

# A BIBLE PROPHECY ADVENTURE REVELATION SEMINARS



The most fearful, awesome and shocking language in all the book of Revelation is used to describe the mark of the beast.

To read how God describes the punishment for those who receive the mark of the beast, Revelation 14:9-11, is enough to immediately put a sober look on any person's face.

Revelation points out the following specifically:

- a. Any person who receives the mark of the beast is lost
- b. The vast, overwhelming majority of the people on this earth will receive the mark of the beast
- c. The civil authorities will endeavour, by starvation and death threats, to compel people to receive the mark of the beast.

God teaches in Revelation that all people on this earth are rapidly dividing into two groups: one group following the God of heaven, and the other following Satan, who is represented by the beast. Those who follow God will receive the sign or mark of God, (We studied God's mark, or sign, in an earlier lesson). Those who follow Satan, represented by the beast, will receive the sign or mark of the beast.

Tragically, unless a person knows for certain what the mark of the beast is, he will inevitably end up with the mark and not even be aware that he has it. Are **YOU POSITIVE** that you can identify the mark of the beast? Anything less than this can cost you your life.

This subject may cut across something you have loved from childhood. But surely, since God lovingly sends us a special message from Revelation on this subject we will all be anxious to hear what He is saying and to accept and follow His counsel. This is what Jesus asks us to do in Revelation 1:3.

This most significant subject is presented in Revelation, chapter 13.

## THE BEAST OF REVELATION 13

1. In order to identify the "mark" we must first identify the "beast". In prophecy, what does a beast represent? Daniel 7:23; Jeremiah 50:17, 43, 44

**Ans:** "The fourth \_\_\_\_\_ shall be the fourth \_\_\_\_\_".

**NOTE:** Beasts in prophecy represent kingdoms, governments, or earthly ruling organizations. The term does not denote disrespect. It does not mean beastly characteristics. The description of each beast is a description of the government involved.

2. According to Revelation 13:1 this beast, with a mark, comes up out of the sea. What does water represent in prophecy? Revelation 17:15

**Ans:** "The waters ... Are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_."

**NOTE:** Water, in prophecy, represents a populated area

- 3. Read Revelation 13:1-8, 18. Notice that this beast, which has a mark that I must not receive, has eight pronounced characteristics. On Exhibit #1, we have listed these eight points and identified the power they describe. Please study this exhibit carefully before going to the next question.**

## THE BEASTS MARK OF AUTHORITY

4. Since we have now positively identified the beast as the papacy, let's permit the papacy to tell us what its mark is. See Exhibit #2.

## ATTEMPTED CHANGE OF GOD'S LAW

- 5. It seems incredible that the papacy has been able to change the day of worship from Saturday to Sunday and have virtually the entire world follow. Did the papacy really change God's fourth commandment-Sabbath to Sunday or only think that they had changed it? Daniel 7:25**

**Ans:** "And \_\_\_\_\_ to change times and \_\_\_\_\_."

**NOTE:** Daniel 7 is a parallel prophecy to Revelation 13. The message is clear the papacy only thought a change had been made. The Sabbath of the

2

~ *NOTES* ~

[illegible]

# A BIBLE PROPHECY ADVENTURE REVELATION SEMINARS

## THE PAPACY ASKS A QUESTION

Here is the famous question which the Papacy has repeatedly asked Protestants. And Protestants have remained strangely silent:

"You will tell me that Saturday was the Jewish Sabbath, but that the Christian Sabbath has been changed to Sunday. Changed! But by whom? Who has authority to change an express commandment of Almighty God? When God has spoken and said, 'Thou shalt keep holy the seventh day' who shall dare to say, nay, thou mayest work and do all manner of worldly business on the seventh day, but thou shalt keep holy the first day in its stead? This is a most important question which I know not how you can answer. You are a Protestant, and you profess to go by the Bible and the Bible only; and yet, in so important a matter as the observance of one day in seven as a holy day, you go against the plain letter of the Bible, and put another day in the place of that which He has commanded. The command to keep holy the seventh day is one of the ten commandments; you believe the other nine are still binding; who gave you authority to tamper with the fourth? If you are consistent with your own principle, if you really follow the Bible and the Bible only, you ought to be able to produce some portion of the New Testament in which this fourth commandment is expressly altered", **Library of Christian Doctrine**; Burns and Oates, pp. 3-4, London.

