COVID, The Great Reset, and the Third Angel's Message

by Jonathan Zirkle, JD

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There is a lot of talk going on today about COVID and the end of the world. Some say that the vaccine may be the Mark of the Beast. Some take the vaccine, others refuse. Clearly, COVID has prompted some to seek for spiritual answers. Does COVID play a role in end-time events? Certainly! Let's take a look as to how....

At this point in Earth's history, most of Bible prophecy reads like history. Jesus is coming soon! But before Jesus returns, there are some things that have to happen first. While not mentioned directly in Bible prophecy, a careful reading of Scripture and a reflection on the things that are happening in the world today show how COVID is relevant to end-time events and how the Christian should respond.

The Third Angel's Message and the Mark of the Beast

A big question looming in everyone's mind is whether they will receive the Mark of the Beast. To some, the question is also whether or not the vaccine is part of the Mark. To those unlearned in Scripture and perhaps steeped in misinterpretations and false fabrications of Scripture, this question is scary and the answer unknown. But to the good Berean, it is possible to know what the Mark of the Beast is, what it is not, and how one receives the Mark. It is the role of the Remnant Church to proclaim these answers to the world. The Third Angel, representing the declaration of the Remnant church says,

"And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand. The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb. 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." Rev. 14:9-11.

How can the Remnant make this declaration? The Remnant must know how to give a full and complete warning, and to guide people away from anything that would give them a false impression about what the Mark really is. Reading in the Rev 13, we find the characteristics of the Mark,

"And I beheld another beast [hereinafter referred to as the "Lamblike Beast"] coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast [hereinafter "the Beast" or "the First Beast"] before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast

should be killed. 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: 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." Rev. 13:11-17

There are many things that can be observed from this passage, but here are a few key characteristics of the Mark.

- 1) The Lamblike Beast imposes the Mark
- 2) He exercises all the powers of the First Beast
- 3) He causes everyone to worship the First Beast
- 4) He deceives mankind
- He commands that everyone must worship the Image of the Beast upon pain of death;
- 6) He commands that everyone must receive the Mark, or else they cannot buy nor sell;

Beasts in Bible prophecy represent both political and evil spiritual powers. By studying Revelation 13 and the books of Daniel and Revelation, it is clear that the First Beast mentioned in Revelation 13 is a spiritual power, albeit one that exercises political power as well. At the end of earth's history, when the Mark of the Beast is to be imposed, the First Beast has already gone through a period of supremacy, received a deadly wound whereby the world thought he would die, and has been resurrected with the help of the Lamblike Beast. In the great stream of time and Bible prophecy, we are living in the final hours of earth's history when the First Beast is experiencing its third phase, resurrection.

What is the Mark, or the number of his name? Scripture gives the number: 666. Careful research will show that number is only associated with one worldwide (or at least spanning all Christendom) religious and political power that is both present in the past and is in the process of resurrecting today. Don't get confused by applications of this number to a literal person. A careful study of the 3.5 years or "times time and dividing of times," the 1260 day prophecy, and the 42 month prophecy are all the same time period (Dan 7:25; Dan 12:7; Rev 11:2-3; Rev 12:6, 14) and all show that this First Beast ruled for a period of 1260 years. No person has ever lived that long, so set those interpretations aside. I could give the answer to this riddle, but just as Scripture gently hides the answer, so will I. Be that as it may, a healthy study of Scripture and history will reveal it to any genuine student.

There are four characteristics of the Lamblike Beast that are relevant to this study:

- 1) the Lamblike Beast appears in prophecy towards the end of time.
- 2) the Lamblike Beast is like a lamb, or Christlike.
- 3) the Lamblike Beast speaks and acts like a dragon, or like Satan.
- 4) The Lamblike Beast exercises global power.

To state this in another way, this beast is a very powerful wolf dressed in sheep's clothing. There appears to be only one "Christian" nation that could ever fulfill this prophecy.

Looking for deception as an identifying characteristic of the Lamblike Beast is tricky. It can never be generally known if a power is deceiving the world because the very nature of deception is that one doesn't know if one's being deceived. If one knows, then one is not deceived. However in Matthew 24, Christ, speaking about the end of the world, repeatedly warns His followers not to be deceived. If Christ issues a warning, it is also a promise that he will provide the power to heed the warning. Christ's true followers, the Remnant which escapes the deception, is represented as the Third Angel of Revelation 14. As Christ stated in Matthew 24:24, this Remnant cannot be deceived. Instead, this Remnant must be able to deliver the final warning.

Is there a political power, or Lamblike Beast exercising the powers of a prior religious/political power? No. Presently, there is no political power exercising the powers of the First Beast, nor is there a political power that is attempting to cause everyone to worship any prior religious/political power. The time to receive the Mark has not arrived until the Lamblike Beast is making the image and demanding its worship. There simply is no religious deception involving worship.

