

## The MARK and IMAGE of the BEAST, part 2 quotes

1) “And [the Lamb-like beast] deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.” Revelation 13:14-17.

“And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.” Revelation 14:9-12.

“And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God. And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints. Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy: for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest.” Revelation 15:2-4.

“And the first [angel with plagues] went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image.” Revelation 16:2.

“And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.” Revelation 19:20.

“And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.” Revelation 20:4.

## 2) The Image of the Beast

There is an ever growing confusion and misunderstanding over the identification of the Image of the Beast. The vast majority of Christians in the Protestant and Evangelical ranks believe that the Image of the Beast is Satan himself, or is the Anti-christ, or some other being. Many in our separated ranks even believe this Image of the Beast to be the Sunday Law.

What exactly is this Image of the Beast? The Greek word used for "Image" is "eikon", and it translates and means, "a likeness, representation, resemblance, image" (Strong's, word #1504). This Image of the Beast is a likeness or representation or resemblance or an image of the Beast. This means that this Image is not the Beast itself, but is another entity that resembles the Beast or the Roman Catholic Church. This means that the Image of this Beast represents another religious group that resembles Roman Catholicism!

3) Who represents the Leopard-like Beast? This Leopard-like Beast refers only to the Roman Catholic Church (see Daniel 7, in connection with Revelation 13:1-8).

4) Who represents the Lamb-like Beast with two horns? This Lamb-like Beast refers only to the United States of America. The United States was seen "coming up out of the earth" instead of the sea, signifying that instead of overthrowing other powers to establish itself, the US arose in territory previously unoccupied, and grew up gradually and peacefully. And the lamb-like horns symbolizing innocence and gentleness would represent the character of the US government, established upon the two fundamental principles — republicanism and protestantism, or civil and religious liberty (see also Revelation 13:9-13; Spirit of Prophecy, vol 4, p 277; Bible Commentary, vol 7, p 975 col 1, p 983 col 2).

The United States with its civil government and powers originally based upon the principles of Republicanism and Protestantism, represents this Lamb-like Beast. But this Beast does not remain lamb-like or peaceful for ever, because we are told in Revelation 13:11, 15 that the United States will speak with the voice of a dragon, and declare that an Image to the Beast of Roman Catholicism should be formed.

5) Who represents this Image of the Beast or this Image to Catholicism? As the Catholic church is a religious body united with and using the civil power of the nation she controls to enforce her decrees and dogmas upon the people, so then the "Image" of this Beast would be a Protestant religious ecclesiastical power united with and using the civil power of the United States to force obedience of all peoples to the rules and commands of the church.

"The image is made to the first or leopard-like beast, which is the one brought to view in the third angel's message. By this first beast is represented the Roman Church, an ecclesiastical body clothed with civil power, having authority to punish all dissenters. The image to the beast represents another religious body clothed with similar power. The formation of this image is the work of that beast whose peaceful rise and mild professions render it so striking a symbol of the United States. Here is to be found an image of the papacy. When the churches of our land, uniting upon such points of faith as are held by them in common, shall influence the State to enforce their decrees and sustain their institutions, then will Protestant America have formed an image of the Roman hierarchy. Then the true church will be assailed by persecution, as were God's ancient people." Spirit of Prophecy, vol 4, p 278.

When the Protestant churches of America waive their differences in doctrinal beliefs, unite upon the same common points of faith, and shall call upon and influence the United States civil government to enforce their rules and commands, then the different churches of Protestantism will have formed themselves into an image resembling the Beast of Roman Catholicism!

6) "The Lord has shown me clearly that **the image of the beast will be formed before probation closes; for it is to be the great test for the people of God, by which their eternal destiny will be decided**....Rev 13:11-17....This is the test that the people of God must have before they are sealed." Bible Commentary, vol 7, p 976 col 1.

All the different churches of Protestantism, whose leaders have formed their church organization into a replica of Romanism, make up this Image of the Beast. And we are told that the great test for the people of God will be upon these different churches of Protestantism which image Roman Catholicism.

7) What must occur before any of the Protestant churches can form themselves into an Image of Catholicism?

"It was apostasy that led the early church to seek the aid of the civil government, and this prepared the way for the development of the papacy--the beast. Said Paul: "There" shall "come a falling away, . . . and that man of sin be revealed." 2 Thessalonians 2:3. **So apostasy in the church will prepare the way for the image to the beast.**" Great Controversy, p 443-444.

Before any of the Protestant churches can form themselves into this Image of the Beast they must first refuse to obey God's light and truth and choose apostasy and Satan's darkness instead. And the greater the light they reject, the greater will be their apostasy and darkness! And the greater their apostasy, the more closely will that church resemble or image Catholicism.

8) Of all these different Protestant churches, have any of them rejected the light and truth of God and have chosen darkness and apostasy instead? Yes. Which ones? All of them — including the SDA church!

"All nations (denominations) have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication" Revelation 18:3.

For those SDAs who may doubt that their church has already given up the light and truth of God and has chosen darkness and apostasy instead, please examine what the SDA church today teaches about the truths contained in the 3 angels' messages, and then compare what you find with what they originally taught on these same truths. You will be amazed and saddened at the huge difference between then and now! (There is a comparison study of the differences between what the SDA church once believed and what they believe now called "The Transmutation of the 3 Angles". You can freely read and download this booklet at

(<http://www.lightministries.com/SDA/Booklets/id119.htm>). Also, if you would like to see a year by year expose on how the SDA church gradually gave up the original foundational truths of Adventism in order to apostatize from God and become like the other apostate Protestant churches, you can also freely read, study and download a book called "The Abomination of Desolation and Church History" at (<http://www.lightministries.com/SDA/Books/id94.htm>).

9) "And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." Revelation 14:9-12.