

*"I did not come with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring to you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified" (1 Corinthians 2:1-2).*

## What Is the Mark of the Beast?

Hi, Ruth,

You asked us about the mark of the beast.

Allow me to tell you a bit about us and our walk with Jehovah. In 1975, we left all church systems because the Lord had revealed to us that these were the works of men, and because He commanded us to leave them behind as though they were dung. He then continued to teach and to confirm that organized religion was indeed destructive in every way. We were spared the mark of the beast.

In March of 1976, He had told me that He was hurting because His people were hurting. He said they were hurting because they were in great ignorance of the truth. They were choosing their own ways and disobeying Him. He took my life to bring that precious knowledge to those to whom He sends me, and thus I write and speak.

**That is not Jehovah that inspires your life and soul.**

In the Harvest Haven Herald, Issue #5, I made an introductory remark about voting. Seeing that remark, you decided you did not want to read it. Ingrid pointed out that I was going on to say that we ought not to vote for man, or depend on, or support political systems. I would have thought that you, being a Jehovah's Witness, would agree instead of reject. Is it not strange that though I would write something that would be in agreement with your doctrine, because a cue word was "voting," you decided to recoil? Could it be that you are very insecure and full of fear, Ruth? That is not Jehovah that inspires your life and soul. You are also reluctant to speak to me, afraid that we will clash. That is because you are not in the Spirit of Truth. You are still in your sins, and from sins, your doctrine and "Society" will not deliver you. On the contrary, it will hold you in darkness and chains.

I read your pamphlet on the number of the beast. You asked what our opinion was of the number 666, not that you were interested in what we had to say. It was a "witness" opener to give **you** opportunity to tell us what you believed, to "deliver us from this world." You are afraid to read our literature because the Watchtower Society teaches you that if we are not of your organization, we are children of Satan. You believe we know nothing of value in spiritual terms. They are afraid, and you are afraid of being influenced in the wrong direction.

We are not afraid to read your literature, which presumably speaks truth, but does not. How is it that "children of Satan" are not afraid to read "the truth," as you see it, while "children of the Kingdom," who perhaps you presume to be, are afraid of exposure to erroneous literature? I should think that true believers are true warriors in Jehovah, and unbelievers are afraid of truth. How is it that you are so afraid, that even at the sight of

the word "voting," you shut down immediately, though the direction of that subject was in your favor? Ruth, there is something terribly wrong with your spiritual state. As it is written:

"The wicked do flee when there is no pursuer, but the righteous are like a young lion that is confident" (Proverbs 28:1).

**The mark of the beast is the influence and power of religious man.**

Your physical state is also a manifestation of your spiritual state.

The mark of the beast is not limited to the socio-political systems of this world. You have the mark of the beast on your forehead even now. It is the influence and power of religious man, imposing his vain concepts upon you. We cannot buy or sell with you in terms of speaking the truth because we refuse and do not have the mark of the beast. You have the mark and therefore won't permit buying and selling with us, because your leaders won't permit it. Yet you come to us, presuming to teach us about the mark of the beast. Ironic, is it not?

You have three great faults: you deny the divinity of Jesus Christ (the greatest of any and all faults), you condemn the world, and you make a religion of non-religion. As it is written:

"For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but so that the world might be saved through Him. He who believes on Him is not condemned, but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the Name of the only-begotten Son of God" (John 3:17-18).

None of us has a problem with your expressing yourself, Ruth. By all means do so at any time. However, we see you where you are at, and declare to you that you need to repent of your self-righteousness if you are to enter into the Kingdom of Jehovah you presume to serve. We are already in it, and it is from there that we speak to you and all. Don't be found with this fault as well:

"And this is the condemnation, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than the Light, because their deeds were evil" (John 3:19).

Victor

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