

# Mark of the Beast Update

Fred R. Coulter

We are right on the verge as a people and society to enter into almost what people would describe as God-like abilities. The things that they have been researching, doing and preparing, the science that they have been developing and getting into is pointing toward a super race of human beings.

The *mark of the beast*, when comes and is enforced, is going to be greater, grander and more spectacular than people have ever thought. First of all, let's read where it talks about *the mark of the beast*. When you read the commentaries like Jamieson, Fausset and Brown and especially the commentaries by the Seventh-Day Adventists or Church of God Seventh-Day, they say that *the mark of the beast* will be Sunday-worship, and that we are headed for an avalanche of Sunday blue laws. They base that upon Rev. 13, because it says no man may buy or sell.

Let's read Rev. 13 and see what it's telling us, and then let's see what's happening in the world today to bring us to this point, to make it so natural, so accepted that those who won't receive it will be considered fools.

Revelation 13:11: "And I saw another beast rising out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, but spoke like a dragon; and he exercises all the authority of the first beast before him, and he causes the earth and those who dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed" (vs 11-12).

Remember that the first beast was given authority over all the earth. So, there has never been this kind of world government. We are getting closer and closer to it. But there is coming a great world government. There is coming, however it's going to work out, an amalgamation of religions led by one great religious leader, who we've always understood is probably being in the person of the pope.

The world is not going to be 'Catholicized'; everything is going to be Babylonianized. I think we will see, as the Catholic Church has been doing in communicating with the other 'religions' of the world, it's going to become more and more 'pagan' and accepting of other religions, and then there will be miracles that will take place to cause people to lower their resistance and join. Let's see what that will be.

Verse 13: "And he performs great wonders, so that he even causes fire to come down to the earth from heaven in the sight of men." This is going to be a phenomenal thing to happen. What are people

going to believe when they see it happen, and he says, 'I am from God.' Most people in the world, not knowing that there is a 'god of this world' who is Satan the devil!

Verse 14: "And he deceives those who dwell on the earth by means of the wonders that were given to him to perform in the sight of the beast... [This is going to be a phenomenal thing that's going to happen] ...saying to those who dwell on the earth that they should make an image for the beast, which had the wound by the sword, yet, was alive."

Someone just told me that in a chocolate factory there were drippings of chocolate that went on the floor and it dripped into what one person thought was the form of the virgin Mary, and now all the Catholics are coming there with candles and prayers and rosaries and so forth.

Just think what's going to happen when all of the news media records and says, 'Look, he called fire down from heaven! Everyone is going to go, 'Ohhh!' He's going to say, 'I call all religions to put down their warring and fighting among each other.' Peace! Then they all start joining. They all start falling in line.

Guess who's going to be like thumbs stuck in the air? *True Christians!* That will be a time of a great dividing line.

Verse 15: "And he was given power to give life to the image of the beast..." This is going to have to be a real thing, because there are going to be a lot of skeptics and technicians out there looking to prove that this was done by technology and not the real thing.

"...so that the image of the beast also could speak; and he causes everyone who will not worship the image of the beast to be killed" (v 15).

In every religion of the world, what is one of the main idols and images that they have? *Female goddesses!* {Note sermon: *What is the Image of the Beast*—it shows the image of the beast has always been a goddess, regardless of what her name is.}

If they do this to chocolate, what are they going to do with the real thing? You can almost hear it:

- God has ordained this
- God has come down to visit us
- God has come down to help solve all of our problems

I mean, you can almost write the script! So, *the first test* to receive *the mark of the beast* is that *you must*

*worship the image of the beast!* You have a foretaste of that in Dan. 3 with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. You know the rest of the story on that.

Verse 16: “And he... [the one whom the image was made after] ...causes **all**...” Let’s understand that the book of Revelation was meant to be understood in the last times. That’s why all commentary up to today, written years and years ago, is not relevant. These are events that are going to effect the whole world:

- all people
- all nations
- no one is going to be left out
- no one is going to be over in a corner
- the whole world is going to be involved

Verse 16: “And he causes all, **the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free and the bond**, to receive a mark in their right hands, **or** in their foreheads, so that no one may have the ability to buy and sell...” (vs 16-17). The Greek for “or” is more in meaning of *and*.

“...unless he has the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name” (v 17). So, this is going to be quite a phenomenal thing!

- What is it going to be?
- How is it going to be administered?
- How are people going to accept it?

I’ve got some very interesting things here to read. I’ve got a whole stack about *bio-chipping*. Today you can shop at the grocery store and you don’t need a checkbook, a pen, credit card or any cash. All you have to do is signup and let them take an identifying fingerprint of you, and you go through the store, show them your fingerprint and you’ve made your purchases.

Why are these things coming like this? *That is not the mark of the beast*, because your fingerprint is what God has created. However, it is *leading to the practice that will come to the mark of the beast*. When did all of this start?

