

# Identifying the 4 Parts of Nebuchadnezzar's Image

Would you like to know for sure what is the "Mark of the Beast"? Well you can know because God says that those who have a good understanding can know what is the "Mark of the Beast". The question you should be asking yourself is *how* do I get this good understanding? The answer is from reading every word of God concerning the "Beast". And that's what we're going to do starting now. Please turn to Daniel chapter 2.

God gave Daniel the interpretation of the Image in Nebuchadnezzar's dream. It has 4 parts. A stone breaks the toes of the 4<sup>th</sup> part; the other 3 parts fall and are blown away with the 4<sup>th</sup> part.

Dan 2:28 "But there is a God in Heaven who reveals secrets and makes known to King Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Your dream, and the visions of your head upon your bed are these."

Dan 2:32-36 "This image's head was of fine gold; his chest and his arms were of silver; his belly and his thighs were of bronze; his legs were of iron; his feet were part of iron and part of clay. You watched until a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image upon its feet that were of iron and clay, and broke them to pieces. Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were broken to pieces together. And they became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors. And the wind carried them away, so that no place was found for them. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth. This is the dream. And we will tell its meaning before the king."

The 4 parts =  $4 \frac{\text{kingdoms}}{\text{kingdom}}$ ; the stone = The Kingdom of God.

Dan 2:38-45 "You are this head of gold. And after you shall arise another kingdom lower than you, and another third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth. And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron. Since iron crushes and smashes all things; and as the iron that shatters all these, it will crush and shatter. And as to that which you saw: the feet and toes, part of potters' clay and part of iron; the kingdom shall be divided. But there shall be in it the strength of the iron, because you saw the iron mixed with miry clay. And as the toes of the feet were part of iron and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly brittle. And as you saw iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mix themselves with the seed of men. But they shall not cling to one another, even as iron is not mixed with clay. And in the days of these kings, the God of Heaven shall set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed. The kingdom shall not be left to other peoples, but it shall crush and destroy all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. Because you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it crushes the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold, the great God has made known to the king what shall occur after this. And the dream is certain, and its meaning is sure."

We know that the "head of gold" is the Babylonian kingdom that ruled the earth from 626 B.C. to 536 B.C. What kingdoms are represented by the other 3 parts of the Image?

# Linking the 4 parts of the Image to the 4 Beasts

God gave Daniel the interpretation of the 4 Beasts in his dream (Dan 7). The "Ancient of Days" burns the 4<sup>th</sup> Beast; and the other 3 Beasts had their kingdoms taken away also. This is the same pattern we saw in Dan 2.

Dan 7:3-12 "4 great beasts came up from the sea, different from one another. The 1st was like a lion and had eagle's wings. I watched until its wings were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand on its feet like a man. And a man's heart was given to it. And behold another beast, a 2<sup>nd</sup>, like a bear. And it raised itself up on one side, and it had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. And they said this to it: Arise, eat up much flesh. After this I saw, and lo, another, like a leopard, which had four wings of a bird on its back. The beast also had four heads; and rulership was given to it. After this I looked in the night visions, and behold, a 4th beast, frightening and terrifying, and very strong. And it had great iron teeth; it devoured and broke in pieces, and stamped the rest with its feet. And it was different from all the beasts before it; and it had ten horns. I was thinking about the horns, and behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom three of the first horns were uprooted. And behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things. I watched until the thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days sat, whose robe was white as snow, and the hair of His head like the pure wool. His throne was like flames of fire, and His wheels like burning fire. A stream of fire went out and came out from before Him. A thousand thousands served Him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. The judgment was set, and the books were opened. Then I was looking because of the voice of the great words which the horn spoke. Iwatched until the beast was slain, and his body was destroyed and given to the burning flame. And the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away."

Daniel 7	Daniel 2	Interpretation
4 Beasts	4-Part Image	4 Kingdoms
Lion	Head of Gold	Babylon
Bear	Chest and Arms of Silver	?
Leopard	Stomach and Thighs of Bronze	?
4 <sup>th</sup> Beast (like nothing natural)	Legs of Iron; Feet of Iron mixed with Clay	?
Ancient of Days	The Stone	Kingdom of God

Babylon is the first recorded kingdom on the Earth in the Bible. Nimrod founded it shortly after the flood in 2300 B.C. circa.

(Gen 10:1-12) "These are the generations of the sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. And sons were born to them after the flood. The sons of Ham: Cush and Mizraim and Phut and Canaan. And Cush fathered Nimrod. He began to be a mighty one in the earth. He was a mighty hunter before Yahweh. Therefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before Yahweh. And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. Out of that land he went forth *to* Asshur. And he built Nineveh, and the city Rehoboth, and Calah, and Resen between Nineveh and Calah, which is a great city."

Babylon was said to be like a "lion" and "eagle" for its strength and swiftness, for its greatness and majesty; the same with the head of gold in terms of quality and beauty admired by all. It was a world-ruling kingdom at the time of Daniel's prophecy. But its fearless lion's heart was replaced by a fearful man's heart, and its lofty eagle's wings were replaced by lowly man's feet. This was fulfilled when Belshazzar saw the handwriting on the wall, and was so fearful that he wet his pants (Dan 5).

# Identifying the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Beasts

Daniel clearly states that Babylon is the  $1^{st}$  Beast (Dan. 2:38). To find the identity of the  $2^{nd}$  and  $3^{rd}$  Beast described in Dan. 7, we need to read Dan. 8. Keep in mind that the  $2^{nd}$  Beast is like a Bear, and the  $3^{rd}$  Beast is like a Leopard. Let's see what God says about the  $2^{nd}$  Beast.

(Dan 8:3-4) "Then I lifted up my eyes, and looked. And behold, a ram with 2 horns stood before the canal, and the 2 horns were high, but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last. I saw the ram pushing toward the west, north and south; so that no beast could withstand him. But he did according to his will, and became great." We have God's interpretation in Dan 8:20. "The ram which you saw having 2 horns are the kings of Media and Persia." Medes & Persian 558 – 333 B.C.

Media and Persia, which in Dan 2 is described as having "two arms in one chest", is described in Dan 7 as "raising itself on one side", meaning the two mini-kingdoms set up a joint government. The Medo-Persian kingdom is described in Dan 7 as a ferocious bear that has "3 ribs in its mouth", meaning it ate up Babylon, Lydia, and Egypt as it came to power. Daniel 5 tells us about Babylon being eaten by Media-Persia.

Here's a description of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Beast.

(Dan 8:5-7) "As I was watching, a he-goat came from the west, over the face of the all earth, and did not touch the ground. The he goat had an outstanding horn between his eyes. And he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing before the river, and ran to him in the fury of his power. And I saw him come close beside the ram, and he was moved with anger against him, and struck the ram and shattered his two horns. And there was no power in the ram to stand before him. But he threw him down to the ground and stamped on him. And none could deliver the ram out of his hand." (Dan 8:21) "The goat is the king of Greece. And the great horn between his eyes is the first king." Alexander of Greece 333 – 323 B.C.

(Dan 8:8) "Then the he-goat became very great. And when he was strong, the great horn was broken. And in its place came up 4 outstanding ones towards the four winds of the heavens." (Dan 8:22) "And as for that being broken, and 4 stood up in its place; 4 kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in its power." 4 Generals ruling Greece 323 – 33 B.C.

Alexander the Great of Greece is described in Dan 7 as "a leopard that had 4 wings of a bird on its back, and had 4 heads", meaning Alexander flew over nations with great speed, but then died, leaving the kingdom to 4 others. Those 4 others represent the 4 kingdoms into which the Macedonian empire was divided at the death of Alexander, namely, Macedon & Greece under Cassander, Thrace & Bithynia under Lysimachus, Egypt under PTOLEMY, and Syria under Seleucus. The Syrian and Egyptian kingdoms became the dominant ones and are thus represented as the two thighs of bronze in Dan 2. Ptolemys = King of the South; Seleucids = King of the North. (Greece in total lasted from 333 – 33 B.C.).

Daniel 7	Daniel 2	Interpretation
4 Beasts	4-Part Image	4 Kingdoms
Lion	Head of Gold	Babylon
Bear	Chest and Arms of Silver	Medo-Persia
Leopard	Stomach and Thighs of Bronze	Greece
4 <sup>th</sup> Beast (like nothing natural)	Legs of Iron; Feet of Iron mixed with Clay	?
Ancient of Days	The Stone	Kingdom of God

So what about the 4<sup>th</sup> Beast? What is the interpretation thereof?

# Who is the 4<sup>th</sup> Beast?

Who is the 4<sup>th</sup> Beast in Daniel 7? The Bible never says who the 4<sup>th</sup> Beast is. It tells us that the 1<sup>st</sup> Beast is Babylon; the 2<sup>nd</sup> Beast is Media-Persia; and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Beast is Greece. But it doesn't tell us who is the 4<sup>th</sup> Beast. So who is the 4<sup>th</sup> Beast, and why doesn't the Bible just come right out and tell us? First, let's find out who is the 4<sup>th</sup> Beast, then we'll discover why the Bible doesn't just come right out and tell us.

The Bible does give us 12 clues to identify the 4<sup>th</sup> Beast. What are these clues?

