THE MARK OF THE BEAST

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1. Introduction

- Rev 13:16 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: Rev 13:17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Rev 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.
- Rev 14:8 And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. Rev 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, Rev 14:10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of ELOHIM, 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: Rev 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. Rev 14:12 Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of ELOHIM, and the faith of YAHSHUA.

The verses above present two completely opposite effects of the receipt of the phenomena described as the "mark of the beast". The first shows a time period when the beast causes all to receive a mark in the right hand, or, in the forehead, that without this mark, one cannot buy or sell. The essence of this is that one will not be able to participate commercially and obtain goods and services without this beast's mark.

The second shows an entirely different scenario. Any man who worships the beast and his image, and, receives his mark in his forehead, or in his right hand, shall drink of the wine of the wrath of ELOHIM, and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the LAMB.

Based on these tremendous opposing effects that this described action carries, there should be no other Biblical concept that anyone that claims a belief in the Bible should not wholeheartedly search more for divine understanding. The described impact, and the depth of those to be impacted, should spur a level of prayerful research until a certain clear understanding has been obtained. It is with this goal that this study is submitted.

One of the most misunderstood subjects in the MOST HIGH's WORD, the Bible, probably is the "Mark of the Beast". I have heard many describe it as a person such the former U.S. President Ronald Wilson Reagan, whose name has six alphabets to his first, middle and last names, and thus he could be the infamous 666 of the Bible. Many say it will probably be some form of a microchip that can be implanted into one's skin, such as what now exists for tracking dogs.

Others say it could be the ashes put on the forehead during Ash Wednesday. Still others say it is the overall spiritual replacement of the MOST HIGH's commandments by Satan's holidays and other substitutes. There is no doubt many other interpretations of this topic. So, I thought, why not take a shot for myself.

While I admit that I have somewhat of a preconceived idea of what the "mark of the beast" is, I hope to approach the subject as if I just may be incorrect. Thus, I will try to allow what we see in the MOST HIGH's WORD to lead us in whatever direction it chooses.

I opened this introduction with two sets of testimony from the MOST HIGH's WORD that present two completely opposite frames of thought about this subject.

A very important point to note here is that <u>one must both worship the beast and his image</u>, <u>as well as receive his mark in the forehead and right hand to drink the wrath of ELOHIM</u>. The essence of this is to remember that <u>worship and the mark go hand in hand</u>. Another key point to remember is that <u>one must receive the mark in the forehead and in the hand</u>.

Why do I emphasize these points? I present this because I have learned that the MOST HIGH's WORD is amazingly consistent if we are patient and approach it "line upon line" and "precept upon precept".

There is a Biblical concept of the "unpardonable sin" which is consistent with the wrath of ELOHIM towards those who worship this beast and receive his mark. Simply put, the unpardonable sin reflects a purposeful rejection of truth, once known. The fact that one must receive the beast's mark establishes a willful act, not one that is forced. Also consider that this receipt is paired with the worship of the beast. Worship consists of bowing down to, reverence, actions, both temporary and ongoing, of an entity. The forcing of this mark on someone does not in itself constitute worship. Thus, just as the MOST HIGH's WORD is consistent in that unwillful sin, repented on, is forgivable, so is forceful receipt of the mark of the beast, without the worship of the beast.

With this background let's proceed.

There are only 2 verses of testimony that directly speak on the "mark of the beast". They are 1) Rev 19:20, and 2) Rev 20:4. There are 5 other verses of testimony that directly <u>refer</u> to this same mark.

They are 1) Rev 13:16-17, 2) Rev 14:11, 3) Rev 15:2, 4) Rev 16:2, 5). Note that each instance occurs in the Book of Revelations.

This fact strongly influences the notion that whatever the "mark of the beast" is, it is to occur at a future time, or, perhaps it may have been around for a while to grow more powerful in the future.

However, I must admit that here is where I am somewhat biased. Why? Because I believe that to understand what the "mark of the beast" is, you must first know who and what the beast is. And once the knowledge of who is the beast is understood you will see that the beast has been around for a long, long time.

Thus, its mark may have been around for a long, long time as well.

2. The Beast (s)

In studying the MOST HIGH's WORD to identify the beast, you will find that the beast has been around since the days of Babylon's greatness under Nebuchadnezzar. And so, if the beast has been around for such a period of time, why wouldn't its "mark" also have been around for the same period of time. Perhaps it will be magnified at a future time. However, to me, to believe that it will only appear at a future time may be somewhat misleading as well as dangerous.

Who is this beast that causes so much havoc? The following verses of Revelations will get us started.

• Rev 13:1 And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. Rev 13:2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.

Here we see a <u>beast with 7 heads coming up out of the sea</u>. Note the description of the heads; a leopard, a bear, a lion. Also notice that <u>the dragon gives the beast its power</u>. Revelations 12:9 identifies <u>the dragon as none other than Satan the devil</u>. But, what about the beast? To get to the identity of the beast we need to study here a little and there a little. To do that, let's look at what the Prophet Daniel had to say on this.

• Dan 7:2 Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea. Dan 7:3 And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another. Dan 7:4 The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it. Dan 7:5 And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh. Dan 7:6 After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it.

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

Here Daniel describes 4 great beasts also coming up out of the sea. One was like a lion, another like a bear, another like a leopard, and a fourth beast dreadful and terrible and strong exceedingly. Now notice that the 3rd beast had 4 heads. So, if you are keeping count, you see that these four beasts have a total of 7 heads, just like the one beast in Revelations 13. The 4th beast has 10 horns. It would appear that Daniel and John (Yochanan) may be writing about the same beast. But who is it?

Well Daniel inquired, and was given an answer from Gabriel, the Angel of ELOHIM's Presence (Isaiah 63:9 and Luke 1:19).

• Dan 7:17 These great beasts, which are four, *are* four kings, *which* shall arise out of the earth.

So now we know that the 4 beasts in Daniel 7 are actually 4 kings, or kingdoms, which shall rise out of the earth.

Notice the description of the 4th beast.

• Dan 7:23 Thus he said, The <u>fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth</u>, which <u>shall be diverse from all kingdoms</u>, and <u>shall devour the whole earth</u>, and <u>shall tread it down</u>, and <u>break it in pieces</u>. Dan 7:24 <u>And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise</u>: and another shall rise <u>after them</u>; and <u>he shall be diverse from the first</u>, and <u>he shall subdue three kings</u>. Dan 7:25 And <u>he shall speak great words against the MOST HIGH</u>, and <u>shall wear out the saints of the MOST HIGH</u>, and <u>think to change times and laws</u>: and <u>they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time</u>.

With this background it is now time to identify these 4 kings. Earlier in his writing Daniel provided the key. Note the following:

• Dan 2:31 Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness *was* excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof *was* terrible. Dan 2:32 This image's head *was* of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, Dan 2:33 His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay.

Here Daniel is interpreting the king's dream which is of this great statute. Let's continue.

Dan 2:36 This is the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king. Dan 2:37 Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the ELOHIM of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory. Dan 2:38 And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold. Dan 2:39 And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth. Dan 2:40 And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise. Dan 2:41 And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay. Dan 2:42 And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. Dan 2:43 And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay.

In verses 37 and 38 Daniel identifies Nebuchadnezzar as the head of gold. He is also the 1st head of the beast of Revelations 13 and the first beast of Daniel 7. The next kingdom in verse 39 is Media/Persia. The next kingdom in verse 39 is Greece. The 4th kingdom in verse 40 is Rome.

How do we know that Media/Persia follows Babylon as the king or kingdom? In Daniel 5:17-31 Daniel is called upon to interpret the "handwriting on the wall" to Belshazzar, King of Babylon and grandson of Nebuchadnezzar. After interpreting this handwriting, notice verses 30 and 31.

• Dan 5:30 <u>In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain</u>. Dan 5:31 And <u>Darius the Median took the kingdom</u>, *being* about threescore and two years old.

Here we see Darius the Median taking <u>over the Kingdom</u>. If one also does some simple historical research, it would verify these Biblical teachings as well. Now what about the 3rd Kingdom?

Daniel had a vision in chapter 8 verses 3-12 of a ram with 2 horns and a he goat (verse 5).

