

4. Receiving the beast's 'mark' shows allegiance to Papal Rome and it's image over God, which seals one to receive the plagues.
5. The 'mark' of God's authority is the Sabbath—the seventh day of the week.
6. Receiving God's mark seals one for eternal life and protects one from the plagues.
7. The remnant saints of God keep all Ten Commandments and reflect the character of Jesus perfectly in their life. They overcome the beast, it's image, mark, and the number of his name, and therefore have a right to eat of the Tree of Life.

The third angel's message can thus be rendered: “and the third message accompanied the first two, proclaiming with a great noise, he who prostrates himself in homage to the papacy and apostate Protestantism, and keeps the sign of their authority (Sunday) as enforced by the state by conviction (belief) or compulsion (force); the same shall partake of the plagues of God, which is mixed without mercy due to His righteous anger. And he shall suffer the second death in view of heavenly beings and Jesus; and the result of their punishment lasts for ages unto ages: and there is no relaxation during the punishment for those who prostrate themselves in homage to the papacy and apostate Protestantism by keeping the sign of their authority (Sunday). Here is the steadfast endurance of the Holy Ones: Here are the elect of God that protect, harbor, and guard His law and have the character of Jesus perfectly reflected in their own.”

“The third angel's message has been sent forth to the world, warning men against receiving the mark of the beast or of his image in their foreheads or in their hands. To receive this mark means to come to the same decision as the beast has done, and to advocate the same ideas, in direct opposition to the Word of God. If the light of truth has been presented to you, revealing the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, and showing that there is no foundation in the Word of God for Sunday observance, and yet you still cling to the false sabbath, refusing to keep holy the Sabbath which God calls "My holy day," you receive the mark of the beast. When does this take place? When you obey the decree that commands you to cease from labor on Sunday and worship God, while you know that there is not a word in the Bible showing Sunday to be other than a common working day, you consent to receive the mark of the beast, and refuse the seal of God.” White, *The Review and Herald*, July 13, 1897.

The choice is yours. Will you follow Jesus or Papal Rome? Will you keep God's true Sabbath or the false Sunday as the day of worship?

ANSWERS: 1) The third angel's message. 2) Yes. 3) To all the world. No. 4) The seven headed beast of Revelation 13—Papal Rome. 5) An organization that reflects the character of the beast. 6) All are required to have a mark. 7) In the forehead or hand. 8) God's Times and Laws. 9) Specifically the fourth. 10) Keep men's commandments over God's commandments. 11) HE Created the heavens. 12) The seventh day of creation. 13) His Sabbaths. 14) Keep His Sabbaths holy. 15) God. 16) The Forehead. 17) The seal of God. 18) In their forehead. 19) The Law of God. 20) He writes them in their hearts. 21) We will love to obey His laws. 22) The name of the heavenly Father. 23) They receive the wrath of God. 24) The plagues. 25) Yes. 26) Those who abide with God. 27) Those with the mark of the beast. 28) Righteous and unrighteous. 29) Totally depending upon the Father like Jesus did. 30) The saints who defeat the beast. 31) By having the power of Jesus manifest in their life. 32) To eat of the tree of life.

Bible Glances

Lesson 20 “The Third Angel’s Message”

Revelation 14 describes three angels bringing messages of warning to the world. We previously learned, among other things, that the first angel's message declared that the judgment hour has begun—October 22, 1844. The second angel's message accompanied the first and declared that those protestant churches who rejected the judgment hour message as given by the first angel, had become 'Babylon' fallen. The message of the third angel sums up these warnings and concerns the beast, his image, and his mark. Let us see just what this warning entails...



1. What is the most solemn message to be found in the Bible?

Revelation 14:9-11

The loud voice indicates that the message will be proclaimed so that all may hear. It also emphasizes the importance of the message.

“The third angel is represented as flying in the midst of heaven, showing that the message is to go forth throughout the length and breadth of the earth. It is the most solemn message ever given to mortals...” White, *Gospel Workers*, p.291.