- 1. It's a kingdom that comes after the 3<sup>rd</sup> Beast.
- 2. It's a world-ruling kingdom that wields great influence over Israel, for that is true of Beasts # 1-3.
- 3. It will crush and shatter all things with the strength of iron.
- 4. Its legs are of iron.
- 5. Its feet and toes are part iron and part clay.
- 6. The kingdom shall be partly strong and partly brittle.
- 7. The kingdom shall be divided.
- 8. They shall mix themselves with the seed of men. But they shall not cling to one another.
- 9. It's different from the other beasts.
- 10. It has 10 horns, 3 of which will be plucked up by "another horn" that's not a part of the Beast.
- 11. This "other horn" has eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.
- 12. The Stone that was cut without hands, struck the image upon its feet, and broke them to pieces.

#### These 12 clues point us to the Roman Empire!

- 1. Rome came after Greece. Greece ruled from 333 33 B.C. Rome ruled from 31 B.C. 476 A.D.
- 2. Rome ruled the world --- including Israel.
- 3. Rome is recognized as the strongest, most enduring, and most ubiquitous empire that has ever existed.
- 4. Rome split into two spheres of influence: West = Rome; East = Constantinople.
- 5-11. These are Prophetic. We know this because of clue # 12.
- 12. This Beast is still around (and smashed) when Messiah returns to establish the Kingdom of God!

Why doesn't the Bible just come right out and tell us that Rome is the 4<sup>th</sup> Beast? Remember that this Beast is not like the other 3 Beasts. How is it different? It is different because this Beast has several lives. The 4<sup>th</sup> Beast <u>lives again</u> after its first death! It died in 476 A.D., but as the Bible shows, the <u>resurrected</u> Roman Empire will be extant for several years before --- and up until --- the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming of Christ! This Beast will have multiple manifestations under different national names! That is why this Beast is not mentioned by name in scripture like the other Beasts.

Daniel 7	Daniel 2	Interpretation
4 Beasts	4-Part Image	4 Kingdoms
Lion	Head of Gold	Babylon
Bear	Chest and Arms of Silver	Medo-Persia
Leopard	Stomach and Thighs of Bronze	Greece
4 <sup>th</sup> Beast (like nothing natural)	Legs of Iron; Feet of Iron mixed with Clay	Rome; Rome resurrected
Ancient of Days	The Stone	Kingdom of God

We've looked at the Old Testament scriptures concerning Beast powers. In the next section we'll begin looking at New Testament scriptures concerning Beast powers.

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# Interpreting the Beast with 7 Heads and 10 Horns

In Dan 2 we saw an Image with 4 Parts; in Dan 7 we saw 4 Beasts. In Rev 13 we see 1 Beast. Is there any chance that these are the same? Yes, This 1 Beast is the same as the Image with 4 Parts and the 4 Beasts.

(Rev 13:1-2) "I stood on the sand of the sea, and I saw **a beast** coming up out of the sea, having 7 heads"...

[1=Babylon; 2=Medes/Persians; 3, 4, 5 & 6=Greece with its 4 divisions after Alexander; 7=Rome]

... "and 10 horns, and on its horns were 10 crowns, and on its heads was the name of blasphemy"

[10 end-time kings that give their united power to the 7<sup>th</sup> head].

"The beast which I saw was like a **leopard**, and its feet like those of a **bear**, and its mouth like the mouth of a **lion**."

[(Dan 7:3-8) Daniel sees 4 beasts instead of the 1 beast John saw. "4 great beasts came up from the sea, different from one another. The 1<sup>st</sup> beast was like a **lion** and had eagle's wings {Babylon=1<sup>st</sup> head}. The 2<sup>nd</sup> beast was like a **bear** {Media/Persia=2<sup>nd</sup> head}. The 3<sup>rd</sup> beast was like a **leopard**, which had four wings of a bird on its back. The beast also had four heads {Greece and its four divisions after Alexander / these are the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> heads}. The 4<sup>th</sup> beast was terrifying and very strong. And it had great iron teeth; it devoured and broke in pieces, and stamped the rest with its feet. And it was different from all the beasts before it {the Roman Empire combined all of the characteristics of the other three; that's why John describes it as one beast}; and it had 10 horns {the 4<sup>th</sup> beast = the 7<sup>th</sup> head, and the 7<sup>th</sup> head has the 10 horns}. I was thinking about the horns, and behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom three of the first horns were uprooted. And behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things" {this 11<sup>th</sup> horn is a super horn ruling over the 10 horns}. (Rev 17:12-14) "The 10 horns which you saw are 10 kings, who have received no kingdom yet, but will receive authority as kings one hour with the beast {11<sup>th</sup> horn}. These have one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast. These will make war with the Lamb, but the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings."]

"The dragon gave him its power and its seat and great authority".

[(Rev 12:7-9) "And there was war in Heaven. Michael and his angels warring against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels warred, but did not prevail. Nor was place found for them in Heaven any more. The great dragon was cast out, the old serpent called the Devil, and Satan, who deceives the whole world. He was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."]

The 7<sup>th</sup> Head with 10 horns = the 4<sup>th</sup> Beast with 10 horns = the 4<sup>th</sup> Kingdom with 10 toes. This is the resurrected Roman Empire leading a federation of 10 nations in the end-time!

Dan 7	Dan 2	Rev 13	Interpretation
4 Beasts	4-Part Image	1 Beast with 7 Heads & 10 Horns	4 Kingdoms; 1 divided into 4
Lion	Head of Gold	1 <sup>st</sup> Head	Babylon
Bear	Chest and Arms of	2 <sup>nd</sup> Head	Medo-Persia
	Silver		
Leopard	Stomach and Thighs	3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Head	Greece; divided into 4
	of Bronze		kingdoms after Alexander
4 <sup>th</sup> Beast	Legs of Iron; Feet of	7 <sup>th</sup> Head with 10 Horns	Rome; Rome resurrected
	Iron mixed with Clay		
Ancient of	The Stone	Yahshua's 2 <sup>nd</sup> Coming; this time	Kingdom of God
Days		as King of Kings & Lord of Lords	

# Out of the Sea and into Blasphemy

Before we read the rest of Rev 13, let's focus on 3 points we didn't previously cover in verses 2 and 3.

## "I saw a beast coming up out of the sea ..."

Coming up out of the sea reveals that these kingdoms spring from the agitations and commotions of nations represented by the heaving ocean.

(Dan 7:2-3) "Daniel spoke and said, In my vision by night I was looking: and behold, the four winds of the heavens were stirring up the Great Sea. And 4 great beasts came up from the sea, different from one another." The Sea definitely represents nations. Satan is always counterfeiting what God does.

(Mat 13:47-49) "The kingdom of Heaven is like a net that was cast into the sea, and gathered some of every kind; which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down and gathered the good into vessels, but threw the bad away. So it shall be at the end of the world. The angels shall come out and separate the wicked from among the just".

## "On its heads was the name of blasphemy"

Each one of these heads had an inscription that was blasphemous; in other words, the Beast ascribed to itself some attribute that properly belonged to God. A name of blasphemy is the prostitution of a sacred name to an unholy purpose. This is evident from Rev 2:9, where God says, "I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan." These wicked men, by calling themselves Jews, blasphemed the name, i.e., used it in an injurious sense; for he only is a Jew who is one inwardly. (Rom 2:17-29) "You are called a Jew, and boast in God --- calling yourselves guides to the blind. You preach that we shouldn't steal, yet you steal. You claim to detest idols, but you covet. You claim to be righteous, but you dishonor God through breaking the Law. Therefore, the name of God is blasphemed among the nations because of you. One is not a true Jew who is one outwardly; but the true Jew is one inwardly, because his Jewishness\* is not from men, but from God."

\*[Judah means praise; see Gen 29:35]

Hence the term Jews when applied to the synagogue of Satan is a name of blasphemy, i.e. a sacred name is blasphemed.

## "The dragon gave him its power and its seat and great authority".

(Mat 4:8-9) "The Devil took Yahshua up into a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And Satan said to Him, All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me." Satan is the "God of this world" (2 Cor 4:4). And **Satan has** 

**deceived the whole world into worshipping him!** (Rev 12:9). And Satan will use this future Beast "System" to systematically bring upon the world the greatest deception of all time! And it will lead to the greatest tribulation of all time! The Beast "System" will be Satan's final attempt in this age to deceive and force the world to worship him. Satan has always wanted to be worshipped --- and to rule --- as the one true God, so in the "last days" he will make his last attempt to set up his own "Kingdom of God", with his own "Christ"!

The scripture says that if it were possible, even the very elect would be deceived. But don't despair, because God will keep you from the hour of trial if you keep His word!

#### Resurrected Rome

(Rev 13:1-2) "I stood on the sand of the sea, and I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having 7 heads and 10 horns". The explanation of the 7 heads and 10 horns is:

1st head=Babylon; 2nd head=Medes/Persians; 3, 4, 5 & 6th head=Greece with its 4 divisions after Alexander;

7th head=Rome. Also remember that the 7th Head has the 10 horns (Rev 13) = the 4th Beast with 10 horns

(Dan 7) = the 4th Kingdom with 10 toes (Dan 2). These all picture "Resurrected Rome", ultimately leading a federation of 10 nations in the end-time! How can we prove this? History tells us that of the 4 Empires we've been discussing, only Rome was restored after it was destroyed, in terms of territory and influence!

Notice how God prophetically describes what was to be the future history of Rome.

(Rev 13:3) "I saw one of its heads as having been butchered to death, but its deadly wound was healed. And all the earth marveled [wondered /admired] after the beast."