Dan 8:3 Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last. Dan 8:4 I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great. Dan 8:5 And as I was considering, behold, an he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes. Dan 8:6 And he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing before the river, and ran unto him in the fury of his power. Dan 8:7 And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and brake his two horns: and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand. Dan 8:8 Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven. Dan 8:9 And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land. Dan 8:10 And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them. Dan 8:11 Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down. Dan 8:12 And an host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and practised, and prospered.

In verse 4 we note that no other beasts, or kingdoms, could stand before the ram. In verse 7 we note the he goat smote the ram, breaking its 2 horns. Now notice the Biblical identification of the ram and the goat.

• Dan 8:20 The ram which thou sawest having *two* horns *are* the kings of Media and Persia. Dan 8:21 And the rough goat *is* the king of Grecia: and the great horn that *is* between his eyes *is* the first king. Dan 8:22 Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power

In verse 20, the ram is identified as Media/Persia, which now know was the second kingdom/beast. Notice in verse 5 that the he goat had a great horn between his eyes. In verse 8 we note that when the he goat was strong his horn was broken. Verses 21 and 22 identify the horn as the first king of Greece (Alexander the Great) and the four horns that come up are four kingdoms that come out of the kingdom.

Can the MOST HIGH's word be any more accurate? Again, history verifies this Biblical record that Alexander the Great was Greece's first king who like Babylon and Media/Persia before him, conquered the known world. Yet he died at the height of his power and his four generals (Cassander, Ptolemy, Antigonus, and Seleucus) split his kingdom. Remember, Daniel 7:6 identifies the 3rd beast as having 4 heads.

So, we have now identified the first 3 beasts of Daniel that also represent 6 heads. Who then is the 4th beast, the dreadful and terrible 7th head?

• Dan 8:23 And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. Dan 8:24 And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practise, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people.

Here we are informed that the king that follows the 4 kingdoms of the 3rd beast is fierce and dark who shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. History as well as other Biblical verses testifies that this 4th beast is none other than the Roman Empire. Yet, we have somewhat of a dilemma regarding the 4 beasts of Daniel 7 and the 1 beast of Revelations 13, even though both have 7 heads and come up out of the sea.

However, the beasts of the 7th chapter of Daniel are 4, while the beast of the 13th chapter of Revelations is one. Are they the same?

Let's have a look at certain Biblical keys that will help bridge the gap. Remember in Daniel 5:30 that <u>Darius the Median took over the Kingdom</u>. Well what Kingdom did he take over? He took over the Babylonian Kingdom started by Nebuchadnezzar. Also remember how that starting in Daniel 2:36 Daniel describes Nebuchadnezzar's dream of a great statute. Daniel's interpretation of the statute was that it represented 4 kingdoms. Yet, <u>it was only one statute</u>, <u>one body</u>. In other words, together these 4 kingdoms make up one complete body, or kingdom. Note that each kingdom succeeds the other kingdom. Yet, they are all one system. In other words, the 4th kingdom, described as dreadful and terrible, represents the same system as the first 3 beasts or 6 heads, at the time of its power.

Daniel 2:32 and 33 describe that the head was of gold, the breast and arms of silver, the belly and thighs of brass, and the legs were of iron. Think for a moment the precious quality of each of these metals. The first, gold, which represents Babylon, is the most precious of them all, the highest quality. The next, silver, which represents Media/Persia, is the next highest in quality. The next, brass, representing Greece, is the next highest in quality. And the last, iron, representing the 4th or last, Rome, is the 4th highest in quality, as iron is stronger than each of the other metals but less precious. Thus, it breaks all the others before it. At the height of its power, nothing could stand before Rome.

Notice in Daniel 2:40 that this 4th beast is as iron that breaks and subdues all things. Yet in verse 41 we see the feet and toes are as iron and clay, strong and yet weak. At some point the beast is pictured as 10 toes that represent the physical makeup of the beasts, or the final representation of the beasts, in the latter days just prior to its destruction. Remember as well that the 4th beast had 10 horns (Daniel 7:7). Remember in Revelations 13:1 the 7-headed beast also had 10 horns. As we will see, the mixture of iron and clay is spiritual weakness and serves as a key to the beast's mark. Now notice further what happens to the 4 beasts, or 4 kingdoms, or to the statute, or, to the beast.

Remember that the 4 beasts of Daniel 7 succeed each other.

Remember also that each part of the statute of Nebuchadnezzar's dream in Daniel 2 (the head of gold, the breast and arms of silver, the belly and thighs of brass and the legs of iron) follow and succeed each other, with the 10 toes being the last part. So, it stands to reason that the 4 beasts of Daniel 7 and the head of gold, the breast and arms of silver, the belly and thighs of brass and the legs of iron of Daniel 2, are the same 4 nations.

• Dan 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the ELOHIM of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever. Dan 2:45 Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great ELOHIM hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

We note that at the time of the ten toes of the statute of Daniel 2, a kingdom made without hands shall destroy it. This pictures a future event. As we will see, the 7-headed beast of Revelations 13 also exists in the latter days. This means that the 10 toes of Daniel 2 and the 10 horns of Revelations 13 are one and the same, which I will refer to as the 10 latter day kings.

So now we know that the beast of Revelations 13 represents the Roman or Babylonian empire, which will ultimately become 10 kings, at a later stage of history. We also know that once this version of the Kingdom in the shape of 10 kingdoms takes shape, we are very, very near the return of the MESSIAH to establish HIS great 1,000-year Kingdom that will destroy the beast.

However, we need to also understand the 10 horns shown in Daniel 7. Daniel 7:7 specifically states that the 4th beast had the 10 horns. None of the other 3 beasts of Daniel 7 had horns; only the 4th beast. This 4th beast is in power at a different time than the 10 latter day kings. Thus the 10 horns of this 4th beast and the 10 latter day kings are not the same. Daniel 7:24 describes these 10 horns as coming out of the 4th beast, Rome. We will discuss the reign of these 10 kings more fully later.

We also shall see later that the deadly wound was to one head only (the 4th beast of Daniel 7) and was healed. Yet the 10 horns of Revelations 13:1 are on all 7 heads, representing a latter-day composite of all 4 beasts.

However here is where careful study reveals the jump in time that Revelations is famous for. We will see a bit later that the 10 horns of Daniel 7 represent 10 successive kings that come into significant power during the time of the deadly wound up until the latter days when the 7-headed version of the beast with its 10 horns comes on the scene.

So, in summarizing, the beast represents 4 world ruling kingdoms; Babylon, Media/Persia, Greece and Rome. Each also represents a different character while maintaining the dominant character of its predecessors. It is the 4th beast that will suffer a deadly wound that is healed. Out of the 4th beast, Rome, evolves 10 successive kings (10 horns). The 7-headed beast of Revelations 13:1 represents each of the 4 beasts of Daniel 7 as one beast with 10 horns. Again, once the 10 horns of this beast are on the scene, we know that the MESSIAH's return is nigh.

However, to gain the necessary insight on the beasts of Daniel and Revelations, we need to also obtain a historical perspective of the growth of these beasts, and most importantly the 4th beast which is Rome.

3. Historical Background

Now that we have identified the beast (s), let's return to what the events are that lead up to the ultimate manifestation of its mark. Let's also be reminded of the major Biblical fact that the Book of Revelations tends to skip back and forth historically. This is key to understanding the historical background of the beast.

The 13th chapter of Revelations describes the beast at various stages of its development.

• Rev 13:1 And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. Rev 13:2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as *the feet* of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. Rev 13:3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. Rev 13:4 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?

These 3 verses represent a time span that connects the 7-headed beast of Revelations 13:1 to the 4th beast of both Revelations 13:3 and Daniel 7:7.

In fact, the seven heads pictured by the beast of Revelations 13:1-2 and the head that was deadly wounded in Revelations 13:3 exist at least 1,500 years apart. This statement regarding the head that appears to be wounded to death is a direct reference to the 4th beast of the 7th chapter of Daniel, Rome. We will expound more on this later. While this is not the subject of our study, it provides some important historical substance to our subject.

Note in verse 4 that "they worshipped both the dragon and the beast". Who is this "they"? In verse 3 we see that "the whole world wondered after the beast". Remember also the following:

• Rev 12:9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceive the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

So, we see that the whole world wondered after the beast, and worshiped the dragon and the beast. Let's clarify what this is truly saying. The wondering after the beast is a direct result of the deadly wound of the beast being healed. How does this occur? Here again we see the duality of the MOST HIGH's WORD. The wound is to the 4th beast, Rome, who prophetically is also one of the 7 heads of the end-time version of the beast.

