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Versus  
The  
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Of The  
Beast,  
Part 4  
of 7



By Dan Maines

**The Marked Ones Versus The Mark Of The Beast, Part 4 of 7**

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## Introduction

† Revelation presents two completely different groups standing against each other during the last days of the Old Covenant age.

† One group belonged to God and carried His name upon them. The other group belonged to the Beast system and carried the Beast's mark.

† Modern prophecy teachers have turned the mark of the Beast into microchips, barcodes, and futuristic technology, but the Bible itself explains the meaning through covenant language already established in the Old Testament.

† The issue was never computer chips. The issue was allegiance, worship, obedience, and covenant identity during the Roman and Jewish persecution against the saints.

† God marked His people for protection and ownership long before Revelation was written. Satan's kingdom simply counterfeited what God had already established. (Deuteronomy 6:6-8, Ezekiel 9:4, Revelation 7:3)

### Deuteronomy 6:6-8

6 These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. 7 And you shall repeat them diligently to your sons and speak of them when you sit in your house, when you walk on the road, when you lie down, and when you get up. 8 You shall also tie them as a sign to your hand, and they shall be as frontlets on your forehead.

† God already used symbolic language about marks on the hand and forehead under the Law of Moses.

† Israel was never commanded to place literal words physically inside their skin. The language represented covenant loyalty, obedience, and devotion to God.

† The forehead represented the mind and belief system. The hand represented actions and works.

† The Beast in Revelation copies this exact covenant imagery because the Beast system demanded loyalty, worship, and obedience from the people of that generation. (Revelation 13:16-17)

† The entire foundation for understanding the mark of the Beast already existed in the Old Testament long before John wrote Revelation.

### **Ezekiel 9:4-6**

4 And the LORD said to him, "Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and make a mark on the foreheads of the people who groan and sigh over all the abominations which are being committed in its midst." 5 But to the others He said in my presence, "Go through the city after him and strike; do not let your eye have pity and do not spare. 6 Utterly kill old men, young men, female virgins, little children, and women, but do not touch any person on whom is the mark; and you shall start from My sanctuary." So they started with the elders who were before the temple.

† God marked His faithful remnant before judgment fell upon Jerusalem.

† The mark identified those who belonged to God and separated them from those facing destruction.

† Ezekiel's marking vision becomes the background for Revelation where God again seals His servants before

covenant judgment falls upon Jerusalem in AD 70.

† The seal of God was about divine ownership and protection, not a visible physical brand.

† Revelation uses this same judgment pattern because the destruction of Jerusalem was approaching once again.  
(Revelation 7:1-3)

### **Revelation 7:2-3**

2 And I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, holding the seal of the living God; and he called out with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, 3 saying, "Do not harm the earth, or the sea, or the trees until we have sealed the bond-servants of our God on their foreheads."

† Before judgment came, God sealed His people just like He did in Ezekiel.

† These sealed servants were the faithful remnant protected spiritually through the coming covenant collapse.

† The seal identified who truly belonged to Christ during the Roman and Jewish persecution.

† This sealing stands directly opposite of the mark of the Beast in Revelation 13.

† Revelation constantly contrasts two kingdoms, two cities, two women, and now two marks.

### **Revelation 13:16-18**

16 And he causes all, the small and the great, the rich and the poor, and the free and the slaves, to be given a mark on their

right hands or on their foreheads, 17 and he decrees that no one will be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, either the name of the beast or the number of his name. 18 Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man; and his number is six hundred and sixty-six.

† The Beast demanded visible allegiance from society during the first century Roman world.

† Caesar worship controlled trade, politics, and public loyalty throughout the empire.

† Refusing allegiance to the Beast system could cost believers economically, socially, and physically.

† The mark symbolized submission to the persecuting power that stood against Christ and His people.

† Nero Caesar fits the number 666 through Hebrew gematria exactly within the first century context.

† John's readers were told to calculate the number because THEY already lived during the time of the Beast.

† Nothing in the text says the mark would appear thousands of years later through modern technology.

† The Beast's mark was the counterfeit version of God's seal upon His people.

