



**GOD'S SEAL OR  
THE BEAST'S  
MARK?**



Those who don't worship the image of the beast are sentenced to death in Revelation 13:15-18.

A mark is imposed to distinguish those worshipping the image of the beast. What is that mark? Why should those worshipping the Creator refuse to receive it?

- ◇ Who should we worship?
  - ◎ Signs of God's worshippers
  - ◎ **Signs of the beast's worshippers**
- ◇ What are the distinctive marks?
  - ◎ The seal of God
  - ◎ **The mark of the beast**
- ◇ Why is the Sabbath the seal?

# WORSHIPPING GOD

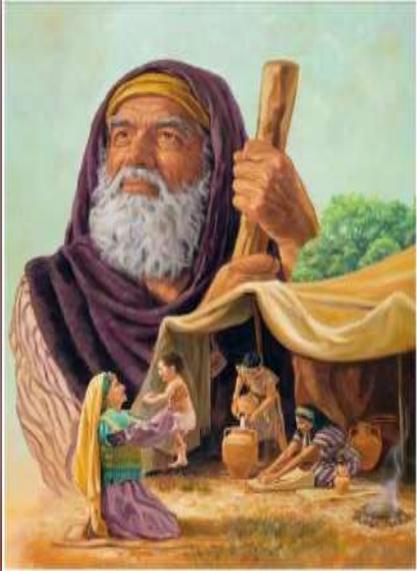
**“and you shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between Me and you.” (Genesis 17:11)**

**“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.’” (Exodus 31:13)**

**Worshipping God is more than an inner thought or feeling. It must be shown externally.**

**God established an external mark for Abraham, circumcision. That was an external sign of the circumcision of the heart (Dt. 30:6). That sign was replaced by the new birth, faith and the Commandments (Gal. 6:15 ;5:6; 1Co. 7:19)**

**The second external sign is observing the Sabbath, a day separated for worshipping God (Ex. 31:13)**



# WORSHIPPING THE BEAST

“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, 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.’” (Revelation 14:9-10)

There are six warnings against false worship in Revelation 13 and 14 (13:4, 8, 12, 15; 14: 9, 11)

The church shall think to “change times and law” (Daniel 7:25 during the Dark Ages), so a false day of worship was established: Sunday (replacing the Saturday Sabbath)



During the Reformation, this error was not corrected.

In the End Time, the message of coming back to the true worship and rejecting the false one will divide mankind into two groups of worshippers, with different destinies (Revelation 14:6-11)

# THE SEAL OF GOD

"Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads."

(Revelation 14:1)



Read Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30; 2 Timothy 2:19.  
What is the seal of God?

The seal of God has always been receiving the Holy Spirit and being separated from sin.

In addition to that seal, there's a special seal in Revelation 7:1-8 and 14:1 in the End Time, that contrasts with the mark of the beast (Revelation 13:16)

1. A seal on their foreheads: Those worshipping with conviction, either God or the beast.
2. A seal on their hand: Those worshipping the beast for self interest or for fear.



# THE MARK OF THE BEAST

“so that they could not buy or sell unless they had the mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of its name.” (Revelation 13:17 NIV)

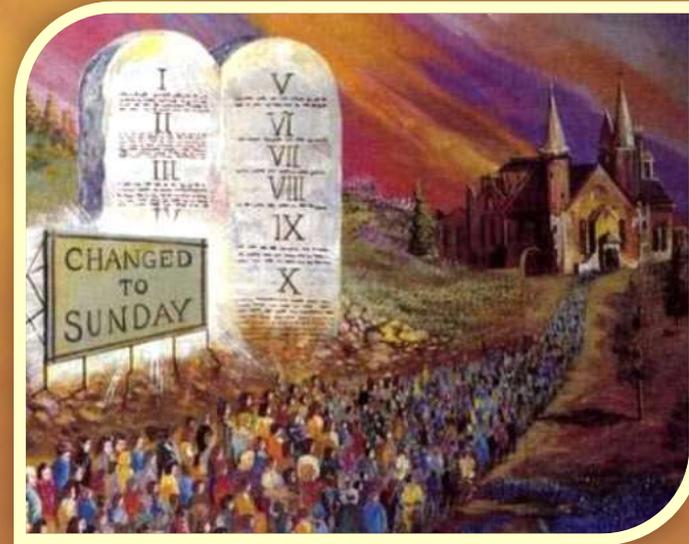


A barcode, a card, a chip  
under the skin?

Remember that Revelation 13 depicts a counterfeit, a distortion of the plan of salvation. The beast wants to be worshipped instead of God, and to impose his mark instead of God's seal.

The beast introduces a modified law and a false day of worship to attack those worshipping the Creator and keeping His Law (Rev. 14:7, 12). That is the mark of the beast.

This prophecy about the mark of the beast will be fulfilled when worshipping God on Sabbath instead of Sunday involves restrictions or even death, not before that.



