

How can one avoid the mark of the wild beast?

What is the mark of the wild beast the Bible refers to? How can one avoid receiving that mark?

Revelation Chapter 13 talks about a wild beast that misleads people and performs signs. Verses 16-18 say of that beast: "And it puts under compulsion all persons, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free and the slaves, that they should give these a mark in their right hand or upon their forehead, and that nobody might be able to buy and sell except a person having the mark, the name of the wild beast or the number of its name. Here is where wisdom comes in: Let the one that has intelligence calculate the number of the wild beast, for it is a man's number; and its number is six hundred and sixty-six."

The mark of 666 is symbolic. In the Bible, seven stands for completeness from God's standpoint.



sharon corcoran

- use it or lose it

Since six falls short of seven, and three is a number used for emphasis, three sixes stand for something grossly imperfect. Since it is a "man's number," the 666 stands for an earthly beast.

The beasts in Revelation Chapter 13 have authority, as indicated in verse 12. Comparing them to the beasts in Daniel Chapter 7 tells us the beasts are world rulers.

Daniel 7:24, 25 says, "And as for the ten horns, out of that kingdom there are ten kings that will rise up after them, and he himself will be different from the first ones, and

three kings he will humiliate. And he will speak even words against the Most High, and he will harass continually the holy ones of the Supreme Ones. And he will intend to change times and law, and they will be given into his hand for a time, and times and half a time."

Different political systems have risen out of previous kingdoms throughout history. Although not every individual who has been a part of government is necessarily a bad person, and although many governments have done things that have been good, all of those governments, represented by beasts, receive their authority from the Devil.

How do we know that? In Luke Chapter 4, the Devil approaches Jesus after he has fasted 40 days in the wilderness and tries to tempt him.

The offer in verses 5-7 is: "So he brought him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the inhabited earth in an instant of time; and the Devil

said to him: 'I will give you all this authority and the glory of them, because it has been delivered to me, and to whomever I wish I give it. You, therefore, if you do an act of worship before me, it will all be yours.'"

Jesus replied in verse 8 by telling the Devil that God alone should be worshipped. What he didn't do was deny that all that authority belonged to the Devil; it did belong to him.

God's people were told in Deuteronomy 11:28: "And you must apply these words of mine to your heart and your soul and bind them as a sign upon your hand, and they must serve as a frontlet band between your eyes."

God's people were told to keep his laws constantly before them, so those laws influenced all their thoughts and actions. Revelation 14:1 says the anointed ones have "his (the Lamb's) name and the name of his Father written on their foreheads."

This identifies them as belonging to God and to Jesus Christ. In imitation, the Devil uses the demonic

mark of the beast. Anyone engaged in everyday activities is pressured to do things the way the wild beast does, to break God's laws. The Devil was the one who urged Eve to disobey God, and his ways have not changed. He wants us to do the same.

In order to avoid the mark of the wild beast, we need to obey God's laws. Jesus told his followers in what is commonly known as "The Lord's Prayer" to pray for God's kingdom to come. Does it make any sense to pray for that kingdom if we have no interest in obeying its laws?

If we pray for that kingdom to come, we should show our loyalty to it and interest in living under that kingdom. Jesus said at John 18:36, "My kingdom is no part of this world."

His followers would, therefore, not give their allegiance to the governments of the world. This does not mean they disobey the government's laws, but that they do not choose to give support to them by debating what form of government

would be most beneficial to the country or donating money to or helping to organize political campaigns. Also, they show clearly that their loyalty is to God's kingdom.

Jesus said at Matthew 12:30, "He that is not on my side is against me, and he that does not gather with me scatters."

Jesus told his followers at Matthew 24:14: "And this good news of the kingdom will be preached in all the inhabited earth for a witness to all the nations; and then the end will come."

At Matthew 28:19, 20, he said, "Go therefore and make disciples of people of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the holy spirit, teaching them to observe all the things I have commanded you."

Jesus' followers show their support for God's kingdom by preaching about it and teaching others to obey God's commandments. They also follow God's laws. By doing these things, they avoid the mark of the wild beast.

club news

Colleen Duell, Lela Wilkinson, Nila Been and granddaughter Ashley McClung and Arbutus Topliff of the Lincoln Larks Family, Community and Education Club met at Dairy Queen Tuesday, Dec. 9, for the club's Christmas party meeting.

