

## Afterward

As semiotics has taught endtime disciples, a sign is dependent upon its context for its meaning, with this being absolutely the case in the Tribulation and the Endurance: during the first 1260 days of the seven endtime years, Sabbath observance will mark those disciples (i.e., Christians) who are of God; whereas during the last 1260 days, the cross will mark those *Christians* who are of the Antichrist and who have marked themselves for death when Christ Jesus returns. Although not usually realized, the cross represents death today, with the empty cross of Protestant Christendom being for this Christian variant the sign that Jesus has overcome death and has risen from the dead. The Universal Church has Jesus hanging dead on the cross, with this conjoined sign used to represent that salvation comes to humankind through Jesus' death. So for both Protestant and Catholic, the cross is the sign for death. And to wear a cross as an outward representation that the person is a *Christian* conveys to the world the message that this person is willing to die for Jesus as Jesus died; the person has marked him or herself for physical death.

For one last time let it be remembered that the physical reveals and precedes the spiritual in all things, including especially the sign that marks the person for death. While the cross in this era marks the person for physical death, disclosing to the world that its bearer is willing to die for God as Jesus died (for the disciple is not above his or her teacher — Matt 10:24 *et al*), the cross in the Tribulation will identify its bearer as a *Christian* after the order and type of present day Christianity, meaning simply that the cross will identify its bearer as a Trinitarian or an Arian disciple, therefore aligned with either the King of the South or the King of the North, both demonic beasts. When all of Christendom has been truly born of God and born filled with spirit, with the Torah written on hearts and placed in minds so that both brother and neighbor know the Lord, genuine Christians will believe the Lord and will make their belief/faith complete by putting into practice those things that are pleasing to God, even to their willingness to sacrifice themselves as Abraham was willing to sacrifice Isaac, declaring beforehand that he and the lad would return after worshiping the Lord (Gen 22:5). But Christian martyrdom is never suicide: Christian martyrdom will occur when other *Christians*, seeking God's favor, kill genuine disciples that refuse to continue worshiping demons.

The person who kills others in the name of God is a murderer: his or her god is the Adversary; for God, who is slow to anger, does not need help when it comes time to take life from lawless disciples. He doesn't need men to do His work for Him. He has angels at His beck and call who are well able to throw the seed of the Adversary into the lake of fire.

The infamous mark of the beast (Rev 13:18) that the Antichrist will require all who would buy and sell to bear during the 1260 days of the Endurance is written as  $\chi\xi s'$  — *chi xi stigma* — with  $\chi$  (*chi*), since the 4<sup>th</sup>-Century CE, being the agreed upon short form of "Christ," with this Greek substitution most commonly seen in the linguistic icon *Xmas*. And until the 4<sup>th</sup>-Century, the cross was visibly represented by an "x"; so in  $\chi\xi$  is seen *Christ's cross*.

Again, a sign has meaning within the context in which it appears: to Christians today,  $\chi\xi$  doesn't represent Christ's cross, but it will during the Endurance when all of humankind will be born of God and will have the Torah (from Jer 31:33) written on hearts and placed in minds. The context for John's vision is the Affliction [Tribulation] and the Endurance (the last 2520 days before Christ returns), when he would be a brother and partner to endtime disciples. So the theologian or philosopher who argues today that  $\chi\xi$  doesn't mean or represent Christ's cross argues from ignorance although

this highly educated person will concede that *stigma* [s] might well mean a tattoo or a mark made by two sharpened sticks.

The mark of the beast that Satan, when cast from heaven (Rev 12:7–10), will require all of his escaped (because Christ has freed them) servants to take in order to buy and sell is the tattoo of the cross. It is not a person's Social Security number; it is not an implanted microchip; it is not a magical number. It is not any of those things about which disciples today speculate. It is mental subservience to the cross and physical tattooing of a cross on the hand. And the person who, during the Endurance, so marks him or herself has voluntarily marked him or herself for death, both physical and spiritual when Jesus returns; for during the Endurance the cross moves from physically marking a person for death (the first death) to marking the person for the second death, the lake of fire.

Therefore, the sincere disciple who reads this while wearing a cross needs to understand that although marking him or herself as a Christian willing to die as Jesus died, the disciple has not yet marked him or herself for death in the lake of fire. There is still time enough to take off that cross and begin to keep the Sabbath and to celebrate life in God's presence ... the Lord takes no pleasure in your death (Ezek 18:32) so why will you mark yourself for death in this world, let alone in the world to come?

\* \* \* \* \*