

Three Angels' Message
Sermon Series
Third Angel's Message Part 2
Bible Sermon Study Notes by Cary Rodgers, pastor

What is the Mark of the Beast?

What does Papal Rome claim they have power to do? GO back to Daniel 7:25

Daniel 7:25

25 [Papal Rome] think to change times and laws..."

Remember, Jesus says in
Matthew 5:17

17 **Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.**

Papal Rome "think" to change God's Ten Commandments:

They deleted the second commandment about image worship. Deleted the majority of the Sabbath commandment in which they don't mention the seventh day and they split the thou shalt covet commandment into two to make ten.

The only commandment that has to do with time is the seventh day Sabbath.

Papal Rome "think" to change the seventh-day Sabbath to the first day of the week Sunday.

What does the beast, Papal Rome, say is its distinctive "mark" of authority?

"Sunday is our Mark of authority....The church is ABOVE the Bible, and this transference of Sabbath observance is proof of that fact." - Catholic Record, September 1, 1923

"Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change [of the Sabbath to Sunday] was her act. It could not have been otherwise, as none in those days would have dreamed of doing anything in matters spiritual and ecclesiastical and religious without her. And THE ACT IS A MARK of ecclesiastical power and authority in religious matters." - James Cardinal Gibbons, in a letter to J .F. Snyder of Bloomington, Illinois, dated November 11, 1895, and signed by H.F. Thomas, Chancellor for the Cardinal

Modern response: And claiming authority over it

"It is true that the Catholic Church through the authority of Christ [false] replaced the Hebrew Sabbath (Saturday) with the Lord's Day (Sunday)" *Printed with permission from [A Catholic Response, Inc.](http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/resources/apologetics/catholic-doctrines-and-practices/the-sabbath-or-the-lords-day/)*

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The enforcement of Sunday (false sabbath) is the mark of the beast. Unlike the keeping of the true seventh-day Sabbath, Sunday shows loyalty to the beast and the commandments of man instead of God.

Sunday false sabbath and worship unites all apostate churches to the beast, Papal Rome.

Papal Rome believes that this change of the Sabbath from the seventh day of the week, Saturday, to the first day of the week, Sunday, is their “mark” of authority. This “change” is their distinctive mark that distinguishes them from all other Christian religions. Here are some more quotes from Papal Rome concerning his “mark”:

“If Protestants would follow the Bible, they should worship God on the Sabbath day. In keeping the Sunday, they are following a law of the Catholic Church.” - Chancellor Albert Smith for Cardinal of Baltimore Archdiocese, letter dated February 10, 1920

“The observance of Sunday by the Protestants is an homage they pay, in spite of themselves, to the authority of the [Catholic] Church.” - Louis Segur, ‘Plain Talk About the Protestantism of Today’, 1868, p. 213

What will happen to those who refuse the mark of the beast and worship of the beast?

Revelation 13:17

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.

This will be carried out through the enforcement of laws.

Revelation 13:15

15 And he (Beast with two lamb like horns - USA) 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.

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 forehead

Mark of the Beast is enforcement by law of Sunday worship which is not yet, but soon to be.

“The dignitaries of church and state will unite to bribe, persuade, or compel all classes to honor the Sunday. The lack of divine authority will be supplied by oppressive enactments. Political corruption is destroying love of justice and regard for truth; and even in free America, rulers and legislators, in order to secure public favor, will yield to the popular demand for a law enforcing Sunday observance. Liberty of conscience, which has cost so great a sacrifice, will no longer be respected. In the soon-coming conflict we shall see exemplified the prophet's words: "The dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." Revelation 12:17. (E.G.White, Great Controversy, p. 592)

Have there been laws in the past that were made to force people to worship on Sunday?

The Roman emperor Constantine, a sun-worshiper, professed conversion to Christianity, though his subsequent actions suggest the “conversion” was more of a political move than a genuine heart change. Constantine named himself Bishop of the Catholic Church and **enacted the first civil law regarding Sunday observance in A.D. 321.**

“On the venerable day of the sun let the magistrate and people residing in cities rest, and let all workshops be closed. In the country however, persons engaged in agricultural work may freely and lawfully continue their pursuits; because it often happens that another day is not so suitable for grain

growing or for vine planting; lest by neglecting the proper moment for such operations the bounty of heaven should be lost.” —Schaff’s History of the Christian Church, vol. III, chap. 75.

“The day of the sun was revered by his pagan subjects, and was honored by Christians; it was the emperor’s policy to unite the conflicting interests of heathenism and Christianity.” Ellen White Great Controversy p 53

“Later, the pope gave directions that the parish priest should admonish the violators of Sunday, and wish them to go to church and say their prayers, lest they bring some great calamity on themselves and neighbors. An ecclesiastical council brought forward the argument, since so widely employed, even by Protestants, that because persons had been struck by lightning while laboring on Sunday, it must be the Sabbath. ‘It is apparent,’ said the prelates, ‘how high the displeasure of God was upon their neglect of this day.’” Great Controversy, Ellen White p. 575

Sunday laws have been enforced in the past known as blue laws, closed stores and businesses on Sunday etc.. so people can go to church.