Club members talked about the lesson for next year and about recognition day. The seventh grade basketball game at 12:30 was also talked about, and Ashley entertained the group.

The club's next meeting will be in January with Colleen Duell hosting.

matters of record

Real Estate

The following real estate transfers have been reported by the Sherman County Register of Deeds:

Crystal G. Wright, formerly known as Crystal G. Linsner, quit claim to Crystal G. Wright the N 10' of the E 63' of Lot 21 and the E 63' of Lots 22, 23 and 24, Block 47, Second Addition to the City of Goodland.

Arlene J. Peter to Arlene J. Peter, trustee of the Arlene J. Peter Revocable Trust, the NE/4 of Sec. 9, T6, R40W.

Cynthia K. Strnad to Cynthia K. Strnad, trustee of the Cynthia K. Strnad Trust, Lot 2, Block 7, Rosewood Addition to the City of Goodland.

JP Morgan Chase Bank to Hyrum and Rhonda Thompson Lots 10 and 11, Block 12, First Addition to the City of Goodland.

Bankwest of Kansas to Hazel E. Tiede the W 15' of Lot 3, all of Lot 4 and the E 20' of Lot 5, Block 43, Original Town of Goodland.

J.B. McClure III and Judith B. McClure to Schutte Farms Inc. of Kit Carson County, Colo., the S/2 of Lot 9, all of Lots 10, 11 and 12 in Block 31, Second Addition to the City of Goodland.

Otto Lillich and Eulalia Lillich of Cheyenne County to Gregory J. and Virginia C. Hallagin of Kit Carson County, Colo., the S/2 of Sec. 3, T6S, R39W.

Karl B. and Margaret A. Rueb to Karl B. and Margaret A. Rueb as joint tenants the SW/4 of Sec. 11, T6S, R41W; the N/2 of Sec. 14, T6S, R41W; and the N/2 of Sec. 15, T6S, R41W.

Department:

December 5 — Samara R. Bostwick reported a burglary at 610 College Ave and the theft of Christmas gifts taken from a vehicle, valued at \$178. Also reported was an estimated \$50 in criminal damage to Christmas decorations.

December 10 — Rosalinda Martinez Medrano was arrested at Kansas Hwy 27 and 25th St. on a warrant from Sherman County.

John S. Pearsall was arrested at 1000 Caldwell Ave. for driving under the influence, driving without headlights and for having no driver's license. He was charged in municipal court.

December 12 — Scott Gilmer and Janna K. Dutton reported burglaries of a vehicle and a house, along with an incident of criminal trespassing, at 819 W. 8th St. and the theft of a 2000 Toto pickup, valued at \$16,000, along with rifles and miscellaneous items taken, valued at \$2,200. All later recovered. Chad Nixon was arrested and charged in district court.

ENJOY

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AT THE MOVIES

The

Goodland Star-News

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Thursday January 8 4:00-9:00

Friday January 9 12:00-9:00

Saturday January 10 10:00-9:00

Sunday January 11 12:00-6:00

Kansas Coliseum

Worship warms the heart

Calvary Gospel Church
Pastor: Rev. Steve Rains
Fourth & College • 899-3605
Sunday: Sunday School: 9:15 am
Morning Service: 10:30 am
Small Group Ministries
Wednesday: Prayer and Worship: 7:00 p.m.
Youth @ the Rock House: 7:00 p.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Pastor: Father Norbert Dlabal
307 W. 13th • 899-7205
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4:30-5 pm Saturday or by appointment
Mass Schedule:
Saturday: 6 pm, Sunday: 10:30 am
Spanish Mass: 1st & 3rd Sunday: 2 pm

Sonrise Christian Church
Ninth & Caldwell • 899-5398
Minister: Tony Kafka
Youth Minister: Doug Bean
Sunday: Worship Service: 9:30 am
Sunday School: 10:45 am
Wednesday:
Junior/Senior High Meeting: 7 pm
Adult & Children's Classes: 7 pm

Word of Life
Joursquare Church
10th & Clark • 899-5250
Pastor: John Coumerilh
Service Schedule:
Sunday: Worship Celebration and Kids' Church: 10:30 am
First Wednesday: K.W.A.M.!
Grades 1 through 5: 7 p.m.