So COVID vaccines are not the Mark of the Beast, but, there are two more characteristics of the Mark to consider. The Mark must be imposed globally by the Lamblike Beast and the Mark is required to be able to buy or sell. There is more Scripture on global government that I will quote shortly, but it is enough to say here that COVID regulations and vaccines, though not uniform across borders, are globally implemented. The global implementation of these rules is having a profound affect upon everyone. At the time of this writing, the powers that be are attempting different ways to enforce vaccine requirements, with potentially very serious economic effects upon those who refuse to take it. The press is reporting that Governments are looking to private corporations to assist in requiring people to take the vaccine. Presently, people are losing their jobs, their right to travel and do business, their ability to obtain an education, their ability to obtain and retain liability insurance for their businesses, etc. As a whole, these rules impact a conscientious objector's ability to buy and sell, and that impact is increasing.

There is much deception regarding COVID and the vaccines. The sheer variability of the "scientific" narrative reveals to even non-scientists the duplicity of our political leaders. Astoundingly, it is possible to go into most hospitals, speak to the staff, and find that there are precisely the same divisions over "the science" and whether to vaccinate as there is in the general public.

Revelation only describes two types of people when Christ returns. Those that have received the Mark of the Beast, and those who have been sealed with the Seal of God. There is no third class of people who don't understand what is going on. The message of the Seal of God and the Mark of the Beast will be fully presented to humanity. Humanity will be faced with a choice regarding who they will worship. Everyone will have the opportunity to obtain enough knowledge and information to make a choice. With COVID, there is a demonstration of how two different groups of people can possess the same knowledge and see the same evidence yet be sharply divided. It will be the same with the Mark of the Beast and the Seal of God.

What is the Great Reset?

I don't know what the Great Reset is. Ask anyone about it, and there are at least four characteristics that most everyone can agree upon.

- 1) It is economic
- 2) It is global
- 3) It includes governments
- 4) COVID will help usher it in

Except for COVID, there is nothing new about the Great Reset. Discounting COVID for a moment, the other characteristics have combined to go under different names at different times. "The Revolution," the League of Nations, the United Nations, and now all sorts of quasi-government international bodies. George W. Bush and other leaders have called it, "A New World Order." Today, it goes by the term the Great Reset. Whatever the name, there is a Biblical certainty that someday, something of this nature will succeed. Revelation 17, after showing John the Great Whore of Babylon which is the First Beast of Revelation 13, tells John that globalism will succeed. Specifically, Revelation 17 is describing how the Lamblike Beast will be able to globally impose the Mark. The Bible says,

"And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful." Revelation 17:12-14.

So how is COVID different than prior global agendas? COVID is different for one key reason: The reaction to COVID has been coordinated worldwide. This is the first time that it can be said that the nations of the earth have been acting with one mind. Never before has there been a global problem with a global solution that everyone has agreed upon. COVID is laying the foundation for a unified, global, new world order, aka a Great Reset, the likes of which have never been seen before. Leaders are already linking COVID to other problems that they say can only be solved with global cooperation. It is impossible to predict what problem will be addressed globally next. Climate change? UFOs? Draught? COVID variants? Another pandemic? According to Scripture, in the near future, there will be a global spiritual problem requiring a spiritual solution. Expect everyone to be deceived except the Remnant Church and those that the Remnant Church can successfully warn. Deceptions that are allowed to be perpetrated today, will only set deep roots that will be harder to eradicate in the future.

COVID Vaccines and You

The spiritual nature of personal health should be obvious to anyone reading Scripture. Much of the Mosaic law for the Israelites involved health. The Gospels record more of Christ's healing ministry than His teaching or preaching. The New Testament pastoral letters often include wishes of good health. Why is this? Because without health, there is nothing. The worship of God and the ministering to others both require good health. 1 Corinthians 6:29 says, "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" Being alive, having a sound mind, and having a body that is healthy enough not to distract from spiritual things are essential to participating in God's plan of salvation. Anything that is a detriment to health and to sound thinking limits the work that God can do in a person's life and their ability for the Holy Spirit to minister through them to others. It is no wonder that the health ministry is one of the most common forms of foreign missions and has been called the right arm of the gospel.

COVID provides an opportunity for the Christian to render service to the sick and dying, as well as teaching the healthy how to stay that way. The Church should be teaching a wholistic health message as an excellent elixir for the body's natural immune system. A robust natural immunity is almost always the best line of defense against disease, COVID included. The church should be able to discern that the COVID pandemic is being exploited by Satan to bring about the globalism predicted by Scripture. In recognizing this, the church should refuse to be a pawn in the game. "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?" 1 Cor 6:14. The scientific and political duplicity occurring now is nothing that the church should participate in, even if the spiritual aspects of "the science" are obscure or appear to be absent.

At the Diet of Spires, the Reformation princes were offered a compromise with the Church of Rome. The Diet proposed to allow the princes to continue the Reformation in the regions they ruled on the condition that they not institute any new reforms and not spread the Reformation elsewhere. The princes refused. Their refusal was characterized as a protest, and from that day, the name Protestant was applied to the members of the Reformation. How was the Reformation spread? By preaching, or religious free speech. Why did the Roman Church attempt to suppress the princes' speech? Why is free speech ever suppressed? Because the ideas of those in possession of power cannot survive open debate. For this reason, it is axiomatic that wherever there is suppression of speech, there is deception and weakness.

