

14 THE MARK OF THE BEAST



THE MARK OF THE BEAST IS A COUNTERFEIT

Revelation 7:2, 3 Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads." 1179

Revelation 13:12-17 he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived. He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666. 1183

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

- Jesus Christ has a name written on Him. **Revelation 19:6**
- The antichrist has a name written on him. **Revelation 17:5**
- God's followers have His name written on them. **Rev. 3:12; 14:1; 22:4**
- Satan's followers have his name written on them. **Revelation 13:17**
- The antichrist blasphemes the name of God. **Revelation 13:6**
- The antichrist's followers blaspheme the name of God **Revelation 16:9**
- Christ's followers glorify the name of God **Revelation 15:4**
- A name is a reference to character **Exodus 34:5-8** 85



WHY THE FOREHEAD AND THE HAND?

Exodus 13:9 It shall be as a sign to you on your hand and as a memorial between your eyes, that the Lord's law may be in your mouth. 63

Deuteronomy 11:1 "Therefore you shall love the Lord your God, and keep His charge, His statutes, His judgments, and His commandments always. 177

Deuteronomy 6:6-8 "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 173

Deuteronomy 11:13-18 "Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 177

✓ Your forehead represents your _____ ; Your hand represents your _____.

COMMANDMENT-KEEPING IS THE ULTIMATE SIGN OF LOYALTY

Romans 6:16 Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? 1089

Daniel 9:4 And I prayed to the Lord my God, and made confession, and said, "O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments. 867

John 14:15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments." 1043

1 John 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. 1171

THE SEAL OF GOD

In ancient times, a king's seal --in a signet ring-- was his signature. (see **Esther 8:8** 475; **Daniel 6:17** 863)

✓ A seal contains three elements: _____, _____, and _____.

Previously we've seen that God's signature of completed work is Sabbath rest.

The Sabbath commandment (**Exodus 20:8-11** 71) contains all three elements of a seal!

Name: "Lord your God" | **Title:** Creator | **Territory:** The heavens and the earth

Revelation 14:7 "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water." 1183



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- In the closing days of earth's history, the world will be divided into only two groups, representing either the character of Christ or the character of Satan.
- Everyone will have made their choice to either serve Christ and keep His commandments or serve the antichrist and keep his commandments.
- The final test of loyalty will concern worship: either Jesus Christ and His true Sabbath day or the antichrist and his counterfeit sabbath day.
- Despite Satan's efforts to deceive and coerce, a remnant will remain loyal to the Lord. **Rev. 12:17**

DANIEL 3: A PREVIEW OF WHAT'S TO COME

Daniel 3:4-6 "To you it is commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages... you shall fall down and worship the gold image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up; and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace." 858

Daniel 3:16-18 "...let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up." 858

Daniel 3:25 "Look!" he answered, "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God." 859