At the time of the deadly wound, Rome alone was the power. To truly understand this, we must note and fully understand what history tells us. The last emperor to rule over the entire Roman Empire prior to the deadly wound was Theodosius, who died in 395. Upon his death he split the Empire into two halves, giving a half to each one of his two sons, Arcadius and Honorius. Arcadius became ruler in the East, with his capital in Constantinople, and Honorius became the ruler in the West, with his capital in Milan and later Ravenna. Together, these two legs represented the Roman Empire and continued until the constant attacks by the Germanic tribes ultimately subdued the Western empire. The disposition of the Roman Emperor Romulus Augustus in 476 by the Germanic warrior Odacer, a ruler of the Heruli, is traditionally considered to be the fall of the Roman Empire. This, was the deadly wound. The eastern emperors continued to rule in Constantinople and continued the traditions of Roman civilization. However, the Roman Empire, as the world had known it, had ended.

In 527 Justinian, the nephew of Theodoric, who killed Odacer, assumes the throne in Constantinople and seeks to restore the Empire. This restoration was accomplished by Justinian sending General Narses against the Goths' King Totila in 552. With this victory, which restored the two legs together, it is no wonder that the whole world would wonder, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with the beast?" By 554, Justinian restored the two legs of the Empire under his control. Thus, the healing of the deadly wound.

However, Justinian was unable to sustain his wishes and upon his death the kingdom was once again in chaos. While this chaos was happening, the papacy was busy establishing itself. Yet, a major event was in the making.

In 774 Charles the Great defeats the Lombards and becomes the King of the Franks and Lombards and Patrician of the Romans and wears an iron crown symbolic of the sovereigns of Europe.

At this time a new pope, Leo III, recognizes Charles, later to be named Charlemagne, as patricius of the Romans. In 799 Leo is accused of immorality and cleared in 800. On Christmas day in 800 Charles attends a service in St. Peter's Basilica on Vatican Hill and without foreknowledge is crowned with a golden crown by Pope Leo. With this the crowd yells "Long life and victory to Charles Augustus, crowned by ELOHIM, great and peace giving Emperor of the Romans". Most importantly the Pope has crowned Charlemagne "Emperor of the Romans", which marks the restoration of the Western Roman Empire and will began what history calls the "Holy Roman Empire" and institute a marriage of sorts of the 4th beast and the papacy, the beast of Revelations 13:11. Just as important, note that the crowd claimed Charlemagne was "crowned by ELOHIM".

This action also signals the true beginning of the influence of the papacy over the affairs of the beast. From this point, the papacy would exert its power in leading the beast and deceiving the entire world.

Continuing in chapter 13:

• Rev 13:5 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. Rev 13:6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against ELOHIM, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. Rev 13:7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations. Rev 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. Rev 13:9 If any man have an ear, let him hear. Rev 13:10 He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints.

Verses 5 thru 7 describe the beast's power given for forty-two months (3 1/2 years). Now in modernity, it is commonly taught that in the latter days this time is otherwise known as the "great tribulation" period, which begins with what is known as the "abomination of desolation".

The "great tribulation period" is taught to be a 3 1/2-year future period of persecution on the saints of the MOST HIGH by Satan right before the return of the MESSIAH. These forty-two months is also a prophetic time period of spiritual as well as perhaps physical persecution by the beast upon the saints, and of severe deception of the world at-large from the time of the healing of the deadly wound, the restoration of the Empire, to the return of the MESSIAH.

However, more study is needed to confirm whether or not this is also the great tribulation. My study on "In That Day, The Return of Yisrael" presents Biblical documentation suggesting a different view of the great tribulation. This view is more specific towards this tribulation impacting the Children of Yisrael (COY) rather than the saints of YAHSHUA.

Now, notice in verse 13:6 how the beast spoke blasphemy against ELOHIM and made war with the saints. What was the form of this blasphemy and how was war made with the saints? To understand this, we need to understand that the exact opposite of this blasphemy is praise of ELOHIM. I.e., what could constitute praise before ELOHIM? Perhaps it is HIS righteousness.

Note this.

• Psa 119:172 My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments are righteousness.

The beast spoke blasphemy. David was inspired to write that he shall speak ELOHIM's WORD, for all ELOHIM's commandments are righteousness. Let's review a couple of those commandments; i.e., ELOHIM's WORD.

• Exo 20:3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Exo 20:4 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: Exo 20:5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I YAHWEH thy ELOHIM am a jealous ELOHIM, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;

These are the first three of ELOHIM's Ten Commandments spoken to HIS people, Yisrael, the beginning of righteousness. How does this beast blaspheme ELOHIM, HIS name, HIS tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven?

From the beginning each head of the beast has spoken blasphemies. In this update of this article, I have learned that cultural differences have impacted our knowledge and understanding of the Bible far greater than most of us have realized.

The original writers of the Bible, which is the word of the ELOHIM of the COY, were ALL Yisraelites. However, the principal translators of the Bibles in modernity were European. Like it or not, Europeans are the primary descendants of the Roman Empire, which was made up of most of the major European nations of the world. And before you began to think of me as being biased or even racist, I have fellowshipped with many Europeans who know these things.

In translating the Bible, these European translators include the phrase "the LORD" 6,500 times and the title "GOD" 304 times, both is all caps. That's an approximate total of 6,304 times. A study of these 6,304 instances revealed that they are translations of the name YAHWEH, the name of the ELOHIM of the COY. Thus, these European scholars are responsible for eliminating the name of the author of the words of the Bible from the very Bible that HE (YAHWEH/the WORD/YAHSHUA HAMASHIYAC (called Jesus in modernity)). Is that not worthy of a consideration of blasphemy?

Well, we know that each head of the beast represents a kingdom on earth. Let's look at another important point about the first beast.

• Dan 3:1 Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof six cubits: he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon. Dan 3:2 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent to gather together the princes, the governors, and the captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.

• Dan 3:3 Then the princes, the governors, and captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, were gathered together unto the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up. Dan 3:4 Then an herald cried aloud, To you it is commanded, O people, nations, and languages, Dan 3:5 *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:

Here we see pagan worship at its best. A careful study of each of the successive kingdoms will show that the heads of each kingdom was pictured as a god to be worshipped. Such a study will also show that each kingdom worshipped many gods. At the height of the Roman Empire, this practice reached it paganistic high. History tells us that each emperor thought of himself as a god to be worshipped.

As we continue to march towards the mark, notice what else happened after the deadly head was healed. As the ten horns were developing, another major event takes place.

As we have previously stated, the Book of Revelations tends to jump time periods and does so here. The 31/2 years of great tribulation is future. However, the next event in the 11th verse occurred during the time of the healing of the beast. It sets in motion a major reason why I believe the mark of the beast has been around for a while.

• Rev 13:11 And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a LAMB, and he spake as a dragon. Rev 13:12 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. Rev 13:13 And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, Rev 13:14 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, and did live.

Let's remember, we read how that the prophet Daniel reveals that 1) The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces; 2) And the ten horns out of this kingdom *are* ten kings *that* shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings; and 3) And he shall speak *great* words against the MOST HIGH, and shall wear out the saints of the MOST HIGH, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time (Dan 7:23-25).

This new king of Daniel 7 is consistent with verse 13:11 of Revelations. Note how this king who is also another beast that "shall speak great words against the MOST HIGH", "shall wear out the saints of the MOST HIGH, and think to change times and laws".

Now, also notice that this king/beast comes out of the earth and makes his presence known about the time of the deadly wound, which is during the reign of the 4th beast. So, by the time of the 7-headed beast, this king/beast has been around deceiving and changing times and laws, as well as names, for quite some time.

If we note his description, it appears to be spiritual in nature, yet not in physical power like the 4 beasts. However, this spiritual nature also appears to have some power over the 4th beast, for he subdued 3 of the kings/horns that came out of the 4th beast.

Who is it that is the ecclesiastical power from the time of the deadly wound, the beginning of the 10 horns of the 4th beast, and throughout the remaining of time? Any honest historically knowledgeable person knows this is the papacy, of whom we have previously described its ascension to power.

