

THE MARK OF THE BEAST

JAMIE MCNAB

13.2.16

Revelation 13:11-18 (NKJV)

11 Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. (Islamic antichrist)

12 And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

13 He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men.

14 And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast (first beast ... end-time Islamic empire made up of 10 Islamic nations), telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who was wounded by the sword and lived.

15 He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not **worship** the image of the beast to be killed.

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,
17 and that no one may buy or sell **except one who has the mark or 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 it is the number of a man: **His number is 666.**

To "**worship**" is an act of the heart. God won't be happy with those who choose to worship any other God such as Allah.

Revelation 14:9-13 (NKJV)

9 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,

10 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.

11 And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

12 Here is the patience (endurance) of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' "

"Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labours, and their works follow them." (It looks like because they keep the commandments ... and the faith ... they are killed!)

Revelation 15:1-2 (NKJV)

1 Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath of God is complete.

2 And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast, over his image and over his mark and over the number of his name, standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God. (These are the ones that did not succumb to the beast)

Revelation 16:1-2 (NKJV)

1 Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go and pour out the bowls of the wrath of God on the earth."

2 So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.

Revelation 19:11-14 (NKJV)

11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.

13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.

Revelation 19:20-21 (NKJV)

20 Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.

21 And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. (The Lord Jesus) And all the birds were filled with their flesh.

Revelation 20:4 (NKJV)

4 And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

So. What is the mark? One very popular belief is some type of electronic computer chip implanted under the skin ... perhaps linked to your bank account or religious affiliation. The end-time powers could invalidate your id and hence you couldn't buy and sell. The traditional view that we grew up with is that the mark of the beast is enforced Sunday worship. Of course ... the mark need not be a physical/observable mark ... it may be figurative. After all ... the beast is a figurative symbol. Why not his mark?

Revelation 9:3-4 (NKJV)

3 Then out of the smoke locusts came upon the earth. And to them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.

4 They were commanded not to harm the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only those men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads. (physical and observable? No. The forehead in a sense pictures the mind ... the allegiance, the worship ... a figurative reference)

Let's look at some other verses that have figurative references.

Exodus 13:3 (NKJV)

3 And Moses said to the people: "Remember this day in which you went out of Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for by strength of hand the Lord brought you out of this place. No leavened bread shall be eaten.

Exodus 13:6-10 (NKJV)

6 Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a feast to the Lord.

7 Unleavened bread shall be eaten seven days. And no leavened bread shall be seen among you, nor shall leaven be seen among you in all your quarters.

8 And you shall tell your son in that day, saying, 'This is done because of what the Lord did for me when I came up from Egypt.'

9 **It shall be as a sign to you on your hand and as a memorial between your eyes, that the Lord's law may be in your mouth; for with a strong hand the Lord has brought you out of Egypt.**

10 You shall therefore keep this ordinance in its season from year to year.

So keeping God's laws are an identifying sign ... Obviously not a physical, observable sign ... it's figurative.

Let's look at another figurative use of "signs and marks". It could turn out to both. It doesn't necessarily have to be something physical.

Exodus 31:12-17 (NKJV)

12 And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying,

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 the Lord who sanctifies you. (The Sabbath is a sign)**

14 You shall keep the Sabbath, therefore, for it is holy to you. Everyone who profanes it shall surely be put to death; for whoever does any work on it, that person shall be cut off from among his people.

15 Work shall be done for six days, but the seventh is the Sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death.

16 Therefore the children of Israel shall keep the Sabbath, to observe the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant.

17 **It is a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever;** for in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed.' "

Obviously ... if we keep the Sabbath it affects our hand (labouring/working) ... and our forehead (our allegiance and worship).

So ... is the mark of the beast ... a micro-chip ... or Sunday worship ... as traditionally taught in the Churches of God?

Moving on to the next alternative ... The Islamic Realm. So ... what might be the mark of the beast if not the micro-chip or Sunday observance?

