

THE
BIBLICAL
INTERPRETATION
OF THE
NUMBER 666

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RALPH MYERS



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FOREWORD

The pattern of Revelation is obvious, once it is observed; There are precise parallel patterns throughout the book. These are chiasmic links that repeat the same words, or say the same things. Among these common words or meanings, are other elements that combine to form a complete prophecy. These chiasmic links point directly to the parts of the prophecy that are to explain each other.

Each successive vision in the series adds more detail. This is found in Revelation 13 and 17; the verses of each chapter make a parallel that combines all the elements, in which both halves contribute separate elements not found in the other half that make the prophecy compete, and this combined chiasmic linking, provides a template that is matched to what is found in history.

The chiasmic word link to the number 666 found in Revelation 13:18 is “Wisdom” and it is found in Revelation 17:9. These verses combined, explain this number. For those who have seen the movie “Contact” starring Eleanor, played by Jodie Foster, who insightfully merges two transparencies, each bearing a part of an encrypted message from outer space, and form a whole message, this interpretation of the number 666 has done exactly that; it has taken the written pattern embedded in Revelation, merged them, and then merged that with a perfect match in history, leaving only the end that remains to be fulfilled.

¹The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants ***things which must shortly come to pass***; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:

²Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus

Christ, and of all things that he saw.

³***Blessed is he that readeth,*** and they that hear ***the words of this prophecy, and keep those things*** which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

—Revelation 1

⁶And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the ***things which must shortly be done.***

⁷Behold, I come quickly: ***blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book.***

⁸And I John saw these things, and heard them.

⁹...I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.

—Revelation 22

¹⁸Here 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.***

—Revelation 13

⁹And here is the mind which hath wisdom. ***The seven heads are seven mountains,*** on which the woman sitteth.

¹⁰And there are ***seven kings:*** five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.

—Revelation 17

The Biblical Interpretation of the Number 666

The only interpretation of the prophecy of the number 666 that has its own “Certificate of Authenticity”

Unless otherwise noted, all Scriptures are taken from the Authorized King James Version.

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CHAPTER 1

THE BIBLICAL COUNT OF THE 666 BEAST

¹⁸Here 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.

—Revelation 13:18

⁹And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.

—Revelation 17:9

¹⁰And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.

—Revelation 17:10

¹¹And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.

—Revelation 17:11

The Premise

The numbers that follows the popes' names are the numbers counted that produce the sum of 666. To determine this, one can simply examine the historic data for evidence. Any official list of the popes would yield a database of their numbers.

I set out to answer this one question; Did the numbers that the popes use on their names have anything to do with the count of the number 666? There are only two possible answers to this; Yes, or No. To determine this, it must be able to be seen in the papal record that the number is there. Only the correct count could prove the answer as a "Yes." In all probability, it is harder to find any one specific number such as 666, than to find hundreds of other possible numbers without a match to 666. A "Yes" is by odds harder to find than a "No."

Since the time of the end of the beast is at the time of the end of the eighth head that arrives after the seven heads, then the count can begin at the first of the last seven heads. Then this list can be placed parallel to the prophecy and the alignment is checked and matched. When it is demonstrated to match in every facet between history and the prophecy, then you will know that you have found the correct fulfillment. This research demonstrates this match directly, simply and accurately.

Examining The Historic Data

The last seven heads have been Pius, Leo, Gregory, Benedict, John, Paul and John Paul. The count being in the order from the first to the seventh. The current Pope Benedict XVI is numbered the fourth in the series.

The seven different names that have been used by the popes since 1798 are the seven heads of the beast. A mountain is the line of popes that all bear the same name, differentiated by a number; Pope 1, Pope 2, Pope 3, etc.

It is these numbers that are derived from the popes, which are used in the counting of the number of the beast. The actual count of these seven heads and the eighth that follows, should then equal a sum of 666. The one who enters perdition, then, is the one that completes the count. The historic data demonstrates that the series of the last seven papal heads yields the sum total of 665.

It would then leave us with the remaining unfulfilled part of this prophecy, which is the eighth that follows the seven. His name must be a new name that generates a count of only one. The Antichrist to come, Satan, wishes that the honor, and worship that belongs only to God, be directed to himself; “I will be like the Most High...” is his desire. The tradition that the popes follow in choosing their new name, is to give honor to another. This Satan cannot do and fulfill his desire that all worship be directed to himself. He will bear a name that the popes have never used.

Thus the conclusion of this data is that the one who takes the place of Benedict XVI, will bear his own name, or a new name such as one that would assume the identity of Christ. It will be him who is the Antichrist and the “Man of Sin” revealed.

The Mountains Are Counted

The word “mountains” in the prophecy further define the heads; it indicates the multiple use of one name. This papal tradition has resulted in giving count numbers to their names. The current count would be found by counting the numbers given to the names of the whole mountain of each of the seven heads. The first of the seven heads is Pope Pius VI, following the transition that occurred in 1798 at the end of the 1,260 year period allotted to the beast’s rule; the beast “that was, and is not.” From 1798, the beast becomes; “is not,” and each name used for the popes constitutes one of the seven mountains of the beast.

From this list of names since 1798, the current count can be determined. As it is demonstrated in this research, the current count

of these seven heads is 665.

While it has been understood by Protestants since the Reformation, that the 666 Antichrist will arise from within the papacy and even feared by Catholics alike, the available knowledge of its fulfillment is limited to the perspective of the end time. Only since the time given in Revelation 17:10 with the observer after the time of the sixth head (Pope Paul VI, 1963-1978), do we perceive the papal line that identify the seven heads and the full count numbers that they generate.

The papal record has already given us pinpoint evidence that it forms a perfect alignment with every element of the prophecy of Revelation 17:9, 10, the “five are fallen, one is, and the other is not yet come,” even to the detail of the “short space,” and also forms a perfect alignment with Revelation 13:18. Revelation 17:10 which states that at the time of the sixth head, the seventh had not come yet. John Paul, as the seventh head, had come only after Paul, who was the sixth head.

The Three Angels’ Messages are being repeated in this prophecy. It bears all the same elements: The hour of judgment is come; come out of Babylon; do not worship the beast, his image, or receive “the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.” (Rev. 13:17; Rev. 14:9)

The identifying number of the 666 man and beast initiates the Loud Cry as seen in Revelation 18 when the repeating of the Three Angels’ Messages are heard again. The hour of His judgment is come. We are now past the “short space” of Revelation 17:10.

The Second Angel’s Message is directly linked to Revelation 18, as it repeats; “Babylon is fallen, is fallen.” And the imminent mark of the beast will be soon to follow. The Third Angel’s Message, comes at the identification of the man whose number is 666 and directly relates to the warning of the third angel in his statement; “If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand...” It is directly linked to the message in Revelation 13:17; “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.”

It remains then that the count of the number 666 must at that time be completed. As long as Benedict XVI is allowed to remain, the count stands at 665. This generation will not pass before all these prophecies are fulfilled.

The world stage is already being set up to usher in the final events. All that remains is that the rest of the world stage be set to receive the Antichrist, and the final days of this world will then begin. The World's Leaders have already set unprecedented changes in motion towards the things that we have been forewarned about over a century ago. Our freedoms are being removed a little at a time. The two-horned lamblike beast has begun to speak like a dragon.

John's description of the vision reveals; who the players are, and what they will be doing, and outlines their arrival in detail. John the Revelator was taken in vision by the angel to the wilderness where the beast was after 1798, and it is from there that he sees this beast. The outline of the prophecy tells us John saw that the first five heads are fallen, and the sixth head being the "one is" making Pope Paul VI as the point of perspective from which John the Revelator is perceiving this seven head line-up, and John Paul as the seventh head that "is not yet come." Only a new name such as John Paul had introduced, could fit the seventh head between these four requirements;

1. The name must be new, not having existed before Paul VI, who was the last representative of the sixth mountain. John Paul I, by his number, signifies him as the fulfillment of having "not yet come" from the perspective of the prophecy that places it in the setting of the sixth head.
2. He must be followed by another pope of the same name; John Paul. He must also be a mountain requiring at least two pontificates of this new name.
3. The count from his mountain name must not exceeded 666, nor equal it. It must be within the count of "1" from 666, and

in fact, must equal 665.

4. The seventh mountain must “continue a short space” A small mountain of two consecutive pontificates generates a “short space” and in noting that history has given us the first pontificate of the seventh mountain having a duration of only 33 days, effectively limiting the duration of the seventh mountain’s short space as being the span of one pontificate. History also serves here to show that the average span of the pope’s reign before 1798 was about 7 years, and the average span of the pope’s reign after 1798 was over 14 years. And even considering that John Paul II kept passing all but the three popes who have held the papacy the longest; at 26½ years, in all relevant senses, it is considered to be a “short space.”

The alignment is self-evident to anyone who reads the prophecy and examines the papal record.

Errors in the Papal Record

If the papal record had contained no errors, we could just use the numbers that are shown after their name. The errors in the papal record are thus corrected to what they actually are, without any errors. The count is thus corrected to reflect the legitimate number of popes within each mountain. Since there was no John XX; and Benedict X and John XVI were deposed, the number of legitimate popes named John and Benedict are corrected to twenty-one and fourteen respectively. All other popes of these seven mountains are legitimate and their numbers are counted directly. If the Vatican would correct the errors in the numbering of the popes to eliminate the gaps in the official papal list, then the count would be exactly as it is shown in this research, and there would not be any need to explain the errors of the papal numbers and anyone could readily produce this same exact count themselves. The papal numbers are thus corrected to reflect their respective count

as though no errors were made. Antipopes are not counted, nor do their numbers affect the count in any way. If their number has been skipped, then their number is applied to the next legitimate pope. The official papal record has failed to maintain this rule in all instances and thus they have introduced error into the record. These errors are corrected to eliminate the errors in the count.

There is no John XX in any papal record. John XVI (997-999) and Benedict X (1058-1059) were deposed, so the “actual” number is reduced by the same amount. This corrects the count to the true number that was naturally done with the following antipopes not listed in the record: Benedict XIII (1394-1423), Gregory VIII (1118-1121) and John XXIII (1410-1415) were deposed and their count continues with the true Benedict XIII (1724-1730), Gregory VIII (1187) and John XXIII (1958-1963). Gregory (1012) and John (844) were deposed and were not even numbered, therefore the count was never affected by them.

An explanation is given about the discrepancy in the numbers assigned to the name John; “It should be observed that there is no John XX in the catalogue. This is due to the fact that, in the ‘Liber Pontificalis,’ two dates are given in connection with the life of John XIV (983). This introduced confusion into some of the papal catalogues, and a separate pope was assigned to each of these dates. Thus three popes named John were made to appear between Benedict VII and Gregory V. The error led the pope of the 13th century who should have been called John XX to style himself John XXI.” (Duchesne, “Lib. Pont.” 2:17). Since this error was never corrected and thus existed in the record, the count would be likewise affected, and thus the correct natural count of each name’s number are the count numbers of the prophecy.

Pope Benedict IX ascended to the papacy three times and was deposed as an antipope twice. In spite of his vile life and having been deposed, he retired from the papacy as a legitimate pope and it is said of him that he died penitent.

$$1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9+10+11+12=78$$

Table 1

The following table, shows the numeric count of the numbers of the seven names, that when added together with the final eighth new name, makes the total of 666.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	2Ths 2:7	8
Pius	Leo	Gregory	Benedict	John	Paul	John Paul	Antipope	Antichrist
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2		
3	3	3	3	3	3			
4	4	4	4	4	4			
5	5	5	5	5	5			
6	6	6	6	6	6			
7	7	7	7	7				
8	8	8	8	8				
9	9	9	9	9				
10	10	10	10	10				
11	11	11	11	11				
12	12	12	12	12				
	13	13	13	13				
		14	14	14				
		15		15				
		16		16				
				17				
				18				
				19				
				20				
				21				
+78	+91	+136	+105	+231	+21	+3	0	+1=666

Head Name	Number	Count
1 Pius XII	12	78
2 Leo XIII	13	91
3 Gregory XVI	16	136
4 Benedict XIV	14	105
5 John XXI	21	231
6 Paul VI	6	21
7 John Paul II	2	3
Antipope	Benedict XVI	0
8 Antichrist	New Name 1	1
Total		666

Benedict XVI, because his name has been used by other popes and is a name that has been declared “fallen,” is an antipope. Though his current status is that of a legitimate pope, this prophecy indicates his ending status as an antipope. We have entered another interim waiting period of an undetermined length of time. He “withhold-eth,” until he is “taken out of the way” (2 Thessalonians 2:6, 7) then the wicked one will be revealed. So long as the antipope Benedict XVI remains in office, the Antichrist is held back, for it is the office that he holds that the Antichrist must have. Thus, when Benedict XVI is removed, then the Antichrist will come.

CHAPTER 2

A MATCHING ALIGNMENT CONFIRMS THE INTERPRETATION

“To know whether we have the true historical event for the fulfillment of prophecy: if you find every word of the prophecy, after the figures are understood, is literally fulfilled, then you may know that your history is the true event; but if one word lacks a fulfillment, then you must look for another event, or wait its future development; for God takes care that history and prophecy shall agree, so that the true believing children of God may never be ashamed.” William Miller.

Revelation 17:17 For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.

2Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

When a prophecy is interpreted correctly, it will take all the elements of the prophecy and congeal them into one contiguous account. Where false interpretations are introduced, some elements will fail to fit the whole account, often appearing to stand separate from the rest of the elements of the prophecy, but when one portion of the truth is perceived, it is like striking a rich vein in a mine; it leads along a path to more truth.

This interpretation demonstrates a contiguous account that brings together all of the elements of this prophecy, and the contiguous historic record matches all of the contiguous elements of this prophecy, like a

strand of DNA; both history and prophecy form the same pattern.

Here are the elements:

1. Wisdom
2. Count
3. The number of the beast
4. A number of a man
5. The number 666
6. Was
7. And is not
8. Shall ascend out of the bottomless pit
9. And go into perdition
10. And yet is
11. Seven heads
12. Seven mountains
13. Woman sits
14. Seven kings
15. Five fallen; 1-5
16. One is; 6th
17. Not yet come; 7th
18. Short space
19. The eighth
20. Of the seven
21. Names of blasphemy
22. Head wounded and healed
23. The Whore

The Scriptures for These Elements

¹⁸Here 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.

—Revelation 13:18

⁸The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

⁹And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.

¹⁰And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.

¹¹And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.

—Revelation 17:8-11

¹And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

—Revelation 13:1

³And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.

—Revelation 13:3

¹⁴And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

—Revelation 13:14

²With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.

³So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

—Revelation 17:2, 3

The Alignment of the 23 Elements

1. Wisdom

This is God's signature. The path to understanding the prophecy, is placed within the chiasmic structure of the book of Revelation. This word "Wisdom" links these two verses together. They are part of the chiasmic pattern of the whole book of Revelation. The elements of the prophecy written in both verses are brought together and explain more detail about each other. The number 666 is given in Revelation 13:18 and it is also reflected in the details of the seven heads written in Revelation 17:9 and 10. The number 666 calculated from Revelation 17:9 and 10, links back to Revelation 13:18, "He that hath understanding." As the elements of these passages are correctly identified in history, the source of the count and the factors that guide it, are provided to give the understanding of how the count is to be done. Revelation 17:9 provides the mathematical parameters for the counting of the 666 beast.

Of the many elements of prophecy that are found to be fulfilled in the historical record of the Catholic Church, this one is an exception. Here, the mind which hath wisdom depicts someone who deciphers the mathematical clues from all of the elements within this prophecy, demonstrating that it requires the alignment of all of its elements in the correct interpretation. It does not state as some translators have rendered it to mean that "anyone who has wisdom" can solve this. If this were the case, where are all these wise people? As often with puzzles, one person solves the puzzle, then it is shown to others.

A previous application of the riddle of the number 666 refers to another writer who had made a calculation; Andreas Helwig (1572-1643) was the one who deciphered the count of the letters Vicarius Filii Dei in the year 1612, and others that are merely making reference to his work, need no wisdom to copy his research. Yet this application by Helwig has been met with such grand apologetics that it is nearly impossible to convince a Catholic that it is true. And they are right, because it is not true. But with this

new interpretation, no one has been able to refute that the historic record of the popes bear out this number.

2. Count the Number

The number is the result of counting. It is not a symbolic number, but a number that is the result of counting lesser numbers. Neither are these numbers to be counted, the result of letters that are converted to numbers, but are numbers that are derived from the papacy itself as numbers that already exist on the beast. All of the numbers on the popes' names are count numbers. "1, 2, 3, 4, etc."

3. Number of the Beast

The counts of the numbers of all the popes from the seven heads make up the combined total for the beast. The count of the beast is from the seven heads plus the coming eighth, who is destroyed by Christ at His second coming. The entire time of the beast is considered in the count.

4. The Number of a Man

The last legitimate pontificate that completes the 666 count of the beast is the man whose number is 666. This will be the eighth papal name since 1798. The historic record provides the count up to and including the seventh mountain, leaving only a count of "1" to complete the total of 666. The designation of a mountain is not given to the eighth, but is said to be "of the seven." The seven which has given the number 665, is followed by an eighth that is like unto the seven before it. In the Greek, this is given as an eighth that follows in sequence after the seventh. So as the first seven were popes that created the count up to 665, the eighth would also be a pope, which mathematically,

requires that he comprise a new name. Thus the Antichrist will be the completion of both the heads and the count, making an eighth head, and a name that counts as “1” to bring the total to precisely 666.

Since all factors point to one man as the Antichrist, this requires that to match the prophecy, the next legitimate pontificate must be a man with a new name, and in considering the prophecy given by Christ Himself in John 5:43; “I am come in my Father’s name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.” This man will have a name that is his own, and not used by another pope, thus it will constitute a count of “1” necessary to complete the count of the number 666.

5. And His Number is 666

This number is derived from the beast, and is given in the verse. That same verse is chiasmatically linked to Revelation 17:9, 10 and the seven mountains of that verse demonstrates that the same 666 number is contained within it, and thus links it back again to Revelation 13:18. The number 666 is the count given to the beast, and when this number is reached by the eighth, it identifies that man as the man of sin. Every element given in the prophecy can be seen is derived from the same source, thus linking all the elements together into one contiguous account.

6. The Beast “Was”

The papacy in its power, as it is seen from 538 A.D. to 1798 A.D. Revelation 11:3 shows that this same papacy obscures the Two Witnesses who prophesy in sackcloth for this same period of time.

⁶And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.