Original Rome came up out of the sea in 31 B.C., was divided in 330 A.D. into two regions: the East, with Constantinople as its capital, and the West, with Rome as its capital (pictured by the 2 legs of the 4<sup>th</sup> part of Nebuchadnezzar's image in Dan 2), and was butchered to death in 476 A.D. when Augustulus, the last of the Roman emperors, was forced by Odoacer the Heruli, to quit his imperial dignity. Odoacer took upon himself the title of king of Italy, and translated the seat of the empire from Rome to Ravenna, thus ending the great Roman Empire. But in 554 A.D., Justinian, Emperor of the East, from Constantinople, "resurrected" / "healed the deadly wound" of Rome through an Imperial Legate, bringing about what is known in history as the "Imperial Restoration" of the Empire! It is known as the "Imperial Restoration" because Justinian made Law the sovereign rule backed up by the Army. Justinian codified in the Corpus Juris Civilis (Body of Civil Law) a text that today forms the foundation of the Western social system. As quoted from the Catholic Encyclopedia, "the Corpus Juris Civilis is the basis of all canon law and civil law in every civilized country" {http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/08578b.htm}. Canon law is the body of laws and regulations made by or adopted by ecclesiastical authority, for the government of the Christian church. Civil law is the body of laws and regulations made by or adopted by state authority, for the government of the Citizens.

At this point in time, I want you to remember three points from Justinian's "Resurrected" Roman Empire:

- 1) It was resurrected in 554 A.D.
- 2) His *Corpus Juris Civilis* governed the Church and State, and has become the foundation and model for all Western societies ever since.
- 3) The rule of Law was enforced by the Army.

We'll come back to these three points a little bit later. For right now I want to emphasize that the world marveled at the Beast because its 7<sup>th</sup> Head, the Roman Empire, was revived --- in terms of territory and influence. Also, notice how people actually "worship" this Roman system.

(Rev 13:4) "And they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast. And they worshiped the beast, saying, Who *is* like the beast? Who is able to make war with it?"

The very unfortunate thing is that Satan has deceived the whole Western world into believing that the Roman system is the right*eous* way of governing a society. People take great pride in the "civility" of Roman Law and Order. People admire the power of a strong army. People don't know that they are actually worshipping Satan, for it is the Dragon that gave original Rome its authority! And it is the Dragon that gave "Resurrected Rome" its authority. And I tell you on the authority of God's Word that it is the Dragon that will give the final manifestation of Rome its authority!!!

## Resurrected Rome Ruled 1260 Years

Now let's revisit the 3 points I wanted you to remember from Justinian's "Resurrected" Roman Empire:

- 1. It was resurrected in 554 A.D.
- 2. His *Corpus Juris Civilis* governed the Church and State, and has become the foundation and model for all Western societies ever since.
- 3. The rule of Law was enforced by the Army.

The Roman Empire lasted from 31 B.C. to 476 A.D. After the deadly wound was healed in 554 A.D. by Justinian, God told the Apostle John that the revived Beast would continue for 1260 years.

(Rev 13:5) "And a mouth speaking great things was given to it, and blasphemies. And authority was given to it to continue forty-two months."

42 months x 30 days per month = 1260 days. Using the day for a year principle = 1260 years (Ezek 4:6). 554 A.D. -1814 A.D. = 1260 years. What happened in 1814 A.D.? Napoleon Bonaparte, Emperor of "Resurrected Rome" was disposed, thus ending 1260 years of the "healed Beast". Says Dr. West in his book Modern History, page 377, "So closed a government that dated from Augustus Caesar [31 B.C.]." What did it do during its 42 prophetic months?

(Rev 13:6-10) "And it opened its mouth in blasphemy toward God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle, and those dwelling in Heaven. And it was given to it to war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given to it over every tribe and tongue and nation. And all dwelling on the earth will worship it, those whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain, from the foundation of the world. If anyone has an ear, let him hear. He who leads into captivity will go into captivity. If anyone will kill with the sword, he must be killed by a sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints."

I'm going to describe just a little bit of the persecution of the saints during this period. A document issued by Pope Innocent IV in 1252 A.D. entitled "Ad exstirpanda" stated that heretics were to be "crushed like venomous snakes" *by civil authorities*. This was the beginning of the infamous Inquisition. "The 'Ad exstirpanda' remained a fundamental document of the Inquisition, renewed or reinforced by several Popes, e.g. Alexander IV (1254-61), Clement IV (1265-68), Nicholas IV (1288-92), Boniface VIII (1294-1303), and others. *The civil authorities were enjoined by the popes*, under pain of excommunication, *to execute the legal sentences* that condemned impenitent heretics to the stake." {Babylon Mystery Religion, pg. 105, by Ralph Woodrow}.

One of the most popular methods of torture was the use of the "rack", a long table on which the accused was tied by the hands and feet, and stretched by rope until joints were dislocated. Another torture tool was the "iron virgin", a hollow instrument the size and shape of a woman. Knives were arranged in the "iron virgin" in such a way that when the accused was enclosed in its embrace it would lacerate the body causing them to slowly bleed to death after suffering great pain. This torture tool was sprayed with "holy water" and inscribed with the Latin words meaning, "Glory be only to God." {Ibid, pg 108}.

In 1209 A.D., 60,000 heretics were killed in the city of Beziers. In 1211 A.D., 100,000 protestors were slaughtered in the city of Lavaur and surrounding areas as the Inquisitors attended high mass in the morning, then proceeded to massacre people in the afternoon and evening. In 1572 A.D., 10,000 Huguenots were slain in Paris on "St. Bartholomew's Day". The French king went to mass to give thanks, while Pope Gregory XIII went to the Church of St. Louis to give thanks! {Ibid, pg 108}. Time fails me to tell the rest of the story.

### The Two-Horned Beast

Why did God describe the "healed Beast" as lasting 1260 years? It is because Resurrected Rome was greatly influenced by another Beast. Who is that other Beast?

(Rev 13:11-12) "I saw another beast coming up out of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb, but he spoke like a dragon. And it exercises all the authority of the first beast before him, and causes the earth and those dwelling in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed."

We've already defined a "Beast" in this context as a government. This government looks like a lamb, but spoke like a dragon. Christ is called the "Lamb of God", and Satan is called the Dragon. In other words, this government appears to be Christian but is really ruled by Satan! In 2 Corinthians 11:14, we find Satan is transformed into an "Angel of Light". According to Rev 12:9, he has the ability to deceive the whole world. How? In 2 Cor 11:13 and 15, Satan has his ministers who pretend to be ministers of righteousness, but are actually false apostles, and deceitful workers of iniquity. This is a hard saying to swallow, but the plain truth is that Satan has deceived the whole world in great measure through false Christianity!!! The two-horned Beast is a Satan-inspired government / kingdom masquerading as the Kingdom of God!!!

Christ did NOT set up a government / kingdom at His First Coming on Earth. After His resurrection the disciples asked Him if He would at that time restore the Kingdom, but He did not (Acts 1:6). The Church is NOT the Kingdom of God. Because some thought it was, Jesus spoke the parable of Luke 19:11-27 to show that He must first ascend to His Father's throne in Heaven to receive the Kingdom of God, then bring it back to Earth at His Second Coming. But remember that Satan is a deceiver, and he has deceived the whole world into believing that his church is the Kingdom of God on Earth.

I'm going to speak some truth now that might hurt some feelings, but God says that better are the faithful wounds of a friend than the deceitful kisses of an enemy. The love of God that is in me flowing out to you is given so that you may escape the Mark of the Beast! My comments will be about a false Christian system. My comments are not intended to condemn the majority of people that follow this system; most are probably good people --- they're just deceived. Satan is a deceiver, and the best way for him to deceive people that are getting close to worshipping God in spirit and in truth is to put a tree mixed with good and evil in their midst. In other words, Satan is clever enough to counterfeit God's true Church in an appealing manner, and then give the counterfeit church the backing of the civil government so that can keep everyone in line.

Let's start with a review of Rev 13:11-12.

"I saw another beast coming up out of the earth". [This describes the rise to power of a kingdom or government = the rise of the Catholic Church and the Papacy to preeminence in the Roman Empire --- and thus the world, during the time when Justinian restored the Roman Empire to Imperialism].

"It had two horns like a lamb, but he spoke like a dragon". [2 horns means it rules like a civil government and a church government; it appears to be a lamb but is really a dragon, meaning, it masquerades as the Church of God when really it's the synagogue of Satan. This is a church that is filled with abominable and idolatrous practices].

"And it exercises all the authority of the first beast before him" ... [The Catholic Church has all the authority of the resurrected Roman Empire],

"and causes the earth and those dwelling in it to worship the first beast" ... [The Catholic Church influences many people to worship resurrected Rome],

"whose deadly wound was healed". [The 1<sup>st</sup> beast is clearly the Roman Empire resurrected by Justinian in 554 A.D. From Rev. 13:5 we know that Resurrected Rome lasted for 1260 years].

Consequently, we now know that a *religious government* exercised authority over the world <u>in</u> <u>conjunction with</u> a *civil government* of Rome for 1260 years! Has there ever been a union like this of Church and State over "Resurrected Rome"? Indeed there was! And only one!

