” it means that as a result of this alleged miracle or reincarnation, people all over the earth will be amazed and possess admiration toward the Antichrist, which sets up the world to receive the mark of the beast and worship him.

Revelation 13:12 says this of the False Prophet (the Antichrist’s right-hand man): “And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.”

The worship of a past king and leader that has been previously worshipped by millions of people, and which is now reincarnated or recycled, seems to be a better understanding of what is going to occur in the End Time prophetic scenario. This is the key reason why the world will worship this man of sin and be willing to receive his mark. His alleged return from the realm of death, which will be authenticated by the many miracles of the false prophet (Rev. 13:14) will give the Antichrist great universal popularity

and authority to impose the marking system upon planet earth. This brings us to our next reason how the marking system will be implanted throughout the entire earth.

b. The ratification of the Antichrist by miracles.

Revelation 13:11-14

“And I beheld another beast (another of the same kind) coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed (in the past). And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by *the means of* those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword (the past), and did live” (in the present).”



The False Prophet that emerges on the scene during the End Times will promote the false religion of Antichrist worship throughout the entire world (Rev. 13:14-16). The prophetic imagery describes the False Prophet (the right hand

man of the Antichrist) as coming “out of the earth.” Some teach that the sea refers to the Mediterranean Sea in the Middle East and so the “earth” or land must refer to the land of Palestine. They suggest that the earth or land indicates the false prophet will come from the land of Israel and is therefore a Jew. In other words, he will be a false prophet among the Jews

who seeks to persuade men to follow the antichrist, who is also another Jew.

This is an unlikely scenario. There is nothing in the Bible that proves the Antichrist and False Prophet are actually Jewish people. The Antichrist is seen coming out of the sea of Gentile humanity and follows in the same train as previous Gentile kings and kingdoms (Dan. 7). Instead, the evidence suggests these two men will be Gentiles. Think about this. Two Jews ruling the world during the period of time which the Bible calls the “times of the Gentiles” (Luke 21:24), when Gentiles will rule over the Jewish people, does not fit the prophetic picture. It is not a possibility.

This means that it is not valid to see a reference to Palestine in this expression “out of the earth” nor is it a Biblical conclusion based upon revealed facts.

John Waalvord correctly states:

“To argue that the earth means Palestine and that therefore this character is a Jew is reading into the passage more than it says.”

In the light of the anti-Semitism of the last half of the Tribulation Period (Rev. 12:6, 13-17), which the false prophet will promote, it seems unlikely that Satan or the first Beast (the Antichrist) would allow a Jew to live, much less occupy such an important position of power and authority in the world. More likely the false prophet is simply an important and popular religious figure, as the title “false prophet suggests, which Satan will use to promote the beast out of the sea (Rev. 13:1). The sea (likely a reference to the Mediterranean Sea) in Daniel’s writings is a figure of Gentile humanity out of which all the previous world leaders have emerged (Dan. 7).

In the case of the False Prophet, he is said to emerge from the earth (soil, or ground) which indicates the land or soil out of which man was created (Gen. 2:7) and takes on the meaning of someone who comes from the

human race instead of the heavenly domain. The false prophet will be part of those earthly people living during the Tribulation Period who are against God and His way (“them that sell upon the earth” – Rev. 3:10; 6:10; 11:10, 18).

The fact that he comes out of the earth is another way of describing his human origin instead of his heavenly origin. Although this second beast will perform many miracles and seem to be like Elijah and Moses, calling fire down from heaven (Rev. 11:5 with Rev. 13:13), he will not be from the heavenly realm. Instead, the False Prophet will originate from the earthly realm and is simply putting on a religious disguise. The beast rising out of the earth simply portrays man in his humanistic rebellion against God. The mention of the earth almost certainly indicates his earthiness as opposed to that which is from heaven.

In John 8:23 Jesus said to the unbelieving Jews:

“Ye are from beneath; I am from above: ye are of this world; I am not of this world.”

Arnold Fruchtenbaum (the Jewish Biblical scholar) suggests the mention of earth merely denotes his humanity. He is probably right. The earth speaks of humanity, humanism, and the goals of mankind which are against God, much like the 666 number he imposes on the earth, which is the number of man (created on the sixth day). Thus, coming out of the earth simply is teaching that the second beast is a creature of earth rather than of Heaven.

The fact that “he had two horns like a lamb” speaks of his great power and authority he will have on earth. Horns in the prophetic Scripture are a symbol of power (Dan. 7:24; Rev. 17:12). Of course, the “lamb” characteristic would also suggest that the Antichrist will appear to be a gentle, humble, and religious servant of mankind as he appears on the scene. He may seem harmless to mankind, but this is nothing more than deception. The False prophet will have much power and authority

throughout the earth during the last three and one half years of the Tribulation Period, along with the Antichrist. But the False Prophet will appear to be some kind of religious figure who promotes a new world religion that centers upon worshipping the Antichrist during the End Times.

Some prophecy students of God's Word suggest that this man will be the ecclesiastical leader of the one world church and that that he could be the Pope of the Roman Catholic Church. However, there is no direct indication that the False Prophet is the head of the apostate church (the great whore of Revelation 17) or that he will be a pope. Since the apostate church will be destroyed or taken out of the way by the middle of the Tribulation Period (Rev. 17:16), it's unlikely that the False Prophet will head it up. He may in some ways foster the growth of the apostate church for political reasons but then redirect its attention to the Antichrist at the right time (midway point of the Tribulation Period).

The Bible says that the False Prophet "spake as a dragon" (Rev. 13:11). This probably indicates that the second beast's message comes from the dragon (Satan), just as the first beast took his power and authority from the dragon (13:2). The implication of this statement is that the false prophet will be Satan's mouthpiece, who is represented as the dragon in the Book of Revelation (Rev. 12:9). This message that the False Prophets' will come from the dragon himself (Satan). What a terrible deception this man will bring upon the world of mankind! He will claim to be a religious man for he will point the world to worship the Antichrist.

In Revelation 13:11-16, we discover that the False prophet will perpetuate the lie that the Antichrist was wounded and died by a sword at one point in the historical past, but that he has now come back to life (reincarnation) to relive his life on earth, as some specific legendary leader of the ancient past.

It's interesting that the False Prophet will perform miracles before the presence of the Antichrist to authenticate this man as being a godlike man

who has returned from the ancient past. Similar to the early apostles, who authenticated their claims by signs and miracles (Mark 16:20), so the False Prophet will perform many miracles in the Beast's presence ("those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast" – 14) to authenticate and confirm that the Antichrist actually did return from the realm of death and is now prepared to rule the earth as God.

Revelation 19:20 states something similar:

"And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him (the Antichrist who is the first Beast), 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."

Only a false prophet who bears a false message would do such a dastardly act as this. A prophet is a religious type of person that declares to speak forth something on the basis of prophetic revelation. This coming False Prophet will declare that Antichrist is God (2 Thess. 2:9-10) and promote this false religious worship of the End Times (the second half of the Tribulation Period). In doing so, the False Prophet will deceive billions of people living on planet earth.

The main purpose of the False Prophet will be to perform demon-produced miracles which will convince the unsaved earth dwellers that he is a religious man and that what he says about the Antichrist (first beast) is absolutely true.

Jesus predicted of this time period in Matthew 24:24:

"For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect."

If a train of false Christ's and prophets are parading themselves before people during the coming Tribulation Period, then the Antichrist and False

Prophet will certainly bring the greatest End Time deception the world has ever witnessed. The miracles of the False Prophet will be so convincing that lost humanity will believe the lie that the Antichrist is God and eventually bow down to worship the new Caesar of the world.

2 Thessalonians 2:9 speaks of the Antichrist when saying:
“Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders.”

The miraculous signs of the False Prophet may be in view in this verse, since the Bible teaches the Antichrist will be authenticated as the only true God, through the miracles that the False Prophet performs in his presence (Rev. 13:13-14). Again, we must remember that miracles were signs used to authenticate a man and his message during the Old Testament era and the early days of the apostolic church (Mark 16:20; 2 Cor. 12:12; Heb. 2:3). The same pattern will be used by Satan during the coming Tribulation Period. Through manifesting great miraculous wonders in the presence of the Antichrist, the False Prophet will use satanic deception to lead unsaved people, or the world’s superstitious masses, that they should worship the first Beast (Antichrist) as God. Satan will empower the False Prophet to do great miraculous feats in order to confirm that he is a legitimate religious figure and the message he is sharing about the Antichrist’s resurgence from the realm of death as God (“lying wonder”) is absolutely true.

The miracles will authenticate what the False Prophet has been teaching people about the Antichrist, mainly, that the Antichrist is the only true God that has ever existed, that he received a wound in the past but has been reincarnated as the New Age God (“whose deadly wound was healed” – Rev. 13:12b), and that he should now be worshipped as God. By his miracles, the False Prophet will deceive untold millions of people, likely billions, causing them to believe the message that the Antichrist (first Beast) has returned from the realm of death as the only true God and that he alone should be worshipped.

These will be dreadfully scary and deceptive times to be living on earth!

A state legislator, appearing on an Omaha talk show, once said:
“We have to control church schools because fundamental, Bible-believing Christians do not have the right to indoctrinate their children in their faith, because we, the state, are preparing all children for the year 2000, when America will be part of the One World Global Society and their children won’t fit in.”

Of course, this is old news, but it points to the mindset of the New Age and New World Order mentality that is so prevalent in the world today. There is a New World Order and New Age coming. It’s the Tribulation Age and the New World Order under the regime of the Antichrist. It’s going to be a terrible time. During this time, the False Prophet will proclaim to be a man of religion and peace, as long as you don’t buck his system of worship! In essence, he will say, “You can have peace if you follow what I say or you can have your head taken off if you don’t follow my way.” During the Tribulation Period, mankind will think he has reached the “Age of Aquarius” when the entire earth will peaceably worship a man, who has actually recycled from the past as some heroic leader, and who claims to have reached godhood status.

So, deception by the False Prophet’s miracles and message will bring the world to the place where they will accept a marking system and be ready to worship the Antichrist.

c. The reuniting of the ancient Roman Empire.

History reveals that there were at least seven reasons why the great Roman Empire fell.

- Invasions by Barbarian tribes
- Economic troubles (inflation) and overreliance on slave labor
- The rise of the Eastern Empire
- Overexpansion and military overspending
- Government corruption and political instability
- Decline of morals and values
- Weakening of the Roman legions

The Bible predicts that someday the Roman Empire will come back to life. We see this in the Beast visions of both Daniel and Revelation. The Beast in the book of Revelation is not only portrayed as a person (king) but also empire (kingdom) that will come back to life during the End Times and be ruled by the Antichrist. This is another event leading up to the Antichrist's alleged reincarnation experience, his bid for world power, and enforcement of his 666 mark. It is his control over ten countries in the Middle East. These ten countries are prophesied to unite together and eventually be led by the Antichrist. All of this is envisioned on the Beast vision and in particular the seventh head with ten horns which is a picture of the Revived Roman Empire.

During the first half of the Tribulation Period (the seven years) the Antichrist will actually unite the European Common Market and rule the ten different confederacies which are represented as the ten horns on the beast vision (Rev. 13:1, Rev. 17:3, 12). He will do something that neither Charlemagne or Mussolini could do. He is going to rule all of Europe and the Middle East in reuniting the old Roman Empire.

Daniel foretold of the world empires that would emerge on the world scene. In Daniel chapter 7 he envisions four beasts rising up from the sea and each beast represented a world power that would dominate the world at a given point of time.

Daniel 7:17 gives a simple explanation:

"These great beasts, which are four, *are* four kings (along with their kingdoms), *which* shall arise out of the earth."



The kingdoms began with Babylon. But next would be the Medo-Persian Empire (the bear) and then the Grecian Empire. But the final kingdom would be the Roman Empire. This was pictured as the most ferocious kingdom that had ever existed on earth.

Daniel 7:7

“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 (the historic Roman Empire); and it had ten horns” (the prophetic Roman Empire of the End Times which is built upon ten horn or kings with their kingdoms). We don’t know that this beast looked like but Daniel said it was “dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly.”



