#1293 The Mark of the Beast – The key to understanding the Mark of the Beast: The Mark of the Beast (seen in Revelation 13:16) "copycats" the meaning of the Mark(s) of God in the Old Testament (seen in Exodus 13:9 and 13:16) without making the proper transition to the true spiritual New Testament meaning and application

The Mark of God. Just as the theme of the <u>Feast of the Passover</u> symbolizes the Lord's deliverance of the Jews <u>from the judgment that came upon the Egyptians</u>, the <u>cup</u> [of wine, representing the <u>blood</u> of Jesus Christ which that was shed for us] of the Lord's Supper (and Communion) represents the Lord's deliverance of his followers <u>from the judgment of sin</u>. That deliverance comes from the Cross, which is looking back at the blood of the lambs upon the doorposts at the time of the exodus. The blood of Jesus Christ shed on the Cross represents the Lord's Passover for Christians.

Similarly, just as the theme of the Feast of Unleavened Bread symbolizes the Lord's deliverance of the Jews out of the physical bondage of the Egyptians – of which the Lord's response to the proper observance of the Feast of Unleavened Bread would be to place a figurative, or unseen, sign on the hand and forehead (Exodus 13:9) – . . .

... the <u>bread</u> [representing the body of Jesus Christ, which was broken for us] of the Lord's Supper (and Communion) represents the Lord's deliverance of his followers <u>out of the spiritual bondages of sin.</u>



Therefore, it is proper to understand that a *figurative*, or *unseen*, *Seal of God*, or *Mark of God*, is placed upon the hand and/or forehead of the true believer and follower of Jesus Christ during New Testament times, as is seen in Revelation 7:3

The Mark of the Lord in the Old Testament

The proper observance of the <u>Feast of Unleavened Bread</u> served as a <u>figurative sign</u>, or <u>figurative Mark of God</u>, on the <u>hand</u> and the <u>forehead</u>, seen in Exodus 13:9. [Note: We are using the NIV.]

Exodus 13:9 (NIV) This observance [the Feast of Unleavened Bread] will be for you like a [figurative] <u>SIGN</u> on your <u>HAND</u> and a reminder on your <u>FOREHEAD</u> that the law of the LORD is to be on your lips. For the LORD brought you out of Egypt with his mighty hand.

The proper observance of the <u>Consecration of the Firstborn</u> (representing <u>Passover</u>) also served as a <u>figurative sign</u>, or <u>figurative Mark of God</u>, on the <u>hand</u> and the <u>forehead</u>, seen in **Exodus 13:16.** [Note: We are using the NIV.]

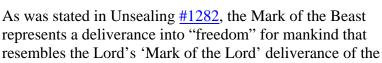
Exodus 13:16 (NIV) And it [the Consecration of the Firstborn (representing the event of the Passover), either through sacrifice or through obtaining release by means of payment] will be like a [figurative] <u>SIGN</u> on your <u>HAND</u> and a symbol on your <u>FOREHEAD</u> that the LORD brought us out of Egypt with his mighty hand."

The Mark of the Lord in the New Testament (to be addressed in more detail later)

Revelation 7:3 (KJV) Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have <u>SEALED THE SERVANTS OF OUR GOD IN THEIR FOREHEADS</u>.

The Mark of the Beast in the New Testament

Key Understanding: The Mark of the Beast (seen in Revelation 13:16) "copycats" the meaning of the Mark(s) of God in the Old Testament (seen in Exodus 13:9 and 13:16) without making the *proper* transition to the true spiritual New Testament meaning and application. The *improper* extension of the Mark of God in the Old Testament – with its emphasis on the *deliverance out of* the bondage of <u>Egypt</u>, rather than an emphasis on the *deliverance of the believer out of the bondages of* <u>sin</u> – to the New Testament, produces a counterfeit of the *figurative* and *unseen* Exodus 13:16 Mark of God that is described in scripture as the Revelation 13:16 (real, but *figurative* and *unseen*) Mark of the Beast.







Israelites from their bondage in Egypt, but is a deliverance by or through the hand of Man (numbered 6) and the Beast (numbered 666 because it is associated with Man), not a deliverance by the hand of God (numbered 7). The Beast is copycatting God, with mankind believing that the works and deliverances of the Beast are the works and deliverances of God.

The Mark of the Beast in Revelation 13:16 upon the hand and the forehead:

Revelation 13:16-18 (KJV) And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a <u>MARK</u> in their <u>RIGHT HAND</u>, or in their <u>FOREHEADS</u>:

17 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.

18 Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count <u>THE NUMBER OF THE</u>

<u>BEAST</u> [referring to the Revelation 13:1 Beast out of the Sea and the Revelation 17:08 Beast out of the Pit]: for <u>IT IS THE NUMBER OF MAN</u>; AND <u>HIS NUMBER IS SIX</u>

<u>HUNDRED THREESCORE AND SIX</u> [666].

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