the seal of the living God. On one side, the divine commandments of God. On the other, the beast proclaiming traditions of men and enforcing a substitute Sabbath—Satan’s counterfeit.

**Counting the Beast’s Number**

Meet Mr. 666, whose numerical code-name, like that of Agent 007, has become increasingly talked about.

### Authority

An official seal or authoritative signature always contains three elements:

A. The name of the law-giver.
B. His office or title—his right to rule.
C. The territory which he rules—his jurisdictional area.

**For example:**

**Name:** George Washington Winston Churchill  
**Title:** President Prime Minister  
**Territory:** United States United Kingdom

God’s Seal or signature is found in His Law, specifically in the Fourth Commandment. Exodus 20:8-11 contains all of the three following elements:

**Name:** The LORD Isaiah 42:8; Jeremiah 16:21; Exodus 15:3; Amos 5:8 show that Jehovah’s name is “the Lord.”
**Title:** CREATOR or MAKER Exodus 20:11 declares: “The Lord MADE . . . ?!”
**Territory:** HEAVEN and EARTH

Just as the seals of earthly rulers are found in connection with their laws, so we find the Seal of the living God in His Law of Ten Commandments. The Lord—writing with His own finger—formally signed and sealed His divine Law! 

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### Counting the Beast’s Number

Meet Mr. 666, whose numerical code-name, like that of Agent 007, has become increasingly talked about.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>V</th>
<th>I</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>R</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0 (not used as a numeral)</td>
<td>0 (not used as a numeral)</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>Total= 666 the computation totals 666 exactly—no more, no less.</td>
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“The letter “V” was the same as “U” until recent centuries. The Romans wrote the letter “V” for both U and V sounds, just as today we still write the letter “C” for both K and S sounds in words like calculate and certainty. Later, Medieval scholars began writing “U” for a vowel and “V” for a consonant. Encyclopedias confirm this fact. You may see names engraved on buildings that look like “PUBLIC LIBRARY.” (Think of our letter “W.” It looks like two letter V’s written together. But when we pronounce its name, we call it a “double-you,” not a “double-vee.”)
Roman governor, Pilate, condemned Jesus. A Roman executioner crucified Him. A Roman emblem sealed Jesus’ tomb. A Roman guard watched that tomb. So the dragon represents Satan working through pagan Rome.

But pagan Rome became papal Rome, for when Emperor Constantine moved his headquarters to Constantinople, he left a power vacuum filled by the pontiff of Rome. Prominent historian Arthur P. Stanley describes the shift from a political power to a religious hierarchy: “The popes filled the place of the vacant emperors at Rome, inheriting their power, prestige, and titles from paganism.” Thomas Hobbes could truly say that the Papacy was “the ghost of the deceased Roman Empire, sitting crowned upon its grave.”

Clue Number Two:

This power in Revelation 13 would become a worldwide religious power, not a political one. Revelation 13:8 says, “all who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.” So it’s a universal power that initiates worship. And, of course, the Papacy is a universal religious power that transcends geographic boundaries. This is our second clue.

Clue Number Three:

Revelation 13:5 says the beast “was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies.” Christ Himself was twice accused of blasphemy—one in Luke 5:20-21, because He claimed the power to forgive sins, and again in John 10:30-33, because He claimed to be God. Jesus wasn’t guilty of blasphemy because He really was God, and He really could forgive sins! For a mere man to claim such things is indeed blasphemous. Read blasphemous statements 1-4 from the Roman church on Catholic Sources page.

Clue Number Four:

Revelation 13:7 says, speaking of the beast: “It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them.” Persecution! A conservative estimate puts those Christians martyred by the state church during the Dark Ages at over 30 million. In the Catholic Inquisition, people were tortured and burned alive at the stake. Whole families or communities were wiped out for no other crime than “heresy”—they dared to believe something other than what the church taught. Interestingly enough, the Roman Church admits to the persecution it inflicted. See statements 5-6 on Catholic Sources page.

