

666/999

5G, the Mark of the Beast, and the UPC Code

Chapter 2

Chapter 1 showed how the various forms the UPC or Universal Product Code has been applied by the grocery super-market industry; and as its success was realized, it became the universal format for other industries in the conducting of commerce. In recent years various opinions have led to many being confused as to whether this is the “Mark” of the Beast. Given the evidence of Chapter 1 and the Babylonian root beginning of “666” as part of Babylonian worship, right up to the fact that Pagan Roman Catholic Institution adopted “Sun” worship clearly on when Constantine merged the Christian faith into the Roman Empire, even its ultimately being revealed in the Vatican title of “*Vicarius Filii Dei*”, and “666”. I noted that Roman Catholicism reigned supreme over the centuries through appropriating and merging the customs of those nations and people they conquered into their Pagan version of Christianity.

THE MARK OF THE BEAST 666 IS HERE IN THE FORM OF THE R.F.I.D MICROCHIP

THE MICROCHIP WILL BE USED TO FORCE U.S. CITIZENS TO TRADE THEIR SO CALLED LIBERTY FOR SO CALLED PEACE AND SAFETY, FOOD, AND SURVIVAL JUST AS PROPHECIZED IN THE HOLY BIBLE!

ALL NEWBORN BABIES WILL BE TAGGED!

REVELATION 13:16-And he causeth all both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: (7)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.

THE MICROCHIP THE MAIN BENCHMARK FOR THE NEW WORLD ORDER PLAN

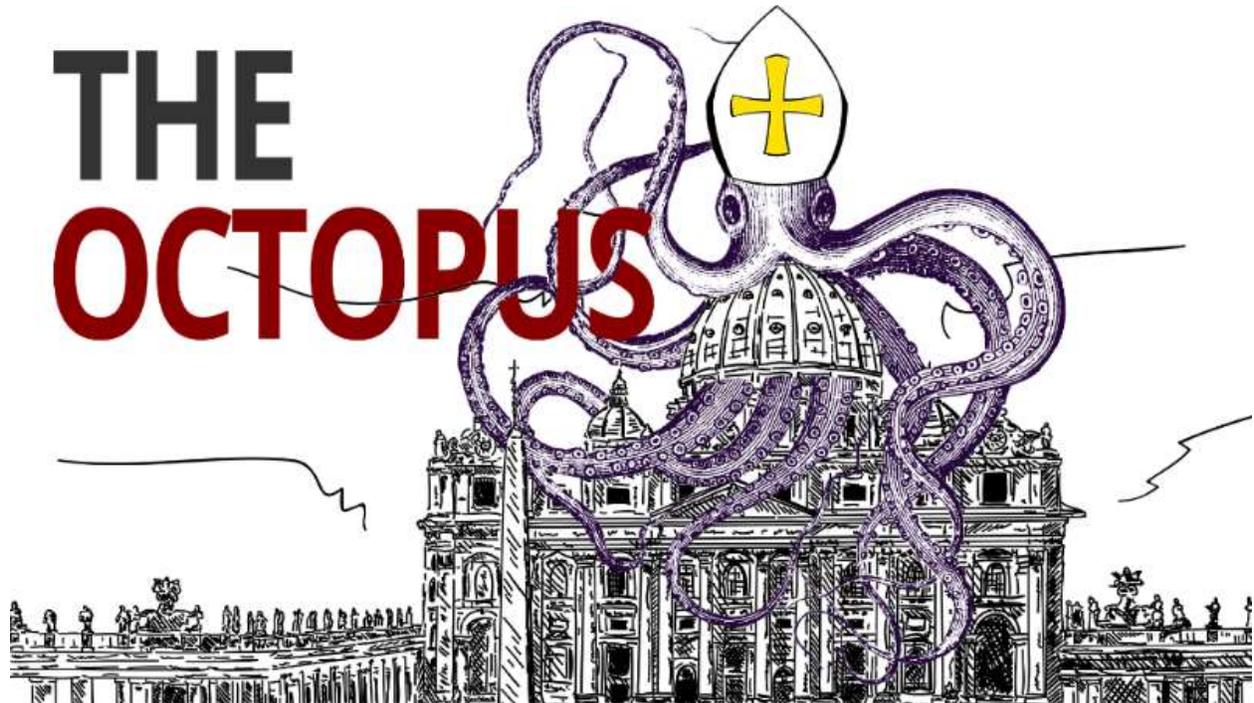
THE COMPANY THAT PRODUCES THE CHIP IS CALLED VERICHIP

VIP STATUS IS ACCESSIBLE ONLY VIA THE MICROCHIP AT CLUB BAJA IN SPAIN

IT IS CURRENTLY BEING USED AND WILL SOON BE FORCED ON ALL AMERICANS AS WRITTEN IN THE BIBLE <http://greatmillstone.info>

The Roman Catholic Church, over the past century, has tried its utmost to stifle the fact that “*Vicarius Filii Dei*” represents “666”; however, efforts to obscure it has not changed or altered the history of the world’s leading belief system of appropriating Christianity as a front

for Baal “Sun” worship. In my lifetime, the Vatican has become the epitome of what I call the Octopus Beast Empire!



What is so surprising is that today so many people will still tell you that the pope is the “Vicar of Christ”. They do so in spite of the Institutional perversion of sexual immorality within the Catholic Church. This is hard for us to believe given the **“Secret Doctrine”** and the **“Royal Doctrine”** of Freemasonry is identical, and as Albert Pike said, **“the Mason’s path to eternal life is the sexual violation of little children.”** The Catholic web site “Church Militant” is a lay Catholic site that exposes the corruption of the leadership within the Roman Catholic Church. pedophilia, homosexuality, molestation, abuse of nuns, sex-trafficking, child abduction, etc. I would add that this is a reason the government wants to “chip” babies.

Randy Engel is the author of the most authoritative work on this subject. Her work focuses on the rampant pedophilia and homosexuality in the Catholic Church. Her series on this subject is entitled: **‘The Rite of Sodomy: Homosexuality and the Roman Catholic Church’**, it is a 5-volume work. In another book by P.D. Stuart, **‘Codeword Barbelon’**, the author writes about the Roman Catholic **“Secret Doctrine”**; and, in Freemasonry it is known as the **“Royal Doctrine”**. The Satanist Aleister Crowley revealed the highest teaching in Freemasonry, from the **30th** to **33rd** degrees is the **“Royal Doctrine”**. Crowley states that **“the Mason’s path to eternal life is the sexual violation of little children.”** P.D. Stuart states in his book **‘Codeword Barbelon’** on pg. 500, **“this is why we are seeing a mushrooming epidemic of child abuse – spreading like a plague”**. Freemasonry is pure evil as revealed in its higher degrees! The Jesuits infiltrated Masonry in the late 1700’s, and control the higher degrees.

These things may make uncomfortable reading for sincere Roman Catholics, but **it is a fact that both heterosexual and homosexual acts of depravity have been practiced (and sanctioned) within the Roman Catholic priesthood for hundreds of years!** The Church successfully maintained a veil of secrecy over its **“Secret Doctrine”** for centuries, and it was not until the 1980’s when this wall of secrecy began to reveal cracks in being brought down and exposed for what it truly is. The most recent conviction of the highest Vatican official, Cardinal George Pell confirms the allegations of a new book, *‘In the Closet of the Vatican’*. The author Frederick Martel said, *“What broke my heart most was this one line, part of a series of devastating interviews with Swiss guards disgusted by their continual sexual harassment by Vatican “celibates”: “Why did they agree to talk to me so freely, to the extent they are surprised by their own daring? Not out of jealousy or vanity, like some cardinal and bishops; not to help the cause, like most of my gay contacts within the Vatican. But out of disappointment, like men who have lost their illusions.”* **Around 80 percent** of Vatican priests are gay, according to Frederick Martel’s new book which details alleged secret relationships, male prostitutes and stunning hypocrisy from the most anti-gay members of upper echelons of the Catholic Church.

Homosexuality is rampant in the Roman Catholic Institution and brings only shame to the name of Jesus Christ, when the Roman Catholic Pontiff attempts to stonewall the Christian world by his silence, and contradicting statements. Some twenty-six states in the United States are conducting their own Grand Jury investigation of the Roman Catholic Church. Take a close look below at Roman Catholic titles that numerically bear the “Mark” of the Beast, **“666”**.



Lightning hit the heart of Saint Peter’s in the Vatican, not just once following Pope Benedict’s retirement announcement, but twice. Many have said it was God’s sending an

ominous message of warning that his successor brings trouble to the religious world. Lightning has a long, symbolic history in the Italian capital, even predating the Catholic Church: "In Rome, from before 300 B.C. to as late as the fourth century, A.D., the College of Augurs, composed of distinguished Roman citizens, was charged with the responsibility of determining the wishes of Jupiter relative to state affairs," writes engineer and lightning expert Martin A. Uman in his book 'Lightning Discharge'.

Pope Francis has thrown his name and title behind the fake global warming crowd of the elite of the world, primarily the Black Nobility of Europe, which in reality is just a means of transferring the wealth of the world to the global elites. Thousands of scientists and experts have exposed the issue of climate change, but it has not deterred Pope Francis from endorsing the New World Order or its plan of global control.

Is this the home of Satan, or as chapter one calls it the "Seat of Satan"? Beneath the surface of this whole issue is the matter of the demonic spiritual dark world of Lucifer's war with God. We too often forget this world is the home of The Prince of the air's back yard to steal, destroy, and kill. Study Ephesians 2:2 - ***"Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience."*** How else is it that the Spirit of Babylon could morph or transcend into the world of commerce of our day unless the demonic is at work exerting its influence? I have witnessed the manifestations of the demonic in real life!

Revelation 2:13 addresses the church at Pergamos, ***"I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth."*** Revelation 2:12-16 addresses the church at Pergamos.

Jesus drew the attention of the church in Pergamos to His sharp sword with its two edges. The two edges may imply His ability and power to win victories over all His enemies, human and demonic. It may also imply that He is able to use the sword in the other direction to deal with those in the church who do not continue to be faithful. The Bible teaches that judgment must begin in the house or household of God -(1st Peter 4:17). This does not contradict God's promises of blessing. God promised blessings to Israel, but He brought judgment on Israel and Judah before punishing the Assyrians and Babylonians -(Isaiah 10:5, 12; Ezekiel 9:6; Amos 3:2; Habakkuk 2:4-20). God is faithful to bless believers, but He is just as faithful to test them, judge them, deal with them, chasten and discipline them, not to destroy but to bring them to glory.

Peter shows that the sinner's road is far harder. For if the righteous (those who have accepted the cleansing of the blood of Christ and who continue to stand in Christ's righteousness) scarcely (with difficulty) are saved -(1st Peter 4:18), it is certain the ungodly and the sinner will not escape the judgment of the Great White Throne and the lake of fire, which is the final state of the wicked.

