

1. Any student of the Bible, especially one interested in eschatology, is well aware there are several prophecies found in the Book of Revelation regarding the Mark of the Beast. Indeed, throughout history, many have speculated on what this mark will actually be and how these prophecies will ultimately be fulfilled. During these most recent times, there has been an increased interest in the topic with a great many scholars and ministries having committed an incredible amount of research and study trying to predict how this most cryptic of prophecies will be accomplished.
2. It must be noted from the outset that this video will make no attempts at identifying what exactly the Mark of the Beast will be, but rather seeks to explore WHY there will be a mark of the beast. I personally believe understanding the motivation for the Mark of the Beast is perhaps more important than being able to predict how it will one day manifest. In fact, I'm of the opinion that truly understanding the reasoning behind the mark of the beast provides the best strategy for avoiding it, no matter what form it eventually takes.
3. While we may not currently know how and when the Mark of the Beast will be given, our adversary himself admits to the true motivation behind it. Isaiah 14:12-14, "How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.'
4. The pride and jealousy of our adversary reveals his motive. Because he desires to be like the Most High, he will intentionally conduct himself and strategically organize events in a manner similar to that of the Most High. However, when our adversary copies the methods of Yahweh, He will always do so by twisting, distorting, or otherwise perverting them in some way. The Mark of the Beast is a classic example of this tactic. Revelation 13:16, He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their **right hand** or on **their foreheads**. The placement of the mark on the hand and forehead sounds very much like the instructions the children of

Israel were given regarding how they were to remember all the commandments of God.

5. Deuteronomy 11:18 "Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and bind them **as a sign on your hand**, and they shall be **as frontlets between your eyes**. There are some that believe this is to be taken literally, In fact, the phylacteries worn by many orthodox jews, which are an attempt to obey this command literally, contain only a few key verses and they are only worn during certain times of synagogue services. I currently believe the context of chapter 11 makes it clear that this is figurative language.
6. I believe this verse is using a figure of speech that is poetically instructing us to **always** have the law of God in the forefront of our mind, allowing it to constantly influence our thoughts and actions. This same command is also found in Deuteronomy 6, and both chapters also instruct believers to diligently teach their children all the commandments of God. (show text on split screen) It goes on to explain that the ultimate reason for carefully guarding the commandments is so "that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land of which Yahweh swore to your fathers to give them..." Furthermore, both chapters also include cautionary warnings against disobedience to the law of God, which can lead to many curses and punishments.
7. So when we compare these instructions to what scripture teaches concerning the Mark of the Beast, we can see our enemy attempting to be like the Most High. Again, Moses uses what many scholars believe to be metaphorical language directing the People of Israel to figuratively bind his law as a sign on their hand or forehead so that it will always be in their mind, guiding what they think and do, which will lead to blessings and long life for them and their children. The Mark of the Beast, however, will actually be a literal sign placed on or in the hand or forehead that will directly effect what people can and cannot do, and by extension, what they think. Obedience to the Mark of the Beast will be rewarded with continued access to the world's goods and services, while disobedience to the Mark will lead to many curses and punishments, perhaps even execution. Although there are many similarities between these two signs, perhaps the greatest difference is

that the Mark of the Beast is specifically designed to test and punish all Bible believers.