There are 2 slightly different 1260 year time periods that prove this prophecy refers to the Catholic Church as it wielded great influence in the Roman empire. The first time period starts in 533 A.D when Justinian published an edict, and at the same time addressed a letter to Pope John II, in which he put himself and the empire under the dominion of the Pope and acknowledged the Pope to be the head of the church. 1260 years later in 1792 A.D., Napoleon published an edict named "Code Napoleon", in which the Pope was dishonored and removed as the head of the church. The second time period starts in 554 A.D. when Justinian becomes emperor, and ends in 1814 A.D. when Napoleon was removed as emperor. So the two witnesses of time testify that the two-horned Beast (the Roman Catholic Church) ruled with the healed Beast for 42 prophetic months or 1260 prophetic days = 1260 years!

In review and summary of Rev 13:1-12, 7 points have emerged:

- 1) The 7<sup>th</sup> Head with 10 Horns is the Roman Empire.
- 2) The original Roman Empire lasted from 31 B.C. to 476 A.D. when it was wounded to death.
- 3) The Roman Empire was resurrected by Justinian in 554 A.D. when its deadly wound was healed.
- 4) Resurrected Rome lasted for 1260 years, ending in 1814 A.D. when Napoleon Bonaparte was dethroned.
- 5) The two-horned Beast (Catholic Church) ruled with the healed Beast (Roman Empire) for 1260 years from 533 1792 A.D.
- 6) The two-horned Beast is a false Christian Church empowered by Satan the Devil.
- 7) Together they persecuted protestors, some of whom were a part of the true Christian Church.

There's more proof to come regarding the unholy marriage of church and state.

# Image of the Beast

(Rev 13:13-14) The two-horned Beast (the Catholic Church) "does great wonders, so that it makes fire come down from the heaven onto the earth in the sight of men. And it deceives those dwelling on the earth, because of the miracles which were given to it to do before the beast [Resurrected Rome], saying to those dwelling on the earth that they should **make an image of the beast** who had the wound by a sword and lived."

What is an image? The dictionary says a "likeness," a "copy, representation, model, semblance, counterpart." So here is a great church saying, "Let us make a model, or counterpart, of the civil Roman government". Therefore, **the image** of the *Roman Empire* **is the Catholic Church**! Isn't it interesting that Catholic Church even calls itself the *Roman* Catholic Church! To be perfectly clear, let me express this 4 different ways:

- 1. The two-horned Beast is made in the likeness of the first Beast
- 2. The two-horned Beast formed **a church government that is a copy of** *the civil government* of the Beast whose deadly wound was healed.
- 3. The Roman Catholic Church is modeled after the Resurrected Roman Empire.
- 4. The Catholic Church is the Image of the Beast!

And virtually all humanly devised church government has derived its format from this image of the beast! Jesus Christ proclaimed the Kingdom, or government of God — a divine government by the will of God and by the Law of God — not paganized human government by the will of man and man-made laws. Christ's Church includes all Spirit-begotten saints who have and are led by the Holy Spirit. Christ is its only head, and His Kingdom is not of this world!

"The first pope, in the real sense of the word, was Leo I (440-461 A.D.)," says the Cyclopedia of Biblical, Theological, and Ecclesiastical Literature, Vol. 7, page 629. To him the form of government of the Roman Empire was the most marvelous thing on earth. It became an obsession. He applied its principles to the church, organized the church into a government, forming the papacy. Says Myers' Ancient History: "During the reign of Leo I, the Church set up, within the Roman Empire, an ecclesiastical state [government] which, in its constitution and its administrative system, was shaping itself upon the imperial MODEL." The Encyclopedia Britannica calls it an ecclesiastical world empire!

Rome had an Emperor. The Catholic Church has a Pope.
Rome had a Senate. The Catholic Church has a senate of Cardinals
Rome had a sovereign empire. The Catholic Church has a sovereign city --- Vatican City.
Rome ruled the world. The Roman Catholic Church ruled Rome.
Rome persecuted dissenters to death. Catholics persecuted "heretics" to death.

Of course, many of these "heretics" were simply protesting many of the abominable and idolatrous beliefs and practices of the Catholic Church. These protestors became known as Protestants. And Protestants were doing the right thing in terms of protesting against false Christianity, because God instructs us to "come out of her, my people" (Rev. 18:4). Unfortunately, Protestants only came part of the way out of false Christianity.

In the next section of this article I'm going to show you some of the parts of Catholicism that Protestants came out of, and then in the following section I'm going to show you what God says about the fact that Protestantism has not totally divested itself of the idolatrous and pagan practices of her "mother" --- the Catholic Church.

# **CATHOLIC BELIEFS & PRACTICES**

Most Catholic beliefs and practices are bad, but most Catholic believers are good. The same can be said about Muslims, Buddhists and Atheists. We must worship God in spirit AND in truth!

Below is a summary of a few of the Catholic Church's Bad Beliefs and Putrid Practices that Protestants have come out of:

**Mary Worship**. It diminishes the role of Jesus. Catholics are taught that the reason for praying to Mary is that she can take the petition to her son, Yahshua; and since she is his *mother*, He will answer the request for her sake. The inference is that Mary is more compassionate and merciful than her son. "Saint" Alphonsus Liguori is one of the strongest supporters of this view. Further attempts to exalt Mary can be seen in the doctrine of the "immaculate conception." This doctrine was pronounced by Pope Pius IX when he wrote that "in the first instant of her conception [the Blessed Virgin Mary] ... was preserved exempt from all stain of original sin." But of course, there is only one person who never sinned --- and that is Jesus! (See Catholic Encyclopedia article at http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/07674d.htm).

**Popes are the Vicars (replacements) of Christ**. It diminishes the role of the Holy Spirit. Vicar of Christ is a title of the pope implying his supreme and universal primacy, both of honor and of jurisdiction, over the Church of Christ. The pope is the head of the church on earth. Pope Innocent III declared that Christ ordained the Roman Pontiffs as successors of the apostle Peter, whom Catholics believe was the first head of the Church. But of course, Christ is the Head of the Church, and He guides it through the Holy Spirit --- not a man! (See Catholic Encyclopedia article at http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/15403b.htm).

**Papal Infallibility**. It diminishes the role of the Bible. The Vatican Council has defined as "a divinely revealed dogma" that "the Roman Pontiff, when he speaks ex cathedra --- that is, when in the exercise of his office as pastor and teacher of all Christians, by virtue of his supreme Apostolic authority, a doctrine of faith or morals to be held by the whole Church --- is, by reason of the Divine assistance promised to him in blessed Peter, possessed of that infallibility with which the Divine Redeemer wished His Church to be endowed in defining doctrines of faith and morals; and consequently that such definitions of the Roman Pontiff are irreformable of their own nature". (See Catholic Encyclopedia article at http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/07790a.htm).

The doctrine of Indulgences and the practice of selling Indulgences are both hideous.

Indulgences. It diminishes the sacrifice of Jesus. Indulgence is the remission of the *temporal punishment* due to sin that has been forgiven, which remission is granted by the Church through the application of the superabundant merits of Christ *and of the saints*". This requirement must be fulfilled either in the present life or in the world to come, i.e., in Purgatory. In other words, the good deeds of one person could be used to pay off the debt of another person in order to avoid punishment in this life. Purgatory is a temporary place where "dead" people go while awaiting someone to pay off their debt since it wasn't done while they were "alive". You can see how this idiotic idea could easily be further perverted by the literal sale of indulgences. It became big business within the church of the Middle Ages. Pope Boniface VIII declared a jubilee for the year 1300 and offered liberal indulgences to those who would make a pilgrimage to St. Peter's Basillica. An estimated 2 million people came within that year and deposited such treasure that two priest with rakes were kept busy day and night raking in the money. In 1450, Thomas Gascoigne, Chancellor of Oxford Univ., complained that the indulgence seller would wander over the land and issue a letter of pardon, sometimes for a glass of beer, sometimes for the hire of a harlot. As the Catholic Encyclopedia says, the practice soon became a fruitful source of evil as mercenary ecclesiastics sought a means of financial gain. Abuses were widespread. (See Catholic Encyclopedia article at http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/07783a.htm).

**The Inquisition** was the investigation and punishment of "heresy". It lasted from 1252 – 1834 A.D., claiming the lives of approximately 60 million people! But even before this time, many Catholic authorities caused civil authorities to persecute and murder those who opposed its doctrines and honor. Besides the earlier details written in this article about the Inquisition, there's a plethora of information at your public library and on the Internet. You need to understand this period of history because it will happen again in the very near future. This is what The Mark of the Beast is all about!

## PROSTESTANT BELIEFS & PRACTICES - Christmas

In Revelation 18:4, God warns of false Christianity, saying, "come out of her, my people". Protestants came out of Catholicism in protest against beliefs like the Pope is the Vicar of Christ (head of the church); Papal Infallibility; and the Immaculate Conception --- and worship --- of Mary. Unfortunately, Protestant only came part of the way out of false Christianity. Many Protestant beliefs and practices are bad, but most Protestant believers are good. The same can be said about Catholics, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists and Atheists. But being good isn't good enough, for we must worship God in spirit AND in truth!

Below is a summary of a few of the Catholic Church's Bad Beliefs and Putrid Practices that Protestants have NOT come out of.

**Sun Worship** is still practiced by Protestants. I don't mean worship of the Son of God in Heaven; I mean worship of the Sun that God created in the sky. How is Sun worship practiced by Protestants?

