As a Christian Believer, What Determines Whether You Receive the

**Seal of God**

Or The

**Mark of the Beast?**

A Study of Worship Allegiance

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File: SealorBeast
Relationship with Christ

• The Most Important Understanding about our Salvation:
  – We **believe** eternal life is a **gift** from God in **Christ Jesus** and we are justified by **His grace** and **His faith** who paid the price; death, for our transgressions

  Romans 3:21-26; 4:4-5,25; 6:23; Ephesians 2:4-10; Titus 3:4-7 (Is 53; Eze 36:25-27; John 3:3-8,16; 16:8; Rom 5:6-10; 8:1-4, 14-17; 1Cor 15:3-4,20-22; 2Cor 5:14-15,19-21; Gal 1:4; 3:13-14,26; 4:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Col 1:13-14; Heb 8:7-12; 1Pet 1:23; 2Pet 1:3-4; 1John 2:2; 4:10)

• God “sent his angel to show his servants” the future (Rev 22:6) “**Do not despise prophecies.**” 1Thess 5:20
  – **Purpose:** To share the vital necessity of a **character transforming** relationship with **Christ**, namely the Gospel of His sacrifice for all who call Him Lord and Savior (Ps 1:1-2; Matt 20:25-28; Luke 19:17-20; John 20:21; Rom 12:2; 2Cor 3:17-18; Gal 5:22-25; Eph 5:19-21; 6:12-18; Phil 3:7-14; Col 2:6; 1Thess 5:16-23; Heb 10:25; 2Pet 2:9; 3:18; 1John 4:4)
Principles of Bible Study

• Paul’s counsel to Timothy:
  – 16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2Tim 3:16-17 (Ps 119:105; Prov 30:5-6; Is 8:20; John 17:17; 1Thess 2:13; Heb 4:12)
  – for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. 2Pet 1:21

• Bible versions:
  – Use versions with the closest translation to the original language
  • Recommend comparing NKJV (used here), NASB95, KJV, and ESV
  – Concordance sources: www.abibleconcordance.com; www.blueletterbible.org

• Use of Expository study methods (versus Thematic study)
  – This method explores the literal meaning of each word in Scripture and its relationship to other words in its context (exegesis)
“Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.”

Revelation 1:3
What is God’s Seal?

• “2 Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, saying, “Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.””
  
  Rev 7:2-3  (Eze 9:3-6)

• “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.” Eph 4:30

The Lord told Moses:

• “Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.” Deut 11:18
What is God’s Seal?

- 31 “Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah— 32 not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the Lord. 33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Jer 31:31-33

Note the Lord told Jeremiah, before 586 BC, that His new covenant people (spiritual Israel) would have the Ten Commandments written on their minds and hearts.
What is God’s Seal?

• A Biblical seal has three elements, and God’s Seal contains:
  – His Name: the Lord
  – His Title: Creator
  – His Territory: heaven and earth and all inhabitants

• 8 “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. 9 Six days you shall labor and do all your work, 10 but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. 11 For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

Ex 20:8-11
What is God’s Seal?

- “12 Moreover I also gave them My Sabbaths, to be a sign between them and Me, that they might know that I am the Lord who sanctifies them… 20 hallow My Sabbaths, and they will be a sign between Me and you, that you may know that I am the Lord your God.” Eze 20:12,20
  - Sanctify: to set apart for a sacred purpose, to declare holy, to free from sin, to consecrate, to entitle to reverence
  - Hallow: Honor as holy, to sanctify, make holy, consecrate
What is God’s Seal?

• 13 “Speak also to the children of Israel, saying: ‘Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the Lord who sanctifies you. 14 You shall keep the Sabbath, therefore, for it is holy to you. Everyone who profanes it shall surely be put to death; for whoever does any work on it, that person shall be cut off from among his people. 15 Work shall be done for six days, but the seventh is the Sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. 16 Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant. 17 It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever; for in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed.’” Ex 31:13-17
What is God’s Seal? Revelation 12:17a

• “And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.”

  — Woman: The Christian church; all those who claim to know Jesus
  — Enraged: Alludes to the time of the end, including Jacob’s trouble (Jer 30:7; Dan 12:1b)
  — Dragon goes to war (rallying a counterfeit “trinity”): (Rev 16:13-14)
    1) the abyss/bottomless pit beast has spread atheism, evolution, secularism, and sexual immorality since the French Revolution (Rev 11:7-13)
    2) the sea beast persecutory powers for matters of conscience will return with the “8th king,” imminently (Rev 13:1-10; 17:1-11,18)
    3) the earth beast receives persecutory powers for matters of conscience (Rev 13:11-17; 17:12-17); effective 6/26/2015*

  — Rest of her offspring (“remnant of her seed” KJV): A remnant; spiritual Israel with the sanctuary message (Gen 3:15; Joel 2:32; Mic 2:12; Rom 9:27; 2Tim 3:12)
    • Those whose characters have been transformed by Christ (Song 6:9-10)

*U.S. Supreme Court overturned God’s institution of marriage between a man and woman (linked to the 7th day Sabbath) (Gen 1 & 2)
What is God’s Seal?  Revelation 12:17b

• “And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.”