—Revelation 12:6

During this time, the papal church exercised its power and persecuted many and killed those whom it called heretics.

This “was” period is also seen in the 13th chapter of Revelation;

⁵And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.

—Revelation 13:5

7. And “Is Not”

Napoleon took Pope Pius VI captive in 1798 and declared that the papacy was dead. This is the papacy from 1798 A.D. to the end of the restrainer that follows John Paul II and who “withholdeth” the arrival of the Antichrist until he is “taken out of the way.”

After Napoleon captured Pope Pius VI in 1798, the beast is slain for its harm that it had done to the Two Witnesses. (Revelation 11:5) At that time, the beast received a deadly wound to one of its heads. The papacy is decreed “dead” thus it receives the status of “is not.”

The beast as it became “is not” was killed, and when it becomes “yet is” it will return again for one last war against God’s people, His Two Witnesses, and then go into perdition.

⁵And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed.

—Revelation 11:5

As the papacy had put the Scriptures into seclusion, away from the people, so also was it placed into the seclusion in 1798. There it remains until it rises again, and with the aid of its ten Protestant horns, rise to power with the coming of the eight head. The papacy was declared dead by Napoleon. Its rule over the

earth was temporarily terminated.

Though many believe that the return of the beast came in 1929, it is not true. The healing of the head that was wounded occurred in 1929, allowing the beast to rise in the eyes of the world again, but the arrival of the eighth and final head has not yet occurred.

8. And “Shall Ascend Out of the Bottomless Pit”

This is the beast as it will be seen after Benedict XVI is deposed. The beast ascends from the bottomless pit and then it becomes the time of the “yet is.” This corresponds to the eighth head also referenced in Revelation 17:11 and as the “yet is” at the end of Revelation 17:8. Thus when the eighth head arises, it will do so by coming up out of the bottomless pit. Satan is the one who has been bound in the bottomless pit, as told in Revelation

⁷And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.

—Revelation 11: 7

¹And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

²And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

—Revelation 20:1, 2

The papacy as it regains its former power under the reign of the eighth head, begins its war against the remnant. This eighth head is also Satan himself as he comes impersonating Jesus Christ’s second coming. Satan will then take the “Seat of Peter” and be as “Christ on earth.”

Revelation 11:7 shows that when it arises from the bottomless pit,

it will be this eighth head that will make war on the Two Witnesses and kill them. Many of the remnant will suffer martyrdom as their brethren before them.

¹¹And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.

—Revelation 6:11

9. And “Go Into Perdition”

The final outcome of this last presentation of the papacy in its eighth head will suffer the judgments of God in the seven last plagues and be finally destroyed at Christ’s second coming.

10. And “Yet Is”

The beast is seen in its three phases; “was,” “is not” and “yet is,” and the “yet is,” is linked to the eighth in verse 11, which when he comes, will ascend from the bottomless pit. This is the next legitimate pope following John Paul II. With the arrival of Benedict XVI on April 19, 2005, his name being one of the first five that preceded Paul VI the sixth “one is” head, is identified as having already fallen. Though he appears in all respects to be legitimate, this prophecy identifies him as an antipope. By asserting this interpretation, it is a prediction of the outcome of Benedict XVI’s pontificate, that when this comes to pass, you will know that the “yet is” has arrived. The Antichrist will be the next “legitimate” pontificate, and he will take the papacy after Benedict XVI is removed.

11. The “Seven Heads”

These are the seven papal names as seen since 1798; Pius, Leo, Gregory, Benedict, John, Paul, and John Paul.

If the beast that has seven heads is the papacy, then the seven heads upon it must also be papal. This principle is seen in the Grecian beast in Daniel 7 having four Grecian heads. These are not just popes that are selected because they have numbers that can add up to 666, but they are taken from precisely the seven that span from 1798 to 2004. This 1798 date is not randomly selected, but is indicated by the other verses of Revelation 17. The woman is “drunk” on the blood of the saints. Her days of dominion were temporarily ended; the papal beast was declared “dead” by Napoleon. Thus the prophecy in Revelation 17 speaks of the beast that “is not,” when the first head was wounded, and ends with the eighth that comes after these seven are finished. Beginning with Pope Pius VII after the death of Pope Pius VI in prison, we have now all seven heads presented.

12. Are “Seven Mountains”

These are the entire seven lineages of these seven papal names. The complete group of each of these names constitutes a mountain. These seven heads are seven mountains. Each name has more than one pope. Thus the heads and the mountains are derived from the same element. A new head is formed from a new papal name, and it becomes a mountain when that name is used again, as every one of these seven have. No errors imposed by the popes’ failure to maintain an accurate count are included. Where there were errors in the numbering of the popes, they are corrected to what the count would be if they had not made any errors. Only a perfect count of perfect mountains could be considered for this prophecy to be accurate.

13. On Which the Woman Sits

The woman sits upon seven mountains, representing the whole time of the beast. As the successive serial visions in Daniel expanded to more details, so does John's visions. Revelation 17 expands on Revelation 13, and the beast is shown with a woman sitting on its heads. The woman/beast combination in Revelation 17, is showing the papacy, and adds elements pertaining to the woman; drunkenness, blood of martyrs, the mother of harlots, all of which show the fully developed papal church. The beast arose in 140 A.D. and received its seat and power from the dragon in 538 A.D.

“Although Catholic tradition regards St. Peter as the first Bishop of Rome and therefore as the first pope, there is no evidence that Peter was involved in the initial establishment of the Christian community in Rome...or that he served as Rome's first bishop. Not until the pontificate of St. Pius I in the middle of the second century (140-155) did the Roman church have one bishop as pastoral leader...” (Richard McBrien, *Lives of the Popes*, p. 25).

The Quartodeciman Controversy arose at this time, (120 A.D. to 325 A.D.) beginning with Pope Sixtus I attempting to compel the Eastern bishops to observe the counterfeit Passover; Easter. From the beginning of the first head of this beast, to its last, the woman fulfills that which is described of her.

14. And Are Seven Kings

These are Pius, Leo, Gregory, Benedict, John, Paul, and John Paul. In the Greek this is written; “And are seven kings,” equating the seven heads to seven mountains and then to seven kings. Then it supplies a template of how these seven kings are to appear.

15. Five Are Fallen

1. Pius, 2. Leo, 3. Gregory, 4. Benedict and 5. John. These names do not appear again after the sixth head Paul. To say they are fallen, means that their use as a name has ended. There will never again be another one of these five. This recognizes the equal status of the seven kings as being the seven heads which are also seven mountains. It is only the last pope of each mountain that bears the same name that becomes fallen when each mountain count had reached its maximum. This fact stood ready to announce that Benedict XVI would become an antipope from the moment that he chose that name.

16. And “One Is,” (The Sixth)

This is Pope Paul VI 1963-1978. John was taken away in the spirit; Revelation 17:1. “And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials,” “saying...Come hither;” and Revelation 17:3 “So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness” John was shown the things in the future as though he was there. There is nothing in this language that indicates that it has anything to do with the time that John lived. On the contrary; it indicates that it is at a time that John is taken to in his vision. John was not made the center of apocalyptic prophecy. John himself did not live in the wilderness, nor did he write in the perspective of his own time. The time that this whore woman is put into the wilderness is at 1798. The perspective of the seven heads is then shown to John from the time of the sixth head. Five mountains were fallen before this, and the seventh had not yet come.

This particular passage has been used by Preterists to pinpoint the sixth head to be the head ruling in power at the time the prophecy was written by John. This is also used by historians who believe that the seven heads are seven kingdoms. There is no evidence that the emperors of Rome have any place in the remaining end-time

elements of this prophecy, and they do not fit. There are not only seven emperors, but eleven. The fifth emperor of Rome was Nero and the eighth was not the Antichrist, and there remains yet an unexplained period of more than 1,800 years between the last emperor and the end. No reason is given to explain this long delay. Neither was Nero destroyed by Christ at His second coming, according to 2Thessalonians 2:8. The structure of this phrase does present a better explanation. John was taken in vision to the future.

It is from the perspective of the sixth head that he is shown that the whole of the seven heads are perceived. The explanation of the vision is within the very same context of the time in which the vision applies. It places a demarcation point at the sixth and before the seventh that requires the seventh to appear only after the sixth. This requirement is met by John Paul, whose name was not present before Paul. While the five that have fallen have arisen with a Pius on five occasions, interspersed between the second, third, and fourth heads, and Leo occurs twice. But after the fifth, this jostling of heads has stopped and continues in a straight progression. This progression through history aligns with the seventh head being John Paul as “not yet come.” Each mountain that occurred before the sixth had been declared fallen at the same time. They each had all achieved their maximum in their individual contribution towards the total of 666.

⁹And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb’s wife.

¹⁰And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God.

—Revelation 21:9, 10

The same language used in Revelation 17:1 and 3 is also seen in Revelation 21:9 and 10; “one of the seven angels which had the seven vials” “saying, Come hither,” “And he carried me away in the spirit.” John did not see the Holy City descend upon the Isle of Patmos where he was, but in the context we see, we associate it to be

in the future after the millennium. The angel bidding John with his words; “Come hither,” excludes it from being relevant to John’s day. John was given a vision of a beast with seven heads and ten horns. These elements were all future to John. The detailed explanation is also set within the same end-time period. Preterists would have it that the explanation was of a time before John, and not after. To reference the beasts in Daniel 7, as being some of the seven heads of the beast, is the beast’s interpretation, and all who bow down to that are drinking from the wine of Babylon’s false doctrines.

17. Not Yet Come

John Paul introduced a new name, and from the perspective of Pope Paul VI the sixth head, John Paul had not yet existed. At the time of Paul, (1963-1978) there had never been a pope named John Paul. John Paul I said that he chose the names of his two predecessors, and fashioned his name after theirs. This directly fulfills the element; “not yet come,” with reference to the sixth head.

18. He Must Continue a Short Space

This was John Paul, 1978-2005; 26½ years. John Paul comprises the smallest mountain. The short space is a measure that is short in relation to the other six heads. The tenure of John Paul was 26½ years, and in comparison to the other six heads, it is the shortest space. The next shortest tenure is that of Paul, where the total number of years of that mountain is 67 years. The other mountains number in years as follows; Benedict 88 years, Leo 99 years, John 122 years, Gregory 125 years, Pius 161 years.

Since John Paul is the seventh head and seventh mountain, and the count has been taken to the last number possible (exactly 665, no more, and no less), before reaching the total of 666, it makes the conclusion that the next legitimate pontificate must introduce another new name

and add only one to the count. This concurs that there is mathematically only one more space to fill to make the count complete.

19. The Eighth

The eighth is numbered in the sequence after the seven. A new name that is different than the seven names before it. This eighth is the “yet is” of Revelation 17:8.

20. And is of the Seven

The eighth head follows after the seven and is set apart from them; he is not included in the listing of the seven that are also called mountains. Because he is the Antichrist, he comes in his own name. He will call himself the “Christ.” This “1” completes the final appearance of the beast and precisely finishes the count from 665 to 666.

The Catholic Church will turn the keys of their kingdom over to this eighth head Antichrist, thinking that he is indeed the “Christ.” He will appear to fulfill their expectations of the coming of Christ.

21. Full of Names of Blasphemy on His Seven Heads

¹And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

—Revelation 13:1

³So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

—Revelation 17:3

These two verses demonstrate the chiastic nature of the book of Revelation, and directly links the seven heads to its names. Both the heads and the names are said to have blasphemy upon them.

By falsely attributing the power to forgive sins to the popes and the priests, the papal church fits this identifying element. Any method by which man has employed to displace the true Gospel is false. God made the provision for the dispensing of man's sins fully and completely, and to displace this with any other system constitutes blasphemy. Thus the popes' claim to absolve a sinner of his sins is blasphemy.

By first insisting that no one can have their sins forgiven except through the Catholic Church, they then lay claim that no one can have salvation outside of the church.

⁵When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.

⁶But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts,

⁷Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only?

—Mark 2:5-7

The seven heads all have the name of blasphemy upon them. This element is given just before it is said that this beast has seven heads. Here, in chapter 17, it does not limit the papal heads to seven, but says that it is "full of names" of blasphemy. In Revelation 13:1 it is written; "...and upon his heads the name of blasphemy" thus it associates blasphemy with the names of its heads. If these heads were kingdoms such as Babylon, Medo-Persia, or Grecia, then explaining the presence of blasphemy would require a more convoluted definition of blasphemy, as they would not demonstrate blasphemy in the same way as the papacy does. It would not be defined as blasphemous for Babylon to forgive the sins of its people. They would only forgive the sins that might have been committed against its own laws, for it could care less about the sins committed against God's laws.

22. The Wounding and Healing of One of the Heads of the Beast

³And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.

—Revelation 13:3

This wounding was to Pope Pius VI in 1798. It was Pius XI who received sovereignty again in 1929, thus the same head was healed. The Concordat of 1929 is the rescinding of Napoleon's 1798 decree that the papacy is dead, reinstating it into the political arena. It was Pope Pius VI that was the head of the beast that was wounded, and it was Pope Pius XI who was the same head that was healed in 1929. The beast has been ever rising in power. Pope Pius was the first of the seven heads. Pope Pius VI in 1798 was the head of the beast that "was wounded with a deadly wound and did live."

Here is another parallel between the dragon and the beast: The dragon, while Rome was its head, received a head wound. Later, the beast would suffer a wound to one of its heads in 1798. History and prophecy show that two heads have suffered a wound; one of the heads of the dragon, and one of the heads of the beast. The head wound of the dragon occurred after the cross of Christ before the transfer of power to the beast began, and the head wound of the beast occurred in 1798 A.D.

¹⁴And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

—Revelation 13:14

Napoleon, upon hearing of the new pope, dispatched another order to take Pope Pius VII captive, and he too was held in prison to remind the world that the papacy is dead. He was released only after the death of Napoleon.

This element also indicates the nature of the identity of the

beast's heads. It says that one of its seven heads was wounded. One of these heads of the beast was wounded with a deadly wound and did live. That head being Pius, indicates that the beast's heads are also popes.

From 538 A.D. to 1798 A.D., the beast "was" and in 1798 A.D. it became the "is not" and it will soon become the "yet is" when the eighth head arrives.

23. The Whore

The largest church in the world is described here; Catholicism. It is called the whore because of the false doctrines that it has incorporated into its system and because of the nature of this church; it tenaciously clings to these false doctrines lest it should admit that their popes were in error. The Reformation reflects this. The whore woman represents the people within the papal system, and in the broader sense includes fallen apostate Protestantism which are her harlot daughters, and from out of these God's people must come. They are the primary target of this message. Satan wishes to usurp the power of God, and likewise, the papacy wishes to usurp the Word of God in changing God's law by establishing Sunday as the Sabbath day instead of the seventh day. God is gleaning every precious soul of His that are still amidst their assemblies in the final call: "Come out of her My people."

In my final analysis of all the elements from this prophecy, the papal record accurately matches them all.

CHAPTER 3

THE IDENTIFICATION OF A BEAST'S HEAD FROM DANIEL'S PROPHECIES

An example is given in prophecy: in Daniel 7 the leopard beast that has four heads. Alexander the Great ushered in the Grecian empire. His rapid conquest is shown by a fast leopard-like beast with four wings.

When Alexander died, his kingdom was divided among his four generals; Cassander, Lysimachus, Ptolemy, and Seleucus. Ultimately Grecia was divided into four notable parts. These four heads of the Grecian beast are also Grecian. The Babylonian head was the king of Babylon. Thus it sets forth a very clear principle of interpretation that the heads of a beast are of a like nature to the beast which they are on. And so are the three other beasts; their heads are the leaders of the kingdom of the beast that they are on. It is a straight conclusion then that the beast that represents the papacy, that the seven heads are the heads “of the beast,” and thus they are the heads “of the papacy.” The seven heads are identified among the popes.

By correctly identifying the dragon's seven heads, it is easier to understand the identity of the beast's seven heads. Since the seven headed beast in Revelation 13 is equated to the little horn of the dragon, then the heads of the dragon cannot be the same as the heads of the beast. In all prophetic examples given that employ the symbols of the beasts and their heads, the known interpretation of their heads have shown that the heads are the leaders, kings, or rulers, of the kingdoms represented by the beast they are on.

The seven heads cannot be the ancient kingdoms found in Daniel that many seem to believe. All but one of these ancient kingdoms have come to their demise long before the beast ever arose from the sea. How, I ask, can these ancient kingdoms be the heads of the papal beast? To make these ancient kingdoms to be the heads of the beast, requires that the identity of this beast to be changed into being a representative of Satan, and to remove it from its papal identity. This matches the interpretation of the identity of the beast as given by the Catholic Church. It is commonly understood as the Preterist's interpretation. While it starts with the beast as the papacy, it begins to name ancient kingdoms as its heads, and even makes the papacy to be one or more of its own heads in order to complete a total of seven. It has made a circular error of making the beast to also be one of its own heads.

The leopard-like sea beast and its seven heads is similar to the leopard beast of Daniel and its four heads. It is showing that the four heads of the leopard beast in Daniel 7, are all Grecian heads. Revelation 12 identifies King Herod as the head of the fourth beast. He was a Roman head over the beast of Rome. The Babylonian head is the king of Babylon. In all of the examples of the beasts and their heads, it shows that the heads are the kings and leaders of the beast which they are on. This indicates that the seven heads of the papal beast of Revelation 17 are also papal. Note that the beast of Revelation 13 has the body of a leopard, feet of a bear, and the mouth of a lion. These are not identified by the prophecy as being any of the beast's seven heads. The fact that there are not "seven" parts to the beast's description, is the cause of all the speculation of the identity of four more heads after the three are presumed to be outlined from the brief three part description.

The mouth of a lion refers to Babylon, whose symbol in Daniel 7 was the lion. The king Nebuchadnezzar set up a great image on the plain of Dura and commanded all to bow down to the image on penalty of death. The Antichrist will do the same thing before the end. It will command that all bow to worship the image of the beast; to honor its false sabbath. Its ten horns will then lend their power for

one hour with the beast. The mouth of a lion is a characteristic of the papacy, of what it will yet do. It does not imply that the “mouth of a lion” that this leopard-like beast has, is an identifier of one of its seven heads.

CHAPTER 4

THE “PERFECT” TRUTH

The correct interpretation of any Scripture, will demonstrate that it includes all of the passages that are involved in a unified manner. It will not exclude any elements that cannot be shown because there is no apparent explanation. It will show a cohesive agreement within itself, and within the whole context. As in this book, the interpretation I have given demonstrates that it naturally aligns with all of the elements involved, and is contiguous with itself and within its context. There are many interpretations given to these prophecies, but only the true one bears all these characteristics.