8. It is also quite likely that the Mark of the Beast draws inspiration from the 4th commandment to keep the Sabbath day holy. Three times in scripture we are told that the Sabbath is a sign between us and Yahweh. Exodus 31:13 "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 Yahweh who sanctifies you.'" It is fascinating to note that the Hebrew word translated as "sign" carries the meaning of being "**a distinguishing mark**" Thus, keeping the Sabbath day holy is a distinguishing mark between the Most High and his children. While there are some differing opinions, the majority of scholars agree that the true Biblical Sabbath is on Saturday, rather than Sunday. And keeping it holy involves resting and refraining from work, or making anyone else work, for the entire day. If you are interested in learning more about the Sabbath, please see my video, The Sabbath Blessing,
9. We can also glean more about our enemy's motivation behind the mark of the beast by analyzing certain interactions with Satan as recorded in the Bible. Perhaps the most famous of these conversations was with Eve in the Garden of Eden in which he caused her to doubt what Yahweh had commanded and thus became the reason sin entered into the world. Scripture also records Satan's rationale behind torturing the life of Job. Twice in the Book of Job, Satan tells Yahweh, "But now, stretch out Your hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely **curse You to Your face!**" And, of course, our adversary even tried tempting Yeshua during His 40 days of fasting in the desert as recorded in the 4th chapters of both Matthew and Luke. Satan tried to entice the Messiah with food when He was desperately hungry. He tried to convince Yeshua to test the Most High by jumping from the pinnacle of the temple and having angels save him. And finally, Satan ironically tried to offer our Savior worldly power if Christ would bow down and worship Satan.
10. These historical events reveal common themes that can teach us a great deal about the future plans of our adversary. Satan attacked the life of Job by killing his children, taking nearly all of his physical possessions and provisions, and finally assaulting his personal health.

Similarly, when Yeshua was stricken with hunger from 40 days of fasting, Satan first tempted him with food. So clearly, physical needs and personal relationships are an easy target for our enemy to exploit. Obviously, the Mark of the Beast will attack these exact issues since refusal to take the mark restricts one's ability to buy and sell. And there will also be much interpersonal turmoil as families and friends are inevitably divided over whether or not they should take the mark.

11. It would seem at first that Satan also tempted Eve with food by persuading her to eat from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. However, it was the promise that she "would be like God" that convinced Eve to take and eat. So ultimately, just like he did when he offered Yeshua all the kingdoms of the world, Satan was tempting Eve with power. And this temptation caused Eve to break a commandment given directly from the Most High himself. Satan persuaded Eve to disregard that command because she desired the wisdom and power that she believed would come with partaking of the fruit. Again, the perks and privileges that will assuredly be connected with receiving the mark of the beast will certainly be very enticing. Just like Eve, people will probably feel empowered by these special rewards and will be enticed to disregard the direct commandment given by the Most High to not take the mark.
12. But perhaps the most diabolical aspect concerning the Mark of the Beast is that believers will ultimately have to individually choose whether they will trust God or not. Without question, the circumstances surrounding the Mark of the Beast will be orchestrated to seem completely and totally hopeless. I think millions of believers will lose faith when their understanding of the timeline for the last days doesn't occur as they had hoped. Just as Satan had intended with Job, when they are left with nothing and realize they are ill prepared to endure the tribulation, they will feel like cursing God to his face. It will then seem like there is simply no chance for survival without agreeing to receive the mark of the beast. In essence, believers will be presented with the opportunity to test God and judge for themselves whether He meant what he said about not taking the Mark.
13. Revelation 14 is horrifically clear on what happens to those who take the mark. "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." Because of the unprecedented tragic world events that will no doubt be taking place, there will unfortunately be some believers who will be deceived into trading their salvation for the temporary safety offered by the Mark of the Beast.

14. We know that our enemy has come to kill, steal, and destroy. Yeshua stated in John 8:44 that Satan was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. And Peter charged us that we must be sober and vigilant; because our adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. [1Peter 5:8] Knowing this, we should take Satan's tactics seriously that we may recognize them and thus defuse their power.
15. The Mark of the Beast is the culmination of the war strategy that our adversary began in the Garden of Eden. His primary goal has always been to exalt himself and diminish the Most High. All of his various war tactics are designed to accomplish the same end goal: causing people to doubt what the Most High has instructed and leading them into disobedience. This is, after all, the very definition of sin as taught in 1 John 3:4, Everyone who sins is breaking God's law, for all sin is contrary to the law of God. (NLT) This is why our enemy is so fixated on convincing people it's okay to sin, because he KNOWS the wages of sin is death. He knows that every person he entices into sin becomes separated from our Heavenly Father. Ephesians 2:1-2 (NLT) elaborates on this fact. "Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil--the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God." This is WHY we need a savior. Romans 5:19, For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.