  ✓ Those who keep the 10 commandments (New Covenant: Jer 31:31-33)

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

    • “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day”. “Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.” Ex 20:8,11

  ✓ Those who understand prophecy and the truth about God’s character

    • “For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” Rev 19:10  (Rev 22:6; John 14:9)

      – Jesus spoke of two commandments in Matt 22:36-40, incorporating the law and the prophets (Deut 6:5; Lev 19:18; Is 8:20; Matt 5:18)
When was the Sabbath Established?

• “Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.” Gen 2:1-3
  – **Blessed**: to make holy, to consecrate, having a sacred nature, connected with God
  – **Sanctify**: to set apart for a sacred purpose, to declare holy, to free from sin, to consecrate, to entitle to reverence

✓ Deut 5:12 “Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the Lord your God commanded you.”
**Sabbath Reminder**

- Moses and Aaron *reminded* the Hebrews in Egypt to keep the Sabbath
  
  – “Then the king of Egypt said to them, “Moses and Aaron, why do you take the people from their work? Get back to your labor.” And Pharaoh said, “Look, the people of the land are many now, and you make them *rest* (Hebrew word used here is *shabath*, the same word as “rested” in Gen 2:2-3) from their labor!” Ex 5:4-5

- God *reminded* His people to keep the Sabbath *prior* to the “giving of the law” at Mt. Sinai: **Manna**
  
  – “Then the Lord said to Moses, “Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you. And the people shall go out and gather a certain quota every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in My law or not. And it shall be on the sixth day that they shall prepare what they bring in, and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily.” Ex 16:4-5
Sabbath...a Memorial to Creation

How Important is it?

• “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.”

Exodus 20:8-11

✓ When the government of literal Israel was a theocracy, the penalty of death was applied to intentional Sabbath breakers (Numbers 15:32-36)
Jesus and the Sabbath

• The gospels record 7 miracles Jesus performed on the Sabbath
  – 34 other miracles are recorded in addition to His resurrection
  – He was accused of blasphemy when He exercised His right to forgive sins
• Luke, a gentile convert, records that Jesus was buried, resting “on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment” Luke 23:56
  – Jesus re-enforced the Sabbath by what He did and by His rest in the tomb on the Sabbath
Jesus and the Ten Commandments

• 15 “If you love Me, keep My commandments. 16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.” John 14:15-17

• 3 “…Why do you also transgress the commandment of God because of your tradition?... 6 Thus you have made the commandment of God of no effect by your tradition... 9 And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.” Matt 15:3,6,9
Views from John and Paul

• “And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the **victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name**, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God.” Rev 15:2

• “**30 Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent,** **31 because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.**” Acts 17:30-31
Was the Sabbath Changed by Jesus?

• “42 So when the Jews went out of the synagogue, the Gentiles begged that these words might be preached to them the next Sabbath. 43 Now when the congregation had broken up, many of the Jews and devout proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas, who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God. 44 On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God.” Acts 13:42-44

• “4 And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and persuaded both Jews and Greeks. 11 And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.” Acts 18:4,11

• “For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way: ‘And God rested on the seventh day from all His works’” Heb 4:4
Was the Sabbath Changed by God?

- If God Changed His 7th Day Memorial to Creation, Why would He change it back to the 7th Day when He returns?

  “And it shall come to pass
  That from one New Moon to another,
  And from one Sabbath to another,
  All flesh shall come to worship before Me,”
  says the Lord.”  Is 66:23

“I know that whatever God does, It shall be forever. Nothing can be added to it, And nothing taken from it. God does it, that men should fear before Him.”  Eccl 3:14
God’s Seal as Creator: The Sabbath

- “Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.” Rev 14:12

- “Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth— to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people— saying with a loud voice, “Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.” Rev 14:6-7

- “Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.” Rev 1:3

- “…this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome” 1 John 5:3 NIV
God Directed Arab Islam to Protect Sabbath Keepers

• “They were commanded not to harm the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only those men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads.” Rev 9:4
  – During the initial holy wars between Islam and Christianity from AD612-762, those that kept the 7th day Sabbath were spared
  – Grass: “...Surely the people are grass.” Is 40:7
  – Trees: “He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.” Ps 1:3
Who is the Beast?

