

The Answering Service

FROM AMERICA'S PROMISE

Answers to questions from Radio and Tape Listeners

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Question No. 1:

I have read various different explanations about "the mark of the beast." I would like to know which, if any, are true.

Answer:

"The mark of the beast" is the topic of discussion in many circles today. Unfortunately, it is usually misunderstood by both layman and clergy.

Some think that **Revelation 13:15-18** is a description of a MAN, who will become a world dictator. Others prefer an up-dated version of that theory; which suggests that "the beast" will be a computer system, with one main center (or brain), which will compile information on Christians in order to control them. These are still traditional type predictions, cast from the same mold as those which have proven to be insufficient thus far.

The fact is that many dictators have arisen, many empires have held sway over the world; and for some time now we have been experiencing the invasion of our privacy and alienation from our lawful rights, because of those who misuse computer technology which has been extant for years.

It makes one wonder what the "preachers" are expecting. They are still looking for a future "beast" while ignoring the historical creature, who is now tightening its strangle-hold on the throat of

Christendom. The creature described in these verses cannot be fulfilled by any one particular person; neither can its influence upon people be explained or fulfilled by a simple mark, or tatoo on one's skin.

Many have tried to over-simplify this scripture by telling us that what we should fear is a visible brand on our skin. Meanwhile, the real beast has been busy brainwashing, and manipulating our people while, the preachers look for a tatoo. **Verse 18** tells us that the number of his name, "666", can be understood only by someone with "wisdom." It is spiritually discerned; not physically. After all, it doesn't take any wisdom to detect a literal brand, or tatoo on someone. Anyone with one good eye could detect it, with or without wisdom.

Perhaps, those who prefer the popular view of a physical mark would also have the true followers of Christ marked by a brand in the forehead spelling the Father's name, according to **Revelation 14:1**.

Speculation on this "mark" is rampant today. Every bookstand has one, two, or more books, warning Christians against a physical mark, and giving various descriptions of how it will appear. The reason for such broad, spectacular speculation seems to involve two elements:

1) Many self-appointed prophets have predicted certain things concerning this

prophecy. They and their supporters are frantically turning over every rock in quest of something that will fit; and, thus, fulfill THEIR rendition of that prophecy. They desperately need to find it in just the way that they predicted. Otherwise they risk losing credibility, and resulting damage to their livelihood (flock-fleecing). All is at stake for them!

2) Since the majority of the people in Christendom have been inoculated with this unfortunate doctrine, and subsequently-learned to FEAR some physical mark, our enemies are now using that fear to their own advantage. The internationalists are actually using variations of the number "666" in order to spite and intimidate Christians.. They know what scares most Christians, so they use it for that purpose. The fact is that we Christians have been fooled because of the lack of accurate Biblical teaching.

This BEAST power has been extant for many years, already. God is calling us to "come out of her!" God's plagues are falling upon Babylon, and we see her suffering greatly in both areas of power: economy and religion. We have known for some time that regardless of any mark upon your physical body, one cannot live in our society today and be exempt from the influence of this beast power.

Therefore, THE "BEAST" HAS POWER OVER PEOPLE THROUGH DECEPTION AND MIND CONTROL, RATHER THAN BY BRANDING US AS CATTLE. The reference to the mark being "in the right hand, or in the forehead," as the Bible relates, simply means WHAT WE DO (right hand), and WHAT WE BELIEVE (forehead). If we have been deceived by "the beast," it will be evidenced by our beliefs, and our actions. Thus are we marked!

This "beast" is made up of COMPO-

NENTS which are listed in **Revelation 13:1-3, and 17:7-14**. IT IS A COMPLEX CREATURE! It is not one man; it is not one man's government; it is not one church! According to the scripture it is "mountains" (nations), "kings," "kingdoms," etc. And it is controlled (ridden) by a woman (Babylon). This picture presents a composite "beast," made up of many anti-Christ governments, rulers, kings, and kingdoms; which we can trace down through history, as they have had their turn at world power under the guidance of that ancient Queen of Paganism.... .Babylon.

The portrayed contrast is MAN'S GOVERNMENT against GOD'S GOVERNMENT. Man's government follows Babylonian rules, as shown by the vision of kingdoms controlled by the harlot. God's government: which follows God's rules, is depicted in **chapter 19:1-10**. These two systems are opposed to each other; man's way . . . and God's way.

These world systems, or developments of state (called a "beast" in the Bible) have always been comprised of many people; some of which have "the mark," while some don't. Those having "the mark" are the ones who support (worship) the ungodly systems. They are either wicked, and/or deceived people who worship SELF instead of JESUS, and thus, are led to support the, beast system. Today, we see this, in part, as the impetus behind the religion of HUMANISM, which is, strangely enough, commensurate to the state religion behind COMMUNISM. The common denominator behind all paganisms is THE WORSHIP OF SELF, as explained in **Romans 1:23-25**. The number, "666" designates DEIFIED SELF. Six is considered to be the number of man (self); three is considered to be the number of deity; THREE SIXES (666) IS

THE NUMBER OF DEIFIED SELF! That describes Humanism as it has been taught for centuries, under various titles: in Egypt, in Babylon, in the Talmud (the Jewish book of law), in Communism and in various other Eastern mystic religion's, most of which are now being propagated in the western world, and America.

This same beast forced the "Woman" (Israel) to flee across the Atlantic, from Europe, some three centuries ago, as illustrated-symbolically in **Revelation 12**. Then as she gave birth to the new nation of America (called "the man child" in **verses 5 and 13**), she found protection and rest on these shores (called "the wilderness"), away from the serpent (beast). Thus, our forefathers found sanctuary here in Nqrth America, away from the beast's religious and financial oppression.

Israel was protected from this beast for several years after coming to this new country in the 1600's, but it (the beast) was finally successful in getting a foothold here, and is now attempting to put us unto complete subjection.

This beast is NOT A MAN; it is a system, or scheme devised by man. It is man attempting to usurp the throne of God. It is SELF trying to be God, manifested through SELFISH, pagan ideology and government. It is not one man, nor is it one man's government! It is simply the state of affairs, and type of society with which we end up when we follow man instead of Israel's God.
