Bible Marking GUIDE

An easy Bible marking system that chain-references texts for 38 Bible topics!



JOHN EARNHARDT

"As we near the end of time, falsehood will be so mingled with truth that only those who have the guidance of the Holy Spirit will be able to distinguish truth from error. We need to make every effort to keep the way of the Lord. We must in no case turn from His guidance to put our trust in man. . . . Every day we are to come to the Lord with full assurance of faith and to look to Him for wisdom. . . . Those who are guided by the Word of the Lord will discern with certainty between falsehood and truth, between sin and righteousness." —Ellen G. White

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INTRODUCTION

Bible Marking Guide contains 38 Bible studies and groups of texts. We send it forth with the prayer that it may aid many in becoming better acquainted with the Book of all books—the Bible—thus encouraging them to become faithful and wise representatives of their Lord and Master.

Anyone can give Bible studies by using this easy chain reference method!

HERE'S HOW:

- 1. On a flyleaf in the front of your Bible, insert a photocopy of the "contents" page of this booklet (pp.5, 6) that lists all the subjects/abbreviations and first texts.
- 2. The second step in marking your Bible is to:
 - a. Turn to the *first* text for that topic, underline it, and write the *sec-ond* text in the margin. Example: In the case of "Jesus Our Sav-ior," turn to Romans 6:23, underline it, and in the margin write: JOS-2 Acts 4:12.
 - b. Then, in the margin of Acts 4:12, write the *third* text to study: JOS-3 Isa. 53:6.
- 3. Follow this same pattern until the last text. In the margin after the last text, write: JOS—End.

Continue with the second subject, and so on, until you have finished chain-referencing all 38 subjects.

HINTS:

- *Always* remember both to have prayer before you study together with others, and at the end of the session.
- It is helpful to underline the key words in each Bible passage that you want to emphasize in your study. Example: Romans 6:23:
- "For the *wages of sin* is *death;* but the *gift of God* is *eternal life through Jesus Christ* our Lord." Acts 4:12 is the next verse.
- When giving a Bible study, take turns reading the text aloud with the other individual(s) involved. (It will really impress people that you use only the Bible!)

STUDIES IN THIS GUIDE

1. BIBLE [Bi]

-

The Bible from Genesis to Revelation is still relevant upon God's people today, and God continues to speak to us through His Word.

1—Luke 24:44	7—John 17:17	13—2 Peter 1:20, 21
2—Heb. 4:12	8—Job 23:12	14—Acts 17:11
3—2 Tim. 3:15-17	9—Ps. 119:9, 11	15—John 5:39
4—Rom. 15:4	10—Ps. 119:105	16—Isa. 28:10
5—Jer. 15:16	11—Ps. 119:130	
6—Ps. 12:6, 7	12—Isa. 40:8	

2. DEITY OF CHRIST [DC]

Christ can save us only because He is fully God.

1—Gen. 1:26	6—Micah 5:2	11—Heb. 2:17
2—John 1:1-3, 14	7—John 10:30	12—John 16:27, 28
3—Heb. 1:8	8—Matt. 16:27	13—John 17:4, 5
4—Matt. 3:15-17	9—Col. 2:9	
5—John 17:5	10—Luke 1:35	

3. JESUS OUR SAVIOR [JOS]

Salvation comes by receiving Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

1—Rom. 6:23	7—Eph. 2:8, 9	13—Isa. 55:6, 7
2-Acts 4:12	8—1 John 5:11	14—Matt. 6:14, 15
3—Isa. 53:6	9—John 1:12	15—Rev. 3:20
4—2 Cor. 5:21	10—John 3:16	16—1 John 1:7-9
5—1 John 5:13	11—Matt. 1:21	
6—Col. 1:14	12—Ps. 130:7, 8	

4. HOLY SPIRIT [HS]

The Holy Spirit is the source and power of the Christian life.