“Until the 2nd and 3rd century, Christians kept the Jewish Sabbath, which occurs from Friday night to Saturday night each week. Observing the Sabbath on Sunday, the day of resurrection, gradually became the dominant Christian practice from the Jewish-Roman wars onward. Before then, Christianity was predominantly still a Jewish sect. The Church’s general repudiation of Jewish practices during this period is apparent in the Council of Laodicea (4th Century AD) where Canons 37-38 state: “It is not lawful to receive portions sent from the feasts of Jews or heretics, nor to feast together with them” and “It is not lawful to receive unleavened bread from the Jews, nor to be partakers of their impiety”. Canon 29 of the Laodicean council specifically refers to the sabbath: “Christians must not judaize by resting on the [Jewish] Sabbath, but must work on that day, rather honoring the Lord’s Day; and, if they can, resting then as Christians. But if any shall be found to be judaizers, let them be anathema (excommunicated) from Christ.”

Who is the Beast?

“Fourth-century gentile Christians,” writes Fredriksen, “despite the anti-Jewish ideology of their own bishops, kept Saturdays as their day of rest, ...under his [Constantine’s] regime, Sunday became the Christian Sabbath” The Real Jesus, US News and World Report, Posted 2/29/2004

— In AD321 Constantine decreed, “On the venerable day of the Sun let the magistrates and people residing in cities rest, and let all workshops be closed” (Codex Justinianus lib. 3, tit. 12, 3; trans. in Philip Schaff, History of the Christian Church, Vol. 3, p. 380, note 1)

— “The Lord’s Day” in Revelation 1:10 is clearly the 7th Day Sabbath as John referenced in AD95-96
  • This is twisted in a subtle way: https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/resources/apologetics/catholic-doctrines-and-practices/the-sabbath-or-the-lords-day
Who is the Beast?

“In the Catholic Mirror, Sept. 23, 1983 Cardinal Gibbons stated, "The Catholic Church by virtue of her divine mission changed the day from Saturday to Sunday."

Henry Tuberville, D.D., An Abridgment of the Christian Doctrine (R.C.), p. 58, "Question: How prove you that the Church hath power to command feasts and holydays? Answer: By the very act of changing the Sabbath into Sunday, which Protestants allow of; and therefore they fondly contradict themselves, by keeping Sunday strictly, and breaking most other feasts commanded by the same Church. Question: How can you prove that? Answer: Because by keeping Sunday, they acknowledge the Church's power to ordain feasts, and to command them under sin: and by not keeping the rest [of the feasts] by her commanded, they again deny, in fact, the same power."
Who is the Beast?

"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 (AD 336), transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday."

The Convert’s Catechism of Catholic Doctrine, Peter Geimann, p. 50 3rd edition

"Protestants ... accept Sunday rather than Saturday as the day for public worship after the Catholic Church made the change... But the Protestant mind does not seem to realize that ... in observing Sunday, they are accepting the authority of the spokesman for the Church, the pope." (Source: Our Sunday Visitor, February 5th, 1950.)
Who is the Beast?

"It was the Catholic Church which, by the authority of Jesus Christ, has transferred this rest to the Sunday in remembrance of the resurrection of our Lord. Thus the observance of Sunday by the Protestants is an homage they pay, in spite of themselves, to the authority of the [Catholic] church." Mgr. Segur, Plain Talk About the Protestantism of Today, p. 213

"I have repeatedly offered $1,000 to anyone who can prove to me from the Bible alone that I am bound to keep Sunday holy. There is no such law in the Bible. It is a law of the holy Catholic Church alone. The Bible says, 'Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.' The Catholic Church says: "No. By my divine power I abolish the Sabbath day and command you to keep holy the first day of the week." And lo! The entire civilized world bows down in reverent obedience to the command of the holy Catholic Church; It's the MARK of our authority to overrule God's law." Father T. Enright, C.S.S.R. in a lecture at Hartford, Kansas - also in History of the Sabbath p.802
Who is the Beast?

“But since Saturday, not Sunday, is specified in the Bible, isn’t it curious that non-Catholics who profess to take their religion directly from the Bible and not from the Church observe Sunday instead of Saturday? Yes, of course, it is inconsistent, but the change was made about 15 centuries before Protestantism was born….They have continued to observe custom even though it rests upon the authority of the Catholic Church, and not upon an explicit text in the Bible. That observance remains the reminder of the Mother Church from which non-Catholic sects broke away…” The Faith of Millions, Rev. John O’Brien, pp. 421, 422, Sept 1974

• Note the scarlet woman in Rev 17:5 described as “The Mother of Harlots”
Who are these “Harlots”? Apostate Protestants who follow papal doctrines
Thomas Tillam Sabbath Pamphlet - 1657

- Evidence that the seventh-day Sabbath truth was preserved by a remnant throughout history:
Who is the Beast?

Question Box, by Conway, 1903 Edition, pp. 254, 255, "**Question**: What Bible authority is there for changing the Sabbath from the seventh day of the week? Who gave the Pope the authority to change a command of God? **Answer**: If the Bible is the only guide for the Christian, then the Seventh-day Adventist is right in observing the Saturday with the Jew... Is it not strange that those who make the Bible their only teacher should inconsistently follow in this matter the tradition of the Church?"
Who is the Beast?