[Illuminati Conspiracy Archive: RFID Tags: Microchip Implants, Mind Control, and Cybernetics](http://www.conspiracyarchive.com/NWO/microchip_implants_mind_control.htm)

[http://www.conspiracyarchive.com/NWO/microchip\\_implants\\_mind\\_control.htm](http://www.conspiracyarchive.com/NWO/microchip_implants_mind_control.htm)

In 1948 Norbert Wiener published a book, *Cybernetics*, defined as a neurological communication and control theory already in use in small circles at that time. Yoneji Masuda, “Father of the Information Society,” stated his concern in 1980 that our liberty is threatened Orwellian-style by cybernetic technology totally unknown to

most people. This technology links the brains of people via implanted microchips to satellites controlled by ground-based supercomputers.

They’ve actually been doing this for many years, as early as 1974.

Thirty years ago brain implants showed up in X-rays the size of one centimeter. Subsequent implants shrunk to the size of a grain of rice....

The next time you go to cook some rice, take a little grain and take it aside and just look at it. When you look at it, think how many people are going to say that this is just an innocent thing. After all, in today’s world what do we need more than anything else? *Some system so people will be law-abiding!* This is the answer!

It is technically possible for every newborn to be injected with a microchip, which could then function to identify the person for the rest of his or her life. Such plans are secretly being discussed in the U.S. without any public airing of the privacy issues involved. In Sweden, Prime Minister Olof Palme gave permission in 1973... were implanted in the mid-1980s....

Implanted human beings can be followed anywhere....

***They want to control your thoughts!*** It will always come out under the guise of a ‘good thing.’ How can we solve the sexual predator problem that is so prevalent in America and in the world today? *Every convicted sexual predator should be chipped and have a special chip so that monitors—back as central headquarters, the monitoring section for sexual predators—can see when this person’s brainwaves are indicating that he’s about ready to perform something!* They can push the buttons on the monitor and can change the emotions and the thoughts of that individual.

What would people say? *Right on! Let’s do it!* If you go online and you look where all the sexual predators live, who have been released from prison, you’re going to find that he’s just around the corner.

Guinea pigs in secret experiments have included prisoners, soldiers, mental patients, handicapped children, deaf and blind people, homosexuals, single women, the elderly, school children, and any group of people considered “marginal” by the elite experimenters....

Today’s microchips operate by means of low-frequency radio waves that target them. With the help of satellites, the implanted person can be tracked anywhere on the globe....

Mind control techniques can be used for political purposes....

Don't have to fudge the election anymore, just throw the switch! Change people's minds!

...The goal of mind controllers today is to induce the targeted persons or groups to act against his or her own convictions and best interests....

What we're seeing is that ***if you receive the mark of the beast you are giving up your free will!*** That's going to be a key, important thing to remember.

Targeting people's brain functions with electromagnetic fields and beams (from helicopters and airplanes, satellites, from parked vans, neighboring houses, telephone poles, electrical appliances, mobile phones, TV, radio, etc.) is part of the radiation problem that should be addressed...

*Of course, no one is going to be able to stop it.*

Are we ready for the robotization of mankind and the total elimination of privacy, including freedom of thought?

We'll see how God wants it done! We'll see how Satan wants it done! The ***mark of the beast is Satan's plan to totally control the human race!*** It's going to be something!

About VeriChip Corporation  
(<http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20050401005301/en/Applied-Digitals-VeriChip-Corporation-Completes-Acquisition-eXI>)

VeriChip Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Applied Digital, provides leading-edge security solutions for people, their assets, and their environments. From the world's first and only FDA-cleared, human-implantable microchip to the only active RFID tag with patented skin-sensing capabilities,

Some of these terminologies, when we get into it, is going to be something! The last article I'm going to read is entitled Quantum Leap. A whole new level of computers, a whole new level of ability, a whole new level of things that they can do to control human beings.

There are a new contracts that VeriChip has; getting more and more medical hospitals and clinics to have the reader so the person can come in with the chip and have everything about their medical history. They want to expand the memory of the chip so that they can put on it the whole history of your health through your whole life, and they know all about you.

Just think of this when it comes to airport security; think what they can do.

Applied Digital gets GSA [Government Services Administration).  
(<http://www.bizjournals.com/southflorida/stories/2003/03/24/daily55.html>)

Applied Digital announced its government telecommunications (GTI) unit had been awarded a multi-year contract by the General Services Administration's Federal Technology Service as part of the agency's \$35 billion Connections program.

That's a lot of money. Their intent on really doing something with this!

Guess who left the G.W. Bush Administration to go to Applied Digital? *Tommy Thompson, Secretary of Health!* He is all for these methods of being able to track people to know about their health and everything like this.

BioChip Featured at Government Health Showcase (<http://www.wnd.com/2004/04/24401/>)

"All of us at VeriChip and ADS are honored that the Department of Health and Human Services has chosen the VeriChip technology to be a part of the Steps to a Healthier U.S. Summit..."

Then they give the interviews there of it. Here are some thing from Katherine Albrecht. She wrote the book *Super Cards, the Tip of the Retail Surveillance Iceberg*.

