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THE MARK OF THE BEAST

Just what is the mark of the beast? Is it a thing of the past? Is it here now? Or is it a thing of the future? Just what is the truth of this mysterious mark of the beast? Can we through diligent study of the Scriptures learn what the mark is? Let us be diligent seekers for truth because only then will we be able to understand what the mark of the beast is.

By Donald Adkins

And he causes all, both small and great, and rich and poor, and free and slave, to be given a mark upon their right hand or upon their foreheads, and that no one should be able to buy or sell except he that has the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is the wisdom! He who has understanding, let him calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man, and his number is 666,” Rev. 13:16-18.

NOTE: All Scriptural quotations are from the Scriptures, published by Institute for Scripture Research (PTY) L.T.D. South Africa 1998 unless otherwise noted.

I don't know how many people have noticed this but Father Yahweh has revealed a great truth to me concerning the above verses. It is an astonishing revelation that I have never encountered in any other religious works I've ever read (and believe me I've read many in the last 12 -1/2 years I've been studying the Scriptures). It's really a simple revelation but much overlooked by all who study the Scriptures.

One day as I was studying Revelation 13:16-18 just as I had finished reading the verses I clearly heard a voice speak (in my head, not audibly) which said, 'Son did you get it? Three things are mentioned in the verses of Revelation 13:16-18 and only two are related. Let me show you this deep truth because Revelation 13:16-18 speaks of two things actually, not three. First let me break them down into three things:

1. The mark of the beast.
2. The name of the beast.
3. The number of the beast's name.

After looking at these three items closely I realized that there are really only two aspects after all because:

1. There is a mark of the beast and,
2. The name of the beast is calculated and the number of the beast is the number of a man.

But what does all this mean? We can only learn that when we learn who the beast is!

A TROUBLING DREAM

In the second chapter of the book of Daniel it is recorded that the Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar had a dream that so troubled him he couldn't get a good night's sleep afterward. It appears that the dream so disturbed the king that he lost many nights of sleep! (Dan. 2:1). What troubled king Nebuchadnezzar so much was that

not only didn't he know what the dream meant, he didn't even remember what the dream was! (v. 3) So the king called all the magicians, and the astrologers, and the practitioners of witchcraft, and the Chaldeans to declare to him his dream and the interpretation. But as we all know, Yahweh was revealing the bankruptcy of the false religions and gods of Babylon. No one was able to give the king the dream or its interpretation so the anger of the king waxed hot and in a rage he commanded that all the wise ones of Babylon were to be killed. (Dan. 2:2-13)

There was a young man in Babylon named Daniel who had been taken to Babylon during the days of the Babylonian captivity. He was taken there to be educated in all wisdom of Babylon so that he could stand before the king. Daniel and other youth were to be taught the writing and the speech of the Chaldeans. These youths were taught so that the king could use them as administrators. (Dan 2:3-5)

As Daniel was taught by the wise ones of Babylon then he too was to be put to death with them because of the king's decree. Daniel requested further information from the executioner of why the king was doing this. When Daniel learned the truth, he by faith told the executioner to tell the king that if he would give him a little time he would tell the king his dream and the interpretation. (Dan. 2:14-16)

Immediately Daniel sought his three closest friends and they got down on their knees before Yahweh and prayed for the dream and interpretation to be revealed to them so that they would not have to die with the rest of the wise ones of Babylon. (Dan. 2:17-18)

REVEALING THE DREAM

The secret was revealed to Daniel in a night vision and Daniel gave Yahweh all the praise due Him. He then went and made intercession for the wise ones of Babylon and requested to be taken before the king so he could reveal to Nebuchadnezzar his dream and the interpretation. (Dan. 2:19-24)

Daniel then stood before the king and gave him his dream and the interpretation of it. I can picture it so clearly! As soon as Daniel revealed the dream to the king I can hear the king say in astonishment, "That's it! I remember now! That's my dream!" Daniel let the king know that it was only Yahweh Himself the true Elohim (Elah) of heaven who could reveal to him his dream and



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give him the interpretation of it. (Dan. 2:25-49)

The dream and interpretation that Yahweh gave to king Nebukadnetstsar revealed that there would only be four world empires followed by the fifth which would be the kingdom of Yahweh. It is in this dream and interpretation that we learn who the fourth beast is that has a mysterious name which adds up to 666 (which name is also the name of a man), and it is also this fourth beast who has the mysterious mark. Who were these four empires? How can we know where they began? Yahweh reveals to us the answer because: "The master Yahweh does no matter unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets," Amos 3:7.

THE SUCCESSION OF KINGDOMS

Yahweh reveals through Daniel that Nebuchadnetstsar was the head of gold. (Dan. 2:37-38). Nebukadnetstsar was king of Babylon, thus the first empire was Babylon. Babylon lasted from 605-539 B.C.E. Therefore Yahweh has revealed to us where to begin looking for the fulfillment of the great prophecy of Daniel chapter two!

Next, notice that after Babylon (the head of gold) there was to follow another kingdom that would be inferior to Babylon. This was the breast and arms of silver which was the kingdom of Medeo-Persia that ruled from 539-331 B.C.E. (Dan. 2:32, 39).

Then there was to kingdom inferior to Medo-Persia represented by the belly and thighs of bronze. This kingdom was the kingdom of the Greeks that lasted from 331-168 B.C.E. (Dan. 2:32, 39).