Daniel 7:8 picks up on the horn imagery: “I considered the horns (the ten horns on the beast), and, behold, there came up among them another little horn (the personal Antichrist), before whom there were three of the first horns (representative of kings) plucked up by the roots (the Antichrist as the little horn wins the allegiance of three of the leaders and their kingdoms): and, behold, in this horn *were* eyes like the eyes of man, and a

mouth speaking great things” (the little horn who is the Antichrist will be intelligent but will also speak blasphemous things against God).



Daniel 7:20 continues the horn imagery.

“And of the ten horns (identified as kings) that *were* in his head (of the beast vision), and *of* the other which came up (the little horn of the Antichrist), and before whom three fell (three kings overtaken and ruled by Antichrist); even *of* that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look *was* more stout (greater and stronger) than his fellows.”

These horns are seen to be human figures (kings or leaders) and the little horn who rises up among these other horns in the vicinity of the old Roman Empire will be the Antichrist. The Antichrist is pictured as a little horn appearing among the other ten horns who will with his intelligence, demonic abilities,

Three horns
overtaken and
eventually
all of them will
be ruled by
Antichrist

(Daniel 7:8, 20)



and military genius take control of three of the superpower countries in Europe and the Middle East. Then, by the middle of the Tribulation Period, the rest of the seven will quickly fall under his power and authority (Rev. 17:12-13). He will have done something that no other person has ever done – reunite the old Roman Empire.

Daniel 7:24 prophetically interprets this beast and horns:

Daniel 7:24
“And the ten horns out of this kingdom (historical Roman Kingdom – not kingdoms throughout the earth) are ten kings that shall arise (prophecy of the future Revived Roman Empire consisting of ten kings): and another shall rise after them (the Antichrist); and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings” (overtake and rule three countries and then eventually rule all ten countries – Rev. 17:12-13)



The book, “The World's Worst Predictions” lists some of history's all-time prophetic goofs. King George II said in 1773 that the American colonies had little stomach for revolution. This certainly was not true!

An official of the White Star Line, speaking of the firm's newly built flagship, the Titanic, launched in 1912, declared that the ship was unsinkable. Of course, we know what happened to the Titanic.

In 1939 The New York Times said the problem of TV was that people had to glue their eyes to a screen, and that the average American wouldn't have time for it.

An English astronomy professor said in the early 19th century that air travel at high speed would be impossible because passengers would suffocate.

These people surely got it wrong! But I can guarantee you that what God says about the future is going to come to pass. He’s got it right!

Edgar R. Fiedler, economist, quoted Paul Dickson in “The Official Rules” on stock market predictions:

1. It is very difficult to forecast, especially about the future.
2. He who lives by the crystal ball soon learns to eat ground glass.
3. The moment you forecast, you know you're going to be wrong; you just don't know when and in which direction.
4. If you're ever right, never let them forget it.

Well, we are getting this right as we study the Scriptures historically and prophetically. We are seeing how Daniel is inseparably tied to the book of Revelation.

Revelation 17:3 picks up Daniel's vision of the beast and ten horns:

"So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman (the End Time apostate church identifies as a whore in verse 1) sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns."



This has been called Beauty on the Beast! The harlot church will evidently be used by the Antichrist for the first three and one half years as another way to help him gain popularity. This is why the ancient Babylonian harlot is seen riding the Beast. This indicates she has religiously and adversely influenced with her false doctrines the world nations of ancient history, who ruled the known world in their day. The same will be true during the End Time.

Daniel's visions and now John's seven-headed beast vision reveal what this beast is representing (the history and prophecy of the dominating world nations – Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome, and Revived Roman Empire). The sixth head on the beast image was a picture of the historic Roman Empire along with its king which Daniel foretold in Daniel 7. According to Daniel's writings, the Antichrist will emerge on to the world scene when coming out of the same ancient area represented by the sixth head (the Roman Empire – Dan. 7:24).

He will eventually unite ten kingdoms of the ancient Roman Empire, represented by the ten horns, and create a formidable and unbeatable force of power in the Middle East (Daniel 11:38). All of this is pictured as the seventh head on the Beast with ten horns and is the same prophetic analogy as found in the writings of Daniel. So you move from history (sixth head – Roman Empire) to prophecy (the seventh head with ten horns or ten kings of the Revived Roman Empire).



As we have already seen, Daniel predicts that the Antichrist (little horn) gains rule over three of the kings (horns) leaving only seven more to join his ranks. In Daniel's visions, the three were uprooted from the head of the Beast to indicate Antichrist's takeover of these nations. However, the Book of Revelation reveals that eventually the

rest of the seven will give their kingdoms over to the Antichrist which results in him ruling them also. To portray this, all ten horns are once again seen on the head of the Beast vision, which indicates Antichrist's control over all ten kings.

Revelation 17:12-13

“And the **ten horns** which thou sawest **are ten kings**, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. **These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.**”



The seventh head and ten horns on the beast in the Book of Revelation (Rev. 12:3; 13:1; 17:7, 9-10) is a direct reference to the final Revived Roman Empire which is fulfilled in the ten nations of Europe and the Middle East (the areas reflected in the vastness of the old Roman Empire). At its greatest extent, the Roman Empire included all the lands bordering on the Mediterranean Sea, and reached far into northern Europe and the Near East.



This means that the Antichrist will in one sense bring back to life the Roman Empire by ruling ten kings in this same geographic area. He will rule over the new Roman Empire as a reincarnated king of the ancient past. The old beast of the Roman Empire (the sixth head) will become a new revived beast (the seventh head) that will rule the world once again under the dictatorship of the Antichrist.

In one sense, the old Roman Empire never really died. It continued to smolder and exist in the nations populating this same general area of Europe and the Middle East. In a similar fashion the Antichrist will not truly be a historic figure that died in the past and was reincarnated. The reason is because Satan does not have the authority to bring people back from the

dead. This authority is only given to Christ (John 5:21; Revelation 1:18). Furthermore, this authority can never be transferred over to Satan.

One paper said this. The French president has called for the creation of a “true European army” to allow the EU defend itself from threats ranging from Donald Trump to Vladimir Putin. The French president has pushed for closer EU defense union since coming to power but has been so far met with limited success amid foot-dragging by other member states.

The French president also said: “We have to protect ourselves with respect to China, Russia and even the United States of America “When I see President Trump announcing that he’s quitting a major disarmament treaty which was formed after the 1980s Euro-missile crisis that hit Europe, who is the main victim? Europe and its security.”

The French president continued: “We will not protect the Europeans unless we decide to have a true European army. The election of Mr. Trump to the White House appears to have given more urgency to the cause of boosting the EU’s defense capabilities, with leaders warning they cannot simply rely on the United States.

The European Commission president said last year that “deference to NATO can no longer be used as a convenient alibi to argue against greater European efforts”. France is the strongest and most vocal proponent of an EU army but Germany has also tentatively endorsed proposals for a joint command structure for military interventions. A number of proposals have been put on the table for how EU nations could cooperate more closely on defense.

We see that there are plans that are already on the horizon for the new European army which would become the powerhouse of the world under the Antichrist. We live in changing times. The world is headed toward the ten kings (a united Europe and the Middle East) which will be ten nations ultimately ruled by the Antichrist. This united group of nations under the Antichrist will become a powerful force to contend with militarily.

d. The ruin of the apostate church.

With the reunification of the Roman Empire, the Antichrist will destroy the harlot church (the woman that was riding the beast) so he might become the sole power, dictator, and object of worship on planet earth. The Antichrist will use the ecumenical church for 3.5 years to help him gain popularity and acceptance but then destroy this harlot church when his time comes to be worshipped and implement the marking system.

Revelation 17:16 records:

“And the ten horns (the ten kings) which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore (the apostate church), and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.”



With the death of the apostate church and the reunification of the Roman Empire, along with the Antichrist's alleged pseudo death-to-life experience through the lie of resurrection, or more likely reincarnation, he will capture the world's attention and worship. He will come into world prominence and

power. All of these events we have discussed will give Antichrist the status of a hero and god so that he can begin a marking system. The world will be prepared to receive the 666 mark that the Antichrist is going to establish. By receiving the mark, those living on earth will be ready to pledge their worship and honor to the Antichrist, as the true God, and worship him, even as their ancient pagan ancestors worshipped their deified leaders.

Revelation 13:8 says:

“And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him (all people that take the mark and become Beast worshippers), whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.”

Years ago a hydroelectric dam was to be built across a valley in Maine. The people in the town were to eventually be relocated and the town itself would be totally submerged. During the time between the initial decision and the completion of the dam, the town, which had once been well-kept, fell into disrepair. One resident said, "Why keep it up now if it is going to be flooded?"

Another resident answered: "Where there is no faith in the future, there is no work in the present." Here is the point. We can be confident about the future. What God says about the future will come to pass just as He says. Until then, we must be busy serving the God of Heaven and doing His will for our lives. God has everything planned out and nothing will happen without His providential hand and approval. What can we do as we head closer to the Rapture and the End Times? What can we do when we see the world unraveling before our eyes? Keep serving Him and remain confident in His future plan. He is still on the throne. His perfect plan for this earth will come to pass. We can trust in His sovereign work in the midst of a fallen world. We must serve God and let His providential program come to pass, never doubting for one moment what God has planned for this earth and even our own personal lives.

A pastor was retiring after 25 years in his Church. As he came to clear out his bedroom he found a little basket under the bed with five eggs and \$1,000. Baffled he called his wife and said: "Darling, what are these eggs and money doing under the bed?" "Oh" she said "I must confess that every time you preached a bad sermon I put an egg in the basket." Secretly the pastor was pleased: "Not bad, five bad sermons in 25 years" he thought: "And what about the \$1,000 dollars?" "Well every time I get a dozen eggs I sold them."

I hope our study on Bible prophecy is not one of those egg sermons! We need to be interested in the things that God is interested in. Since His future plans for planet earth are of great interest to God, they should also be interesting to us. We get to see God's future plan for earth and how it's going to end. Besides, the book of Revelation promises a blessing to those of us who study it.

Revelation 1:3

“Blessed (happy, supremely blest, well off) *is* he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time *is* at hand” (the season or time for the Rapture and when all the events of the book of Revelation will begin to transpire).

In studying Bible prophecy, we receive the blessing of knowing the future (what lies ahead) and knowing who wins in the end (Jesus Christ). We also receive the blessing of seeing God’s sovereign hand at work in the world and how God’s meticulous plan will come to pass in the exact manner in which He outlines in the Book of Revelation.

e. The retribution against the invading armies.

Daniel’s 70 week (Seven Year Tribulation Period)



Somewhere near the middle of the seven-year Tribulation Period, Antichrist’s power will be challenged within the Middle East. Various powers will try and take out his war machine (the ten kingdoms) but they will fail miserably. This is another important event that will boost the Antichrist into his role of being a world dictator and why he will be able to

enforce the mark worldwide upon earth's inhabitants. He will defeat all the invading armies that seek to overthrow his power in the Middle East.

The end-time scenario takes place "at the time of the end" (Dan. 11:40), which according to Daniel is a prophetic reference describing the midway point of the Tribulation Period, since it relates to the same time when Daniel's people, as a nation, will begin to be severely persecuted (Dan. 12:1 with Matt. 24:15-21; Rev. 12:6).

Arnold Fruchtenbaum agrees:

"This passage concerns the conquests of the Antichrist in the middle of the Tribulation as he begins his world political takeover."

As the Antichrist moves to consolidate his ten kings and kingdoms together, at the middle of the Tribulation Period (Rev. 17:10-12), to create a formidable military power, there will be countries within the boundaries of the Roman Empire, which will contest his powerful grip on the Middle East, by challenging his position of dominance in the region. They will attack Antichrist but lose the battle. During this period of time Antichrist will conquer all his military opponents, but he will also break his treaty with the Jews, erect his blasphemous image (Dan. 9:27), and establish a strategic military base in Jerusalem (Dan. 11:45). Let's briefly look at this.

Daniel 11:40

"And at the time of the end (middle of the Tribulation Period) shall the king of the south push at him (Egypt and a coalition of southern allies – Libya and Sudan attack Antichrist): and the king of the north (Syria, as revealed in the previous historical records, which at this time will be an extension of Antichrist's Roman Kingdom) shall come against him (Egypt – king of the south) like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he (the Antichrist and his armies) shall enter into the countries (the southern countries), and shall overflow and pass over."

well have a Syrian background and come from the land of Assyria (Micah 5:5-6).