Titles of the Roman Catholic Church that add up to 666

ITALIKA EKKLÉSIA (Latin: Italian church)
10 300 1 30 10 20 1 5 20 20 30 8 200 10 1

VICARIUS FILII DEI (Latin: vicar of God's Son)
5 1 100 0 0 1 5 0 0 1 50 1 1 500 0 1

DUX CLERI (Latin: head of clergy)
500 5 10 100 50 0 0 1

HÉLATINÉ BASILEIA (Greek: Latin Kingdom)
0 8 30 1 300 10 50 8 2 1 200 10 30 5 10 1

LATEINOS (Greek: Latin-speaking man)
30 1 300 5 10 50 70 200

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Pergamos (properly called Pergamum) at that time was the capital of the Roman province of Asia. Jesus recognized it as a place where Satan dwelt and had his seat (or "throne," as the same word is translated in other places in this book). This probably refers both to the idolatry of the city and the severe persecution of the church. On the city's acropolis stood the great altar to Zeus, the chief Greek god. Nearby was an elegant temple dedicated to the goddess Athena. Outside the city wall was a shrine to the Greek god of medicine, Asklepios, with his symbol in the form of a serpent. Thus, the city was a center for both idolatry and persecution of Christians.

In spite of satanic opposition, the Christians showed their faith by their works. As the persecution became more severe, the whole church, in the face of death, held on to Christ's name, bearing witness to His character, nature, and work of redemption. They refused to deny the Faith. That is, they refused to water down or compromise the truths of the gospel. One of

their own had already been slain as a martyr for his witness to Christ. His name, Antipas, "instead of all," may be a contraction of Antipater, "instead of a father" or "in place of a father." He is not mentioned anywhere else, but his name is to be remembered because of his faithful witness. Jesus called him **"my faithful martyr"** (the Greek word translated "witness" is also translated "martyr"). He not only bore witness to the truth about Jesus, but he had a personal relationship with Jesus and belonged to Him.

Though this church as a whole was faithful to Christ and the truths of the gospel, there were some in their midst who needed the Lord's rebuke. They were compromising with the lax morals and the heathen social customs of the day. They were doing what some of the Israelites did not long before Moses' death. On the advice of the soothsayer and false prophet Balaam, King Balak of Moab used the women of Moab to entice men of Israel to come and take part in idolatrous feasts which encouraged immorality in the name of religion -(Numbers 25:1-5; 31:16). Jesus called what they did prostitution. God does not accept religious rites and ceremonies as an excuse for breaking the Ten Commandments.

This does not contradict what the apostle Paul wrote about eating meat offered to idols -(1st Corinthians 10:25-30). He was dealing with meat that had been bought in the marketplace and brought home to eat. These church members in Pergamum were joining in with the crowds who were worshiping false gods and committing sexual acts with heathen priests and priestesses, all supposedly to honor their gods. It may be that the Christians who did this were saying that since the idols were nothing, they could participate in these heathen rites without harm. Or they may have said, **"Since God's grace abounds, we can go ahead and sin in this way, and we will be automatically forgiven."** But the Bible makes it clear that believers are not to continue in sin that grace may abound -(Romans 6:1, 2). Those who partake of the Lord's table must not have close fellowship with His enemies -(1st Corinthians 10:21).

Some propose that Balaam's name is a rough equivalent in Hebrew of the Greek Nikolaos and identify the Balaamites and the Nicolaitans. However, they seem to be two different groups here. It may be that the Nicolaitans encouraged the same kind of unrestrained indulgence without being involved in idolatry. It is clear that both took a wrong view of love and Christian liberty that leads to compromise of principles and even to licentiousness. They were like those today who claim to be Christians and yet do not condemn but rather encourage many of the sins the Bible condemns. The New Testament warns against legalism, it is true, but it also makes it very clear that Christians must not use their Christian liberty as an occasion for the flesh -(Galatians 5:13). Believers are to walk, live, and conduct themselves in the Holy Spirit. Then they will not fulfill, carry out, or satisfy themselves with the lusts, cravings, or desires of the flesh or the old, sinful nature -(Galatians 5:16). Jesus hated the doctrine of the Nicolaitans because it promoted a soft attitude toward sin and discouraged holy living.

Just how much Jesus hates encouragement to sin instead of holiness is seen by the severity of His call to repentance. Unless those who embraced this doctrine changed their basic attitudes toward God, truth, and holiness, Jesus promised to fight against them with the sword of His mouth. By their compromising spirit, even though they still claimed membership in the

church, they were putting themselves on the side of Christ's enemies whom He will come to destroy. Unless they repented, they would meet the same fate as the Antichrist and his false prophet who will be defeated and cast into the lake of fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

We know from P.D. Stuart's book, *'Codeword Barbelon'*, that Satan's Seat moved from Pergamos to Rome (pg. 505) and the Babylonian priests took with them all their Pagan religious practices and set up shop in Rome. There is an interesting pair of passages –(Revelation 13:2 and 2:13) where we find the answer to this cryptic phrase, "where Satan's sea is". It says: ***"And the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority."*** We know where Satan's seat was, but now we know where Satan's seat is today! We know also from 1st Peter 5:13, which Peter was writing from a place he called "Babylon"! ***"The church that is at Babylon, elected together with you, saluteth you; and so doth Marcus my son."*** Like the Apostle John in the book of Revelation, Peter was likely speaking of Babylon as "code" for Rome.



It all began when a group of grocery industry trade associations formed the Uniform Grocery Product Code Council which, with consultants Larry Russell and Tom Wilson of McKinsey & Company, defined the numerical format of the Uniform Product Code. Technology firms including Charegon, IBM, Litton-Zellweger, Pitney Bowes-Alpex, Plessey-Anker, RCA, Scanner Inc., Singer, and Dymo Industries/Data General proposed alternative symbol representations to the council. In the end the Symbol Selection Committee chose to slightly modify, changing the font in the human readable area, the IBM proposal designed by George J. Laurer. I noted in Chapter 1 a few of remarks by George J. Lauer about not getting any royalties from his invention.

The first UPC marked item ever scanned at a retail checkout was at the Marsh supermarket in Troy, Ohio at 8:01 a.m. on June 26, 1974, and it was a 10-pack (50 sticks) of Wrigley's Juicy Fruit chewing gum. The shopper was Clyde Dawson and cashier Sharon Buchanan made the first UPC scan. The NCR cash register rang up .67 cents. The entire shopping cart also had barcoded items in it, but the gum was the first one picked up. This item went on display at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C.

MARK OF THE BEAST

666

6666666666666666

666 IN ALL BARCODES

The colored lines illustrates that each number has it's own unique width.
Note number 6 is used at the begining, middle and end of every barcode.

BEGINING

6

MIDDLE

6

END

6

Left Character Set Right Character Set

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1

The number six represents man without God. The number six six six means man man man, a system that is totally mancentred and man-dominated. Everything is based on man's thoughts and plans and schemes. There is no room for God in it.

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A Belgium supercomputer called "The Beast" is being used to track everyone.

On December 1, 1972, IBM presented Laurer's proposal to the Super Market Committee in Rochester, Minnesota, the location where IBM would develop the scanner. During the presentation,

Crouse gave a lab demonstration where he read UPC-like labels with his almost magical ring wand. In addition to reading regular labels, he read the large two-page centerfold label in the proposal booklet. He then turned to a page showing a photo of labeled items sitting on a table. The labels were small and flawed due to the resolution of the printed photo but the wand read many of them. This demonstration showed the robustness of the pure Delta C code. The proposal was accepted.

One month later, January 1, 1973 Crouse transferred back to IBM's Advanced Technology group, and George J. Laurer remained with the full responsibility for the UPC barcode label project.



Dymo Industries, makers of handheld printing devices insisted that the code be character independent, so that handheld printing devices could produce the bar code in store if the items were not bar-coded by the manufacturers. Dymo's proposal was accepted by IBM and incorporated in IBM's latest proposal.

It was decided that the two halves of the label should have a different set of numeric characters. The character set George Laurer derived from the Delta C patent used seven printable increments or units where two bars and two spaces would be printed. This yielded twenty combinations of characters, but there were two pairs that when read by Delta C rules yielded the same code for the pair (6 and 9). Since eighteen characters were not enough, Laurer tried adding one unit to the character set. This yielded twenty-six Delta C characters which

could provide the two sets of decimal characters but it also added fourteen percent to the width of the label and thereby the height. This would be a thirty percent increase in area or a label of 1.7"x1.03". Laurer felt this was not acceptable. He returned to the original character set with twenty characters but four of those were two pairs with the same Delta C reading. He decided to use them all. To distinguish between the pairs he would measure one bar width in each of the pairs to distinguish them from each other. For each pair those bars would be one or two units wide. Laurer didn't apply Baumeister's equations to this set. He felt just one bar width measurement would not be too serious. As it turned out it would have required over fifty percent increase in width and height for an area increase of more than double. Laurer later admitted these four characters in each set were responsible for most of the scanner read errors.

David Savir, a mathematician, was given the task of proving the symbol could be printed and would meet the reliability requirements, and was most likely unaware of Baumeister's equations. He and Laurer added two more digits to the ten for error correction and detection. Then they decided to add odd/even parity to the number of units filled with bars in each side. Odd/even parity is a technique used to detect any odd number of bit errors in a bit stream. They decided to use odd on one half and even on the other. This would provide additional indication of which half ticket was being read. This meant that every bar width had to be read accurately to provide a good reading. It also meant every space would also be known. Requiring every bit width to be read precisely basically nullified the Delta C advantage except for the Delta C reference measurement. Only the strange character set and the size of the label remains as a shadow of the Delta C code. The size was still that calculated for pure Delta C. If the label size had been properly recalculated, taking into account the required bar width measurements the label would have been far too large to be acceptable.

From my research, little or nothing is said about the so-called Guard Bars, conspicuously so. Yet these so-called Guard Bars are the essence of the "666" system! They simply represent the start, middle, and end of a UPC label but they are key as you will soon see why. In Part 1, I explained how a "666" is also "999" inverted. The choice of "6" and application or use of three "6"s is not Luciferian or Satanic per se in intent, merely the consequences of the number form for easy scanning regardless of the position of the items being scanned as they pass over the scanner.

The UPC or "Universal Product Codes" are acceptable around the globe. EAN stands for European Article Number and was the identifier commonly used internationally. Before 2005, manufacturers were challenged because the U.S. used UPC and 13-digit EAN barcodes were used internationally. The EAN format is essentially identical to the UPC but contains a leading "0" to make the number of digits 13.

Since the UPC was only 12-digits, it normally did not present problems to overseas (POS) point-of-sale systems. However, the 13-digit EANs could not be read by U.S. stores. All of the EAN country organizations and the UCC (Uniform Code Council) came together to form GS1 for global use. One of the first initiatives was to establish the 2005 Sunrise Date which educated

U.S. companies on the necessity to enable their systems to read 14-digits (GTINs). Today's scanners can now read EAN and UPC barcodes so there is never a reason to put both types on a product. U.S. companies ONLY use the UPC barcode.