1—Acts 1:8	7—1 Cor. 2:12, 13
2-Acts 2:17	8—Luke 10:17, 19
3—Acts 5:32	9—Luke 12:11, 12
4—John 14:14-16	10—Acts 2:38
5—Luke 11:13	11—Eze. 36:27
6—John 14:26	12—Eph. 4:30

5. CREATOR [Cr]

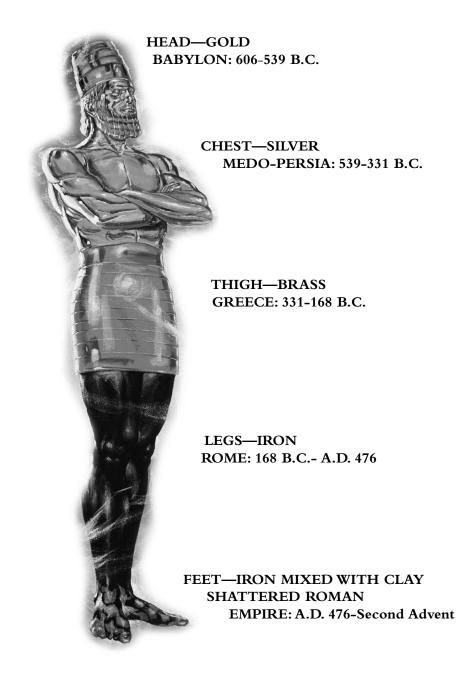
Jesus Christ is the creator of all things. He alone could redeem fallen humanity.

1—John 1:1-3, 14 2—Eph. 3:9 3—Heb. 1:1, 2 4—Gen. 1:26 5—1 Cor. 8:6

6. FOUR KINGDOMS [FK]

The vision of Daniel 2 takes human history from **Babylon** (606 B.C.), represented by the head of gold; to **Medo-Persia** (539 B.C.), represented by the chest of silver; to **Greece** (331 B.C.), represented by the thighs of brass; to **Rome** (168 B.C.), represented by the legs of iron; to **Rome divided** (A.D. 476), represented by the feet, partly of iron and partly of clay; down to the **second coming of Jesus** (still future), represented by the Rock cut out of the mountain.

1—Dan. 2:1	6—Dan. 2:16-19
2—Dan. 2:28, 29	7—Dan. 2:27, 28
3—Dan. 2:31	8—Dan. 2:32, 33
4—Dan. 2:2	9—Dan. 2:37, 38
5—Dan. 2:9-12	10—Dan. 2:39-45



ADDITIONAL NOTES

The prophecy of Daniel 2 spans the centuries from the prophet's day to the return of Jesus Christ. Many regard it as the most remarkable prophecy in the Bible because it is the most comprehensive and was the first to give a consecutive history of the world from Daniel's time to the end.

In Daniel 7 God gave the prophet a vision that also revealed events that would take place all the way to our day. God pictures under appropriate symbols the rise and fall of nations from Daniel's day to the rise of the antichrist. Anyone seeking Bible truth should be concerned about the work of this agency elsewhere symbolized by the deadly number 666 (Rev. 13:18). Every human being sooner or later must choose for or against what Scripture describes as the little-horn power.

In vision Daniel saw four great beasts emerging from the sea, each differing from the other. The fourth beast had 10 horns. Afterward, a little horn sprang up among the 10 and subdued three of them. Clearly the four beasts represent the same four kingdoms described in Daniel 2, a fact confirmed by Daniel 7:23: "The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom."

Daniel 7:4—The lion (Babylon) had eagle's wings, denoting the rapidity with which Babylon extended its domain under Nebuchadnezzar.

Daniel 7:5—The bear (Medo-Persia) had three ribs in its mouth, which signify Babylon, Lydia, and Egypt, kingdoms subdued by this power.

Daniel 7:6—The leopard (Greece) had double wings, denoting the extreme swiftness of its conquests. The creature also had four heads, representing the division of Alexander the Great's kingdom among his four generals: Cassander, Lysimachus, Ptolemy, and Seleucus.

Daniel 7:7—The great terrible beast (Rome) had 10 horns, echoing the shattering of the image of Daniel 2.

Little-Horn Power. Daniel next saw something happen that startled him. He witnessed the emergence of "a little-horn power" that had eyes like a human being and a mouth that spoke boastful things. This entity uprooted three other horns. According to history, the armies of Rome destroyed the power of the Heruli in A.D. 493, the Vandals in A.D. 534, and the Ostrogoths in A.D. 538. As we study Daniel 7 we find a number of clues to the identity of the little horn power.