How will these countries attack the Antichrist who, according to Revelation 17, will have his capital or headquarters in Babylon? The countries will apparently come to attack Israel, who will still be an ally of the Antichrist at this time, prior to abandoning the Jewish sacrifice (Dan. 9:27). Therefore, any attack upon Israel would mean an attack upon the Antichrist, at this particular time, since Israel would be an extension of the Antichrist's arm and kingdom.

Daniel 11:41 goes on to say:

"He shall enter also into the glorious land (Israel), and many *countries* shall be overthrown (the soldiers of countries opposing Antichrist): but these shall escape out of his hand, *even* Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon."

Mention of the Antichrist moving through the Holy Land ("the glorious land" – vs. 41) would indicate that the troops will be gathering to destroy Israel. The Antichrist will seek to destroy all those troops who oppose Israel and his powerful kingdom (Dan. 11:40) at the midway point of Daniel's 70th week (Dan. 9:27). On his journey from Babylon, to the Holy Land, and to Egypt in the south, the Antichrist will destroy many soldiers and peoples and overthrow many countries in his rage (vs. 40).

First, he will pass through Palestine and many soldiers in this area will fall prey to his war effort (vs. 41) except some ancient lands which are reserved for a special judgment at Christ's Second Coming (Isa. 11:11-14; Ezek. 25:12-14). They are the lands of Edom, Moab, and Ammon - the people who are the ancient enemies of Israel (vs. 41).

Second, we discover from the prophetic revelation that the Antichrist will utterly defeat Egypt (vs. 42) along with her allies in his southern invasion, such as Libya and Ethiopia (Sudan), who are said to be symbolically placed under his feet (under his control) and they will bow in surrender and submission to him.

Daniel 11:43 says:

“But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians (Sudan) shall be at his steps.”

At some point, after Antichrist has plundered the southern countries, perhaps while he is still within these southern regions, he receives “tidings” (news or report) of another joint military effort coming from the east and north to intersect his army.

Daniel 11:44 prophetically anticipates the second invasion:

“But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many.”

A second band of countries with their military might will combine forces in order to try and overthrow the power and strong kingdom of the Antichrist in Europe and the Middle East. The invaders from the East would no doubt include such countries as Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan, Islamic countries immediately east of Israel, which have not yet capitulated or surrendered unconditionally to be part of Antichrist’s Roman kingdom.

Of course, one should not confuse the eastern armies (“kings of the east”) moving into the Holy Land of Israel as a reference to Armageddon (Rev. 16:12-16) with this eastern army in Daniel 11:44. These events occur at different times. Daniel chapter 11:36-45 occurs during the middle of the seven-year Tribulation Period, while Revelation 16:12 occurs at the end of the Tribulation Period, as the armies converge together to make war with the Lamb (Rev. 16:12-16). Daniel chapter 11 deals with various wars against the Antichrist but Revelation 16 deals with a final war against the true Christ.

A northern invader (Dan. 11:44 – “out of the north”) could possibly portray a northern nation which is moving southward to Egypt, the location or place where the Antichrist has just conquered (Dan. 11:43). This northern threat may very well include another Arab nation or coalition of nations that are trying to detest their participation with Antichrist’s Roman

Empire. Perhaps they are countries such as Lebanon or Turkey, which are poised north of Egypt, and which protest the Antichrist's rise to world power in the European arena.

This country cannot be Iraq since Antichrist will have a capital in Babylon (Revelation 17). It cannot be Russia since it never called "king of the north" in relationship to the land of Egypt. Furthermore, this cannot be referring to Russia's invasion in Ezekiel 38-39, since the invaders from the north are destroyed by God in the mountains of Israel (Ezek. 38:19-23; 39:1-12).

Whoever this northern invader might be, we do know that some northern nation or allied countries will try and place their bid for a place of prominence and power in the Middle East and contest the Antichrist's rise to power in Europe and the Middle East.

It's clear from Daniel 11:44 that this coalition of eastern and northern powers is yet another attempt to overthrow Antichrist's End Time power as a new Caesar of the Roman Empire.

Daniel 11:45 concludes:

"And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas (Mediterranean and Dead Seas) in the glorious holy mountain (Jerusalem); yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him."



In order to have a more strategic military location in the Middle East, the Antichrist will, at some point, plant himself in Jerusalem, which is “between the seas” (the Mediterranean and Dead seas – vs. 45). He will establish his military palace and position in this strategic location for the rest of the Tribulation Period (three and one half years) and control the major oil reserves of the world which are linked with his Revived Roman Empire in Europe and the Middle East.

His location in Jerusalem will also set the stage for the Antichrist to stop the Jewish sacrifices and begin His persecution of the Jewish people (Dan. 9:27; Matt. 24:15-21; Rev. 12). One thing seems certain, Jerusalem will become his military palace or headquarters (Dan. 11:45), while Babylon will be his political and economic palace or headquarters (Zech. 5; Rev. 17-18).

Antichrist and his armies will utterly destroy these invading armies who are challenging his bid for control in the Middle East. These military victories will result in Antichrist’s popularity and seeming invincible power of the Antichrist. With Antichrist’s reuniting of the Roman Empire. His destruction of the invading armies challenging his position in the Middle East, along with destroying the apostate church and stopping the Jewish sacrifices (Dan. 9:27), he will be ready to begin worship of himself and impose the 666 marking system worldwide.

One pastor wrote this. A few years ago my wife and I visited the Lacadone Indian tribe in southern Mexico who made what they called god-pots with ugly faces and worshiped them. They would make an intoxicating drink from certain tree leaves. They would then drink this and dance around these pots as they worshipped them and fall in a drunken stupor. We are reminded once again how mankind can worship just about anything and anyone! This will certainly be true during the Tribulation Period.

There was a man who called himself Father Divine whose name was actually George Baker. He rose to a place of prominence, so much so, he claimed to be God. This was back in the early 1900’s. The true story is really crazy. Father Divine attended a local Baptist Church, often preaching, until 1907. A traveling preacher called Samuel Morris began to speak in his place and was eventually expelled from the congregation. Morris, originally from

Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, had a soft-spoken and uncontroversial sermon until the end, when he raised his arms and shouted, "I am the Eternal Father!" This routine had him thrown out of many churches in Baltimore. I wonder why?

In his late 20s, Father Divine became Morris's first follower. Father Divine preached with Morris in Baltimore out of the home of former evangelist Harriette Snowden, who came to accept the divinity of both of these men. Morris began calling himself "Father Jehovia" and Baker called himself Father Divine.

This demonstrates the lunacy of these men. But the Antichrist, although a religious fanatic, will capture the hearts and minds of untold millions upon millions of people throughout the earth. They will actually worship him and receive a mark signifying their loyalty and worship of this man.

Daniel 11:36-38 gives this summary of the Antichrist and his worship:
"And the king (the Antichrist) shall do according to his will (he will possess total political power); and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god (he will possess total religious power - claiming to be the only true God), and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods (blasphemous statements), and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done (Antichrist's rule is determined by God and according to God's timetable). But in his estate shall he honour the God of forces (he will possess strong military power): and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things. Neither shall he regard the God (Elohim, which is a natural plural, can be translated as "gods" as in other places – Ex. 20:3) of his fathers (since he will be a Gentile, Antichrist will have no respect for any past pagan gods in his religious heritage, since he will have absolute power in the religious realm), nor the desire of women (he will repudiate the messianic hope of Israel – the nation's Savior and King), nor regard any god (any god or God that is worshipped by the Jews or Gentiles): for he shall magnify himself above all" (as the sole object of worship).

This man of sin will be a political and military genius but a religious lunatic. He will claim that he is the only true God that has ever existed and will demand worship of himself. But the great masses in the world will fall for this lie and the world will be deceived into Beast worship and receiving the 666 mark of the Beast.

f. The raising up of an image of worship.

Hideyoshi, a Japanese warlord who ruled over Japan in the late 1500s, commissioned a colossal statue of Buddha for a shrine in Kyoto. It took 50,000 men five years to build, but the work had scarcely been completed when the earthquake of 1596 brought the roof of the shrine crashing down and wrecked the statue. In a rage Hideyoshi shot an arrow at the fallen colossus: "I put you here at great expense," he shouted, "and you can't even look after your own temple."

We are now going to discover how the False Prophet will erect a statue of the Antichrist and demand that it be worshipped universally. This bold act of erecting a statue of the Antichrist for the purpose of idolatrous worship will be the final significant event that occurs which will lead up to the establishing of the marking system and the number 666. The erection of a statue or image to the Antichrist within the rebuilt Jewish temple during the Tribulation Period will lead to the identifying marking system and the number 666. Those who are ready to worship the beast will receive a mark to demonstrate their allegiance and loyalty to him.

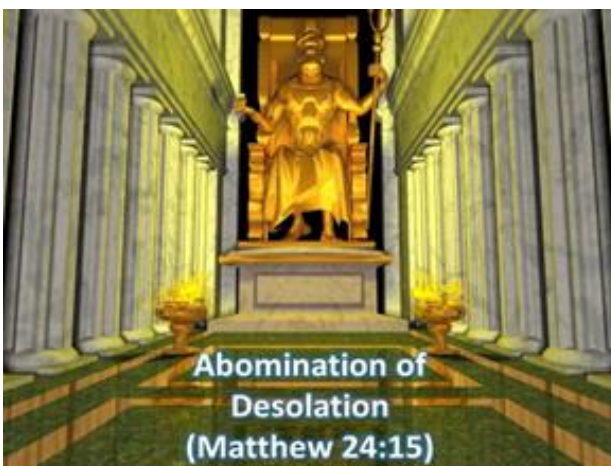
Daniel 9:27 records that this statue of the Antichrist will be erected in the Jewish temple: "And he (identified as the prince that shall come in verse 26 = Antichrist) shall confirm the covenant (the idea is to force or impose a strong or binding covenant because of Antichrist's political backing and popularity with the ten kings) with many (the Jews and nations among the world in view of his political clout in the Middle East) for one week (literally – "a seven" = seven years): and in the midst of the week (the middle of the seven years) he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease (the Jewish sacrifices that will once again be offered during the Tribulation Period in a rebuilt temple will be cut off by the Antichrist), and for the overspreading of abominations (a detestable statue of the antichrist in the

Holy of Holies) he shall make it desolate (a place of astonishment and horror), even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate” (either the Jews who have been horrified or stunned or the desolater himself – the Antichrist).

Once again, Daniel is talking about weeks of years (the time of the Jewish captivity of 70 years, the 400 silent years and up to the Triumphant Entry of Christ into Jerusalem). In Daniel 9:27 he is envisioning a final week consisting of seven years in length which is yet to come upon planet earth. This week of seven years will come to pass during the future seven-year Tribulation Period which was spoken about by Christ (Matt. 24:8, 21) and which is outlined in the book of Revelation (Rev. 7:14).

This will be the actual timeframe when the Antichrist will establish this worldwide marking system, specifically during the last three and one half years, following what Daniel determined as “the midst of the week” (in the middle of the week of period of seven years).

The Antichrist will promise national Israel peace for seven years but in the middle of the seven years (“in the midst of the week”) he will break his covenant and introduce an act of idolatrous worship by allowing the False Prophet to establish an image within the temple which is dedicated to himself. This idol worship is depicted as the “overspreading of abominations” in that the idol of the Antichrist will have arms that overspread the mercy seat area.



This is said to be an “abomination” or a type of detestable act perpetrated against the Jews. It will make the temple area become a place of wonder and amazement (“shall make it desolate” = a place of horror) to every orthodox Jew during this day. In other words, they will be stupefied when they see what this man of sin has done with their

temple. This idol worship, along with the marking system of 666, which is connected with the worship of Antichrist's statue, will begin at the midway point of the seven years and last to the ending of the Tribulation Period.

Daniel prophesied of this detestable act in several Old Testament texts throughout his prophecies.

Daniel 11:31

"And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily *sacrifice*, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate."

In recording the history of Antiochus Epiphanes (the Syrian leader who seized Jerusalem), we discover that he did a similar thing that the Antichrist will do. He was a madman. Antiochus sent his general Apollonius with 22,000 soldiers into Jerusalem on what was allegedly to be a peace mission. But they attacked Jerusalem on the Sabbath, killed many people, took many women and children as slaves, and plundered and burned the city.

