

December 27, 2020

The Mark

Many people have been asking me about the COVID-19 vaccine and if it could be the mark of the beast, so I thought we should look at what it says in the book of Revelation. This book begins and ends with the same promise. John makes the initial statement in the beginning and Jesus confirms it in the end of the book.

Rev 1:3 ***Blessed** is he who **reads** and those who **hear** the **words of this prophecy**, and **keep** those things which are written in it; for the time is near.*

John said we are **blessed** (joyful) if we **read** (search it out), **hear** (have understanding) and **keep** (believe and act on it) the words of this prophecy. If we don't embrace prophecy, we can't fully understand because it is a prophetic word.

Rev 22:6-7 *Then he said to me, "These words are faithful and true." And the Lord God of the **holy prophets** sent His angel to show His servants the things which must shortly take place. 7 "Behold, I am coming quickly! **Blessed** is he who keeps the **words of the prophecy** of this book."*

Even though we have prophetic understanding, we do not have **complete understanding** because we only see in part.

1 Cor 13:12-14:1 *For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. **Now I know in part**, but then I shall know just as I also am known. 13 And now abide **faith, hope, love**, these three; but the **greatest of these is love**.*

14:1 *Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but **especially that you may prophesy**.*

Love is greater than faith and hope. Prophecy is one of the most desired spiritual gifts.

Even Jesus said only the Father knows the day and the hour of His second coming.

Matt 24:36-37 *"But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. 37 But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.*

No one knows exactly how the book of Revelation will unfold. This we know, love one another and hold onto prophecy and you will be blessed! **Never let a difference of opinion separate us**. Pride and rebellion work hand-in-hand and they both come to destroy love, unity and prophecy. Remember: "Got Grace? We're Good!"

Some Bible scholars believe the book of Revelation is in **chronological order**, and others believe it is not. Both have a solid line of reasoning. Some people believe it is **sequential** when looking at a chapter. Many agree as to the order of the 7 Seals, then the 7 Trumpets, then the 7 Bowls of Wrath.

When does the 7 year Tribulation start? At the breaking of the 7 Seals and the Scroll being read, or at the start of the 7 Trumpets?

Are we interpreting Scripture through the rapture? Are you pre-trib, mid-trib, pre wrath-trib, post-trib or no trib? This will also affect how we interpret Revelation. My vote would be pre-trib, my opinion is pre wrath-trib, my stance is no one knows, but it doesn't change how we minister and walk out the Gospel.

Rev 1-3 is Jesus giving commendation, criticism, instruction and a promise to the 7 Churches.

Rev 4-5 Jesus takes the Scroll, "*Worthy is the Lamb!*"

Rev 6-7 The 7 seals of the Scroll are broken and the 4 Horseman are released.

Rev 8-9 The 7 Trumpets start, but only includes 6 of the 7 Trumpets. The 7th Trumpet doesn't sound until **Rev 11:15**.

Before the 7th Trumpet sounds,

Rev 10:7 *but in the days of the sounding of the seventh angel, when he is about to sound, the mystery of God would be finished, as **He declared to His servants the prophets.***

Rev 10:11 The mighty angel with the **little book** declaring "You must **prophecy again** about many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings."

The Two Witnesses Prophecy, then the 7th Trumpet Sounds:

Rev 11 The Two Witnesses give their testimony for 3½ years, finish their testimony, are killed and 3½ days later are resurrected from the dead. Then the **7th Trumpet** sounds declaring "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and His Christ and He shall reign forever and ever."

Rev 12 Satan thrown out of Heaven by Michael and his angels, then a loud voice from Heaven said, "Now salvation and strength and the **kingdom of our God** and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren who accused them before our God day and night has been cast down, and they overcame him (Satan) by the blood of the Lamb and by the words of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death."
Angels and Saints warring together to overcome Satan and his hoard.

The Mark of the Beast

Note: many scholars believe this is mid-trib or pre-wrath. It seems to be after all 7 Trumpets have sounded.

Rev 13 The beast rises from the sea (anti-Christ) and is given power to make war with the Saints and overcome them. Another beast from the earth (false prophet) will perform great signs and wonders, even calling down fire (like the Two Witnesses did) and deceive many. He will make an image to the anti-Christ and make everyone worship the image, and if you don't, you will be killed. **He causes** everyone to take a mark on their forehead, or right hand in which you cannot buy or sell without the mark.

Rev 14 The Proclamation of the 3 Angels and One like the Son of Man on a Cloud

1) First Angel had the everlasting Gospel and was saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him for the hour of His judgment has come."

2) Second Angel followed saying, "Babylon has fallen, is fallen!"

3) **Rev 14:9-11** 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.**"

Jesus Comes for His Harvest

Rev 14:14-16 Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the **Son of Man**, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle. 15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe." 16 So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped.

Rev 15 Prelude to the Bowl of Judgment

Rev 16 The 7 Bowls of wrath/judgment are poured out

There are some concerns with this vaccination and the affect it has controlling our freedoms and limiting our movement. So far, our government has not made it mandatory, but some businesses and institutions have.

My conclusion:

It has not yet become mandatory for all buying and selling.

If it is connected to worshipping the beast, it is ambiguous.

The 7 Trumpets have sounded

The antichrist has not been revealed

The voice of the Third Angel has not been heard (to my knowledge) warning us not to take the vaccination.

Although the COVID-19 or CCP virus has similarities to the mark of the beast, I believe it is unlikely that it is the mark. But, if you believe it is, that is ok. That is between you Jesus. Let not this or any other doctrinal issue divide us.