Commentary Blog F

A Different "Revisit"

Week of 5/16-20 (B20;16)

A Different "Revisit"

In blogs <u>B27-29;15</u> we addressed a very dangerous false teaching: *One can take the mark of the beast, repent of doing so and still live forever with God.*

This is **untrue**, biblically speaking. The false-hope offer as outlined in the blogs above is not the only deception darkness is using to persuade followers of Jesus Christ to be open to the taking of the mark as described in Revelation 13. Here's another half-truth **lie** which will be further told to those seeking to save their lives*:

Another similar, eternal, consequential deception will take a form similar to this:

- P1 Because those who place their faith in Christ Jesus are eternally secure; [VS the Truth: Those who truly place their faith in Christ Jesus and walk therein are eternally secure.]
- **P2** Because one cannot lose one's salvation; [VS the Truth: Those who are **genuinely** saved cannot lose their salvation.]

Therefore, Taking the mark of the beast will not result in the (Conclusion) Lake of Fire for Christians who take the mark.

It's this mentality - P1 & P2 & the **conclusion** - that represents the half-truth deception.

We ask some simple but crucial questions at this juncture. ...

How do we **know** true followers of Jesus Christ are eternally secure? What is the basis of this belief? *On what grounds* is this true?

Answer: The Word of God teaches this Truth, therefore, genuine believers in Jesus Christ are indeed eternally secure. God's Word is our final authority for faith and practice and because it (the Bible) states this truth (that *no one can/will pluck born-again believers out of the Father's hand*), it's True - namely, that sincere, enduring-to-the-end Christians have eternal life. God said it; that settles it.

B U T here's the problem for those who pick and choose some Scriptures and yet who incorrectly go on to deny other Scriptures - those who in practice do NOT affirm the **whole Counsel of the Word of God**.

God's Word ALSO states

Mt. 24:9,10 II Thes. 2:1-4 I Tim. 4:1

Our point: We need to accept ALL of God's Counsel, not simply the aspects of His revelation we like.

If that's not warning enough, the Word also says this concerning those who take the mark of the beast:

"... If ANYONE worships the beast and his image, and receives *his* mark on his forehead or on his hand, he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God ..." (Rev. 14:9,10 - actually, please see Rev. 14:6-13 which also speaks to those yet to be taken up in the final trumpet [7th Trumpet] Rapture gathering! (NKJV; emphasis ours)

(And there are other passages addressing this concern which we've not included here - ones that also need to be humbly and prayerfully considered.)

In short, in light of the full Counsel of God's Word on this matter, true born-again, heaven-bound followers of Jesus Christ will NOT take the mark.

Another way to faithfully summarize these biblical Truths is in this way:

There will not be one person in glory (who has eternal life through the Lord Jesus Christ - who lives forever with God) who takes the mark of the beast ... not one!

By the authority of $\operatorname{\mathsf{God}}\nolimits$ we implore those who call themselves believers:

NEVER, EVER take the mark, for to do so, in light of God's very kind revelation to us - and He always keeps His Word - **to receive the mark** demonstrates you are NOT a true believer and will indeed guarantee you a place in the Lake of Fire.

This era of the mark of the beast is coming soon.

May our Lord grant us endurance through this most difficult time in all of human history. We encourage you to read the book of Hebrews where the end-time theme of **endurance in Christ** is so wonderfully highlighted. Our Lord, in Rev. 2 & 3, also mandates this very quality of His people in Jesus Christ as He calls us to be *overcomers*.

Help us precious Father God. THANK YOU for the crucial insights communicated in the full Counsel of Your Word. In Christ Jesus' holy name we pray. Amen

* Re: Those who wish to "save their lives," please look over the following passages: Mt. 16:24-27; Mk. 8:34-38; Lk. 17:33.