BUT AS WE STUDIED BEFORE, VIRTUALLY ALL CHURCHES ADMIT IN THEIR OFFICIAL WRITINGS THAT THERE IS NO SCRIPTURE FOR SUNDAY SACREDNESS. PROTESTANTISM STANDS GUILTY BEFORE THE JUDGMENT BAR OF GOD OF THROWING OUT THE BIBLE SABBATH! GOD, HIMSELF, GAVE THE SABBATH AS A SIGN OR MARK OF HIS POWER TO CREATE AND HIS POWER TO SANCTIFY OR SAVE, Exodus 31:17 (141); Ezekiel 20:12 (1238). DARE ANY MAN TAMPER WITH THIS SACRED SIGN WHICH REPRESENTS THE GREAT GOD OF HEAVEN AND ALL THAT HE STANDS FOR?

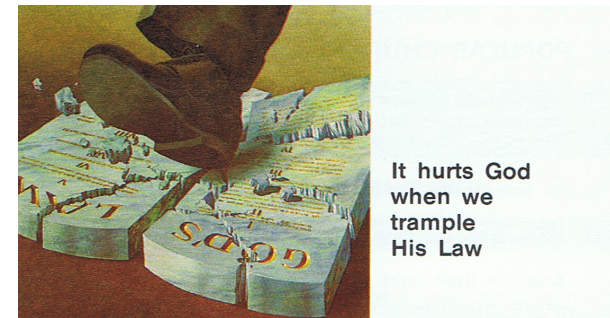
Please review again Exhibit #3 from Lesson 11, if you have time. It is a brief report of what other churches say on this subject.

commandment is still binding. Sunday is not a holy day.

### 6. What was God's criticism of His ancient priests or pastors? Malachi 2:7-9

**Ans:** "Ye have caused many to \_\_\_\_\_ at the law ... ye have not kept my ways, but have been \_\_\_\_\_ in my law".

**NOTE:** God does not change, Malachi 3:6. He still is hurt when religious leaders are partial to the nine commandments and cause people to stumble over His Sabbath command.



### 7. How did the people in Hosea's day regard the great things of God's law? Hosea 8:12

**Ans:** "They were counted as a \_\_\_\_\_ thing".

**NOTE:** Things have not changed. If you decide to keep the great, holy Sabbath of God's law, people will still consider it a strange thing.

### 8. God said that the religious leaders In Ezekiel's day were profaning holy things; putting no difference between profane and holy things and showing no difference between the clean and the unclean. What specifically did He have in mind? Ezekiel 22:26

**Ans:** "They have \_\_\_\_\_ their \_\_\_\_\_ from my \_\_\_\_\_."

**NOTE:** It is still happening today. Many religious leaders say, "There is no difference between Sabbath and Sunday", or "any day will do if you are sincere". But God still says, "Thou hast despised mine holy things, and hast profaned my Sabbaths", Ezekiel 22:8. He also says He will pour out His "indignation", Ezekiel 22:31, upon those who say, "Thus saith the Lord God, when the Lord has not spoken", Ezekiel 22:28. To claim that God says Sunday is a holy day when God has, instead, ordained the Sabbath is a very serious matter which He will not overlook



## THE PAPACY SPEAKS FOR ITSELF

One day a man picked up Peter Geiermann's Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine and read the following on p. 50:

**Q. Which is the Sabbath day?**

**A.** Saturday is the Sabbath day.

**Q. Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday?**

**A.** We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday".

The man was dumbfounded and supposed there must be some mistake so he wrote a letter to the then famous James Cardinal Gibbons of Baltimore, and asked if the Catholic church did, indeed, change the day of worship from Saturday to Sunday. The Cardinal replied, "Of course, the Catholic church claims that the change was her act. And the act is a MARK of her ecclesiastical power and authority in religious matters".