“...seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness.” Matthew 6:33

2. **Is this the last warning message before Christ comes?**

Revelation 14:14, 15

The nature of the three angels' messages and the fact that immediately following them the coming of Christ is discussed, show that the three messages are God's final message of warning to the world.

3. **To whom is this world-wide message of warning addressed and does it exclude anyone?**

Revelation 14:9



*“The most fearful threatening ever **addressed to mortals** is contained in the third angel's message. That must be a terrible sin which calls down the wrath of God unmingled with mercy. Men are not to be left in darkness concerning this important matter; the warning against this sin is to be given to the world before the visitation of God's judgments, **that all may know** why they are to be inflicted, and have opportunity to escape them.” White, *The Story of God's Redemption*, p.383.*

4. **Who is the ‘beast’ the angel is speaking of?**

Revelation 14:9; 13:1-10

The third angel is warning the world against worshipping the seven headed beast of Revelation 13 or Papal Rome—The Roman Catholic Church. The



second beast—the two-horned beast (namely, the United States)—solicits the worship of men for the first beast. It should be noted that this warning will have ultimate force only after the healing of the deadly wound to the seven headed beast (Rev. 13:3), and the formation of the image to the beast (see v.14), when the mark of the beast becomes an issue (see

v.16). As preached today, the third angel's message is a warning **concerning issues to come**, a warning that will enlighten men as to the issues involved in the developing struggle and enable them to make an intelligent choice. **This is yet future.**

5. **What is the ‘image’ to the beast as mentioned by the angel?**

Revelation 14:9; 13:14, 15

The word ‘image’ is Strong's #1504: eikon {i-kone'} which means... ‘an image, figure, likeness.’ So the two-horned beast of Revelation 13 (United

31. **How were they able to overcome? Revelation 12:11**



32. **What right is given to those who have faithfully kept the commandments of God? Revelation 22:14**

Summary of the Three Angel's Messages

First Angel:

1. This is not a literal angel, but a worldwide message.
2. This message consists of the perpetual good news of salvation; that through Christ's merits we can reflect the image of God perfectly in our life here.
3. This message tells us the time of the Messiah's first Advent.
4. That His true church (the body of Christ) will be giving this message to every nation, tongue, and people.
5. This message calls people to glorify God in body and in Spirit. To follow God's health laws is an integral part of this message!
6. This message proclaims that there is a judgment that all must face on an individual basis before God.
7. This message tells us that the time of the judgment has opened, bringing to an end the longest time prophecy in the Bible (Daniel 8:14), and any further prophecies based upon definite time. On October 22, 1844 the great Court from which there is no appeal convened in the most holy place of the heavenly sanctuary.

Second Angel:

1. The Second message accompanies the first one.
2. The second message was not originally given with a loud voice like the first and third, but will be repeated with a mighty voice in the future.
3. Babylon spoken of is not the literal city built by Nimrod or the one ruled by Nebuchadnezzar. The Literal city of Babylon no longer exists and will never be rebuilt.
4. Babylon is symbolic of a harlot from Rome; a mother who has harlot daughters.
5. Papal Rome is the mother harlot and apostate protestant churches are her harlot daughters.
6. Papal Rome fell centuries before the time of the second angel's message so the message ‘*Babylon is fallen, is fallen*’ describes the rejection of the first angels message by apostate protestant churches.
7. Papal Rome and her daughters (apostate Protestant churches), will work together with the state to enforce their religious decrees.

Third Angel:

1. The Beast is the seven headed beast of chapter 13—Papal Rome.
2. The Image is apostate Protestantism in partnership with the state in order to enforce religious dogmas.
3. The ‘**mark**’ of authority for the Beast (Papal Rome) and his image (apostate Protestantism) is Sunday worship. This mark is future and is not yet enforced.



where the desolation of Edom is described. Isaiah's statement, *"The smoke thereof shall go up for ever,"* meant until it was completely burned up. We know this because the fire is not still burning to this day, and because the country became a desolate wasteland inhabited by wild beasts (verses 10–15). So the description denotes complete destruction. The 'mark of his name' is the same as the mark or sign of his authority—Sunday, and anyone who accepts this mark will receive of the plagues.