• “He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand For a time and times and half a time.” Dan 7:25

• The papacy claims authority over Scripture:
  – “The Pope is of so great authority and power that he can modify, change, or interpret even divine laws. The Pope can modify divine law, since his power is not of man, but of God, and he acts as vicegerent of God upon earth with most ample power of binding and loosing his sheep.” The Catholic Ferraris Ecclesiastical Dictionary
  – Here’s how it is justified: https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/resources/apologetics/catholic-doctrines-and-practices/graven-images-altering-the-commandments
Who is the Beast?

• Pope John Paul II stated: “New scientific knowledge has led us to realize that the theory of evolution is no longer a mere hypothesis. It is indeed remarkable that this theory has been progressively accepted by researchers, following a series of discoveries in various fields of knowledge. The convergence, neither sought nor fabricated, of the results of work that was conducted independently is in itself a significant argument in favor of this theory” (Message to the Pontifical Academy of Sciences on Evolution, October 23, 1996).

• “The Big Bang, which today we hold to be the origin of the world, does not contradict the intervention of the divine creator but, rather, requires it,” said Francis. “Evolution in nature is not in contrast with the notion of creation,” he continued.

Identity of the Little/Talking Horn of Daniel 7 & 8

The reformers; Luther, Calvin, Wycliffe, and the Wesleys all taught that the little horn/antichrist/sea beast power was the Roman Catholic papal system, which is unquestionably foretold in Daniel, 2 Thessalonians 2, and Revelation. This approach is known as historicism (prophecy assigned to actual events)

- Response: Priest Luis De Alcasar created the concept of preterism
  - Biblical prophecy has already taken place
- Response: Priest Francisco Ribera created the concept of futurism
  - Biblical prophecy is assigned to the future, right before the second coming

The membership of the Roman Catholic Church has, and continues to be made up of faithful people, many of which have submitted to, and had their characters transformed, by Jesus. We can be assured these will be saved.
Who is the Beast?

“Perhaps the boldest thing, the most revolutionary change the church ever did happen in the first century. The holy day, the Sabbath, was changed from Saturday to Sunday. The ‘Day of the Lord’ was chosen, not from any directions noted in the Scriptures, but from the Church’s sense of its own power. The day of resurrection, the day of Pentecost, fifty days later, came on the first day of the week. So this would be the new Sabbath. People who think that the Scriptures should be the sole authority, should logically become 7th Day Adventist, and keep Saturday holy”

St. Catherine Catholic Church, Algonac, Michigan – Sentinel, May 21, 1995

✓ At least a dozen different religions keep the 7th day Sabbath.
Who is the Beast?

“14 So He brought me to the door of the north gate of the Lord’s house; and to my dismay, women were sitting there weeping for Tammuz. 15 Then He said to me, “Have you seen this, O son of man? Turn again, you will see greater abominations than these.” 16 So He brought me into the inner court of the Lord’s house; and there, at the door of the temple of the Lord, between the porch and the altar, were about twenty-five men with their backs toward the temple of the Lord and their faces toward the east, and they were worshiping the sun toward the east.” Eze 8:14-16

✓ Easter (derivative of Ishtar) originated in the 1st Council of Nicaea in AD325. The story is that Ishtar was impregnated by Baal (god of the sun), giving birth to Tammuz.
Who is the Beast?

“2175 Sunday is expressly distinguished from the sabbath which it follows chronologically every week; for Christians its ceremonial observance replaces that of the sabbath. In Christ's Passover, Sunday fulfills the spiritual truth of the Jewish sabbath and announces man's eternal rest in God. For worship under the Law prepared for the mystery of Christ, and what was done there prefigured some aspects of Christ: Those who lived according to the old order of things have come to a new hope, no longer keeping the sabbath, but the Lord's Day, in which our life is blessed by him and by his death.

2177 The Sunday celebration of the Lord's Day and his Eucharist is at the heart of the Church's life. "Sunday is the day on which the paschal mystery is celebrated in light of the apostolic tradition and is to be observed as the foremost holy day of obligation in the universal Church."

“In respecting religious liberty and the common good of all, Christians should seek recognition of Sunday and the Church’s holy days as legal holidays.”