Notice, also, the following words from **The Catholic Record** of London, Ontario, Canada, September 1, 1923: "Sunday is our MARK of authority ... the church is above the Bible, and this transference of Sabbath observance is proof of that fact".

Notice this from A Doctrinal Catechism by Stephen Keenan:

**Q. Have you any other way of proving that the church has power to institute festivals of precept?**

**A.** Had she not such power, she could not have done that in which all modern religionists agree with her, she could not have substituted the observance of Sunday, the first day of the week, for the observance of Saturday, the seventh day, a change for which there is no Scriptural authority".

**The Papacy claims that it changed the day of worship from Saturday to Sunday and that Sunday or Sunday-keeping is its mark of authority and power. God's mark or sign of power, is Sabbath and Sabbath-keeping and the beast's sign or mark of power, is Sunday and Sunday-keeping.**

9. What did God say about attempts to change His law or word in any way?

**Ans: a. Deuteronomy 4:2** — Do not \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ a single thing.

**b. Proverbs 30:5, 6** — If I add to His word He counts me a \_\_\_\_\_.

**c. Luke 16:17**— \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ will sooner pass away than for one tittle of the \_\_\_\_\_ to fail.

## POPULAR CHURCHES ARE EMBARRASSED

10. When we ask the papacy, "How could you change God's holy law" they are embarrassed. But their response is even more embarrassing to Protestants. See Exhibit #3.

## HOW THE MARK IS RECEIVED

11. Where is the beast's mark placed on people? Revelation 13:16

**Ans:** "In their right \_\_\_\_\_ or in their \_\_\_\_\_."

**NOTE:** The mark is not literal. Remember, we are dealing with symbols. The forehead represents the mind with which we serve God, Romans 7:25, and the hand is a symbol of work, Ecclesiastes 9:10. Those who accept Sunday observance willingly are marked in the forehead. Those who agree to work Sabbath to avoid boycott or death are marked in the hand.

12. Do people who now observe Sunday as a holy day have the mark of the beast? Revelation 13:16, 17.

**Ans:** "And that \_\_\_\_\_ man might \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ save he that had the \_\_\_\_\_."

**NOTE:** No one has the mark of the beast now. No one will be marked until the law forces a person to stop buying and selling unless he has the mark. When it becomes a major issue and men are forced to decide for either the mark of God or the mark of the beast, then those who work on Sabbath or observe Sunday as a holy day will be marked. Sabbath breaking, however, even today, is a very serious matter, because it involves sin, I John 3:4. Those who knowingly profane God's holy day now, will lose the ability to think and see clearly and will end up in darkness, John 12:35.

RS-019



congenial, courageous person who loves God. This lesson is not an attack upon our Christian Catholic friends. It is an attack upon the devil who is responsible for the entire miserable affair. It is true, however, that God, Himself, has told us that this system has a mark which we dare not receive. Sincere Protestants, Catholics, Jews and the unchurched will all be anxious to discover what this mark is so they can avoid receiving it. Thank God that He has, in the book of Revelation, uncovered Satan's ugly plans to destroy us all.

- 1 Adolf Harnack **What is Christianity**; New York; Putnam, 1901, pp. 269,270
- 2 Joseph DeHarbe, **Catechism of the Catholic Religion**; New York; W. H. Sadler, Inc. 1924, P. 279
- 3 Christopher Marcellus, **Oration in the Fifth Lateran Council**, Session IV (1512) in Mans, S.C., Vol. 32, Col. 761 (Latin)
- 4 **Catholic National**, July, 1895
- 5 Joseph Rickaby, **The Modern Papacy**, in Lectures on the History of Religion, Vol. 3, Lecture 24, p. 1. (London: Catholic Truth Society, 1910)
- 6 **Our Sunday Visitor**, April 18, 1915, in answers to readers questions.
- 7 W.E.H. Lecky, **History of the Rise and Influence of the Spirit of Rationalism in Europe**; New York; Braziller, 1955, Vol. 2, pp. 40-45

13. **In these last days, God has commanded His angels to hold back the winds of strife from the earth until something happens to His people. What is that something? Revelation 7:1-3**

