

**THE VICTORY OVER THE BEAST**  
Discvoer Your Identity

The testimony by the redeemed on the sea of glass (Revelation 15:1-4) indicates that they have won a four-fold victory over the *beast, his image, his name, and his number*. Notice the unmistakable connection between these words and similar words in the first four of the Ten Commandments.

Satan wants to destroy the Ten Commandments because they protect our identity (image, name, and number) as residing in a relationship with our God. He knows that by stealing our identity he can destroy us from the inside out, often without our knowledge. God also wants us to consider the Ten Commandments as the tender commandments. Because these commandments protect our identity, they also enhance in us a ‘beautiful mind’ that loves and trusts God.

**A BEAUTIFUL MIND – THE SEAL OF GOD**

A ‘beautiful mind’ has its source in a secure God-given identity. The two sources of our secure self-worth are found in God’s covenant.

- The worth placed upon us because God created us. *“What is man that you are mindful of Him?..I will praise You for I am fearfully and wonderfully made”* (Psalm 8:4; 139:14).
- The worth God placed upon us because Christ redeemed us. According to the price paid for our redemption we should value ourselves.

A secure sense of self-worth guards us from a multitude of temptations by which Satan is trying to steal our God-given self-worth. Such self-worth also enables us to experience God’s best for our lives as we think His positive thoughts.

- *“How precious also are Your thought to me, O God!”* (Psalm 139:17).
- Our thinking about God and ourselves determines our choices. *“As a man thinks in His heart, so is he”* (Proverbs 23:7).
- About the wicked, the Bible says, *“God is not in his thoughts”* (Psalm 10:4).
- God’s thoughts about us are good thoughts. *“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope”* (Jeremiah 29:11).

The “seal of God” placed in our foreheads is closely connected with the laws and words of God bound as a *“sign on your hand...and as frontlets between your eyes”*(Deuteronomy 6:6-8). God wants us to internalize His commandments.

- *“Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples”* (Isaiah 8:16).
- *“I will put my laws in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.”* (Jeremiah 31:33).

The covenant “seal” features of God’s ‘image, name and number’ are found in the first four commandments of the Decalogue. As they describe how genuine worship works, they thereby also guard us against false worship.

<b>1st Commandment –</b> “You shall have no others gods.”	You were designed to worship only <u>one</u> God because He is all you need.	One God
<b>2nd Commandment –</b> “Do not make a graven image...”	Because You were created in His image, do not damage that image by substitutes that do not satisfy you and misrepresent Him.	His image
<b>3rd Commandment:</b> “Do not take God’s name in vain.”	Beware of abusing God’s name for it is the source of your identity, sufficiency, and protection.	His name
<b>4th Commandment:</b> “Remember the Sabbath day, the 7 <sup>th</sup> day, to keep it holy.”	Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. The assurance of your salvation is found in resting in the completeness (7 <sup>th</sup> ness) of His creative and redemptive work for you.	His number

**The Power of His Name – the 3<sup>rd</sup> Commandment:**

When God commands us not to take His name in vain, it is because He does not want us to damage the identity that is already ours through His names, and because He wants us to experience the blessings of the fullness of His salvation available through His many names.

- “...so didst thou lead thy people, to make Thyself a glorious name” (Psalm 63:14).
- “For thou [art] my rock and my fortress; therefore for Thy name's sake lead me, and guide me” (Psalm 31:3).
- “Sing forth the honour of his name: make His praise glorious” (Psalm 66:2).

It is through His names that God reveals to us that He is enough for every need that we have. He has also said, that the reason “we have not is because we ask not” (James 4:5). Every one of His names is a promise about what He wants to be for us.

Name:	Description:	Reference:
El Roi	The God who sees – responder to needs	Genesis 16:13.
Yahweh	Lord – I am that I am	1 Sam. 1:20
YHWH Nissi	Yahweh protects	Exodus 17:15
YHWH Sabaoth	Yahweh of the armies	1 Sam. 1:3
YHWH Shalom	Yahweh is peace	Judges 6:24
YHWH Jireh	Yahweh provides	Gen 22:14
YHWH Tsidekenu	The Righteous One	Jeremiah 23:6
YHWH Rophe	Yahweh heals	Exodus 15:27
YHWH Rohi	The Lord is my Shepherd – the One who provides loving care	Psalm 23:1

#### The Fourth Commandment – Experiencing Completeness in Him

The Sabbath Commandment contains God’s number, and as such it expresses the perfection and completeness of His work of both creation and redemption.

Of all the commandments that God has given, this is really the easiest one to keep. After all, what is easier – to work or to rest? On the Sabbath day God merely asks us to rest. By abstaining from all our work we are really celebrating that we are not saved by our works, but by His work.

Consider the Sabbath day as T.G.I.F. day – *Thank God I’m Free!*

- Free from the burden of having to work hard to earn my salvation, because I receive salvation as His free gift to me.
- Free from the need to fill my cup from fountains that do not satisfy, because only He satisfies.
- Free from fears of punishment and rejection, because I know that in Him I am truly loved and accepted.

God expresses the completeness of His salvation in the number ‘7.’ What rating does God give you when you are IN Christ? A 6 or a 7? How do you rate God for what he has done for you in Jesus Christ? Would you give him a 6 or a 7?

How do the witnesses in heaven’s courtroom rate God? (See Revelation 15:1-4; 4:11; 5:9,10-12). Do you agree with their testimonies?

It is through your personal ‘testimony of Jesus’ that Satan is defeated. “*And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death*” (Revelation 12:11). Does your personal testimony justify the God who in Jesus Christ has justified you? (Romans 3:23-26).

#### Base Your Life on These Incontrovertible Facts of Faith:

*“Because of Christ’s redemption  
 I am a new creation of infinite worth. I am deeply loved,  
 I am completely forgiven, I am fully pleasing,  
 I am totally accepted by God, I am absolutely complete in Christ.”  
 God the Father, who is for us, sent His Son Jesus Christ  
 to be with us, to die for us to give salvation to us,  
 that the gift of the Holy Spirit might be in us  
 so the sufficiency of God’s resources which are beyond us  
 may flow through us to overcome all that is against us.*