



The conclusion of our study on 666. Why did God ordain this number and not 333 or 777? The answers appears in OT parallels and also is seen 12 times in the book of Revelation.

# The Mark of the Beast

God has made sure that the number "666" represents something evil for nearly two thousand years. Almost everyone who has read anything in the Bible knows this number is associated with evil and mystery.

During the Great Tribulation, the gospel of the 144,000 will be preached to ALL the world. Their focus will be to move people of light into sunlight. Some people will remain in darkness, however many of those can still have salvation. After 2 1/2 years, all people will have taken their positions, and the gospel stalls out.

We find in the following Scripture that God is holding the devil back to be released at the right time.

2 Thes. 2:6 And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time.

2 Thes. 2:10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 2 Thes. 2:11-12 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: [12] That they all might be damned <u>who believed not the truth</u>, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Jesus allows this because most of the world's inhabitants will have rejected the gospel by this time. Therefore, Jesus turns the world over to the devil to bring the drama to a climax.

How can someone refuse to believe the truth unless they have HEARD the truth? They have heard the truth preached by the 144,000 and still do not believe. So at the 5th trumpet, God releases satan from the spiritual world (abyss). This is the time of the 3rd angels message that declares not to take the mark of the beast, or they will suffer the wrath of the 7 last plagues. During the plagues, God's children will be cut off from all life support, however God will sustain them.

Here comes the rebellion (mentioned in 2 Thes.) where God intends to flush out His sheep from the group that refused the truth after they heard it.

Obviously, everyone is not going to be pleased with the course of events taking place at this time. Remember, the 144,000 have been proclaiming truth during this period of time. So, the devil will enable and empower civil authorities to put to death anyone who refuses to "worship the image." The civil authorities will be "puppets" that carry out the evil schemes of the devil

The dividing of groups is a Biblical principle that we see clearly in the Old Testament. Lets review them:

Exodus 18:21 Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens:

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### CHAOS AND REBELLION EXPLODES

Numbers 31:14 And Moses was wroth with the officers of the host, with the captains over thousands, and captains over hundreds, which came from the battle.

2 Samuel 18:1-2 And David numbered the people that were with him, and set captains of thousands and captains of hundreds over them.

This military principle designed by God continues in today's military. We see platoons, regiments, squads, all that have a leader.

Because of chaos and rebellion in the world, the Devil, after he appears, will do the same.

#### Consider this:

The beast that owns the mark is the beast of greatest and highest authority. In other words, the mark of the beast cannot come from the composite beast because no particular religious or political power can force the rest of the world to comply with its demands. The composite beast has many members and as such, one member cannot demand submission from the rest of its members. If it could, then it would not be a composite beast. (Remember the composite beast is a coalition of world-wide church/state authorities)

Check this verse—Rev. 13:18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number <u>of the beast:</u> for it is the number <u>of a man</u>; and his number is six hundred threescore and six.

These Greek pronouns are "<u>possessive</u>". So those who have understanding will know it is the number "belonging to the beast".

The devil will divide everyone up into groups of 1,000. There will be 999 of those who wear the mark on their hands, and the leader of the group will wear it on his forehead. Why?

The reason for the distinction between the forehead and right hand is rank. Those who serve in Lucifer's government as officials will receive a tattoo on their foreheads as a mark of their rank, devotion and loyalty in Lucifer's court. You might be surprised to learn that this process is mandated by God to make Lucifer's deception all the more secure. Notice what the Bible says about the 144,000: "Then I looked, and there before me was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads." (Revelation 14:1) In other words, the devil is required by God to imitate the distinction that Jesus and the Father are going to bestow on their own servants! The contrast, of course, is like daylight and darkness. One will be an ugly and hideous tattoo, while the other will be a glorious light that reflects the beauty and holiness of God. Nevertheless, officers in Lucifer's government will have the mark of the beast that is the assumed name of the devil, tattooed on their foreheads. (Incidentally, in most military organizations today, officers display rank on their collars or foreheads using hats.)