"666" or the inverted "999" is not evil in their basic use. Since they provide the computer scanner the ability to differentiate the manufacturer and product item numbers, they appear as elongated dual lines, without the number, as found in the case with all readable numbers beneath their particular bar codes.

Obviously, after 46 years of the UPC's existence and expansion in commerce takes on an entirely different focus or consequence, when it becomes a mandatory requirement, as was the case when I was publishing a magazine, and the postmaster stated that without it, I could not use the U.S. Postal System. This immediately met the prophetic guide lines of Revelation 13:17 which states: ***"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."***

People tend to ignore history, one of the reasons why it was so easy to stop requiring students to study history, eliminating it from most school curriculum. What I want to do now is to inform the reader of why in this particular case, that it becomes a tragedy.

Chapter 1 left off with a photocopy of a Catholic newspaper, *"Our Sunday Visitor"*. This for the record is an official Roman Catholic newspaper that came out of the Baltimore Diocese. The significance of the photocopy included in Chapter 1, speaks to the point that *"Vicarius Filii Dei"* has been sewn into the pope's mitre and has appeared in the royal tiara, presented to each pope at his "coronation" or "inauguration" (so as to not upset Protestants of the world). The two words communicate entirely different meanings. Vatican II ushered in the era of ecumenism by 1965, conditioning the minds of Protestants to believe Rome has changed. For all but serious Catholic watchers, the Jesuit-orchestrated Vatican II has achieved its objective.

The importance of this segment is to point out that the Vatican has been very careful to not offend the Protestant community with language that in any way infers, implies, or states that the pope is really in control of the world, owns the world's assets, people, and lands. But it really does! The Monroe Doctrine led to the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln. You did not learn this in the public schools, or secular colleges, but it is factually true.

President Lincoln was about to enforce the Monroe Doctrine and the *Flag of Freedom* was about to fly over all of the North American continent....That was the main reason for his assassination....Ending slavery was not such a radical idea because slavery was officially outlawed in 19 states prior to the Civil War. It was a secondary reason or a close second to Lincoln's need to keep the Union together. Agents of the Vatican were instrumental on both sides of the Civil War. The Vatican did not want the new Republic to succeed and employed many to stir up conflict over many issues for the purpose of bringing down the United States.



If President Lincoln had survived his 2nd term, the flag of freedom would have been flying over all of North America.

President Lincoln was determined to enforce the Monroe Doctrine and that was the main reason for his assassination.

In 1584, Sir Walter Raleigh was granted a charter by Queen Elizabeth the First for the entire North American continent to the Pacific Ocean. That charter was based on the 1494 discovery of John Cabot. Because the colony was wiped out by the Spanish did not negate the charter.

President Lincoln's motto was *"one war at a time."* The President was waiting for the end of the Civil War to enforce the Monroe Doctrine. After the war, the U.S. had over one million men under arms and the most powerful navy, with new ironclad ships, and powerful guns designed by Admiral Dahlgren. It was the perfect opportunity to enforce the Monroe Doctrine and get the Union's arch-enemy out of the New World for good:

"The occasion has been judged proper for asserting, as a principle in which the rights and interests of the United States are involved, that the American continents, by the free and independent condition which they have assumed and maintain, are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European powers." -(1823, 'Monroe Doctrine').

President Lincoln knew that ending slavery was only half the job of saving the Union. The other half was ending the northern threat:

In late March 1865, President Lincoln had discussed the Trent affair with General Grant, making it clear that Britain deserved to be punished: ***"We gave due consideration to the case, but at that critical period of the war it was soon decided to deliver up the prisoners. It was a pretty bitter pill to swallow, but I contented myself with believing that England's triumph in the matter would be short-lived, and that after ending our war successfully we would be so powerful that we could call her to account for all the embarrassments she had inflicted upon us."*** -(Forman, 'A World on Fire: Britain's Crucial Role in the American Civil War', pg. 801).

The Papal monarchy was also in violation of the Monroe Doctrine because the Vatican is just a political system disguised as a religion. The only two men that the British government

desperately wanted dead were President Lincoln and the Secretary of State William H. Seward. Both men knew that the British government and the Roman Catholic Church instigated the Civil War, and they were both determined to enforce the Monroe Doctrine.

By a miracle, Secretary Seward survived a vicious knife attack. A few days before the assassination, Seward had a "carriage accident" that forced President Lincoln's return to Washington City before the surrender of Lee. Seward wore a brace from a fractured jaw, and that brace saved his life from a vicious knife attack.

Seward and Russian ambassador Eduard de Stoeckl knew that the British were the instigators and financiers of the Civil War. They both agreed that for the future peace and prosperity of the New World, Britain must be expelled from the continent for good. In preparation for the annexation of Canada to the U.S., Russia sold Alaska to the United States. It was expected that the British government would sell Canada to the U.S., and that would be financial compensation for British support for the Confederacy.

The treaty was signed by Robert S. Chew, William H. Seward, William Hunter, Mr. Bodisco, Eduard de Stoeckl, Charles Sumner and Frederick W. Seward. The signing of the Alaska Treaty of Cession took place on March 30, 1867.

The assassination stilled the powerful voice of the President and the man that replaced him—Andrew Johnson—was just a tool of the British government. When Secretary of State Seward was negotiating with Russia for the purchase of Alaska, the U.S. government expected that the British government would give British Columbia to the U.S. as compensation for all the destruction wrought by the Alabama:

"Most newspapers in April 1867 supported the proposed purchase of Russian America. The New York Herald praised the agreement, especially because it increased the likelihood that the United States would acquire British Columbia. The Daily Alta California declared that it is of the highest importance to the whole country, and to the interests of this Coast particularly, that the territory should be consolidated as soon as possible. The Stars and Stripes should fly without rival from Behring's Straits to Cape St. Lucas," that is, to the southern tip of Baja California. The Chicago Tribune, although it almost always opposed Johnson and Seward, nevertheless favored the treaty. Many papers emphasized the treaty would strengthen the relationship between the United States and Russia. The National Republican declared that "if this country had a national friend it has been Russia," and commended the way in which the treaty would bring the two nations into friendly contact in the North Pacific, calling it "the greatest diplomatic achievement of the age. -(Stahr, 'Seward: Lincoln's Indispensable Man', pg. 488)."

Remarkably, just as the war ended and the U.S. was in a position to enforce the Monroe Doctrine, an invasion of Canada from the U.S. occurred, led by a group of Irishmen called Fenians. The Fenians were an Irish secret society which infiltrated the U.S. prior to the Civil War. After the Glorious Revolution of 1688, Papal sovereigns were banned from the British throne. The Jesuits circumvented this prohibition by using the Irish as their surrogates. It was

just another diabolical Jesuit plot. James Stephens and John O'Mahony were the founding fathers of the Fenians.

Their ostensible purpose was to free Ireland from the British, but in reality, they were British spies, sent to the U.S. in order to prevent Canada from joining the Union. James Stephens was an Irish "Republican" and a founding member of an organization known as the Irish "Republican Brotherhood".

John Francis O'Mahony was a founding member of the Fenians in the United States, sister organization to the Irish "Republican Brotherhood". It never occurred to these Irish "Republicans" that the best way to ensure freedom for Ireland (and every other country) was to have genuine Republican government and the Flag of Freedom wave over the entire North American continent.

General Thomas Sweeny was secretary of war for the Fenians. In 1866, together with General Michael Murphy, and Colonel John O'Neill, he led a raid on Canada with the purpose of freeing Ireland from the British. It was just a false flag operation to consolidate British control of Canada.

Civil War generals Sweeny and Murphy, with Colonel O'Neill, led the invasion force into Canada. At the Battle of Ridgeway, inexperienced Canadian soldiers faced Irish veterans of the Civil War. It turned into a rout, and the British realized that they needed more troops from Britain against the Fenian threat.

The logic of the Fenians was fiendishly simple. A Fenian invasion of Canada would cause the British to pull troops out of Ireland, and then they would proclaim an Irish republic! The British did rush troops to Canada in order to forestall annexation to the United States!

This plot was almost as diabolical as the assassination of President Lincoln. President Johnson sent General Meade to arrest the Fenians and stop the invasion, and enforce the Neutrality Act. This was the same General Meade who let the whole rebel army escape after the great victory at Gettysburg.

President Johnson was a friend of John Wilkes Booth, and Booth left his calling card at Johnson's residence, the Kirkwood House, the day of the assassination. Meade was an outright traitor and he let the entire rebel army escape after the great victory at Gettysburg.

There was another Fenian false flag operation in January 1867, and this time the British sent their most experienced soldier, Colonel Garnet Wolseley, to defeat the "invasion." The Fenian folly was the greatest boon to Canadian federation under the British Empire:

Historically, the Fenians were probably a blessing to Canada. They united the country as nothing else could. A comic-opera attempt to invade Campobello Island helped persuade New Brunswick voters that they needed the new Canadian Confederation. For another couple of

generations, Fenians became the handiest bogey for any Canadian politician faced with unrest or disaffection. For the militia, the raids provided an incentive for training and a stiff but relatively cheap lesson in the value of discipline. When the Fenians returned in 1870, Canadian militia along the Quebec border had no difficulty in driving them from Eccles Hill and Trout River. The Fenians also provided an unanswerable argument for the British military presence. Since Canada was only an innocent proxy for Irish hatred of England, the British had an obligation to defend her borders. Indeed they did. By the summer of 1866, the British had raised their Canadian garrison to 11,741 men and held 4,969 troops in the Nova Scotia command. The Royal Navy reopened Kingston as a base and maintained fifteen gunboats on the lakes. British officers trained the militia and organized a memorable camp at Laprairie for over a thousand volunteer officers. (Morton, *'A Military History of Canada'*, pg. 89) .

In July, 1867, the British North America Act became effective, which created a national government for four eastern provinces, including Quebec and Ontario. By 1870, British hegemony over Canada was complete!

General Grant was plucked from obscurity by President Lincoln. As President, Grant couldn't care less about enforcing the Monroe Doctrine or helping the Canadians against British imperialism. All of this was shared to point out the significance of the Monroe Doctrine.

The Spanish American colonies had then revolted, and we had recognized their independence. There was a boundary question between the United States and Russia. We were a young republic, trying a great experiment in the eyes of a critical and unfriendly world. A "Holy Alliance," organized at the instance of Russia, with a really beautiful program for the good order of Europe, threatened to be turned into an instrument of mischief and oppression, and even to help Spain recover her possessions in America. It is likely that, as in many other instances of human alarm, nothing dangerous would have happened. But our government naturally felt nervous, and raised its cry of warning in the form of the Monroe Doctrine.

This was merely a declaration, made by the President in his message to Congress, to the effect that the United States would hold it unfriendly in the European powers to take any aggressive action in this continent. Important as the subject now seems, it involved no vote in Congress, nor the careful discussion that an actual vote generally involves. It is doubtful whether many Americans who read Monroe's Message gave serious thought to the passages which were destined to give his name prominence. But Americans would have generally agreed in their disinclination to see monarchies set up in the New World, or to suffer any kind of undemocratic system to be brought over here from Europe.