16. All Bible believers agree that Christ lived a sinless life. The reason that his life was without sin is because He perfectly kept the Law of God. And just like in the Old Testament, when a person placed their hand on the head of animal that was to be sacrificed, the sins of that person were transferred to the animal, who had done no wrong. The animal then died, paying the price the sinner deserved and offering a temporary atonement for sin. With His death, our Messiah, being fully man and fully God, payed the penalty for ALL sin. But to complete the transaction, we must place our faith in Him to have His righteousness transferred to us.
17. If we truly understand this transaction, that Yeshua's sinless life is a result of Him having kept the law of God, then we should want to try and follow His example as best as we can. Especially when we understand that our enemy's main strategy has ALWAYS been to convince us it's okay to sin? And the Mark of the Beast is the final goal of his millennia long grand scheme. And yet, even without knowing exactly what form this mark will take, it is easily avoided by simply following Yeshua's example. Imitating the life of the Messiah is the perfect antidote to the mark because it will keep us from doing anything that would break God's law, which is the ultimate goal of the Mark of the Beast.
18. If you are new to the idea that modern believers are expected to be keeping the commandments of God, otherwise known as the Torah, or the law of Moses, I would invite you to consider a number of my other videos that seek to lovingly and humbly explore important aspects of the Hebraic origins of our faith and demonstrate how all believers can learn to show love to the Father through obedience to His Torah. The entirety of scripture is in harmonious agreement that the law of God is very much still in effect and applicable to the lives of all believers and followers of Christ.
19. Ultimately, obeying our Heavenly Father is a blessing and not a burden. As mentioned before, it is a sign, or a distinguishing mark between Him and those who are truly His children. Furthermore, I wholeheartedly believe that following the example of our Messiah and pursuing Torah with all our hearts will be the most reliable strategy for avoiding the Mark of the Beast, no matter what form it eventually takes. I believe

scripture makes this abundantly clear when we consider who our enemy focuses on in his final days, when he knows his time is short.

20. In Revelation 14:12, immediately after the third angel declares the punishment for those who worship the beast and his image and receive the mark, we read the following. “Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.” In this verse, scripture affirms the strategy for overcoming the Mark of the Beast. Maintaining faith in Yeshua as our Savior, AND, diligently keeping the commandments of God.
21. Again, we know the Mark of the Beast will be specifically designed to cause people to break some aspect of Yahweh’s law. So if we have patiently studied the law and accustomed ourselves to faithfully walking it out, we will not be tempted by anything that would require us to transgress it, because that would be a sin. So when the Mark of the Beast is eventually revealed, it will be immediately obvious to those who are already obeying Torah. ANY world wide initiative having to do with the right hand or the forehead that will cause you to break any commandment of God will be clearly recognized as the mark of the beast, and must then be avoided at all costs.
22. I believe it is very plausible that all believers who hold fast to their faith in Yeshua, and who are also obeying the Law of Moses will not be fooled into taking the Mark of the Beast. I think this is why Revelation 12:17 mentions that the dragon goes to make war with this exact population of believers. “And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.” For more on this, please consider my video, “Obedience in the Last Days”
23. So as modern believers, since we know the Mark of the Beast is eventually coming, we should be actively preparing our resistance against it. Even if it doesn’t come in our own lifetime, it’s entirely possible that it will manifest in the life our children or grandchildren, and thus they must be spiritually equipped now. When we understand that our enemy’s goal has always been to cause man to sin, and that sin is transgression of God’s law, we should immediately recognize that the easiest way to defeat our adversary, is through obedience to our

Creator. Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. [James 4:7 NKJV]