The teaching that Jesus Christ was born on December 25<sup>th</sup> is nothing more than repackaged Sun Worship. Jesus Christ was born around mid-to-late September. But because pagan Romans worshipped the Sun, they celebrated the winter *sol*stice, which occurs on December 21<sup>st</sup>, and is the time when the Sun began to come back to the earth, so to speak. To the Romans, the winter solstice was the birthday of the Sun! So after Rome became "christianized" by Emperor Constantine in the 4<sup>th</sup> century A.D., in order to appease the pagans and gain more Christians, Rome proclaimed the winter solstice as the birth of the Son in the Third Heaven. Listen to what the Catholic Encyclopedia says: "Christmas was not among the earliest festivals of the Church. Irenaeus and Tertullian omit it from their lists of feasts." "The well-known solar feast ... of Dies Natalis Invicti Solis [Nativity of the Unconquered Sun], celebrated on 25 December, has a strong claim on the responsibility for our December date." "The earliest connecting of the births of Christ and the sun" says this: "O, how wonderfully acted Providence that on that day on which that Sun was born . . . Christ should be born."" "Tertullian had to assert that Sol was not the Christians' God; Augustine denounces the heretical identification of Christ with Sol." [http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/03724b.htm].

Now you may say, well that was then, and this is now. I don't worship the Sun, I worship the Son. But listen to what God says. "So says Yahweh, Do not learn the way of the pagans, and do not bow down at the signs of the heavens ... For the customs of the people  $are \underline{vain}$ ; as an example, they cut trees out of the forest with the axe, ... Then adorn it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and hammers, so that it will not wobble. These trees are like a rounded post, and they cannot speak. They must surely be lifted, because they cannot walk. Do not be afraid of them; for they cannot do evil or good, for it is not in them. *There is* none like You, O Yahweh; You are great, and Your name is great in might ... For fear belongs to You ... But they are all at once foolish and animal-like; the tree is an example of vanities." (Jer 10:2-8).

Now you may say, well that was in the Old Testament. But listen to what God says in the New Testament. "Yahshua said to them, Isaiah prophesied of you hypocrites, when he wrote, "This people honors Me with *their* lips, but their heart is far from Me. They worship Me in <u>vain</u>, teaching *for* doctrines the commandments of men." For laying aside the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men...". Do you think it's okay to set aside the commandment of God, so that you may keep your own tradition?" (Mar 7:6-9). What commandment were they laying aside? "Thou shall have no other gods except me." (Exo 20:3). This is the 1<sup>st</sup> Commandment.

There are other aspects of Sun Worship that Protestants have not come out of.

## PROSTESTANT BELIEFS & PRACTICES - Easter

At the Easter season it is not uncommon for Christians to attend sunrise services. It is assumed that it honors Christ because he rose from the dead on Easter Sunday just as the sun was rising. But the resurrection did not actually occur at sunrise, for it was vet DARK when Mary Magdalene came to the tomb, and it was already empty! (John 20:1). After all, Jesus said he would be in the heart of the earth for 3 DAYS AND 3 NIGHTS --- not 1½ days. Since Jesus was put in the tomb just before sunset, he rose from the tomb just before sunset --- not just before sunrise. A detailed study of the scriptures reveals that Jesus was crucified on Passover, which in the year of His death came on a Wednesday. That means the 1st DAY & NIGHT was from Wednesday evening to Thursday evening. The 2<sup>nd</sup> DAY & NIGHT was from Thursday evening to Friday evening. And the 3<sup>rd</sup> DAY & NIGHT was from Friday evening to Saturday evening. So obviously, when Mary came to the tomb before sunrise on Sunday, Jesus was already resurrected and gone from the tomb. Therefore, the tradition of an Easter sunrise resurrection of Jesus the Christ is a myth based on pagan practices. This does not mean that Christian people today intentionally worship the sun in their Easter sunrise services. But such practices, being without scriptural example, do indicate that mixtures with paganism have been made by Catholics and retained by Protestants. It is not necessary to take my word for it, for in numerous places The Catholic Encyclopedia comes right out and says so. The following quote is a perfect example. "The custom may have its origin in paganism, for a great many pagan customs celebrating the return of spring, gravitated to Easter"! [http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/05224d.htm]

Where did Easter observance come? Did Peter or Paul ever conduct an Easter sunrise service? The answer is NO! The word "Easter" appears once in the King James Version, in Acts 2:4. The word translated "Easter" here is *pascha*, which is—as ALL scholars know—the Greek word for *Passover* and has no connection with the English "Easter." It is well known that the word "Easter" comes from the name of a pagan goddess who represented the rising light of day, and the spring season. "Easter" is nothing more than a form of the goddess Estre (European), Astarte (Greek), and Ishtar (Babylonian and Assyrian).

According to legend, after Tammuz was slain, he descended into the underworld. But through the weeping of his "mother", Ishtar, he was mystically revived in *spring*. "The resurrection of Tammuz through Ishtar's grief was dramatically represented *annually* in order to insure the success of the crops and the fertility of the people. Each year men and women had to grieve with Ishtar over the death of Tammuz and celebrate the god's return in order to win anew her favor and her benefits!" [Smith; Man & His Gods, pg. 86]. Ishtar was their savior. Even the Old Testament Church, the Israelites, adopted the doctrines and rites of the annual pagan spring festival, for Ezekiel speaks of "women weeping for Tammuz" (Ezek 8:14). Included in that was sun worship. Ezekiel 8:16 says, "He brought me into the inner court of the Lord's house, and, behold, at the door of the temple of the Lord, between the porch and the altar, were about 25 men, with their backs toward the temple of the Lord, and their faces toward the EAST; and they worshipped the *sun* toward the EAST".

Because Jesus' resurrection was in the spring of the year, it was not too difficult for the New Testament Church of the 4<sup>th</sup> century, Roman Catholicism, to merge the pagan spring festival into Christianity. In speaking of this merger, the *Encyclopedia Britannica* says, "Christianity ... incorporated in its celebration of [Easter] ... *many* of the heathen rites and customs of the spring festival"! [Vol. 7, pg. 859]. *The Catholic Encyclopedia* very honestly points out that "writers in the 4<sup>th</sup> century were prone to describe *many* practices as of Apostolic institution which certainly had *no claim to be so regarded*." [Vol. 3, pg. 484].

Catholic scholars know and recognize that there are customs within their church that were borrowed from paganism. [Ibid., vol. 11, pg. 390]. But they reason that many things, though originally pagan, can be Christianized. It all sounds very logical, yet the right guideline is found in the Bible: "Take heed ... don't ask about their pagan gods, saying: How did these nations serve their gods? I will do likewise. You shall not do so unto the Lord your God ... Whatever I command you to observe, you shall not add to it" (Deut. 12:30-32).

# PROSTESTANT BELIEFS & PRACTICES - Sunday

The main calendar used in the world today is known as the Gregorian Calendar. It is based on the Roman calendar that was in existence for hundreds of years before the Christian era. In Latin, the official language of Rome, Sunday comes from **dies solis** or "day of the sun". The sun was the main god of the heathen even as far back as ancient Babylon. Since pagans worshiped the sun on Sunday, the compromising Roman church leaders of the 4<sup>th</sup> century realized that if they changed the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday, it would accomplish two things: 1) it would separate them from the Jews who were hated by many of the Romans and who, along with Jesus and the earliest Christians, had been worshiping on the 7<sup>th</sup> Day of the week; and 2) it would make it much easier for the pagans to come into the church if Christians met on the same day as them.

When Roman Emperor Constantine became a Christian, Christianity became the state religion. As thousands of sun-worshipers flocked into the church, it wasn't long before they had a dominating influence. Most of his top officials had been sun-worshipers. Because the Roman government was becoming unstable, Constantine consulted with church officials in Rome. Yielding to their suggestion, Constantine, on March 7, 321 A.D., passed the first Sunday law. "Let all the judges and town people, and the occupation of all trades <u>rest on the</u> venerable day of the sun". [Recorded in Justinian's Corpus Juris Civilis Cod, lib. 3, tit. 12, Lex. 3.]

Do church authorities acknowledge that there is no command in the Bible for the sanctification of Sunday? They do! Look at this. The Catholic Cardinal Gibbons, in Faith of Our Fathers, pg. 111, said, "You may read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and you will not find a single line authorizing the sanctification of Sunday. The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of Saturday, a day which we never sanctify." "The Catholic church," declared Cardinal Gibbons, "by virtue of her divine mission changed the day from Saturday to Sunday." [Catholic Mirror, 9/28/1963]. Listen to a Doctrinal Catechism, by Stephen Keenan, pg. 174. "Question - Have you any other way of proving that the {Roman Catholic} church has power to institute festivals of precept? "Answer - Had she not such power, she could not have done that in which all modern religionists agree with her - she could not have substituted the observance of Sunday, the 1st day of the week, for the observance of Saturday, the 7<sup>th</sup> day, a change for which there is no scriptural authority." Again we find: "Question - Which is the Sabbath day? "Answer - Saturday is the Sabbath day. "Question -Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday? "Answer - We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church, in the Council of Laodicea (A.D. 364), transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday." [The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine, pg. 50, third edition]. Also in writing is this: "The Bible says, 'Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day.' The Catholic Church says, No! By my divine power I abolish the Sabbath day, and command you to keep the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the week. And lo, the entire civilized world bows down in reverent obedience to the command of the holy Catholic Church!" [Father Enright, Redemptoral College, Kansas City, Mo., as taken from History of the Sabbath, pg. 802]. Lastly, Harold Lindsell, a Protestant, and former editor of Christianity Today, said in the 11/5/1976 publication, "There is nothing in Scripture that requires us to keep Sunday rather than Saturday as a holy day." Many more honest and educated Protestants could be quoted as proof that they are bowing down to the command of the Catholic Church regarding Sunday / day of the Sun observance, but I think you get the point. Protestants have come out of some of the Catholic professions and practices, but not all.