RFID: Tracking everything, everywhere by Katherine Albrecht  
([http://www.spychips.com/rfid\\_overview.html](http://www.spychips.com/rfid_overview.html))

"In five to ten years whole new ways of doing things will emerge and gradually become commonplace. Expect big changes"

How many have gone into a store and written a check and they rang up the transaction and they gave you back the check? *You don't need checks, they can do it instantly!* So much for privacy.

Supermarket cards and retail surveillance devices are merely the opening volley of the marketers' war against consumers. If consumers fail to oppose these practices now, our long-term prospects may look like something from a dystopian science fiction novel.

A new consumer goods tracking system called Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) is poised to enter all of our lives, with profound implications for consumer privacy. RFID couples radio frequency (RF) identification technology with highly miniaturized computers that enable

products to be identified and tracked at any point along the supply chain.

*Isn't it going to be a good thing, stop all thievery?*

Receiver or reader devices are used to pick up the signal transmitted by the RFID tag. Proponents envision a pervasive global network of millions of receivers along the entire supply chain—in airports, seaports, highways, distribution centers, warehouses, retail stores, and in the home....

What you do, you don't bring it on as a point of identification first, you bring in all the function of the commerce first, and then you come back and say, 'We need also perfect identification.

Steven Van Fleet, an executive at International Paper, looks forward to the prospect. "We'll put a radio frequency ID tag on everything that moves in the North American supply chain"...

The ultimate goal is for RFID to create a "physically linked world" in which every item on the planet is numbered, identified, catalogued, and tracked. And the technology exists to make this a reality. Described as "a political rather than a technological problem," creating a global system "would... involve negotiation between, and consensus among, different countries." Supporters are aiming for worldwide acceptance of the technologies needed to build the infrastructure within the next few years.

Consumer marketing applications will decimate privacy

*Don't you think have any privacy left today.*

"...In an industry first, RFID enables the linking of all this product information with a specific consumer identified by key demographic and psychographic markers....Where once we collected purchase information, now we can correlate multiple points of consumer product purchase with consumption specifics such as the how, when and who of product use."

*That's only part of it! They're working on thing even beyond this!*

Quantum Leap

([http://archive.fortune.com/magazines/fortune/fortune\\_archive/2006/08/07/8382582/index.htm](http://archive.fortune.com/magazines/fortune/fortune_archive/2006/08/07/8382582/index.htm))

Brain prosthetics. Telepathy. Punctual flights. A futurists vision of where quantum computers will take us. By Peter Schwartz and Rita Koselka, Fortune Magazine; Aug. 1 2006

Let me tell you a little about a quantum computer, because if you a silicone chip, everyone knows you can only put so much information on it. When it operates it generates heat. So, the key to getting it miniaturized—and I mean miniaturized—down to less than the width of a hair, where they can put fantastic amounts of information on it.

It is the quantum science that they use where they take magnetic fields and stack them one upon another. When you stack these magnetic fields with opposite poles the magnetic energy within there is spinning. With it they can now change the spin and record a lot of information on it. It's quite a thing that they are doing. Here is what they perceive to do:

Let me read you the life a futuristic woman in 2030:

Sharon laughs. It is her 24th birthday, and she has little idea what the world was like before the cubits...

*The quantum things that they're talking about*

—the smallest pieces of quantum information—took over.

She dresses and picks out a stylish straw fedora.

A hat, because what they are proposing is a headband with a sensor and they will be able to communicate things to people instantly, even make you see it. Even divide part of your vision so there's a little screen so you can read messages while you're driving to the airport. This is awesome stuff, and they say, 'Don't laugh at this,' because they're right on the verge of doing it.

Quantum computing has brought an unexpected revival in haberdashery: Inside the hatband is Sharon's communication center and intelligent assistant, which has scanned and sorted the 500,000 e-mails she received overnight.

By the time she reaches the car, it has beamed the 10 most urgent ones and her travel schedule to her visual cortex....

*part of her eye*

The text scrolls down in the bottom of her field of vision.

The Hydrogen Honda...

*the car she's driving*

...knows it is going to be an unseasonably warm day—indeed, thanks to quantum computer simulations it has known today's temperature for five years—and rolls the top down for her. Sharon drives to the freeway, steers into the Smart Lane then relinquishes the wheel....

Imagine this: drive on the freeway with no traffic jams, no wrecks, no slowdowns, everything right on top of it. You just sit there and do what you've always wanted to do, put your makeup on, read a book. Why read a book, just push a button and it will come down and you can read it. Why even read it, just say, 'Put it in my mind and give me instant recall.'

This is the world we're coming to, and people are getting near to God-like abilities, *they will think! But you cannot have God-like powers without God-like character!* That's the long and the short.

What did Satan tell Adam and Eve at the beginning? *Eat of this tree you will become like gods, deciding what is good and evil!* That precisely what people are doing here.