Finally, we come to the last kingdom. This kingdom was represented by two legs of iron and two feet with ten toes mixed with iron and clay. The two feet with the ten toes mixed with iron and clay are said to represent this fourth kingdom in its divided state. (Dan2:33-35; 40-43). Notice very carefully that this fourth kingdom is to last until the stone smashes it! The stone is said to be the Kingdom of Yahweh. (Dan. 2:34-35; 44-45)

THE FOURTH KINGDOM

History has revealed this fourth kingdom to be the Roman Empire. We have mostly been taught that this empire lasted from 168 B.C.E. - 476 C.E. Yet this kingdom is revealed by the Scriptures to last until the setting up of the Kingdom of Yahweh. How can these things be? Haven't we all been taught that the Roman Empire was destroyed by the Germanic barbarians in 476 C.E.? Let's look deeper at this fourth kingdom and learn all we can about it for we need this information!

We are told that Rome was founded by Romulus. Romulus (rām'yoo las) [L.] *Rom. Myth.* a son of Mars and founder and first king of Rome, deified as Quirinus; he and his twin brother Remus, left as infants to die in the Tiber, were suckled by a she-wolf. (*Webster's New*

World Dictionary 1996, p. 1235)

Notice that the above definition tells us that it was the mythological character Romulus who founded Rome and was its first king. Interestingly, most mythological characters and events were based upon some true characters and events. These true people and events were simply exaggerated throughout time. That Romulus founded Rome and was its first king we have no need to doubt.

I want to point out that I personally believe that to calculate the number of the beast (that is the name of a man and his number is 666) you must calculate it in the Hebrew language. Why do I say this? Without getting into a deep theological argument over Hebrew or Greek inspiration of the Scriptures (at least in this article,) I simply want to point out the known fact that: "Many linguists and historians now attest that the Evangels, the Acts, and the book of Revelation were composed in Hebrew...Early church fathers validate that the book of Matthew was originally written in Hebrew (see Eusebius *Ecclesiastical History* 3:39; Irenaeus *Against Heresies* 3:1; Epiphanius *Panarion* 24:9:4; Jerome's *Lives of Illustrious Men* 3 and *DeVir* 3:36. Also see *Companion Bible* Appendix 94; *The Bible from the Peshitta* p.xi. You may also contact Yahweh's New Covenant Assembly P.O. Box 50 Kingdom City, MO 65262 for tracts on the Hebrew/Aramaic Origin of the New Testament. Also see preface to *The Scriptures* pp. xv-xvi.)

CALCULATING THE NAME

Now let us get back to our subject at hand. If the original scroll written by John called the Revelation of Yahshua the Messiah was produced in the Hebrew language, and its author was a Hebrew, then isn't it apparent that to calculate the number of the beast you must use the Hebrew language? I personally believe that we must use Hebrew to calculate it and that it is a fact that cannot be contradicted.

If I am correct then the man who founded the fourth kingdom, Romulus (his name in Hebrew and his kingdom is called Romiith) should then calculate to 666 in Hebrew. Let's do the calculating and see what we come up with. R = ר = 200; o = ו = 6; m = מ = 40; i = י = 10; i = י = 10; th = ת = 400. 200 + 6 + 40 + 10 + 10 + 400 = 666! Here is the fact proven right before your eyes that Romiith calculates into 666!

Is it just coincidence that the man's name and the name of the kingdom he founded (Rome/Romiith) calculates to 666? I think not! But some might say, "How do you know that the beast of Revelation 13:1-10, 15-18 is the fourth beast of Daniel chapter two?"

Because the seventh chapter of Daniel reveals it to be so! Daniel chapter seven reveals these same four empires but expands our understanding of them. Let's look deeper at this chapter of Daniel as well to see if we can



gain some deeper insight.

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DANIEL 7

In the first year of Belshatstsar, sovereign of Babel, Daniel received a vision of the four winds of the heavens stirring up the Great Sea. What are the four winds of the heavens and the Great Sea?

Winds, in the Scriptures, denote war, strife, and political unrest. For example: "Behold, I will raise up against Babylon, against those who dwell in Leb Kamai, a destroying wind," Jer. 51:1 (*KJV*). (*cf.* also Jer. 4:11-13; Hos. 13:15-16, etc.)

The Great Sea symbolized the restlessness and dangerous turmoil of sinful men or nations. For example: "And he said to me, 'The waters which you saw, where the

whore sits (*cf.* Rev. 17:1), are peoples, and crowds, and nations, and tongues," Rev. 17:15. (*cf.* Dan. 7:17; Isa. 17:12-13; 57:20)

However, anciently The Great Sea was a term utilized to describe the Mediterranean Sea and the areas around it. Also all four of the kingdoms that were to successfully rule were to all arise out of this area of the Mediterranean Sea and they have. (Read Dan. 7, please)

COMPARING DANIEL 2 & 7

The next important point to make is that these four strange beasts Daniel saw are said by inspiration to be four kings or kingdoms that will arise out of the earth. (*cf.* Dan. 7:3, 17, 23). Look at the chart below which compares Daniel chapters 2 and 7.