Clue Number Five:

Revelation 13:5 says, “He was given authority to continue for 42 months.” The Bible reckons 30 days to a month. (Genesis 7:11, 24; 8:3-4 shows a five-month period stretched 150 days: thirty days to a month.) And a DAY stands for a YEAR in Bible prophecy. Ezekiel 4:6. So 42 months x 30 days = 1260 prophetic days, or 1260 actual years. History books show that A.D. 538 was an important date for the papacy. In that year the decree of Justinian, the Emperor, went into effect making the bishop of Rome head of all the churches. Thus A.D. 538 marked the beginning of papal supremacy. Now adding 1260 years to A.D. 538 we come to the year 1798. In that year Papal power was indeed seriously wounded. In 1798 Napoleon’s army took the pope captive and he later died in exile. Prophecy and history agree perfectly—the 1260 years fit precisely! But had Napoleon consulted Scripture, he’d have realized that the papacy was not finished, only wounded. Revelation 13:3 tells us that “deadly wound” would be “healed.” And all the world would marvel and follow the beast in the last days.

Clue Number Six:

Revelation 13:18 challenges us to “calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666.” In the Bible the number seven represents perfection, completeness. On the other hand, the number six represents human error, imperfection. So a triple six represents something very wrong! Revelation 13:17-18 says quite plainly that “the number of the beast . . . is the number of a man.” More specifically, it’s “the number of his name.” Still more to the point, a footnote in the Douay Version of the Catholic Bible says: “Verse 18. Six hundred sixty-six. The NUMERICAL LETTERS of his name shall make up this number.” Individual popes have had many different names, but the official title—the umbrella title that covers them all—the title that’s used in coronation ceremonies of each new pope, is VICARIUS FILII DEI, which is Latin for “Vicar of the Son of God.” Since this is a Roman title, we’d expect to use Roman numerals to calculate it. See the COMPUTATION on the next page.

Clue Number Seven:

Revelation 13:16-17 says the beast forces all “to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, and that no one may buy or sell except one who has the mark . . .” The mark of the beast is a symbol of rebellion against God, of disloyalty to God’s government. Those allied with the beast receive this mark. But another group receive a different mark. Revelation 7:2-3 says “the servants of our God will be sealed on their foreheads” with “the seal of the living God.” They’re God’s faithful people, the remnant. Revelation 14:12 calls them “the saints . . . those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.” The seal of God is contained in His law. Isaiah 8:16 says, “seal the law among my disciples.” See brief explanation on the next page (under subtitle “Authority”).

God calls the Sabbath His sign or seal, His mark of authority. What does the beast power claim as its mark of authority? See sample statements from Catholic Sources 9-10.

In the last days, two groups, two different marks: The mark of the beast and
1. The Bible says the Beast power would be a universal system, for “_________ the world wondered after the Beast . . . and power was given him over___________________ kindreds, and tongues, and nations.” But it would also be a religious system, for “they __________________________ the Beast. ” It’s a universal system of worship. (REVELATION 13:3, 7, 4, KJV)

2. The Biblical counterpart of the mark of the Beast is “the seal of the living God,” and the Bible uses the words “seal” and “sign” interchangeably. To check your answer, see Revelation 7:2-3, Romans 4:11. (COMPARE ESTHER 8:8; DANIEL 6:8; EZEKIEL 20:12, 20)

3. The Bible says the Beast wore “on his heads a blasphemous___________________ name . . . And he was given a mouth speaking great things and ________________.” (REVELATION 13:1, 5. COMPARE DANIEL 7:8, 20)

4. The Bible predicted the Beast power would persecute God’s faithful people, for “it was granted to him to_________ _________ with the saints, and to__________________ them.” (REVELATION 13:7. COMPARE DANIEL 7:21, 25)

5. “Power was given unto him [the Beast] to continue __________and __________ months,” which equals—since the Bible month is thirty days—1260 prophetic days or 1260 actual years, when understood on the Scriptural principle of “each ________________for a__________________.” (REVELATION 13:5, 12:6; EZEKIEL 4:6, KJV)

6. At the end of the 1260 years, the Beast would have "one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded” and "go into__________________” but that later “his deadly wound was _________________.” (REVELATION 13:3, 10)

Your Name: _______________________________________ Date ___________ __