How does this beast persuade mankind to "make an image to the beast", the Roman Empire? Food for thought: it has been said that the papacy was established in the image of the first beast, in the image of the empire itself. If one were to snapshoot the papacy in its glory, with the cardinals and its host of other priests and peoples, one would notice a strong resemblance to the Roman emperors, the senate and its hosts of other peoples in all its glory.

Now consider how so many denominations have been established with an ecclesiastical head, perhaps a presiding bishop, with subordinate bishops, elders and other peoples at the various denominational conferences. These conferences usually take place in huge arenas and generally some individual is always considered the head. If one really paid close attention, one would easily see that these denominations, while not professing allegiance to the papacy, have been established in its image as well, just without all the dressings.

We know who the fourth beast is who devoured the whole earth. We now know that the deadly wound occurred in 476. Notice how in Daniel 7:24 how "another shall rise after them" "and he shall subdue three kings".

Traditionally, it has been taught that these three kings were the Visigoths, the Vandals, and the Ostrogoths. However, these kings were instrumental in conquering the Western Empire only. Based on additional research in the matter, there is no historical evidence that these three kings were led or subdued by the papacy, or that they usurped 3 Roman emperors.

As I continued my research, I concluded that because Justinian restored the two legs of the Empire, it is reasonable to accept that he represents the 1st of the ten kings of the ten horns of the 7th chapter of Daniel that will continue until the latter day arrival of the ten toes of Nebuchadnezzar's statute, which also represents the 10 horns of Rev 13:1. I also concluded that to understand the subduing of three kings mentioned in Daniel 7:9 and 24 we must look to the emperors that came to power after Justinian.

As previously stated, the power of the papacy began in earnest with the crowning of Charlemagne. Yet Charlemagne was not subdued. Neither was the next great emperor, Otto, the Great. Until Otto, the emperor either appointed or exhibited great influence over who would become pope. However, in 1056 Pope Nicholas II convenes the Lateran Council that decreed that future popes would be selected by a college of cardinals. This came to a head with Emperor Henry IV and Pope Gregory VII. Henry tried to depose the pope and failed.

Gregory excommunicated Henry and made Henry journey to a castle at Canossa in 1077 and stand barefoot in the snow for 3 days before Gregory granted absolution. This, to me, represents a subduing of one of the ten kings of the 7th chapter of Daniel. For sure, this would occur twice more. However, that's for another study.

We now see a glimpse of how history confirms the MOST HIGH's words. These events serve as a background of both the secular and ecclesiastical influence that the beast, Rome, and the other beast, the papacy, would deceive the entire world into believing that it stood for, and spoke for the MOST HIGH ELOHIM of Yisrael.

We also read the following earlier.

• Rev 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.

Many have made the error of not actually reading that the number of this man must add up to six hundred and sixty-six. It is not as simple as three 6's. Thus, it is not historical figures such as Ronald Reagan. Here is one of many quotes regarding the numerical equivalent of the pope's (the other beast's) title.

"The Romans use the official title Vicarius Filii Dei to describe the pope. Translated from Latin, it means the pope is the vicar or substitute of the Son of God. This is inscribed on his crown; and if you take the letters of this title and add the Roman numerals together they add up to 666, exactly as predicted in Revelation 13:18. In these Latin words there are two Vs, which denote five, six Is denoting one, one C which denotes 100, one L, which denotes 50, and one D, which denotes 500, thus, V,V=10; I,I,I,I,I,I=6; C=100; L=50; and D=500, the sum 666."

There have been other ways historically presented to show how that there are clear implicit ways to link certain attributes tied to Rome and its leadership that are the sum of six hundred and sixty-six.

As we shall see, the world-wide influence of both beasts has so impacted the secular and ecclesiastical world that most who claim some form of Christian belief has no understanding of the righteousness designed by the MOST HIGH and given to HIS priests as guidelines for those who would acknowledge and follow HIM.

4. The Signs/Marks of the MOST HIGH

Now that we have identified the beast/kings and the other beast/king, as well as looked at a historical perspective of the beasts, let's take a closer look at the mark that comes with the deception that potentially could overcome the elect. Note the following about this "mark".

• Rev 13:17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

Here again we see that at this time, without the "mark" or the beast's name or its number, no man may be able to buy or sell, to earn a living, to provide for one's family, to eat, to have shelter, etc., etc. However, before we jump right into a discussion specifically on the beast's mark, there are some extremely important understandings we need to know about the MOST HIGH's relationship with HIS people.

With this, let's take a close look at what the MOST HIGH established with HIS priests, Yisrael. Throughout ELOHIM's Word, the days of the week are called by the numbers one through seven. ELOHIM assigned no name to these days of the week, except for the seventh day, the Sabbath. ELOHIM named HIS months Abib (Exodus 13:4), Zif (1st Kings 6:1), Sivan, Thammus, Ab, Elul (Nehemiah 6:15), Ethanim (1st Kings 8:2), Bul (1st Kings 6:30), Chisleu (Zechariah 7:1), Tebeth (Ester 2:16), Sebat (Zechariah 1:7), and Adar (Ezra 6:15). Notice in Exodus 12:2-3 and 13:4 that Abib is the first month of ELOHIM's calendar. It is the month of the Passover, which occurs between the Roman months March and April. This is in the spring, when life is new, not in the "dead of winter" like 1st month of the Roman calendar.

In the 23rd chapter of Leviticus the MOST HIGH establishes His Holy Days.

• Lev 23:1 And YAHWEH spake unto Moses, saying, Lev 23:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, *Concerning* the feasts of YAHWEH, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my feasts. Lev 23:3 Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall do no work therein: it is the sabbath of YAHWEH in all your dwellings. Lev 23:4 These are the feasts of YAHWEH, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons.

Notice here that it is the MOST HIGH that establishes these feasts to be "holy convocations" which are to be proclaimed in their seasons. As we continue, we will begin to see a deep-seeded, yet cleverly deceptive pattern that establishes not only the replacement of these "holy convocations", but also the true understanding of the beast's mark.

Now, turn your attention towards something else of the most importance established by the MOST HIGH with HIS people, Yisrael.

• Exo 31:13 Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am YAHWEH that doth sanctify you. Exo 31:14 Ye shall keep the sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. Exo 31:15 Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to YAHWEH: whosoever doeth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. Exo 31:16 Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant. Exo 31:17 It is a sign between me and the children of Israel forever: for in six days YAHWEH made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.

Here we see the MOST HIGH's seventh day Sabbath is to be a sign between the MOST HIGH and Yisrael, HIS priests. Let's take a closer look at this and understand its perspective to our study.

The MOST HIGH's calendar is the Hebrew calendar and pretty much the same as the Babylonian calendar, which is lunar based. This calendar was used by the MOST HIGH to establish HIS Holy days, and high moons, etc. Now note that each instance of the word "sign" is derived from the following Hebrew word.

H226 אות 'ôth - Probably from H225 (in the sense of *appearing*); a *signal* (literally or figuratively), as a *flag*, *beacon*, *monument*, *omen*, *prodigy*, *evidence*, etc.: - mark, miracle, (en-) sign, token.

You can see that the two words, sign and mark, have very similar meanings and can be somewhat synonymous. Now notice the consistency of the MOST HIGH's commandments and instructions for Yisrael as HE adds a new wrinkle to HIS sign for HIS people.

• Exo 13:8 And thou shalt shew thy son in that day, saying, *This is done* because of that *which* YAHWEH did unto me when I came forth out of Egypt. Exo 13:9 And it shall be for a sign unto thee upon thine hand, and for a memorial between thine eyes, that YAHWEH'S law may be in thy mouth: for with a strong hand hath YAHWEH brought thee out of Egypt.

This memorial is the Passover, which under the old covenant was a reminder of the deliverance of Yisrael from Egypt. It was to be a sign/mark. However, notice that this sign/mark of the MOST HIGH is upon the hand and between the eyes. Does this sound familiar? Why would the beast and Satan be pictured as causing a sign in the right hand or in the forehead?

Notice further what the MOST HIGH commanded.