In any prophecy like this, this is where we always end up anyway. We have found this through the years, when we read a Scripture that we've understood at one time, and then given more time as we go closer and closer to the end, we see how much more meaningful and greater the fulfillment of these prophecies are.

Genesis 11:1: "And the whole earth was of one language... [computer language] ...and one speech. And it came to pass, as they traveled from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar. And they settled there. And they said to one another, 'Come, let us make bricks and burn them thoroughly.' And they had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar. And they said, 'Come, let us build us a city and a tower, *with its top reaching into the heavens....*'" (vs 1-4). What is man's goal? *Go to heaven!*

As far as going to the moon is an accomplishment that people thought, that was compared to the universe, that's hardly even a sliver of distance. Isn't it what man wants to do, get into heaven? *Yes, indeed!* So, they were scattered!

Verse 5: "And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men had built. And the LORD said, 'Behold, the people *are* one and they all have one language. And this *is only the beginning of* what they will do—now **nothing**, which they have imagined to do... [I've read it here with some of the science that they're doing] ...will be restrained from them. Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, so that they cannot understand one another's speech'" (vs 5-7).

Whatever man can imagine to do, given enough time he can do it, *with one exception: he cannot give himself eternal life!* Everything else he can come close to doing.

(continuing this typical day of Sharon)

...The hatband screens a birthday video from her parents and a super-encrypted memo from her boss.

At the airport there is no ticket check-in or security line.

No standing hours in line. Some people have had to go to the airport four hours in advance. Can you imagine what it would be with this device: *we know you, we can track you, we can read your thoughts, we know you're safe;* all you have to do is just show up and tip your hat to the ticket agent and go in—no ticket.

Sharon simply walks through the revolving door, which scans her for dangerous items, picks up her identity, confirms her reservation, and delivers her gate number, all in the space of a second....

*These things are possible!*

...She doesn't even bother to check whether the plane is on time, since flight patterns are as computable as the weather, O'Hare hasn't had a late departure in five years.

*This is closer than you think!*

"The age of computing has not even begun," says Stan Williams, a research scientist at Hewlett-Packard. What we have today are tiny toys not much better than an abacus....

*A Chinese calculator!*

...The challenge is to approach the fundamental laws of physics as closely as we can."

That's how fantastic that these processes are going to be, that they're saying that the age of computing has not even begun.

Traditional computing, with its ever more microscopic circuitry etched in silicon, can take us only so far...

Then he talks about the magnetics and so forth.

It is my belief that before the Flood and right after the Flood they had knowledge on how to use the magnetic powers of the earth to move these huge stones that you see in these ancient civilizations.

Every time you see a documentary of the ancient Peruvians you see that all of their palaces and houses built on one mountain and a one-thousand foot ravine and it goes up and they show the quarry where they get the rocks to put on the other side. How did they get from there down four

thousand feet and up four thousand feet to build those buildings.

When you have control of magnetics, like these maglev trains; they weigh nothing. You can move them by merely pushing them with hardly any energy. I believe that's what they had.

Let's see some more about this. Who is involved in it? Who is behind it? Let's see that there's another aspect of this that people do not understand, and why they will be so willing to go for this. They can approach it this way.

'We can stop almost all crime, all thievery—nearly all of it; we will have no identification theft. We'll be able to collect all of our taxes; no one will be able to cheat.' Amazing! People will say that's wonderful! But they're going to bring everything else in with it, because ***there is a power behind this that wants to control every human being in the world!***

Ephesians 2:1: "Now, you were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you walked in times past according to the course of this world..." (vs 1-2). I've been reading to you the modern course of the world!

"...according to the prince of the power of the air..." (v 2). That's Satan the devil.

- How are all of these things being done and transmitted? *Through the air!*
- How much influence can Satan have once that gets going? *We don't know!*

"...the spirit that is now working within the children of disobedience" (v 2). Think what it's going to be when they have the mark or band in their forehead or on their wrist. I suspect that only intelligencia and the government officials will have it on their forehead. All the rest of the peons will just have it on their right hand.

Satan is going to be there! If you think that he can do things now without it, think of what he can do *with it*, especially if there are no constraints on sexual behavior. Eventually, that's what it gets down to. You can see the ad: Hey, we don't need anymore of these great fantastic things to give you sexual prowess, just hook up to this system and we'll send it to you—BINGO!

Verse 3: "Among whom also we all once had our conduct in the lusts of our flesh, doing the things willed by the flesh and by the mind, and were by nature ***the children of wrath***, even as the rest of *the world*."

Who are going to be "...*the children of wrath*..." in the end? Who are going to especially suffer? *Those who have the mark of the beast!*

Why will it be wrong to take *the mark of the beast*? Add up all the benefits that are there:

1. it takes away your privacy
2. it takes away your choice

God has given us free moral agency and choice, and He doesn't want that taken away. There will be people who are willing to give themselves up to it. God wants us to develop character by choice. He does not want us to have implanted an artificially controlled lawfulness governed by other people and machines.