Cardinal Ratzinger became Pope Benedict XVI (2005-2013)

The future result of this will make all who keep the 6th (Islam) or the 7th day as Sabbath, lawbreakers

9/18/18
Who is the Beast? Revelation 13:6

- “Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven.”
  - Opened his mouth: A precursor to important speech (Matt 5:2; Acts 10:34)
  - Blaspheme His name: “He even exalted himself as high as the Prince of the host; and by him the daily sacrifices were taken away, and the place of his sanctuary (miqdash) was cast down.” Dan 8:11
    - Behaviors of the sea beast (little/talking horn): Dan 7:25
  - Dwell in Heaven: “Make the Most High your dwelling place...” Ps 91:9-12 (John 1:14; Rev 7:15; 12:12; 21:3)
    - Parallel to 2Thess 2:3-4 “…the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.”
  - The beast/papacy claims it is the true church and that the true church is the false church. He claims to switch places with God, acting like, and substituting himself, for Jesus.
The Earth Beast and Sea Beast  Revelation 13:14

• “And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived.” (‘...they should make an image...’) KJV  Indicating that the legislative power lies with the people...USA

– He: Apostate Protestants influencing and integrating into the earth beast/US government becoming the false prophet  (Rev 16:13; 19:20)
  • This process is already at work, likely moving rapidly after any of several potential significant events that would trigger a populous movement demanding legislation that will restrict religious freedoms

– Those who dwell on earth: To think, strategize, focus and invest in worldly success...“Make the Most High your dwelling place...”  (Ps 91:9-12)

– Signs: “For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.”  Matt 24:24
  • Compare 2Thess 2:9; Rev 16:13-14; 19:20

– Image: A copy of the powers and methods of persecution soon to be enacted by the sea beast/papal beast in European governments  (Rev 17:12)
The Earth Beast and Sea Beast (Revelation 13:15)

- “He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.”
  - Granted power to give breath: Legislation enabling persecution of God’s people (those who believe in the literal Bible have already been labeled extremists and fundamentalists) will be passed (John 16:33; Acts 5:29; 2Tim 3:12)
  - Worship the image: Dan 6x (3:5,7,10,12,14,18); Rev 6x (13:15; 14:9,11; 16:2; 19:20; 20:4)
  - Image of the beast speaking: Rule of law granting broad authority and punishments, up to and including death, for any who do not claim Sunday as sacred and worship on the 1st day. The church/state “beast” in Europe will be in operation by this time. (Literal: Dan 3:1; Spiritual: Dan 7:25)

- **Islam holds Friday, the 6th day as sacred, the likely initial target of Sunday legislation in Europe** (Dan 11:40-43)

- **Believers in Christ, keeping the 7th day Bible Sabbath as sacred, will be “caught in the middle”** (John 14:6; Rev 14:6-7,12)

✓ The “king of the north” (apostate Christianity) will persecute these
Who are these Beasts?*

- “16 He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, 17 and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.” Rev 13:16-17
  - He: Earth beast/apostate Protestants (U.S. empowered) will join with the sea beast/papacy (initially, Europe empowered) to pass legislation (spreading internationally) preventing non-conforming people anywhere in the world from conducting commerce of any kind without an identifier associated with consent of Sunday sacredness

* In addition to the earth beast and sea beast, the 3rd beast mentioned in Revelation, the abyss/bottomless pit beast of Rev 11:7, is Satan. These 3 make up the counterfeit trinity of Rev 16:13-14
What is the Mark of the Beast?

• “9 Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, “If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, 10 he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. 11 And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.” 12 Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.” Rev 14:9-12
Warning of the Beast’s Mark

- “15 He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. 16 He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, 17 and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.”

Rev 13:15-17

- Each person must choose God’s seal or will receive the beast’s mark
- Mark of the Beast (see 3rd angel message - Rev 14:9-11):
  - Forehead: Refers to people who really believe the Catholic Church did have the authority to change the time and laws (Dan 7:25) (Eze 9:3-6; Rev 7:2-3; 14:7,11,12)
  - Hand: Refers to people who don’t agree with the beast, however decide to go along because of fear of persecution or peer pressure
    - They will have compelling reasons based on their “need” to continue commerce instead of exercising complete faith in God (Eccl 9:10; Lk 9:57-62)
Result of the Mark of the Beast

- “⁴ And I heard another voice from heaven saying, “Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues. ⁵ For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities.” Rev 18:4-5

The 1⁰ of 7 plagues:
- “So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.” Rev 16:2

✓ It will be especially difficult to leave friends, family, status, and social circles in order to worship God according to His 4th commandment, however He will provide all needs (Phil 4:13,19)

✓ “He will dwell on high; His place of defense will be the fortress of rocks; Bread will be given him, His water will be sure.” Is 33:16 (1Ki 17:2-6; 17:8-16; 19:5-8)
Result of the Mark of the Beast

• “Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.” Rev 19:20 (2Thess 2:8)

• “And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.” Rev 20:4 (1Cor 6:3)
Warning of National Ruin of the US

- “A time is coming when the law of God is, in a special sense, to be made void in our land. The rulers of our nation will, by legislative enactments, enforce the Sunday law, and thus God’s people be brought into great peril. When our nation, in its legislative councils, shall enact laws to bind the consciences of men in regard to their religious privileges, enforcing Sunday observance, and bringing oppressive power to bear against those who keep the seventh-day Sabbath, the law of God will, to all intents and purposes, be made void in our land; and national apostasy will be followed by national ruin.” EG White, Review & Herald, Dec 18, 1888