In seeking to exterminate Judaism, he forbade the Jews to follow their religious practices. He stopped their Jewish sacrifices ("shall take away the daily sacrifice") and then did something very dastardly. In fact, what this Syrian general did is a foreshadowing of what the Antichrist will do.

The abomination of Desolation in the Day of Antiochus Epiphanes



A foreshadowing of Antichrist's Abomination of Desolation

Historically, on December 14, 168 B.C., Antiochus IV built and erected an altar to Zeus (the god of Greece) in the sanctuary (holy place) and then had a pig offered on the altar of burnt sacrifice in honor of Zeus. The Jews were compelled to offer a pig on the 25th of each month to celebrate Antiochus Epiphanes' birthday. The statue of Zeus

is then described as making the Jewish altar “the abomination that make desolate” which again means the Jewish altar will become a place of horror, shock, and amazement to all the orthodox Jews. These detestable acts of idolatry eventually caused what was known as the Jewish Maccabean revolt which occurred during the intertestamental period.

Antiochus’ actions were a preview of similar atrocities that are yet to befall the Jews during the End Times (Tribulation Period). The future Antichrist will put his own image in the Jewish temple when he breaks his covenant with the Jews in the middle of the seven-year tribulation period, Daniel’s seventieth week (9:27; 12:11; Matt. 24:15; Mark 13:14).

John Walvoord correctly states:

“Antiochus thus becomes a type of the future man of sin and his activities foreshadow the ultimate blasphemous persecution of Israel and the desecration of their temple.”

Daniel 12:11 once again describes the Antichrist’s statue in the Jewish sanctuary: “And from the time *that* the daily *sacrifice* shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, *there shall be* a thousand two hundred and ninety days.”

When coming to the New Testament, this detestable act is referenced by Christ as the “abomination of desolation.”

Again, Jesus taught in Matthew 24:21:

“For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.”

Jesus clearly reveals that there is coming a future time when terrible tribulation will fall upon planet earth. It will be an unprecedented time of terrible judgment which the world has never witnessed before. It’s during this time period (Daniel’s prophesied 70th week) that the marking system will be forced upon humanity. This will occur in the second half of the Tribulation Period as Jesus goes on to explain.

Matthew 24:15

“When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation (the awful horror and horrific act of putting a statue of the Antichrist into the Holy of Holies of the rebuilt Jewish temple), spoken of by Daniel the prophet (Daniel 9:27), stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains.”

Jesus links His Matthew 24:15 statement with Daniel’s prophecy which we have already studied. Daniel 9:27 spoke of the “overspreading of abominations” and mentions this “abomination that maketh desolate” twice (Dan. 11:31; 12:11) and which will be “set up” (Dan. 12:11).

This idolatrous act will send shock waves through the hearts of the orthodox Jews. They will know and believe that idol worship was strictly forbidden in the law.

Exodus 20:3-5

“Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me.”

This despicable statue that the Antichrist will erect in the future Jewish temple will be an act of blasphemy before the true God of Heaven. As we have seen, this act is called the “abomination of desolation” in other Scriptures (Matthew 24:15; Daniel 9:27, 11:31, 12:11).

Revelation 13:14-15 describes the future erection of this image within the Jewish temple. “And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast (authenticating his godhood status); saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast (an image of tribute to the Antichrist which can also be worshipped), which had the wound by a sword (during the past), and did live (live again in the present - his alleged return from death). And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast

(demonic power), that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast (the purpose for the erection of the statue) should be killed.”

Revelation 13:15 once again states:

“And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.”

At the dawn of the computer age, some prophecy scholars tried to identify this statue to the beast as some kind of giant computerized individual that will be able to talk and bring amazement to the earth dwellers. I disagree with such an interpretation as this, First, the Bible says that it is an image or statue and not a computer. It will be an exact likeness or representation of the beast. Second, man is not amazed at talking computers. We have computerized statues today that talk to people. Automation today can already produce computerized people. If you do not believe me, then go to Disney World. You will see the many computerized figures of people and other images speaking.

Marty the Walking Robot



Or just go to Giant Store. They have a walking computer named “Marty” that moves around the store watching for shoplifters and making his presence known. Talking computerized robots is nothing new. But a statue made out of wood, stone, and other precious metals which actually talks would grab the attention of the world.

What we see occurring with this statue is a demonic miracle. The False Prophet will summons the demonic world to interact with this manmade statue which is a replica and representation of the Antichrist and cause this statue to actually talk and voice commands. The False Prophet will not give actual life to the statue, but he will supernaturally work in connection with

this idol to give it the appearance that it is alive. This will be a marvel to the entire world. Paul already concluded that behind all idols are demons (1 Corinthians 10:20).

When people worship idols, they are actually worshipping demons and the ruler of those demons, who is Satan himself. Since demons are already behind idolatry, it would not be surprising for Satan to use his demons to interact with this idol of the beast and allow the idol to begin speaking. Thus, the idol would be demonically controlled and miraculously animated and be able to speak. A talking statue will become an amazing phenomenon to the people on the earth. It will prove that the Antichrist must be the true God.

It's interesting to note that this demonically engineered talking statue will actually voice the edict to begin the marking system for the Bible states "that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed." Demonic intervention with this statue or a demon speaking through this statue will do the Antichrist's bidding and issue the worldwide decree that all must receive a mark of 666 to prove their loyalty and worship of the beastly image. A demon speaking through the statue will instigate this dreadful 666 marking system and order the death of all beast non-worshippers.

This talking demonic statue of the beast will be the final step that will lead to the establishment of this world marking system. The wonder and amazement of the people toward this speaking idol will lead to their willing obedience to receive this mark and follow this wonder working false god of miracles. Apparently the marking system will be a way to keep tabs on people. It will be a way to know who is actually giving their allegiance to this erected image of the beast. The way a person will prove that they are worshipping his image will be to receive a mark which will identify them with the Antichrist.

Revelation 14:9 seems to teach this very point:

"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."

You will note that the act of worshipping the beast is tied together with the thought of receiving the mark of the beast. The one act (worship of the beast) is proven by the other act (receiving the mark). This means that all those people who receive the mark will in essence be showing their allegiance and worship to this pseudo god. Other verses equate the mark of the beast with beast worship and indicate that every person who receives the mark will be considered a beast worshipper and in reality they will sell their soul to the devil when receiving this mark (Rev. 14:11; 16:2; 19:20; 20:4).

John MacArthur makes a summary comment on this:

“As the power of Antichrist and the persuasiveness of the false prophet grow, Satan will escalate the false world religion of Antichrist worship. Humanity will eventually come to be so completely under the influence of the false prophet that people will obey his command to make an image to the beast. The world will engage in the most shocking, blatant idolatry ever seen. Like Nebuchadnezzar before him (Dan. 3), but on a global scale, Antichrist, aided by the false prophet, will set up a statue of himself as a symbol of his deity and worldwide worship. This blasphemous image will probably be set up on the temple grounds in Jerusalem (cf. 2 Thess. 2:4) and will be connected with the abomination of desolation (Dan. 9:27; 11:31; 12:11; Matt. 24:15). It will be a tribute to the awesome power of Antichrist, who had the wound of the sword and has come to life (cf. vv. 3, 12), to seemingly conquer death.”

It would then seem that the alleged but fake miraculous resurrection or reincarnation of the Antichrist from the dead and the statue of worship erected to the man of sin (2 Thess. 2:3) will be the primary events that lead up to the marking system during this dreadful period of time known as the Tribulation Period. These events will provide the world with the deceptive understanding that this Beast (Antichrist) is actually the true God. They will believe this lie and begin to worship this man of sin.

As a result of his so-called miraculous resurrection or reincarnation of a past pagan leader, and an image built to honor this man, the New Age god, the world will begin to worship him. Many people will believe the lie that this man has actually achieved the status of the true God. As a result, the

False Prophet will require people to be numerically marked in order to express their complete allegiance to the Antichrist and the image erected to honor the Beast. The mark will denote loyalty to the beast and signify ownership by the beast. Sadly, through this image, Satan will have effectively deceived the world into worshipping himself. Of course, this is what he always wanted (worship) since he decided to rise above God. Satan wanted the place of worship (Isaiah 14:12-14).

George Orwell said:

“When men stop worshipping God, they promptly start worshipping man, with disastrous results.”

Such will be the case during the Tribulation Period when the world worships the Antichrist.

Romans 1:22-23 says:

“Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man....”

The deranged people living on planet earth at this time will attempt to replace Creator God with a manmade idol that can be worshipped. They will try to make the true God into their own false god, which they create with their own hands. As a result, God will not only return them over to a reprobate mind but as we will see later bring a judicial blindness upon them for in these day “God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie” (2 Thess. 2:11). Until millions of people will bow down and worship this false god (the statue of Antichrist) whom they have created giving honor and worship to the personal Antichrist. What a tragedy it is when man misses the true Creator and God of the universe.

There was an earlier day when this happened on a smaller scale throughout the Babylonian Empire. King Nebuchadnezzar had an image built of himself and demanded the people of that day bow down and worship it.

Daniel 3:5-6 records:

“That at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up: And whoso falleth not down and worshipping shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.”

This is a prelude and foreshadowing of the next image that will be built of a man during the End Times. The Antichrist will claim to be a Nebuchadnezzar type of person or some legendary figure of the past who has come back to life to rule planet earth. He also will build a statue of himself and demand worldwide worship. Those who fail to worship it will be killed.

Deuteronomy 11:16 gives all of us a timeless and practical warning:

“Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them.”

P. T. Barnum was an American showman of the nineteenth century who captivated American audiences with elaborate hoaxes that earned him a reputation as the "Prince of Humbugs." He didn't consider his shows to be underhanded because his audiences were willing participants in his ruses. In Barnum's words, "The people like to be humbugged."

During the Tribulation Period, there will be a new showman who surpasses every person that has gone before him. Unlike Barnum, his tricks won't be lighthearted entertainment. Promising peace and prosperity, the Antichrist will eventually convince nations to disarm and grant him complete control. Together with his False Prophet, the Antichrist will convince millions that his government and his economic system is:

“Everything you ever want.
It's everything you ever need.
And it's right here in front of you.
It is where you wanna be.”

The price of admission to this new world order will be a nonrefundable, mandatory mark worn by every citizen. It is known as the mark of the Beast, or simply "666."

3. Who will receive the number of the beast?

As we have seen in our last point (Revelation 13:14), the False Prophet will evidently be a religious-oriented man who will cause the world to erect this statue or image to the beast. Man in his devilish deception will build a duplicate statue of the man who they want to worship. They will joyfully erect an image that will promote the worship of this wicked individual under Satan's power (Rev. 13:2).

You will notice that this image is said to be "to" the beast (Rev. 13:14) in the sense that it was to duplicate him and be used to honor and worship this demonized man in the coming day. The deceived world of mankind will on a large scale pay homage and worship to this image. They will be deceived by the End Time stunt of the Antichrist's alleged return from death, which Satan will promote.

The lost world of humanity will on a large-scale respond in worship to the image of the beast that is erected in the Jewish temple. The text says that the False Prophet is going to do something miraculous to this statue or idol that is erected within the temple. He will cause this statue or idol to speak. This will be through demonic automation (a talking demonic statue).

Here is what the prophetic Scriptures teach. The Antichrist will destroy the false religious system and institute the worship of himself (Rev. 17:15–17). That will happen at the midpoint of the Tribulation, which is the same time when Antichrist sets up the abomination of desolation (Dan. 9:27; 11:31; 12:11; Matt. 24:15; 2 Thess. 2:3–4). Having reached the pinnacle of his power, Antichrist will destroy all other religions. The worship of Antichrist, by the false prophet, will become the only religion tolerated during the second half of the Tribulation Period. The 666 marking system is repeatedly mentioned in the Book of Revelation to remind us that this marking system will be a reflection of a person's Beast loyalty and worship of the Antichrist. The Bible repeatedly states that the worship of the beast (Antichrist)

through the image erected in the temple in Jerusalem is also linked to the End Time marking system, which becomes the outwardly displayed mark of all those who are loyal worshippers of the Antichrist. Let's look at all of these verses dealing with the marking system and worship of the image of the Beast.

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, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb."

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.”

