

*What does it mean to receive the mark of the beast?*

Receiving the Mark of the Beast includes symbolism and volition (Re 13:16-17). Men will have a choice to receive or refuse the mark.

We are told in scripture where it will be applied--either on the right hand or on the forehead (v. 16) and why it will be applied—without it no one will be able to buy or sell at a time of scarcity (v. 17).

Those committed to self, sin and Satan will accept the mark. Those who refuse it (proving they are believers) will be persecuted and martyred primarily at the hands of the Antichrist.

Receiving the mark involves a conscious decision after having been warned by an angel (Re 14:9, 11), rather than it being involuntarily imposed.

The wicked take the mark and they are eternally condemned, whereas the tribulation saints who hold fast to their faith and refuse it live and reign with Christ for a thousand years (Re 20:4).

Though the saints are defeated and die on the earth; they are assured of God's final judgment in their favor and an eventual possession of God's kingdom (Re 7:13–17).