(go to the next track)

God gave choice to Adam and Eve (Gen. 2-3). God gives choice to every human being on earth. There comes a time when we're held accountable for our choices before God.

God does not want us to give up our free will and our free moral agency and our free choice to other human beings or to Satan the devil. God wants us to *choose*, and you can't choose when it's forced upon you.

This is the life story of every human being, every one of our lives down through time; Deuteronomy 30:15: "Behold, I have set before you this day life and good, and death and evil." Satan is over there saying, 'I'll show you a better way.' Always there to do it!

Verse 16: "In that **I command you** this day..." Notice that in every one of these reports that I've read, not only do they take away free choice, but ***there is no love!*** True love is a choice that you make, an on going choice that you keep improving upon as time goes by in your life.

"...to love the LORD your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His judgments so that you may live..." (v 16).

Let's understand that God made us in His image, given us *the spirit of man*, and made us to live by His laws. What did Jesus say? *Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God shall man live!* We were made to do that! When we don't do that, we are not fulfilling the purpose as to why we're here.

God made us to live in His laws. He also put automatic penalties that when a law is broken there is an automatic penalty that comes. It doesn't matter who you are, where you are, where you've been born, what country you live in. It doesn't matter whether you are highborn or lowborn, that's the way that it is.

He wants you to keep them "...so that you may live and multiply. And the LORD your God

shall bless you in the land where you go to possess it. But if your heart turn away so that you will not hear, but shall be drawn away and worship other gods and serve them, I denounce to you this day that you shall surely perish; you shall not prolong *your* days on the land where you pass over Jordan to go to possess it. **I call heaven and earth to record this day against you that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing. Therefore, choose life, so that both you and your seed may live**” (vs 16-19).

The next time you see a wonderful scene of the earth, you look out and see the heavens, that’s God witness to every human being, especially to us, that He has set these things before us. He has made these things so that we can become like Him! That’s why we’re made in the image of God; so that through conversion, the receiving of God’s Spirit, living by His laws and commandment we develop the character of God, which in receiving *the mark of the beast* it cannot be done!

Let’s see what God wants with our mind, spiritually speaking. God made our mind for this very purpose:

Hebrews 10:16: “‘This *is* the covenant that I will establish with them after those days,’ says *the* Lord, **I will give My laws into their hearts, and I will inscribe them in their minds.**” Our minds were made to receive this. Our minds were made to function with the laws of God written in our very being. Isn’t that something?

What is the most important thing that this accomplishes? Here is something that no machine—regardless of how sophisticated it is—can do. Isn’t it interesting that if you choose not to bow down to the *image of the beast* you are killed. How is that for love, mercy and forgiveness? ***There’s no love in it!*** Here is the most important thing:

Mark 12:29—after being questioned by one of the scribes: “Then Jesus answered him, ‘*The* first of all the commandments *is*, “Hear, O Israel. Our one God is *the* Lord, *the* Lord. And you shall love *the* Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.” This *is the* first commandment” (vs 29-30).

If someone is controlling your mind and thoughts, feeding you all kinds of information—telling you what to do, where to go and how to do it—how can you love God? I wonder if they’ll program the machine to not let you think those thoughts? *I don’t know!*

It’s quite an amazing thing that we’re facing! I mean, when you think about it, this is almost unbelievable that man could come to this

point, but he’s right on the cusp of doing it. The first thing they will destroy is loving God and keeping His commandments.

Verse 31: “And *the* second *is* like this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’....”

It takes away free choice, free will! Let’s look at some Proverbs and see what God wants us to do. By choice this is how we are to live our lives; then we will see that will progress into the very mind of Christ.

Proverbs 3:1: “My son, do not forget my law, but let your heart keep my commandments.” What I want you to do is keep in mind what we read in Heb. 10:16. The whole purpose of God is to have:

- His laws and commandments
- His love
- His character

written in our heart and mind so that we can receive eternal life.

Verse 2: “For they shall add length of days, and long life, and peace, to you. Do not let mercy and Truth forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them upon the tablet of your heart... [sounds like Heb. 10] ...and so you shall find favor and good understanding in the sight of God and man” (vs 2-4).

If you have this come to the point of *the mark of the beast*, and the quantum informational thing where they can feed everything into your mind:

- there’s no room for God
- there’s no room in trusting God
- there’s no room for faith

It will all be blasted in your mind, so that eliminates v 5: “Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and **lean not to your own understanding.**” Very important.

We all know that when we were young that you reach a certain point in your life that you begin trusting *in your own* understanding and you actually, in some cases, know more than your mother and father, which then gives you contempt toward them.

What that does, when you ***lean to your own understanding*** what are you leaning to? What is the carnal mind? ***Enmity against God!***

What is the human heart without God’s Spirit? *It is desperately wicked and deceitful above all things!* You don’t think so, because in that deception there are good things that can be done. People would look at this and say, that’s a ‘good’ thing. But what is truly good unless you know God’s way? So, don’t lean “...to your own understanding.”