All of these verses teach that a person sells their soul to the Antichrist, and ultimately the devil, when they receive the mark of the Beast. Receiving this mark is the equivalent of being owned by the Antichrist and also portrays that one has become a worshipper of the Antichrist.

Evidently those who receive the numerical mark will do so willingly and not out of force. This will be the vast host of unsaved earth dwellers identified as them “that dwell upon the earth” (Rev. 3:10).

Revelation 13:8

“And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.”

This repeated reference to those who dwell on earth is a reference to the unsaved living during the Tribulation Period who are loyal to the Beast and who willingly want to worship the Beast image. Those people who do not have their names recorded in the Lamb’s book of life are not saved and will have no reason to refuse the mark. These people will gladly receive the mark as they pay homage to this miracle man of resurrection or reincarnation. It will be the new thing of the day. Everyone who is unsaved on planet earth will want to show respect and loyalty to this military and miraculous genius. This loyalty and respect will be seen as people everywhere, even into the far reaches of the globe, willingly submit to the marking system of the day.

Revelation 13:16 says:

“And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads.”

The unsaved or unregenerate of the world are classified as to their different social status in society (“small and great”), their class according to wealth (“rich and poor”) and according to their working place and standing within society (“free and bond”). All of these expressions are given to denote the universality of the marking system. No class of citizen will be left out. Pressure will come to the entire population to receive this 666 symbol of allegiance dedicated to the Antichrist.

This marking system may be rather difficult to implement in those far-flung places such as rural Africa and Asia. But the Antichrist will attempt to mark people worldwide. The Antichrist will want the entire world to worship Him and become loyal to Him through this act of receiving the mark of the beast.

So who will receive the mark of the Beast? It will be all unregenerate people who have decided to side with the Antichrist. The unbelieving world of humanity will be deceived not only because of the wicked deception of Satan, demons, Antichrist, and the False Prophet, but also because of God’s direct hand of judgment.

2 Thessalonians 2:8-12 gives us this prophetic information:

“And then shall that Wicked (the Wicked One who is the Antichrist) be revealed (during Daniel’s 70th week - the Tribulation Period), **whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming** (the Second Coming): **Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders** (the Antichrist’s lie of resurrection or reincarnation from the ancient past and the lie or claim that he is God which are confirmed by the miraculous signs done by himself and False Prophet), **And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness** (a deception that comes from Satan through the miracles performed by the Antichrist and False Prophet causing the people to follow Satan’s unrighteous ways) **in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth** (the personal reason for the deception of people living during the Tribulation Period – they reject the truth), **that they might be saved. And for this cause** (rejecting the truth of salvation through Jesus Christ presented on earth during the Tribulation) **God shall send them strong delusion** (the divine reason for the deception - God sends delusion

for rejecting salvation through His Son), that they should believe a lie (the lie that Antichrist is God): **That they all might be damned** (to an everlasting hell) **who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness**" (the unrighteous decision and act to worship the Antichrist).

God confirms people in their choice. Just like he did to Pharaoh. When people utterly reject God He reserves the right to turn them over to their unbelief (Rom. 1:28). When people totally abandon God in their minds and hearts, God can abandon them to their unrighteousness. The text literally reads, "that they should believe the lie" which is the lie of all lies. This is the most wicked and horrendous lie that the Antichrist will promote concerning Himself. It is the lie that He is the only true God that has ever existed.

The false prophet's preaching will succeed in part because it will arrive "with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved" (2 Thess. 2:10). But this deception will also succeed because "God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie."

At this point, it must be understood that not every unsaved person will receive the mark. When the Bible says "and all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him" (Rev. 13:8,12,14;14:6; 3:10; 6:10; 11:10), the statement must be qualified. This is a general statement that does not overlook the fact that God will preserve a vast company and community of unbelieving Israelites until He returns to earth in His Second Coming (Revelation 12:13-16). Many unbelieving Jews will place their faith in Christ when He returns and become a believing remnant of people within the nation (Zechariah 12:10; 13:1; Joel 2:32). These people, among other surviving believers, will populate the millennial earth. Therefore, there will be unbelieving Jews that will not receive the mark and be protected by God. Unbelieving orthodox Jews will know that the Antichrist is an impostor due to his established idolatrous worship.

But Jews are not the only ones to survive, since many Gentiles will also turn to Christ in the End Time and somehow escape martyrdom and be honored to welcome Christ at His Second Coming (Matthew 25:32-46).

Of course, the 144,000 Jewish evangelists will not be a part of the company of people who receive the mark. This special group of saved Jews living during the Tribulation Period will be protected or sealed with the mark of God upon their forehead to indicate that God owns them and will protect them.

Revelation 7:2-4 gives an interesting contrast of marks:

“And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.”

Apparently the seal on the foreheads of the 144,000 Jewish evangelists, symbolizes protection and ownership. The seal is a pledge of security. God’s intention is to protect the 12 tribes that are mentioned, much like He protected Noah from the Flood, Israel from the plagues of Egypt, and Rahab and her household in Jericho. In this case, the seal guarantees their preservation during the Tribulation Period. The 144,000 Jews will receive the Father’s name as their seal and are through proleptic projection (a future prophetic forecast) pictured as standing on the earthly Mount Zion during the Millennium (Rev. 14:1),

Will this mark be visible or hidden? The Bible says that it’s written on the foreheads of these people but does this mean it will be a visible mark seen by men or an invisible mark only seen by God? I believe it’s suggesting a mark that is seen by God and also a mark that is to be impressed upon the minds and hearts of these evangelists. I don’t think the 144,000 Jews will be walking around during the Tribulation Period (Rev. 7:1) and Millennium (Rev. 14:1) with a literal, visible mark on their forehead.

The benefit of the mark is not for the world to see but to impress and imprint upon the minds of the 144,000 Jews that the Lamb and the Father are with them and will protect them through times of terror and judgment.

God will impress upon their minds (“foreheads”) that He will protect them from anything that comes their way.

This is not a mark to be visibly seen for the Bible warns of printing marks on one’s body: (“nor print any marks upon you” - Lev. 19:28). This seems to be a mark to be experienced in the minds and hearts of the receiver. This same type of mark will be experienced by God’s people throughout eternity (Rev. 22:4). This won’t be a visible mark but the mark and touch of God upon our lives that we will experience in our minds and hearts throughout eternity (Rev. 2:17).

What is interesting is that this particular group of Jewish evangelists will have the seal of the true Christ upon their foreheads whereas the earth dwellers without Christ will possess the seal of the pseudo Christ upon their foreheads. This is an interesting contrast. In essence, God is saying that my own personal seal will indicate that these people are mine and will not be identified with the Antichrist’s earthly system of 666.

Nonetheless, the unbelieving tribulational society, on a large scale, will gladly receive this mark of the Beast. It will be a day of gladness for many as they take this mark and honor their new miraculous hero as the true God. For the great masses of society, it will be a day of celebration and newfound happiness. Little do they realize that this mark will seal their eternal doom of damnation and judgment.

4. How will the number be applied to people?

Revelation 13:15-16 says:

“And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak (sending forth an edict or proclamation), and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads.”

The text of scripture says that the unsaved people will “receive” the mark. The False Prophet will through the speaking demonic statue (Rev. 13:15) cause people to receive the mark. An edict will be sent out to all the world

to receive a mark with the number 666. Apparently the False Prophet, through this demonized talking statue, will establish a tattoo marking system that will be used to identify the loyal followers of the Antichrist. He will want all the earth dwellers to have the mark in order to express their allegiance and worship to this devilish man known as the Antichrist.



The Greek word for “mark” is “charagma” and suggests that which is scratched or etched (painted or engraven) upon something. This word suggests the idea of a tattoo, which once inscribed cannot be removed. The Romans would imprint the figures of their leaders on coins and impress their figures on important

documents. Animals would also be branded with certain marks. It’s also interesting that during John’s day, slaves, soldiers and temple devotees to pagan religions all wore a tattoo mark. It was displayed upon them to indicate their ownership and loyalty to their master or religion.

One day in the future, all earth dwellers will be given a tattoo mark that will identify them as worshippers of the beast. The tattoo mark will be an indication of their loyalty to this beastly master. It will indicate their surrender to the state god and their allegiance to him as their leader.

This certainly should not be unbelievable to any person living today. We have numbers assigned to each one of us that are all computerized and can be called up in a moment’s time. We have social security numbers, driver license numbers and credit card numbers. Someday, a single stamped or tattooed mark will be given to the entire world population. But how the False Prophet will do this cannot be positively stated.

Several suggestions have been given. Some suggest that a small computer chip will be placed under the skin that will contain the number 666 and other information about the person. More likely, the False Prophet will

have a type of laser tattoo marking system that will be able to painlessly and permanently etch a mark on the body. Evidently this mark will have to be displayed in order to transact business and survive within society. There may be other numbers associated with the marking system of the future. However, the mark of the beast will be the main mark that will be given to the world population in the future Tribulation Period.

It's interesting to realize that mankind has been talking about this type of marking system for a long time. Way back in 1973 an issue in the Senior Scholastics magazine talked about the possibility of a cashless society working through a universal numbering system. The article read like this:

“All buying and selling in the program will be done by computer. No currency, no change, no checks. In the program, people would receive a number that has been assigned to them tattooed in their wrist or forehead. The number is put on by a laser beam and cannot be felt. The number in the body is not seen with the naked eye and is as permanent as your fingerprints. All items of consumer goods will be marked with a computer mark. The computer outlet in the store which picks up the number of the items at the checkstand will also pick up the number in the person's body and automatically total the price and deduct the amount from the person's Special Drawing Rights Account.”

The dream of 1973 is a reality today. We have totally computerized the grocery market with laser scanning. We also can operate today without visible cash by simply giving our appropriate bank numbers. What has not happened as of yet, is this tattoo system on the body of people. But it is coming! The world is moving toward a universal marking system. It will be one way to control the world economically as well as religiously. This identifying mark will indicate both their economic status with society and their religious tie with the Antichrist.

The fact that the mark will appear on a person's right hand or forehead gives added evidence that ownership is in view. The marks in John's day were displayed so all could see them and identify the slave or religious devotee to their master or pagan religious cause. These places upon the right hand or forehead will be the most conspicuous areas on the body that

can be seen by the rest of the observing world. This seems to give evidence to the fact that the mark will in some way be visibly seen to the human eye. Perhaps the Antichrist will want a visible impression or sign to be witnessed by every other Beast follower. The mark may be a visible point of recognition that a person is a worshipper of the Antichrist. The Antichrist may want a visible etching or logo to be available to the eyesight of all humanity.

Another reason for marking people on the right hand or forehead may be to classify their status in society. In Revelation 13:16 the different classes or people within society are mentioned. Afterward, the specific mention of the mark on the right hand or forehead is made. This may suggest that a certain class of people will receive the mark on their right hand and others on their foreheads in respect to their position and status in society.

Other suggestions about these two areas of the right hand and forehead argue that the right hand is the sign of honor to the Beast and the forehead demonstrates a person's willingness to agree intellectually with the Beast and his claim to be God. Whatever the reasons are for these two conspicuous places for a logo, we must conclude that the Beast (the Antichrist) will want everyone to know that people are worshipping him and are a loyal citizen of his world kingdom.

When John received this vision about the future world marking system his mind probably began to contemplate the way slaves and animals were marked to demonstrate their ownership. Today, living in the computer age of technology, we can readily understand how an advanced computerized marking system can easily be forced upon society. What John did not know, we do know. We can see how a modern-day laser mark (tattoo) can be implemented in a society with countless billions of people. What was perhaps staggering to John's mind is no longer staggering to our mind today.

5. What is the meaning of the number?

Revelation 13:17-18

“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. 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.”

Dr. Henry Morris, has suggested that there may actually be three marks during the Tribulation Period. He takes the connective word “or” to mean distinction among the branding system within the Tribulation Period. There may be a distinct “mark” that actually symbolizes the Beast. This may be a dragonish design that depicts the character of the beast and his description in the book of Revelation as a seven headed dragonish monster coming out of the sea (Rev. 13:1). Today the world is caught up with the mythological dragons. People wear dragon T-shirts and dragon tattoos today. They paint pictures of dragons on their motorcycles. We have people beginning to subtly worship the dragon already, which has long symbolized Satan (Rev. 12:3) and the coming world ruler, the Antichrist, which Satan is behind (Rev. 13:1; 17:3). We even have a grocery market in our area called the “Green Dragon.” It is a fact that many people are intrigued with dragons because of their identification with Satan and the coming Antichrist.