	IDENTITY	DAN. 2 GREAT IMAGE (2:31-45)	DAN. 7 FOUR BEASTS (7:2-28)
I.	Babylon	Head of gold	Lion with eagle's wings
II.	Medo-Persia	Breast/arms silver	Bear with 3 ribs 3 ribs 1. Babylon, conquered in 539 BCE 2. Lydia, conquered in 546 BCE 3. Egypt, conquered in 525 BCE
III.	Greece	Belly/thighs bronze	Leopard with 4 wings & 4 heads 4 heads 1. Cassander 2. Ptolemy 3. Lysimachus 4. Seleucus Alexander the Great's 4 generals who took control after he died.
IV.	Rome	Legs of iron w/ feet & toes of iron & clay	Fearsome & burly beast w/ great iron teeth & 10 horns

Notice the progression of these four bests of Dan. 7. It is:

- 1. Lion - Babylon
- 2. Bear - Medo-Persia
- 3. Leopard - Greece
- 4. Fearsome & burly - Rome beast

COMPARING THE BEAST OF REVELATION

Taking a look at Rev. 13:1-2, "And I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads names of blasphemy. And the beast I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. And the dragon gave him his power and his throne, and great authority."

Notice the regression here. This beast is a composite beast:

- 1. like a leopard. (Greece)

- 2. feet of a bear. (Medo-Persia)

- 3. Mouth of a lion. (Babylon)

(NOTE: Daniel looked forward in time and John backward and forward.)

Have you noticed that the fourth beast of Revelation 13:1-2 is a composite beast of all the kingdoms (or beasts) before it? In other words Rome inherited all the ancient mysteries of the empires before it beginning with Babylon through Greece. Is it any wonder that Rome was called the Second Babylon? Why was Rome called the Second Babylon in the first place?

THE SECOND BABYLON



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I quote: "...from the temple of Bel, that great image of Bel was removed and taken to Rome, where it was erected. This was done by Emperor Aurelian of Rome who was known as 'the Sun Emperor.' Aurelian also took the image of Helios, another sun-deity, from Palmyra, and erected it in Rome. This supreme Sun-deity, Bel was honoured throughout northern Syria and had come from Babylon. So the worship of Bel, the founder of Babylon, eventually became established in Rome. No wonder the church father Augustine candidly wrote that 'Rome was founded as the second Babylon and as the daughter of the former Babylon.'" (*Come Out of Here My People*, C.J. Koster p.92).

"The Babylonian empire had vanished but its religion was very much alive in Syria, and from here it was taken to Rome when the Roman pantheon and Greek pantheon had waned...Syria was Rome's teacher and predecessor. The last formula reached by the religion...of the Romans, was a divinity unique, almighty, eternal, universal and ineffable, that revealed itself throughout nature, but whose most splendid and most energetic manifestation was the Sun." (*Ibid* pp. 92-93).

"Further testimony of Rome being Mystery Babylon, is recorded for us by Hislop in *The Two Babylons*, pp. 240-241 and p. 279, wherein he quotes his sources, "The true legitimate Babylonian Pontiff...after the death of Belshazzar, and the expulsion of the Chaldean priesthood from Babylon by the Medo-Persian kings, was at Pergamos, where afterwards was one of the seven churches of Asia. There in consequence, for many centuries was 'Satan's seat' (Rev. 2:13). He then quotes Barker who relates that the defeated Chaldeans fled to Asia Minor, and fixed their central college at Pergamos. Hislop then continues, "...in course of time, the Pontificate of Rome and the Pontificate of Pergamos became identified. Pergamos itself became part and parcel of the Roman Empire, when Attalus III, the last of its kings, at his death, left by will all his dominions to the Roman people. B.C.E. 133." (*Ibid*. p. 92)

"When John wrote the book of Revelation, Babylon - as a city - had already been destroyed and left in ruins, as the Old Testament prophets had foretold (Isa. 13:19-22; Jer. 51-52). But though the city of Babylon was destroyed, religious concepts and customs that originated in Babylon continued on and were well represented in many nations of the world." (*Babylon Mystery Religion Ancient and Modern* by Ralph Woodrow pp. 7-8)

"This system of idolatry spread from Babylon to the nations, for it was from this location that men were scattered over the face of the earth (Gen. 11:9). So they went from Babylon, they took their worship of the mother and child, and the various mystery symbols with them. Herodotus, the world traveler and historian of antiquity, witnessed the mystery religion and its rites in numerous countries and mentions how Babylon was the

primeval source from which all systems of idolatry followed. Bunsen says that the religious system of Egypt was derived from Asia and 'the primitive empire in Babel'...

"When Rome became a world empire, it is a known fact that she assimilated into her system the gods and religions from the various pagan countries over which she ruled. Since Babylon was the source of the paganism of these countries, we can see how the early religion of pagan Rome was but the Babylonish worship that had developed into various forms and under different names in the countries to which it had gone." (*Ibid* pp. 10-11)

SATAN'S SEAT

I found it of deep interest that Mr. Hislop equates the transfer of the seat of the Pontificate of Belshazzar to Pergamos and their lineage of kings and lastly to Rome as 'Satan's Seat' especially in light of Rev. 2:13; 12:9; 13:3, 4: "I know your works, and where you dwell, where the throne of Satan is. And you hold fast to My Name, and did not deny the belief in Me, even in the days in which Antipas was My trustworthy witness, who was killed near you, where Satan dwells."

"And the great dragon was thrown out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who leads all the world astray."