Many believe that the interpretation of the prophecy giving us the number 666 is found in the alleged papal title; “Vicarius Filii Dei,” as the fulfillment that is intended. Many also falsely believe that this interpretation is within the established truths and are foundational pillars of Protestantism. The official position as held by the Seventh-day Adventist church, has been for many decades that the papal title is not the answer to the number 666. The Vicarius Filii Dei calculation was first produced by Andreas Helwig in the year 1612 A.D. The process involving the conversion of letters into numbers, is not indicated by the prophecy, but it is based upon the footnotes of the Douay Rheims Bible which reads; “Six hundred sixty-six...The numeral letters of his name shall make up this number.” The Bible does not tell us to count numbers that are converted from letters.

Uriah Smith is the source among Adventists that believe that the papal title is the answer to the 666 prophecy. All recent editions of

Uriah Smith's book; "Daniel and Revelation" have had the unverifiable information removed.

The Douay Rheims Bible also gives footnotes for Revelation 13:1, in reference to the seven heads of the beast. Note also that they link it with Revelation 17:10;

"A beast...This first beast with seven heads and ten horns, is probably the whole company of infidels, enemies and persecutors of the people of God, from the beginning to the end of the world. The seven heads are seven kings, that is, seven principal kingdoms or empires, which have exercised, or shall exercise, tyrannical power over the people of God; of these, five were then fallen, viz.: the Egyptian, Assyrian, Chaldean, Persian, and Grecian monarchies: one was present, viz., the empire of Rome: and the seventh and chiefest was to come, viz., the great Antichrist and his empire. The ten horns may be understood of ten lesser persecutors."

The Biblical Research Institute of the General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, (BRI) has responded to an inquiry of their view and it is openly evident that it is based on the Catholic's interpretation.

The BRI states: At John's time five were fallen, namely Egypt, which is mentioned in Revelation, Assyria, ancient Babylon, Medo-Persia, and Greece. One is, which is Rome. John experiences the Roman empire. One has not yet come, which is the Papacy. The ten horn exists at the same time as the last head lives. From John's perspective this was still future. All of this belong to the period "the beast was" which brings us to the end time. The period "the beast is not" refers to the Millennium. In Revelation 20 Satan's fate during the thousand years is described, and during this time he is in the abyss. The period "it will be" will take place after the Millennium, this is the eighth head. Satan will be freed from the abyss but will go to destruction.

Notice that there is only one small difference between the BRI and the Catholic view. The BRI has inserted the "papacy" as one of the beast's heads. It is obvious that the BRI has fallen for the Catholic's Preterist interpretation, mingling Historicism with Preterism.

Elder George McCready Price had already exposed the error of this interpretation in his book "Time of the End" published in 1963;

"The advocates of Egypt and Assyria disregarded the plain statement of the prophecy that number 7 of the series would have only a very brief career - 'and when he cometh, he must continue a short space' (verse 10), or 'must remain only a little while' (R.S.V.), or 'his stay must be brief' (Goodspeed). But everybody knows that the Catholic Church has lasted almost as long as all the others put together."

The persistence in the BRI holding on to this false teaching long after it was exposed as the Babylonian Wine teaching of the Catholic Church demonstrates to whom they give their allegiance. They are wholly unfit to present anything to the SDA Church. They stand in the way of this and other truths from being given to the people.

"It is a grievous sin in the sight of God for men to place themselves between the people and the message that He would have come to them as some of our brethren are now doing. There are some who, like the Jews, are doing their utmost to make the message of God of none effect. Let these doubting, questioning ones either receive the light of the truth for this time, or let them stand out of the way, that others may have an opportunity of receiving the truth, that the wrath of God may not come on them because they are bodies of darkness, when He desires them to be bodies of light." 11 Manuscript Release 286.2

James and Ellen White among the early Adventist pioneers had believed up to the 1860's, that the number 666 would come from the number of Protestant churches that had formally sought recognition status from the government of the Two-Horned beast. James White answered one inquiry concerning the issue of the Seventh-day Adventist Church formally organizing as an entity under this same government, without receiving equal status among Protestants of being part of the Two-Horned beast's number. He replied; "Here is a call for wisdom. Let him that hath understanding come forward, We confess our lack of wisdom, and decline attempting an exposition to the matter. But let them that have wisdom come forward and 'count the number of the beast.'" "Fifteen years since some declared the number 666 to be full-that there was that number of legally organized bodies. Since that time

there have been almost numberless divisions, and new associations, and still the number is just 666!”

All of these referenced interpretations are flawed. The perfect truth does not require excessive effort to show itself how it is fulfilled. As I saw the alignment between the prophecy and history come together, all of the rest of the parts of the prophecy revealed how it all fit together. As I began to write it all out, it was as though this book wrote itself.

CHAPTER 5

THE DRAGON OF REVELATION 12

In Revelation 12, the dragon is shown to have seven heads with seven crowns and ten horns. It also identifies the dragon as Satan and as Rome.

Beginning with the appearance of a pure woman, who gives birth to the Messiah, the plans of the dragon are then exposed. Revelation 12 defines the presence and actions of Satan through the kingdom of Rome which was under his control.

The Bible Identifies the Dragon as Satan and as Rome

³And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.

^{4a}And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth:

—Revelation 12:3, 4a

The crowns upon the dragon's seven heads are called diadema in the Greek. One third of the angels of heaven were deceived by Satan. These were cast out with the dragon to the earth. It is here, since the Garden of Eden, that the great drama of the battle between good and evil is played out.

^{4b}And the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.

—Revelation 12:4b

The Gospel of Matthew identifies this same account:

¹Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

⁷Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

¹¹And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

¹²And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

¹⁶Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently enquired of the wise men.

—Matthew 2:1, 7, 8, 11, 12, 16

There are many parallels that are seen between the portrayal of the dragon and the beast. These parallels also serve to identify the dragon's heads and horns. Both the dragon and the beast uprooted three kingdoms in their time. Both are having seven heads and ten horns. Satan is the power behind them, one being his civil power and the other his ecclesiastical power. The seven crowns upon the dragon's heads denote his power through these kingdoms represented by his heads, and the ten crowns upon the beast's ten horns denote

the power of the beast at the time of the eighth head, which is given to the beast by the ten horns that come from her harlot daughters in Protestantism, and both join with the civil powers of the dragon in the final battle against God's people. Thus the papacy, apostate Protestantism and the governments of the world merge at the end under the rule of Satan in his last battle against the people of God.

It is necessary to differentiate between the passages of the prophecy regarding the dragon and the passages of the prophecy regarding the beast. Mingling the elements of these two prophecies, will always produce error.

The seven heads and ten horns of the dragon are not the same seven heads and ten horns as those that are on the beast. Though they share many common features both have very distinctive features. The nations represented by the dragon's heads are the kingdom nations of this earth.

The dragon-beast transition of power differs from being a representation of Satan's control as it was through the dragon's heads (political), but a new investiture in an eleventh horn that was diverse (ecclesiastical), and represented in Revelation as the beast; the "kings of the earth" commit fornication with this beast. The eleventh (little) horn of Daniel 7 rises above the other ten and subjected all under its power. Thus the dragon persecutes the woman who is represented by Christ's people through the power that he invested into the papal beast.

The ten horns of Rome had been subjected to the control of the papacy. Satan put his political kingdoms of Rome's ten horns under the ecclesiastical power of the little eleventh horn.

The Dragon of Revelation 12 is the Fourth Beast of Daniel 7: Rome

There is an equation in Revelation 12 that identifies Satan as the dragon, and the dragon is equated to Rome. In Daniel's prophecy, the terrible beast, and seventh head since ancient Babylon, had ten

horns. And another little horn arose among the ten, uprooting three other horns (Daniel 7:8). This little eleventh horn of the dragon's seventh head, is the beast of Revelation 13. The eleventh horn emerging from the dragon's seventh head is the beast. And this beast is seen coming up from the sea, also with seven heads and ten horns. The account of the dragon continues into Revelation 13, where the dragon gives great power and his seat to the beast. Rome is portrayed as having ten horns. It was three of these ten horns of Rome that the dragon gave up to accomplish the transferring of his seat and power to the beast. The Roman Empire is the dragon, and therefore, Rome's ten horns are the dragon's ten horns.

The dragon is spoken of during the time before the earth began and is seen to extend to the remnant of God's people, even until after the Millennium and is cast into hellfire before the New Earth. The beast begins in 140 A.D., later receives power from the dragon in 538 A.D., and continues to the end. The vision as Daniel shows, depicts a rising little horn, which uproots three other horns of Rome's ten kingdoms.

The Distinctive Differences Between the Dragon and the Beast

There are between them; fifteen heads, twenty-one horns, and seventeen crowns. The dragon has seven heads that have seven crowns upon them. The beast's seven heads do not have crowns.

The ten horns of the beast have ten crowns and receive power for one hour with the beast at the end. The dragon's ten horns do not have crowns upon them.

The beast's seven heads have on them many names of blasphemy. There are no names of blasphemy written upon the dragon's seven heads.

The dragon has an eleventh little horn that arises among the ten and destroys three of these horns. This little horn is also the seven headed and ten horned beast of Revelation 13. There is no eleventh horn on the beast.

The beast has after its seven heads, another eighth head that follows after the seven. The dragon does not have an eighth head. The beast's seven heads are seven mountains. The dragon's seven heads are not seven mountains.

Thus by the distinctions that are made in the differing characteristics of the seven heads of the beast and the seven heads of the dragon, it shows that the seven heads of the beast are not the same as the seven heads of the dragon.

Daniel 7 depicts the same transfer of power from the dragon to the beast in the outline of the little horn, representing the papacy arising from Rome the terrible beast and plucking three other horns out of their place.

The Dragon's Seven Heads and Ten Horns

In Daniel 7, there are four beasts bearing seven heads and ten horns. Since the dragon has been directly equated with Rome and the dragon is also said to have seven heads and ten horns, that during the time that the dragon is represented through Rome, it shows that the head of Rome, is the last of the seven heads in Daniel 7. There is not shown another kingdom head after Rome. After Rome collapsed, ten kingdom horns arose from upon its head. The dragon's seven heads were then complete and finished, and the time of the dragon's ten horns began. The ten kingdoms which rose out of the ashes of Rome are the ten horns of the dragon. The little horn of Daniel 7 arises after these ten horns of Rome and is part of the subset of the other ten horns of the broken Roman Empire. The papal beast is represented by the little horn of the dragon Rome, and Daniel's fourth beast is Rome and is represented as the dragon in Revelation 12. Its identity is marked by the parallel patterns that exist between the dragon and the beast. But these parallel structures are not clues to its being the same things but that in both they are seen in each their own history.

Revelation 12 reveals that the dragon through Herod, the

ruler over Judea of Rome, tried to kill Christ as a child, but after the Crucifixion, Satan receives the promised bruising of his head (Genesis 3:15). This same Rome is the last head of the subset of the seven heads that are shown in Daniel 7.

Rome, as the agent of Satan, exercised authority over the world and persecuted the people of God. Israel was taken captive by Babylon, continued in captivity after Babylon was taken by Medo-Persia and still continued in captivity by Rome. After Satan's head is bruised, he then redirects his attacks by infiltrating the beast, giving the papacy its seat and great authority. Satan, represented by pagan Rome, is the last of Satan's seven heads, and his ten horns appear after the breakup of Rome. Three of these horns are sacrificed to give place to the papacy. Revelation 12 calls Rome the dragon and calls the dragon Satan. Thus the equation is given that places the seven heads as seen in Daniel 7 as the seven agent heads of Satan the dragon. The ten horns on the dreadful beast are the ten horns of the dragon.

The Dragon's Seven Crowns

“The final overthrow of all earthly dominions is plainly foretold in the word of truth. In the prophecy uttered when sentence from God was pronounced upon the last king of Israel is given the message: ‘Thus saith the Lord God; Remove the diadem, and take off the crown:... exalt him that is low, and abase him that is high. I will overturn, overturn, overturn, it: and it shall be no more, until He come whose right it is; and I will give it Him.’ Ezekiel 21: 26, 27. The crown removed from Israel passed successively to the kingdoms of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome. God says, ‘It shall be no more, until He come whose right it is; and I will give it Him.’” Education p. 179

The prophecy given to the last king of Israel predicted the final end of all earthly kingdoms:

²⁴Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Because ye have made your

iniquity to be remembered, in that your transgressions are discovered, so that in all your doings your sins do appear; because, I say, that ye are come to remembrance, ye shall be taken with the hand.

²⁵And thou, profane wicked prince of Israel, whose day is come, when iniquity shall have an end,

²⁶Thus saith the Lord GOD; Remove the diadem, and take off the crown: this shall not be the same: exalt him that is low, and abase him that is high.

²⁷I will overturn, overturn, overturn, it: and it shall be no more, until he come whose right it is; and I will give it him.

—Ezekiel 21:24-27

The dragon's seven heads have seven crowns. These are the crowns of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Grecia, and Rome. Seven crowns, seven heads, and the last of these seven heads is Rome bearing ten horns, of which three of these, the Ostrogoths, Vandals and Heruli were uprooted to give the beast its power and its seat. Rome, as representing the dragon in Revelation 12, is the time of the dragon as seen in its seventh head. Revelation 12 does not show the dragon at its first head, but is showing it at its seventh head, Rome. The seven heads and ten horns as presented in Daniel 7 are the seven heads and ten horns of the dragon.

Revelation 13 begins with the transition to the new beast from the dragon. Thus the dragon works through the beast in which he has infused with his power. The dragon's dominion is extended further than the beast's. Thus their bodies, heads, and horns are found within their times respectively; the dragon's time from the days of Eden to the end and the beast's time from 140 A.D. to the end.

In the latest commentary by Ranko Stefanovic; "The Revelation of Jesus Christ," published by Andrews University in 2002 it reads;

"However, as William G. Johnsson states, the seven heads of the dragon represent 'the kingdoms through which Satan has worked to oppress God's people throughout the ages.'"

"It is significant that the beasts of Daniel 7 have together seven heads and ten horns in total."

“However, while the dragon had the seven crowns on his heads, the beast has ten crowns on his horns. We saw earlier that the seven crowns on the dragon’s heads denote Satan’s false claim of full authority and power over the world” (p. 404).

If Babylon has one head, Medo-Persia has one head, Grecia has four heads, Rome was the terrible beast that had one head and ten horns, then you have all of the parts for the prophecy that identifies the dragon as having these seven heads and ten horns. Rome broke into ten parts which are represented as horns and of which the dragon gave up three of these Roman horns to give its power and a seat to the beast. A dragon-beast parallel is shown in this: The dragon’s head Medo-Persia is depicted with three ribs in its mouth, having uprooted three kingdoms and the beast has uprooted three of the dragon’s ten horns. This is the Biblical explanation of the heads and horns of the dragon as it is evidenced within Revelation 12 and 13 which cover the same prophetic details written in Daniel. Both chapters reference Rome. Israel was free until it was taken captive by Babylon. The crown was then passed to Medo-Persia, then to Grecia, and finally to Rome.

When the papal beast came, power was then transferred from the political agents of Satan to the religious institution of the papacy. The seat of the pagan Roman Empire, became the seat of papal Rome.

To say the crown passed means that these were the world powers. The crown is not given to any other world power after Rome. It is also known from the prophecies in Daniel that no other kingdom since Rome shall ever rule the entire world.

If you align the imagery of Daniel and Revelation placing the little horn with the leopard-like beast, the chronology will show that the papal horn is one of a subset, placed on par with the ten horns of the beast of Rome, and uproots three of them.

³And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.

—Revelation 12:3

⁹And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

—Revelation 12:9

¹⁷And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

—Revelation 12:17

Satan the dragon is “that old serpent” from Eden, who claims the kingdoms of this earth are his and that Christ had said are not of His kingdom. Satan is represented as the dragon in John’s prophecy, and in John’s time, Rome was the dragon’s last head. John did not write any explanation of the dragon’s seven heads. He wrote from his time, and his prophecy is not a rehash of history. Since the dragon’s six previous heads were already history, John only writes from Rome the seventh head of the dragon. The account does not begin by showing the rise of the dragon with the first of the dragon’s seven heads, but is shown from the time of his seventh head Rome. From there, we follow the action of the dragon’s ten horns. First, to continue the persecution of the people of God, and then after the eleventh horn arose, he invested the beast with his power. The beast is not one of the dragon’s heads; it is the eleventh of the dragon’s horns. As much as pagan Rome was in the power of Satan, so also is the beast. Rome had given to the beast his power, his seat, and great authority.

It is chapter 12 of Revelation that reveals Satan’s course through history from the Garden of Eden where he is called “that old serpent” to the work of pursuing the remnant of God’s people through the kingdoms and governments of this world.

The dragon of Revelation 12:3 is represented by Herod of Rome, and the dragon of Revelation 12:17 is represented by our own government. The dragon thus represented today, comes from its still active horn powers: the political kingdoms of this earth.

¹³And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child.

¹⁴And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.

¹⁷And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

—Revelation 12:13, 14, 17

The dragon is cast to the earth after his place is no longer found in heaven. His role in the death of Christ on the cross sealed his fate, and his presence was cast out from heaven. His head was wounded, and Rome was doomed to fall. Paul, in writing to God's people in Rome;

²⁰And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly.

—Romans 16:20

¹⁵And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

—Genesis 3:15

Here is another parallel to the beast; the dragon, while Rome was its head, received the head wound. Later, the beast would suffer a wound to one of its heads in 1798.

The ending of the power of the Roman government in 476 A.D. corresponds to the end of the time of the dragon's seven heads. Then the time of the ten horns of the dragon begins. These would remain until the end of the world at the second coming, as many nations, some strong and some weak, are never able to be mixed into one. Three of the ten horns of the Roman Empire were plucked up as the dragon gave his seat and great power to the beast. The dragon then employs the newly formed beast to persecute the woman. For 1,260 years, the people of God endured suffering for the Gospel's sake. The

means by which the dragon sought to persecute the woman is through the beast, because his face is hidden from the woman during these 1,260 years. History and prophecy show that two heads have suffered a wound: one of the heads of the dragon and one of the heads of the beast. The head wound of the dragon occurred shortly after the cross of Christ, and the head wound of the beast occurred in 1798.

