

# Book of Revelation – The Third Angel’s Message, Part I (3AM Series--Revelation 14:9)

## Series REV-38 - If Any Man Worship the Beast and His Image

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As we move into the Third Message of Rev 14, the Lord directed me to provide an abundance of SOP statements on the subject. At the end of the lesson there will be some questions to ponder and do some research on which we then will discuss in our study Monday night.

### EGW Comments on Rev 14:9:

“IF ANY MAN WORSHIP THE BEAST AND HIS IMAGE AND RECEIVE HIS MARK...”

Warning

GC 594.2 - When God sends to men warnings so important that they are represented as proclaimed by holy angels flying in the midst of heaven, He requires every person endowed with reasoning power to heed the message.

- The fearful judgments denounced against **the worship of the beast and his image** should lead all to a diligent study of the prophecies to learn
  - 1) what the mark of the beast is and
  - 2) **how they are to avoid** receiving it. (cf EW 64-65, p.3)

But the masses of the people turn away their ears from **hearing the truth** and are turned into fables [and she quotes 2 Tim 4:3].

1T 223 –

- I was shown in regard to the remnant people of God taking a name. Two classes were presented before me:
    - One class embraced the great bodies of professed Christians... trampling upon God’s law and bowing to a papal institution.
    - The other class, who were but few in number, were bowing to the great Lawgiver. They were keeping the 4<sup>th</sup> commandment.
  - The conflict is between the requirements of God and the requirements of the beast. The first day, a papal institution which directly contradicts the fourth Commandment is yet to be made a test by the two-horned beast.
- Warning
- Then the fearful warning from God declares the penalty of **bowing to the beast and his image.**

The name Seventh-day Adventist is a standing rebuke to the Protestant world. Here is the line of distinction between **the worshipers of God** and those who worship the **beast and receive his mark.**

It is because the saints are keeping all ten of the commandments that the dragon makes war upon them...they excite his ire because they have dared to raise the standard and unfurl their banner in opposition to the Protestant world, who are worshipping the institution of the papacy.

## 5T 525.1—

God Shall  
Interpose

- When legislators shall abjure the principles of Protestantism, so as to give countenance and the right hand of fellowship to Romanism, **then God will interpose in a special manner in behalf of His own honor and the salvation of His people.**
- The principles necessary for our youth to cultivate must be kept before them in their daily education, that *when the decree shall go forth* requiring all **to worship the beast and his image**, they may make the right decisions, and have strength to declare **without wavering, their confidence in the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus**, even at the very time when **the law of God** is made void by the religious world.

## GC 604-605—

Trample upon  
God's Law

- With the issue thus clearly brought before him, whoever shall trample upon God's law to obey a human enactment receives the mark of the beast; he accepts the sign of allegiance to the power which he chooses to obey **instead of God**. **The warning from heaven is:** "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." Revelation 14:9, 10.
- While one class,
  - 1) **by accepting the sign of submission to earthly powers, receive the mark of the beast,**
  - 2) **the other choosing the token of allegiance to divine authority, receive the seal of God.**

## TM 133—

John was called to behold a people distinct from those who **worship the beast or his image by keeping the first day of the week**. The observance of first day of the week is **the mark of the beast**. John declares, "Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God and **the faith of Jesus.**" (Rev 14:12)

## 9T 232-233—

At the time of enforcement of Sunday observance, **devote the day to missionary effort.**

## GC 448-449—

Paying homage  
to the Papacy

**The enforcement of Sunday-keeping on the part of Protestant churches is an enforcement of the worship of the papacy—of the beast.**

**Those who understanding the claims of the fourth commandment, choose to observe the false **instead of the true Sabbath** are thereby paying homage to that power by which alone it is commanded.**

When Sunday observance shall be enforced by law, and **the world shall be enlightened concerning the obligation of the true Sabbath,**

then **whoever shall transgress the command of God**, to obey a precept which has no higher authority than that of Rome, will **thereby honor popery above God**. He is **paying homage to Rome** and to the power which enforces the institution ordained by Rome. **He is worshipping the beast and his image.**

EW 64-65—

Then I saw that the seven last plagues were soon to be poured out upon those who have no shelter; yet the world regarded them no more than they would so many drops of water that were about to fall. I was then made capable of enduring the awful sight of the seven last plagues, the wrath of God. I saw that His anger was dreadful and terrible, and if He should stretch forth His hand, or lift it in anger, the inhabitants of the world would be as though they had never been, or would suffer from incurable sores and withering plagues that would come upon them, and they would find no deliverance, but be destroyed by them. Terror seized me, and I fell upon my face before the angel and begged of him to cause the sight to be removed, to hide it from me, for it was too dreadful.