In this light, how does God view Protestantism? You will be shocked to see what the Bible reveals! Understanding this is a very important key in avoiding the Mark of the Beast.

# BABYLON, MOTHER OF HARLOTS!

Rev 13:3-10 Describes the first Beast = The Resurrected Roman Empire.

Rev 13:11-14 Describes the second Beast = The Roman Catholic Church.

The Roman Catholic Church is a model of The Resurrected Roman Empire. Therefore, The Roman Catholic Church is THE IMAGE OF THE BEAST!

As you know, Protestants came out of the Catholic Church in protest against *some* of her beliefs and practices. Unfortunately, Protestants have not come *all* of the way out of Catholicism. And God has some very unflattering words for Protestantism. I hope you will awaken to this harsh truth and repent of your bad beliefs and putrid practices! How does God describe Protestantism?

(Rev 17:1-5) "One of the 7 angels who had the 7 vials came and talked with me, saying, Come here, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot [v. 18 interprets the great harlot as "the great city which has a kingdom over the kings of the earth" = Vatican City] sitting on many waters [v. 15 interprets many waters as "peoples, multitudes, nations and tongues"], with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and became drunk with the wine of her fornication. He carried me away into a desert by the Spirit. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet-colored beast having 7 heads and ten horns, filled with names of blasphemy. The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet. She was gilded with gold, precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication. On her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

Since the woman, the Catholic Church, is the MOTHER of *HARLOTS*, it means that the Protestant Churches are the *HARLOTS!!!* Protestants are spiritual descendants of Catholics, for Protestantism came out of Catholicism --- but only part of the way!

Interestingly, God describes Catholicism as a "Mystery". The Greek word for mystery is "musterion". It means to shut the mouth; to keep a secret (through the idea of silence imposed by initiation into religious rites). The Catholic Church is known for discouraging their congregants from reading the Bible, and for having services in Latin. Beyond a shadow of a doubt, Catholics, by and large, are in the dark when it comes to knowing God's inspired Word. Truly we can say that the Bible is a mystery to Catholics --- and they don't seem to mind. On the other hand, the Protestant Church prides itself on reading the Scriptures, and conducting services in a language that can be understood. Yet, many either don't know that their beliefs are nothing more than idolatrous pagan "mysteries" repackaged in Christian-sounding terms, or else they don't seem to mind. So both Catholicism and Protestantism are abominable to God because they are steeped in confusing mysteries. Did you know that Babylon means confusion?

In summary, the "woman" is called a "great harlot", and the "mother of harlots", and the "mother of abominations", and "mystery Babylon the great". Catholicism is meant by all these descriptions. And here is another way of expressing it in familial terms. Catholicism is like a married woman who commits adultery frequently and flagrantly. And she has given birth to daughters that follow her detestable lead. Protestantism is her offspring. These sexually permissive daughters are also abominable in God's sight. This is not to say that God hates Catholics and Protestants, but it is to say that God hates the false teachings and pagan practices that they promote. God said in the Old Testament: "When you come into the Promised Land, don't learn to do the abominations of those nations. Yahweh your God will raise up to you a Prophet ... to Him shall you listen" (Deu 18:9, 15). God said in the New Testament: "Isaiah prophesied of you hypocrites, writing, "This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. They worship Me in vain, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." For laying aside the commandment of God, you hold onto the tradition of men..." (Mar 7:6-8). Exchanging God's way of worship for traditional pagan ways of worship is harlotry. Repent! Worship God in Spirit and in TRUTH!

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THE NUMBER OF THE BEAST

(Rev 13:15-18) "Power was given to [the 2-horned beast] to give life to the *image of the beast*, so that the *image of the beast* might both speak, and might cause as many as would not worship the *image of the beast* to be killed. And <u>it causes</u> all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, **to receive a mark on their right hand, or in their foreheads**, so that no one could **buy or sell** except those having the **mark**, or the **name** of the beast, or the **number** of its name. Here is the wisdom. Let him that has understanding **count the number** of the beast, **for it is the number of a man**. And **its number is 666.**"

- 1. The Catholic Church is the Image of the Beast.
- 2. The Beast is the Roman Empire.
- 3. The Catholic Church causes people to be martyred if they don't worship the Church.
- 4. The Catholic Church causes people from all walks of life to receive the Mark of the Beast.
- 5. The Mark of the Beast is received in ones right hand or in ones forehead.
- 6. The purpose of the Mark is to stop people from buying and/or selling if they won't comply with the Church.
- 7. The Mark of the Beast is the same as the Name of the Beast, which is the same as the Number of the Beast.
- 8. We are told to count the Number of the Beast.
- 9. The Number of the Beast is the number of a Man.
- 10. The Number of the Beast is 666.

Count is from the Greek word psephizo, pronounced psay-fid'-zo, meaning to use pebbles in enumeration, that is, to compute something. We are told to compute the number based on the name. By way of analogy, it's like telling a person to call 1 (800) BABYLON. The name BABYLON is decoded by using the equivalent numbers on the phone's keypad, i.e.  $\mathbf{B}=2$ ;  $\mathbf{A}=2$ ;  $\mathbf{B}=2$ ;  $\mathbf{Y}=9$ ;  $\mathbf{L}=5$ ;  $\mathbf{O}=6$ ;  $\mathbf{N}=6$ . The next step would be to compute, or count up, the numbers. In this case 2+2+2+9+5+6+6=32. So let's apply this principle to the Beast.

The Beast is the Roman Empire. Therefore, the **Name** we must use is **ROMAN**. In the Greek language, the language in which the Apostle John wrote the book of Revelation, the name Roman is spelled **LATEINOS**. Now let's decode this name using the equivalent Greek **Numbers**.

L=30; A=1; T=300; E=5; I=10; N=50; O=70; S=200.

The next step is to compute, or count up, the numbers. 30+1+300+5+10+50+70+200=666.

Is this **Number** of the Beast also the **Number** of a Man? Yes! The founder and first king of Rome was Romulus; the Roman Empire was named after him! Do you know what else this means? It means that every citizen of the Roman Empire is called a ROMAN / LATEINOS.

It is no coincidence that the Name of the KINGDOM, its founder and first KING, and each citizen of the Kingdom, counts to exactly 666! Certainly the Mark of the Beast --- or the identifying sign of the Beast --- has been identified on this program.

Now let's discuss why this Mark is so dangerous.

## A SYSTEM OF DISOBEDIENCE

Why is the "Mark of the Beast" so dangerous? Before I answer that, let me restate 4 facts:

- 1. In Rev. 13, the "Beast" is identified as the Roman Empire.
- 2. In Rev. 13, the "Image of the Beast" is identified as the Roman Catholic Church.
- 3. In Rev. 13, the "Mark of the Beast", 666, is identified as the sum of the numeric value of the Greek letters in the name Roman {L=30; A=1; T=300; E=5; I=10; N=50; O=70; S=200. 30+1+300+5+10+50+70+200=666}. This "Mark" as we shall see, represents a SYSTEM OF DISOBEDIENCE AGAINST THE ONE TRUE GOD!
- 4. In Rev. 17, the "Harlot" daughters of the Roman Catholic Church are identified as <u>Protestant</u> churches; unfortunately, they have retained the spiritual DNA of the "Mother of Harlots".

By no means am I saying that every Roman citizen, or every Roman Catholic, or every Protestant is a bad person; in fact, probably most are good people. The same can be said of Jews, Muslims, Buddhists and Atheists --- most of them are probably good people. The problem is that their beliefs are bad --- their system of worship is a System of Disobedience against the One True God. And that is the same with Romanism, Catholicism and Protestantism --- their system of worship is a SYSTEM OF DISOBEDIENCE against the One True God!

Are you ready to hear from The One True God how He feels about this SYSTEM OF DISOBEDIENCE? Listen to what He says in Rev 14:9-10. "If anyone worships the beast and its image, and receives a mark in his forehead or in his hand, he also will drink of the wine of *the wrath of God*, having been mixed undiluted in the cup of His indignation." Please also listen to God speak in Col 3:6. "On account of these things *the wrath of God* comes upon the people of disobedience."

So the people of disobedience are those that worship the Beast and its Image instead of worshipping the One True God. And the people of disobedience accept the Mark of the Beast in their FOREHEADS or in their HANDS. What does this mean? The forehead represents our Thoughts; the hand represents our Actions. Therefore, the Mark --- or identifying sign --- of the Beast has to do with its influence over our **Worship** and our **Work**. And make no mistake about it: the Beast, under the influence of the Dragon, deceitfully influences us to disobey The One True God's Commandment relating to **Worship** and **Work!** 

Do you know from the Scriptures --- the Word of God --- what Commandment relates to **Worship** and **Work?** Don't listen to what your minister says just because he or she seems to know the Bible. Don't listen to me whether or not you think I know the Bible. Listen to what God says because He "wrote" the Bible.