The seven heads of the dragon are:

1. The Kings of Babylon
2. The Kings of Medo-Persia
(The Kings of the Four Heads of the Grecian Beast)
3. Greece: Cassander
4. Greece: Lysimachus
5. Greece: Ptolemy
6. Greece: Seleucus
7. The Kings of Rome

The ten horns of the dragon are:

1. The Kingdom of the Alemani
2. The Kingdom of the Franks
3. The Kingdom of the Burgundians
4. The Kingdom of the Suevi
5. The Kingdom of the Anglo-Saxons
6. The Kingdom of the Visigoths
7. The Kingdom of the Lombards
8. The Kingdom of the Vandals
9. The Kingdom of the Ostrogoths
10. The Kingdom of the Heruli

An eleventh little horn arises among these, and uproots three of them;

8. The Vandals
9. The Ostrogoths
10. The Heruli

The list then appeared as;

1. The Alemani
2. The Franks
3. The Burgundians
4. The Suevi
5. The Anglo-Saxons
6. The Visigoths
7. The Lombards
8. The Papacy

After the rising of the dragon-speaking two-horned beast in Revelation 13:11, the number of horns of the dragon are ten again. The second eighth horn of the dragon is the papacy who speaks great words against the Most High (Daniel 7:25), and is represented in Revelation 13 and 17 as the leopard-like sea-beast having seven heads and ten horns. When the serial prophecies of Daniel are merged with Revelation's prophecies, it shows that the dragon's eleventh horn, which makes itself the eighth by removing three of the ten horns, is represented in Revelation 13 as the beast that has seven heads and ten horns. The ten horns of the beast in Revelation 13 are not any of those represented on the dragon, and the seven heads of this beast are not from among those belonging to the dragon.

It has been a common problem among the different interpretations of the seven heads of the beast, because nearly everyone, regardless of their interpretation, have been mixing together, the references to the seven heads of the beast and those of the dragon. It became clear that the references in Revelation 12 and 13 have delineated the distinction between these prophecies. The dragon's seven heads are the same as presented in Daniel 7, and the beast's seven heads are the seven papal names from 1798.

The first reference of seven heads and ten horns is found in Revelation 12:3. John saw “a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.” In verse 9 we are told the identity of the dragon: “And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil and Satan.”

The great red dragon pictured here having seven heads and ten horns represents Satan. Notice the last phrase in verse 3, “and seven crowns upon his heads.” A head portrayed wearing a crown conveys a connection with a civil kingly power. The seven crowned heads represent the seven powers through which Satan would attempt to control the world. Verse 4 identifies the power he worked through during the time period of this vision; Rome. Pagan Rome is the last of the crowned heads of the dragon.

Having made the correct identification of the dragon’s heads, we are prepared to make the correct identification of the beast’s seven heads. It requires that the beast’s seven heads be something other than the heads of the dragon, for the beast is a separate entity from the dragon.

CHAPTER 6

THE CHIASTIC STRUCTURE BRINGS TOGETHER ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The chiastic structure of a certain chapter, verse, or book of the Bible can be brought together to understand the meaning that God intends. Studies show there are chiastic patterns in many parts of the Bible. In this one chiastic structure, there is a wealth of meaning that God has placed within it. John does not show that he was aware of this structure when he wrote Revelation.

The chiastic pattern of Revelation divides it in the middle, and the back half forms inverted parallels to the front half.

There are many interpretations regarding the number 666. But this interpretation presented here, is the only one that reaches across this chiastic link from Revelation 13:18 to Revelation 17:9 and converges all the elements found in these two linked verses. It demonstrates that the number 666 is reflected in Revelation 17:9-10. In Revelation 13:18 the number 666 is given. In the verse that it is chiastically linked to, additional information is found that relates to this count. It identifies who it is (the eighth) whose number is 666. As the eighth is the one who completes the count, the seven before it are what brings the count to 665. The number is derived from the count of the seven mountains, added to the eighth. This interpretation is the only one that is endorsed and confirmed by the Bible through its own chiastic structure.

The Chiastic Patterns in Revelation

Two of the chiastic patterns found in Revelation are shown here. The first example shows the chiastic parallel pattern from the whole book of Revelation. In the center core of this chiastic pattern there is another chiastic pattern. It is seen in the whole chapter of Revelation 12. In the first example of the whole book of Revelation, the first chapter bears wording that matches the wording found in the last chapter. Some passages share a similar theme rather than specific words. This patterning yields additional information to the reader that is relevant to the context where these chiastic links are found. From the chiastic pattern of whole book of Revelation, twenty-seven chiastic links are shown. These chiastic links match whole parallel sections.

“In its most general sense, chiasmus involves inverted parallelism between two or more (synonymously or antithetically) corresponding words, phrases, or units of thought. Examples of this basic dynamic would include the contemporary saying, ‘Winners [A] never quit [B] and quitters [B’] never win [A’],’ as well as the biblical description of Christ in Revelation 3:7: He who opens [A] and no one shuts [B], and shuts [B’] and no one opens [A’]. This type of inverted parallelism between corresponding components can take place at a micro level (within a single sentence) or at a macro level (within the broad flow of a large discourse).” Chiasmus: An Important Structural Device Commonly Found in Biblical Literature, By Brad McCoy, pg. 20 CTS Journal 9, Fall 2003

The Whole Chiastic Outline of Revelation

A. Prologue	Revelation 1:1 to Revelation 1:11
B. Church Militant	Revelation 1:12 to Revelation 3:22
C. Ongoing Activity of God	Revelation 4:1 to Revelation 8:1
D1. 7 Trumpet Warnings	Revelation 8:2 to Revelation 11:19
D2. Evil Powers Progressive.....	Revelation 13:1 to Revelation 14:20
Center: Revelation 12	(between D1 and D2)
d1. 7 Last Plagues	Revelation 15:1 to Revelation 16:17
d2. Evil Powers Judged	Revelation 16:18 to Revelation 18:24
c. Judgmental Finale by God....	Revelation 19:1 to Revelation 21:4
b. Church Triumphant	Revelation 21:5 to Revelation 22:5
a. Epilogue	Revelation 22:6 to Revelation 22:21

A Demonstration of the Chiastic Links

The links shown here are only those selected that demonstrate this pattern most clearly. In particular, the chiastic connection between Revelation 13:18 and Revelation 17:9 is shown to be part of this chiastic parallel pattern of the book.

Chiastic link 1 in section A

1:1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants *things which must shortly come to pass*; and he *sent and signified it by his angel* unto his *servant* John:

In section a

22:6 And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets *sent his angel* to shew unto his *servants* the *things which must shortly be done*.

Chiastic link 2 in section A

1:3 *Blessed is he that readeth*, and they that hear *the words of this prophecy*, and keep those things which are written therein: for the *time* is at hand.

In section a

22:7 Behold, I come **quickly**: ***blessed is he that keepeth*** the sayings of ***the prophecy of this book***.

Chiastic link 3 in section A

1:7 ***Behold, he cometh with clouds***; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

In section a

22:12 ***And, behold, I come quickly***; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

Chiastic link 5 in section A

1:11 Saying, ***I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last***: and, What thou seest, write in a book,...

In section a

22:13 ***I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last***.

Chiastic link 7 in section B

2:28 And I will give him ***the morning star***.

In section b

22:16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the ***bright and morning star***.

Chiastic link 9 in section C

4:4 And round about the throne were four and twenty seats: and upon the seats I saw ***four and twenty elders*** sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold.

In section c

19:4 And the ***four and twenty elders*** and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia.

Chiastic link 12 in section C

5:10 And hast ***made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign*** on the earth.

In section c

20:6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but ***they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him*** a thousand years.

Chiastic link 13 in section C

7:14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have ***washed their robes, and made them white*** in the blood of the Lamb.

In section c

21:2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, ***prepared as a bride adorned*** for her husband.

Chiastic link 14 in section C

7:15 Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his ***temple***: and he that sitteth on the throne ***shall dwell among them***.

In section c

21:3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the ***tabernacle of God*** is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and ***God himself shall be with them***, and be their God.

Chiastic link 15 in section C

7:17 For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: ***and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes***.

In section c

21:4 And ***God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes***; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

Chiastic link 17 in section D1

8:4 And the ***smoke of the incense***, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand.

In section d1

15:8 And the temple was filled with ***smoke from the glory of God***, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.

Chiastic link 18 in section D1

8:6 And the ***seven angels which had the seven trumpets*** prepared themselves to sound.

In section d1

16:1 And I heard a great voice out of the temple ***saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials*** of the wrath of God upon the earth.

Chiastic link 19 in section D1

11:15 And the ***seventh angel sounded***; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, ***The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ***; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

In section d1

16:17 And the ***seventh angel poured out his vial*** into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, ***It is done***.

Chiastic link 20 in section D1

11:19 ...and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were ***lightnings, and voices, and thunders, and an earthquake, and great hail***.

In section d1

16:18 And there were ***voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake***, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great.

Chiastic link 22 in section D2

13:1. And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, ***having seven heads and ten horns***, and upon his horns ten crowns, and ***upon his heads the name of blasphemy***.

In section d2

17:3 So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, ***full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns***.

Chiastic link 24 in section D2

13:3 And I saw ***one of his heads as it were wounded to death***; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.

13:8 And ***all that dwell upon the earth*** shall worship him, ***whose names are not written in the book of life*** of the Lamb slain from the ***foundation of the world***.

In section d2

17:8 The beast that thou sawest was, ***and is not***; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and ***they that dwell on the earth*** shall wonder, ***whose names were not written in the book of life*** from the ***foundation of the world***, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

Chiastic link 25 in section D2

13:7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over ***all kindreds, and tongues, and nations***.

In section d2

17:15 And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, ***are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues***.

Chiastic link 26 in section D2

13:18 ***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***.

In section d2

17:9 *And here is the mind which hath wisdom.* The seven heads are *seven mountains*, on which the woman sitteth.

The Chiastic Links of Revelation 13 and 17

The two chapters; Revelation 13 and 17 near the center, corresponding to this pattern, reveal seven parallel chiastic links. This passage is set within a parallel structure that explains more specific details about the beast.

1. Seven heads and ten horns
2. Heads with names on which blasphemy is written.
3. All the world shall wonder
4. Whose names are not written in the Book of Life
5. Peoples, multitudes, nations, tongues, kindreds
6. Wisdom
7. Power given to him to reign over the kings of the earth

All seven word phrases that link Revelation 13 to Revelation 17 point to the fact that it is describing the same papal beast power. The same elements in both chapters are describing the same things. Revelation 13:1-10 is describing the papal beast at the time before 1798. In chapter 17, the papal beast is depicted at the time following 1798. These are the common elements of this prophecy that demonstrate that the beast spoken of in these two chapters is identical. These two chapters demonstrate that they align accurately with the chiastic pattern of the whole book of Revelation. The beasts shown in Revelation 13:1-10 and 17 are thus demonstrated to be identical.

The phrase “was, and is not, and yet is” in Revelation 17:8, is an outline of chapter 13. The time that the beast “was” is given in Revelation 13:1-8. The time that the beast “is not” is given in Revelation 13:10. And the time that the beast “yet is” is given in Revelation 13:12, 14 receiving support from the two-horned land beast.

Revelation chapter 12 shows a panoramic view of the whole career of the dragon.

The Chiastic Center of Revelation: Chapter 12

- A. Commandments Ch.11:19
- B. Wrath of God 19
- C. Pregnant woman Ch.12:1, 2
- D. Great red dragon 3
- E. Satan's warfare 4
- F. Woman in wilderness 6
- G. War in heaven 7
- H. No place for dragon 8
- I. Deceiver cast out 9
- J. To earth 9
- Center: Salvation! 10
- j. Devil come down 12
- i. Deceiver limited 12
- h. Earth only for dragon 13
- g. War against woman 13
- f. Woman in wilderness 14
- e. Satan's warfare 15
- d. Dragon angry 17
- c. With the woman and her seed 17
- b. Wrath of Satan 17
- a. Commandments of God 17

These chiasmic patterns in Revelation, commonly found in the Old Testament, is the signature of God, as it is written; "The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him,..." When the prophetic elements from both sides of this chiasmic pattern are brought together, and perfectly aligned with history, the prophecy will then be understood. This is the Certificate of Authenticity.

CHAPTER 7

THE WISDOM OF THE MATHEMATICS

In Revelation 13:18, the number 666 is given. In the verse that it is linked to; Revelation 17:9 and 10, that same number is derived from the count of the numbers of the names of the seven mountains plus the final eighth. The elements defining this prophetic outline of the beast and its seven heads are located in these two linked verses. ‘Wisdom’ is the key chiasmic word in both verses. There are shown here eleven delimiting factors that are all precisely integrated to produce the exact count of the number 666.

Eleven Delimiting Factors in the Prophecy of the Number 666

1. The number is comprised of eight numbers: “the eighth”

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Pius	Leo	Gregory	Benedict	John	Paul	John Paul	Antichrist
12	13	16	14	21	6	2	1
+78	+91	+136	+105	+231	+21	+3	+1 = 666

2. Each of the seven numbers are comprised of triangular numbers: “count”
3. The first five numbers are all terminal before the sixth arrives:

“fallen” The counts of 78, 91, 136, 105 and 231 cannot increase any more, they are the numbers of the first five that have already fallen. A change in any of these would have altered the count and the sum total of 666 would be unattainable.

4. The seventh must also be comprised of two numbers and is the minimum it could be and still be a triangular number: “a mountain,” and to correctly fulfill its identity as also being a mountain; “seven heads are seven mountains.” It leaves the cumulative total at the precise count of 665 leaving only one to be fulfilled by the coming eighth. From the sixth, the count was left at 662, adding the smallest triangular number 3, sets the total at 665 with only 1 left.
5. The eighth is a single “one” which is necessary to make the pinpoint identification of the man whose number is 666; “a man.” The eighth is not included in the list of the other seven heads, who are also defined as mountains. The eighth does not receive the designation of also being a mountain, but it is sequentially aligned with the seven to show that it is of a like nature as the seven, saying “of the seven.”
6. The elements defining this prophetic outline are located in the verse that is chiastically linked in the book of Revelation to the verse where the number 666 is given. “Wisdom.” Wisdom is the key chiastic word in both verses. This includes the demonstration that all of the elements from the prophecy and the historic record are precisely matched and integrated to produce the exact count it specifies. History has made tracing this path far easier, because none of the elements of history need any additional explanations or compensatory adjustments to make them appear to match; they already align naturally and easily.
7. The combined sum produces the exact total count of 666; “...his

number is 666.” All of the combined numbers are counted.

8. The seventh could not have arrived before the sixth; “not yet come.” The contribution to the count from the seventh number must all be derived from its source after the passing of the sixth.
9. The seventh must be short in relation to the other six; “a short space.” The combined total of the tenure of the mountain of John Paul was $26\frac{1}{2}$ years. The next smallest tenure is that of Paul, whose six popes held the papacy for 67 years. John Paul’s count of 3 reflects this shortest papal term when compared to the terms of the other six mountains.
10. The seventh must also be comprised of two numbers in order to correctly fulfill its identity as also being a mountain; “the seven heads are seven mountains.”
11. This number is applied to both the whole beast and to the “one” man; the “number of the beast is the number of a man.” All of these factors that are already fulfilled require that it meets its final fulfillment in the last man and eighth head of the beast.

The closer that this count has approached the end, the more accurate and pinpoint it has become which requires that it will all end on the precise count. There is no more room for any variability. Had there been only one more pope named John anywhere in history, then the sixth mountain would have already exceeded the count. But history has brought this to a pinpoint count, which is all that is left to complete in the next papal transition.

All these factors have converged to create an accurate alignment in the mathematics, that could have been altered by a slight change anywhere in the historic record. History leaves only a single one that remains to be fulfilled. Examine the record of recent history, and see for yourself that it is an exact parallel of the prophecy.

CHAPTER 8

DEALING WITH CURRENT VIEWS

The following are quotes from Volume 7 of the Daniel and Revelation Committee Series; Symposium on Revelation, Book 2, Frank B. Holbrook, Editor. Prof. Kenneth Strand wrote the chapter on the Seven Heads:

“The problem lies in the foundational center of the Preterist stance, and therefore, is one that afflicts all Preterist interpretations in spite of any and all idiosyncrasies that may exist among individual writers. That ‘root problem’ is the perspective that limits the scope of Revelation’s message to John’s own era. The biblical evidence reveals, as we have seen, that the leopard-bodied sea beast, its seven heads, and its ten horns relate to things that were still future for John” (p. 205). This excludes the application of the seven mountains to any kingdoms before 95 A.D..

“Since the word ‘mountains’ is obviously symbolic in Rev. 17:9, proper principles of interpretation would require that we look for the scriptural usage of the term ‘mountain’ in cases where the term is employed as a symbol. When we do so, we never find ‘mountain’ used to symbolize an individual monarch or ruler.” (p. 186)

Thus, to assert that the seven heads which are also mountains as a line of popes that use the same name, complies with every aspect of the verse. The interpretation given to the beast is that of a specific identity; the papacy. This is in agreement with the Symposium on Revelation. Therefore it is in the papacy where we are to look for the seven heads, mountains and kings.

The content of the chapter on the seven mountains consists almost entirely of debunking the Preterist's view; which defines the seven mountains as the emperors of Rome and Professor Strand had no definitive conclusion to say exactly what the seven mountains or the seven heads are, except that the leopard-like sea-beast, its seven heads and ten horns, are all future to John. By stating that these are all future to John, completely removes the "one is" from possibly being applied to John's day.

The conclusion of the 1996 Symposium on Revelation is that there is no defined interpretation on the seven mountains of Revelation 17:9.

The Alleged Papal Title: Vicarius Filii Dei

While many have referred to the counting of the letters of the alleged title of the papacy, by assigning numerical values to the letters, the Bible does not specifically indicate that this is the correct application. It does state that 666 is the number of the beast and a man. Certainly, that interpretation points to the beast which has the spirit of antichrist, but only one man will be the Antichrist at the time appointed, and it's not just the whole system of the papacy. The papacy is already represented as the beast, and only the last head or pope will become the one Antichrist. The 666 man and the beast are one and the same, and he is the last one that enters perdition and is destroyed at the second coming of Christ.