Morris then goes on to say that the idea of the “name” of the beast (vs.17) may indicate that the actual name of the Beast (Antichrist) will be imprinted upon the right hand or forehead of people. He then reasons that the actual “number of his name” (vs. 17) indicates that the beast’s name will be able to be calculated numerically and result in the number 666. In other words, there will also be a 666 number placed upon the right hand and forehead of another group of people.

Dr. Henry Morris has opted for a triple marking system that will be given to different classes of people. He suggests that the military may receive one type of mark whereas the bulk of civilians will receive another type of mark. Another group such as the government official may receive another mark.

The idea of three distinct marks is grammatically conceivable, but not likely. Dr. James Strong has said: “the connective word (“or”) is a primary particle of distinction between two connected terms; disjunctive, or; comparative.”

In other words, John is not creating three different types of marks but describing one mark in three different ways. Apparently John is using the connective word “or” in a comparative sense and not in a manner of distinction. He is building together a statement of fact concerning what this mark will actually be during the Tribulation Period.

John is simply teaching that the mark will involve the actual number of a man’s name, which can be calculated to the numerical equivalency of 666. In other words, the better understanding is to identify the mark as one specific mark, which is a number (666) that numerically corresponds to the name of the Antichrist.

This actual number of the Antichrist (or a type of bar code adding up to 666) will be displayed on the right arm or forehead of all the followers of the beast. So, it’s better to understand the mark as only being only one mark, which actual displays the number associated with Antichrist’s name.

Whenever other passages mention the mark of the beast, they do so with the thought that there will be only one singular mark and not three distinct marks (Rev. 14:11; 15:2; 16:2; 19:20). The mark that will be displayed during the Tribulation Period will be the number 666, which numerically corresponds to the name of the beast as John suggests in Revelation 13:17 (“the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name”). The concluding point of this verse and the following verse is that the mark will actually be a 666 number, which will correspond numerically with the Beast’s name. But how can a name have a numerical number attached to it?

Revelation 13:18 says:

“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.”

John says that the name of the Antichrist will be able to be counted or calculated (“count the number of the beast”). But how can you count a name? How can the name of the coming Antichrist actually have a number assigned to it? This is very easy to understand when we remember that the

Hebrew and Greek letters of the Old and New Testament also were used for their own numbering system. Each letter has a corresponding numerical value. This is not true for the English language. You must learn your numbers and alphabet separately. However, many ancient languages did not have separate symbols, which stand for numbers, as we do. Rather, the letters of the alphabet had a numerical value as well. This method of calculating a name by the use of numbers is known as “Gematria” and was practiced seriously by the Jews.

Since the book of the Revelation is written in the Greek language, it is possible that John had the Greek language in mind. Therefore, from the Greek language one could numerically calculate the Beast’s name and arrive at the conclusion that a certain man is the Antichrist. Since the letters of the alphabet served as numbers, it’s understandable that a person’s name could be numerically coded. To “count” or calculate a person’s name obviously means to add up the numbers attached to all the letters in the name. If a man’s name were written in Greek, this would be a straightforward operation. If it were written in another language, then it would have to be transliterated into the language that the people would understand in order to arrive at the calculation.

Revelation 13:18 says that this numerical calculation is the “number of a man” or “for a man” which means that the numbers are assigned to a man’s name. Someday a man will arrive on this world scene whose name in the Greek, Hebrew or even Latin will add up to 666. I personally find it most interesting that the Roman numerals as we have them today actually add up to 666. These are the most common counting numbers in the known world.

Roman Letters

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{I (1) + V (5) + X (10)} \\ & \mathbf{+ L (50) + C (100) +} \\ & \mathbf{D (500) = 666} \end{aligned}$$

The old Roman language was Latin, which also may be significant in connection with the Beast’s name. This is because the Antichrist will be a Roman prince coming out of the domain of the old Roman Empire where Latin was spoken by the

Romans (Daniel 9:27). This might suggest that the Antichrist may actually have a name written in the Old Latin language, which will have to be numerically calculated. There are many speculations attached to the calculation of this number. The fact is nobody knows for sure what language his name will be numerically coded to and nobody knows who the Antichrist is today by numerical calculations.

Throughout the years there have been endless speculations and calculations dealing with this mysterious number. Some have tried to identify this number to past Roman emperors such as Nero, Ceaser, Domitian or Caligula. More recently there has been the attempt to identify the name of Hitler and other recognized evil leaders with the number 666.

I am told that Lyndon B. Johnson when transliterated into the Greek language adds up to 666? Was Lyndon B. Johnson the Antichrist? Many 666 seekers have tried to create much hype around this number. Like a jig saw puzzle, they try and code names to certain languages to prove who the Antichrist really is. The fact of the matter is this, when you transliterate names into another language where those names can be numerically coded, statistics tell us that one in every 10,000 names will equal 666. This tells us that the identity of the person represented by the number 666 should not be a subject of speculation for us today. John was envisioning the actual time when the Antichrist will be on the earthly scene and promoting his godless system of worship. John is giving instruction to the generation of saints who are alive during the Tribulation Period and who will benefit from this numerical formula of calculation.

The person who would be able to actually calculate this number 666 must have been future to John's time. Therefore, John is giving this instruction of calculation to those saints who will be living during the future Tribulation Period. Only the saints living within this future time will be able to accurately access who the Antichrist is by calculating his name in the Greek, Hebrew or Latin languages.

Revelation 13:18

“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.”

God will grant special wisdom or spiritual understanding to those dear saints living during the Tribulation Period. They will be able to have a clear understanding about this numerical mark and who the Antichrist really is. This message in Revelation 13:17-18 will have special meaning to those who will be living during the End Times. They will be able to study this message and start adding together numbers and receive spiritual wisdom concerning both the name and identity of the Antichrist. Believers today do not have this special wisdom to identify the Antichrist because we are not living in the tribulation period when the Antichrist will reveal himself.

2 Thessalonians 2:7-8 states:

“For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. And then (during the Tribulation Period) shall that Wicked (or Wicked One) be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming.”

The Antichrist will not be revealed and known until the Restrainer, the Holy Spirit, is taken out of the way. This means that after the restraining and godly influence of the Holy Spirit is taken out of this earth through the rapture of God’s people, then and only then will the Antichrist (“that Wicked”) be revealed to the world. Only “then” (not now) will the Antichrist be recognized and revealed. Only during the Tribulation Period will there be spiritual understanding given concerning the Antichrist’s name and identity.

A person cannot know who the Antichrist is until they are living in the actual time period when he will be revealed. Obviously that generation of saints who are living during the actual days of the Tribulation will be given new wisdom, concerning the Antichrist (Rev. 13:18). God will give them a special understanding concerning the name and the language, from which the name must be calculated in order to accurately identify the Antichrist.

Those saints living during these dark days will be given special wisdom to identify the Antichrist by this numerical calculation.

Daniel 12:4 says:

“But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased” (concerning the fulfillment of future events and such things as the number of Antichrist).

Daniel 12:9

“And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.”

The “time of the end” is an eschatological saying that coincides with the second half of the Tribulation Period. It looks ahead to the time when the world will actually be in the End Times. It speaks about the actual time during the Tribulation Period when the Antichrist will rise as influential leader and all of the events of the Tribulation are occurring. In the “time of the end” (not this time in which we live) the saints will have an increase in prophetic knowledge as it relates to the fulfillment of Bible prophecy. During the Tribulation Period, a new interest, knowledge and significance of Scriptural passages will be studied in light of their actual fulfillment in that day and time.

This is why Daniel was told to seal up the prophecies of this book until the “time of the end” or the future Tribulation Period, when all of these prophetic occurrences will begin to be unraveled. In essence, Daniel was instructed to seal up these truths of prophecy to demonstrate the important reality that these prophecies will not be fulfilled until a later time period comes upon planet earth and when the prophecies would have relevant understanding and special significance to the generation living in that day. These prophetic truths were to be preserved until a later time and would be understood in a new light when the actual time period unfolds. Only then will these events be studied in their actual context of fulfillment.

We must understand that Bible prophecy is not being fulfilled today. One of the great blunders of today is when so called prophecy experts read the

headlines in the newspapers and claim that certain portions of God's prophetic word are being fulfilled through the present-day happenings in the world. This is a common and false approach to Scripture that many fanatical teachers are getting away with today. We cannot relate prophecies that deal with the Tribulation Period to the actual events in our day. This does a great injustice to the actual fulfillment of the God's prophetic word in the future. God's prophetic clock and the actual fulfillment of prophetic Scriptures will only begin to take shape with the Rapture and when the Tribulation Period begins.

This verse and Revelation 13:18 tell us that the Jewish saints living during the actual time of the Tribulation will be given this special increase of knowledge concerning the commencement and fulfillment of certain prophetic events in the world. One of these will be the revelation of the Antichrist and the number 666, which is associated with the Antichrist's name.

Daniel 12:10

"Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand."

Once again we see that those who are saved during the End Times will become very wise and understand about the actual end time events associated with the Tribulation Period. They will be able to count or calculate who the Antichrist is and identify the Antichrist. This special privilege will be theirs since they will be living in the actual time when the Antichrist will be revealed to the world.

Our curiosity over the identity of the Antichrist cannot be satisfied today since we are not living in the Tribulation Period. We cannot accurately calculate and identify any man as the Antichrist in our present day. This is because we do not know when the Tribulation will begin and this ignorance stems from the fact that we do not know when Jesus will return. Furthermore, to spend time calculating names in other languages is a waist of time. Do you know why? It's because we are not looking for Antichrist; we are looking for the true Christ!

Philippians 3:20

“For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.”

I am not looking for the Antichrist; I am looking to see the true Christ! Furthermore, believers today need to be more concerned about getting out the name of Christ and the Gospel message than trying to calculate the name of Antichrist.

I have a fish tank in my study. I have what are four cichlid fish. They are called parrot fish because their faces resemble parrots. Anyway, as I look at the fish swimming beside me, while I write this study, I am reminded that God wants us to fishers of men – not keepers of aquariums. This means we need to be more interested in seeing souls saved than to try and figure out prophetic calculations which we are not able to calculate today, such as the number of the Antichrist. God has asked us to go fishing and draw in the net.

It is a waste of time to try and search for the Antichrist today. This is because we are not living during the time when his number can be calculated.

Revelation 13:18

“Here is wisdom. Let him (those living during the End Times of the Tribulation Period) 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.”

The number 666 is most interesting. What does this number imply? There have been many suggestions and speculations. John Nelson Darby was very honest when he said that he was in the dark concerning what the number 666 actually represented. He said: “I confess my ignorance as to the number six hundred and sixty-six. I cannot present you with anything satisfactory to myself. We find, answering to the number six hundred and sixty-six, the words apostasy and tradition; but I cannot say anything positive on the point.”



In the midst of all the searching and postulation in regards to the exact meaning of this number, many have simply failed to find the answer in the very text of Scripture where the number appears. The Bible says that this number is the number of a man (“for it is the number of a man”). There is the answer to the meaning of this

number. It is the number of a man. What is so hard about this answer? Why must we speculate about the meaning of this number 666 and make it some kind of mysterious and hidden secret of the future? Do not make anything more out of this answer than needs to be made. The Biblical fact is this, the number 666 simply represents the number of a man.

The triple number 666 is the number associated with man and will numerically represent a particular man who will successfully push the epitome of humanism upon a Christ rejecting world. The triple number 666 represents man’s day and man’s defiance of God under the Antichrist. The number 666 is seen to be associated with man in the Bible. This is because man was created on the sixth day (Genesis 1:26-27, 31). Man is linked to the sixth day of creation. So, this number then would be associated with man. The triple number would indicate the greatest manmade defiance plotted against God during the End Times. It indicates the epitome of manmade humanism without God.

Let me ask an intriguing question at this point. Does God have a number? In the book of Revelation, the number seven is seen to be one of the most significant numbers associated with God’s work and God’s perfection. There are seven seals, seven trumpets, seven bowls, seven thunders, seven angels, seven plagues, seven lamps, seven Spirits, seven candlesticks, seven churches, etc. This unusual format can hardly be accidental!