Behind the Spanish and British efforts to defeat America was the Jesuit Vatican. From the date of the Monroe Doctrine until President Ronald Reagan re-established diplomatic relations with the Vatican, this country let it be known that it would not tolerate expansion in the North and South American continents.

It is noteworthy that the bare statement of the attitude of the United States, without any show of force or preparation for war, was sufficient to secure respectful treatment from the European powers. President Monroe did not feel called upon to ask appropriations for an increase in the navy in order to “back up” his doctrine. The United States did not possess a formidable navy until it had to build one in the period of the Civil War.

Diplomatic relations between the U.S. and the Vatican were broken off in 1865 because of the Vatican's support for the Confederacy and because the Pope sheltered John Surratt—the murderer of President Lincoln. The U.S. government decided to downplay the role of the Vatican in the rebellion unless there should be a religious war in the country. The people were tired of fighting but they loved Lincoln so much that they would have driven every Roman Catholic out of the country forever!

In 1984, the Vatican sent a Papal Nuncio or Papal LEGATE to Washington and the U.S. sent an ambassador to Vatican City. The Italian government based in Rome already had an ambassador to this country. He is the ONLY legal representative of Rome and Italy to the United States. This didn't seem to bother Reagan because his first allegiance was to the Pope.

Few people know the real history as the cliché goes like this: “History is written by and for the victors!” High school and college history text books are written more to teach propaganda than truth. Tradition is often the enemy of Truth! The Vatican is not the Divine depository of truth, and it thrives on secrecy and deception. You can see from these first two segments, the Vatican intentionally presents itself in a positive light. The Vatican sees Protestants still as “heretics”, although they publicly refer to Protestants as “lost brethren”. The cliché “Rome Never Changes” is just as true today as the days when Constantine merged church and state.

For three centuries, paganism was the official religion of Rome; and Roman officials persecuted Christians with a passion. But, instead of quenching Christianity, persecution energized the spread of Christianity. By 300 A.D., Christianity had become a political threat to the Roman government. This caused Emperor Diocletian to more violently persecute Christians; but, by the time he died, the Roman Empire was on the verge of civil war between pagans and Christians.

It was the beginning of the great falling away spoken of in the Scriptures. Instead of Christianity remaining separate and holy from the world, it joined the world in its customs and practices in the worship of their God. In 325 A.D., Constantine convened the Council of Nicea which was designed to unify the doctrines of this new state religion of pagan Christianity. There were many issues settled in this council such as the doctrine of the Trinity, the calendar, the Sabbath day, Christmas, Easter, and the renouncing of so called "Judaizers" as heretics.

Constantine the Great the Roman emperor who reigned from 306 to 337 A.D. Tradition has it that on his way to an important battle in 312 A.D., a vision of a flaming cross appeared to him with the inscription, *"In this sign conquer."* He therefore authorized his mostly pagan

soldiers to place a cross on their shields, and went on to win the battle. Believing the Christian God to be his secret to military success and the key to uniting his empire, Constantine adopted Christianity as the official religion of Rome in 324 A.D. His life continued to be marred by bloodshed and political intrigue until his death, but through his influence the bishops of Rome gained rapid ascendancy to political and temporal power.

The real secret of Constantine and the bishops of Rome is their cunning introduction of “Sun” worship and Paganism into Christianity. It was done so shrewdly that, incredibly, it has been veiled within the faith for centuries. Through Constantine, Paganism and Christianity joined hands in the Roman Empire. History readily records that Constantine was a “Sun”-worshiper. In one decree he declared, *“On the venerable Day of the Sun let the magistrates and people residing in cities rest, and let all workshops be closed”*. -(March 7, 321 A.D.). He made this decree in honor of the Sun after his supposed conversion to Christianity! Constantine, even after his “conversion,” remained a pagan until his death.

Constantine sought to unite his kingdom’s pagan and Christian worshipers, in order to promote stability and ensure that his empire lasted. The easiest way to bring harmony would be to blend “Sun” worship and Christianity. History shows that the Church of Rome did not object; indeed, it had been engaging in the practice for nearly two thousand years.

This segment has been background history that corroborates Scripture, specifically Revelation 13, 17, and 18. It is unknown by the general public, and yet essential if you are to understand that the Vatican has been controlling the historical narrative of the Christian faith to the present day.

The Biblical number “666” remains controversial to the present time. The “Mark” of the Beast alludes to ominous times and Roman Catholicism wants the world to believe it has nothing to do with the proverbial “Mark” of the Beast. So often Tradition is the enemy of Truth; and determining the Truth requires that we be willing to cast aside tradition when the evidence, sometimes to the contrary, demands exhaustive investigation into all the available history, and known details that encapsulate pieces of the puzzle. So what is the “Mark” of the Beast? And equally as important, is the Spirit of Babylon that drives this demonic Beast!

Two specific verses of Revelation use the precise phrase, ***“the Mark of the Beast”***. The first is Revelation 16:2: ***“And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image.”*** The second is Revelation 19:20: ***“And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.”***

There are four other passages in Revelation that address the topic of the “Mark” of the Beast. Each passage adds to our wealth of knowledge on this important subject:

- 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.”*
- Revelation 14:11: *“And 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 15:2: *“And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.”*
- Revelation 20:4: *“And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.”*

This “Mark” acts as a seal for the followers of Antichrist and the False Prophet (the spokesperson for the Antichrist). The false prophet (the second beast) is the one who causes people to take this “Mark”. The “Mark” is literally placed in the hand or forehead and is not simply a card someone carries.

The recent breakthroughs in medical implant chip and RFID technologies have increased interest in the “Mark” of the beast spoken of in Revelation chapter 13. It is possible that the technology we are seeing today represents the beginning stages of what may eventually be used as the “Mark” of the Beast. It is important to realize that a medical implant chip is not the “Mark” of the Beast per se, not without some analysis of the devices. To say, the “Mark” of the Beast will be something given only to those who worship the Antichrist could be highly misleading. I have heard it said that having a medical or financial microchip inserted into your right hand or forehead is not the Mark of the beast. We have not been able to verify or examine the protocols of those devices, and until they have been evaluated, it would be a presumption without substance. **Virtually ALL, and I stress ALL, electronic scanning technology operates on the UPC barcode protocol.** The “Mark” of the beast will be an end-times “identification” required by the Antichrist in order to buy or sell, and it will be given only to those who worship the Antichrist we are told; however, we need to think about every decision we make is an act of worship.

Many good expositors of Revelation differ widely as to the exact nature of the “Mark” of the Beast. Besides the implanted chip view, other speculations include an ID card, a microchip, a barcode that is tattooed into the skin, or simply a mark that identifies someone as being faithful to the Antichrist's kingdom. This last view requires the least speculation, since it does not add any more information to what the Bible gives us. In other words, any and all of these things are possible, but at the same time they are all speculations. We should not spend a lot of time speculating on the precise details. Just recognize the fact that “666” is **target central** in its

essence and ultimate use. The UPC barcode functional use can be applied to any item, product, person or thing!

The meaning of “666” is a mystery as well. Some speculated years ago that there was a connection to June 6, 2006—06/06/06. However, in Revelation chapter 13, the number “666” identifies a person, not a date. Revelation 13:18 tells us, ***“This calls for wisdom. If anyone has insight, let him calculate the number of the beast, for it is man's number. His number is 666.”*** This verse indicates God-given wisdom is necessary for understanding the meaning of the mark, and the “name” or character of the beast. However, the number 666 has become very controversial and has stirred more speculation than almost anything else in the Bible.

Before the invention of Arabic numbers (1, 2, 3, etc.) the Jews and Greeks often used letters of the alphabet for numbers. The first 10 letters were used for the numbers 1 through 10. The next letter, 20; the next, 30; and so on. It has been a popular pastime to add up the letters in names to try to come out with a total of “666”.

Throughout history people have tried to find “666” in almost every dictator or evil emperor that has come along. By various systems the number has been applied to men such as Hitler, Mussolini, and Stalin, even to some United States presidents. Some have assigned this number to the Pope. They came up with the correct figure by using the inscription, dedicated to the Pope, which is inscribed around the top of the wall inside St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. It is said that adding up just the letters that represent Roman numerals, the total comes to “666”. There is nothing in the Book of Revelation, however, that specifically tells us to add up the numbers in the name of the beast.

The key, however, seems to be the phrase that says ***“it is the number of a man”*** (literally, a number of mankind). Many Bible expositors believe the number 6 is the number standing for mankind. They also think 3 is the number of the Trinity. The threefold repetition, “666”, could therefore simply mean the Antichrist is a man who believes he is a god or who declares himself to be a god.- (See Revelation 13:8; 2nd Thessalonians 2:4.)

Somehow, the number “666” will identify the Antichrist. For centuries Bible interpreters have been trying to identify certain individuals with “666”. Nothing is conclusive. That is why Revelation 13:18 says the number requires wisdom. When the Antichrist is revealed -(2 Thessalonians 2:3-4), it will be clear who he is and how the number “666” identifies him. The Revelation 13:18 talks about ***“the number requires wisdom”*** and by the time you have read the entire book you will understand what I am talking about and its subtle meaning!

The context of ***“And he (the beast) causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell except he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that has understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of man: and his number is 666.”*** -(Revelation 13:16-18) tells us the English word “Mark” is the translation of the Greek word ***“charagma”***, #5480 in Strong's Concordance, which

is essentially the same as the Greek word #5481 in Strong's Concordance which is: "**charakter**". Both words mean an etching, an engraving (such as an exact copy - or the "express image of"), or character. "**χάραγμα**" "**charagma**" is a noun meaning a Mark, impression.

A historical word study of "**charagma**" becomes essential. In Classical Greek, in the broadest sense the Greek word "**charagma**" refers to a stamp, an impression, an engraving, a mark, or a symbol. In this usage it occurs as a noun form of the Greek verb "**charassō**" which means "to cut to a point or to sharpen" (Martin, 'Mark,' Colin Brown, 2:573).

In the days of the ancient Greek world "**charagma**" originally denoted the bite of a snake, but as its use developed historically it came to mean an inscription (i.e., on wood, stone, brass, casting dies, minting coins), a writing of any nature, or a stamp of personal identity (e.g., a brand to mark camels). Eventually it denoted an official seal of attestation, validity, and authority (ibid., 2:574; Wilckens, "**charagnia**," Kittel, 9:416).

In Septuagint Usage: "**Charagma**" does not occur in the canonical portions of the Septuagint. The related term "**charassō**" appears in the intertestamental writings of 3 Maccabees 2:29 and refers to Jews marked with pagan cult symbols (cf. 1st Kings 15:27 [LXX 3 Kings 15:27]; 2nd Kings 17:11 [4 Kings 17:11]). In the Psalms of Solomon 15:8-10 it describes the righteous that are loyal to Israel's heritage as the "marked" for God (Martin, "Mark," Colin Brown, 2:574).

