

Rome. During the Easter service of 1845, Pope Gregory XVI wore a triple crown upon which was the inscription, in jewels, Vicarius Filii Dei. We were told that there were one hundred diamonds in the word Dei; the other words were of some other kind of precious stones of a darker color. There was one word upon each crown, and not all on the same line. I was present at the service, and saw the crown distinctly, and noted it carefully. "In 1850 I was converted to God and to Protestantism. Two years later I entered the Evangelical Church ministry, but later in life I united with the Presbyterian Church, of which I am now a retired pastor, having been in the ministry for fifty years. {DAR 625.1-3}. "I have made the above statement at the request of Elder D.E. Scoles, as he states that some deny that the pope ever wore this tiara. But I know that he did, for I saw it upon his head. "Sincerely yours in Christian service, (Signed) "B. HOFFMAN., "Webb City, Mo., Oct. 29, 1906."

The following extract is from a work entitled The Reformation, bearing the date of 1832: "Mrs. A.,' said Miss Emmons, 'I saw a very curious fact the other day; I have dwelt upon it much, and will mention it. A person, lately, was witnessing a ceremony of the Romish Church. As the pope passed him in procession, splendidly dressed in his pontifical robes, the gentleman's eye rested on these full, blazing letters in front of his miter: "VICARIUS FILLII DEI," the Vicar of the Son of God. His thoughts, with the rapidity of lightning, reverted to Rev.13:18.' 'Will you turn to it?' said Mrs. A. Alice opened the New Testament and read: 'Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.' She paused, and Miss Emmons said, 'He took out his pencil, and marking the numerical letters or the inscription on his tablet, it stood 666.'" {DAR 626.1-4}.

Here we have indeed the number of a man, even the "man of sin;" and it is a little singular, perhaps providential, that he should select a title which shows the blasphemous character of the beast, and then cause it to be inscribed upon his miter, as if to brand himself with the number 666. The foregoing extract doubtless refers to a particular pope on a particular occasion. Other popes might not wear the title emblazoned on the miter, as there stated. But this does not affect the application

at all; for the popes all assume to be the "Vicar of Christ" (see Standard Dictionary under "vicar"), and the Latin words given above are the words which express that title, in the form "vicar of the Son of God;" and their numerical value is 666. {DAR 626.5}.

Thus closes chapter 13, leaving the people of God with the powers of earth in deadly array against them, and the decrees of death and banishment from society upon them for their adherence to the truth. Spiritualism will be, at the time specified, performing its most imposing wonders, deceiving all the world except the elect. Matt.24:24; 2Thess.2:8-12. This will be the "hour of temptation," or trial, which is to come, as the closing test, upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth, as mentioned in Rev.3:10. What is the issue of this conflict? This important inquiry is not left unanswered. The first five verses of the following chapter, which should have been numbered as a part of this, complete the chain of this prophecy, and reveal the glorious triumph of the champions of the truth. {DAR 627.1}

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*This tract is a 'must read'!*

**666**  
**The number of the**  
**Beast**

The crisis is stealing gradually upon us. Satan sees that his time is short. He has set all his agencies at work that men whom he has deceived, receive the mark of the beast.

To receive the mark of the beast in the forehead is, we understand, to give the assent of the mind and judgment to his authority in the adoption of that institution which constitutes the mark. By parity of reasoning, to receive it in the hand would be to signify allegiance by some outward act. {DAR 623.4}.

“John was called to behold a people distinct from those who worship the beast and his image, by keeping the first day of the week. The observance of this day is the mark of the beast.” (7BC 979). "VERSE 18. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast; for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six." {DAR 624.1}.

### THE NUMBER 666

The number 666 is famously identified in Revelation 13:18 as the "number of the beast," often interpreted in prophetic studies as a symbol of human authority, opposition to God, or specific historical figures. “The thing that has been it is that which shall be: and that which is done is that which shall be done and there is no new thing under the sun.” (Eccl. 1:9). “That which has been is now; and that which is to be hath already been and God requires that which is passed.” (Eccl. 3:15). “Past history will be repeated...Study Revelation in connection with Daniel; for history will be repeated.” (TM 116).

The number of the beast, says the prophecy, "is the number of a man;" and if it is to be derived from a name or title, the natural conclusion would be that it must be the name or title of some particular man. The most plausible expression we have seen suggested as containing the number of the beast, is the title which the pope takes to himself, and allows others to apply to him. That title is this: VICARIOUS FILII DEI, "Vicegerent of the Son of God." Taking the letters out of this title which the Latins used as numerals, and giving them their numerical value, we have just 666.



On top of this crown is written the following Latin words: “VICARIUS” (on top of the crown); “FILII” (in the middle) and “DEI” (at the bottom). See the explanation in the picture below.

|                    |        |         |
|--------------------|--------|---------|
| VICARIUS FILII DEI |        |         |
| V = 5              | F = 0  | D = 500 |
| I = 1              | I = 1  | E = 0   |
| C = 100            | L = 50 | I = 1   |
| A = 0              | I = 1  | 501     |
| R = 0              | I = 1  |         |
| I = 1              | 53     |         |
| U = 5              |        |         |
| S = 0              |        |         |
| 112                |        |         |

666

This title, there is reason to believe, was formerly inscribed upon the pope's crown. The following testimony on this point is given by the late Elder D.E. Scoles, of Washburn, Mo.: "I have met two men who declare that they have seen this specific crown; and their testi-

mony is so perfectly in agreement that I am convinced that what they saw is true. The first man was M. De Latti, a Sabbath-keeper who had previously been a Catholic priest, and had spent four years in Rome. He visited me when I was pastor in St. Paul, Minn., several years ago.

I showed him my tract, "The Seal of God and the Mark of the Beast.' He at once told me that the inscription was not correctly placed in my illustration. He stated that he had often seen it in the museum at the Vatican, and gave a detailed and accurate description of the whole crown. When my tract was published, I was ignorant of the arrangement of the words of the Latin inscriptions, hence, in the illustration of the crown, placed them in one line.

Brother De Latti at once pointed out the mistake, and said *the first word of the sentence was on the first crown of the triple arrangement, the second word on the second part of the crown, while the word Dei was on the lower division of the triple crown (italics added).*

He also explained that the first two words were in dark-colored jewels, while the Dei was composed entirely of diamonds. {DAR 624.3-4}.

"During a tent-meeting which I held in Webb City, Mo., I presented the subject, 'The Seal of God and the Mark of the Beast.' I used charts to illustrate it, one being a reproduction of the crown as Brother De Latti had described it. A Presbyterian minister was present, Rev. B. Hoffman, and when I described the crown, he spoke out publicly and made a statement to the congregation, saying that while in Rome studying for the priesthood, he had seen this very crown, and noted its inscription, and that the word Dei was composed of one hundred diamonds. I met him and learned his name, and visited him at his home, and was convinced from his description that this was the identical crown that Brother De Latti had seen, but which has been denied by many. I then asked him for a written statement, and he gave me the following:-

"To Whom It May Concern: This is to certify that I was born in Bavaria in 1828, was educated in Munich, and was reared a Roman Catholic. In 1844 and 1845 I was a student for the priesthood in the Jesuit College in