Apparently God does have a number. It’s the number seven – the number of completion and perfection. The word seven appears more in the book of

Revelation than in any other book of the Bible. Biblical numerology is interesting to consider. We must be careful of extremes. However, there are some very clear meanings attached to certain numbers in the Bible.

God rested on the first seven-day period in history following His creation (Genesis 2:3). This suggests that the world, which God had created, was complete. The number seven in Scripture typically speaks of fullness and completion. It is the perfect number. The remarkable “seven-ness” of the book of Revelation seems to suggest that this last book of the Bible details God’s complete future and final plan for history. It would seem then that the number seven relates to God and His perfect working and the number six relates to man and his imperfect workings. Therefore, the number 666 would indicate the epitome of humanism and man’s working instead of the triple 777 of God’s working.

John Walvoord has said:

“Probably the simplest explanation here is the best, that the triple six is the number of a man, each digit falling short of the perfect number seven.”

This Antichrist claims to be the true God, and if that were the case, he should be 777. However, the triple 666 is the number of man and represents the epitome of man’s humanistic and pagan efforts to defy God. In essence, God gives a number to the Antichrist that will fall way short of deity. No matter how much this future ruler will insist on being God, the number 666 which is attached as a numerical code to his name, will still identify him as only a man. He will be a man that falls short of the number seven, which is associated with God, no matter how much he wants to be God. This number (666) will evidently become a clear marker to the coming generation during the Tribulation Period that this man is not the true Messiah and God.

David Jeremiah made this practical application to the number 666:

“The number 666 reminds us that there is something – or Someone – missing. Man’s best efforts will never culminate in perfection, On our own, we will always come up short, and we will always long for the perfect completeness that can only be found in God.”

This is a good reminder. The triple number of man (666) is the greatest display of manmade humanism which is man's ultimate defiance against God. Of course, in another sense, it would also point to man's effort to find satisfaction outside God. But there can be no salvation and satisfaction outside God and His perfect plan or redemption.

There may also be a hint to the satanic trinity in this triple number 666. Three is the number of the Biblical Trinity (Father, Son & Holy Spirit). There may be an allusion to the coming satanic trinity in the three-digit number of 666 (Satan, Antichrist & False Prophet).

Satanic Trinity of 666

- ✦ **Satan = the Father**
- ✦ **Antichrist = Son**
- ✦ **False Prophet = Holy Spirit**

Although Satan hates God, at the same time in defiance against God and out of mockery and blasphemy to God (Rev. 13:5-6; Dan. 7:8), Satan himself may in a subtle way seek to mimic the Father and the Antichrist could mimic the Son whereas the False Prophet could mimic the Holy Spirit's work by glorifying the Antichrist. Although the triple number 666 points to the ultimate defiance and humanism of man towards God, the triple 666 may also mimic the Trinity of the Godhead but fall short of the 777.

Of course, the main teaching of 666 is that man's trinity will not last. Here, the number six done three times (666), and is the most perfect and antigod, elaborate system that man could ever set forth, but it is still remains 6 and will collapse and be forever destroyed.

Revelation 19:19-20

"And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. 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.”

Everything that man does without God fails miserably but everything God does lasts forever!

We are reminded of the words of 1 John 2:17:

“And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.”

Like the 666 number and Antichrist himself, the world passes away with all of its lusts and sins. Whatever is not done for Christ and His glory will not amount to a hell of beans.

Dr. McGee said it best in his commentary when talking about his visits to England’s castles: “There is a glory that belongs to all of that, but it has already passed away ... All of that has passed away and the lust of it. Where is the lust of Henry VIII today? It is in one of those tombs over there. Just think of all the glory which is buried in Westminster—all of that has passed away.

“When I look back to when I was a young man, I wish that somehow I could reach back there and reclaim some of those days and some of the strength which I had then. I wish I could use for God what I squandered when I was young. ‘The world is passing away.’ “But he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.’ Why don’t you work at something which is permanent, something which has stability, something which is going to last for eternity?

6. What will be the consequences of rejecting and receiving the number?

The late Francis Schaeffer wrote:

“Rome was cruel, and its cruelty can perhaps be best pictured by the events which took place in the arena in Rome itself. People seated above the arena floor watched gladiator contests and Christians thrown to the beasts. Let us not forget why the Christians were killed. They were *not* killed because they worshiped Jesus. Various religions covered the whole Roman world... Nobody cared who worshiped whom so long as the worshiper did not

disrupt the unity of the state, centered in the formal worship of Caesar. The reason the Christians were killed was because they were rebels. Their worship (speaking of worship of Jesus Christ) became a special threat to the unity of the state during the third century and during the reign of Diocletian (284-305), when people of the higher classes began to become Christians in larger numbers. If they had worshiped Jesus *and* Caesar, they would have gone unharmed, but they rejected all forms of syncretism.”

➤ Rejecting the mark

No true Christian can worship the true God and another false God at the same time. Therefore, the saints and even orthodox Jews of the Tribulation Period will not bow down to worship the statue of the Antichrist and the new world religion that the False Prophet promotes.

What will be the consequence of rejecting the mark or number? The Bible teaches that economic sanctions will be placed upon those who refuse to receive the mark.

Revelation 13:15-17

“And he (the False Prophet) had power to give life unto the image of the beast (demonic animation of the statue), that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed (demonic summons to worship the statue). And he (False Prophet) causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: 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.”

The consequences of rejecting the number of the beast will involve an economic sanction. An economic sanction will be placed upon all people living throughout the earth. People will not be able to buy and sell food without this mark. No doubt registration centers will be set up in every community and all people will be instructed to report for registration and marking before a certain date and time. The enforcement machinery will be put in place so that every person will be required to display their mark in order to both live and function within society. Those who do manage to

escape the mandatory death sentence for refusing to receive the mark, as we will see in a moment, will not be able to buy or sell food. This will mean that all people who refuse the mark will have to develop their own food source and keep it a secret.

To avoid the mandatory marking system, those believing families and people who are living underground and in secret communities within the countryside will have to raise their own food and try to survive without any government aid. Perhaps there will be a black market for food. The lives of those who reject the mark will involve extreme hardship and dangers as they try to avoid the repercussions of not being a Beast worshipper. We cannot imagine what it will be like in this world during the End Times. Many orthodox Jews will be housed by believing Gentiles in rural areas and secret communities. It will be these Gentiles who will be rewarded at Christ's return to earth (Matthew 25:31-40).

Another consequence of not receiving the mark is death. Any person caught without the mark and who refuses to receive the mark will be put to death by the horrible and gruesome death of decapitation.



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.”

The world will resort back to the old practice of decapitation during these bloody days of the Tribulation Period. There will be great masses of believers martyred in this gruesome way because of their refusal to receive the mark.

One prophetic question that many people have asked me over the years is this: “Will anybody be saved during the Tribulation Period?” The Bible gives us a very clear and unmistakable answer to this question. Millions will be saved and it’s these people who on a large scale will be put to death by the Antichrist. Many will come to faith in Jesus Christ, but they will become part of the greatest holocaust of humanity that the world has ever witnessed.

Revelation 7:9-14 records this prophetic scene:

“After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. And all the angels stood round about the throne (the heavenly throne), and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen. And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation (martyrs of the second half of the Tribulation Period), and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb” (*the expression for forgiveness and salvation through the shedding of Christ’s sacrificial blood and death on the cross*).

There will be literally millions upon millions upon millions saved during the dark days of the Tribulation Period (“a great multitude, which no man could number”). They will realize their need for salvation through the true Christ as they listen to the preaching of the 144,000 Jewish evangelists (Rev. 7:4-8; Matt. 24:14) and the two witnesses (Rev. 11:3-7) and even the angelic Gospel preacher (Rev. 14:6-7). These messengers with their Gospel witness and appropriate warnings of impending doom will evangelize the entire world (“every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people” – Rev. 14:6) during the Tribulation Period and this evangelism will be intense and in opposition to the Beast worship which is being set up on planet earth. People will have to choose to receive or reject Christ or take the mark.

The angelic Gospel preacher will say to the future world of mankind: “Fear God and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven and earth, and the sea and the fountains of waters” (Rev. 14:7). This outbreak of mass evangelism by the angel, two witnesses, and the 144,000 Jewish evangelists will bring many to Christ. The Antichrist will be furious at these millions of converted believers who refuse to bow down to him. Therefore, he will sanction a death warrant for every non-beast worshipper.

This will cause mass persecution and execution in the world as untold millions of people are murdered for their faith and testimony for Jesus Christ. Obviously, this evangelistic outbreak will be very strong at the midpoint of the Tribulation Period at the same time the Antichrist is trying to evangelize the world with his own message of worship.

➤ Receiving the mark

Humanity will be left with the choice to worship the false Christ or the true Christ by repenting of their sins and turning to Christ in saving faith. Those who choose to receive the mark and worship the beast will accept his lie and be damned.

2 Thessalonians 2:9-12 once again gives this prophetic chilling reminder: “Even him, (Antichrist) whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them (those living during the Tribulation Period) that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God (not Satan) shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”

There will be many people during the tribulation period from every nation, tribe and race, which will be deceived by the lie of the Antichrist. They will refuse to believe the truth of the Gospel witness and be judicially blinded by God. God will not allow these people the chance to be saved, after they refuse to hear the Gospel message, which will be universally proclaimed during these dark days of the Tribulation. When these people believe the lie

of the Antichrist during the Tribulation Period, which promotes the conclusion that he is God, then God will blind their minds.

This deception will take place because these people living during the Tribulation have not “received” (2 Thess. 2:10) or “believed” (2 Thess. 2:11) the truth of the Gospel that was being presented to them during this future period. They chose to believe the lie of the Antichrist during the Tribulation Period instead of the preaching of the angelic messenger, two witnesses, and 144,000 Jewish evangelists. Paul is dealing with unbelievers who will be living when the man of sin will be revealed. He is not dealing with those who do not believe today in this dispensation.

When a person refuses to hear what is being said by God’s evangelistic outreach during this future time period, then they will be quickly blinded by God and willingly take the mark of the Antichrist. This will confirm their loyalty to the Antichrist instead of the message of the Gospel and Christ. During the Tribulation Period people will either believe the false gospel of the Antichrist or the true Gospel of the kingdom, which heralds forth the message of salvation in view of the soon return of the kingly Christ.

I believe that God will give all of mankind the opportunity to be saved as the middle of the tribulation gets underway. The mass evangelism of God’s saving program will be underway as much as the mass evangelism of the Beast’s program. Millions of people will choose to turn to Christ and be saved. Likewise, millions will stubbornly refuse the message being preached to them through God’s evangelistic program and take the mark of the Beast.

The question regarding who will have opportunity to be saved during the Tribulation following the Rapture of the Church cannot be answered without some controversy. Many well-noted Bible teachers claim that only those who have never heard will have the opportunity to be saved. Other well-known respected teachers believe that every person will have an opportunity to be saved. The Scriptures seem to suggest that all of mankind will have the opportunity to be saved during the Tribulation Period. For instance, every orthodox Jew will have the opportunity to be saved at

Christ's return to earth, who has not received the mark, whether they have heard the Gospel previously or did not hear the Gospel.

Joel 2:32 says:

"And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call."

The word "whosoever" means whosoever. To say that it only means the Jews who have never heard before the Rapture seems to be stretching the meaning of the word "whosoever." The understanding is that whoever sees their need to be saved after the Rapture has occurred and when the Lord returns to earth can be saved. There should be no preconceived conditions attached to the meaning of this word whosoever. The salvation of souls during the coming wrath of God in the days of the Tribulation Period will coincide with the same principle that Habakkuk spoke about when he said: "In wrath, remember mercy" (Hab. 3:2). God will remember mercy even before he pours out some of His most devastating judgments upon this earth during the last three- and one-half years of the Tribulation. But during this time and especially at the midway point of the Tribulation Period there will be a large-scale evangelistic movement occurring, so that people all over the world will be saved. In this day, God will save every person that turns in faith to His offer of salvation.

This opportunity to be saved during the Tribulation Period by these post-Rapture people, who have previously heard the Gospel prior to the Rapture, should not be viewed as a second chance for salvation. The doctrine of second chance has to do with dying and then having a chance to be saved after you are brought back to life. Those people who enter this period after the Rapture will have the opportunity to be saved because they are still living. Their sentence to spiritual death depends upon their reception of the message being presented during the Tribulation Period.