As you clearly see, this is another of Satan's clever counterfeits.

What about the number "666?" The rank and file of the devil's one-world church/government will receive a tattoo on their saluting (right) hand showing allegiance and loyalty to this new order. The irony is important here. Men and women will willfully and knowingly submit to this evil tattoo rather than put their faith in God. The tattoo must be clearly visible since it will have to be displayed to buy or sell what few precious rations are available. When Jesus comes, there will be two classes of people – the slaves of the devil and the free in Christ – the marked and the unmarked.

In Revelation 9, when the devil is released, he is allowed to kill 1/3. 1/3 of each 999 group is

### **3 GROUPS OF PEOPLE REMAIN**



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equal to 333. (One third). Those spared will be two thirds (2/3) or 666 out of 999. Those spared will now be loyal to Satan. Let me explain:

When the devil is released from the abyss (Rev 9:1-3) he is not allowed to harm the people with the seal of God. (Rev 9:4). There are 3 classes of people at this time. The people of God, the people who follow Lucifer, and the "refusnicks". They do not follow either, they refuse to be a part of either side. Lucifer kills the third who are the refusnicks and spares 2/3 who receive his mark to show loyalty of being spared. After subduing all that he can through torture, the devil then kills the remaining opposition, which the Bible says equals one third of the wicked. This is the 6th trumpet war of Rev 9:14-21 (How clever God is to use Lucifer to help in the separation of the sheep and goats!) And notice the counterfeit..... God's mercy spares 2/3; Lucifer shows mercy on 2/3 also.

When it comes to dealing with rebellion, the ancient custom of sparing one-third and destroying two-thirds is clearly Biblical. This fact is important to our study on the mark of the beast because during the sixth trumpet, the devil will generously spare two-thirds of mankind. (Revelation 9:16)

Ezekiel 5:12 God killed 2/3 and spared 1/3. 2 Sam 8:2 David killed 2/3 and spared 1/3 Zach 13:8 2/3 struck down and perish

**TWELVE TIMES** in the trumpets, notice how God spares 2/3 and only kills a third. This reveals God's infinite mercy. Rev. 8:7-12



The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the <u>third part of trees was burnt up</u>, and all green grass was burnt up. [8] And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and <u>the third part of</u> the sea became blood; [9] And the <u>third part of the creatures</u> which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the <u>third part of the ships were destroyed</u>. [10] And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the <u>third part of the rivers</u>, and upon the fountains of waters; [11] And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the <u>third part of the waters became wormwood</u>; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter. [12] And the fourth angel sounded, and the <u>third part of the moon</u>, and the third <u>part of the stars</u>; so as the <u>third part of them was darkened</u>, and the day shone <u>not for a third part of it</u>, and the <u>night likewise</u>.

This repetition of one-third is deliberate. God assures us twelve times that He is generous – even though He will release His wrath on the world during the seven trumpets. Instead of justifiably destroying three-thirds of Earth, God spares two-thirds of everything.

Remember the practice of ancient kings killing two-thirds? The devil will only kill one-third because he wants to appear generous. The result is that 666 people will be "mercifully" spared out of each group. To conduct business and receive rations from Lucifer's government, all people who have sworn allegiance to him will have to wear a tattoo on their right hand. This tattoo, showing the number 666, will identify the 666 people spared from death.

There will be no mystery to the meaning of 666 when the time comes. This literal number indicates who submits to Lucifer. The Bible says, "This calls for wisdom [to understand the number before it is implemented]. If anyone has insight, let him calculate [do the math] the number of [belonging to] the beast, for it is man's number [in other words, the number 666 represents the number of people who belong to the Man of Sin – 2 Thessalonians 2]. His number [of survivors in each group] is 666." (Revelation 13:18, insertions mine)

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## **CONFLICT OF THE AGES**

Revelation tells a story about two great kings. One is noble, righteous and loving and the other is mean, evil and violent. The two kings are about to declare war on each other and the souls of men and women are the prize



Amid the conflict, Jesus Is our hope and Salvation