✓ “It is time for You to act, O Lord, For they have regarded Your law as void.” Ps 119:126
The Number of the Beast

• Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666." Rev 13:18
  – Wisdom/understanding: The angel indicates this number:
    • Will be challenging to interpret
    • Will take a precise mathematical calculation; “count” KJV
      – Greek “psēphizō” used elsewhere only in Luke 14:28, cost of a “tower”
    • Will be identified by those with understanding (Eph 1:16-18)
  – Beast: This “beast,” an individual, is further described in Rev 17:8,11
  – Number of a man: The number 666 will identify an individual man (2Thess 2:3-4)

✓ God wants us to know the specific events near His return (John 14:29)
Description of the Apostate Church  Revelation 17:4

• “The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication.”

  – Woman: One of the women, representing the Christian church, has become a harlot “For your Maker is your husband” Is 54:5 “For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ”. 2Cor 11:2

  – Purple/scarlet: Official colors worn by cardinals and officials of the papal church

  – Gold: Catholic churches and clothing are richly appointed (Dan 11:38)

    • “Fine linen” is added in Rev 18:16; called “righteous acts” in Rev 19:8. Pope Francis has worked to address financial improprieties and sexual misconduct.

  – Abominations: Unbiblical doctrines, religious traditions, and beliefs.

    “Babylon was a golden cup in the Lord’s hand, That made all the earth drunk. The nations drank her wine; Therefore the nations are deranged”. Jer 51:7

  – Fornication: Illicit relationships with nations/governments
The Golden Cup
James 2:10

• “For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.”
• “237. On Sunday, our participation in the Eucharist has special importance. Sunday, like the Jewish Sabbath, is meant to be a day which heals our relationships with God, with ourselves, with others and with the world. Sunday is the day of the Resurrection, the “first day” of the new creation, whose first fruits are the Lord’s risen humanity, the pledge of the final transfiguration of all created reality. It also proclaims ‘man’s eternal rest in God.’”
Dominion, Sabbath and Marriage

1) Climate change legislation has multiplied with 10 Acts passed between 2005 and 2010. Earth is God’s dominion and the United States has usurped God by these Acts. (Is 3:12b) ([https://www3.epa.gov/climatechange/EPAactivities/economics/legislativeanalyses.html](https://www3.epa.gov/climatechange/EPAactivities/economics/legislativeanalyses.html))

2) On 6/26/2015, U.S. Supreme Court overturned God’s institution of marriage between a man and woman (*linked to the Sabbath at creation*)
   - On 9/3/2015 the first person (Kim Davis) was jailed for her convictions
   - “Then marriage and the Sabbath had their origin, twin institutions for the glory of God in the benefit of humanity.”...“He enunciated the law of marriage for all the children of Adam to the close of time. That which the eternal Father Himself had pronounced good was the law of highest blessing and development for man.” {AH 340.4}
   - “The Sabbath and the family were alike instituted in Eden, and in God’s purpose they are indissolubly linked together.” {CG 535.3}

3) Sunday sacredness legislation will soon be passed with the United States placing itself between the people and God (Dan 11:45)
U.S. Supreme Court Same-Sex Marriage Ruling: 5 to 4

• “No longer may this liberty be denied,” Justice Anthony M. Kennedy wrote for the majority in the historic decision. “No union is more profound than marriage, for it embodies the highest ideals of love, fidelity, devotion, sacrifice and family. In forming a marital union, two people become something greater than once they were.”

Description of God’s Remnant People

• “Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: “The Lord knows those who are His,” and, “Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.” 2Tim 2:19

• “He who says, ‘I know Him,’ and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.” 1 John 2:4
Our Mission as the Remnant

• “Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” (Rev 19:10)
  – The understanding of prophecy is a call to action; to share the gospel of everlasting life through a relationship with Jesus, proclaiming the 3 angels’ message of Rev 14:6-12

• “...obey God’s commandments” (Rev 12:17) and “Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water.” (Rev 14:7)

• “...Everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, And holds fast My covenant—Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, And make them joyful in My house of prayer.” (Is 56:6-7)

• “Be holy...blameless” (1Pet 1:16-19; 2Pet 3:10-14)
Call to Personal Action

- 24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. 26 For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins (Heb 10:24-26)

(Repent: 2Chron 6:37-39; Eze 14:6; Matt 3:2; Luke 24:47; Acts 17:30)

- The Bridegroom of Matt 25:1-13 is returning soon. Prepare by storing oil (The Spirit) in our lamps now:
  1. Accept and invite Jesus daily (the altar of sacrifice)
  2. Wash in the baptism of the Spirit (the laver)
  3. Keep a prayer in mind, constantly (the altar of incense)
  4. Read God’s Word daily (the table of showbread)
  5. Share the gospel of Jesus; the 3 angels’ message (the lampstand)
  6. Dwell on the goodness of His law (the ark of His covenant)
Call to Public Action