# THE SABBATH AS THE SEAL

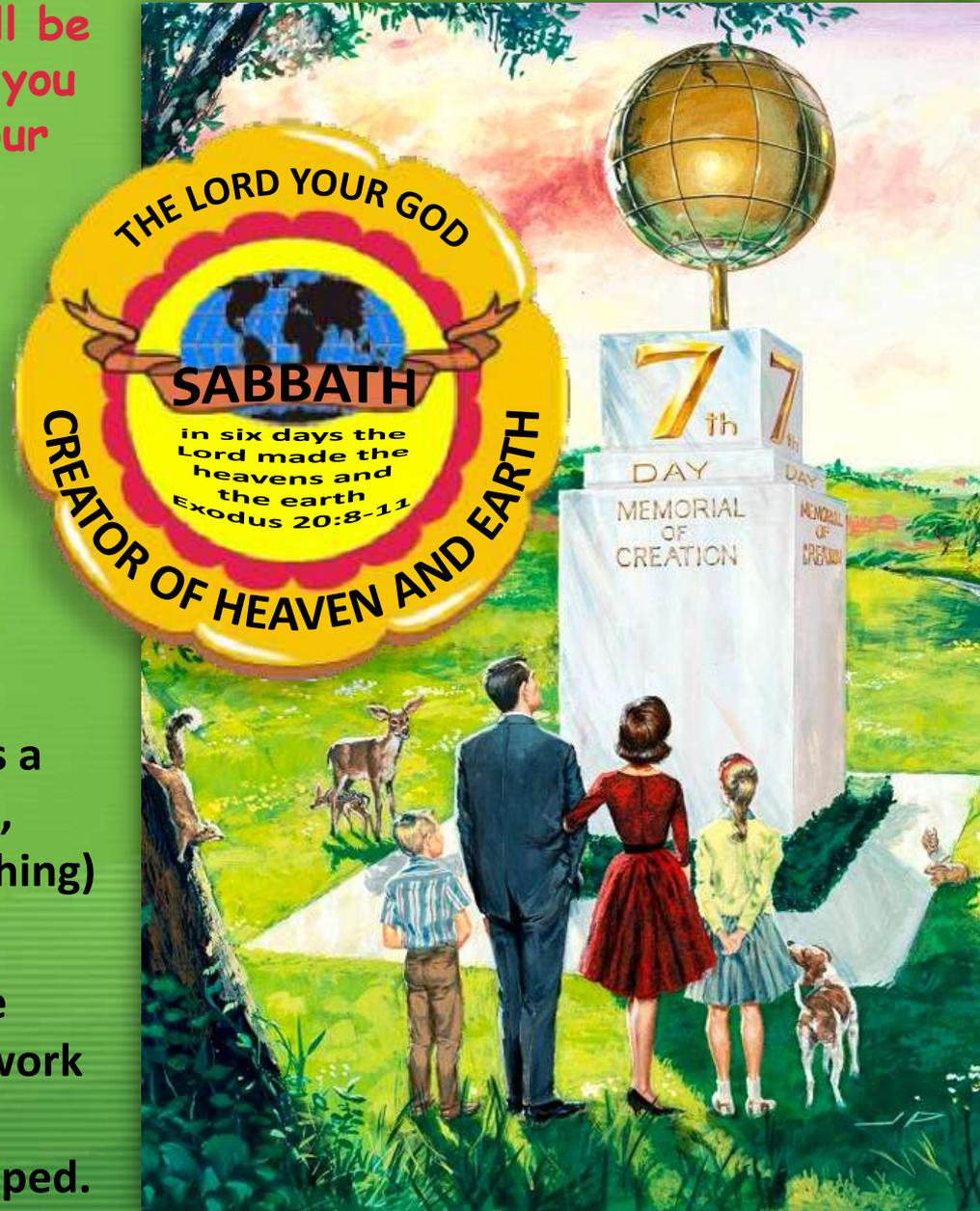
**"hallow My Sabbaths, and they will be a sign between Me and you, that you may know that I am the Lord your God." (Ezekiel 20:20)**

**The Sabbath was given to mankind at Creation. It also later became a symbol of Redemption (Deuteronomy 5:12-15)**

**In old documents, a seal included the identity, the title and the dominion of the person signing the document.**

**Exodus 20:8-11 identifies the Sabbath as a seal that includes the identity (the Lord), title (Creator) and the dominion (everything) of God.**

**This will be the distinctive mark of those who have accepted Christ's redeeming work in the end Time; those who worship the Creator the way He wants to be worshipped.**



**“But Christians of past generations observed the Sunday, supposing that in so doing they were keeping the Bible Sabbath; and there are now true Christians in every church, not excepting the Roman Catholic communion, who honestly believe that Sunday is the Sabbath of divine appointment. God accepts their sincerity of purpose and their integrity before Him. But when Sunday observance shall be enforced by law, and the world shall be enlightened concerning the obligation of the true Sabbath, then whoever shall transgress the command of God, to obey a precept which has no higher authority than that of Rome, will thereby honor popery above God. He is paying homage to Rome and to the power which enforces the institution ordained by Rome. He is worshiping the beast and his image.”**

E.G.W. (The Great Controversy, cp. 25, p. 449)



**“What are you doing, brethren, in the great work of preparation? Those who are uniting with the world are receiving the worldly mold and preparing for the mark of the beast. Those who are distrustful of self, who are humbling themselves before God and purifying their souls by obeying the truth—these are receiving the heavenly mold and preparing for the seal of God in their foreheads. When the decree goes forth and the stamp is impressed, their character will remain pure and spotless for eternity.”**

E.G.W. (Testimonies for the Church, vol. 5, ch. 23, p. 216)