"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, both true and false, bears the name of its author, an ineffaceable mark that shows the authority of each. The great decision now to be made by every one is, whether he will receive the mark of the beast and his image, or the seal of the living and true God." White, *The Signs of the Times*, March 22, 1910.



28. In the end there will be only two parties. Who are they?

Matthew 25:31-34, 41; Revelation 14:12

"Steadfast endurance of the Holy ones" is a better rendering. Through the conflict with the beast and his image, the faithful saints steadfastly endure and maintain their integrity to God and His commandments even though threatened with death.

29. What is 'the faith of Jesus'? *John 12:44-50; Romans 8:3-5*



The faith of Jesus and the keeping of the commandments represent two important aspects of Christian living. The commandments of God are a transcript of the character of God. They set forth the divine standard of righteousness that God would have man attain but which in his unconverted state he cannot attain to. *"The carnal mind ... is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be"* (Rom. 8:7). But Jesus came to enable men to be restored to the divine image.

Through His power men are enabled to keep the divine requirements and thus reflect the divine image.

30. Who will stand on the sea of glass? *Revelation 15:2*



States) is going to make a likeness to the seven headed beast of Revelation 13 (Papal Rome). **An image would be an organization functioning on much the same principles as its (Papal Rome) organization.** Among the principles by which Papal Rome operates is the use of the secular arm to support religious institutions. In imitation the United States will repudiate its principles of religious freedom as **the church prevails upon the state to first enact ('speak'), then enforce ('cause') its dogmas.** Since these are religious laws, they will cut across the conscientious convictions of many.



"The 'image to the beast' represents that form of apostate Protestantism which will be developed when the Protestant churches shall seek the aid of the civil power for the enforcement of their dogmas." White, *The Great Controversy*, p.445.

6. How will the worship of the beast and his image be enforced?

Revelation 13:16, 17



The Greek word here for 'Mark' is *charagma* (khar'-ag-mah), which means: *an impress; a stamp; a mark.* This is a badge of loyalty to the beast (Papal Rome), some special feature that denotes that the one displaying such a mark worships the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. The beast and the image are united in their aims and policies and in their demand that men receive a mark of loyalty to the beast. Hence, **one who worships the beast also worships the image and is a bearer of the mark.**

"No one has yet received the mark of the beast. The testing time has not yet come. There are true Christians in every church, not excepting the Roman Catholic communion. None are condemned until they have had the light and have seen the obligation..." White, *Evangelism*, p.234.

7. Where do those who worship the beast receive the mark?

Revelation 13:16

This mark being in the hand or in the forehead indicates that not only one's *labor* (the hand) but also one's *belief* (forehead) is affected. The phrase also designates two classes—those who submit to the decrees of the beast merely from expediency and those who so do from personal conviction. In order to determine specifically what the mark of the beast is, we must consider the characteristics of the beast—Papal Rome.

8. What did this beast power (Papal Rome) think to change?

Daniel 7:25

The special characteristic of Papal Rome, and therefore of his image, is the breaking of God's commandments. Says Daniel, of the little horn (Papal Rome), "He shall think to change times and laws" (Daniel 7:25). And Paul



style the same power the "man of sin," (2 Thessalonians 2:3) who was to exalt himself above God. One prophecy is a complement of the other. Only by changing God's law could Papal Rome exalt itself above God; **whoever should understandingly keep the law as thus changed would be giving supreme honor to that power by**

which the change was made—in effect worshipping that power. Such an act of obedience to papal laws would be a *mark of allegiance to the pope* in the place of God. The 'mark' thus becomes the sign or seal of authority for the beast (Papal Rome) and its image (Apostate Protestantism).