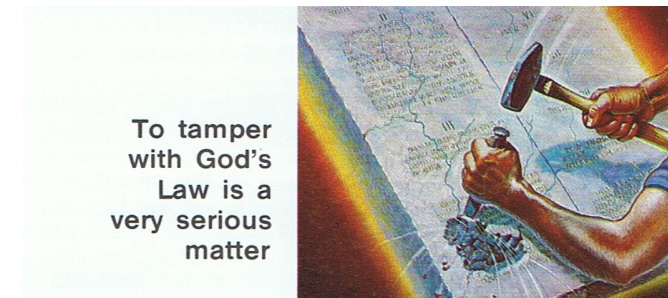
**Ans:** "Hurt not the \_\_\_\_\_ ... till we have \_\_\_\_\_  
The \_\_\_\_\_ of God in their \_\_\_\_\_."

**NOTE:** God is holding back devastating destruction from the earth until His people receive His seal, sign or mark, which is His Sabbath. Soon every person on earth will be in one of two groups: God's group, with His Sabbath mark, or the beast's group, with his counterfeit Sunday mark. The Holy Spirit is working with almost desperation to clearly show people that loyalty to God is involved here and to impress them to accept God's Sabbath mark which represents His creative and redemptive power. It is not enough to claim that we serve God. We must also obey Him, Luke 6:46. Winds blowing represent strife, war and commotion, Jeremiah 49:36, 37; 4:11-13 and Zechariah 7:14.

14. **Who will receive God's wrath in the last days? Revelation 14:9, 10**

**Ans:** Those who receive the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ .

**NOTE:** God's wrath is contained in the seven last plagues which we will study in a soon coming lesson, Revelation 15:1; Revelation 16:1, 2



## A TEST OF LOYALTY

15. **How does God decide who it is we serve? Romans 6:16**

**Ans:** "His \_\_\_\_\_ ye are \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ ye."

**NOTE:** God chooses to save everybody, I Timothy 2:3, 4. The devil desperately wants all to be lost. We choose whom we will serve by whom we obey, Joshua 24:15. I obey God and serve Him by accepting his mark. It is not a matter of days but rather a question of loyalty to Christ or anti-Christ, which is another name for the beast. God's Sabbath is like a banner or flag. When I obey Him I step under His Sabbath banner. When I, with

my eyes wide open, step under the Sunday banner of the beast, God counts me as serving the beast.

**16. Now does God count me if I am neutral? Matthew 12:30**

**Ans:** "He that is not \_\_\_\_\_ me is \_\_\_\_\_."

**17. According to Revelation 13:11, John saw another beast rise up out of the earth about the time that the beast of verse 1 went into captivity (vs. 10). Whom do you think this beast represents?**

**Ans:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** No other country except the United States can fit here. It came up from an uninhabited area (the earth). It was lamblike (peaceful and docile) and it arose around 1798 when the Pope went into captivity. It was in 1776 that America declared her independence. Obviously, government attitude must change before this prophecy can be fulfilled. But since God predicts that it will do so there is no question about it happening.

RS-019

**18. What two tragic things does this second beast cause people to do? Revelation 13:12, 16**

**Ans:** To "\_\_\_\_\_ the first beast" and "to receive a mark" in the hand or \_\_\_\_\_."

**NOTE:** America will lead out in forcing people to receive the mark of the beast. That magnificent country will soon repudiate religious freedom and will force people into false worship.

**19. Now will the second beast convince people they should listen to him? Revelation 13:13, 14**

**Ans:** "And \_\_\_\_\_ them ... by the means of those \_\_\_\_\_ which he had \_\_\_\_\_ to do".

**20. To whom will this second beast make an image? Revelation 13:14**

**Ans:** "Saying ... that they should \_\_\_\_\_ an \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ which had the \_\_\_\_\_ and did \_\_\_\_\_".

**NOTE:** An image is a copy. The first beast supported false worship by the **arm** of the state and persecuted and killed those who refused to comply.

the Pope as "Vicar of Christ", will enclose the words in quotation marks because they are a translation of his title or name. The book of Revelation is saying that the Roman numeral value of the letters of his name will equal 666.