What is that we have prevalent in the world

today? *Everybody's opinion counts and is true, if you believe it!* That's why we have the world the way that it is today.

Verse 6: "In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths." We have spoken about being led of the Holy Spirit. God will direct your paths, and He'll do it better than any machine. But you still have your free choice and your own emotions, and you still control your own mind.

You have the extra amount of God's Spirit given to you so that now you can fulfill the reason why you were created; that is to receive God's Spirit, to develop His character, to develop His mind ***so that you can be born again into the Kingdom of God at the resurrection when Jesus returns!***

Verse 7—everybody has to go through this: "Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and depart from evil." Here's what it's going to do for you: It's not religious 'goody-two-shoeism.' It is the reality of the Truth and power of God, and no one escapes it.

If you follow God's way, v 8: "It shall be health to your navel... [the inner part of your being] ...and marrow to your bones." What does the marrow produce in your body so that you may continue to live? *Red blood cells!*

Verse 9: "Honor the LORD with your substance and with the firstfruits of all your increase; and your barns shall be filled *with* plenty, and your presses shall burst *with* new wine" (vs 9-10).

Read the first eight chapters of Proverbs, and especially for the young people, think about what it is telling you for your life. Think about what God will do for you if you set about to obey Him. Think about what will happen to your life if you decide to *go your own way*. Those will be part of the choice, that you need to make.

Proverbs 4:20: "My son, attend to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Let them not depart from your eyes; keep them in the midst of your heart, for they *are* life to those who find them, and health to all their flesh" (vs 20-22).

Let's think about this. Satan comes along and how many millions of people does he have involved in so-called illicit drugs? What do they do to the body and the mind? *They destroy it!* Satan says, 'Oh, this is good for you. This will be fantastic.'

I saw a special on methamphetamines and a woman said that she took it one time and she knew that was it. It was so exhilarating and they gave her enough that she stayed awake for two and a half

days. But a year later she was a total wreck: ulcers bursting out on her face, losing weight—skin and bones—totally addicted to it. It took her a full three years to overcome that addiction; *just once!* The TV special is called *Dying for Meth*.

Here's the key, v 23: "**Above all guard the door of your mind with diligence...**" How do you do that? *Your give your life, your mind, your heart, your thoughts over to the control of someone else, which the mark of the beast will do!*

Satan's solution for a lawless society is to chip them all and control them all. Take away their free choice and now he's 'gottcha!' ***God's solution is to repent and choose the good! Learn to love God and let Him bless you!***

Verse 24: "Put away from you a deceitful mouth, and devious lips put far from you. Let your eyes look right on... straight ahead] ...and let your eyelids look straight before you" (vs 23-24). When you are confronted with a life decision:

- What are you going to do?
- Who are you going to believe?
- What is your life going to be?

Verse 26: "Ponder the path of your feet... [Where are you going? *Consider the end of it before your start it!*] ...and all your ways will be established. Do not turn to the right hand nor to the left; remove your foot from evil" (vs 26-27).

Psa. 119 was sung by memory at that the temple; it's called the Psalm of Degree. As you look at this Psa. you see that each group of eight verses is the Hebrew alphabet (22 letters). Each line in each section begins with the letter of the alphabet it starts with. These were sung by memory at the temple by the Levitical singers.

Here's how you develop your mind and your character. Yes, you need to educate yourself; you need to understand the things that you do in business that are right and good and all of that. But this is your *character education*, which is the most important. ***Character is the most important thing that you need to develop!*** Here's how you do it, praying to God:

Psalm 119:27: "Make me to understand the way of Your precepts..." Ask God to give you understanding; He will!

"...and so shall I speak of Your wonderful works... [for God's way] ...My soul melts away for sorrow; strengthen me according to Your Word" (vs 27-28). That's why it's so important that you study. Because when you study, and with God's Spirit with you, God is speaking to you, and He will help you develop the character.

Verse 29: “Remove from me the way of lying... [that’s how you overcome a deceitful nature; ask God to help you do it] ...and grant me Your Law graciously. **I have chosen the way of Truth...**” (vs 29-30)—God’s way! That’s what we need to continuously choose.

“...I have laid Your judgments before me. I cleave to Your testimonies; O LORD, do not put me to shame. **I will run the way of Your commandments for You shall enlarge my heart**” (vs 30-32). Everything you do based upon that!

Let’s see what else we are to do in developing the character of God. If someone is funneling all of this to you via a satellite or computer, then you have no choice in it.

Psalms 39:1: “I said, ‘I will take heed to my ways so that I do not sin with my tongue...’” You have to choose to overcome sin. You have to choose to not sin. Just like those who sin, they have to choose *to sin!*

Example: If you’re going to steal, you’re going to *choose* to sin. If a person commits adultery, you *choose to sin!*

Someone here had an interesting conversation with a Lt. Colonel in the United States Air Force. He verified everything that I said in what I’ve read. They’re on the cutting edge of all of this already. They’re going to make the superhuman soldier and pilot by using the things through the visual cortex like I read to be able to spot missiles, enemy planes, etc. They already have this; he had identification that he had to carry with him at all times, and they know where is if his identification is with him.