• The 4th angel of Rev 14:15, the illuminating angel of Rev 18:1-3, is the proclamation of the interpretation of the mystery of Rev 17:8-11. God’s remnant will repeat the 2nd and 3rd angel messages (Rev 14:8-13) with much greater power than during the ‘midnight cry’ in 1844 (Hab 2:14)

  1 After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory.
  2 And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, “Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! 3 For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury.” Rev 18:1-3

  – This is a warning for all of God’s people to come out of spiritual Babylon, the counterfeit trinity (spiritualism, the papacy, apostate Protestants/false prophet) (the abyss beast, the sea beast, the earth beast)
Everyone is Invited

- “3 Do not let the son of the foreigner who has joined himself to the Lord speak, saying, “The Lord has utterly separated me from His people”; Nor let the eunuch say, “Here I am, a dry tree.” 4 For thus says the Lord: “To the eunuchs who keep My Sabbaths, and choose what please Me, And hold fast My covenant, 5 Even to them I will give in My house and within My walls a place and a name better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off. 6 “Also the sons of the foreigner who join themselves to the Lord, to serve Him, and to love the name of the Lord, to be His servants—Everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, and holds fast My covenant—7 Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on My altar; For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.” 8 The Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, says, “Yet I will gather to him others besides those who are gathered to him.” Is 56:3-8
Final Plea before Michael Stands

• The 5th angel of Rev 14:18 (Jesus, Himself), corresponds with the warning voice of Rev 18:4:
  – And I heard another voice from heaven saying, “Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues.”
    Rev 18:4 This plea, not heard by many (not a loud voice), is for His people to leave the great city Babylon to escape the plagues.
  – Speaking of the 2 Witnesses, “…And they ascended to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies saw them.”
    Rev 11:12
  • The Word/witness of the Old and New Testaments, including the law and the prophets, are known to all so that each one will make an informed decision on Whom to Worship
  – This is the very last warning to accept salvation through Jesus Christ before the pre-advent “investigative” judgment closes (Dan 12:1), followed by the plagues of Rev 16 (Rev 14:17-20; Eze 9:5-10)
But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

Matt 24:37-39

Just as the Antediluvians needed to be on Noah’s Ark to be saved, at the Time of the End, God’s people will rely on the Ark of His Covenant, having the Law written on their minds and be saved by His Grace, through His Mercy

Jer 31:33-34
“And now I have told you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe.” John 14:29

“He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming quickly.” Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!” Revelation 22:20
Additional Information

• For an exhaustive discussion of this topic of God’s seal and sources on Catholic statements, see: [http://biblelight.net/seal.htm](http://biblelight.net/seal.htm)


• Ellen Gould White was a prolific author and an American Christian pioneer. Along with other Sabbatarian Adventist leaders such as Joseph Bates and her husband James White, she formed what became known as the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The Smithsonian magazine named Ellen G. White among 100 Most Significant Americans in an acknowledgement of her influence on religion. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ellen_G._White](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ellen_G._White)

Relevant Press on Pope Francis

• Apr 11, 2015: Year of Jubilee via blasphemous Bull of Induction
  http://www.iubilaeummisericordiae.va/content/gdm/en/giubileo/bolla.html

• Jul 10, 2015: Pope calls for new economic order, criticizes capitalism
  http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/07/10/us-pope-latam-bolivia-iduskcn0pj29b20150710

• Aug 12, 2015: POPE TO CALL FOR NWO AT UN SEPTEMBER MEETING
  – Sep 24 at a U.S. joint meeting of Congress
  – Sep 25 at the annual U.N. General Assembly
  http://www.globaltruth.net/?s=pope+call+for+nwo+at+un&submit=Search...

• Jun 25, 2014: Pope Francis Says Having a Personal Relationship with Jesus is a Dangerous and harmful Temptation

• Aug 7, 2015: IN SEPTEMBER 2015, AGENDA 21 WILL BE TRANSFORMED INTO THE 2030 AGENDA
  – The Pope is actually traveling to New York to deliver an address which will kick off this conference. Unlike Agenda 21, which primarily focused on the environment, the 2030 Agenda is truly a template for governing the entire planet.
Relevant Press on Pope Francis

• Sep 25, 2015: In speech to the UN, Pope endorses the 2030 AGENDA

• Dec 1, 2015: “Pope Orders Audit of Church’s Wealth as Whistleblowers Pursued”

• Feb 6, 2016: “When those who hate Jesus Christ kill a Christian, before killing him, they don’t ask, ‘Are you Lutheran, or Orthodox, or Evangelical or Baptist or Methodist?’” the pope said last summer. “If the enemy unites us in death, who are we to divide ourselves in life?”