"And the beast I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. And the dragon [Satan the Devil] gave him [Romiith - Rome] his power, and his throne, and great authority...And they worshipped the dragon [Satan the Devil] who gave authority to the beast [Romiith - Rome].

Brethren, have you realized what our Savior Yahshua has tried to reveal to us here? Satan has a throne on earth and it still resides in Babylon [Rome].

"And it shall be, in the day Yahweh gives you rest from your sorrow, and from your trouble and the hard service in which you were made to serve, that you shall take up this proverb against the sovereign of Babel (Satan's seat), and say, 'How the oppressor has ceased, the gold gatherer ceased...How you have fallen from the heavens, O Helel (Satan) son of the morning! You have been cut down to the ground, you who laid low the gentiles! For you have said in your heart, 'Let me go up to the heavens, let me raise my throne above the stars of El, and let me sit in the mount of meeting on the sides of the north; let me go up above the heights of the clouds, let me be like the Most High,' Isa. 14:3-4; 12-14.

Notice that a man sits on this throne for Satan gives this man his seat, authority and power just like Rev. 13:3-4 said.

"But you are brought down to the grave, to the sides of the pit. Those who see you stare at you, and ponder over you saying, 'Is this the man (Pontifex Maximus over all



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paganism or Babylonian Mystery Religion, the man Satan has given his throne, i.e. seat, authority, and great power to) who made the earth tremble, who shook reigns, who made the world as a wilderness and destroyed its cities (obviously yet future), who would not open the house of his prisoners?" All the sovereigns of the gentiles, all of them, were laid in esteem, everyone in his own house; but you (Satan's Pontifex Maximus) have been thrown from your grave like an abominable branch, like the garment of those who are slain, thrust through with a sword, who go down to the stones of the pit, like a trampled corpse. You are not joined with them in burial, for you have destroyed your land and slain your people. Let the seed of evil-doers never be mentioned. Prepare his (Satan's) children for slaughter, because of the crookedness of their fathers, lest they rise up (resurrection to life after death) and possess the land (with the saints), and fill the face of the world with cities. 'And I shall rise up against them,' declares Yahweh of hosts, 'And shall cut off from Babel (Rome) the name and the remnant, and offspring and descendant' declares Yahweh. And I shall make it a possession for the porcupine, and marshes of muddy water; and shall sweep it with the broom of destruction,' declares Yahweh of hosts, "Isa. 14:15-23.

Can there be any doubt that Satan moved his throne from Babel to Pergamos (Rev. 2:13) and finally to Rome (Rev. 13:3-4)? It must be so because Romiith was the founder of Romiith (Rome) and it is a fact that a man (Romiith) is also the name of the beast (Romiith) and these both calculate the name of the man and beast into a number - 666! Romiith = 666!

THE SUN WORSHIPPERS

We have identified the beast. The beast is Rome where Satan's seat has been transferred. But what of the mark of the beast? Does the Roman Empire (the fourth beast) have a distinguishing mark? She does and this I will endeavor to prove beyond all reasonable doubt!

We have already seen how Rome's religion came from Babylon through Pergamos. But just what was that religion? All books of history pretty much reveal the same story. Just before the appearing of the Messiah Yahshua, and shortly after, the worship of the sun became very popular. In fact most of the known pagan deities of the nations had all been assimilated with the sun deity. When the true Messianic worship had come to Rome, the greatest rival it found was sun worship.

The saddest part of all is that in Rome the true worship was infiltrated by large numbers of unconverted sun worshippers. This resulted in the assemblies adopting pagan practices and the corrupting of the Scriptural Faith that was once for all delivered to the saints (Jude 3-4). What is coming forth in this study may shock you, but you must learn the truth. Of the fourth beast, Rome,

it is written in the prophetic record that: "...The fourth beast is the fourth reign upon the earth, which is different from all other reigns, and it devours all the earth, tramples it down and crushes it. And the ten horns are ten sovereigns from this reign. They shall rise, and another shall arise after them, and it is different from the first ones, and it humbles three sovereigns, and it speaks words against the Most High, and it wears out the set-apart ones of the Most High, and it intends to change appointed times and law, and they are given into its hands for a time and times and half a time," Dan. 7:23-25.

PONTIFEX MAXIMUS

We know that the fourth beast is Rome and that it was different than all the other beasts before it (i.e. Babylon, Medo-Persia and Greece). Rome had began as a republic but later on, under the Caesars, became an empire. Soon the Caesars became known as Pontifex Maximus (or the office of High Priest) and they were looked upon as the mediators between heaven and earth. They even went so far as to declare that they were gods! This led to the fourth beast making war against the saints and overcoming them!

As long as the Roman government persecuted the saints they couldn't overcome their faith! The earlier followers of Yahshua the Messiah refused to have anything to do with the pagan customs and beliefs of pagan Rome. Much persecution resulted. Many a true follower of Yahshua was falsely accused, thrown into the arena to be mauled and eaten by lions, burned at the stake, tortured and martyred but still the true faith grew! Rome couldn't stamp out the faith by persecution or death of those earlier saints! What an awesome army of saints Yahweh had who love Him so much they would rather die for Him than sin against Him or denounce Him, HalleluYah!!! Oh that we too could hold up strong in faith when tested today with our minor problems and cares as those beautiful firstfruits saints of old!

"And the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, to fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. And out of his mouth the serpent spewed water like a river after the woman, to cause her to be swept away by the river. And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the river which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth," Rev. 12:14-16.