**Let's see if it does:**

V - 5	F - 0	D - 500	112
I - 1	I - 1	E - 0	53
C - 100	L - 50	I - 1	501
A - 0	I - 1		
R - 0	I - 1	501	666
I - 1			
U - 5	53		
S - 0			
	112		

So the Papacy fits the sixth point.

**7. Would be a religious power — it is involved in \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 5, 8).**

**NOTE:** This power is not a secular government but is involved in spiritual matters. The word "worship" is used four times in Revelation 13. The chapter is about false worship. Again, the Papacy fits the identification point.

**8. Would war with and persecute the \_\_\_\_\_, (vs. 7).**

It is common knowledge that the Papacy did persecute and destroy conscientious Christians, especially during the peak of its period of control, during the middle ages. Many historians say that more than fifty million people died for their faith during this period of great tribulation. The church felt it was doing God a favour in stamping out "heresy", but the fact remains that it did persecute and destroy. Many modern Catholics disapprove of these persecutions. The Papacy fits this point, also.

**There may be two sides to some questions, but there is only one side here: the beast of Revelation 13:1-8,18 represents the Papacy. And this power has a mark that I dare not receive.**

**NOTE:** There are many beautiful, sweet, loving Roman Catholic Christians who serve Jesus gladly and whom Jesus counts as His children. Pope John Paul II, himself, seems to be a warm, gracious,

Berthier, took the Pope captive and he died in exile. Please note that 538 AD. to 1798 A.D. is exactly 1260 years, as prophecy predicted. Again, the Papacy fits the identification point. No other power could possibly fit THIS point.

**4. Would be guilty of \_\_\_\_\_, (vs. 5, 6).**

**NOTE:** The Bible defines blasphemy as claiming to be God, John 10:33 and claiming power to forgive sins, Luke 5:21. Once again the Papacy fits the identification point.

**It claims to forgive sins.** From a catechism we note the following:

**"QUESTION:** Does the priest truly forgive the sins, or does he only declare that they are remitted?

**ANSWER:** The priest does really and truly forgive the sins in virtue of the power given him by Jesus Christ." <sup>2</sup>

**It claims to be God.** "Thou art another God on earth." <sup>3</sup> "The Pope is not only the representative of Jesus Christ, but he is Jesus Christ, Himself, hidden under the veil of flesh." <sup>4</sup>

**5. Would receive a deadly \_\_\_\_\_ which would heal. Then the entire world would follow Him, (vs. 3).**

The Papacy was dealt what appeared to be a death blow when in 1798 Napoleon's general, Berthier, took the Pope captive and he died in exile.<sup>5</sup> Half of Europe thought that the Papacy had ended with this event. God, however, was on record that the wound would be healed and that the influence of the Papacy would grow till all the world followed her leading. Even a novice recognizes today that the Papacy is, in many ways, the most influential power on earth. And with each trip of Pope John Paul II, the Papacy's influence and power increases. Multiplied millions from all over the world look to the Papacy today as the only hope for world unity, love, peace and decency — precisely as God predicted. So, again, the Papacy fits the identification point.

**6. Would have the mystic number \_\_\_\_\_, (vs. 18).**

Revelation 13:17, 18 says to count the number of the beast's name and that it is the number of a man. The man we think of when the Papacy is mentioned is the Pope. What is his name? One of the Pope's official titles is "VICAR OF THE SON OF GOD" <sup>6</sup> which in Latin is "VICARIUS FILII DEI". Often newspaper articles, when referring to

The second beast will do the same. We see omens today of such things in the uniting of church and government leaders to enforce religious morality to stem the tide of evil in our decaying society. Their motives are very good but FORCED worship is always evil. FORCED prayer in public schools and FORCED Sunday blue laws can be dangerous for the same reason. The second beast will utilize boycott and death threats to force people into line, Revelation 13:15-17. THE IMAGE'IS UNION OF CHURCH AND STATE WITH FORCED WORSHIP. Remember God does not force our worship or obedience. In love, He always gives us the freedom of choice.