Before God formed the Nation of Israel ... before God formed any nation ... before Adam and Eve gave birth to people who would form nations ... God gave Adam and Eve a commandment relating to Worship and Work. (Gen 2:1-3) "God finished the heavens and the earth. On the 7th day God ended His work which He had made. And He rested on the 7th day from all His work which He had made. And God blessed the 7th day and sanctified it, because in it He had rested from all His work which He had made." Did you hear the word work? Yes you did. Did you hear the word worship? Yes you did when you heard "blessed" and "sanctified". The Hebrew word for "blessed" is barak, meaning, "to kneel before God as an act of adoration." The Hebrew word for "sanctified" is qadash, meaning, to make holy and observe as holy. Clearly, God set apart the 7th Day as a time for mankind to rest from his work and spend special time in worship of The One True God. God has a name for this 7th Day; do you know what it is? The answer is found in the Hebrew word for "rested", which is shabath, meaning, "to keep the Sabbath". Do you grasp what these scriptures are telling you? God created the Sabbath, kept the Sabbath, and blessed His "children of obedience" with the opportunity to fellowship with Him in an intimate way on this special day. Do you want to be a "child of obedience" or a "child of disobedience"?

# A SYSTEM OF DISOBEDIENCE (continued)

Historically, the Roman Empire, the Roman Catholic Church, and the Protestant Church have spiritually comingled with each other in branding / marking their followers with putrid pagan practices, slapping Christian-sounding names on them, and teaching people that this honors the One True God! But God calls this SYSTEM OF DISOBEDIENCE ... Idolatry, and Harlotry, and an Abominable stench in His nostrils.

The Protestant churches that came out of Roman Catholicism repudiated many Catholic teachings. Unfortunately, SUNday worship was not one of them. For though they often don't realize it, by continuing in Sunday observance, the Protestant churches acknowledge the supremacy of the Catholic Church over the Bible. This is why the Church of Rome is happy to announce that it changed The LORD's Day from Sabbath to Sunday! What does the Bible say about The LORD's Day? (Mat 12:8) "The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath Day." (Exo 20:10) "The Seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD." What does the Catholic Church say about the Sabbath? Catholic Monsignor Segur wrote, "The observance of Sunday by Protestants is an homage they pay, in spite of themselves, to the authority of the [Catholic] Church" (*Plain Talk About the Protestantism of Today*, p. 213). Does that surprise you? Well listen to this: "Sunday is our MARK of authority. The [Catholic] church is above the Bible, and this transference of Sabbath observance is proof of that fact" (*The Catholic Record*, Sept. 1, 1923). Did you hear that? They said that changing The LORD's Day from Sabbath to Sunday is their "MARK of authority"! This is the hall*mark* ... the trade*mark* ... the main *mark of a system of disobedience*!

According to the Strong's Enhanced Lexicon, the Greek word for "mark" in Rev 13 is "charagma", meaning "a stamp, an imprinted mark... [used] of the mark stamped on the forehead or the right hand as the BADGE of the followers of the [Beast].... [and] the mark branded upon horses" (entry 5480). In other words, a mark is a brand of identification. When you brand something, you are stating that the thing that received the mark belongs to you. Previously we have seen that 666 is the Mark / identifying sign of the Roman Empire (the Beast); and the identifying sign the Roman Catholic Church (the Image of the Beast) in concert with her "harlot daughters" --- the Protestant churches. And now we see that these "systems of disobedience" brand their "children of disobedience" with Sunday observance in defiant disobedience to God's Commandment to observe the Sabbath day as Holy unto the LORD. God says to rest from work and spend extra time in worship on the Sabbath day which He made for that purpose. Catholic and Protestant churches say to rest from work and spend extra time in worship on the Sun's day. They say that the timing of the LORD's Day has been changed from Sabbath to Sunday. But who changed the time? They did. Look at this astounding prophecy. (Dan 7:25) "And he [the Beast] shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and plot to change times and laws." Now let's look at the astounding fulfillment of this prophecy. "The earliest recognition of the observation of Sunday as a legal duty is a constitution of Constantine on March 7, 321 A.D. enacting that all courts of justice, inhabitants of towns, and workshops were to be at rest on Sunday..." (Encyclopedia Britannica, 9<sup>th</sup> edition, article Sunday). The Catholic Cardinal Gibbons, in Faith of Our Fathers, pg. 111, said, "You may read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and you will not find a single line authorizing the sanctification of Sunday. The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of Saturday, a day which we never sanctify." "The Catholic church," declared Cardinal Gibbons, "by virtue of her divine mission changed the day from Saturday to Sunday." [Catholic Mirror, 9/28/1963]. "We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church, in the Council of Laodicea (A.D. 364), transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday." [The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine, pg. 50, 3rd edition]. Also in writing is this: "The Bible says, 'Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day.' The Catholic Church says, No! By my divine power I abolish the Sabbath day, and command you to keep the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the week. And lo, the entire civilized world bows down in reverent obedience to the command of the holy Catholic Church!" [Father Enright, Redemptoral College, Kansas City, Mo., as taken from History of the Sabbath, pg. 802]. In summary, the Mark of the Beast is a figurative brand of disobedience to God, marking those who refuse to keep God's Commandments.

The Mark of the Beast is a figurative brand of disobedience to God, marking those who refuse to keep God's Commandments.

In the Council of Trent (1545 A.D.), the church leaders ruled that "tradition" is of as great authority as the Bible! They believed that God had given them the authority to change the Bible any way they pleased. By "tradition" they meant human teachings. Look at this shocking statement from an official decretal -The Pope has power to change times, to abrogate (change) laws, and to dispense with all things, even the precepts of Christ." Decretal, de Tranlatic Episcop. Jesus said, "But in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." Matthew 15:9. What does the 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment actually say? "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour: But the 7<sup>th</sup> day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God: For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the 7<sup>th</sup> day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it." Exodus 20:8-11.

The Catholic Press said, "Sunday is a Catholic institution, and its claims to observation can be defended only on Catholic principles . . . From beginning to end of Scripture there is not a single passage that warrants the transfer of weekly public worship from the last day of the week to the first." [Sydney, Australia 8/25/1900]. God speaks of the seventh day 126 times in the Old Testament and 62 times in the New. The first day of the week is mentioned only eight times in the New Testament. Look at them carefully.

Matthew 28:1 "In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulcher."

Mark 16:1-2 "And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the *mother* of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him. And very early in the morning the first *day* of the week, they came unto the sepulcher at the rising of the sun."

Mark 16:9 "Now when *Jesus* was risen early the first *day* of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils."

Luke 24:1 "Now upon the first *day* of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulcher, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain *others* with them"

John 20:1 "The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulcher, and saw the stone taken away from the sepulcher."

John 20:19 "It was the evening of the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked because they were afraid of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, "Peace be with you.""

Acts 20:7-8 "Upon the first *day* of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight."

I Corinthians 16:1-2 "Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first *day* of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as *God* hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come."

Not one of these scriptures supports a change from the 7<sup>th</sup> day to the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the week as the Sabbath. Don't you think God would have made such a big change very clear? After all, the Sabbath was more important than Circumcision, and God made it very clear that circumcision of the flesh isn't necessary any more for one to worship God in Spirit and in Truth. God did make it clear that in order to worship Him in Spirit and in Truth that it is necessary to still observe the 7<sup>th</sup> Day Sabbath as He commanded from creation. In Hebrews 4:1-11 "rest" mentioned 9 times. In verse 9 the word is "sabbatismos" = keep the Sabbath.

## WHY IS RECEIVING THE MARK SO DANGEROUS?

The Beast is the Resurrected ROMAN Empire.

The Image of the Beast is the *ROMAN* Catholic Church.

The Mark of the Beast is 666 = LATEINOS = ROMAN. This Mark is the identifying sign of a system! This *ROMAN* <u>SYSTEM</u> of Church & State is a SYSTEM OF DISOBEDIENCE TO GOD!

We know this because the Mark of the Beast is branded upon people's foreheads and right hands.

The forehead represents our Worship; the right hand represents our Work.

Satan, the power behind the 2 Beasts, uses the 2 Beasts to mislead people into disobedience against God. Satan, the "god of this world", commands people to reject God's command i.c.w. Worship & Work.

(Exo 31:13-18) "Moses, Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, Truly you shall keep My sabbaths. For it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, to know that I am Yahweh who sanctifies you. You shall keep the Sabbath therefore, for it is holy to you. Six days may work be done, but on the 7th day this is the sabbath of rest, holy to Yahweh. It is a sign between Me and the sons of Israel forever. For in 6 days Yahweh made the heavens and the earth, and on the 7th day He rested, and was refreshed. And He gave to Moses, when He had made an end of speaking with him upon Mount Sinai, two tablets of the testimony, tablets of stone, written by the finger of God."

The Sabbath is the 4<sup>th</sup> of the 10 Commandments. What does God say about His Commandments? (Deu 6:5-15) "You shall love Yahweh your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words which I command you this day shall be in your heart. And you shall carefully teach them to your sons, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up. And you shall bind them for a sign upon your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. And you shall write them upon the posts of your house, and on your gates. You shall not go after other gods, of the gods of the people all around you, for Yahweh your God is a jealous God among you, lest the wrath of Yahweh your God be kindled against you and destroy you from off the face of the earth."

(Rev 14:8-12) "Another angel followed, saying, The great city, Babylon, has fallen, has fallen. If anyone worships the beast and its image, and receives a mark in his forehead or in his hand, he also will drink of the wine of the anger of God, having been mixed undiluted in the cup of His wrath. And he will be tormented by fire and brimstone before the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb. Here is the patience of the saints. Here *are* the ones who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus."

(Rev 18:1-6) "After these things I saw another angel come down from Heaven, having great authority. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great has fallen, has fallen! And I heard another voice from Heaven, saying, Come out of her, My people, that you may not be partakers of her sins, and that you may not receive of her plagues. For her sins joined together, even up to Heaven, and God has remembered her unjust deeds. In the cup which she mixed, mix double to her."