There are elements of the prophecy that are completely ignored by the count of the letters of the alleged papal title; Vicarius Filii Dei. It does not demonstrate to be the number of a single man. It asserts that all popes are men and the papal title comprises how it applies to the beast. It does not pinpoint who this last "man of sin" is, but it presumes this same number upon all the popes. It leaves the identity of this Antichrist to some other unspecified source and leaves open the possibility that the deceptions of the Antichrist will sway them into error. The very number that they have forced their

interpretation on, that the Bible gives to mark this man's identity, has been rendered impotent by this false interpretation. The Vicarius Filii Dei papal title interpretation makes no connection to this chiastic pattern. It says nothing about seven heads in the papal title or reflected in the count of letters. The historic elements proffered in that interpretation do not align with anything across this chiastic link.

The application of the phrase "Vicarius Filii Dei" to the number 666 is a false interpretation that occludes the real truth, yet it is sincerely believed by many. It falls short of identifying the "man." It does not suffice to identify the "seat." That which is presented here not only identifies the 666 beast, but also the 666 man. It is not possible that every pope has been the Antichrist, for this identity belongs to a single individual man and not to everyone that is seated in the papal office.

The interpretation in this book, involves a count of pure numbers, ONLY numbers, not letters that are assigned a numeric value and are then added up. This method is a direct application of the element of counting as written in the prophecy.

It is from the Douay Rheims Bible from which the footnote to the number 666 says that the letters of his name make up the number. Since the source of this interpretation is from the beast, it should immediately be suspect of being a deception. The fox cannot be the guard of the henhouse.

The dragon gave its seat and power to this beast who has corrupted the word of God. They have added their footnotes to the Word. Satan thus tries to divert everyone from the real truth. It has sent many on a 666 number hunt for who the Antichrist is, which by this method is inherently invalid as there are millions of names that bear this number. Which one is provable? The interpretation I present demonstrates that the Antichrist is the beast's eighth and last head. It is very specific.

Many individuals have the numeric value of 666 in their name, but that does not mean that they are associated with the Antichrist. The true identity of the 666 man and his count must be precise. The counting of the beast is intended to identify the Antichrist. The phrase "Vicarius

Filii Dei” is not able to disclose precisely, who the “Man of Sin” is.

Though the debate on the Vicarius issue still continues and it is definitely settled as valid in the minds of some, while others have opted to a more recent view that the number 666 is symbolic.

Others are asserting that the number 6, is the number of man and represents imperfection, sin, and rebellion from God. This is predicated on the fact that man was created on the sixth day. But was man created imperfect, or was he the crowning act of God who created all things perfect? There is no evidence in Scripture that takes this number given in prophecy and changing it to a root value of 6, because in our modern numeric system, the number 666 contains three of the same digit. There is no evidence that any prophetic number is reduced to a single representative digit because it repeated in our modern system. This is foreign to proper Biblical exegesis. Neither is the number 666 symbolic. Even an elementary examination of the exegetics of the text, shows that to symbolize this number nullifies the necessity of counting anything at all. The Bible says it is a number that is to be counted, and to symbolize it away leaves the reader to believe that there is no need to count anything. Doesn't anybody really investigate the source of their beliefs? Test it, test it, test it!

The interpretation of this book also matches the expected events that are yet to come; it presents a straight testimony that confronts the popular errors found in today's theology and thus it sets up for the “shaking” to come. It reveals the imminent rise of the Antichrist and heralds the cry of the angel of Revelation 18. It is a repeating of the Third Angel's Message and announces that the last hour of the judgment that is nearly upon us.

Errors of Former Interpretations: Satan's Counterfeits

Most are not aware that their beliefs regarding this prophecy are not biblical. There is a traceable line of truth through the prophecies that is commonly accepted and known. There are many false

interpretations that are perpetrated to detract from this truth. These false interpretations lack one critical element; they fail to demonstrate continuity. There is a straight line of truth that maintains continuity and is demonstrated by the Scripture and supported by history. This interpretation of the count of the number 666 follows precisely with this same line of truth.

It is important to know where we are in this time-frame of prophecy if we are to assert what is present truth. To correctly divide this line, we must know what prophecies have been fulfilled and what is yet to be fulfilled. Yet some of these truths are not possible to be discerned until the time appointed for them.

What I have presented here is not new information or new prophecy. It has always been written there in the Scriptures and for many years recorded in history.

Other Interpretations of the Seven Heads

As Preterists have defined them, they are the Roman Emperors;

1. Augustus
2. Tiberius
3. Caligula
4. Claudius
5. Nero
6. Domitian
7. Antichrist
8. (missing in this interpretation)

The problem with this interpretation is that it must ignore 5 other valid emperors following Nero;

6. Galba
7. Otho
8. Vitellius

9. Vespasian

10. Titus

Did anyone note here that Nero is listed as number five and not the eighth in order to be the one that is counted as the 666 man? Yet some count the letters of his name to make him the Antichrist. Another observation is that the Antichrist is listed as the seventh instead of the eighth, and they have no eighth head as the Scripture reads.

In another commentary these seven heads, also called mountains are defined as the seven great world kingdoms;

1. Babylon,
2. Persia,
3. Grecia,
4. Pagan Rome,
5. Papal Rome,
6. Republicanism or Democracy,
7. The Last Great Confederacy of Evil.
8. (missing in this interpretation)

Another commentary lists;

1. 1 Egypt
2. 2 Assyria
3. 3 Babylon
4. 4 Persia
5. 5 Grecia
6. 6 Rome
7. 7 Antichrist
8. 8 (missing in this interpretation)

Again, there are many other world kingdoms not included in the list, and the problem applying the seven mountains to mean the ancient kingdoms, puts the first five or six of these world kingdoms prior to 1798, when Pius VI was taken captive (it even places them prior to John). The problem in this interpretation is that it displaces

an eschatological prophecy, by placing its fulfillment or parts of it far into the past. This basic interpretation, with its many variants, is Preterism.

Some try to add to it; saying that there is some relevance to the time that the prophecy was given to John, based on the present tense of the words “and one is,” claiming that the time that the five fallen kingdoms had fallen before the prophecy was uttered to John. This ignores the fact that the seven heads are the heads of the beast, and they try to place them outside of and beyond that of the time of beast that is symbolized here. The context of the explanation given to John is in an eschatological setting. It is not given in reference to when John lived. John is not in any way referenced to the time in the prophecy written as “one is.” Neither did John know what these were to be. If he had known who the five fallen were, then why would he not simply have stated that they were of kingdoms before his time? A prophecy that has been fulfilled, is a foundation for the remainder of the prophecies that are not yet fulfilled. The elements of the prophecy given to John in Revelation 17, all pertain to future events. To Daniel, Babylon in his vision was already in fulfillment and became past fulfillment as the kingdom of Medo-Persia took power. It became the foundation for identifying the subsequent powers that succeeded Medo-Persia, beyond Daniel’s time. If the five fallen were already past fulfillment in John’s time when he wrote Revelation, then he would have set that as the basis for the final elements, showing the identity of those first five fallen. John’s writing of the prophecy is not to escape the scrutiny of Roman authorities, John is not encrypting his words for any purpose. They are to be understood only by the unrolling of the scroll of time. John is told what to write. Eschatological prophecy is intended to be understood for the benefit of those living at the end of time.

Some of the prophecies that were given to Daniel and John, refer to time periods spanning from their inception when they were first given, but most that John wrote refers specifically to the end; the focus being set within the lifetime of those living in the end. So it does not make any sense to apply it to any other period; the context

of the seven heads (mountains) is from 1798 to the present, so any rulers, or kingdoms outside of this period are irrelevant. The whore as it appears in Revelation 17:9-11 is depicted by the contemporaneous presence of the two-horned beast. This is set within the final end period. Therefore, for this whore woman to sit upon seven mountains, and to be the worship target of the two-horned beast, it must be that these heads (mountains) are contemporary, and in the same period of time as the two-horned beast. Besides the writing of the book of Revelation, none of these events have any relevance to John himself, nor any other purpose than to be the truth for the people of God at the time of the end. Since the first and second century Christians were not able to witness any of these “last day” events, it is understood that it did not benefit them beyond the promise that a final victory will be won by God. The last-day prophecies are written for the people of the last generation who will experience them.

Many false interpretations have been given to the prophecies of the number 666 and of the beast. Satan has made sure that before the truth would be revealed, that he would fill the world with a host of false interpretations.

Others say that there is some relevance to the time that the prophecy was given to John based on the present tense of the words “and one is,” claiming that the time that the five fallen kingdoms had fallen before the prophecy was uttered to John.

The angel gave the vision to John, which is of eschatological events, and then the explanation given to John about the vision also pertains to the same end-time events. None of it is given in reference to the time that John lived. The Preterist view also ignores the fact that the seven heads are the heads of the beast, and they try to place them outside of and beyond that of the time of beast that is symbolized here. That interpretation tries to put heads from 457 B.C. to 4 B.C. on a beast that exists from 538 A.D. to the present. But John saw the beast in a time that was future to him. How could the heads of this beast be in existence before the beast itself? No other prophecy of a beast shows its heads to pre-exist its own time.

A continual returning to Preterism and Preterist teachings

continues to produce errors. The readers of John's day could not possibly have participated in the eschatological events that his prophecies apply to, therefore whatever they might have understood concerning eschatological prophecy is completely irrelevant. If the theologians of today can scarcely agree on eschatological events even as they pass right by them in our own day, how can they expect their readers to respect the words and thoughts of those who preceded them by nearly two millennia, when they cannot even show us one word of the thoughts of the readers of John's prophecies in his day? And of those words that do exist, how is it determined that what they thought concerning such a far-off fulfillment was right? It is another false teaching to say that the readers of John's day were required to be able to understand what John wrote. They were not yet opened to understand the book of Daniel, as still it remained sealed.

CHAPTER 9

FROM THIS DAY FORWARD

We are now past the end of the “short space” and are extended another undefined span of a brief time during the tenure of an antipope. Thus we are watching for the coming of the Antichrist that follows this antipope.

The Bible and recent history present clear evidence that the Second Coming is almost here. Now, the short space being past, we have entered an interim time that awaits the arrival of the Antichrist. Benedict XVI is “he that withholdeth... until he is ...taken out of the way” (2Thessalonians 2:6, 7). This will be followed by yet another undefined period of time, of the reign of the Antichrist before Christ comes to bring it all to an end.

Rapture theologians have attempted to interpret 2Thessalonians 2:6 to mean that the “he” that withholdeth, is the Holy Spirit, which they say will be withdrawn from the earth. But this teaching is contrary to other Scriptures that state that “He” is with us even to the end of the world. And when Christ comes, there will be no one living that will be left behind.

It is clearly evident that the time is imminently upon us and the message of salvation needs to go forward more urgently to finish the harvest of souls. In the prophecies of Revelation, is written the description of the true followers of the Church and of Jesus, and also of the false body of Christ symbolized by a whore woman. The time spans of the prophecies reach from 457 B.C. to 1844, and then following this, conditional prophecies that are not set within

specific periods of time but await the conditional sequences of certain events. When these things are fulfilled, they will be revealed to the true followers of Christ. The final events surround the world's largest ecclesiastical body: the Catholic Church. Even while God denounces this papal system, identifying it precisely and calling it Babylon, He still recognizes that amidst the followers of this false system of worship, there are still many who truly belong to Him, and just before He pours out His wrath on Babylon the Great, He calls His people out of her. This call includes all of the ecclesiastical bodies that are the whore woman's harlot daughters. All of humanity are invited to become God's people.

"Other sheep have I, not of this fold." God has His people scattered among all the various denominations, including the Catholic faith. And in the final throes of this world, before God sends His judgments to destroy it, He first implores His people to come out of her.

"My sheep hear my voice." John 10:27. When God calls His own, He empowers them to understand. He will send home His message and expose the 'man of sin' and the corruptions within the churches so His people can see and depart, and not be partakers of the seven last plagues soon to be poured out. Many people fear the inevitable battle of Armageddon; however, seeing it is the seventh and last plague, the destiny of each soul will have already been determined. With a true saving faith, the people of God will not be disturbed at the judgments that fall on the beast and her adherents; they will remain steadfast while those around them will be slain by them.

Many have jumped to the conclusion, that the new pope, having chosen the name of Benedict XVI, has voided this interpretation. That is false. When a pope is elected, he is considered legitimate until it is found that he is an antipope. At his deposition, it is considered that he never was a pope. The count remains at 665. Thoroughly investigate this research and understand that an antipope has always been included in this interpretation that still holds true.

Beginning with the original thesis, it shows that the papal beast of Revelation 17 has seven papal heads as demonstrated by the official papal record. It also shows that the numbers that have been

given to these seven names form the sum total of 665 with the arrival of John Paul II. From this point, it led to understanding that John Paul constitutes the seventh head of the beast, and is the ‘smallest mountain’ (of I and II yielding 3) and thus producing the “short space” of 26½ years which John Paul I and II held. The election of Cardinal Ratzinger, who chose the “fallen” name of Benedict, set himself up destined to become an antipope, who will be deposed at the arrival of the coming eighth, which is very near. The Loud Cry of Revelation 18 will soon commence.

As I wrote this research out, I could only imagine how it would appear, and I wrote it according to the prophecy’s outline and entered the elements from the papal record into it. On April 19, 2005 when the new pope’s name was first known and entered into this research, the conclusion was as expected; he is an antipope. And now with this additional element entered into the prophecy, the next event comes into view.

What Happens Next? The Bible is the Source for the Answer:

³Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

⁴Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

⁵Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?

⁶And now ye know what withholdeth* (Greek; katecho) (an antipope) that he (Antichrist) might be revealed in his time.

⁷For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth* (Greek; katecho) will let, until he (antipope) be taken out of the way. (deposed)

⁸And then shall that Wicked (Antichrist) be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the

brightness of his coming:

⁹Even him, (Christ) whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders.

—2Thessalonians 2:3-9

*(Greek; katecho, to hold back) letteth and withholdeth are the same Greek word.

As time goes on, God reveals more and more truth. And thus it is revealed in these texts, some of what is to transpire. This new pope is an antipope, as this research indicates. The correct understanding of the prophecy confirms this. Though he is an antipope, the church and the world do not know it yet.

I had anticipated that we would have an antipope in this election. This is based on the fact that there were two antipopes within the papal record that were interfering with the count of this research. Thus it was a direct possibility that we could have another antipope after John Paul II, and it could not be ruled out. Thus, by the ongoing count with John Paul II leaving us with 665, two options emerged: This new pope would either be the Antichrist, or he would be an antipope. A new name with a count of '1' which a new name would have, would signify that he is the Antichrist, a used name with a number greater than a count of '1' would signal that he would ultimately become an antipope.

There will also be great deceptions to come that will arise that will contradict his identity as the Antichrist. Let the prophecy of the Bible make this identity clear; he who completes the count to 666 is the Antichrist.

Meanwhile, we remain at another waiting period, with yet another unknown timeframe to the next event, which will be the coming of the eighth head Antichrist. How long we will have to freely spread this message before it becomes difficult, is also unknown, but this Antichrist will come in with such flair, that he will move on governments and round up the churches to rally his cause. According to many others, preparations have already been made toward this end. Even now, Benedict XVI has been pushing the agenda of Sunday

observance and imploring the people and governments to pass laws forbidding work on Sunday. The pope said; “Give the soul its Sunday, give Sunday its soul,” calling Sunday the Church’s “weekly feast of creation.”

There is no evidence in the biblical account of Creation, that God made the first day to be regarded as a “weekly feast of Creation” but rather God gave man the first day to do as He did; a day to work. The Weekly Feast of Creation is the seventh day Sabbath. The age-old claim that Sunday is the Lord’s day on account of the resurrection, is being set aside for a more bold attempt to usurp the very reason why the seventh day is the Sabbath; the memorial of Creation.

The Coming Antichrist

There is no biblical prophecy that gives the length of the time of the Antichrist’s reign. It is interesting though, that those who refute that the prophecies are calculated as one day for a year, have no problem in believing that the 70th week of Daniel 7:24 is referring to the last 7 years that the Antichrist will reign.

The eighth head will complete the count to the sum of 666. This is the precise identifier of the “man of sin.” While the eighth head sets up his agenda, this brings forward the message of the first angel saying that the “hour of His judgment” has come. The call to come out of Babylon is then repeated. Having correctly identified and re-affirmed the identity of the east of Revelation 17, those that see and believe will separate from Babylon.

The shockwave that passes through humanity at the time of the Loud Cry will have a grave impact on the economy. Many churches will lose its members. Investments will soon have no value. In that day, not even gold will keep its value. Nothing on earth will be of any value except our own souls. Everything on earth will soon be destroyed. The great time of trouble begins.

The Loud Cry swells as the Third Angel’s Message is given for the last time to the world. The Gospel work will be made more

difficult because of power being reinstated to the eighth head of the beast. The plagues will be about to fall, and the people of God will carefully watch the events to unfold before them. Time is very short, and the assistance of the Holy Spirit attends the workers who are agonizing for the souls of others.

When the Abomination of Desolation, (the eighth head) makes his move to stand in the Holy Place spoken of in Matthew, it coincides with the end of Christ's mediation on behalf of man and makes the final decree; "He that is holy let him remain holy, and he that is unclean shall remain unclean" then the time of Jacob's trouble begins, and the seven plagues are poured out.

The Ten Horns of the Beast

Prophecies that have received fulfillment, reveal that the horns of a beast come from the beast. Thus the daughters of this whore woman have come from the Reformation, and are being drawn ecumenically back to their mother church, to lend their power to her for one hour.

These ten horn kingdoms are ten Sunday-keeping Protestant church groups, whose first purpose is to become united with the papal power and then to enforce by use of civil powers the dictates of the Antichrist. Then when it is apparent that the judgment of God is upon them, they turn on the papal beast to destroy it. Therefore, since these ten kingdoms have not yet been fully enlisted to enforce the papal decrees, then we cannot yet know who these ten are, until the time appointed. We must await its fulfillment before it can be affirmed.

¹²And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

¹³These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.

¹⁴These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome

them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.

¹⁶And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.

—Revelation 17:12-14, 16

This prophetic message is more urgent, knowing that it is now being fulfilled. At the time of the papal election following the end of John Paul II, it was evident that the prophecy was followed accordingly. It is time NOW to study this interpretation completely and put the wheels of action in place so this time is not wasted. (Much time has already been wasted by many who have resisted the evidence of this prophecy as it is shown here.) Jesus gave this prophecy to give impetus to the Loud Cry message; that the identity of the Antichrist should be made so as to affect the call all the way through Babylon to bring His people out, before His judgments fall. This Antichrist will appear to the whole world with the grandest of deceptions. The true Christ wants His people, who are yet alive in the end to know precisely who this imposter is.

¹⁸Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.

²²Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.