• Deu 6:1 Now these *are* the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which YAHWEH your ELOHIM commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it: Deu 6:2 That thou mightest fear YAHWEH thy ELOHIM, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged. Deu 6:3 Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do it; that it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily, as YAHWEH ELOHIM of thy fathers hath promised thee, in the land that floweth with milk and honey. Deu 6:4 Hear, O Israel: YAHWEH our ELOHIM is one LORD: Deu 6:5 And thou shalt love YAHWEH thy ELOHIM with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. Deu 6:6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: Deu 6:7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. Deu 6:8 And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. Deu 6:9 And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

These are the MOST HIGH's statutes, judgments and commandments that are to be HIS signs/marks.

Most importantly, notice how that these signs given to Yisrael were to be bound **upon the hand and be as frontlets between the eyes**. Let's remember that the commandments of the MOST HIGH include HIS seventh-day Sabbath. So now we know that the Sabbath Day is not only to be a sign/mark between the MOST HIGH and HIS people, **it** is also to be a sign/mark between the frontlets and on the hand. Notice also the following:

• Deu 11:18 Therefore shall ye <u>lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes</u>. Deu 11:19 And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. Deu 11:20 And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates:

These too are the MOST HIGH's statutes, HIS judgements and HIS commandments that are to be a sign/mark that are to be bound upon the hand and be as frontlets between the eyes.

Just what does it mean to bind the commandments, Holy Days, statutes, and judgments of the MOST HIGH as a sign/mark on the hand and as frontlets between the eyes? Note that the words contained in each of these are to be laid up in the heart and soul, in essence, in your mind and body.

<u>They are to be taught</u> consistently <u>to the children</u> both inside and outside the house. They are <u>to become a way of life</u>. When we do this, we <u>through our actions</u> have and <u>live the sign/mark of the MOST HIGH</u>.

Now, as we read these verses, there may be those who believe that these pertain only to the COY. Note these New Testament verses.

• Mat 12:8 For the Son of man is ADON even of the sabbath day.

- Luk 4:16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, <u>as his custom was</u>, <u>he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day</u>, and stood up for to read.
- Act 13:42 And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, <u>the Gentiles</u> <u>besought that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath</u>.
- Act 17:2 And <u>Paul</u>, <u>as his manner was, went in unto them</u>, <u>and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures</u>,
- 1Co 5:7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even HAMASHIYAC our Passover is sacrificed for us: 1Co 5:8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Mathew 12:8 and Luke 14:6 teach us the actions of YAHSHUA (Jesus). The other verses represent Paul's actions. Any true student of the word of the MOST HIGH will recognize that Paul is saying here in 1st Corinthians 5:8 to keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Note also how Paul admonishes the "called out ones" at Corinth to keep the Feast with "sincerity and truth", as he is speaks of those same commandments that make up the MOST HIGH's sign/mark. How do we keep this Holy Day with "sincerity and truth"? We establish an honest evaluation of our daily life and seek to honor the true word of the MOST HIGH ELOHIM of Yisrael. We develop a pattern of thought in "the frontlets between the eyes" (our minds) that translates into our work with our hands and our worship of the MOST HIGH's signs/marks.

So now we know that those who live and teach the statutes, judgments and commandments of the MOST HIGH ELOHIM of Yisrael bear the sign/mark of the MOST HIGH ELOHIM of Yisrael. This sign/mark is not physical. It is secular/spiritual. It is a way of worship. It is a way of service. It is a way of family life both in our own homes and nationally; to both the natural and the spiritual family. When we walk in the statutes, judgments and commandments of the MOST HIGH, we don't need an outward mark to show our allegiance. It speaks for itself.

It is the entire walk that one walks that will say to the observer, this person has the "Mark of the MOST HIGH ELOHIM", whether the observer understands it or not.

And if this is what the Word of ELOHIM teaches us about ELOHIM's sign/mark, should the mark of the beast be any different? Let's find out.

5. The Mark(s)/Signs of the Beast

Now we see that the MOST HIGH ELOHIM of Yisrael has given identifiers to HIS people HE calls signs, which we can clearly see is also HIS mark that identifies those that are HIS. We clearly see that this identifying sign, or mark, is a way of life that can be observed through thoughts and actions, not an outward marking on the hand or the forehead. If the word of the MOST HIGH has told us that it is through deception that the beasts and their leader, Satan, will cause the mark of the beast, what then is the deception? What is their identifying mark/sign?

Notice the following about this king/beast:

• Rev 13:15 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. Rev 13:16 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:

Two important points must be noted here. This beast causes those who "would not worship the image of the beast" to be killed. He also causes all to receive the beast's mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads.

Now, we should note that each instance of the word "mark" is derived from the following Greek word.

G5480 charagma (*khar'-ag-mah*)- From the same as G5482; a *scratch* or *etching*, that is, *stamp* (as a *badge* of servitude), or *sculptured* figure (*statue*): - graven, mark.

This definition certainly presents an argument for some form of an outward mark; however, it also implies servitude.

We have seen with the Hebrew word 'ôth and the many examples of the signs of the MOST HIGH, that just as we understand that the MOST HIGH's sign/mark is not an etching but a way of life, a clearer picture will come to light that the beast's mark is also a lifestyle and not necessarily some outward etching.

Let me ask this question. What is the difference between receiving a mark in one's right hand, or in one's forehead, and receiving a sign to be bound upon one's hand and be as frontlets between one's eyes? What and where are the frontlets between the eyes? Ask yourself another question. How has the beast made its mark on the world at large?

As we continue, we will see that there certainly appears to be a great deception involving worshipping and an image that has the effect of being presented as if it is something coming from the MOST HIGH, which in fact does not.

Remember that in Revelations 13:15-16 it is the papacy that is causing the worship as well as the receiving of the mark and has been doing it for quite some time. How does the papacy give life to the image of the beast? One of the misconceptions about the events of Revelations 13:15-16 is that because these are presented in Revelations these must be future events. However, we have shown that this beast's prominence began with its 1st emperor, Julius Caesar, while its spiritual prominence soared in the 4th century. It was weakened with the deadly wound of the 4th beast, yet reasserted itself in the centuries that followed. Also, I must continue to remind you of the duality of the MOST HIGH's prophesies.

History describes how the 4th beast began to blaspheme ELOHIM's holy word while impacting the whole world. While other nations taught and practiced various forms of pagan worship prior to the 4th beast, none had the world-dominant impact of the practices and the teachings of this beast, Rome.

I.e., none made its mark on the world-at-large quite like the 4th beast. Remember Satan's desire is to exalt himself above all, including the MOST HIGH. Yet he knows he does not have the physical power to do so. As a result, he can only achieve power in the minds and actions of others through a system of deception that appears to be righteous and justified. And we must never forget that he is the power behind the beast, Rome. Rome established principles on at least two fronts that had the effect of supplanting the Word of the MOST HIGH. These two fronts represent both the secular and the ecclesiastical. Let's remember that Daniel 7:25 describes how the papacy will "think to change times and laws". Also remember how Revelations 13:14 describes that the papacy persuades men to make an image unto the beast. Let's review how this deception evolved.

History records that there have been calendars developed by many nations, such as the Aztecs, Babylonians, Mesopotamians, Chinese, Sumerians, and Egyptians. While widely known, none of these calendars had a major impact beyond the borders of these countries. However, the beast, Rome, established its calendar that changed the way the entire world began to think, and lasts even until this day.

The first emperor, Julius Caesar, commissioned the Julian calendar, which is now called the Gregorian calendar, commissioned by Pope Gregory to bring the Julian calendar in line with seasonal changes. Notice here how that it is the papacy controlling the beast. The Julian/Gregorian calendar, while keeping the 7-day week, established the beginning of a day at midnight. The MOST HIGH established the beginning of a day at evening at creation (Gen. 1:5, 8, 13, 19, 23 and 31).