What was this symbolic flood of water like a river that Satan used to try and destroy the woman (i.e. true Assembly of Yahweh)? What say the Scriptures about this flood? "When the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of Yahweh will lift up a standard against him," Isa. 59:19b (KJV).

EMPEROR CONSTANTINE'S EDICT



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Yes, Satan used his Pontifex Maximus Constantine, the head of the beast power, the enemy of Yahweh's people to enter the Assembly of Yahweh peacefully and conquer the true faith. Thus was fulfilled Dan. 11:31-35 which says, "And strong ones shall arise from him and profane the set-apart place, the stronghold (Assembly of Yahweh), and shall take away that which is continual (true worship), and set up the abomination that lays waste (false worship, i.e. Christianity), and by flatteries he (Constantine, the Pontifex Maximus of Satan's seat and his successors) shall profane those who do wrong against the covenant (i.e. those who fall away from the faith (cf. Acts 20:29-30; I Tim. 4:1-3) and follow the Pontifex Maximus (cf. II Thes. 2:3-12), but the people who know their Elohim shall be strong, and shall act. And those of the people who have insight shall give understanding to many. And they shall stumble by sword and flame, by captivity and plundering, for days (true worshippers persecuted). And when they stumble, they shall be helped, a little help, but many will join them by flatteries (not truly sincere people). And some of those who have insight shall stumble, to refine them, and to cleanse them, and to make them white (for rulership in the kingdom of Yahweh), until the time of the end, for it is still for an appointed time."

It was in the year 313 C.E. that Constantine, together with Licinius, held a conference at Milan where they began an alliance. It was also at that same place and date that they produced some documents called the Edict of Milan. This Edict of Milan was also known as the Edict that granted religious freedom within the territory of the Roman Empire.

It was also called the Edict of Toleration. This edict especially granted to "Christians and to all others, full liberty of following that religion which each may choose." This was the first edict of its kind in history.

SUNDAY LAW

It was in 321 C.E. that Constantine issued the first Sunday law. Contrary to what most Christians believe, Constantine did not issue this law to honor the Messiah as they believe. Constantine, through craft, faked conversion and throughout his life remained a sun-worshipper. Allow me to quote four sources that reveal the truth about Constantine.

1. "Constantine combined veneration for the 'Unconquered Sun my companion' with that of Christ." *The Oxford Classical Dictionary*, Second Edition, p. 233.
2. "The vague deism of Constantine strove to reconcile the opposition of helioatry (sun worship) and Christianity." *Oriental Religions in Roman Paganism*, p. 288, Frank Cumont.
3. "Constantine's god was a fusion of the Unconquered Sun and Christ the Victorious." *The Religions of the*

Roman Empire, p. 56, John Ferguson.

4. "The ... importance thus given to the worship of the material sun, which henceforth forms the centre of the adoration in all non-Christian religions ... All the post-Alexandrian legends of the gods were turned the same way, and Serapis, Mithras, Attis were all identified with the Sun, whom philosophers like Pliny and Macrobius declared to be the one supreme god concealed behind the innumerable lesser deities of the Graeco-Roman pantheon. Even the Christians could not long hold out against the flood, and the signs of compromise to which the Catholic Church participated in the matter can be seen in the coincidence of the Lord's Day with Sunday and the Church's adoption of the 25th day of December, the birthday of the Unconquered Sun-god, as the anniversary of the birth of Christ. It is certainly by no accident that emperors whose reigns immediately preceded the establishment of Christianity all turned towards the worship of the Sun-god who was looked upon as the peculiar divinity of the family to which Constantine belonged." *Forerunners and Rivals of Christianity*, pp. 118-119, Legge.

Now we can easily see that Constantine's Sunday Law Edict of 321 C.E. was not made in honor of Yahshua the Messiah at all but in truth, in honor of the "Unconquered Sun my Companion." Let us look at this edict.

State Recognition of Sunday, 321

Constantine to Elpidius. All judges, city people and craftsmen shall rest on the venerable day of the Sun. But country men may without hindrance attend to agriculture, since it often happens that this is the most suitable day for sowing grain or planting vines, so that the opportunity afforded by divine providence may not be lost, for the right season is of short duration. 7 March 321. Code Justinianus, III. xii. (Corp. Jur. Civ. ii. 127.)

It is interesting to note here whose day of worship Sunday really was. I quote, "The Mithraist also observed Sun-day and kept sacred the 25th of December as the birthday of the Sun." *Textes et Monuments 1*, p. 339 Franz Cumont.

"Mithras, identified with Sol Invictus (the Unconquered Sun), thus became the giver of authority and victory to the imperial house." *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 14th Ed., Vol. 15, p. 620.

HIDDEN AGENDA

Do you remember Rev. 13:34 which says that Satan the dragon gave the beast (Romiith - Rome 666) his seat, power, and authority?! So who or what was Satan hiding behind so as to receive worship? You said it - Mithras - Sol Invictus (the Unconquered Sun), the deity that Constantine worshipped! So what do you think the mark of the beast really is now? What is the mark that Rome forced on the world by Constantine's edict? Sunday, the day Mithras was worshipped!