• Feb 12, 2016: Joint Declaration with the Russian Orthodox Church:
Pope Francis’ Congressional Address on Sept 24, 2015

- “Moses provides us with a good synthesis of your work: you are asked to protect, by means of the law, the image and likeness fashioned by God on every human face.”
  - Whose God? Christians, of course!
  - Which denomination’s definition of God will be used to form laws and the enforcement of them?
  - Is this not a call for the union of church and state?
5 Prophecy in Dan 7:25; 12:7; Rev 11:2,3; 12:6,14; 13:5 as Time, times, and half a time, 42 months.

6 The mystery 666 man is announced to the whole world by the 4th & 5th angels (Rev 14:14-19; 18:1-4).

7 After Michael (Jesus) finishes the Investigative Judgment (Dan 7:9-10; 12:1), the 7 plagues (Rev 16) fall.
Ellen White Comments

✓ “What is the condition of those who keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus? If in families there are those who are refusing obedience to the Lord in keeping His Sabbath, then the seal cannot be placed upon them. The sealing is a pledge from God of perfect security to His chosen ones (Exodus 31:13-17). Sealing indicates you are God’s chosen. He has appropriated you to Himself. As the sealed of God we are Christ’s purchased possession, and no one shall pluck us out of His hands. The seal given in the forehead is God, New Jerusalem. “I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God” Revelation 3:12. {Ms59-1895.43}
Ellen White Comments

✓ “In the warfare to be waged in the last days there will be united, in opposition to God’s people, all the corrupt powers that have apostatized from allegiance to the law of Jehovah. In this warfare the Sabbath of the fourth commandment will be the great point at issue, for in the Sabbath commandment the great Lawgiver identifies Himself as the Creator of the heavens and the earth....” {SM 392.5}

✓ “The two armies will stand distinct and separate, and this distinction will be so marked that many who shall be convinced of the truth will come on the side of God’s commandment-keeping people. When this grand work is to take place in the battle, prior to the last closing conflict, many will be imprisoned, many will flee for their lives from cities and towns, and many will be martyrs for Christ’s sake in standing in defense of the truth.... You will not be tempted above what you are able to bear. Jesus bore all this and far more....” {SM 397.4}
“During the entire forty years in the wilderness, the people were every week reminded of the sacred obligation of the Sabbath, by the miracle of the manna. Yet even this did not lead them to obedience. Though they did not venture upon so open and bold transgression as had received such signal punishment, yet there was great laxness in the observance of the fourth commandment. God declares through His prophet, “My Sabbaths they greatly polluted.” Ezekiel 20:13-24. And this is enumerated among the reasons for the exclusion of the first generation from the Promised Land. Yet their children did not learn the lesson. Such was their neglect of the Sabbath during the forty years’ wandering, that though God did not prevent them from entering Canaan, He declared that they should be scattered among the heathen after the settlement in the Land of Promise.” {PP 409.3}
Ellen White Comments

✓ “To those who keep holy the Sabbath day it is the sign of sanctification. True sanctification is harmony with God, oneness with Him in character. It is received through obedience to those principles that are the transcript of His character. And the Sabbath is the sign of obedience. He who from the heart obeys the fourth commandment will obey the whole law. He is sanctified through obedience.” {6T 350.1}

✓ “The fourth commandment alone of all the ten contains the seal of the great Lawgiver, the Creator of the heavens and the earth. Those who obey this commandment take upon themselves His name, and all the blessings it involves are theirs. Numbers 6:22-27” {6T 350.3}

✓ “The Sabbath is a golden clasp that unites God and His people. But the Sabbath command has been broken. God’s holy day has been desecrated. The Sabbath has been torn from its place by the man of sin, and a common working day has been exalted in its stead. A breach has been made in the law, and this breach is to be repaired. The true Sabbath is to be exalted to its rightful position as God’s rest day. In the fifty-eighth chapter of Isaiah is outlined the work which God’s people are to do.” {6T 351.6}
”The Sabbath question is to be the issue in the great final conflict in which all
the world will act a part. Men have honored Satan’s principles above the
principles that rule in the heavens. They have accepted the spurious sabbath,
which Satan has exalted as the sign of his authority. But God has set His seal
upon His royal requirement. Each sabbath institution bears the name of its
author, an ineffaceable mark that shows the authority of each. It is our work to
lead the people to understand this. We are to show them that it is of vital
consequence whether they bear the mark of God’s kingdom or the mark of
the kingdom of rebellion, for they acknowledge themselves subjects of the
kingdom whose mark they bear. God has called us to uplift the standard of
His downtrodden Sabbath. How important, then, that our example in
Sabbathkeeping should be right.” {6T 352.1}

“The line of demarcation is to be made clear and distinct between those who
bear the mark of God’s kingdom and those who bear the sign of the kingdom
of rebellion.” {6T 353.1}