The past tense of these words (received and believed) must not be construed as meaning the people's rejection of the Gospel prior to the Rapture. The vantagepoint has to do with the Tribulation Period, which is

the time of rejecting the Gospel, and which is followed by Christ's Second Coming.

2 Thessalonians 2:8-10 again reads:

“And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.”

When Christ returns to this earth the Antichrist will be judged and all those surviving people of the Tribulation Period who have not “received” or “believed” the truth about the Gospel of Christ. Paul is dealing with the events of the Tribulation in view of Christ's return to earth.

Second Thessalonians 2:8-12 is obviously teaching that Jesus is going to return after the Tribulation Period and judge the Antichrist and all his living followers who have rejected Christ and received the 666 mark during this time period (2 Thess. 2:8). From the perspective of when Jesus returns, all those unsaved people who have received the 666 mark will be designated as that class of people who have not “received the love of the truth” or who “believed not the truth” during the Tribulation days. Revelation 19:20 also uses the word “deceived” in the past tense when looking back over the Tribulation Period prior to Christ's return to earth.

Looking at this section of Scripture (2 Thess. 2:8-10) from the vantagepoint of Jesus' return to earth will help us to understand this passage. This verse is looking back from the perspective of the Second Coming – not the Rapture. When Jesus returns to earth, all those who are still alive and have been “deceived” by the miracles of the False Prophet and have not “received” and “believed” during this dreadful time period will be judged. This group of unsaved Tribulation survivors will suffer Christ's vengeance and damnation as He gathers the nations together for judgment and entrance into the Millennial Kingdom (Matthew 24:44-51; 25:31-46). This is because during the Tribulation Period they have not received, believed, and been deceived.

Daniel 12:10 once again says:

“Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.”

The prophecy of Daniel speaks about the decision of “many” people that will be saved. They will become “purified, and made white” which depicts their cleansing through Christ. The Christ rejecters will continue to abound in their wickedness and shall not understand the truth of the Gospel or the events that are occurring during the eschatological time period known as the “time of the end.”

Those who continue to do wickedly after the Rapture by taking the Mark of the Beast and refuse to receive and believe the truth will be hopelessly consigned to future judgment or damnation (2 Thess. 2:12). Those who decide to receive the message of the Gospel after the Rapture will on a large scale suffer martyrdom. The mass multitudes that do get saved and become believers will pay the ultimate price. They will make the ultimate sacrifice.

Revelation 12:11 says:

“And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.”

This death warrant for refusing to bow down and worship the image of the beast is foreshadowed in the Old Testament.

Daniel 3:1 and 6 reveal:

“Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height was threescore cubits (60 cubits high), and the breadth thereof six cubits (six cubits broad): he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon. ... And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.”

King Nebuchadnezzar issued a decree of death for all those who failed to bow down to his erected statue, which was built to glorify himself. You will notice that the measurements of the statue are the familiar multiplies of

six, which once again signify that the statue was man's statue and man's rebellion against the true God. The same will be true concerning the number of the Antichrist during the Tribulation Period. His number to identify his rebellion against God is 666.

Those who failed to worship Nebuchadnezzar's image were cast alive into the fiery furnace. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego refused to bow down and were cast into the furnace. In a similar fashion, those future believers of the Tribulation Period who refuse to bow down before the statue of the Antichrist and give their allegiance to him will face their death. The requirements placed upon the future citizens of this world during the Beast's world empire will be similar to that which Nebuchadnezzar placed upon his Babylonian Empire. In other words, the future demands put on the Tribulation citizens of the entire earth resembles this historical account of Nebuchadnezzar and his demands for people to worship his statue. There will be death warrants put out on all earth dwellers that refuse this 666 mark. They will have to face their own fiery furnace in the future. They will have to face the terrible prospect of death by decapitation.

As terrible as the consequences will be for those who choose to not receive the mark, the consequences of those who decide to receive the mark will be far worse. They will experience the wrath of Almighty God. First, those who take the 666 mark of the Beast will suffer the vengeance of God's anger during the tribulation period.

Revelation 16:2 says:

"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."

Loyal Beast worshippers who choose to receive this mark will be the earthly subjects of God's wrath and fury. They will be directly inflicted with God's terrible Tribulation judgments. The unsaved Beast (Antichrist) worshippers will become the objects of God's wrath and will suffer the direct blows of His Bowl Judgments and Trumpet Judgments (Rev. 9:1-6) upon planet earth. Only those who are regenerated and have the seal of God in their foreheads will be spared from God's direct blows upon humanity.

Revelation 9:4 says this concerning the demonic locust judgment:

“And it was commanded them (these demonized locust creatures of the End Times) that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.”

The 144,000 Jews receive a special immunity from God to physically survive the Antichrist’s judgments (Rev. 7:1; 14:1), but these saved evangelists serve as an example of all born again or regenerated believers living during the Tribulation Period, who will apparently be protected from the direct blow of God’s judgments, since these judgments are geared directly for the unsaved (Rev. 16:2; 9:1-6). Apparently believer’s living during this time will escape God’s direct infliction and calamities which will occur only upon the Beast followers. God has special Tribulation judgments reserved for those who take the mark of the Beast. When they choose to receive the logo of the beast, then God will take it upon Himself to inflict tremendous pains upon them. Beast worshippers and all those who are marked with the number 666 will not escape the fury of the Lord’s wrath.

This will also will not only during the Tribulation Period but also for eternity. The Bible reveals that all people who receive this mark are going to one day be resurrected and judged eternally in the Lake of Fire.

Revelation 14:9-11 declares:

“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, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night (when experiencing God’s wrath in the Lake of Fire), who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.”

Those who receive the mark of the beast upon their right hand or forehead will be sealing their eternal doom! There will be no rest from God’s plaguing judgment. In hell or this Lake of Fire, these people will suffer the

eternal fire and vengeance of God. They will be tormented by the righteous judgment of a holy God (Rev. 16:7). When people refuse to worship God and do not repent of their wickedness before Him (Rev. 16:11), they will have to suffer as a sinner in the hands of an angry God. This will be true of the personal Antichrist and False Prophet as well.

Revelation 19:20 says:

“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.”

The beast along with his sidekick, the false prophet, will immediately be resurrected after their deaths at Christ’s return (2 Thess. 2:8) and be cast alive into the Lake of Fire. It’s the same fiery lake that the devil himself will be cast 1,000 years later, following the Millennium.

Revelation 20:10

“And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.”

Please note that the Beast and False Prophet were already suffering in conscious torment for 1,000 years prior to this judgment. This means that judgment in Gehenna or the Lake of Fire is eternal judgment that will never end. Hell is not the annihilation of the person but a constant and eternal judgment that will never end. The fate of all Beast worshippers and their leaders (Satan, Antichrist, False Prophet) will be a destiny of unending doom and damnation in what the Bible envisions as a burning lake full of fire that will never be quenched or extinguished (Mark 9:43-49).

Revelation 20:15 reveals this eternal doom as well:

“And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”

Dear friend, God is a righteous God in all of His judgments (Rev. 15:3) and He reserves the right to judge you in the unending doom of hell, if you do

not repent or change your attitude about your sinfulness before Him, and by faith personally receive Christ as your Savior (John 1:12).

What a difference it will be for those who refuse the Mark of the Beast and overcome his reign of terror through martyrdom. These martyrs will go to Heaven and experience the rest and glories of this eternal place.



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.”

John envisions the martyrs of the Tribulation Period in Heaven who have overcome the Beast’s dictatorship and refused to receive his 666 mark. They had refused the mark of the beast and paid with their own lives (Rev. 12:11; 6:9). However, they were the real victors because they are now seen to be in Heaven rejoicing with the Lord beside the heavenly sea of glass that proceeds out from the throne of God.

Those who refuse the mark and become martyrs during the terrible days of the Tribulation Period will be the true victors who will rest from all of their earthly encounters with the Beast and find glorious peace and joy in Heaven. Heaven will be their final frontier!

Revelation 14:13 says this about the martyred:

“And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.”

Those that die without the Mark of the Beast will be believers who enter Heaven's rest and who will be eternally rewarded for their testimony and lives which they have lived upon planet earth ("their works do follow them"). People who die with the Mark of the Beast will not find rest day or night throughout the eternal ages of time.

Revelation 14:11 once again states:

"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."

For the souls of the redeemed, the consequences for refusing the mark will be costly upon earth, since they will suffer martyrdom at the hand of the Antichrist (Rev. 20:4). But their life will be enriched throughout eternity in the glory and bliss of Heaven (Rev. 14:13). However, for the souls of the lost, the consequences of receiving the mark will be both costly upon earth as they suffer God's direct blows of judgment during the Tribulation Period and costly throughout eternity in the Lake of Fire (Rev. 14:10-11).

Dear sinner, I beg of you to call upon the Lord Jesus Christ today for salvation and be saved from this place called hell.

Romans 10:13

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Today, if you call upon the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation, you can be saved from all of the Beast's wrath and the entire Tribulation Period. This is because God's people will be taken out of the world (raptured) before this dreadful time period (Rev. 3:10). However, and even more important, you will also be saved from the eternal doom of hell fire and brimstone. In order to be saved you must realize your own sinfulness before God (Rom. 3:23) and have a change of mind about your sinful record before God and desire pardon and release from your sins. This is called repentance (Luke 13:3, 5).

You must realize that your sin is terrible in God's eyes. You must realize that God must punish your sin and send you to hell since He is a holy and

righteous God (Rom. 6:23). You must also understand that Jesus died on the cross bearing all of your sins and taking your judgment upon himself (1 Peter 2:24). Now, salvation can be yours if you will personally believe on the Lord Jesus Christ to be your Savior (Acts 16:31). Will you place your faith in Jesus Christ today so that He can become your personal Savior from hell and all of God's future wrath and judgment? Faith is a personal response to Christ. It's when you pray to Him and transfer your trust to Him alone to be your own personal substitute from sin's eternal judgment.

7. When will the numbering system end?

The world marking system will end when Jesus returns to destroy the Antichrist, the leader of the world and his converging armies in Palestine, which are there to exterminate the Jews (Zech. 12:1-3; 14:1-3) and stop the Second Coming (Psalm 2; Rev. 19:19). Together these End Time armies will witness the coming of Christ and turn against this Lion of the tribe of Judah (Rev. 5:5) as He returns to earth (Psalm 2:2-3). The true God in Heaven will laugh at man's feeble attempts to destroy His Son.

Psalm 2:4 prophetically records:

"He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision."

When the Lord Jesus returns, He will destroy the Beast of Antichrist with His own power (Rev. 13:10) and then finally cast him into the eternal Lake of Fire (Rev. 19:20). The Second Coming puts an end to the 666 marking system.

Following the traumatic and climatic events of Christ's return, another event will take place that will finally prove that the marking system of the Antichrist and the worship connected with this man-made system is abolished forever. All of God's universe will bow their knee and be forced to pay homage to Christ and not to the beast.

Philippians 2:9-11 says:

"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of

things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

The timeframe of this momentous and solemn event is the inception of the Millennial Kingdom (Isaiah 45:23). After this universal acknowledgment of Jesus as God, the true God (Jesus Christ) will establish His own government upon planet earth.

Isaiah 9:6-7 prophecies:

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.”

We can be absolutely sure that there will be no 666 in the glorious kingdom day! The worship of man and the number of man will not be seen throughout God’s holy earth. In fact, the Beast will be burning in the Lake of Fire for 1,000 years while Jesus rules planet earth (Rev. 20:10). Only the Lamb will be worshipped during the Millennium. The numbering system of the Antichrist will be forever banished from planet earth. There will be no more man-centered worship or man-made numbers such as 666 during the earthly Millennium. Only the Lord Jesus Christ will be worshipped as the true living God and Creator. Beast worship will be exchanged for God’s worship. This will be the Golden Age.

Isaiah 66:23 envisions this glorious time:

“And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before me, saith the LORD.”

The Antichrist pagan worship of the Tribulation Period will be replaced for Christ’s worship during the Millennium Kingdom. Antichrist’s kingdom of

darkness will be exchanged for a kingdom of righteousness. Man's 666 reign will be replaced by Messiah's reign. In the end, God wins!