In New Testament Usage: In the New Testament this word carries contemporary significance in the exegesis of Revelation 13:11-18; in prophetic interpretation "**charagma**" is referred to as the "Mark" of the Beast. As Revelation 13 unfolds it becomes apparent that this "beast" is the anti-Christ leader who controls the world economy and negatively impacts human destiny through the manipulation of this "Mark" ("**charagma**"). Some scholars equate the phrases "Mark of the beast" and "name of the beast" -(13:17; 14:9,11; 15:2; 16:2; 19:20; 20:4).).

In this sense "**charagma**" may be an actual inscription which must appear on the forehead and in the hands of all classes of people if they are to be considered eligible for economic interchange -(Revelation 13:17). Other scholars suggest that the "Mark" is symbolically describing the loyalty and support given to the anti-Christ by those who "worship the image of the beast" -(Revelation 13:15). There is no reliable evidence as to the actual kind or process of this compelled identification, but it is generally accepted that the "Mark" represents a universal signification of the anti-Christ kingdom. It identifies his name and the Greek number of a man—"666" -(Revelation 13:18).

Turning to Revelation 14:9, 10 those who accept "**charagma tou therion**" -(cf. 19:20), the "*Mark of the beast*," incur the wrath of God, but in Revelation 20:4 those who reject it live and reign with Christ. Thus, "**charagma**" becomes a focal point of eternal destiny in the prophetic interpretation of history.

The other word, from the verb form **“χαράκτηρ”** *“character”* noun means: Reproduction, exact likeness.

Doing a word study, the Classical Greek is a derivative of **“charassō”**, “to cut into,” **“charaktēr”** originally denoted an engraving tool. Later it described the “stamp” or “impression” of something such as the “impression” on a coin or a seal. Gradually **“charaktēr”** came to be used of the traits inherent in the human personality, especially those features which distinguished one person from another.

In Septuagint Usage **“Charaktēr”** occurs three times in the Septuagint, only one of which is a canonical use. In Leviticus 13:28 it translates the Hebrew term **“tsāreveth”** meaning “a scorching,” hence “a scar” (also rendered by **“oulē”**, “scar,” in the Septuagint, e.g., Leviticus 13:23, cf. verses 2,10,19).

Relating more to human personality is the usage in 2nd Maccabees 4:10. Jacob, the high priest under Antiochus, was so corrupt he “shifted his countrymen over to the Greek way of life”. Later in 4th Maccabees we read of the “character” of a small child which is “impressed” (**“enapesphragizon”**) with the “wondrous likeness”

In New Testament Usage, **“Charaktēr”** occurs only once in the New Testament, in Hebrews 1:3. The writer of this Christologically-charged statement declares the Son to be the “express image” or exact representation—like a wax impression is to the seal that makes it—of the Father. Thus in essence, nature, and in every way, the Son is like the Father -(cf. verses 1,2). The concept, though not the language, occurs elsewhere -(2nd Corinthians 4:4; Colossians 1:15).

There is nothing in the study of either Greek word that implies or remotely suggests that the word means something akin to what the Seventh Day Adventist Church, i.e., “Sunday Worship” teach. In the fall of 2002, I attended a prophecy conference presentation by a SDA church not far from where I lived. My wife was working second shift at the UPMC-McKeesport hospital and I wanted to see for myself what the prophecy conference had to say. The speaker declared over and over during the conference that the “Mark” of the Beast was the Roman Catholic Church because it had changed the “Sabbath” worship to “Sunday” worship. A co-worker of my wife was an Adventist and had been inviting my wife to attend her church.

My interest in the dispute between the Roman Catholic Church and the Seventh Day Adventist Church occurred when I was in seminary; I had to do a paper for a class in Church History. Seventh Day Adventists are a strange anachronism; by that I am saying they are neither, an orthodox Protestant denomination or a cult. For Adventists, Rome is everything antithetical to Christianity; however, some of their theological constructs and beliefs are built around weak and even absurd analysis.

In recent years the SDA Church leaders has moderated their traditional views. The traditional view is very specific. It applies the name and number of the beast directly to a succession of Roman Catholic popes. The new view has removed this specific meaning from the

Roman Catholic Papacy and has applied it in general terms to an end-time alienation of man from God. A SDA pastor friend of mine suggested that the Jesuits had infiltrated the hierarchy of the SDA Church. His suggestion has had some merit for consideration but that is another subject for another time. I merely mention this as a confirmation that Jesuits have infiltrated the SDA Church for the expressed purposes of refuting the claims that the Papacy is not the Antichrist system.

Several years ago Dr. Beatrice Neall articulated the new view: "Six is legitimate when it leads to seven; it represents man on the first evening of his existence entering into the celebration of God's creative power. The glory of the creature is right if it leads to the glory of God. **Six hundred sixty-six**, however, represents the refusal of man to proceed to seven, to give glory to God as Creator and Redeemer. It represents man's fixation with himself, man seeking glory in himself and his own creations. It speaks of the fullness of creation and all creative powers without God—the practice of the absence of God. It demonstrates that unregenerate man is persistently evil." Beatrice Neall, *The Concept of Character in the Apocalypse with Implications for Character Education*, pgs. 153-155.

This rather philosophical, conjectural, if not speculative definition of the number six has been picked up and simplified by Dr. Angel M. Rodriguez: ". . . the Greek phrase translated 'It is a man's number' -(Revelation 13:18) could be also rendered 'it is the **number of humanity.**' In that case, it is not referring to a particular person but to a characteristic of **humanity separated from God**. Since God created humans during the sixth day, it could stand as a **symbol of humanity**, but humanity not yet at rest with God and without the joy of a harmonious relationship with God during the seventh day. The number reveals the rebellious nature of the enemies of God and His remnant. That seems to be the best available interpretation." Angel M. Rodriguez, *Future Glory*, pg. 122.

This change has upset some in the SDA church who feel that the traditional view is more than adequate to explain the mystery of the number "**666**". Many SDA's feel that the new view has taken what is definite and clear and made it indefinite and fuzzy. Others have gone so far as to believe that the Seventh-day Adventist Church has been infiltrated by Jesuits who have the hidden agenda of destroying their distinctive prophetic roots with a view to ultimately destroy the Seventh-day Adventist Church itself.

This later fear has been fed in recent years by Adventist college teachers who have stated that we should build bridges of understanding with Rome rather than criticizing her. The conspiracy flames have been further fanned when a medal was given to the pope by the religious liberty department of the General Conference and also when the flag of the Holy See was paraded on stage at the 2005 General Conference session in St. Louis during the March of Nations. Once a month I would have breakfast with a SDA pastor at our local Denny's and we would talk shop about issues each of us had to deal with in our ministry. We had a good rapport and could speak candidly and freely about many subjects. The pastor was well equipped to discuss the Biblical number "**666**" and its historical links to Pagan Babylon.

Follow me with in his approach and line of attack on Rome in this picture of who best fits the specifications.

First, a very important fact that has been overlooked more frequently than not is that the name of the beast is a **blasphemous** name. This is stated explicitly in Revelation 13:1: ***“Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name.”***

Now that we know that the name (whose number is “666”) is blasphemous, we must discover the **Biblical definition** of blasphemy. Is there such a definition? The answer is an emphatic yes!

The Scriptures clearly define blasphemy as man’s attempt to occupy the place of God and as such to exercise the power and prerogatives of God. When Jesus affirmed: ***“I and my Father are one”*** -(John 10:30) the Jews went ballistic. They picked up stones to execute the death penalty required by the Law -(Leviticus 24:16). When Jesus asked them what evil work He had done to merit stoning, they responded: ***“For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God.”*** -(John 10:33). The terminology of the accusation is significant. Jesus was reprimanded for blasphemy because He, being a **man**, made Himself **God**. In fact, Jesus not only claimed **to be God**, He also claimed to do the work, the **works of God!** -(John 10: 28, 37, 38).

Interestingly, in the thinking of the Jewish leaders, Jesus was guilty of blasphemy when He claimed to be the Son of God -(Matthew 26:64; 10:36, 37; John 19:7). All the Jews claimed to be sons of God in a general sense but it is clear that Jesus did not claim to be a Son of God in a general sense but in the strictest sense of being the **representative** of God on earth! He was the **spokesman for God** on earth—His vicar, if you please! This is the reason why Jesus could say: ***“He who has seen me has seen the Father.”*** Jesus undoubtedly claimed to be *Vicarius Filii Dei*, and rightfully so.

Blasphemy is also defined as when a mere man claims to have the power to forgive sins. This means that any man who claims to have the right to exercise the prerogatives of God is guilty of blasphemy. When Jesus told the paralytic of Capernaum: ***“Your sins are forgiven”*** the religious leaders murmured saying: ***“Why does this Man speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone?”*** -(Mark 2:7). The religious leaders were actually thinking: If this man claims to have the right to forgive sins, then he must claim to be God because only God can forgive sins.

2nd Thessalonians 2:3, 4 has similar terminology. Here we are told that the **man** of sin sits in the temple of God (the church) proclaiming himself to be **God**. Once again we notice that this power is **human** and yet it seeks to occupy the place of **God**. Later on in the passage we are told that this power also claims to perform the works that Jesus Himself performed while He was on earth -(2nd Thessalonians 2:9; Acts 2:22). 2nd Thessalonians 2:3, 4 actually paraphrases the language from Daniel 11:36 where we are told that the king of the north ***“shall do***

according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvelous things against the God of gods.” It will be noticed that the exaltation of the king of the north to the level of God is linked with the **great words** that He speaks against the God of gods. The use of the word “man” in these verses does not require that we find one particular person as the fulfillment. It is used in the generic sense. My Adventist pastor friend points out that Adventists have understood the word “man” in this passage to refer, not to an individual per se, but rather to a succession of persons, namely, the popes of Rome.

In this context it is worthy of note that the little horn of Daniel 7 (which symbolizes the same power as the beast of Revelation 13:1-10 and the man of sin of 2nd Thessalonians 2) has a mouth that speaks **“pompous words against the Most High”** -(Daniel 7:25). These great words are identified as **blasphemies** in Revelation 13:5 where we are told that the beast was given a mouth that speaks **“great things and blasphemies.”** This little horn/beast not only claims to be God but also claims to have the power to exercise the prerogatives of God even to the point of changing God’s prophetic times and His Law! -(Daniel 7:25) Thus, in a very specific sense, the little horn (or the beast) claims the right to occupy the **place of God** and to exercise the **power and prerogatives of God.**

In what sense does this little horn/beast speak blasphemies against God? Daniel 8 provides the indisputable answer. In Daniel 8 (in distinction to Daniel 7) we are **not** told that the little horn speaks blasphemies against the Most High. Rather, we are told that the little horn attempted to **supplant** or **take the place** of the Prince of the host by taking away the daily ministrations from Him -(Daniel 8:11). Thus the little horn’s blasphemy consists in the act of trying to supplant or **take the place** of the Prince of the host and to **carry on His work.**

In the light of this overwhelming Biblical evidence, it would seem that the blasphemous name of the beast must be linked with his attempt to supplant or occupy **the place of God** and to exercise the **power and prerogatives of God.**

There can be no doubt that the power represented by the little horn, the beast and the man of sin is the Roman Catholic Papacy. The little horn (and the beast) does not appear in a vacuum. There is a clear sequence of powers which precede the horn’s arrival on the scene. The kingdoms of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome and divided Rome must rule before the little horn comes on the scene.