By the way, watch the ads. Walt Disney has sold cell phones for children that let’s the parents know where the children are at all times, at least where the cell phone is. It’s being introduced everywhere.

One of the key things that we need to understand is that of and by ourselves we are incomplete. Science is trying to fill the vacuum with the things that we talked about, when the only way to fill the vacuum is with God’s Spirit. God made us incomplete, needing:

- His Spirit
- His laws
- His commandments
- His love
- His character

He made us to receive it and to do it! But one of the things in order for us to receive the fullness of that is to have the kind of attitude that David had here:

Verse 4: “**O LORD, make me to know my end and the measure of my days, what it is, that I may know how short lived I am.**” Understand your weaknesses! Come to God with that.

Verse 5: “Behold, You have made my days as a handbreadth, and the span of my days is as nothing before You. Surely every man at his best state is altogether vanity. Selah.” When we understand how we are, and we need God’s help, then we need to let Him give us that help by His Holy Spirit and through His Word.

Here’s what we are to do, 2-Pet. 3, and we’ll give you the solution because we are build the character of God, the character of Christ.

2-Peter 3:18: “Rather, be growing in *the* grace and *the* knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ...” How do we do that?

*We grow in grace and knowledge through the power of God’s Holy Spirit and we overcome sin.* We read a little bit of it (Prov.). Let’s see how God wants us, with our own choices, with our own understanding, using our own free will—using God’s Spirit with the power of His laws and commandment—here’s what we are to do and how we are to be changed. This is the day-to-day operation of developing the character of God:

- coming from sinfulness to righteousness
- coming from self-will to God-will

2-Corinthians 10:3: “For although we walk in *the* flesh... [which we do; we are fleshly human beings] ...we do not war according to *the* flesh.” Life, when you understand it, is a spiritual battle between God and Satan and you have to choose whom you’re going to follow.

Verse 4: “For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal...”

- you can’t do this by psychology
- you can’t do this by human means

“...but mighty through God to *the* overthrowing of strongholds”—the human mind!

Here’s what we are to do, and remember we read about imaginations; v 5: “Casting down *vain* imaginations...” That’s how we change, grow and overcome.

“...and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God... [here is the operation of that]: ...and **bringing into captivity every thought into the obedience of Christ**” (v 5).

What do you do when a thought comes along that you know is sin? and you know you don’t want it? and you know you want to get rid of it? *You repent and pray about it! You bring that thought into*

*control and get rid of it!* That's how you do it. It may come back, and you do it again.

I remember I was fighting a particular battle with a particular thought that just wouldn't go away. So, finally I said, 'O God, please! Please just take this from my remembrance, take this from my thoughts that I won't think of it again!' *And God did!*

Lust comes along and it toys with the mind. It sounds interesting, sounds good and exhilarating. 'Oh, this is going to be great and marvelous. I know it's not quite right, but just think how much fun it would be, or how much advantage it would be.' ***Those are the thoughts to bring into captivity and reject it to the obedience of Christ!***

Verse 6: "And having a readiness to avenge all disobedience, whenever your obedience has been fulfilled." That's the operation of it.

Let's see what we are to put in place of it. Gal. 5 talks about all the fruits of the flesh, and there are plenty of them. You can read the works of the flesh, all of them.

This ties in with 2-Cor. 10; Galatians 5:19: "Now, the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, licentiousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, strifes, jealousies, indignations, contentions, divisions, sects, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revelings, and such things as these; concerning which I am telling you beforehand, even as I have also said in the past, that **those who do such things shall not inherit the Kingdom of God**" (vs 19-21).

This is the battle of the carnal mind, and the tools of Satan the devil. What is one of the first things that he gets people involved in? *Some kind of sex problem!* We can look back on our own lives and in our own way we were bothered by it or because of it. What did it lead to? *A lot of trouble and difficulty!*

Here's what we replace it with, v 24: But those who *are* Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and lusts.... [that's also involved with baptism] ...If we live by *the Spirit*, we should also be walking by *the Spirit*" (vs 24-25).

Verse 22: "But the fruit of the Spirit is **love**..." the more you love God, the more you love His way, His Word, His Truth—the things of God—*the more you will love God and God will love you!* You will be able to recognize and feel that love that God gives to you through His Spirit.

"...**joy**..." (v 22). What we need in all the trouble that's going on is the joy of knowing the Truth of God is going to prevail. We all have enough problems and difficulties that we need some joy in our lives that comes from God's Spirit.

"...**peace**..." (v 22). Peace of mind, peace

with God, with ourselves, with our neighbors, with one another.

"...**longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faith, meekness, self-control**; against such things there is no law. But those who *are* Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and lusts. If we live by *the Spirit*, we should also be walking by *the Spirit*" (vs 22-25).