9. Which of God's Ten Commandments did Papal Rome (the Beast) 'think to change?' Exodus 20:8-11

The Roman Catholic Church has no qualms in claiming that they changed the Sabbath day of the fourth commandment from the seventh day of the week to the first day. Notice their own words:

"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 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, C.S.S.R. of the Redemptoral College, Kansas City, Mo., *History of the Sabbath*, p. 802.



"The Catholic church by virtue of her divine mission changed the day from Saturday to Sunday." Cardinal Gibbons, *Catholic Mirror*, Sept. 23 1883.



"The observance of Sunday by Protestants is an homage they pay, in spite of themselves, to the authority of the Catholic Church." Monsignor Louis Segur, *Plain Talk About the Protestantism of Today*, p. 213. [L.G. Segur (1820-1881) was a French Catholic prelate and apologist, and later a diplomatic and judicial official at Rome].

implanted in the heart, when man is renewed after the image of Him that created him, the new-covenant promise is fulfilled.

23. What ultimately happens to those who obey the beast and receive his mark? Revelation 14:9, 10; 20:9, 14, 15

24. What is the unmixed wrath of God? Revelation 15:1, 7; 16:1-21

"When Christ ceases his intercession in the sanctuary, the unmingled wrath threatened against those who worship the beast and his image and receive his mark will be poured out. The plagues upon Egypt when God was about to deliver Israel, were similar in character to those more terrible and extensive judgments which are to fall upon the world just before the final deliverance of God's people." White, *The Great Controversy*, p.627.



25. Are the righteous shielded from these plagues? Revelation 3:10

26. Who will be able to claim the promise of protection? Psalm 91

"He who walked with the Hebrew worthies in the fiery furnace will be with His followers wherever they are. His abiding presence will comfort and sustain. In the midst of the time of trouble, trouble such as has not been since there was a nation, His chosen ones will stand unmoved. Satan with all the hosts of evil cannot destroy the weakest of God's saints. Angels that excel in strength will protect them, and in their behalf Jehovah will reveal Himself as a "God of gods," able to save to the uttermost those who have put their trust in Him." White, *Conflict & Courage*, page 252.

27. Who will have no rest day or night? Revelation 14:11

The seven last plagues fall upon and torture the worshipers of the beast and his image until they die—the first death. In addition, these same followers of the beast rise in the second resurrection and receive their eternal punishment—the second death in the Lake of Fire. 'No rest' means that for the duration of the punishments, which continues until death ensues, there will be no relaxation of the punishment. The time of day matters not; the torment is continuous. The figure of the smoke ascending forever is doubtless drawn from Isaiah 34:10,

18. The people of God are to be sealed where?

Revelation 7:3



The concept of God’s placing a mark upon His people goes back to Ezekiel’s vision of the man with the writer’s inkhorn who was commanded to “set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in” Jerusalem. (see Ezekiel 9). By virtue of the mark they were to be saved from destruction. The same is true for God’s people at the time of this prophecy!

19. What is to be sealed among God’s people?

Isaiah 8:16

“Those who desire to have the seal of God in their foreheads must keep the Sabbath of the fourth commandment. Thus they are distinguished from the disloyal, who have accepted a manmade institution in place of the true Sabbath. **The observance of God’s rest day is a mark of distinction** between him that serveth God and him that serveth Him not.” White, *The Review and Herald*, April 23, 1901.



20. How will God seal His law among His disciples? Hebrews 10:16

21. When God’s laws are written in our minds, what will be our testimony? Psalm 40:8

22. Revelation 14:1 describes Christ’s people as having what written in their foreheads?

This is better rendered, “having His character and the character of His Father described in their minds.” The law of God is an expression of His very nature; it is an embodiment of the great principle of love, and hence is the foundation of His government in heaven and earth. When the principle of love is

****PAPAL ROME HAS MADE THEIR OWN ‘MARK’ OF RELIGIOUS AUTHORITY****

“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.**” Our Sunday Visitor, Catholic weekly, Feb. 5, 1950.