Sunday Laws in American's Past

American Papers: Bearing on Sunday Legislation, by William Blakely, original print 1800 currently in New York Public Library or online <https://archive.org/details/americanstatepap00blak>

This book features Sunday Laws that were at one time enforced in many states

"whosoever shall profane the Lords-day, by doing unnecessary servile Work, by unnecessary travelling, or by sports and recreations, he or they that so transgress, shall forfeit for every such default forty shillings, or be publickly whipt: But if it clearly appear that the sin was proudly. Presumptuously and with a high hand committed, against the known Command and Authority of the blessed God, such a person therein despising and reproaching the Lord, **shall he put to death or grievously punished** at the Judgment of the Court." (Page 37)

"Within recent years, under its Sunday laws, have occurred numerous prosecutions of conscientious observers of the seventh day, with fines and imprisonments following." (Page 78)

In 1888, a Federal Sunday Law was almost passed in this the USA. Sunday blues have been repelled in many states, but it is still a major part of our culture.

Did you know that the Supreme Court has already set a legal precedence that Sunday-rest laws are not a violation of the establishment of religion clause of the first amendment of the U.S. Constitution? This was established in four land mark Sunday-law U.S. Supreme Court decisions in 1961 lead by Chief Justice Earl Warren. - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earl_Warren

According to www.congress.gov, “The *Constitution of the United States of America: Analysis and Interpretation* (popularly known as the Constitution Annotated) contains legal analysis and interpretation of the United States Constitution, based primarily on Supreme Court case law.”

This annotation of the first amendment of the Sunday Closing laws concludes that “the choice of Sunday as the day of rest, while originally religious, now reflected simple legislative inertia or recognition that Sunday was a traditional day for the choice. Valid secular reasons existed for not simply requiring one day of rest and leaving to each individual to choose the day, reasons of ease of

enforcement and of assuring a common day in the community for rest and leisure. More recently, a state statute mandating that employers honor the Sabbath day of the employee's choice was held invalid as having the primary effect of promoting religion by weighing the employee's Sabbath choice over all other interests.”

Currently there is a major push around the world for Sunday laws to bring family together, combat “climate change” and church attendance...Read “Forgotten Commandment and Mark of the Beast Crisis”, Chapters 16 & 17) for documentation. Get free download of the book at PathwayToPeace.net . Next study:Mark Of The Beast Crisis soon to come!

Remember the Mark of the Beast is only activated when there is an official Sunday Law to enforce Sunday worship.

1)National Sunday Law (Two Horned Lamblike Beast – Speaks as a Dragon and make image to the beast)

2)Universal Sunday Law (Papal Rome through UN / One World Government)

Why does any man who worship the beast and his image receive the mark of the beast either in his forehead or hand?

Receive (Greek) lambanō [lam-ban'-o] = **to take or obtain** [active or passive]

So in general those who receive the mark of the beast will either have it actively or passively.

Actively (definition): 1) Deliberate and positive way 2) In an energetic or vigorous way – Google dictionary

Passively (definition): **in an accepting manner, without active response or resistance.** - Google dictionary

Mark of Beast in Forehead = Actively

The frontal lobe of the brain is right behind the forehead. This is where we make decisions that form our characters. **Those whose characters reflect the beast and his image will receive the mark of the beast in their foreheads.** They are totally deceived. They whole-heartily and actively believe in the false doctrines of the beast. They are deliberate in actively supporting the beast and his image. They actively teach the Babylonian false doctrines to others.

Mark of Beast in Hand = Passively

Those who will receive the mark of the beast in their hand will accept it without active response or resistance. They will passively follow the crowd and people out of fear of what others would say. The majority will **passively bow down to the beast and his image out of fear of hunger, poverty, or death.**

There will be a great number of people who had some knowledge of the three angels messages, the beast, and the image of the beast who will passively receive the mark of the beast. Many of them refuse to whole heartily submit to God. Many make professions to know the three angels' message, but are envious, jealous, and covetous. Their faith is weak because they are hearers of God's word and not DOERS of God's word.

Other professors of truth of the three angels' message refuse to let go of sin and worldliness. Their faith is weak because they do not take time to study Bible prophecy and build their faith in God. They refuse to stand up against apostasy and sin among the members and leaders of the church. They

put their “head in the sand” and keep quiet and continue to support the apostate condition of the church. As a result, they drink the wine of Babylon from these apostates and get drunk.

Going back Revelation 14:11 - “they **have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image**, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.”

They rejected the true spiritual rest in Christ and the weekly seventh-day Sabbath rest, as a result they will have no rest day nor night. As a result of rebellion against God and His Commandments, they have NO peace. They are stressed, afraid, and depressed.

There is never true peace or rest for the wicked.

Isaiah 57:20-21

20 But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt.

21 There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked.

God's urgent appeal now!

Ezekiel 33:11

11 Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

What is the last part of the third Angel's message for those who receive the seal of the living God instead of the mark of the beast?

Revelation 14:12

12 Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

If your faith is in Jesus, you will have the faith of Jesus! When the mark of the beast is enforced by law under penalty of not buying or selling or even death; only those who keep the commandments of God, including His true seventh-day Sabbath will reveal that they have faith in God.

What promise does God give in the third angel's message for those who die in the Lord?

Revelation 14:13

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

The seeds of the gospel that you sow while living will spring up into trees filled with fruit and that fruit will not only provide spiritual food but seed to grow other spiritual fruit trees if you should die before the Lord comes.

Next study – More details: Mark Of The Beast Crisis soon to come! Show evidence.

Sow seeds of the Mark of the Beast or seeds of the True Bible Seventh-day Sabbath...

What is your choice?

Mark of God or mark of the beast, God's Law or man's traditions