Then I realized, as never before **the importance of searching the Word of God carefully, to know how to escape the plagues which that Word declares shall come on all the ungodly who shall worship the beast and his image and receive his mark in their foreheads or in their hands.**

7BC 976—

**Preparing for the Image of the Beast.**--Already preparations are advancing, and movements are in progress, which will result in making an image to the beast. Events will be brought about in the earth's history **that will fulfill the predictions of prophecy for these last days (RH April 23, 1889). {7BC 976.1}**

The Great Test  
for the People  
of God

**Tested by the Image.**--**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. . . [Revelation 13:11-17 quoted.] . . .

Will receive the  
seal of God

**This is the test that the people of God must have before they are sealed.** All who proved their loyalty to God by observing His law, and refusing to accept a spurious sabbath, will rank under the banner of the Lord God Jehovah, and **will receive the seal of the living God.** Those who yield **the truth of heavenly origin** and accept the Sunday sabbath, **will receive the mark of the beast** (Letter 11, 1890). {7BC 976.3}

**Apostasy and National Ruin.**--When the Protestant churches shall unite with the secular power to sustain a false religion, for opposing which their ancestors endured the fiercest persecution; when the state shall use its power to enforce the decrees and sustain the institutions of the church--then will Protestant America have formed an image to the papacy, and **there will be a national apostasy which will end only in national ruin** (ST March 22, 1910). {7BC 976.4}

**The Mark of Apostasy and God's Patience.**--There are many who have never had the light. They are deceived by their teachers, and they have not received the mark of the beast. **The Lord is working with them; He has not left them to their own ways. Until they shall be convicted of the truth and trample upon the evidence given to enlighten them, the Lord will not withdraw His grace from them** (Letter 7, 1895). {7BC 976.5}

**The decree enforcing the worship of this day is to go forth to all the world.** In a limited degree, it has already gone forth. In several places the civil power is speaking with the voice of a dragon, just as the heathen king spoke to the Hebrew captives. {7BC 976.8}

**History Will Be Repeated.**--History will be repeated. False religion will be exalted. The first day of the week, a common working day, possessing no sanctity whatever, will be set up as was the image at Babylon. All nations and tongues and peoples will be commanded to worship this spurious sabbath. This is Satan's plan to make of no account **the day instituted by God, and given to the world as a memorial of creation.** {7BC 976.7}

GC 627-628—

**When Christ ceases His intercession in the sanctuary**, the unmingled wrath threatened against those who worship the beast and his image and receive his mark (Revelation 14:9, 10), will be poured out.

4T 251.1—

Sustained by  
their faith

If the believers in the truth are not sustained by their faith in these comparatively peaceful days, what will uphold them when the grand test comes and the decree goes forth against all those who **will not worship the image of the beast and receive his mark in their foreheads or in their hands?** This solemn period is not far off. Instead of becoming weak and irresolute, **the people of God should be gathering strength and courage** for the time of trouble. {4T 251.1}

EW 67.2—

As I saw what we must be in order to **inherit glory**, and then saw how much Jesus had suffered to obtain for us so rich an inheritance, I prayed that we might be **baptized into Christ's sufferings**, that we might **not shrink at trials, but bear them with patience and joy, knowing what Jesus had suffered that we through His poverty and sufferings** might be made rich. Said the angel, "**Deny self; ye must step fast.**" **Some of us have had time to get the truth and to advance step by step, and every step we have taken has given us strength to take the next. But now time is almost finished, and what we have been years learning, they will have to learn in a few months.** They will also have much to unlearn and much to learn again. Those who would **not receive the mark of the beast and his image when the decree goes forth**, must have decision now to say, **Nay, we will not regard the institution of the beast.**

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#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1) Why does the Third Angel's Message begin in the negative (note the 2<sup>nd</sup> Angel's Mess. did also)? {hint: could it have something to do with why the Decalogue also, for the most part is written in the negative? Think who this message is directed at.}
- 2) From the statements above, we can easily ascertain what the Worship and Image of the Beast, and his Mark entails? Without SOP, can you show from the Bible only, "who" and "what" these concepts refer to in giving an answer to them that ask you a reason for the hope that is in you with meekness and fear (1 Pet 3:15)?
- 3) In one sentence, based on what we've learned in this lesson, how would you summarize the three angel's message? {i.e. what is the take away.}

[Feel free to write your answers on the next page]