—1John 2:18, 22

Twice John makes the statement; “it is the last time.” This verse specifically places its context as being in the last days. Although spoken by John the beloved Apostle and written in 80-90 A.D., the application in its context refers to the Antichrist at the end of a long line of antichrists. Since the time that this was written is obvious that it was not then in John’s day, the “last time,” and there were also not then, “many antichrists,” because these are also linked to being in

the “last time.” It is a prophetic statement, and not speaking of his present condition.

³Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

⁴Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

⁵Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things?

⁶And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time.

⁷For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.

⁸And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

⁹Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders

—2Thessalonians 2:3-9

¹⁸Here 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.

—Revelation 13:18

¹¹And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.

—Revelation 17:11

These Scriptures all brought together, agree that it is speaking of one individual who will be the Antichrist at the very end of the world. The Spirit of Prophecy also agrees, and it is even more specific in identifying that Antichrist as Satan himself. Although the

Spirit of Prophecy also makes reference to the “antichristian power” in reference to the papacy, of all the time it is in power, it does not exclude or deny the existence of the teaching of the one man Antichrist at the end of time.

Satan Will Appear

“As the second appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ draws near, satanic agencies are moved from beneath. Satan will not only appear as a human being, but he will personate Jesus Christ, and the world that has rejected the truth will receive him as the Lord of lords and King of kings.” —Bible Commentary, Vol. 5 1105, 1900

“The last great delusion is soon to open before us. Antichrist is to perform his marvelous works in our sight. So closely will the counterfeit resemble the true that it will be impossible to distinguish between them except by the Holy Scriptures. By their testimony every statement and every miracle must be tested.” —Great Controversy p. 593, 1911

“The man of sin was to arise, and do his work of exaltation and blasphemy, before the brethren could look for the coming of Christ. That great event was to be preceded by a falling away. There would be revealed a form of antichrist, and the leaven of apostasy was to work with increasing power to the end of time.” —Review and Herald, July 31, 1888

Meaning of Antichrist to Be Understood

“Those who become confused in their understanding of the Word, who fail to see the meaning of antichrist, will surely place themselves on the side of antichrist. There is no time now for us to assimilate with the world. Daniel is standing in his lot and in his place. The prophecies of Daniel and of John are to be understood. They interpret each other. They give to the world truths which

everyone should understand. These prophecies are to be witnesses in the world. By their fulfillment in these last days they will explain themselves.” —Bible Commentary Vol. 7, p. 949

The more obvious purpose of the number 666 and the counting of lesser numbers to arrive at this sum total, is for the proof of the evidence that the “man” and the “beast” are thus implicitly identified.

The purpose of a real, tangible, incontrovertible concrete count numbers, is to have PROOF of the identity, by the facts given in the prophecy, and matched by history.

I still find it amazing that already, the world is filled with cheap imitations of the truth, and people are already more prone to believe them instead of genuine evidence, in spite of being forewarned of such deceptions! We are here in this world to proselytize for the salvation of others. If we cannot present solid evidence to make this identity certain, then we cannot move forward with the Loud Cry message of Revelation 18.

Again, that which Elder George McCready Price wrote in his book; “Time of the End” concerning the correct understanding of Revelation 17 clearly applies: “The true view will not involve any denial of facts. We need a sensible, self-consistent interpretation of this chapter, so that we can give intelligently the last gospel message, ‘Come out of her, my people.’ Revelation 18:4.”

The choices that people need to make are choices that are founded on the true interpretation and true meaning of the number 666, and how it is counted.

“The lying spirit that enticed Eve in Eden, finds acceptance with the majority of earth’s inhabitants today. Even the Christian world refuses to be converted by the Spirit of God, but listens to the prince of darkness, as he comes to them in the garb of an angel of light. The spirit of Antichrist is prevailing in the world to a far greater extent than it has ever prevailed before.” —Bible Commentary Vol. 7, p. 950

“Satan is still working through every means which he can control to destroy religious liberty. The antichristian power which the

protesters of Spires rejected is now with renewed vigor seeking to re-establish its lost supremacy. The same unswerving adherence to the word of God manifested at that crisis of the Reformation is the only hope of reform today.” —Great Controversy, p. 204

This “Word of God” reveals that the beast will regain its power under the eighth and last head.

Satan’s Last Campaign

¹⁸Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that anti-christ shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time.

—1John 2:18.

“The enemy is preparing for his last campaign against the church. He has so concealed himself from view that many can hardly believe that he exists, much less can they be convinced of his amazing activity and power” —Maranatha, p. 64

“Disguised as an angel of light, he [Satan] will walk the earth as a wonder-worker. In beautiful language he will present lofty sentiments. Good words will be spoken by him, and good deeds performed. Christ will be personified, but on one point there will be a marked distinction. Satan will turn the people from the law of God. He will declare that the Sabbath has been changed from the seventh to the first day of the week; and as lord of the first day of the week he will present this spurious sabbath as a test of loyalty to him.

“It is impossible to give any idea of the experience of the people of God who shall be alive upon the earth when celestial glory and a repetition of the persecutions of the past are blended. They will walk in the light proceeding from the throne of God. By means of the angels there will be constant communication between heaven and earth. And Satan, surrounded by evil angels, and claiming to be God, will work miracles of all kinds, to deceive, if possible, the very

elect. God's people will not find their safety in working miracles, for Satan will counterfeit the miracles that will be wrought. God's tried and tested people will find their power in the sign spoken of in Exodus 31:12-18. They are to take their stand on the living word: 'It is written.' This is the only foundation upon which they can stand securely." —Maranatha, p. 205

"He will come personating Jesus Christ, working mighty miracles; and men will fall down and worship him as Jesus Christ. We shall be commanded to worship this being, whom the world will glorify as Christ. What shall we do? —Tell them that Christ has warned us against just such a foe, who is man's worst enemy, yet who claims to be God; and that when Christ shall make His appearance, it will be with power and great glory, accompanied by ten thousand times ten thousand angels and thousands of thousands; and that when He shall come, we shall know His voice. The time is coming when Satan will work miracles right in your sight, claiming that he is Christ; and if your feet are not firmly established upon the truth of God, then you will be led away from your foundation. —Maranatha, pg. 206

"As the crowning act in the great drama of deception, Satan himself will personate Christ. The church has long professed to look to the Saviour's advent as the consummation of her hopes. Now the great deceiver will make it appear that Christ has come. In different parts of the earth, Satan will manifest himself among men as a majestic being of dazzling brightness, resembling the description of the Son of God given by John in the Revelation... The shout of triumph rings out upon the air, 'Christ has come! Christ has come!' The people prostrate themselves in adoration before him... In gentle, compassionate tones he presents some of the same gracious, heavenly truths which the Saviour uttered; he heals the diseases of the people, and then, in his assumed character of Christ, he claims to have changed the Sabbath to Sunday, and commands all to hallow the day which he has blessed..." The Faith I Live By, p. 346

All of the arguments against the Antichrist as a man at the end, are based on the construct of the words of men in direct opposition to the Word of God. Both Ellen White and the Scriptures point to

a single individual, who at the end will both constitute the beast and a man, in whose identity is marked by the completed count of the number 666. Those who hold to the view that the antichrist is only the papal system and not an individual, are attempting to argue against the Catholic view, which they call “Futurism.” They say that the Futuristic view places the Antichrist far into the future in the attempt to dispel the view that it is the papacy.

Perhaps the application of “Futurism” did apply in 1585, that the Antichrist was hundreds of years into the future, but have they forgotten that more than 400 years have since passed by? These modern “Protestants” have not progressed in understanding this truth at all.

Such a determined effort has been undertaken to force the interpretation of “antichrist” to apply to the papacy, and to also dispel the Jesuit interpretation of the Antichrist to appear at the end of time, that they have rendered every instance in Scripture with regard to the Antichrist, the Man of Sin, regardless of how singular a reference might be written, to always mean the “papal system.” By this error, many are denying the existence of the Antichrist at the end of time. It is this very error that the ministers of the Seventh-day Adventist church are setting up their members for a great deception. I expect that the “straight testimony” will pour forth at the unfolding of these prophecies and cause a great upheaval within the church when it is discovered that they have been in error.

Perhaps it will be that “overwhelming surprise” that Satan will appear as Christ to deceive the world. Up to this point in time, the world at large have never seen a true miracle; a true phenomenon that cannot be explained by science. So when Satan himself arrives, it will be said by many that this must be the second coming of the Christ. And when he begins to perform miracles, it will confirm this in the minds of many that he is indeed the Christ. But when he turns the people away from the Law of God, and claim that the Sabbath has been changed from the seventh day to Sunday, it will expose him for who he truly is: the Antichrist.

CHAPTER 10

SATAN WILL BE DEIFIED

When the Lord comes, it will be no accident or random selection as to who will be the residing pope. The papal throne is not the “musical chair of Peter” that the one who is seated in it at the end, is misfortunate to be the unlucky one. The one who will be consumed by the coming of Christ is specifically spoken of as that “Wicked” one.

Even the “elect” God’s chosen, are brought close to deception, and it is certainly a deception to obscure the identity of the Antichrist, by denying that it is making reference to the one Antichrist at the end, by calling the antichrist a system. This is obviously obscuring the identity of the Antichrist. By so doing, they are more prepared to accept the arrival of the Antichrist as being who he claims to be; “I am the Christ!” The dazzling brilliance of Satan, in impersonating the coming of Christ, will lead many into deception.

“In this age Antichrist will appear as the true Christ, and then the law of God will be fully made void in the nations of our world. Rebellion against God’s holy law will be fully ripe. But the true leader of all this rebellion is Satan clothed as an angel of light. Men will be deceived and will exalt him to the place of God, and deify him. But Omnipotence will interpose, and to the apostate churches that unite in the exaltation of Satan, the sentence will go forth, ‘Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her’” [Rev. 18:8]. —Testimonies to Ministers p. 62, Review and Herald, Sept. 12, 1893.

The Beginning of this Research

It was sometime in the year 1994 that the thought was first conceived in my mind, that the popes had numbers on their names and that it might be possible that these have something to do with the count of the number 666. Though this first thought is a queried presumption, an examination of the historic data would prove or disprove its validity.

The data for this research was not collected or examined until early 1997. The first source for the papal list was from a 1980 Almanac. If the number 666 was to be found in these numbers, it should be able to be seen.

There were a few popes that were questionable; it was dependent on whether or not certain popes were legitimate or if certain other popes were antipopes. As I was trying to sort out the data, and perhaps by chance be able to align it correctly, the number 666 might appear, I then experienced a second moment of insight; I saw that there were seven different names in the papal record that were shown since 1798. I knew then that it would be within these seven names that the number would be found.

I already knew that 1798 had played a pivotal role in many prophecies and in the activity of the papacy, and I looked more closely at the popes from 1798. I remembered the text of Scripture in Revelation 17:9 that spoke of the seven heads of the beast. These were the seven heads where the count would be found. And by a careful reading of the verse, I noted the heads are also called mountains, and this indicated to me that all the popes of one name, formed a mountain, and these created the numbers to count.

In going beyond just the answer to the number 666, it has also been revealed that all the other elements of this prophecy are found in this same historic data. They align themselves in a clear and simple manner, and very little explanation is necessary to demonstrate that they fulfill every prophetic element, which, unlike the opposing interpretations, require difficult and convoluted explanations to make them appear to fit the prophecy. Satan has been working for

thousands of years just to prepare for the deceptions which he will use upon the world in the last days.

The Beast That Ascends From the Bottomless Pit

This 666 count research involves the Scripture about the beast ascending from the bottomless pit in Revelation 17:8. In only one other passage in Revelation is this “ascending beast” phrase found and that is in Revelation 11:7.

³And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.

⁴These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.

⁵And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed.

⁶These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.

—Revelation 11:3-6

⁸The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition:

—Revelation 17:8

It is the coming power to the papacy that will yet ascend from its bottomless pit and make war on God’s people. It is the very same beast that is also called the eighth in Revelation 17:11.

The phrase: “the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit,” found in Revelation 11:7 and “shall ascend out of the bottomless pit,” in Revelation 17:8 are referring to the same beast and the same event. Likewise, the phrase: “the great city” in Revelation 11:8 and “that great city Babylon,” in Revelation

18:10 are referring to the same thing.

In Revelation 17, it identifies who is involved, and in Revelation 11 it describes what is involved. Babylon the Great, is “that great city” in all the passages that it is found.

“Let all who would understand the meaning of these things read the eleventh chapter of Revelation. Read every verse, and learn the things that are yet to take place in the cities. Read also the scenes portrayed in the eighteenth chapter of the same book.”
21 Manuscript Release p. 91

Interpreting the Two Witnesses as the two testaments of the Word, there is no doubt that they were obscured in sackcloth for the span of 1,260 years, that ended in 1798. This obscuring of the Word was perpetrated by the papacy. Did papal Rome escape this judgment? No, they did not, for in the very moment that the Two Witnesses stepped out of their testimony in sackcloth, the beast that “was,” became “is not” and indeed this papal beast was killed for the hurt that it levied upon the Two Witnesses.

Did this historic fact escape everyone? Yet there is nowhere mentioned in anyone’s commentary of how the papal beast had faced the prophetic consequences of its hurting of the Two Witnesses. The very mention of sackcloth, identifies the hurting of the Two Witnesses and everyone knows by whom.

⁷And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.

⁸And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.

⁹And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves.

¹⁰And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth.

¹¹And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them.

¹²And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them.

¹³And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven.

¹⁴The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly.

¹⁵And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

—Revelation 11:7-15

This same beast that held the Two Witnesses in obscurity, had itself been plunged into obscurity. Revelation 17:3 shows this beast in the wilderness, following its long reign of power. And when this beast under the next legitimate pontificate, presents the eighth head following 1798, Satan arises from out of the bottomless pit, and will wage war again upon the Two Witnesses, and kill them.

These references show the correct placement of this referenced time of trouble:

“In the closing period of earth’s history the Lord will work mightily in behalf of those who stand steadfastly for the right. ...In the midst of the time of trouble—trouble such as has not been since there was a nation—His chosen ones will stand unmoved. Satan with all the hosts of evil cannot destroy the weakest of God’s saints.

“‘In those days shall be affliction, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time, neither shall be.’ Mark 13:19. The time of trouble such as never was, is soon to open upon us; and we shall need an experience which we do not now possess, and which many are too indolent to obtain. It is often

the case that trouble is greater in anticipation than in reality; but this is not true of the crisis before us. The most vivid presentation cannot reach the magnitude of the ordeal. *And now, while the precious Saviour is making an atonement for us, we should seek to become perfect in Christ.*” Maranatha p. 270

This time of the war, references the time after the beast ascends from out of the bottomless pit. Indeed this is the papacy when the eighth head arrives. The “time of trouble, such as never was.”

Ellen White has written about the events outlined in Revelation 11, although no direct reference is made to those Scriptures, all of it coincides with the timing of the events that align with Revelation 17:8-11:

“God’s Law Appears in the Heavens

The heavens shall declare his righteousness: for God is judge himself. Ps. 50:6. The clouds sweep back, and the starry heavens are seen, unspeakably glorious in contrast with the black and angry firmament on either side. The glory of the celestial city streams from the gates ajar.

“In the temple will be seen the ark of the testament in which were placed the two tables of stone, on which are written God’s law. These tables of stone will be brought forth from their hiding place, and on them will be seen the Ten Commandments engraved by the finger of God. These tables of stone now lying in the ark of the testament will be a convincing Testimony to the truth and binding claims of God’s law.

“Sacriligious minds and hearts have thought they were mighty enough to change the times and laws of Jehovah; but, safe in the archives of heaven, in the ark of God, are the original commandments, written upon the two tables of stone. No potentate of earth has power to draw forth those tables from their sacred hiding place beneath the mercy seat.

“There appears against the sky a hand holding two tables of stone folded together. Says the prophet: ‘The heavens shall declare his righteousness: for God is judge himself.’ Psalm 50:6. That holy law, God’s righteousness, that amid thunder and flame was proclaimed

from Sinai as the guide of life, is now revealed to men as the rule of judgment. The hand opens the tables, and there are seen the precepts of the Decalogue, traced as with a pen of fire. The words are so plain that all can read them. Memory is aroused, the darkness of superstition and heresy is swept from every mind, and God's ten words, brief, comprehensive, and authoritative, are presented to the view of all the inhabitants of the earth.

“It is impossible to describe the horror and despair of those who have trampled upon God's holy requirements.” Maranatha, p. 286

¹¹...and great fear fell upon them which saw them.

—Revelation 11:11

“As we approach the last crisis, it is of vital moment that harmony and unity exist among the Lord's instrumentalities. The world is filled with storm and war and variance. Yet under one head—the papal power—the people will unite to oppose God in the person of His witnesses.” Maranatha p. 187

The very events of the last days as recorded in the Word and in the Spirit of Prophecy, hold forth clear evidence that the papacy beast has fulfilled, or will yet fulfill these elements of this prophecy.

³And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.

⁴These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.

⁵And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed.

—Revelation 11:3-5

Verses 3 and 4 contains no dispute regarding its identity and the time of the 1,260 days. It sets forth the platform for the rest of the

prophecy. It is paralleled by the “was” time of the papal beast. Verse 5 reflects the “is not” time of the beast.

The “little horn” as the blasphemous seven headed leopard-like beast spake great words against God, and having thought to change the Word of God, did indeed hurt the Two Witnesses. And immediately at the end of the 1,260 years of sackcloth, the retribution of the Two Witnesses upon the papal beast, was the wounding of the head Pius with a deadly wound, and the papal beast begins its time as the beast after 1798 “is not.” It was the beast that was killed and is not.

⁶These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.

⁷And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.

—Revelation 11:6, 7

This reflects the “yet is” time of the beast, when under the eighth head, the beast completes the number and the antichrist revealed.

The final war is waged over loyalty to God through the recognition of and the keeping of His holy Sabbath. The papacy under the eighth head wages this war by working through the ten horns and the two-horned beast to enact laws requiring Sunday observance.

⁸And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.

—Revelation 11:8

If someone were to suggest to me that these two cities mentioned were a description of the characteristics of the papacy, I would have to agree.

¹⁰Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come.

¹⁶And saying, Alas, alas, that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls!

—Revelation 18:10, 16

This also appears to coincide with;

⁴⁵And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.