The calendar of this beast established a new year as beginning in the "dead of winter" on January 1st. Let's take a closer look at the foundation of beast's calendar presented to the entire world.

| Week Day | |
|-----------|---|
| Names | Subject of Worship/Time |
| Sunday | Day of the Sun – set aside to worship the sun |
| Monday | Day of the Moon – set aside to worship the moon |
| Tuesday | Tiu's day – set aside to worship Tiu |
| Wednesday | Woden's day – set aside to worship Woden |
| Thursday | Thor's day – set aside to worship Thor |
| Friday | Freya's day – set aside to worship Freya |
| Saturday | Saturn's Day – set aside to worship Saturn |
| | |

Continuing with the names of the beasts' months.

| Month Names | Subject of Worship/Time |
|-----------------------|--|
| January | Janus – Roman two-headed god of posts |
| February | Februa –Roman gog of ritual purification |
| March | Mars – Roman planet of worship |
| April | Aphrodites – Greek goddess of love |
| May | Maia – Roman goddess of spring |
| June | Juno – Roman goddess of marriage |
| March April May | Mars – Roman planet of worship Aphrodites – Greek goddess of love Maia – Roman goddess of spring |

| Month Names | Subject of Worship/Time |
|--------------------|---|
| July | Julius Caesar – the emperor was a Roman god |
| August | Augustus Caesar – the emperor was a Roman god |
| September | Latin for seven – Latin is the language of Rome |
| October | Latin for eight |
| November | Latin for nine |
| December | Latin for ten |

Look at the results of these calendar changes. We live in a world where the days of the week are called by names such as Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Except for the Sabbath, all of the MOST HIGH's days are simply numbered.

The MOST HIGH's calendar begins in the springtime with the newness of life, between the beast's months March and April. Note the significance of this change. This change has the appearance of being strictly secular. However, a closer look will reveal both the secular and ecclesiastical effect of these calendar changes.

The months of the year are named January, February, March, etc. Notice the following facts that anyone can easily research and study on their own. As one can see, these weekly and calendar days, which supplanted the MOST HIGH's days, are at first glance secular. However, to the beast this is farthest from the truth. As one can also see these names reflect a rather elaborate system of worship. The beast with two horns, the papacy, took this to another level by influencing the world's acceptance of the following major events of the year: New Year's Day, Valentines Day, Mardis Gras, Fat Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, Lent, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, and Christmas, as well as the worship of its saints on various other days of this calendar. These calendar-based events are entirely ecclesiastical. None, let me repeat this, none of these days or events are Biblically-based. I.e., none of these were designed by the MOST HIGH.

With the Julian/Gregorian calendar, the beast began a system of deity worship that continues until this day. With this calendar the beast began to uproot the MOST HIGH's system of worship. The beast, along with the two-horned beast, instituted days to be worshipped that through deception replaced the spiritually and physically significant Holy Days established by the MOST HIGH.

Just as important, this calendar changed the entire culture of thought towards the MOST HIGH's teachings given to HIS priests, Yisrael.

Let us not forget that the Holy Days are established as a sign/mark of the MOST HIGH. Let us not forget that all of the MOST HIGH's signs/marks establish a way of HIS thinking and desired living. Is it not the same with the teachings of the beasts and the power behind them? We are now seeing how the beasts have replaced the MOST HIGH's commandments, statutes and ordinances with its own commandments, statutes and ordinances.

Remember that it is at the stage of the beast when its deadly wound was healed that the dragon gave power unto the beast. And the whole world worships Satan through some direct relationship with the beast. I submit to anyone that if Satan is involved, it is quite spiritual. Obviously, something inherent to this beast is used by Satan as an instrument of deception.

The timetable that establishes Satan as the power behind the beast is most important. We note how in Revelations 13:11 another beast appears on the scene who has 2 horns like a LAMB, yet spoke as a dragon. Here is where the ultimate deception begins to take shape. The timing of this 2-horned beast and the healing of the 4th beast appear to be somewhat concurrent.

It is the 2-horned beast, the papacy, which causes all to receive the mark, that speaks as a dragon and also causes all to worship the image of the beast. Remember how the future beast is pictured.

• Rev 13:1 And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw <u>a beast rise up out of</u> the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, <u>and upon his heads the name of blasphemy</u>.

This is the picture of the beast as it will appear in the latter days, as its ten horns are forming, which will be destroyed by the MESSIAH at HIS coming. Now we must carefully note the following:

• Rev 12:3 And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold <u>a great</u> <u>red dragon</u>, <u>having seven heads and ten horns</u>, <u>and seven crowns upon his heads</u>.

This description of Satan appears to be the same image as the 7-headed beast of Revelations 13:1. If the beast, the papacy, causes all to worship the image of the beast, the 7-headed beast of Revelations 13:1, who or what is presented in the image of this beast?

If the description of Satan is presented in the image of the 7-headed beast, who then is the papacy causing all to worship? We now see something that is so very powerful and sinister that has craftily been imposed on mankind. The beast is made up in the image of Satan. The Bible does not say that the papacy causes all to worship the beast, Rome. It says that it causes all to worship the image of the beast, which we now know to be Satan. Are we beginning to see the depth of this deception?

We saw in Revelations 13:5 how this beast speaks great things and blasphemy. However, let us not forget that the world at-large will not, or does not recognize that the beast's words are blasphemous. Remember, they wonder after the 4th beast. Also remember that the beast is the primary instrument of he who deceives the whole world, Satan the devil. Let's revisit something about Satan that is quite important to our study.

Notice what scripture has to say about Satan.

• Isa 14:12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! Isa 14:13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of ELOHIM: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: Isa 14:14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the MOST HIGH.

When one is granted understanding of the depth of the MOST HIGH's word, one knows it is the MOST HIGH's desire to live on the earth with man. Here we see Satan wanting to ascend into heaven. Through the papacy, mankind has been deceived into believing that this ascension into heaven is the MOST HIGH's desire for mankind.

Note what the MOST HIGH had to say about HIS future desire regarding HIS dwelling place and one of HIS signs.

- Psa 132:13 For <u>YAHWEH hath chosen Zion</u>; <u>he hath desired it for his habitation</u>. Psa 132:14 <u>This is my rest for ever</u>: <u>here will I dwell</u>; <u>for I have desired it</u>.
- Zec 8:3 Thus saith YAHWEH; I am returned unto Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and Jerusalem shall be called a city of truth; and the mountain of YAHWEH of hosts the holy mountain.
- Zec 14:16 And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, YAHWEH of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles.

We need to understand the consequence of this prophecy on Satan. We know that he gives the 4th beast its power. What is the nature of this power? We know also the MOST HIGH grants the ultimate physical power to the beasts for HIS good will. Note this by Daniel.

• Dan 5:18 O thou king, the MOST HIGH ELOHIM gave Nebuchadnezzar thy father a kingdom, and majesty, and glory, and honour: Dan 5:19 And for the majesty that he gave him, all people, nations, and languages, trembled and feared before him: whom he would he slew; and whom he would he kept alive; and whom he would he set up; and whom he would he put down.

Let's consider the facts behind what the MOST HIGH allows this beast and Satan to accomplish. Is it not a separation of the called and chosen from the rest of mankind who simply refuse or are blinded of the truth?

Note the warning from the MESSIAH to HIS followers.

• Mat 24:15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)

• Mat 24:16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: Mat 24:17 Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: Mat 24:18 Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes. Mat 24:19 And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! Mat 24:20 But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: Mat 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. Mat 24:22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened. Mat 24:23 Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is HAMASHIYAC, or there; believe it not. Mat 24:24 For there shall arise false hamashiyacs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

Notice the agreement of Revelations 13:8 and Matthew 24:24. Those written in the LAMB's book of life are the elect, spiritual Yisrael.

We are told that deception will be strong, possibly strong enough to deceive the elect. Yet, while this is possible, this does not guarantee that the elect will be deceived.

The elect is constantly reminded to watch, study, and to come out of this world spiritually, and to be diligent so as not to be deceived. So, the phrase the "whole world" does not definitively include the elect.

Note what it means to be the elect under the new covenant.

• 1Pe 1:2 Elect according to the foreknowledge of ELOHIM the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of YAHSHUA HAMASHIYAC: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

Notice in Mathew 24:24 that it says "if possible" the elect shall be deceived. Peter says that one is elect "according to the foreknowledge of ELOHIM the Father" "unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of YAHSHUA HAMASHIYAC". Note also how the elect obtain the foreknowledge of the MOST HIGH through sanctification of the spirit.

This "setting apart" occurs through consistent Biblical study and being ministered to by the MOST HIGH's Holy Spirit. In essence, if the elect continues to strive towards the knowledge of ELOHIM's word and of obedience, this deception will not so easily overcome them.