Closely related to freedom of speech is liberty of conscience. The spoken word is often nothing more than an outward manifestation of conscience. Thus, when Luther was asked to recant, or suppress his own speech, he could not do so because his conscience would not let him. This led him to make his most famous statement, "Here I stand, I can do no other, so help me God. Amen." To have remained silent would have been for him to deny the Bible, deny Christ, and to deny the love of Christ to the people who were in spiritual darkness and so desperate to hear the truth.

God, in whom there is no weakness nor deception, does not suppress speech. In the great controversy, God has allowed Satan to make his accusations. The tragedy of sin on this planet is the working out of Satan's speech and his complete lack of conscience. God in His justice and mercy, never forces the conscience. Just as with Satan, mankind is free to choose to love God or to hate him, to obey him or rebel.

COVID presents many challenges similar to those faced by Luther and the princes at Spires. With COVID, there is active suppression of speech. The suppression of speech is always rooted in the desire by the powerful to hide something or to perpetuate a deception. COVID and the vaccines are no different. It is critically important that the Church not align herself with the suppressors of speech and those that would force the conscience.

Conclusion

In relation to the Mark of the Beast, the Remnant Church's purpose is to proclaim the prophecies of Revelation and to call out a people from the deceptions of both the First Beast and the Lamblike Beast. While the COVID vaccine is clearly not the Mark of the Beast, the implementation of COVID rules and regulations is clearly a step in the direction of history towards the political situation that must exist in order for the Mark to be given in accordance with Bible prophecy.

There is profound danger whenever anyone enters unknown territory. The COVID vaccines are mainly untested, experimental gene therapies that are fundamentally unknown scientific territory. To require anyone to take the vaccine is a trampling upon their rights as a Christian to not risk damaging their bodies which conscience tells them is the temple of Christ. When the powers that be demand vaccination of all people, whether they have natural immunity or not, whether the virus poses actual mortal danger or not, while suppressing undesirable speech about the vaccine, it is not unreasonable for the discerning person to cautiously refuse the vaccine.

The freedoms of the U.S. Constitution found in the Bill of Rights are rooted in the Reformation. The Reformation is rooted in the Bible, the Constitution of Christ's kingdom. Freedom of speech and conscience were seized by Luther and the princes by force. Their greatest weapon was the blood of martyrs. Religious liberty was the fruit that blossomed for a time in America. It is no accident that the framers put religious liberty as the first liberty, followed closely by freedom of speech. "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech..."

Not America, but the Church must be that city on a hill, a light that cannot be hid. Christ says of His followers, "Ye are the light of the world." The Church must stand aloof of the obvious uncertainties and lies passing themselves off as "the science."

For some reading this, the concepts may be new, or hidden away in some cobwebbed corner of the attic of their mind. They must study, learn, and grow close to Christ. To others, this message is familiar. Let this be a rallying call. Now is not the time for silence. Now is the time to boldly proclaim our God-given freedoms, enshrined in the Bill of Rights and the constitutions of so many nations who have attempted to model their governments on the freedoms of an older America that is passing away.

Life is not about liberty and freedom. Through the vast majority of earth's history, religious liberty and freedom of speech were not protected by anyone. Nor is living free the primary concern of Scripture. The Old Testament is made up primarily of stories of people succeeding or failing to remain faithful to God. God's concern is our faithfulness to Him and His commandments. Jesus says, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." Scripture tells us who we are, where we are in earth's history, and what we are to be doing. Now is the time to declare the Three Angels' Messages. The Bible tells us to "have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them." Ephesians 5:11. That is the purpose of the Third Angel's Message.

In many Muslim countries and in some remaining communist regimes, Christianity is outlawed upon pain of imprisonment or death. Nevertheless, Christians in these countries still hold secret church services and still engage in clandestine evangelism. Yet so quickly, Christians in the free world gave up meeting in the face of a dubious pandemic with a low, hopelessly manipulated fatality rate. Paul gave this admonition to the church in the end-times.

"Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Hebrews 10:23-25

And Christ's admonition, so important to a generation whose love is growing cold.

"A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." John 13:34-35

There are billions of people searching for truth. Genuine seekers will not recognize the true church unless we can love one another. The Third Angel's message will fall upon deaf ears, if there is no love. Coercion is not love. A forced COVID vaccine of unknown danger or utility is not love. To let the world pass into perdition without warning is not love. God will not let the this happen. He will have a people doing His work. Will you be a part of it?

Personal Commitment

- I understand that it is contrary to the law of God to coerce another to take any action which is contrary to their conscience when their decision to act or not to act is based upon that person's knowledge and understanding of their Biblical duty to God.
- I commit not to engage in coercion against anyone who is attempting to follow the dictates of their conscience as it relates to God.
- 3. I commit to not assist any person, business, government, or other organization in attempting to coerce anyone to act against their conscience.
- 4. I commit to humbly approach God in all trials regarding this commitment, claiming the promise of James 1:5 that anyone who asks for wisdom will be granted it, and requesting the fortitude to act upon that gift of wisdom without wavering, James 1:6.



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P.O. Box 1681 Jefferson City, MO 65102

info@LibertyAndHealth.org