

## Mark of the Beast

\*By this point, the student should already know that the "beast" is the head of the Roman Catholic church.

**purpose:** To show that at the end of time the mark of the beast will be Sunday observance.

**center it:** Jesus cares enough to make us uncomfortable.

Revelation 14:9-11

- Warning! Don't receive!
- Would you like to avoid receiving the mark?
- In order to avoid the mark, we must figure out if it's literal or if it symbolizes something.

Revelation 12:9

- The serpent deceives the world.
- You wouldn't be deceived if you had a literal mark on your hand or forehead.

Deuteronomy 6:5-8

- (Exodus 13:16; Deuteronomy 11:18; Isaiah 59:6,7; Luke 9:62; Ecclesiastes 9:10)
- In the Bible, your hand represents what you do and your forehead represents what you think.
- What does the mark symbolize?

Romans 6:16

- What makes you someone's servant?
- What can identify/mark you as someone's servant?
- Brown suit/Black suit- (Commands to wear both on the same day by two different people. Decision about which suit to wear proves whose servant you are.)

Matthew 4:9,10

- Jesus correlates worship and service in verse 10. Why?
- If you worship the way Satan says, you are obeying him. If Jesus had obeyed, He would have been Satan's servant.

Revelation 13:15,16/ Revelation 14:7

- There are two calls for worship: God's and Satan's

2 Thessalonians 2:1-4

- 1. Falling away
- 2. Son of perdition
- The only other time the phrase "son of perdition" is used in the NT, it describes
- Judas Iscariot. He was apparently Christian as well.

John 17:12

- Judas was an apparent supporter of Christ. Judas was not a violent opposer.
- If Antichrist is apparently Christian, his mark must also be an apparently Christian mark.

#### Revelation 14:9-12

- God infers what the mark is by telling us what it is not.
- ☺ Illustration.

#### Revelation 13:15-17

- Faithfulness at the end of time will cost your life.
- The decisions you make today turn you into the person you are tomorrow. If you are faithful today, it is more likely that you will be faithful in the future. It will be easier now than later, so practice now.

**appeal:** Two-sided flag illustration.

Forget about the rest. You be faithful to God and He will carry you. Will you accept this? Will you be in church this Sabbath? Can I come pick you up? ☺

#### **defend it:**

Do all Sunday keepers have the mark of the beast?

- Revelation 13:15
  - Force is going to be used to make people to worship the beast.
  - Those who do not have the mark are not allowed to buy or sell.
  - That is not happening right now.
  - The crisis in this verse is not happening in North America at this moment.
  - When people are compelled by force to accept it, those who do will have the mark of the beast. It will have been made plain to all.
  - None will be innocently ignorant.

#### **Mark of the Beast Quotes:**

1. Question: Which is the Sabbath day?

- Answer: Saturday is the Sabbath day.
- Question: Which is the Sabbath day?
- Answer: "We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday."

3. "The Catholic Church designated Sunday as the day for corporate worship and gets full credit- or blame- for the change." This Rock, *The Magazine of Catholic Apologetics and Evangelization*, p.8, June 1997.

4. "Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change was her act. And the act is a mark of her ecclesiastical power and authority in religious matters." *C.F. Thomas, Chancellor of Cardinal Gibbons, in answer to a letter regarding the change of the Sabbath, November 11, 1895.*

6. "The Sabbath was Saturday, not Sunday. The Church altered the observance of the Sabbath to the observance of Sunday. Protestants must be rather puzzled by the keeping of Sunday when God distinctly said, 'Keep holy the Sabbath Day.' The word Sunday does not come anywhere in the Bible, so, without knowing it the are observing the authority of the Catholic Church." *Canon Cafferata, The Catechism Explained, p.89.*

9. "It is well to remind the Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists, and all other Christians, that the Bible does not support them anywhere in their observance of Sunday. Sunday is an institution of the Roman Catholic Church, and those who observe the day observe a commandment of the Catholic Church." *Priest Brady, in an address, reported in the Elizabeth, NJ 'News' on March 18, 1903.*

10. "The Bible says, remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day. 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." *Father Enright, former President of Redemptorist College.*