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Sunday is the mark of the beast - Rome! Now remember Dan. 7:25, "And it (Rome) speaks words against the Most High, and it (Rome) wears out the set-apart ones (true worshippers) of the Most High, and it intends to change the appointed times (feasts of Yahweh) and law (is the law of Yahweh really abolished? NO!), and they (i.e. the feasts of Yahweh, His laws and His set-apart ones) are given into its (Rome's) hand for a time and times and half a time (3-1/2 years would be 1260 days. Could this prophecy be a day for a year? Yes, it could. [Num. 14:33; Ez. 4:6]. This prophecy could cover a period of 1,260 years of duration. More on this in a moment).

Notice what the fourth beast does:

1. It speaks against Yahweh.
2. It wears out the set-apart ones.
3. It intends to change a). feasts of Yahweh, b). Yahweh's law.

How effective has this beast power been? Very effective because for centuries people have died believing Yahweh's feasts were abolished and other days put in their place, i.e. Sunday for Sabbath, New Year's Day for the true Scriptural New Year, Valentine's Day, Easter and Lent instead of the Scriptural Passover, Halloween, and last of all Christmas. (For more information on all these days instituted by the beast (Rome) in place of Yahweh's commanded feasts, please request Elder Healan's booklet Colossians 2:16-17 or Holidays Vs. Holy Days. Write to YEA, P. O. Box 31, Atlanta, TX. 75551.)

"The emperors of Rome had been sun-worshippers and also regarded themselves to be sun-deities. Emperor Constantine was no different than his predecessors. The only difference was that he ended the persecution of Messianic Believers. He started to fraternize with them, and he sought their cooperation for his own political ends, i.e. to bring about peace, unity and strength in his empire. Thus, a sun-deity worshipping Roman emperor used his fraternizing and his political power to merge the messianic Belief with that of the predominant sun-worship. Constantine even assumed the chairmanship, the chair of the Pontifex Maximus, at time, such as at the Council of Nicaea in the year 325 C.E. (*Come Out of Her My People*, p. 110, C.J. Koester.

Notice how Constantine pushed the mark of the beast (changing the day of worship to Sunday) during the Council of Nicaea of C.E. 325. Notice what Constantine said at the council as the Pontifex Maximus, "At this meeting the question concerning...Easter was discussed...First of all, it appeared an unworthy thing that in the celebration of this...feast we should follow the practice of the Jews...Let us have nothing in common with the Jews...It has been determined by the common judgment of all, that the...feast of Easter should be kept on one and the same day...(Constantine said here that Easter should be kept on Sunday and he then forbade them to keep the true Passover Feast. Then he contin-

ued...)... "Forasmuch, then, as it is no longer possible to bear with your pernicious errors, we give warning by this present statute that none of you henceforth presume to assemble yourselves together. We have directed, accordingly, that you be deprived of all houses in which you are accustomed to hold your assemblies: and forbid the holding of your superstitious and senseless meetings, not in public merely, but in any private house or place whatsoever...Take the far better course of entering the Catholic Church...From this day forward none of your unlawful assemblies may presume to appear in any public or private place. Let this edict be made public." (*The History of Roman Catholicism*)

By edict of Constantine himself, at the Council of Nicaea in 325 C.E., the historical proof of the enforced observance of Sunday. Notice it says to assembly on any other day for a religious observance such as on the Scriptural 7th day Sabbath was against the law!

This was confirmed by the Council of Laodicea in 363 C.E. when it was declared, "Christians must not Judaize by resting on the Sabbath, but must work on that day, resting rather on Sunday. But, if any be found to be Judaizing, let them be declared anathema (i.e. cursed and excommunicated) from Christ."

Can you not see that Daniel 7:25 has been fulfilled to the very letter?! The fourth beast (Romiith - 666) intended to change:

1. Yahweh's appointed times, i.e. the Sabbath Day and the feasts.
2. Yahweh's law. It claims the law of Yahweh has been abolished, i.e. nailed to the cross.

Where is this mark of the beast (Rome) to be? Let us look at Rev. 13:16, "And he causes all, both small and great, and rich and poor, and free and slave, to be given a mark upon their right hand or upon their foreheads."

RIGHT HAND AND FOREHEAD

Two important symbols here will reveal that the mark is not a literal tattoo on your body as many people think. Those symbols are 1) the right hand and 2) the forehead. Do the Scriptures reveal a meaning for the symbol of the right hand? Yes, for we read, "So when James, Peter, and John, who seemed to be supports, came to know the favor that had been given to me, they gave me and Barnabas the **right hand of fellowship**, in order that we go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised," Gal. 2:9.

What did the right hand mean in the above verse? Didn't it mean that they were given the right to labor in working to spread the glad tidings to the Gentiles? Yes, it did. The right hand symbolized their labor in the faith. If you look at Ex. 29:19-21; Lev. 8:23-24; and Lev. 14:12-18 you will again see some symbolism. Notice it:

1. Tip of the right ear - consecrated to hear Yahweh's word.
2. Thumb of the right hand - Consecrated to labor in



ministry/priesthood.

3. Big toe of the right foot - Consecrated to walk in the path of righteousness, i.e. the set-apart way.

Now let us look at the forehead as a symbol in Scripture, "And you shall make a plate of clean gold and engrave on it, like the engraving of a signet: Set-apartness to Yahweh. And you shall put it on a blue cord, and it shall be on the forehead of Aharon, and Aharon shall bear the guilt of the set-apart gifts which the children of Yisrael set-apart in all their set-apart gifts. And it shall always be on his forehead for acceptance for them before Yahweh," Ex. 28:36-38.