Numerous quotations could be provided from Roman Catholic writers to the effect that the pope claims to occupy the place of God on earth. Space limitations will allow for only a few examples. My Adventist pastor friend’s Bible was stuffed with the kind of notes I find to be persuasive and use myself.

*“ . . . the pope can modify divine law, since his power is not of man, but of God, and he acts in **the place of God upon earth**, with the fullest power of binding and losing his sheep”. -(Lucius Ferraris, Prompta Bibliotheca, vol. 2, article APapa,)*

Pope Nicholas I (who ruled from 858-867 A. D.) once said:

*“Ail is evident that the popes can neither be bound nor unbound by any earthly power, nor even by that of the apostle [Peter], if he should return upon the earth; since Constantine the Great has recognized that the pontiffs **held the place of God upon earth, divinity not being able to be judged by any living man.** We are, then, infallible, and whatever may be our acts, we are not accountable for them but to ourselves.”* -(Cormenin, ‘History of the Popes’, pg. 243, as cited in R. W. Thompson, The Papacy and the Civil Power, p. 248).

Pope Leo XIII in an Encyclical Letter (‘On the Chief Duties of Christians as Citizens’) dated January 10, 1890 affirmed: *“But the supreme teacher in the Church is the Roman Pontiff. Union of minds, therefore, requires, together with a perfect accord in the one faith, complete submission and obedience of will to the Church and to the Roman Pontiff, **as to God Himself.**”* (‘The Great Encyclical Letters of Leo XIII’, pg. 193)

Leo XIII in an encyclical letter dated June 20, 1894 stated: *“**All we hold upon this earth the place of God Almighty.**”* -(The Great Encyclical Letters of Leo XIII, pg. 30).

Repeatedly Roman Catholic sources refer to the popes as vicars of Christ, vice-regents of Christ, representatives of Christ, and, yes, Vicars of the Son of God.

Furthermore, the popes have claimed the right to exercise the power and prerogatives that belong only to God. They claim to have the right to forgive sins -(cf. Mark 2:7), to set up and remove kings -(cf. Daniel 2:21), to be bowed down to -(cf. Revelation 19:10), to be called Holy Father -(cf. Matthew 23:9), to execute the death penalty upon dissenters -(cf. Daniel 7:21), to change the Sabbath -(cf. Daniel 2:21; 7:25), to change God’s prophetic calendar -(cf. Daniel 7:25), to be the supreme judges of heaven, earth and hell whose decision cannot be appealed - (cf. John 5:22, 27) and to be infallible expositors in matters of faith and morals -(cf. James 1:17).

Even I was shamed by his quotes from Roman Catholic writings. I should not have been surprised when you consider the Seventh Day Adventist adversarial position on the Roman Catholic Institution. Let that be a lesson in drawing conclusions from [Catholics] their own statements.

Second, besides the name of the beast being blasphemous, the name also has a **number** -(Revelation 13:17). The critical question at this point is this: How do we get a number from a name? The answer lies in the fact that in ancient times numbers were written with the letters of the alphabet. This practice, referred to as *gematria*, was used in Hebrew, Greek and Latin. This means that when the letters of the beast’s blasphemous name are given their respective numerical value the total will be **“666”**.

The Living Bible captures well the meaning of Revelation 13:18: *“**Here is a puzzle that calls for careful thought to solve it. Let those who are able, interpret this code: the numerical values of the letters in his name add to 666!**”* The New English Bible renders Revelation 13:18

in similar fashion: ***“The number represents a man’s name, and the numerical value of its letters is six hundred and sixty-six.”*** Even the Roman Catholic Douay Rheims Version adds a footnote to Revelation 13:18 which states: *“The numeral letters of his name shall make up this number.”*

Recently, Dr. Bacchiocchi [a major Adventist seminary professor] has argued that the text of Revelation 13:18 requires a name rather than a title. After all, the text says that **“666”** is the number of the beast’s **name** and not the number of his **title**. Dr. Bacchiocchi therefore states that *Vicarius Filii Dei*, being a title rather than a name, cannot fulfill the specifications of the text. This argument is superficial and can be disposed of quite readily by noting that in Revelation 19:16 Jesus is described as one who has **a name** written on his vesture and on his thigh. But the name is not a personal name but rather a title: ***“King of kings and Lord of lords.”*** So the word “name” can refer to a title rather than to a proper name.

Third, we are told in Revelation 13:18 that number **“666”** is the number of a **man**. It is important to realize that the noun “man” has no definite article. This means that qualitatively the beast is a system that is centered in man. It is noteworthy that the little horn has **eyes** like a man, the apostate one of 2nd Thessalonians 2 is called the **man** of sin and here the beast has the number of a **man**. This is certainly a system that is based on the power and prowess of **man**.

Some scholars have recently attempted to say that the expression ***“the number of a man”*** should really be translated “the number of humanity.” But the book of Revelation does not use the word ***“anthropos”*** in this sense. To translate the word ***“anthropos”*** in this manner denotes the art of **interpretation** rather than of **translation**. I checked several of the better known versions of the Bible (NIV, Jerusalem, New English, New American Standard, King James, New King James, RSV, New American, Weymouth, Phillips, NRSV) to ascertain how they translate the expression: ***“arithmós gár anthroópou estín”*** (‘it is the number of a man’). Interestingly, only the RSV with its liberal gender inclusive slant translates: ***“it is a human number.”*** Not one of the major versions translates ***“for it is the number of humanity.”***

Is the text of Revelation 13:18 really telling us that the number **“666”** applies to humanity in general rather than to the beast specifically? A careful study of Revelation 13:1-10 (and also of Daniel 7 and 2nd Thessalonians 2) reveals unmistakably that the “Beast” represents the Roman Catholic papacy as a system, not humanity in general. If the number is the number of the Beast, and the Beast is a symbol of the Papacy, then the number cannot apply to humanity in general but rather specifically to the Papacy.

A parallel text would be 2nd Thessalonians 2 where the same system is referred to as the **man** of sin. The word “man” here is not referring to a specific individual but rather to a succession of rulers who make man the measure of all things rather than God. Would any serious Biblical scholar say that the expression “man (***anthropos***) of sin” should be translated “the humanity of sin”? Would it be proper to translate the ***“eyes of a man”*** in Daniel 7:8 as “the eyes of humanity”? This would be absurd. The simple fact is that the system represented by the little horn/man of sin/beast is based on the wisdom and prowess of **man** while claiming

to have the right to exercise the power and prerogatives of God. In other words it is a system that is man-centered rather than God-centered. In this sense there is a grain of truth in the idea that the number 6 represents a system which is centered in man while the number 7 represents a system that is based on God.

A very important question arises at this point: In which language should we look for the name or title? Should the name be sought in Hebrew, Greek, Latin or perhaps even English? There is persuasive evidence that the name and number must be found in the Latin language. You are probably wondering why the name and number should be in Latin. The answer is actually quite simple. The **Beast** is clearly a **Roman** power and the official language of Rome was **Latin** (that Latin was the Roman language of New Testament times can be proved from John 19:20).

Notice that according to Revelation 13:2 the beast received his “**power, his throne, and great authority**” -(Revelation 13:2) from the dragon. Though the dragon primarily represents Satan -(Revelation 12:9), it also represents the kingdom through which Satan attempted to slay the man child and this kingdom was **Rome** -(Matthew 2:16; Revelation 12:1-5). It is not coincidental that the Catholic Church is officially called the Roman Catholic Church. Now, if the Beast represents the **Roman** Catholic Papacy, then we should look for his name in **Latin**, the official language of ancient Rome and Papal Rome! And if the name is in Latin then we should use **Roman** numerals to ascertain the number of his name! In short, both the name and the respective numerical equivalents of its letters must be sought in the Latin language.

So, let’s summarize what my Adventist pastor’s analysis with what the **Bible** tells us about this number: **First**, it must be a blasphemous name. That is to say, it must be a name whose bearer claims to represent God and to exercise the power and prerogatives of God. **Second**, the name must be in Latin, the language of Rome. **Third**, the numerical equivalents of the letters of the name must be found in Roman numerals. **Fourth**, the number must be that of a man. It will be noticed that the title *Vicarius Filii Dei* fits all of these criteria.

But two critically important questions remain to be answered. But before we do, allow me to digress for just a moment. It is noteworthy that the Latin poets who originally devised the system of Roman numerals broke with the norm of the day and instead of using all the letters of the alphabet to represent numbers they chose **only six** characters to represent all numbers: **I, V, X, L, C** and **D** (the **M** was not part of the original numerical system. Before the advent of the **M**, the number 1000 was written by placing two **D**’s side by side). When the six Roman numerals are added the total is “**666**”. This strongly suggests that the number “**666**” is clearly linked in some manner with Rome along with the Babylonian origin as well.

Now to the two questions: Is the name *Vicarius Filii Dei* a title which has been given to the pope by Roman Catholics themselves or is it a Protestant fabrication as Roman Catholics state? And, was this title ever inscribed on the papal tiara or miter? Let’s wrestle with the first question.

The historical evidence indicates that the answer to the first question is yes. Some, such as Roman Catholic apologist Patrick Madrid, have claimed that the name *Vicarius Filii Dei* has never been used as a title for the pope (though later he revised his statement to say that it was never an **official** title). Says Madrid: "*Vicarius Filii Dei*, or "Vicar of the Son of God," is not now, nor has it ever been, a title of the bishop of Rome." -('Envoy Magazine', March/April, 1998) An examination of the historical records clearly reveals that this is an inaccurate statement.

The Donation of Constantine which was used by at least ten popes to justify their claims to temporal power contains this very title:

*"... as the Blessed Peter is seen to have been constituted **vicar of the Son of God** [vicarius filii Dei in the original Latin] on the earth, so the Pontiffs who are the representatives of that same chief of the apostles, should obtain from us and our empire the power of a supremacy greater than the clemency of our earthly imperial serenity is seen to have conceded to it."*

The Donation of Constantine was purportedly a letter written by Constantine the Great to Pope Sylvester I. In the letter Constantine supposedly gave Temporal power to the pope. We know for certain that the Donation was in existence as early as the ninth century but was used beginning in the eleventh century to justify the outrageous temporal claims of the papacy. Constantine officially married "church" and "state".

The authenticity of the Donation of Constantine was first questioned in the fifteenth century with the advent of historical criticism. Nicholas of Cusa had serious reservations about the Donation and around 1450 A.D. it is alleged as proved to be a forgery and a fraud by the scholarly work of "Laurentius Valla". Notably, the Vatican did not appreciate Valla's work as can be seen by the fact that the Office of the Inquisition officially placed his work on its index of forbidden books in 1559. This suggests that the Vatican held to its official status established by Emperor Constantine as being genuine.