Let's look at how subtle the beast has deceived the world. We must start with the replacement of the MOST HIGH's first sign between HE and HIS people, Yisrael. Note what the beast says about the day called Sunday. From the Catholic Encyclopedia we note the following:

"The practice of meeting together on the first day of the week for the celebration of the Eucharistic Sacrifice is indicated in Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2; in Apocalypse 1:10, it is called YAHWEH's day. In the Didache (14) the injunction is given: "On YAHWEH's Day come together and break bread. And give thanks (offer the Eucharist), after confessing your sins that your sacrifice may be pure". St. Ignatius (Ep. ad Magnes. ix) speaks of Christians as "no longer observing the Sabbath, but living in the observance of YAHWEH's Day, on which also Our Life rose again". In the Epistle of Barnabas (xv) we read: "Wherefore, also, we keep the eight day (i.e. the first of the week) with joyfulness, the day also on which Jesus rose again from the dead".

St. Justin is the first Christian writer to call the day Sunday (I Apol., lxvii) in the celebrated passage in which he describes the worship offered by the early Christians on that day to God. The fact that they met together and offered public worship on Sunday necessitated a certain rest from work on that day. However, Tertullian (202) is the first writer who expressly mentions the Sunday rest: "We, however (just as tradition has taught us), on the day of the Lord's Resurrection ought to guard not only against kneeling, but every posture and office of solicitude, deferring even our businesses lest we give any place to the devil" ("De orat.", xxiii; cf. "Ad nation.", I, xiii; "Apolog.", xvi).

These and similar indications show that during the first three centuries practice and tradition had <u>consecrated</u> the Sunday to the public worship of <u>God</u> by the hearing of the Mass and the resting from work."

"With the opening of the fourth century positive legislation, both <u>ecclesiastical</u> and civil, began to make these <u>duties</u> more definite. <u>The Council of Elvira (300)</u> <u>decreed: "If anyone in the city neglects to come to church for three Sundays, let him be excommunicated for a short time so that he may be corrected" (xxi)."</u>

Note that the beast held a council here that caused the abandonment of the MOST HIGH's sign, the Sabbath Day, to be substituted with another mark or sign, Sunday.

This was the first of the MOST HIGH's signs that the beast replaced with its own sign/mark. This is important because the Sabbath of the MOST HIGH is quite significant to the design of the MOST HIGH's plan and for the walk of the elect of the MOST HIGH. The day that replaces the MOST HIGH's Sabbath is equally as important to Satan's plan of deception. The worship of the sun has been passed down through the beginning of civilization. Each ancient civilization had as the head of its deities a version of the sun god. In Egypt it was Ra. In Hindu it was Surya. The Aztecs called it Tonatiuh. Im Mesopotamia it was Utu. In Greece and Rome it was Apollos.

Remember however, it was the beasts, Rome and the papacy, that have forced the sun into Christianity. Remember that it is the Roman calendar that calls the first day of the week Sunday for dies solis, or "day of the sun". The Catholic Encylopedia acknowledges this originated from Egyption mythology.

With that in mind, lets look at solar and lunar images directly associated with the Catholic Mass.



Here is Pope John Paul II holding what is called a Monstrance or Ostensorium. It is used to display a round wafer of bread, called the host, which is used in what is called the Mass, Lord's Supper, Communion or Eucharistic meal. The Catholic believes this wafer of bread turns into the actual body of Christ when consecrated during the Mass.

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Apostolate for Family Consecration

The Roman Catholic Church even admits the Monstrance to be a sunburst. It is with this day that Satan has deceived the world into believing, and has replaced the MOST HIGH's Sabbath based on the lie that the MESSIAH arose on this first day of the week, and thus should be honored. This is the key sign replacement, or mark.

Let's notice what the Catholic Encyclopedia has to say about another of the MOST HIGH's signs, the Passover.

"The First <u>Council of Nicaea</u> (325) decreed that the Roman practice should be observed throughout the <u>Church</u>. But even at <u>Rome</u> the Easter term was changed repeatedly. Those who continued to keep Easter with the <u>Jews</u> were called Quartodecimans (14 Nisan) and were excluded from the <u>Church</u>."

Note the attempt to confuse Passover with easter by calling those who maintained the MOST HIGH's Holy Day quartodecimimans. This council was convened by the so-called great emperor, Constantine, who supposedly restored order to Christianity. This council also excommunicated those who kept the MOST HIGH's Holy Day.

Now remember, the MOST HIGH's signs/marks were and are a way of life to HIS people. Are we starting to see that the beasts have and continue to shape through clever substitution and deception a way of life that has the appearance of coming from the MOST HIGH, yet replaces the way of life commanded by the MOST HIGH?

Let's note another major event that happened during Charlemagne's time, during the time that the "Holy Roman Empire" was being shaped. During the same time of these events, other relevant events of spiritual significance were occurring in the east. Empress Irene, the leader of the Eastern Empire, convened the Second Council of Nicaea, which dealt with Iconoclasm, the veneration and worship of symbols (i.e., the cross, stained windows, etc.).

The council, which was summoned by an imperial edict in the summer of 786, met for the first time on 1 August 786, in the presence of Emperor Constantine and Empress Irene. When the proceedings were interrupted by the violent entry of iconoclast soldiers, faithful to the memory of Emperor Constantine V (741-775), the council was adjourned until the arrival of a reliable army under Staurakios. It assembled again at Nicaea on 24 September 787, the papal legates having been recalled from Sicily. Note the following except:

"Given this state of affairs and stepping out as though on the royal highway, following as we are the God-spoken teaching of our holy fathers and the tradition of the catholic church -- for we recognize that this tradition comes from the holy Spirit who dwells in her-- we decree with full precision and care that, like the figure of the honoured and life-giving cross, the revered and holy images, whether painted or made of mosaic or of other suitable material, are to be exposed 1) in the holy churches of God, 2) on sacred instruments and vestments, 3) on walls and panels, 4) and in houses and by public ways. These are the images of 1) our Lord, God and saviour, Jesus Christ, and 2) of our Lady without blemish, the holy God-bearer, and 3) of the revered angels and 4) of any of the saintly holy men."

"The more frequently they are seen in representational art, the more are those who see them drawn to remember and long for those who serve as models, and to pay these images the tribute of salutation and respectful veneration. Certainly this is not the full adoration {latria} in accordance with our faith, which is properly paid only to the divine nature, but it resembles that given to the figure of the honoured and life-giving cross, and also to the holy books of the gospels and to other sacred cult objects. Further, people are drawn to honour these images with the offering of incense and lights, as was piously established by ancient custom. Indeed, the honour paid to an image traverses it, reaching the model, and he who venerates the image, venerates the person represented in that image."

Therefore <u>all those who dare to think or teach anything different</u>, or who follow the accursed heretics in rejecting ecclesiastical traditions, or who devise innovations, or who spurn anything entrusted to the church (whether it be the gospel or the figure of the cross or any example of representational art or any martyr's holy relic), or who fabricate perverted and evil prejudices against cherishing any of the lawful traditions of the catholic church, or who secularize the sacred objects and saintly monasteries, <u>we order that they be suspended if they are bishops or clerics</u>, and excommunicated if they are monks or lay people." (highlights are mine)

Continuing, notice what was further decreed at this Council.

"Anathemas concerning holy images

- 1. If anyone does not *confess* that Christ our God can be represented in his humanity, let him be **anathema**.
- 2. If anyone does not *accept* representation in art of evangelical scenes, let him be **anathema**.
- 3. If anyone does not *salute* such representations as standing for YAHWEH and his saints, let him be **anathema**.
- 4. If anyone *rejects* any *written or unwritten* tradition of the church, let him be **anathema**. "

So, what have we learned? In my first edition of this article, I missed a valuable point. Notice in item number 1 the phrase "Christ our God". I mentioned earlier how the very name of the ELOHIM of the COY, YAHWEH, was deleted from the writings of the Old Covenant prophets approximately 6,800 times. Well, the phrase YAHWEH our ELOHIM appears 89 times in scripture, replaced by a new phrase, "the LORD our God". Here, HAMASHIYAC our ELOHIM" is replaced by "Christ our God" being represented in his humanity. Remember, this beast is wrought with blasphemies.

Also, we have seen how it was the 4th beast working with the other beast, or little horn", the papacy, that has reshaped the way the entire world thinks, acts, and behaves spiritually.