"...you have had a whore's forehead, you refuse to be ashamed," Jer. 4:46.

"See, I make your face as hard as their faces and your forehead as hard as their foreheads. Like adamant stone, harder than flint, I shall make your forehead," Ez. 3:8.

It is evident from the above Scriptures that the forehead is a symbol of the mind, will or intellect. The seat of the emotions.

Let's look at a few more Scriptures that will reveal the difference of the mark of the beast and its direct opposite!

"And these words which I am commanding you today shall be in your heart, and you shall impress them upon your children, and you shall speak of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up, and shall find them as a sign upon your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes," Dt. 6:6-8 (cf. Dt. 11:18)

"And it shall be as a sign to you on your hand and as a reminder between your eyes, that the Torah of Yahweh is to be in your mouth, for with a strong hand Yahweh had brought you out of Mitsrayim, and you shall guard this law at its appointed time from year to year," Ex. 13:9-10.

Is it not evident by the above Scriptures that the difference between the mark of the beast that is in the forehead (mind) and hand (labor or actions) of the beast's people is Sunday worship, false religious holidays, law done away, disobedience to Yahweh, and that which is to be in the forehead (mind) and hand (labor or actions) of Yahweh's people is obedience to Yahweh's commandments, Sabbath, feasts, and laws? Notice that in Rev. 12:17; 14:12; 22:14 Yahweh's people obey His commandments and in Rev. 3:12; 7:3; 14:1; 22:3 it is Yahweh's name that is in His people's foreheads?

What would be the opposite to Yahweh and His people's obedience? Wouldn't the opposite be that the beast's people obey his commandments and the beast's name would be in their foreheads? Look closer at Rev. 13:16-18; 14:9; 16:2; 17:5. You can't afford to misunderstand the issues involved in these last days. The real issue is commandment keeping! Either Yahweh's or the beast's/Rome's/Satan's!

CHANGE OF PONTIFEX MAXIMUS

Earlier we learned from the prophecy of Daniel chapter two that the fourth beast (Rome) was to continue through the centuries until the stone (kingdom of Yahweh) smashed the whole image. The stone was then to grow up into a huge mountain and fill the earth (Dan. 2:32-33; 40-45). How can this be if, as we are told, the Roman Empire came to an end in 476 C.E. when it was overrun by the Germanic Barbarians? Is it possible that Satan's seat has been transferred again? But if so how can it still be in the fourth beast Rome because Rome, according to Daniel's prophecy must continue until the establishment of the Kingdom of Yahweh? What a mystery! What is the answer to this mystery?

I quote: "When Rome conquered the world, the paganism that had spread from Babylon and developed in various nations, was merged into the religious system of Rome. This included the idea of a Supreme Pontiff (Pontifex Maximus). Thus, Babylonian paganism, which had originally been carried out under the rulership of Nimrod, was united under the rulership of one man at Rome: Julius Caesar. It was the year 63 B.C.E. that Julius Caesar was officially recognized as the "Pontifex Maximus" of the mystery religion....

"The Roman emperors (including Constantine) continued to hold the office of Pontifex Maximus until 376 when Gratian, for Christian reasons, refused it. He recognized this title and office as idolatrous and blasphemous. By this time, however, the bishop of Rome had arisen to political power and prestige. Consequently, in 378, Damasus, bishop of Rome, was elected to the Pontifex Maximus—the official high priest of the mysteries! Since Rome was considered the most important city in the world, some of the Christians looked to the bishop of Rome as "bishop of bishops" and head of the church. This produced a unique situation. One man was now looked to as head by both Christians and pagans. By this time, and through the years that followed, the streams of paganism and Christianity flowed together, producing what is known as the Roman Catholic Church, under the headship of the Pontifex Maximus, the Pope." (*Babylon Mystery Religion* pp. 79-80 by Ralph Woodrow).

"It is certain that the title "Supreme Pontiff" or Pontifex Maximus" which the pope bears is not a Christian designation, for it was the title used by Roman emperors before the Christian era. The word "pontiff" comes from the word pons (bridge), and facio (make). It means "bridge-maker." The



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priest-king emperors of pagan days were regarded as the makers and guardians of the bridges of Rome. Each of them serves as high priest and claimed to be the bridge or connecting link between this life and the next.”

SATAN'S SEAT

“The branch of the mysteries known as Mithraism grew in Rome until it became—at one time—almost the only faith of the empire. The head priest was called the Pater Patrum, that is, the Father of the Fathers. Borrowing directly from this title, the head of the Roman Catholic Church, is the Papa or Pope—the Father of Fathers. The “Father” of Mithraism had his seat at Rome then, and the “Father” of Catholicism has his there now.” (Ibid p. 83)

Do you realize what you have just read? The seat of Satan, the man who is backed by Satan is the Pontifex Maximus and that man is today sitting on Satan's seat in the Roman Catholic Church! It was Christianity that grew out of the merger of Sun-worship of Mithras with the true Messianic belief with the Pope as its head.

THE TIME, TIMES & HALF TIME

I stated earlier that the time, times and half a time of Dan. 7:25 was 3-1/2 years but that it could represent 1,260 days that in prophecy could represent 1,260 years. (c.f. Num. 14:33-34; Ez. 4:6) I believe this to be the case because Rome was to continue throughout many centuries till the establishment of the Kingdom of Yahweh.