## **Revelation 14:1**

1 Then I looked, and behold, the Lamb was standing on Mount Zion, and with Him 144,000 who had His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads.

† The followers of Christ also carried a mark upon their foreheads.

† God's people were spiritually identified by His name, just as the Beast's followers were identified by the Beast.

† This proves the language is covenantal and symbolic rather than technological.

† Nobody believes God physically tattooed His literal name onto the skin of the 144,000.

† In the same way, the mark of the Beast was not a literal microchip or barcode.

† Revelation presents two identities, two loyalties, and two kingdoms at war during the last days of Old Covenant Jerusalem.

### **Revelation 14:9-11**

9 Then another angel, a third one, followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand, 10 he also will drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is mixed in full strength in the cup of His anger; and he will 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; they have no rest day and night, those who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

† The mark of the Beast was directly connected to worship and allegiance.

† Revelation never describes people accidentally receiving the mark through commerce or technology.

† Receiving the mark involved knowingly joining the persecuting Beast system against Christ and His saints.

† This was a spiritual and covenant issue centered in the first century crisis leading to the destruction of Jerusalem.

† The Beast system opposed Christ while the sealed saints followed the Lamb wherever He went. (Revelation 14:4)

## **Historical References**

† Irenaeus connected the number of the Beast to Nero and the Roman Empire during the early church period.

† Eusebius recorded the severe persecution of Christians under Nero before the destruction of Jerusalem.

† Tacitus wrote about Nero blaming Christians for the fire of Rome and subjecting them to brutal persecution.

† Josephus described the horrors surrounding Jerusalem before AD 70 and the massive covenant judgment that followed.

† Early Christians understood Revelation within their own generation and persecution context, not as events thousands of years later.

## **How It Applies To Us Today**

† Believers today still face pressure to compromise truth for acceptance within worldly systems.

† The spirit behind the Beast still operates whenever governments, cultures, or religious systems demand loyalty above Christ.

† God's people are still called to stand faithful even when pressured economically or socially.

† Our identity isn't found in political systems, worldly approval, or human power. Our identity is found in Christ.

† The sealed saints followed the Lamb through persecution, and believers today are called to do the same.

† Revelation was written to encourage suffering believers that the Beast system would fall but Christ's kingdom would remain forever.

## **Q & A Appendix**

**Q:** Was the mark of the Beast a literal physical mark?

**A:** The Bible presents the mark as covenant allegiance and worship connected to the Beast system. The language comes directly from Old Testament covenant imagery involving the forehead and hand. (Deuteronomy 6:6-8, Revelation 13:16-18)

**Q:** Why do futurists connect the mark to computer chips and barcodes?

**A:** Modern prophecy systems remove Revelation from its first century context. John's audience was told they could understand and calculate the number of the Beast in their own time. (Revelation 13:18)

**Q:** Was Nero really connected to 666?

**A:** Yes. Nero Caesar written in Hebrew letters equals 666 through gematria, which was a common Jewish numbering method in the first century.

**Q:** What was the difference between God's seal and the Beast's mark?

**A:** God's seal identified those loyal to Christ while the Beast's mark identified those loyal to the persecuting Beast system. Revelation contrasts two spiritual allegiances. (Revelation 7:3, Revelation 14:1)

**Q:** Could believers accidentally receive the mark of the Beast?

**A:** No. Revelation connects the mark directly to worship, allegiance, and submission to the Beast. It wasn't accidental or hidden technology. (Revelation 14:9-11)

**Q:** Are believers today still marked by God?

**A:** Yes. Believers belong to Christ and are identified spiritually as His people. The New Testament says believers are sealed by the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 1:13, Ephesians 4:30)

**† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †**

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## **Source Index**

† Deuteronomy 6:6-8; Ezekiel 9:4-6; Revelation 7:2-3; Revelation 13:16-18; Revelation 14:1; Revelation 14:9-11; Ephesians 1:13; Ephesians 4:30

† Irenaeus, Against Heresies, Book 5, Chapter 30; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 2, Chapter 25; Tacitus, Annals, Book 15, Chapter 44; Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 6, Chapter 5

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