Roman Catholic apologist, Patrick Madrid, has brushed aside this evidence by stating the obvious, that the Donation of Constantine was a forgery. Madrid therefore concludes that it cannot be used as an official and authorized statement of the Roman Catholic Church.

Though it might be true that the Donation was a forgery, it is also beyond dispute that the Donation was pawned off as **authentic** and **official** by various popes and Roman Catholic theologians for hundreds of years to sustain the Temporal power of the Papacy. Though a forgery, it was used as an **official** document by these popes to sustain their claims to Temporal power. If they used it knowing full well that it was a forgery then they were guilty of deception. On the other hand, if they did not know that the Donation was a forgery, what does this say about their [Papal claim] of infallibility? But a third possibility remains, and that is suppose it is legitimate.

It is significant that Gratian's '*Decretals*' (published in 1140 A.D. and deemed official by the Roman Catholic Church) incorporated the Papal title from the Donation into Roman

Catholic canon law. Here are the words: "*Beatus Petrus in terris **vicarius Filii Dei** esse videtur constitutus.*" (Aemilius Friedberg, *Corpus Iuris Canonici*, column 342).

In more recent times the title has been applied to the pope by Cardinal Edward Manning in his book *'The Temporal Power of the Vicar of Jesus Christ'* -(1862). In the first statement, Manning indicts the Roman Catholic nations of Europe of his day for their failure to defend the Temporal power of the pope:

*"See this Catholic Church, this Church of God, feeble and weak, rejected even by the very nations called Catholic. There is Catholic France, and Catholic Germany, and Catholic Italy giving up this exploded figment of the temporal power of the Vicar of Jesus Christ.' And so, because the Church seems weak, and the **Vicar of the Son of God** is renewing the Passion of his Master upon earth, therefore we are scandalized, therefore we turn our faces from him."* -(pgs. 140, 141)

After mentioning the growing Temporal power of the Papacy under Gregory I, Leo III, Gregory VII and Alexander III, Manning elevates the idea of the Temporal power of the pope to the level of 'a dogma,' 'a law of conscience,' 'an axiom of the reason,' and a 'theological certainty':

*"So that I may say there never was a time when the Temporal power of the **Vicar of the Son of God**, though assailed as we see it, was more firmly rooted throughout the whole unity of the Catholic Church and convictions of its members. . ."* (pg. 231). Manning explained why European nations enjoyed stability in the past as compared with the disarray of Europe in the times when he wrote:

*"It was a dignified obedience to bow to the **Vicar of the Son of God**, and to remit the arbitration of their griefs to one whom all wills consent to obey."* (pg. 232, Lucii Ferraris in his prestigious encyclopedia, *'Prompta Bibliotheca'*, also applied the title *Vicarius Filii Dei* to the pope (1890 edition volume 6, p. 43, Column 2).

In his immensely popular book, *'Crossing the Threshold of Hope'*, pg. 3, Pope John Paul II explained what he understood to be the source of the power of his office:

*"The leader of the Catholic Church is defined by the faith as the **Vicar of Jesus Christ** (and is accepted as such by believers). The Pope is considered the man on earth who **represents the Son of God**, who **'takes the place'** of the Second Person of the omnipotent God of the Trinity."*

Notice that John Paul II not only affirmed that the Pope is the **Vicar** of Jesus Christ who "**represents** the Son of God," but he also explained what he meant by the word "represents" when he said that he "**takes the place**" of the Second Person of the omnipotent God of the Trinity. "The expression "takes the place" is the exact English equivalent of the Latin word "*Vicarius*"

'Madrid's denial [that *Vicarius Filii Dei* has been an official papal title] is absolutely false. We noted earlier that the Papal claim to be the *Vicarius Filii Dei* is found in major Catholic historical documents and is acknowledged even by Prof. Johannes Quasten, the leading Catholic Patrologist in the world." -(Endtime Issues, Online Newsletter, "The Saga of the Adventist Papal Tiara," part 2).

There is a notarized affidavit in the Seventh Day Adventist General Conference archives signed by Conrad Stoehr and Robert F. Correia where Dr. Quasten, in his own handwriting wrote: "The title *Vicarius Christi*, as well as the title *Vicarius Filii Dei* is very common as the title of the Pope"

But is this title presently inscribed on the papal tiara or miter? Or even more pointedly, was it ever inscribed on the tiara or miter?

Recently, Dr. Bacchiocchi has claimed that he had the opportunity to examine thirteen extant papal tiaras (all used after the year 1800). He claims that only two of the tiara's have inscriptions and that neither one of them bears this title. To date there have been a total of 266 popes. It must be recognized that 13 tiaras out of 266 (granted that all the earlier popes probably did not wear the tiara) is a very small percentage indeed! Notably, Dr. Bacchiocchi does not claim to have examined any papal mitres. This is significant in the light of the fact that, as we shall see later, '*Our Sunday Visitor*' claims that the title *Vicarius Filii Dei* used to be on the miter.

But does the present absence of the inscription on the tiara even prove that it was never there? Should it really surprise us that the title is not presently there? Wouldn't we expect this to be the case? Would the papacy want to display such incriminating evidence? Of course not!

A number of SDA pastors do remember when they were students at the Andrews University Theological Seminary in the early 1970's that Dr. Bacchiocchi had just returned to the United States from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. There was great fanfare when he exhibited his regalia, his gold medal, his diplomas and his newly published dissertation on the change of the Sabbath with the *imprimatur*. Several remember thinking: "*This is either an incredible miracle of God or it is too good to be true! How is it possible for a Seventh-day Adventist to be the only non-catholic to be accepted at the Pontifical Gregorian University in over 400 years? How could he have been allowed to do a dissertation on the change of the Sabbath? How could he have received the maximum academic honors and a medal from the very hands of the pope?*"

Well, recently we [SDA Church] have been told by official Pontifical Gregorian University sources that Dr. Bacchiocchi's story **was** too good to be true! According to Dr. Barbara Bergami, the General Secretary of the Pontifical Gregorian University, there is **no record** of Dr. Bacchiocchi ever receiving the academic distinction of *summa cum laude*, of receiving a gold

medal from the Pope or of having his dissertation published *in toto* with the *imprimatur*. **The records have vanished from the Gregoriana!**

Dr. Bacchiocchi provided all sorts of documentation to prove that he did indeed graduate *summa cum laude*, that he did receive a medal and that his book did receive the Vatican *imprimatur*. But how do we know that the evidence he provides is trustworthy? How can we be sure that his medal and diplomas are genuine and not well crafted forgeries? Why shouldn't we accept the statements of the Roman Catholic Pontifical Gregorian University at face value? In short, why should we believe Dr. Bacchiocchi rather than the Gregoriana?

My SDA pastor friend said: "Obviously I am playing devil's advocate here to make a point. I personally do believe that Dr. Bacchiocchi graduated *summa cum laude*, that he got a medal and that at least a portion of his dissertation was published with the Vatican *imprimatur*. But this agonizing personal experience should have taught Dr. Bacchiocchi a lesson about the expunging power of the Roman Catholic papacy. **His educational records have been either expunged or "lost!"**.

Dr. Bacchiocchi's seems to want it both ways. On the one hand he complains: "*The Papacy 'lost' my educational records because my works on the Sabbath were causing it great damage.*" But on the other hand, he finds it improbable that the Papacy could have ever expunged or "lost" the title *Vicarius Filii Dei* from the papal tiara and/or miter because of the damage it was causing the Papacy!

There are eyewitnesses that claim to have seen the tiara at various papal ceremonies inscribed with the title *Vicarius Filii Dei*. Were these witnesses lying? Were they seeing visions? Did they have overactive imaginations? Why should Dr. Bacchiocchi impugn their credibility and not that of the Roman Catholic Church? Is it because these individuals didn't have doctoral degrees and therefore in his view they do not meet the scholarly litmus test?

Why does he accept the testimony of W. W. Prescott (who exhibited less than full confidence in the Spirit of Prophecy at the 1913 Bible Conference), Charles T. Everson (who claimed to have examined **one** papal tiara that was used in the coronation of Leo XIII in 1836 and who did not say that the title had never been on the tiara but rather that it was not on the tiara "**at present**") and L.E. Froom (notorious for his selective and ecumenical use of Ellen White in Questions on Doctrine) while he brushes aside the testimony of those who claim to have seen the title on the tiara? What makes one group more trustworthy than the other?

Dr. Bacchiocchi argues that if the Papacy found it necessary to expunge the title *Vicarius Filii Dei* from the tiara or miter, it would stand to reason that they would also want to expunge it from all historical documents where it appears. But this argument is weak. It belies the fact that it is **far more incriminating** to have the title on the tiara for everyone to see than it is to have a few references tucked away in the books of scholars and intelligentsia that rarely, if ever, are seen by the layman in the pew. Even Roman Catholic apologist, Patrick Madrid, did not know that the title was used in various Roman Catholic sources until it was brought to his

attention by an Adventist! If a professional apologist didn't know, how would a common layman in the pew know?

There is evidence, even from Roman Catholic sources, that the title was once on the papal tiara or miter. In the November 15, 1914 edition of *'Our Sunday Visitor'* (the official organ of the Archdiocese of Baltimore) the following question was addressed to the Bureau of Information: *"Is it true that the words of the Apocalypse in the 13th chapter, 18th verse refer to the Pope?"*

The answer was as follows: *"The words referred to are these **'Here is wisdom. He that hath understanding, let him count the number of the beast. For it is the number of a man: and the number of him is six hundred sixty-six.'** The Title of the Pope in Rome is *Vicarius Filii Dei*. **This is inscribed on his mitre**; and if you take the letters of his title which represent Latin numerals and add them together they come to **666.**"*

In the April 18, 1915 edition of *'Our Sunday Visitor'* this information was confirmed once again. The question was: *"What are the letters supposed to be in the Pope's crown, and what do they signify, if anything?"*

The answer was explicit: *"The letters inscribed in the **Pope's mitre** are these: Vicarius Filii Dei, which is the Latin for the **Vicar of the Son of God**. Catholics hold that the church which is a visible society must have a visible head. Christ, before His ascension into heaven, appointed St. Peter to act as His representative. Upon the death of Peter the man who succeeded to the office of Peter as Bishop of Rome, was recognized as the head of the Church. Hence to the Bishop of Rome, as head of the Church, was given the title 'Vicar of Christ.'"*

Roman Catholic apologist Patrick Madrid claims to have contacted Robert Lockwood, the editor of *'Our Sunday Visitor'* about this 1915 issue and he was told that **the entire issue** had been expunged from the archives (although many personally have a copy of the newspaper column). This is an interesting admission. Even in modern times expunging is used as a method by the Papacy to delete information that is incriminating!

