

Challenge

***Could the Mark of the Beast
be an Attitude?***

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Question:

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What if the 'Mark of the Beast' is an attitude rather than a microchip or tattoo?

Let's look at this from the perspective of the NT church to whom the Revelation epistle was sent



Dr. Eli Lizorkin-Eyzenberg writes:

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“In the Book of Revelation, we read a text that describes that with the arrival of the evil Beast – the enemy of God’s people, Christ-followers will be excluded from participation in local economy unless they agree to place upon their head and hand the mark of the Beast. (Revelation 13:16-18)

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To understand the true meaning of the mark of the beast something needs to be kept in mind. The central Jewish text that was recited twice daily stated: “Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one.”

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But it had another, less famous, but integral part: “Bind them (God’s commandments) as a sign on your hand and they will be on your forehead.” (Deuteronomy 6:4-8)



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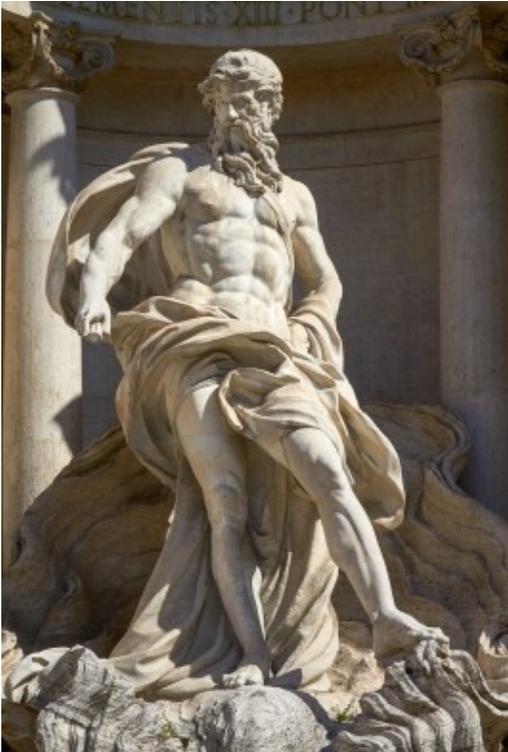
If the Book of Revelation is read with awareness of the first-century Jewish context, it becomes clear that we ought not to imagine that one day the entire world will undergo a medical procedure that will insert a chip under the human skin. Instead we should understand the mark of the beast as some outward expression of opposing the commandment to worship the God of Israel alone.

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For Christ-followers and their children in the first century an issue of great concern was precisely the limits of this commandment in Deuteronomy. The basic question was: Is it possible to honour some Roman deities publicly (along with in-your-heart worship of Israel's God in Christ)?

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If yes, then this would ensure the economic survival and prosperity under the watchful eye of the Roman authorities.



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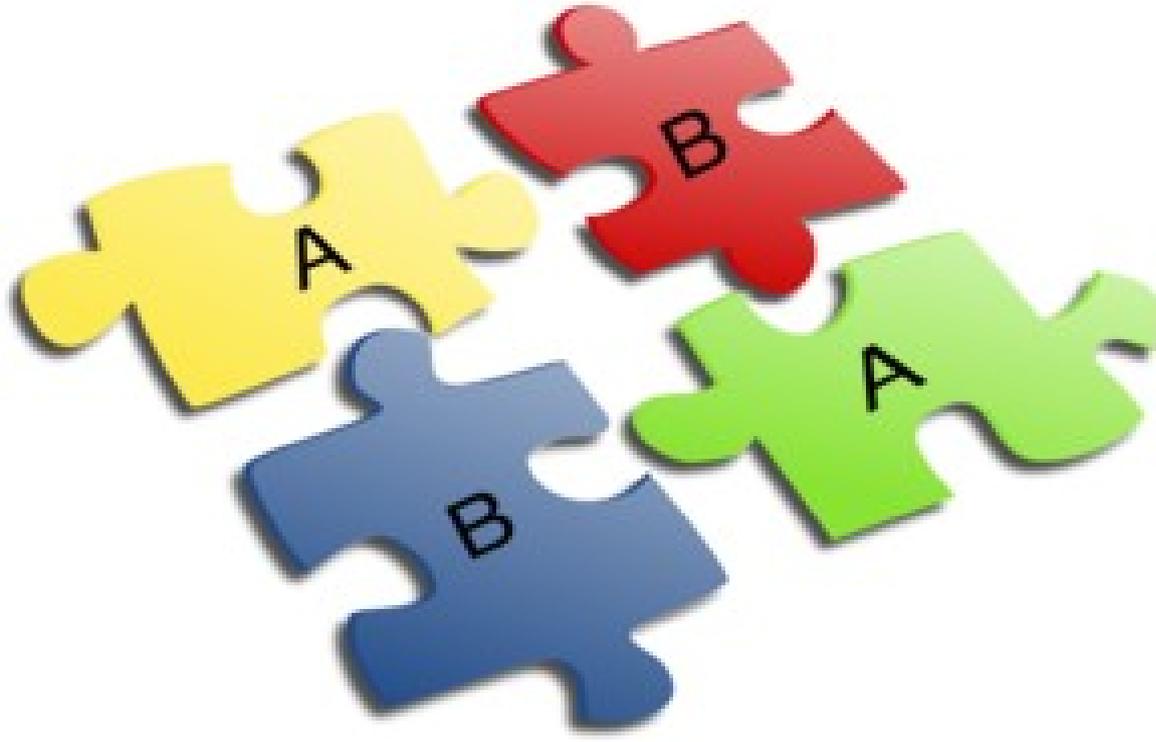
[But] the Book of Revelation has chosen an unapologetically Israelite, Anti-Roman position where only worship of the One God of Israel was upheld.”

Mark of the Beast



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Challenge



So, it's your challenge to come to grips with this information

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