—Daniel 11:45

Jerusalem was the city where our Lord was crucified. Do these passages predict that the Vatican will move to Jerusalem, as others have suggested? And from this place, the papacy issues the decree to exalt Sunday? This would be that abomination that maketh desolate, standing in the holy place, and the sign for the saints. This also seems to be supported by Revelation 11:8 showing that it is at the time that the eighth head kills the Two Witnesses, it will be in Jerusalem.

⁹And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves.

—Revelation 11:9

The reference to the “people, kindreds tongues and nations,” is a global event. These are the same groups that the Three Angels’ Messages are preached to; Revelation 14:6, and the same ones that we must prophesy to again, as spoken by the angel that stood upon the sea and the earth; Revelation 10:11. These are also the waters upon which the whore sits; Revelation 17:15.

¹⁰And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and

make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth.

—Revelation 11:10

The wicked will have all but destroyed the people of God, and have removed their tormenters from their sight. No one remaining among them will hear the testimony of the Two Witnesses any more. Their voice had been silenced, their testimony was finished, and they are killed.

¹¹And after three days and an half the Spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them.

—Revelation 11:11

Satan will cause the world to bow to him for the last time, and when all appears that they have eradicated the saints from bearing the tormenting testimony of the Two Witnesses to their ears, they begin to celebrate the antichrist. Until...the Lord commissions His angels that bear the seven vials of the wrath of God, to pour them out, and the revelers realize that their brief moment of glory has vaporized, and they set out to pursue the remnant. But God has His angels camped around His people assembled in small companies.

¹²And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them.

¹³And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven.

—Revelation 11:12, 13

The last reference of this passage is that the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to God. The “Remnant” of God, at this time,

will have just experienced the assaults from the “yet is” beast. They were affrighted, but they also experience the mighty intervention by God on their behalf, then they give glory to God. Then “quickly” the Lord prepares to come to receive His own. The seventh trumpet sounds. The Two Witnesses are revealed from heaven to all the world.

¹⁴The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe cometh quickly.

¹⁵And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

—Revelation 11:14-15

This is indeed a part of the prophecy which God has kept hidden until the time of identifying the 666 beast was to be understood. (2Thessalonians 2:6-8).

If you examine the parallels of the papal record, with the prophecy of the seven heads and the number 666, it should be observed that there are no compensatory adjustments. It demonstrates rather a very simple and straightforward approach to the interpretation.

The beast that rises from this pit, regains its former power, unites with its ten horns for an hour, and kills the Two Witnesses. The Two Witnesses are living and deliver the prophecy of God at the end. Their testimony comes to its finish just before the day of judgment. Until then the testimony of the Two Witnesses continues as they do now.

“But beware of rejecting that which is truth. The great danger with our people has been that of depending upon men and making flesh their arm. Those who have not been in the habit of searching the Bible for themselves, or weighing evidence, have confidence in the leading men and accept the decisions they make; and thus many will reject the very messages God sends to His people, if these leading brethren do not accept them.” Testimonies to Ministers p. 106

“Others present an array of objections to any new view; and when these objections are plainly answered by the words of Scripture, they do not acknowledge the evidence presented, nor allow themselves to be convinced. Their questioning is not for the purpose of arriving at truth, but is intended merely to confuse the minds of others.”
Testimonies to Ministers p. 108

Why The Truth Is So Important

The beast that ascends from the bottomless pit, is referring to Satan. When he arises from the bottomless pit, he will claim to be God on earth and take the seat of the papacy. Thus it will be that Satan will become the world leader, and be the papal beast's eighth head. This adds to the great deception that has been carried by Protestantism that has denied the appearance of the Antichrist at the end of time, allocating all of the prophecies to the “system,” that speak of the Antichrist as a person. Then Satan will set up his headquarters as the new Catholic church, in Jerusalem. It will be from Jerusalem that the Sunday Laws will be enforced, and the ten horns give their power for one prophetic hour to this beast.

⁴⁵And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.

—Daniel 11:45

While the world will be carried away with the deceptions of Satan, those who have cherished the truth, and who have come to understand that the number 666 identifies him, will not be deceived. Thus it is prophesied in Scripture that those who do not love the truth, will be given over to the deceptions that they love. I am confident that God will bring this truth forward at the time appointed, that those who love the truth, will take up this message, and give the Gospel its last call to the world. There are too many

that hold to the false theories. Satan's deceptions are crafted to appear as close to the truth as possible. It is thus important to know and understand what is the truth so that you will not be deceived by counterfeit teachings.

CHAPTER 11

A CLOUD OF WITNESSES

As I began this research, I noted the extreme accuracy in the way prophecy is written, and how accurate it is when it is fulfilled. I experienced a sense of “present truth” and an unfolding of new light, and it became my duty to make it known. Hundreds of people daily are seeing this message, and are aware that it is true.

Selected Statements From My Readers

1. I am very interested in your research and I think it is fascinating stuff! After reading the information in detail, I am convinced beyond any shadow of doubt that it is true.
2. It is very interesting to know this with its details and mathematical precision.
3. I think your study on the beast of Revelation 13 and 17 is super-packed with harmonious truth.
4. I have had your website (www.666beast.net) bookmarked for years and read it often. I found the logic of your arguments to be well grounded and thought out.
5. I have not found any explanation of Revelation 17 that makes sense except for your interpretation. It is the only explanation that pinpoints exactly which man the number 666 refers to.
6. I believe you have been personally blessed with an insight into the Scripture. The clarification and distinction between

the dragon and the beast is very helpful, and makes very good sense. It is very important and I can see how it was a step in your understanding of Revelation 17 and its association with the number 666. It is a pure blessing.

7. I found your article “count the popes in history and chapter 1, 2, etc....” quite remarkable. And I found it very easy to read and I must say that you have quite a gift. I have been studying the Bible prophecies in depth for over eight years, and your article is one of the best and thought provoking I have read for quite some time.
8. I’ve been studying this subject for a few years too. The fact is this papal explanation makes the most sense I’ve seen in a long time.
9. I have studied your research work for some time and I find that it is the best explanation to this last days scenario.
10. For the past week or so I have been reading and studying with keen interest and fascination the information (on the 666 count), etc, being totally captivated by it. A wave came over me as I read your information...and I must say that I felt in my heart that this was the correct interpretation of the heads of the beast. If not, it certainly is a gigantic leap in the right direction.
11. Your interpretations of the Scriptures are certainly inspired...
12. I am really excited about the chiastic structures and the truth that points one way and then the other to pinpoint deeper truths below the surface script.
13. Thank you for posting this information. It certainly is something to ponder and pray about.
14. I feel so compelled by the simplicity and perfect alignment of Revelation prophecy with the papacy’s history that the only answer is that Joseph Ratzinger must be an antipope. What an interesting turn of events.
15. I just wanted to say that I support your research and I will continue to watch and see what happens. I really think you

are on to something and this makes sense. I trust God with all of this.

16. I think you see how the future will play out because no other explanation I have come across other than yours matches Scripture exactly.
17. Your theory is correct; it's just a matter of understanding how Benedict XVI will be determined to be a antipope.
18. Thanks for writing back! All I can say is "WOW" to everything I just learned today. I've never even heard of your teachings before, and yet it made complete and total sense from the moment I started reading it. I'm in awe at the fact that we're living to see the "end of days" unfold right in front of us! I'm going to stay-tuned to see what happens with Benedict XVI.

With this small collection of witnesses, it becomes apparent that what they have seen, has moved them to respond in each their own words that are unanimous in realizing the gravity of this message.

There have ever been the "people of God" and as the Bible states; Come out of her My people (Revelation 18:4) indicates that the people of God are both in and out of Babylon. No church; Catholic, Seventh-day Adventist, Methodist, Mormon, Baptist, Anglican, Presbyterian, etc., hold the monopoly on having the "people of God," for God Himself says that He has some of His people, even in Babylon which is destined to receive His wrath, and that the wheat and tares will grow together until the harvest. God knows who they are; and he that thinks that he stands needs to take heed, lest he fall.

Do not let this prophecy lead you into a false sense of security, for this marks only one identifying landmark on the path of an unfolding Revelation; there are yet many more things to discover after passing this point. The end is almost here. The roadmap upon which you will use to travel from this point onward, must then depend upon the revelation from God and His Word. We are now most certainly, nearer than when we first believed. I remain determined to

lead yet many others to the understanding that this interpretation of the number 666 has its proper place among the foundational truths that have built the remnant church.

At such time in the very near future, and perhaps as you read this, may already be upon us, when those who have heard these things and know them to be the truth for this time, will advance forward and join in a worldwide loud cry that announces the imminent coming judgments from God upon a wicked world. It behooves everyone who claims to believe in God, to pursue a serious course of self-examination to assure their good standing with God, that they may receive a “good writ” in the day of judgment. In my parting words to my readers; beware of the wiles and deceptions of the devil. For every truth, the devil has a lie designed to bring in corruption, and mingles his error into it. The path of error often lays right next to the truth. Test everything by the written Word of God. May God bless you on your journey into His new Eternal Kingdom.

A Note From the Secretary of a Former SDA President

“Your hard work is evident and everything is backed up by either Scripture or other previously published works. Elder Donovan Oswald, the father-in-law to Dwight Nelson, corresponded with us for years. Before he died he gave me the text Revelation 17:10-12, and told me to keep a watch on those verses and it would become clear. He did not know the meaning, but he knew that someone would be given the light to interpret. I firmly believe that you have been given that light. Your study is grammatically correct which gives it more acceptability with the brethren and others. You give historical accounts and credits. This is the first thing that scholars will look at when critiquing your study. I am almost through the little booklet! I cannot put it down and read and reread each passage for a clear understanding. You have meticulously researched each passage and seemingly have come to a most correct understanding. I feel in my heart that what you have written is God’s unvarnished truth!”

From the Author

This book is not a book of hate. It is a book that exposes the errors that are taught by many faiths. The people of God of all faiths today are of the church of Laodicea. All people have been blinded by their own denominational false teachings. They all share this one common belief: They all believe that their church has the best interpretation on all teachings and that they are not wrong.

All faiths are in a Laodicean condition and are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked. The Bible is true that states; Romans 3:4 “Let God be true, but every man a liar..”

The predicted end time events are about to break upon an unsuspecting world. Yet all of the signs point to something huge is pending. The earth itself reels to and fro like a drunkard as all can attest to after the great Tsunami of December 26, 2004. The foundation of the earth is breaking up, as well as the foundations of many faiths that are built upon the doctrines of men. Yet there will remain upon the earth when He comes, a people whom He calls His own.

³⁵Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts is his name:

³⁶If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever.

—Jeremiah 31:35, 36

The foundation of God’s Word is as fixed as His own creation, and His doctrines are built upon the very foundations of the earth, sun, moon and the stars. So long as these of God’s creation remain, so also will the seventh day Sabbath that He made for us.

The year 2005 has its place in the prophetic chart of events; The death of Pope John Paul II marks the end of the “short space” of Revelation 17:10. The next element of prophecy to be fulfilled is the coming of the “eighth,” that “yet is” beast that rises from the

bottomless pit, and he will begin to wage his war against the Two Witnesses of Revelation 11:3-7. When this happens, the remaining elements of all eschatological prophecy that is yet future will begin to be fulfilled rapidly. The last effort of the work of the everlasting Gospel will be made. Join now in the mystery the Gospel, that every one present in the world is invited to join the people of God and be separated from the world that is soon to end in destruction.

Let the final message from God to a dying world now be proclaimed;

⁷Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come: and worship Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

⁸Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.

⁹If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,

¹⁰The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:

¹¹And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

—Revelation 14:7-11

The Testimony of History and the Testimony of the Prophecy

History provides the testimony of fulfilled prophecy. The beast of Revelation 13 has seven heads and ten horns, and up to Revelation 13:10, it speaks of the beast during its 1,260 years of its dominion. In verse 10, as the beast receives its head wound, it leaves off at 1798, then introduces another beast and details these events from their inception to the end, and it ends with the number 666. The link

left us in the Bible is “Wisdom.” To follow this chiasmic link draws us to the verse, Revelation 17:9. At that verse, “Wisdom” points to the seven heads of the beast. The papacy is the beast, and its heads are papal.

The 10th verse in Revelation 13 leaves us off at 1798, and that is where we also see marking the wounding of one of the heads. Pius VI is one of the heads of the papal beast.

Revelation 17:9 then goes on to say that the heads are mountains. History shows that there were 12 popes named Pius, and 6 of them had been popes after 1798. This wounded head (Pius VI, 1798) would also be healed (Pius XI, 1929). Pius shows what one of the heads looks like and was the one that was wounded and healed, and what a mountain appears like and where numbers are found.

Every pope shows us a number. Reflecting back to Revelation 13:18, there are numbers that are counted, that produces the sum of 666. The count of all seven of the mountains and the final “eighth” produces the sum total of 666.

“Although Catholic tradition regards St. Peter as the first Bishop of Rome and therefore as the first pope, there is no evidence that Peter was involved in the initial establishment of the Christian community in Rome...or that he served as Rome’s first bishop. Not until the pontificate of St. Pius I in the middle of the second century (140-155) did the Roman church have one bishop as pastoral leader...” (Richard McBrien, *Lives of the Popes*, p. 25).

History shows that the seven papal mountains bear out these numbers in the cumulative count of the papal beast’s seven heads. The first number in the following list is the number of their pontificate, followed by the name of the pope, and then the years that they served and the last number is the cumulative total carried forward to the present time. Antipopes are inserted into the list at the time they were in office.

The Witnesses of History

10.	Pius I (140-155)	1
45.	Leo I (440-461)	2
53.	John I (523-526)	3
56.	John II (533-535)	5
61.	John III (561-574)	8
62.	Benedict I (575-579)	9
64.	Gregory I (590-604)	10
72.	John IV (640-642)	14
80.	Leo II (682-683)	16
81.	Benedict II (684-685)	18
82.	John V (685-686)	23
85.	John VI (701-705)	29
86.	John VII (705-707)	36
89.	Gregory II (715-731)	38
90.	Gregory III (731-741)	41
93.	Paul I (757-767)	42
96.	Leo III (795-816)	45
101.	Gregory IV (827-844)	49
	antipope John (844)	0 49
103.	Leo IV (847-855)	53
104.	Benedict III (855-858)	56
107.	John VIII (872-882)	64
116.	John IX (898-900)	73
117.	Benedict IV (900-903)	77
118.	Leo V (903)	82
122.	John X (914-928)	92
123.	Leo VI (928)	98
125.	John XI (931-935)	109
126.	Leo VII (936-939)	116
130.	John XII (955-964)	128
131.	Leo VIII (963-965)	136
132.	Benedict V (964-966)	141
133.	John XIII (965-972)	154
134.	Benedict VI (973-974)	160

135.	Benedict VII (974-983).....	167
136.	John XIV (983-984).....	181
137.	John XV (985-996).....	196
138.	Gregory V (996-999).....	201
	antipope John XVI (997-99)..... 0.....	201
140.	John XVII [16] (1003).....	217
141.	John XVIII [17] (1004-1009).....	234
143.	Benedict VIII (1012-1024).....	242
	antipope Gregory (1012)..... 0.....	242
144.	John XIX [18] (1024-1032).....	260
145.	Benedict IX (1032-1044)..... 0 deposed.....	260
147.	Benedict IX (1045)..... 0 deposed.....	260
148.	Gregory VI (1045-1046).....	266
150.	Benedict IX (1047-1048)..... +9.....	275
152.	Leo IX (1049-1054).....	284
	antipope Benedict X (1058-1059)..... 0.....	284
157.	Gregory VII (1073-1085).....	291
	antipope Gregory VII (1118-1121)..... 0.....	291
173.	Gregory VIII (1187).....	299
178.	Gregory IX (1227-1241).....	308
184.	Gregory X (1272-1276).....	318
187.	John XXI [19] (1276-1277).....	337
194.	Benedict XI [10] (1303-1304).....	347
196.	John XXII [20] (1316-1334).....	367
197.	Benedict XII [11] (1335-1342).....	378
201.	Gregory XI (1371-1378).....	389
205.	Gregory XII (1406-1415).....	401
	antipope Benedict XIII (1394-1423)..... 0.....	401
	antipope John XXIII (1410-1415)..... 0.....	401
210.	Pius II (1458-1464).....	403
211.	Paul II (1464-1471).....	405
215.	Pius III (1503).....	408
217.	Leo X (1513-1521).....	418
220.	Paul III (1534-1549).....	421
223.	Paul IV (1555-1559).....	425

224. Pius IV (1560-1565)	429
225. Pius V (1566-1572).....	434
226. Gregory XIII (1572-1585)	447
229. Gregory XIV (1590-1591).....	461
232. Leo XI (1605)	472
233. Paul V (1605-1621).....	477
234. Gregory XV (1621-1623).....	492
245. Benedict XIII [12] (1724-1730).....	504
247. Benedict XIV [13] (1740-1758).....	517
250. Pius VI (1775-1799)	523
251. Pius VII (1800-1823)	530
252. Leo XII (1823-1829).....	542
253. Pius VIII (1829-1830).....	550
254. Gregory XVI (1831-1846).....	566
255. Pius IX (1846-1878)	575
256. Leo XIII (1878-1903)	588
257. Pius X (1903-1914).....	598
258. Benedict XV [14] (1914-1922).....	612
259. Pius XI (1922-1939)	623
260. Pius XII (1939-1958).....	635
261. John XXIII [21] (1959-1963).....	656
262. Paul VI (1963-1978). “one is”	662
263. John Paul I (1978) “not yet come”	663
264. John Paul II (1978-05) “short space”	665
antipope Benedict XVI (2005-?)..... 0	665
The Antichrist Man, Beast, Eighth.....	666

History gives witness in this list, that the number 666 is counted from the very source which the prophecy indicates. It is a very real and tangible piece of evidence.

For those who advocate that the number 666 has only a symbolic meaning, I ask: “Why do you deny very real and tangible historic evidence, if it is there, in lieu of the notion that the number 666 must be symbolic?” Again, for those who advocate that the number 666 has only a symbolic meaning, I ask: “How do you propose

to show the meaning of the word ‘count’ in the prophecy, if it is ‘symbolic?’”

And to those who persist in believing in the papal title theory of Vicarius Filii Dei, and feel that if it is refuted, it would somehow let the papacy off-the-hook; far from it. This interpretation refutes the papal title theory as false, and replaces it with a far better interpretation that implicates the papacy in such a way that they cannot deny, and the whole world has access to the data that cannot be changed or deleted or refuted and is pinpoint precise in the identification of the 666 beast AND 666 man, which, at the time of the 666 man, is the same time that the beast attains the count of 666. It demonstrates a convergence at the very end when the Antichrist comes. From the time that the dominion of the papacy was broken in 1798, the world has experienced a relative sense of peace. That is about to change.