It is true that on September 16, 1917 (and also again on August 3, 1941) *'Our Sunday Visitor'* did an about face and totally changed its tune: *"The words Vicarius Filii Dei are not the name of the pope, they do not even constitute his official title."*

The question is: which of the two versions of *'Our Sunday Visitor'* are we to believe? Can we really trust the word of an organization that has majored in deception throughout the centuries?

It must be admitted that we cannot prove beyond any doubt at this time that the title *Vicarius Filii Dei* was ever on the pope's tiara or miter. The evidence we have at present is mixed at best. Perhaps only when the judgment sits and the books are opened in God's heavenly tribunal will we be able to see whether the name was there or not. One thing is

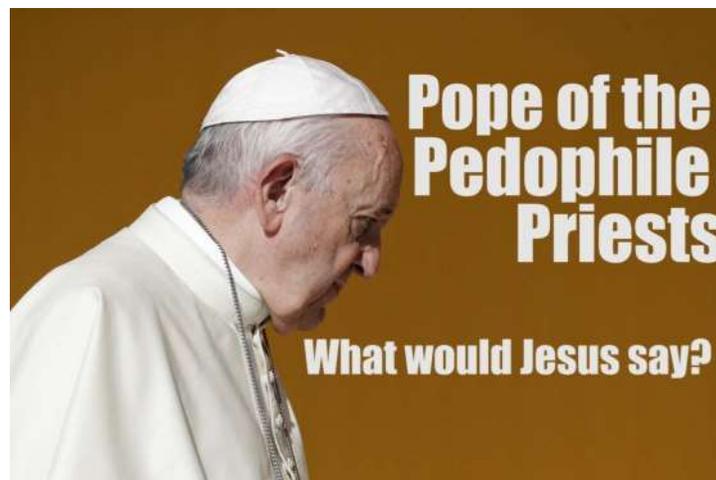
crystal clear, however, and that is that the name *Vicarius Filii Dei* is an official title which has been assumed by the popes and the name is in perfect accordance with their blasphemous claims for centuries. It is important to remember that the prophecy of Revelation 13:18 does not require that the title or name of the beast be found on the papal crown or tiara.

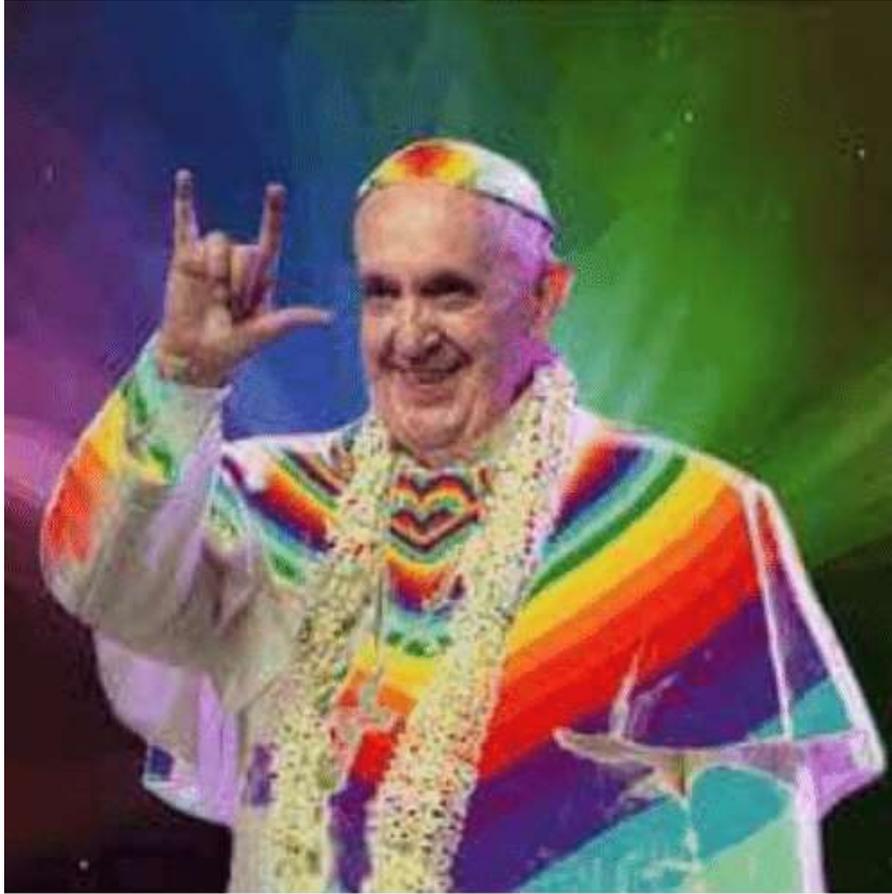
Various other names and titles have been suggested as fulfillments for the name and number of the beast of Revelation 13:18. Some have suggested *dux cleri* (head of the clergy), *lateinos* (Latin man) or *Iudovicus* (chief of the court of Rome). The problem with all of these suggestions is that none of them is particularly blasphemous. But there is a name which has been **officially** assumed by the bishops of Rome that is clearly and unmistakably blasphemous: *Vicarius Filii Dei*.

The Bible makes it crystal clear that the **Holy Spirit is the Vicar of the Son of God**. Before Jesus left He promised His disciples: ***“And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever--the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.”***-(John 14:16-18).

Jesus made it very clear that the visible Head of the church (Jesus) would be in heaven while the invisible Head of the church (the Holy Spirit) would **take his place** on earth. Roman Catholic theology has changed this around. They affirm that the visible head of the church (the pope) is on earth while the invisible head (Jesus) is in heaven. Thus the popes not only usurp the place of Jesus but they also usurp the place of the Holy Spirit! This, I contend, is the epitome of blasphemy!

Amazingly, the Greek word **“antichristos”** has the same basic meaning in Greek as does *Vicarius Filii Dei* in Latin. Most people assume that the word antichrist means “one who is against Christ.” It is true that in Greek the preposition *anti* can mean >against.= But it is equally true that this preposition can mean “instead of”, = or “in place of.” In classical Greek, for example, the word **“antibasileus”** means >one who occupies the place of the king.= In the New





The False Prophet Pope Francis: Says, who is he to judge? Says gay people are creations of God and will be accepted in Heaven.

Testament, the name Herod **Antipas** means that Herod ruled 'in place of = his father.' - (Revelation 2:13) The word *antitype* means "that which takes the place of the type = Christ is spoken of as having given His life as a ransom **in place of** ("*antlutron*") all -(1st Timothy 2:6). Thus the word "*antichristos*" in Greek and *Vicarius Filii Dei* in Latin bear a very similar meaning!

- While the Greek prefix >anti= generally means >against= or >opposed to,= it can also mean >in the place of= or >a substitute for.= The Antichrist will embody both meanings. He will oppose Christ while **pretending to be Christ**. . . . When the time has come for his ascension to power will be in the midst of an **unprecedented global crisis**.

- He will be hailed as the world's savior, and so he will appear to be. . . . Instead of a frontal assault against Christianity, the evil one will **pervert the church from within** by posing as its founder. He will cunningly misrepresent Christ while **pretending to be Christ**. And by that process of **substitution** he will undermine and pervert all that Christ truly is. . . . If the Antichrist will indeed pretend to be the Christ, then his **followers must be >Christians=!** The church of that day will without dissenting voice, hail him as its leader. -(Dave Hunt, *'Global Peace'*, pgs. 7-8, 45, 200).

In the light of the Biblical and historical evidence that we have at our disposal, I believe that it is not unreasonable to believe that the title *Vicarius Filii Dei* is an adequate explanation of the number "666". This is an official title of the popes even though at present there is no way of proving beyond any doubt that the title was on the tiara or the miter in times past. I therefore agree with the Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary:

"Whether the inscription *Vicarius Filii Dei* appears on the tiara or mitre is really beside the point. The title is admittedly applied to the pope, and that is sufficient for the purposes of this prophecy." -(*'Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary'*, vol. 7, page 823-824).

Many who look for significance in numbers in the Bible believe that this number stands for incompleteness, imperfection, and weakness. It is said to be associated with both man and Satan. The number "7" is associated with God and perfection, and so the number "6" is one number short of perfection. The Bible offers us some significant uses of the number "6" in the Bible:

- The Earth and all things were created in 6 days -(Genesis 1:31-2:2; Exodus 20:11; 31:17)
- Man was created on the 6th day -(Genesis 1:26,31)
- God flooded the whole world when Noah was six hundred years old (Genesis 7:6, 11)
- Abraham interceded on behalf of the people of Sodom 6 times -(Genesis 18:16-33)
- Leah had 6 sons -(Genesis 30:19-20; 35:23)
- The Israelites were to gather Manna for 6 days -(Exodus 16:5,22,29)
- The 6th Commandment is "thou shalt not murder" -(Exodus 20:13; Deuteronomy 5:17)
- A Hebrew slave was only to work 6 years and then be released -(Exodus 21:2; Deuteronomy 15:12,18; Jeremiah 34:14)
- God commanded the Israelites to give their land a Sabbath rest after 6 years of farming it -(Exodus 23:10-11; Leviticus 25:1-7)
- The glory of the Lord covered Mt. Sinai for 6 days -(Exodus 24:16)
- The gold lampstand in the Tabernacle (which signified Jesus) had 6 branches coming out of it -(Exodus 25:32-35; Exodus 37:17-21)
- Two onyx stones, each with 6 names of the sons of Israel were put on the ephod of the High Priest -(Exodus 28:9-12)
- There were 6 "cities of refuge" in the land of the Levites -(Numbers 35:6,13,15)
- Jephthah judged Israel 6 years -(Judges 12:7)
- Goliath's height was 6 cubits and a span -(1st Samuel 17:4)

- When the Ark was being brought to Jerusalem, after the Levites took 6 steps, David sacrificed sheep and oxen -(2nd Samuel 6:13)
- There was a giant that had 6 fingers on each hand and 6 toes on each foot -(2nd Samuel 21:20)
- Solomon's throne had 6 steps -(1st Kings 10:19; 2nd Chronicles 9:18)
- Joab remained in Edom 6 months until he had killed every male -(1st Kings 11:16)
- Evil Queen Athaliah's reign was 6 years -(2nd Kings 11:3; 2nd Chronicles 22:12)
- Boaz gave Ruth 6 ephahs of barley -(Ruth 3:15,17)
- The Seraphim angels have 6 wings -(Isaiah 6:2; Revelation 4:8 ?)
- After 6 days, Jesus took Peter, James, and John up the mountain for the Transfiguration -(Matthew 17:1; Mark 9:2)
- In the 6th month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary to announce she would give birth to Jesus -(Luke 1:26:36)
- In Jesus' first miracle, He changed 6 water pots into wine -(John 2:6-10)
- Mary anointed Jesus' feet 6 days before Passover -(John 12:1-3)
- At about the 6th hour, Pilate said to the Jews, "**Behold your king**" -(John 19:14)
- When Peter received his vision from God opening the door to the Gentiles, it was the 6th hour -(Acts 10:9)
- The number of the Antichrist (or beast) is **666** -(Revelation 13:17-18)