The ultimate of all of this will be the *mind of Christ!* The whole goal of God's way is so that we develop the mind of Christ. We develop starting with obeying God's laws, because God's laws come from the mind of God. When we learn to think the way that God wants us to think—as I mentioned, through the Proverbs—then we add to that:

- the Spirit of God
- the Spirit of the Law
- the love of God
- understanding our relationship with God

***then we can develop the mind of Christ!*** This is what God wants! Rather than have someone control our minds and thoughts, telling us what is good, what is evil, and flood our mind with all kinds of things. Let your mind be filled ***with the Holy Spirit of God! with the Word of God!***

Philippians 2:1: "Now then, if *there be* any encouragement in Christ..." We need encouragement in Christ. He is our Savior, our Lord, our Master. He is for us! Think of this for just a minute: God is ***for you!*** Don't think God is against you.

Sin is against you! And God is willing to forgive the sin upon repentance. That's how much God is ***for you!*** God is ***for you*** so much that He sent His only begotten Son to be the sacrifice for the sin of the world! ***Believing in Him we can have eternal life!*** God wants us to grow and develop.

"...if any comfort of love... [love is what comforts] ...if any fellowship of *the Spirit*, if any *deep* inner affections and compassions" (v 1). We are to be totally involved in this with God.

Verse 2: "Fulfill my joy that you be of the same mind, having the same love, being joined together in soul, **mind the one thing**." What is the one thing we're to mind? ***Attaining to the Kingdom of God!***

Verse 3: "***Let*** nothing *be* done through contention or vainglory, but in humility, each esteeming the others above himself." That's how we need to do it!

Verse 4: "Let each one look not *only* after his own things, but *let* each one also *consider* the things of others. **Let this mind be in you**... [which we just read] ...***which was also in Christ Jesus***" (vs

4-5). Notice what God did, and think about our lives.

- How much does God ask of me to sacrifice to serve Him?
- What have I done?

Ask that of yourself! Think about all of those in the past, who—for the love of God—gave their lives. Now think about the love of God for us. This is what Christ did:

Verse 6: “Who, although He existed in *the* form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God.” We know that He was God before He became a human being.

Verse 7: “**But emptied Himself...**” How much are you willing to give up? The truth is, God expects you to give up your whole self to Him, by choice!

- Satan wants you to give up your whole self to him, **so he can control you.**
- God wants you to give up yourself to Him **so you can become His!**

*Quite a different proposition!*

And to show you that He wants it that way, He “...emptied Himself...”

- He gave up His glory
- He gave up His power

Because human flesh and the power and glory of God cannot exist in the same body.

- He took upon Him the same nature that we have
- He was tempted in all ways like we are

*yet, never sinned*

- *so that we can be saved*
- *so that we can become like Him*

“...and was made in *the* likeness of men, and took the form of a servant; and being found in *the* manner of man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even *the* death of *the* cross” (vs 7-8). That’s why we are to:

- crucify the flesh daily
- follow Christ daily
- overcome daily

In all of this we develop the mind of Christ and the character of God.

Verse 9: “Therefore, God has also highly exalted Him and bestowed upon Him a name, which *is* above every name; that **at the name of Jesus every knee should bow...**” (vs 9-10). It’s going to happen one day sooner or later; God wishes that it be by repentance and free choice. But if not, ***the knee is going to bow, one way or the other!***

“...of *beings* in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord to *the* glory of God *the* Father.... [here’s the final admonition]: ...So then, my beloved, even as you have always obeyed...” (vs 10-12). God does not want hypocritical behavior.

“...not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. **For it is God Who works in you...**” (vs 12-13). That’s what you want, God working in you!

- not Satan
- not some chip
- not some electric beam from some place

*to guide and control your life!* But God working in you “...both to will...” (v 13).

- He will give you *the will*
- He will give you *the desire*
- He will give you *the understanding*
- He will give you *of His Spirit*
- He will give you *of His love*

“...and to do according to *His* good pleasure. Do all things without complaints and disputes” (vs 13-14). That’s kind of hard in this world, but we need to do the best we can with it.

Verse 15: “So that you may be blameless... [that’s how God wants you before Him] ...and without offense, **innocent children of God in the midst of a crooked and perverted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world.**” That’s what God wants from us!

***That’s the difference in God’s way and the mark of the beast!***

All Scriptures from *The Holy Bible in Its Original Order, A Faithful Version*

Scriptural References:

- 1) Revelation 13:11-17
- 2) Genesis 11:1-7
- 3) Ephesians 2:1-3
- 4) Deuteronomy 30:15-19
- 5) Hebrews 10:16
- 6) Mark 12:29-31
- 7) Proverbs 3:1-10
- 8) Proverbs 4:20-27
- 9) Psalm 119:27-32
- 10) Psalm 39:1, 4-5
- 11) 2 Peter 3:18
- 12) 2 Corinthians 10:3-6
- 13) Galatians 5:19-21, 24-25, 22-25
- 14) Philippians 2:1-15

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

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