“**Sunday is our mark of authority!** The church is above the Bible, and this transference of Sabbath observance is proof of that fact.” The Catholic Record, London, Ontario, September 1, 1923.

“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.**” Office of Cardinal Gibbons, through Chancellor C.F. Thomas, Nov. 11, 1895.



“**Christians will naturally strive to ensure that ‘civil legislation’ respects their duty to keep Sunday holy.**” -Pope John Paul II, *Dies Domini* (The Lord’s Day), Section 67, July 7, 1998.

A mark, sign, or seal of authority is used with the same meaning in the Bible in connection with laws or legal documents. History tells us that seals were used in the Near East much as signatures are today. Thus they attested the authorship of a document, indicated the ownership of the object upon which the seal was impressed, or secured objects such as chests, boxes, tombs, against being opened or molested. It has been recognized by nations for hundreds, if not thousands of years that an official seal must show three things:



1. The name of the lawgiver.
2. His official position or right to rule.
3. The kingdom or territory over which he rules.

For instance:

1. The name of the lawgiver--*Abraham Lincoln*
2. His official position or right to rule--*President*
3. The kingdom or territory over which he rules--*The United States*

Notice that Papal Rome (the Beast) has chosen Sunday as their mark or official seal of authority and will endeavor to enforce this mark upon all. So their official seal could look like this:



1. The name of the lawgiver--*Papal Rome*
2. His official position or right to rule--*The Holy Mother Catholic Church*
3. The kingdom or territory over which he rules--*All the World*

10. Their worship is in vain who do what?

Matthew 15:9

It is interesting to note that after the warning against the worship of the beast and his image, the prophecy declares, "Here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus" (Revelation 14:12). Since those who keep God's commandments are thus placed in contrast with those that worship the beast and his image and receive his mark, it follows that the keeping of God's law, on the one hand, and its violation, on the other, will make the distinction between the worshipers of God and the worshipers of the beast.



11. What has the Lord done which reveals His authority as the true God?

1 Chronicles 16:26

12. What did God sanctify as the sign or 'mark' of His authority?

Genesis 2:3

Not only does Papal Rome (the Beast) have a mark or seal of authority, but God has a mark or seal too. The Seal of God is connected with His law and is found in the fourth commandment. Notice:



"Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it." Exodus 20:8-11.

When you read through all the ten commandments, it is only in the fourth that we find:

1. The name of the Law Giver: 'Lord thy God'
2. His official position or right to rule: *Creator*
3. The kingdom or territory over which he rules: *'heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is'*



13. What has God given us as a sign that He is the Lord that sanctifies us? Ezekiel 20:12

14. What has He asked us to do as the sign (mark) of our allegiance to Him? Ezekiel 20:20

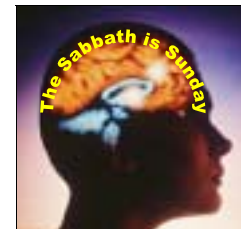


The remnant church in the last days will uphold all Ten Commandments: "And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." Revelation 12:17.

15. When man-made laws go contrary to the law of God, whom are we to obey? Acts 5:29

"We are to recognize human government as an ordinance of divine appointment, and teach obedience to it as a sacred duty, within its legitimate sphere. But when its claims conflict with the claims of God, we must obey God rather than men. God's word must be recognized as above all human legislation. A "Thus saith the Lord" is not to be set aside for a "Thus saith the church" or a "Thus saith the state." The crown of Christ is to be lifted above the diadems of earthly potentates." White, Acts of the Apostles, p68.

16. Other than their right hand, where else can one receive the mark of the beast? Revelation 13:16



The forehead is used as a figure to denote the 'intellect' or 'mind,' as the 'heart' is used to denote the disposition or affections. To mark or seal in the forehead is the same as to write in the mind. (see Hebrews 10:16).

17. John saw an angel ascending from the east having what?

Revelation 7:2

The seal is the pure mark of truth, the mark of God's approval. It attests likeness to Christ in character. Again, the seal of God, the token or sign of His authority, is found in the fourth commandment.