# YOU CAN ESCAPE THE GREAT TRIBULATION W/O RECEIVING THE MARK OF THE BEAST

(Mat 24:15-26) "When you see the Abomination of Desolation standing in the holy place, let those in Judea flee into the mountains; for then shall be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world to this time; no, nor ever shall be. If any man says to you, There is Christ! Do not believe it because false Christs and false Prophets will arise and show great signs and wonders; so much so that, if it were possible, they would deceive even the elect. Therefore if they shall say to you, He is in the desert! Do not go out. Or, He is in the secret rooms! Do not believe it. Remember, I have told you beforehand."

(Rev 13:11-18) "I saw another beast coming up out of the earth [Roman Catholic Church = False Prophet]. It had 2 horns like a lamb, but he spoke like a dragon. And it exercises all the authority of the first beast before him [Roman Empire = False Christ] by causing the earth to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. It does great wonders, so that it makes fire come down from the heaven onto the earth in the sight of men. And it deceives those dwelling on the earth, because of the miracles which were given to it to do before the beast, saying to those dwelling on the earth that they should make an image to the beast who had the wound by a sword and lived. And there was given to it to give a spirit to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast might both speak, and might cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. And it causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark on their right hand, or in their foreheads, even that not any might buy or sell except those having the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of its name --- which is 666."

(Rev 12:12-17) "Woe to the inhabitants of the earth! For the Devil came down to you, having great wrath, knowing that he has only a little time. When the dragon saw that he was cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who bore the man-child. And two wings of a great eagle were given to the woman, so that she might fly into the wilderness [see Exo 19:4], into her place, where she is nourished for a 3 ½ years from the serpent's face. And the serpent cast out of his mouth water like a flood in order to sweep away the woman. But the earth helped the woman by opening its mouth and swallowing up the flood. And the dragon was enraged over the woman, and went to make war with the rest of her seed, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ."

(Rev 7:2-4) "An angel having the seal of the living God shouted to the 4 angels to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, saying, Do not hurt the earth or the sea or the trees until we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. The number of those who were sealed was 144,000." (v. 9) "After these things I saw a great multitude, which no man could number, standing before the throne and the Lamb, clothed with white robes." (Rev 7:14) "These came out of the great tribulation having washed their robes white in the blood of the Lamb."

(Rev 3:7-10) "To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: You have a little strength, but you have kept My Word and have not denied My name. Because you have kept the Word of My patience, I also will keep you from the hour of temptation that will come upon the world, to try those who dwell upon the earth."

(Rev 3:14-19) "To the angel of the church of the Laodicea write: Because you are lukewarm, I will vomit you out of My mouth. Because you say, I am rich and have need of nothing, and do not know that you are wretched poor and naked people, I counsel you to buy from Me gold purified by fire, so that you may be rich; and buy white clothing, so that you may be clothed. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten; therefore be zealous and repent."

## SATAN'S 2 WITNESSES vs. GOD'S 2 WITNESSES

(Rev 16:13-14) "I saw 3 unclean spirits like frogs *come* out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. They are spirits of demons, working miracles, which go forth to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that day, the great day of God Almighty."

(Rev 19:20) "The beast [Roman Empire = gov't of Satan] was taken, and with him the false prophet [Roman Catholic Church and her Protestant daughters = church of Satan] doing signs before it, (by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast), and those who had worshiped his image. The two were thrown alive into the Lake of Fire burning with brimstone." (Rev 20:10) "The Devil was cast into the Lake of Fire and Brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet were."

(Rev 11:3-7) "I will give power to My 2 witnesses, and they will prophesy a 1260 days. These are the 2 olive trees and the 2 lamp stands standing before the God of the earth [Zech 3 & 4 = Joshua {church} and Zerubbabel {gov't}]. If anyone attempts to hurt them, fire proceeds out of their mouth and devours their enemies. These have authority to shut up heaven so that it doesn't rain in the days of their prophecy [1 King 17 & 18 = Elijah {church}]. They also have authority over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with every plague, as often as they desire [Exo 7-12 = Moses {gov't}]. When they complete their testimony, the beast coming up out of the abyss will make war against them and will kill them."

(Mat 5:17-22) "Do not think that I have come to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I have not come to destroy but to fulfill. Until heaven and earth passes away, not one jot or one tittle shall in any way pass from the Law until all is fulfilled. Therefore whoever shall relax one of these commandments in the least bit, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of Heaven. But whoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of Heaven. For I say to you that unless your righteousness shall exceed that of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall in no case enter into the kingdom of Heaven. You have heard that it was said to the ancients, "You shall not kill" --and, "Whoever shall kill shall be liable to the judgment." But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be liable to the judgment."

(Mat 22:36-40) "Master, which is the greatest commandment in the Law? Yahshua said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

The first 4 Commandments tell us how to love God; the last 6 Commandments tell us how to love Mankind. (Mat 19:16-22) "A man came to Yahshua saying, Good Master, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life? Yahshua answered, If you want to enter into life, keep the commandments. He said to Him, Which? Yahshua said, You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not bear false witness, honor your father and mother, and, *you shall love your neighbor as yourself.* The young man said to Him, I have kept all these things from my youth up; what do I lack yet? Jesus said to him, If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you shall have treasure in Heaven. And come, follow Me. But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions."

(Mat 15:3-9) "Yahshua questioned Pharisees, saying, God commanded you to "Honor your father and mother". But you lay aside the commandment of God in order to keep your tradition. Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, saying, "This people draws near to Me with their mouth, and honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. But in vain they worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men."

# THE BEAST & THE FALSE PROPHET UNVEILED

Daniel 7	Daniel 2	Interpretation
4 Beasts	4-Part Image	4 Kingdoms
Lion	Head of Gold	Babylon
Bear	Chest and Arms of Silver	Medo-Persia
Leopard	Stomach and Thighs of Bronze	Greece
4 <sup>th</sup> Beast (like nothing natural)	Legs of Iron; Feet of Iron mixed with Clay	Rome; Rome resurrected
Ancient of Days	The Stone	Kingdom of God

The original Roman Empire lasted from 31 B.C. to 476 A.D. when it was wounded to death. The Roman Empire was resurrected by Justinian in 554 A.D. when its deadly wound was healed. Resurrected Rome lasted for 1260 years, ending in 1814 A.D. when Napoleon Bonaparte was dethroned. The Roman Catholic Church ruled the Roman Empire (healed Beast) for 1260 years from 533 – 1792 A.D. The **two-horned** Beast is made in the likeness of the first Beast. The two-horned Beast formed a church government that is a copy of the civil government of the Beast whose deadly wound was healed. The Roman Catholic Church is modeled after the Roman Empire. The Roman Catholic Church is the Image of the Beast! This same system is prophesied to rule again. Rev. 17 says: "I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet-colored beast having 7 heads and 10 horns, filled with names of blasphemy. The 7 heads are 7 mountains, on which the woman sits. And the woman whom you saw is the great city (Vatican City) that has a kingdom over the kings of the earth. And the 10 horns that you saw are 10 kings, who have received no kingdom yet, but will receive authority as kings one hour with the beast. These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them." Remember that in Dan. 2 it says that the Kingdom of God will be established at the time when "The Stone" smashes the 10 toes of Nebuchadnezzar's image.

The Beast is the ROMAN Empire; the Image of the Beast is the ROMAN Catholic Church. The Mark of the Beast is the <u>number of the name</u> of the <u>Roman</u> Empire and the <u>Roman</u> Catholic Church. In the Greek language, the language in which the Apostle John wrote the book of Revelation, the name ROMAN is spelled **LATEINOS**. Now let's decode this name using the equivalent Greek **Numbers**. L=30; A=1; T=300; E=5; I=10; N=50; O=70; S=200. By counting up the numbers we get 666!!! 666 identifies a ROMAN CHURCH & STATE SYSTEM THAT'S IN DISOBEDIENCE TO GOD!!!

In Rev. 17 God says of this Woman that rides the Beast, "She has a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication. On her forehead is a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." Since the woman, the Catholic Church, is the MOTHER of HARLOTS, it means that the Protestant Churches are the HARLOTS!!! Protestants are spiritual descendants of Catholics, for Protestantism came out of Catholicism --- but only part of the way! Protestantism, in disobedience to God, bows down to non-Biblical, abominable pagan doctrines, authorized by Catholicism. Namely, Sun worship: in the form of Sunday (day of the Sun) as the LORD's Day; Christmas (winter solstice) as Jesus' birthday; and Easter (Ishtar weeping for Tammuz, and him springing back to life like the Sun in springtime). This is what leading Catholic theologians have written. "Sunday is a Catholic institution, and its claims to observation can be defended only on Catholic principles . . . From beginning to end of Scripture there is not a single passage that warrants the transfer of weekly public worship from the last day of the week to the first." [The Catholic Press, Sydney, Australia 8/25/1900]. "We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church, in the Council of Laodicea (A.D. 364), transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday." [The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine, pg. 50, 3rd edition]. "The observance of Sunday by Protestants is an homage they pay, in spite of themselves, to the authority of the [Catholic] Church" (Plain Talk About the Protestantism of Today, p. 213). "Sunday is our MARK of authority. The [Catholic] church is above the Bible, and this transference of Sabbath observance is proof of that fact" (The Catholic Record, Sept. 1, 1923).