The “peace and safety” campaign of the Antichrist will deceive many. There will follow sudden destruction. There will be one camp that will not be deceived by the Antichrist, and there will be those who have seen him pointed out and exposed by the prophecy and all his “good” works will not dissuade them. The division between heaven and hell will be the most narrow at that time. Those who believe the prophecies, receive the bitter experience of speaking out and “prophesy again” at the risk of their lives, knowing that some of their hearers will respond and take up their torch of truth where they leave off. Preferring to let the dead bury the dead and not taking the time to mourn even their friends, they see another opportunity that lay ahead to snatch more souls from Satan’s deceptions. This message about the count of 666 that identifies the Antichrist with pinpoint precision will be preached around the world by thousands of voices. Adding to this, will be the additional evidence from yet even more prophecies that have unfolded during this temporary rule of the Antichrist.

People will give up their lives rather than to withhold the truth from the world. As the persecution begins upon the true people of God by the Antichrist, the people of the world will be able to see the true nature of this beast. It certainly will not be following the

teachings of Jesus, who made the call to the people to “Come unto Me...” as an open invitation to His Gospel and to give man a freewill decision to accept Him as their Savior.

Preparations for second coming of Christ are not made in one day. Since the Bible does say that He will come as a thief, and we understand that it means with such stealth that it repeatedly tells us that no man knows the day nor hour, we need to get ready and be ready.

The remedy for what those seek, when they care to know the truth, is found in the message of Elijah and John the Baptist. Prepare ye the way for the coming of the Lord. There is nothing to prove after the fact; either God has judged you worthy or not worthy. It is in this life now, that we are to prepare; to make our atonement with God; to accept the gift of the Gospel; and to remain faithful to the end. Capitulators are losers. Repent.

The final message from God to a dying world comes from the Three Angels in Revelation 14:6-12. Now is the time of your salvation. After Christ comes...there is no second chance.

CHAPTER 12

PREPARING TO MEET THE MESSIAH

This last chapter is not about the Antichrist, but about the real Messiah. Christ comes with His reward to give to His saints. Unlike Satan, who comes as the Antichrist with the deception that he is the Christ, and runs about the whole earth trying to convince the world that he is the Messiah, the true Christ comes without sin, having cleansed the heavenly sanctuary and have blotted out the sins of His saints, is ready to give His reward to them.

²⁸So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

— Romans 9:28

There is no need to convince the world that He is indeed the true Messiah, because those who are His, will know Him when they see Him, as well as those who are not His, will also realize that they are not among the saved. The seven last plagues will have decimated the population of the lost, leaving a much smaller number than when the Antichrist first arrived. Those remaining will recognize that the group whom they are among, have dwindled in number as they have succumbed to the seven last plagues, and that they have been deceived as were those who have already died. In a rage, they make their final efforts to assault those who are God's chosen. Helpless to make good on their efforts, they surround the remnant of God's

chosen people yet end up falling at their feet in worship, hoping to gain any favor against their imminent plight. While God's chosen are yet still agonizing day and night for their deliverance, they see these enraged wicked coming at them, and like the Israelites at the Red Sea, see no way of escape. Then as the day and hour of the Lord's appearing is made known, their agonizing is turned into joy as they hear the announcement. They then see the wicked fall at their feet, acknowledging them as God's chosen. Prophecy does not tell us how many days will pass during these final events. But it will be clearly evident that the manner of the coming of Christ, has been markedly different than that of Satan, claiming to be Christ.

The Economy of Israel

This is not referring to the monetary system of Israel, but of the system of worship given to ancient Israel. As man's journey on this earth progressed, God unfolded to His people His Laws and His plan for the salvation of man. Before Noah, the Patriarchs kept the Law of God, and since Adam, practiced the ordinances of the sacrifices to show their faith in the coming Messiah. The whole system of the Sanctuary was given in detail to Moses. The Tabernacle, the furniture, the lambs and sacrifices, and the manner of the services performed, all pointed to the master plan for the salvation of mankind.

Every year, there were seven annual Sabbaths besides the weekly Sabbath, and each of them held a tradition of observance that detailed a part of the plan of salvation. The services taught the people to find sin in their lives and put it away in repentance, to make atonement, to practice living in righteousness. As the end of the world comes to its close, the final master plan for salvation draws upon the principles taught in these annual Sabbath services. Those who believe and keep these holy Annual Sabbaths and Feasts will be called "doers of the Word" and are not mere "hearers of the Word." These show by their lives that they love God and keep His commandments. These Annual Sabbaths will usher in the coming of

Christ in the final events of this world. God always acts and moves on His holy days.

The Quartodeciman Controversy

The Bible and history reveals that these annual Sabbaths and Feasts had continued beyond the cross of Christ and were kept by the early Christians and the Gentile converts. The evidence of when they had ceased to be kept, is found in the Quartodeciman Controversy. At the rising of the papacy in the second century, a determined effort was made to change the practice of Passover to be kept on the day of Easter instead of the day given by God. This caused a schism between the Eastern churches and the church of Rome that carried on for many decades until the Council of Nicea where it was finally settled on the side of the pagan holiday, upon pain of excommunication for those who refused to follow the dictates of the church at Rome. God's holy days were set aside for the pagan holy days.

Then came the dark ages where mankind was kept from hearing the words of God, and were left to follow the whims of the priests and the popes. When the Reformation came and gave back to men the printed Word of the Bibles in their own languages, the lost truths of God's Words slowly began to come back. Protestantism broke the power of the papacy, and the false teachings of the popes have been exposed. Yet again the power of evil rose amid the various Protestant churches, with new false teachings that were designed to undo the damage to the Roman Church by the Reformation. Most of the Protestant churches of today, have come near full circle back to Rome through modern ecumenicalism. The plans laid out by Rome to reclaim her lost daughters has worked. While many old truths were brought back to the world through the Protestant Reformation, there remained a few truths that only a few Protestant churches have come to realize: God's annual Holy Days and Feasts are still valid today.

Anti-Semitism

Anti-Semitism is another evil designed in the council of Nicea to separate the Christian from all things Jewish, and has been carried down through all ages and is used today to say that these Holy Days are “Jewish” but God calls these days “My Feasts.” And thus the “Jewish” Sabbaths are God’s Sabbaths, because all of God’s people are Jews, either by seed or by adoption.

“It appeared an unworthy thing that in the celebration of this most holy feast we should follow the practice of the Jews, who have impiously defiled their hands with enormous sin, and are, therefore, deservedly afflicted with blindness of soul... Let us then have nothing in common with the detestable Jewish crowd: for we have received from our Savior a different way.... Strive and pray continually that the purity of your soul may not seem in anything to be sullied by fellowship with the custom of these most wicked men.... All should unite in desiring that which sound reason appears to demand, avoiding all participation in the perjured conduct of the Jews.” Eusebius, *Life of Constantine*, Book 3, chapter 18

In the Council of Nicea in 325 A.D., the Emperor Constantine ended the controversy over the date of Passover by decreeing that it should be celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon of spring. To ensure that Easter Sunday would never be celebrated at the same time as the Jewish Passover, the council decreed that if the 14th of Nisan fell on a Sunday, then Easter was to be celebrated on the following Sunday.

If God is not anti-Semitic, how can Christians of any age be anti-Semitic? They can be if they are led by the false teachings of the antichrist church; the church of Rome. Satan had to separate the people of God from the things that taught them the way of salvation. “Thy way, O God, is in the Sanctuary...” Psalms 77:13

The Statutes vs. Ceremonial Types

Most of the churches today teach that the Yearly Sabbaths and Feasts are ceremonial and have all ended at the cross. But a worship day is not a ceremony. Some of the acts that were performed on these days are ceremonies, but the Feast day is not a ceremony. The Feasts and the Sabbaths are not ceremonial because they are days for worship. The Seventh-day Sabbath is also a feast day;

²Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are My feasts.

³Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall do no work therein: it is the Sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings.

—Leviticus 23:2, 3

And what could those who oppose these holy days say of the Feast of Weeks? The Shavuot Sabbath of this celebration is the commemoration of the giving of the Law on Mount Sinai. Do those who believe that these Yearly Sabbaths all ended at the cross, suggest that the Law had been fulfilled, and therefore it is now no longer binding on man? It would seem that the modern Protestant who wishes to do away with the seventh day Sabbath would claim such, because it would appear to them that the Ten Commandments have ended at the cross, and claim that nine of them are reinstated in the New Testament, excluding the Sabbath commandment. But what about those who believe in and keep the Seventh day holy? Do they by their denial of the validity of these Yearly Sabbaths claim that they have all been fulfilled at the cross? God proclaims that the Seventh-day Sabbath is a “holy convocation” just like the Yearly Sabbaths.

The Annual Sabbaths and Feasts in the Spirit of Prophecy

“In consequence of continual transgression, the moral law was repeated in awful grandeur from Sinai. Christ gave to Moses religious precepts which were to govern everyday life. These statutes were explicitly given to guard the Ten Commandments. They were not shadowy types to pass away with the death of Christ. They were to be binding upon men in every age as long as time should last. These commands were enforced by the power of the moral law, and they clearly and definitely explained that law.” Signs of the Times, April 15, 1875, SDA Bible Commentary, Vol. 1, p. 1104

“That the obligations of the Decalogue might be more fully understood and enforced, additional precepts were given, illustrating and applying the laws of the Ten Commandments. These laws were called judgments, both because they were framed in infinite wisdom and equity and because the magistrates were to give judgment according to them. Unlike the Ten Commandments, they were delivered privately to Moses, who was to communicate them to the people.” Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 310

“The instruction which Moses gave to the children of Israel concerning the statutes and the precepts of God, did not originate with Moses, but with the God of heaven.” Review and Herald, July 15, 1890

The Example of Christ’s Life

Christ never observed the Ceremonial Law. The Bible never records any instance where Jesus participated in the ceremonial law/sacrificial system. He couldn’t, because the ceremonial law/sacrificial system was instituted at the time of sin (Genesis 4:4) to show how God was going to remove man’s sins. If Jesus participated in the ceremonial system He would have been admitting that He was a sinner, in which He was not.

“Christ passed through all the experiences of His childhood, youth, and manhood without the observance of ceremonial temple

worship.” (The Bible Echo, October 31, 1898)

The Bible reveals that Christ observed the feasts. Luke 2:41, 42; Matthew 26:17-18; John 2:23; John 4:45; John 5:1; John 7:10, 14, 37; Luke 22:15-16.

The Feasts Were Observed by the Apostle Paul

“Paul did not bind himself nor his converts to the ceremonies and customs of the Jews, with their varied forms, types, and sacrifices; for he recognized that the perfect and final offering had been made in the death of the Son of God.” *Sketches From the Life of Paul*, p. 105

Paul observed the feasts after the cross and taught his Gentile converts to do the same:

²¹But bade them farewell, saying, I must by all means keep this feast in Jerusalem.

—Acts 18:21

Ellen White’s comments on this text:

“After leaving Corinth, Paul’s next scene of labor was Ephesus. He was on his way to Jerusalem to attend an approaching festival, and his stay at Ephesus was necessarily brief.” *Acts of the Apostles*, p. 269

Paul did not make it to Jerusalem in time, so he kept this feast with the Philippians, his Gentile converts.

“And we sailed away from Philippi after the days of unleavened bread.” Acts 20:6

“At Philippi Paul tarried to keep the Passover. Only Luke remained with him, the other members of the company passing on to Troas to await him there. The Philippians were the most loving and truehearted of the apostle’s converts, and during the eight days of the feast he enjoyed peaceful and happy communion with them.” *Acts of the Apostles*, pp. 390-391

The eight days of the feast Ellen White referred to in the above

quote are Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

“Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us: Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.” (1 Corinthians 5:7-8)

“From that time Paul was a truly converted man. God gave him a special work to do for the cause of Christianity. His instruction in his letters to the churches of his day is instruction for the church of God to the end of time.” Letter 332, 1907.

“Paul told the Thessalonian Jews of his former zeal for the ceremonial law and of his wonderful experience at the gate of Damascus. Before his conversion he had been confident in a hereditary piety, a false hope. His faith had not been anchored in Christ; he had trusted instead in forms and ceremonies. His zeal for the law had been disconnected from faith in Christ and was of no avail. While boasting that he was blameless in the performance of the deeds of the law, he had refused the One who made the law of value.

“But at the time of his conversion all had been changed. Jesus of Nazareth, whom he had been persecuting in the person of His saints, appeared before him as the promised Messiah. The persecutor saw Him as the Son of God, the one who had come to the earth in fulfillment of the prophecies and who in His life had met every specification of the Sacred Writings.” Acts of the Apostles, pg. 228

Would Paul in one place speak of departing from the “forms and ceremonies” while yet in another place speak of “keeping the feast” if these Feasts and Yearly Sabbaths were included in these “forms and ceremonies”?

These passages do not reference the Yearly Sabbaths and Feasts, and call them “forms and ceremonies,” but those who oppose these Yearly Sabbaths and Feasts attempt to use these very passages to lay the claim that they are no longer valid.

¹And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God.

²For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

³And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling.

⁴And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

⁵That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

—1 Corinthians 2:1-5

“Paul did not come to the churches as an orator or as a scientific philosopher. He did not seek merely to please the ear by flowery words and phrases. In eloquent simplicity he proclaimed the things that had been revealed to him. He was able to speak with power and authority, for he frequently received instruction from God in vision.” MS 46, 1905; SDA Bible Commentary Vol. 6, p. 1084

“Then I was shown a company who were howling in agony. On their garments was written in large characters, ‘Thou art weighed in the balance, and found wanting.’ I asked who this company were. The angel said, ‘These are they who once kept the Sabbath, and have given it up.’ I heard them cry with a loud voice, ‘We have believed in Thy coming, and taught it with energy.’ And while they were speaking, their eyes would fall upon their garments and see the writing, and then they would wail aloud. I saw that they had drunk of the deep waters, and fouled the residue with their feet—trodden the Sabbath underfoot—and that was why they were weighed in the balance and found wanting.” Early Writings p. 36

Exodus 13:7-9 states that the feast of Unleavened Bread is a “sign unto thee upon thine hand, and for a memorial between thine eyes.” The Hebrew word behind “sign” in this text is the same original Hebrew used for “sign” in Ezekiel 20:12, 20, the very texts that the SDA Church uses to show that the Seventh-day Sabbath is God’s “sign” or “seal.” The only “sign” that the Bible ever puts on the foreheads of God’s people is His Seal. Exodus 13:7-9 states that the feast of Unleavened Bread is God’s sign, or seal, upon the foreheads of God’s people. The Bible is as clear in this text that the feasts are

part of the Seal of God as it is showing that the Sabbath is part of God's Seal. In fact, the Bible is even more clear, because Ezekiel 20:12, 20 doesn't say that the "sign" or "seal" of the Sabbath is on the foreheads and on the hands of God's people, but the Bible does say this about the feasts in Exodus 13:7-9. Since the Bible uses the same wording showing that the feasts are God's Seal as it does about the Sabbath, this shows that the feasts stand along with the Seventh-day Sabbath.

²⁰But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood.

—Acts 15:20.

"There they were to meet delegates from the different churches and those who had come to Jerusalem to attend the approaching festivals." Acts of the Apostles, p. 190

"Once before, Peter had reasoned with his brethren concerning the conversion of Cornelius and his friends, and his fellowship with them. As he on that occasion related how the Holy Spirit fell on the Gentiles he declared, 'Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as He did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God?' Acts 11:17. Now, with equal fervor and force, he said: 'God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as He did unto us; and put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith. Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?' This yoke was not the law of Ten Commandments, as some who oppose the binding claims of the law assert; Peter here referred to the law of ceremonies, which was made null and void by the crucifixion of Christ." Acts of the Apostles p. 193

While in this Council to determine what the Gentiles were to observe or not to observe, there is no reference to the Yearly Sabbaths for either the keeping of them or to not keeping them. The law of ceremonies that were made void by the crucifixion of Christ, would

be the sacrifices. Daniel 9:27 "...and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease". The feasts are neither a sacrifice nor an oblation, and they still give a shadow of things of which Christ is not the fulfilling object, and the most obvious example of this is the Day of Atonement on October 22, 1844.

By Paul's own example in this, he would not be condemning the observance of the feasts by the Gentiles, and be a keeper of them himself. It was not these feasts and Sabbaths that Paul had referred to when he spoke about the "yoke upon the neck" but of the system of the ceremonial laws that the rabbis invented and imposed on the people.

The crucifixion of Christ did not change the holy Sabbath days. The same body of laws which the assembly did enjoin upon the Gentiles included the laws given by God to Moses regarding the eating of blood. These were statute laws and were not ceremonial and did not meet any fulfillment at the cross by the death of Christ. They were not types to meet any antitype. They were laws given by God to keep His people healthy.

Even though Christ was crucified at Passover, and the Passover lamb typified the death of Christ, the day of Passover was still observed by the Apostles and the early Christian church, while the sacrificial lamb was no longer slain. It was readily understood that the sacrifices were the type that had ended, the Feast and the holy days remained.

"In the time of the end every divine institution is to be restored. The breach made in the law at the time the Sabbath was changed by man, is to be repaired." Prophets and Kings, p. 678

The Seven Annual Sabbaths and Their Feasts are All Divine Institutions.

The Catholic Church eliminated the yearly Sabbaths at the same time and for the same reasons that they eliminated the weekly Sabbath. The statutes in the Mosaic Law further interpret the Ten Commandments. The only statutes that further interpret the fourth commandment are the yearly Sabbaths. Thus the Yearly Sabbaths

and the weekly Sabbath stand together. It is time for the breach that was made in the law by the Catholic Church, to be repaired. It is time for God's people to re-discover the beauty of observing all of His Holy Days and reap the rich rewards that spending extra time with God gives them. God's design is for us to understand what is yet to come on the earth, and the Yearly Sabbaths teach us the preparedness we need today to be ready to meet the Lord.

“Prepare, prepare, for what is coming upon the earth. Let your works correspond with your faith. I saw that the mind must be stayed upon God, and that our influence should tell for God and His truth. We cannot honor the Lord when we are careless and indifferent... We must be in earnest to secure our own soul's salvation, and to save others. All importance should be attached to this, and everything besides should come in secondary.” Maranatha pg. 97

⁴Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, ***with the statutes and judgments.***

⁵Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:

—Malachi 4:4, 5