The world now openly believes that Sunday worship, pictures, pagan holidays, just going to church and believing, regardless of actions such as having children outside of marriage, same sex marriages, etc. etc., etc., is normal behavior. The beasts have so deceived the world that the world has no clue that its behavior, not some mark on the skin, has totally replaced the actions commanded by the MOST HIGH ELOHIM of Israel.

The beast has led the world into a way of living that has the world both thinking and working towards death without a clue. The end result has been prophesied.

6. Conclusion

When we think of the commandments, the laws and statutes of the MOST HIGH ELOHIM of Yisrael, Biblical fact teaches us that these were given to the COY as a sign between the MOST HIGH and HIS people. If we think reasonably about this subject, we easily should be able to grasp the concept that these signs are also representative of the MOST HIGH's mark provided to the world through Yisrael.

We saw earlier that the 7-headed beast of Revelations is presented in the same image as the 7-headed dragon who is none other than Satan the devil. We learned that the deception given to the world is to worship the image of the beast.

Consider that Yisrael was established to mirror the image of the MOST HIGH's kingdom. The temple was designed by the MOST HIGH. **Everything provided to Yisrael was designed by the MOST HIGH**.

Well, <u>everything provided to the beast was designed by the dragon</u>, including the mark of the beast. It is this mark that will ultimately cause something far worst than any punishment the beast can cause. We began our study with the following verses:

• Rev 14:9 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, <u>If any man worship the beast and his image</u>, and receive *his* mark in his forehead, or <u>in his hand</u>, Rev 14:10 <u>The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of ELOHIM</u>, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and <u>he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels</u>, and in the presence of the <u>LAMB</u>: Rev 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. Rev 14:12 Here is the patience of the saints: here *are* they that keep the commandments of ELOHIM, and the faith of Jesus.

Note also these 2 verses.

• Rev 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.

• Rev 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.

These verses tell a very important conclusion about the fate of those who choose to receive the mark of the beast and its image. A simple etching simply would not seem to fit this ultimate fate. If that were so, one would agree that all one has to do to enter the MOST HIGH's kingdom is simply to believe or confess without any behavioral change, without repentance. If we have the vision, we must see that the MOST HIGH made HIS mark on this creation by calling out a nation and providing that nation with HIS guidelines to obtain eternal life, salvation.

These guidelines are presented in the form of commandments, statutes and judgments. They were to be a sign in the hands and between the frontlets of the eyes. This nation, Yisrael, was to live, and teach others to live, by these signs which collectively make up the MOST HIGH's mark.

The word of the MOST HIGH has told us that the beasts were called out to deceive the world, to blaspheme the MOST HIGH, to cause all to worship its designer, Satan. How have the beasts done this? Remember this.

• Dan 7:24 And the ten horns out of this kingdom *are* ten kings *that* shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. Dan 7:25 And he shall speak *great* words against the MOST HIGH, and shall wear out the saints of the MOST HIGH, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

This prophecy is of the papacy. The papacy is the instrument through which Satan causes all to worship the image of the beast. This beast is Babylon, Media/Persia, Greece and Rome molded into one entity to deceive the entire world. The image of the beast is Satan whose single desire is to deceive the world into worshipping him. How has he done this?

He has deceived a so-called Christian world into replacing the Sabbaths, the Holy Days, the commandments of the MOST HIGH, with his holidays, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, etc., i.e. his false teachings. He has the world teaching and subliminally believing that rabbits lay eggs. He has the world teaching its young that a fat gentile, a descendent of the beast, knows when you are good and bad and can deliver you joy simultaneously in one night all over the world.

We have learned that the Holy Days, commandments, statutes and judgments are ultimately the mark of the MOST HIGH. We have learned that Satan has deceived the entire world by replacing the commandment, statutes and judgments of the MOST HIGH with his own commandments, times and laws.

If the MOST HIGH's Holy Days and commandments, etc. are the MOST HIGH's mark, Satan's holidays, commandments and times must also be his mark. If the MOST HIGH's instrument to teach HIS mark was a nation, Yisrael, it is only natural that Satan uses his own nation, Rome the beast, to teach his mark.

Teaching the mark of the beast cannot be simply ensuring that the world puts on some form of outward mark. It is the acceptance of a way of life that is completely in opposition to the way of life the MOST HIGH calls upon HIS followers to live by. The mark of the beast is the mark of Satan.

It is the replacement of the lifestyle commanded by the MOST HIGH to and for His people. It is Sunday, Easter, Christmas, Halloween, New Years day.

Let's also remember that the beast, at the 2nd Council of Niceae, sanctioned the veneration of images and objects. If we look at the places of worship at any of the known denominations, we see stained windows, crosses, pictures supposedly of Biblical characters, the MESSIAH, etc., etc., etc., Note what the MOST HIGH commanded.

• Exo 20:4 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: Exo 20:5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I YAHWEH thy ELOHIM am a jealous ELOHIM, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;

The beast has convinced the known Christian world that to obey the MOST HIGH's commandments are anathema.

All of the belief systems known in today's Christendom came from both beasts. In doing so they have created a way of life that has totally replaced all that the MOST HIGH commanded. Note the current-day system that is place, even until today.

It is a belief in desiring to go to heaven. It is a belief that the kingdom of ELOHIM is already on the earth today. It is the acceptance of same sex relationships. It is the acceptance of any form of sin as normal life. It is the rejection of the fact that sin is the transgression of the MOST HIGH's law. It is the teaching and rejection of the fact that we must work for the Kingdom of the MOST HIGH. It is the acceptance of divorce and all forms of immorality as normal. It is the failure to teach the need for true repentance. All these anti-MOST HIGH teachings are representative of the replacement of the mark of the MOST HIGH. They collectively make up a lifestyle representative of the "Mark of the Beast".

Remember this.

- Rev 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 ELOHIM.
- Rev 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 ELOHIM, 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 HAMASHIYAC a thousand years.

Those who live by the word of the MOST HIGH shall reign with the MESSIAH. Remember again these very simple facts about the MESSIAH.

• Mat 12:8 For the Son of man is Lord even of the sabbath day.

• 1Co 5:7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even **HAMASHIYAC our Passover is sacrificed for us**:

The Sabbath was the first sign established by the MOST HIGH for HIS people. Beginning with the Passover and then all of the MOST HIGH's commandments, statutes and judgments, which include the weekly Sabbath and the Holy Days, the MOST HIGH designed HIS signs to be bound upon the hand and between the frontlets of the eyes. These are the MOST HIGH's signs. Sunday and Easter are the two key days of today's traditional Christianity. These days have replaced the Sabbath and the Passover. They represent Satan's mark.

In the latter days the following is prophesied.

• Dan 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.

For those who will see, if you observe the Sabbath and the Passover with the knowledge of the ELOHIM of Yisrael, you have chosen to live a lifestyle of worship of the MOST HIGH ELOHIM of Yisrael and have HIS mark in your life. You have no doubt incorporated all of the Holy Days into your lifestyle and observe the dietary laws of the MOST HIGH. You have begun to see HIS plan and are counting the cost.

If you observe Sunday and Easter, you have been deceived into choosing to live a lifestyle of worship of the image of the beast. Whether willfully or not, and have the "Mark of the Beast" in your life. Perhaps without realizing it, you have been blinded to the MOST HIGH's truth, and most certainly, you have not counted the cost.

Let us pray that these choices are not willful. Let's also pray that you discern the spirits of the world, so that you can began to allow the Spirit of Truth to teach to understand why the Apostle of YAHSHUA HAMASHIYAC spoke the words "HAMASHIYAC our Passover" in 1 Corinthians 5:7.

Whether it is willful or not, at some point these choices require repentance.

The commandments of the MOST HIGH are real. The practices of modernity's version of Christianity consists of some truths found in the Bible and a whole lot of lies not found in the Bible. Man was told to not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. This tree has presented itself as an angel of light.

The commandments of the MOST HIGH are HIS mark. There is another mark that has been around for a long while and has deceived the whole world. Which mark do you wear?

We must all repent and believe the gospel of the Kingdom of ELOHIM. The Bible, which is the Word of ELOHIM has pointed the way.

• Rev 22:14 Blessed *are* they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

Choose life and live.

SHALOM!