

Dear Judy,

Thank you for writing us at Christian Questions Radio. You told us that you were confused and thought that the new world order was under Lucifer. You said, "You will have a mark. Jesus said, 'Don't take it.'" You said you knew that Jesus has a kingdom and that you thought that it would be established after resurrection.

Jesus' future kingdom on earth, often referred to as the Millennium, is the new world order. This new world order is NOT under Lucifer, who is the prince of this present evil system, where sin and death reign, but it is under Christ and his Church (his faithful followers in heaven) and will be established when Lucifer is bound for 1,000 years. In Jesus' peaceable kingdom the dead will return from their graves to a period of judgment where every human will have an opportunity to learn righteousness so that each can earn life ever lasting on a perfected earth.

The "mark" to which we believe you refer, is mentioned several times in the Book of Revelation (Revelation 13:16-18; 14:11; 15:2; 16:2; 19:20; and 20:4). It is first cited in Revelation 13:16-18, "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. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six." We believe the mark, "the name of the beast," is the Papacy because it commanded the people in the name of God to obey its orders under the threat of punishment. We also think the meaning of the words "wisdom" and "understanding" in verse 18 do not refer to a cleverness to understand the formula of the number, but to the spiritual perception and wisdom in identifying the "man" or system and keeping separate in spirit from it.

Revelation 19:20 describes in figurative language what will happen at the end of this present age to the "mark of the beast" (the Papacy) and to the "false prophet" (represented by various sects of Protestantism). "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 [the systems, not people] into a lake of fire [representing complete destruction] burning with brimstone [intensifying the symbol of destruction]."

The last reference to the "mark" is Revelation 20:4, "And I saw thrones [in heaven], and they [the saints] sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded [both literally and figuratively] for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God [having made a covenant of sacrifice of self will in all aspects of life, even unto death]

and which had not worshipped the beast [the false Papal system], neither his image [various Protestant sects aligned with the false system], neither had received his MARK upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years." Those sitting upon the thrones are the saints in heaven (Jesus' faithful followers) who refused to receive the "mark" of the beast (refused to be in accord with the false teaching of the church-state government). These will live and reign with Christ from heaven during the Millennial Age as they guide humankind on the pathway of righteousness when the New World Order is established on earth.

What is the mark of the beast? We believe the mark represents the Papal system or the false church-state government. We hope we have answered your questions. Be sure to sign up for CQ Rewind at www.christianquestions.net. The service is free without obligation and will provide you with scriptural perspective on many questions and topics.

Sincerely,

Christian Questions Radio