Pleasant Home Church
Serving the rural community for over 100 years
Rt. 1, Box 180 • 694-2807 • 3190 Road 70
Pastor: Charlie Busch 694-2242
Sunday: Worship Service: 9 am
Sunday School: 10 am
Evening Service: 6 pm

Bible Baptist Church
Pastor: Glenn Hermanson
Fifth & Broadway
899-7368
Sunday: Sunday School: 9 am
Morning Service: 10 am
Evening Service: 6:30 pm
Wednesday: Evening Bible Study: 7 pm

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
1200 15th Street • Burlington, CO (719) 346-7984
Sacrament Meeting: 10 am
Sunday School: 11:15 am
Priesthood/Relief Society: 12 am

Iglesia Del Dios Vivo
La Luz Del Mundo
Spanish Speaking Church
Minister: Esteban Ortiz B. 1601 Texas • 899-5275
Daily Prayer: Sunday thru Saturday: 5 am & 6 pm
Sunday: Sunday School: 10 am

United Methodist Church
Brewster:
Pastor:
Worship Service: 10:45 am CST
Sunday School: 9:45 am CST
Winona:
Minister: Rev. Bob Winters
Worship Service: 9 am CST
Sunday School: 10:15 am CST

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
Pastor: Loren Strait
Eighth & Arcade • 899-5233
Sunday: Worship Service: 10:30 am
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.
Activities: Junior High & High School Youth Groups, Adult Bible Study, Choir, Men's and Women's Groups, Devotions Study, Monthly Fellowship
Special Notice: Handicap Accessible, Hearing Assistance Equipment and Infant and Toddler Nurseries Available

Kanorado United Methodist Church
Pastor: Leonard Cox 399-2468
Sunday: Sunday School: 9 am
Worship Service: 10:15 am

Church of the Nazarene
Pastor: Bob Willis
Third & Caldwell
899-2080 or 899-3797
Sunday: Sunday School: 9:45 am
Worship Service: 10:50 am
Evening Service: 6 pm
Wednesday: Evening Service: 7 pm

First United Methodist Church
1116 Sherman
899-3631
Pastor: Rev. Janet Hernandez
Saturday: Informal Worship: 5:30 pm
Sunday: Sunday School: 9:15 am
Worship Service: 10:30 am

Goodland Bible Church
109 Willow Road • 899-6400
Pastor: Chad DeJong
Sunday: Sunday School: 9:45 am
Morning Worship: 11 am
Evening Worship: 6 pm
Wednesday: AWANA (Winter) and prayer: 7 p.m.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
13th & Center
Church 890-2115 or Rectory 890-6969
Priest: Father Hal Lycett
Holy Eucharist: 10:00 a.m. Sunday
10:00 a.m. Thursday
Morning Prayer: 8:00 a.m. Wed. - Sun.
For emergencies Wed. - Sun. 890-6969
Sr. Warden for emergencies Mon. and Tues. 890-3320

Grace Fellowship Church
104 E. Hwy 24 • 899-6423
Pastor: Bob Snyder • Residence: 890-0134
Sunday: Sunday School: 10 am
Worship Service: 11 am
Youth Group at Gattshall's at 5:30 pm
Adult Bible Study 6 pm

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
13th & Sherman • 890-6161
Pastor: Scott Grimshaw
Sunday: Christian eduction/fellowship: 10:15 a.m.
Worship Service: 9 am
Wednesday: Confirmation: 6 pm

Church of Christ
401 Caldwell
899-6185
Sunday: Bible Study: 9:45 am
Worship Service: 10:45 am
Wednesday: Bible Study: 7 pm

The following sponsors urge YOU to attend your chosen House of Worship this Sabbath:

Short & Son Trucking
Hwy. 24

Good Samaritan Center
208 W. 2nd

Koons Funeral Chapel
North Main

Goodland Star-News
1205 Main