In 538 C.E. the Emperor Justinian made a decree that made the Pope head (Pontifex Maximus) of all churches within the jurisdiction of the Roman Empire. If we begin our prophecy of the time, times and dividing of time from that date (538 C.E.) and count down 1,260 years, we come to a remarkable fulfillment. In 1798 C.E. Napoleon, the emperor of France, sent his general Berthier to Rome to arrest the Pope. The Pope was taken to Valence, France, where he died. They elected a new Pope, true enough, but the 1,260 years of Papal supremacy came to an end. The Roman Church did receive a deadly wound (Rev. 13:3) but the wound would be healed and all the world would wonder after the beast (Rev. 13:3) . Is it just coincidence that the Papacy and the Roman Catholic Church are beginning to gain back their power? What do you think will be the result when Rome again reigns supreme? What are some of the bold claims of this apostate church? What do they claim that they have done and had the power to do?

POWER AS GOD

I quote: “The Roman Pontiff, when he speaks—ex cathedra—that is, when in the exercise of his office as pastor and teacher of all Christians he defines...a doctrine of faith or morals to be held by the whole church—is, by reason of the Divine assistance promised to him in blessed Peter, possessed of that infallibility...and consequently such definitions of the Roman Pontiff are irreformable.” (*The Catholic Encyclopedia*, Vol. 7, p. 796, art. ‘Infallibility’)

Pope Innocent III said, “We may according to the fullness of our power, dispose of the law and dispense above the law. These whom the Pope of Rome doth separate, it is not a man that separates them but God. For the Pope holdeth place on earth, not simply of a man but of the true God.” (*I Book of Gregory 9 Decret. c. 3*)

Pope Nicholas said, “I am all in all and above all, so that God Himself, and I, the Vicar of God, hath both one consistory, and I am able to do almost all that God can do...Wherefore, if those things that I do be said not to be done of man, but of God what can you make me but God?...I then, being above all prelates, seem by this reason to be above all Gods. Wherefore, no marvel if it be in my power to dispense with all things, yea, with the precepts of Christ.” (*Decret. Par. Distinct 96. Ch. 7 Edit. Lugd. 1661*)

Marcellus, in the Lateran Council, said to Pope Julius, “Take care that we lose not that salvation, that life and breath which thou hast given as, for thou art our shepherd, thou art physician, thou art governor, thou art husbandman, thou finally art another God on earth.” (*Council Edt. Colm. Agrip. 1618*)

Truly, these blasphemous claims by the Pontifex Maximus of Satan against Yahweh, Yahshua, and Yahweh's law and Yahshua's precepts fulfill the prophecies of Dan. 7:15; Dan. 11:36-39; II Thes. 2:3-12; Rev. 13:5-7. A person would have to be completely spiritually blind or dead not to see the truth herein presented.

THE MARK

All these things are shocking, yes, but I must reveal a bold admission of the beast, for the beast will tell us exactly what its mark really is. I quote: “Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change [of the Sabbath to Sunday] was her act...And the act is a **mark** of her ecclesiastical authority in religious things.” H.F. Thomas Chancel-



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lor of Cardinal Gibbons.

“And he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast covered with names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. And the woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, holding in her hand a golden cup filled with abominations and the filthiness of her whoring, and upon her forehead a name written, a secret: BABEL THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF THE WHORES AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH,” Rev. 17:3-5.

Do you not now understand who this woman is and who the other whores and abominations are that she is the mother of? Are your eyes so blind or is it that: 1) Elohim sent you a strong delusion so that you will believe the falsehood? (2 Thes. 2:11), or is it 2) that your hearts are weighed down by gluttony (of Babylon’s delicacies) and drunkenness (of Babylon’s wind) and the cares of this life (loving the world and all it contains [*c.f.* Lk. 21:34]).

Babylon the Great and her daughters, the whores and abominations are the Roman Catholic Church and the Protestant sects that have come out of her! What has our Heavenly Father commanded before it is too late to be done?: “...Come out of her [Christianity, I.e. the abomination that makes desolate or the abomination of desolation] My people, lest you share in her sins [I.e. transgressions of

Yahweh’s law], and lest you receive of her plagues [I.e. the punishment soon to fall on her from Yahweh] (Rev. 18:4, *c.f.* Dan. 9:27; 11:31; 12:11; Mt. 24:15; I Jn. 3:4; Rev. 18:8).

If we come out and obey Yahweh, returning to Him with a whole heart, what will our assembly be like in our Father’s eyes? What will our Husband Yahshua say? I believe He will say: “My dove, my perfect one, is the only one, the only one of her mother, the choice of the one who bore her. The daughters saw and called her blessed, Sovereignesses and concubines, and they praised her. Who is she who shines forth as the morning, fair and the moon, clear as the sun, awesome as an army with banners,” Song of Sol. 6:9-10.

Therefore, “Come out from among them and be separate, says Yahweh, and do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you. And I shall be a Father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to Me, says Yahweh El Shaddai,” 2 Cor. 6:17-18.

May you heed the call before it is too late or before Babylon regains her power and forces her mark on all in such wrath as the world has never seen. When she uses the beast she rides: “And he causes all, both small and great, and rich and poor, and free and slave, to be given a mark upon their right hand or upon their foreheads, and that no one should be able to buy or sell except he that has the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of

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