## GOD'S PEOPLE LOVINGLY OBEY

**21. What did the disciples say about whether we should obey God or man? Acts 5:29**

**Ans:** "We ought to obey \_\_\_\_\_ rather than \_\_\_\_\_"

**NOTE:** And Jesus said, "In vain they do worship me, teaching for, doctrines the commandments of men", Matthew 15:9.

**22. What can I do to make certain I will not receive the mark of the beast? Revelation 14:12**

**Ans:** "Keep the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_."

**NOTE:** Revelation 14:9-11 warns against receiving the mark of the beast Verse 12 tells what the victorious saints do to avoid the mark They keep God's commandments and have Jesus' faith. Praise God it is Jesus' faith that makes the miracle of commandment-keeping possible. My faith in Jesus' indwelling presence is the key. Jesus fulfils God's commands IN me by His miracle-working power, Romans 8:3, 4.

## GOD'S LAST WARNING MESSAGE

God's last message to the world, Revelation 14:6-12, includes:

**a. WORSHIP OF THE CREATOR** (vs. 7) which means I keep the sign or mark of His creatorship, His Sabbath. For emphasis, verse 7 even quotes part of the Sabbath commandment: "made heaven and earth and the sea," Revelation 14:7; Exodus 20:11.

**b. DO NOT RECEIVE THE MARK OF THE BEAST** (vs. 9-10) which means I must not accept and receive the devil's counterfeit sign of Sunday sacredness.

It is God who gives us these two solemn warnings. What could be more sobering? Satan, who hates God, asks for my allegiance through the adoption of his mark Jesus, my Saviour, asks for my allegiance through the adoption of His sign or mark.

RS-019

23. **Is it now clear to you that a person who receives the mark of the beast is lost?**

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_

24. **When you decide to accept Jesus and fully follow Him, what happens? Matthew 11:28-30**

Ans: "Ye shall find \_\_\_\_\_ unto your souls. For my yoke is \_\_\_\_\_ and my burden is \_\_\_\_\_."

**NOTE:** Deciding to follow Jesus fully and to accept His holy sign brings rest, peace, joy, happiness, and blessings which are indescribably glorious. It is one of the most exciting decisions of a life time. The word "Sabbath" means "rest". Accepting God's Sabbath sign brings rest and release from the burdens of life. Such blessed relief can come from no other source.

25. **Jesus is waiting at the door of your heart for your answer, Revelation 3:20. Will you decide now to receive His glorious sign as evidence that you accept Him as your blessed redeemer?**

Ans: \_\_\_\_\_



## IDENTIFYING THE BEAST OF REVELATION 13:1-8, 18

The beast has eight points of identification.

**Let's review them:**

1. **It would receive its \_\_\_\_\_: seat**  
**And \_\_\_\_\_, (vs. 2).**

**NOTE:** The dragon, Revelation 12:3, 4, 9, though primarily representing Satan, also represents Pagan Rome, whom Satan used to try to destroy Jesus when Herod, a Roman ruler, killed the babies of Bethlehem, Matthew 2:16-18. History is clear that the Papacy received its power, authority and capital city from old Pagan Rome. This quote from history is typical:

"The Roman church ... pushed itself into the place of the Roman world empire, of which it is the actual continuation. The Pope ... is Caesar's successor." <sup>1</sup> Obviously the Papacy fits point number one.

2. **Would become a \_\_\_\_\_—wide power, (vs. 3,7).**

**NOTE:** None would dispute that during the middle ages the Papacy was indeed a world-wide power so, once again, the Papacy fits the identification.

3. **Would rule for 42 \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 5).**

**NOTE:** Remember that, in prophecy, one prophetic day equals one literal year, Ezekiel 4:6. The time of the Papacy's rule is repeatedly referred to in prophecy as 1260 days, 42 months or 3½ years. All equal the same thing: 1260 prophetic days or 1260 literal years. The power of the Papacy became supreme in Christendom in 538 A.D. due to the letter of Roman Emperor Justinian, which acknowledged the bishop of Rome as the head of all churches. This letter became part of Justinian's code, the fundamental law of the empire. The power and status of the Papacy reached its lowest ebb in 1798 A.D. when Napoleon's general,