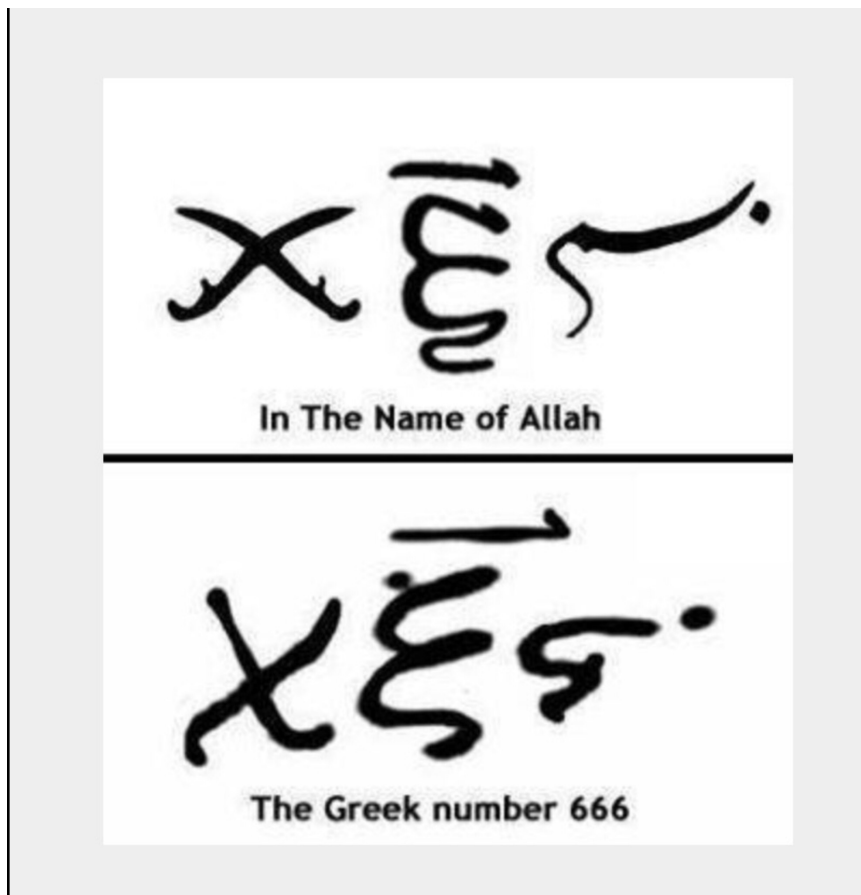
Revelation 13:16-18 (NKJV)

16 He (Islamic antichrist) causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads,

17 and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number (multitude) of his name.

18 Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding count the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666.

In the Greek: 666 is written as 3 characters ... Chi-xi-stigma. Did John originally write down 3 characters that he saw (in vision) ... not recognising them ... he drew them. What if they looked like the Greek for 666. There are 3 Arabic letters in common use which are virtually identical characters to the Greek "666". They appear all over the Islamic world today. They are worn mainly by jihadists on their headband and on their armbands. It is a phrase in Arabic ... the first 2 characters mean "In the name of Allah" ... and the final character ... the crossed swords of Islam. (Remember: Arabic is read from right to left). See illustration below (notes continue thereafter)



Looking to the rest of verse 18 ... the word "number" is Arithmos in Greek ... which can mean a multitude. So we can translate verse 18. "Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding count the multitude of the beast, for it is the multitude of a man: **His multitude is "In the name of Allah"**

Who is "the man" since Mohammed is the key man in Islam. The perfect example to all Muslims. Let's replace, "man" by "Mohammed". Then verse 18 now reads:

Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding count the multitude of the beast, for it is the multitude of Mohammed: **His multitude is (or comes in) "In the name of Allah".**

This could be dual ...not only physical headbands/armbands but also signifying the submission to Allah and Islam.

Revelation 17:1-6 (NKJV)

1 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and talked with me, saying to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters, (what are the many waters? See verse 15: The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues)

2 with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication."

3 So he carried me (John) away in the Spirit into the wilderness. (Eremos = Desert or lonely place ... not Rome/New York.) And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. (The traditional view is this is the Catholic Church. The alternative would be ... this is the very aggressive religion ... the false religion of Islam)

4 The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication.

5 And on her forehead a name was written:

MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

6 I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marvelled with great amazement.

Revelation 17:18 (NKJV)

18 And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth." (Not just a false religion. It is tied to a great city ... Perhaps Mecca? ... the birthplace of Islam ... the very centre of Islam ... 1.67 billion Muslims pray 5 times per day facing Mecca. They are commanded to visit at least once in their lifetime on pilgrimage. Mecca is certainly in the desert)