- 1. Comes into existence among the 10 horns (verse 8). Thus it must be within the territory of the destroyed Roman Empire.
- Makes its appearance after A.D. 476, since an invading Germanic tribe overthrew the last Roman emperor in A.D. 476 and the united Empire ceased to exist (verse 8). The little-horn power would combine both religious and civil authority.
- 3. Uproots three—destroys three of the 10 horns. A horn in Scripture depicts powers or kingdoms (verse 8). The Bible often associates the number 10 with the division of something complete in itself into lesser and incomplete units (Lev. 27:30; Deut. 4:13, 14; Matt. 25:1; Luke 19:13, 17; Rev. 17:12). No human kingdom would ever again be as complete as those of the four kingdoms in the vision of Daniel 2.
- 4. Eyes like eyes of a man (verse 8). Scripture sometimes uses eyes to stand for intelligence or pride. Haughtiness is probably what the symbol intends to depict here. The vision contrasts the being with the eyes and mouth of a man with the being like a son of man of verse 13. The one like a son of man is the Messiah—Christ—and thus the one with the eyes and mouth of a man is a counterfeit or antichrist. The little horn speaks blasphemies, which means this power seeks to take the place of God Himself and claims divine prerogatives (verse 25). We have here counterfeit claims of divinity.
- 5. Persecutor, for it makes war with God's people (verse 21).
- 6. Attempts to change God's law (verse 25).
- 7. Rules for 1,260 years (verse 25).

The Little Horn Identified. Who is this antichrist power symbolized in the book of Revelation by the number 666? The president of the United States or some other political leader? A supercomputer? The United Nations? International terrorists? None of these fit the biblical description.

Only one power in all of history can fit all identifying marks. Who is it and can it be proved? The religious administrative system known as the Papacy alone matches the biblical identifying marks. Let's prove it!

- 1. The Papacy emerged among the shattered divisions of the Roman Empire.
- 2. The emperor Justinian of the surviving Eastern Roman Empire appointed a pope in A.D. 538 (after A.D. 476) as a political authority as well as religious leader.
- 3. The Papacy destroyed the Heruli, Vandals, and Ostrogoth tribes be-

cause they opposed the teaching and claims of the papal hierarchy.

4. The Catholic book *Instructions for Non-Catholics* on page 181 says: "The pope is the supreme visible head of the whole church, and that he teaches infallibly what we must believe and do to be saved." Only God can claim infallibility, and for any human being or institution to do so is to place the person or institution on a level with Him. The papal power speaks blasphemies by claiming for itself a divine role. Scripture defines blasphemy as taking upon oneself divine prerogatives or characteristics, as we see when Christ's opponents accused Him of it: "because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God" (John 10:33). Elsewhere the Pharisees charged Jesus with blasphemy in Luke 5:21, because He claimed power to forgive sins, something that only God possesses. But Jesus has such a right because He is the Savior of the world.

Notice what a Catholic Church spokesperson says about the pope: "The pope is of so great dignity and so exalted that he is not a mere man, but as it were God, and the vicar of God."

"The pope is as it were God on earth, sole sovereign of the faithful of Christ, chief of kings, having plentitude of power, to whom has been intrusted by the omnipotent God direction not only of the earthly but also of the heavenly kingdom" (translated from Lucius Ferraris, "Papa, Article II," *Prompta Bibliotheca*, Vol.VI, pp. 25-29).

"We ... hold upon this earth the place of God Almighty" (Pope Leo XIII, *The Reunion of Christendom*, encyclical letter of Leo XIII, p. 304).

"The pope is not only the representative of Jesus Christ, but he is Jesus Christ Himself hidden under the veil of the flesh" (*The Catholic National*, July 1895).

The Bible teaches that God is the one who forgives our sins because of what Jesus did at Calvary. Catholics teach just the opposite: "A priest does not have to ask God to forgive your sins. The priest himself has the power to do so in Christ's name. Your sins are forgiven by the priest just the same as if you knelt before Jesus Christ and told them to Christ Himself" (*Instructions for Non-Catholics*, p. 93).

Paul describes the coming man of lawlessness (another way of depicting the antichrist) as one "who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God" (2 Thess. 2:4).

5. In the year A.D. 1208 Pope Innocent III proclaimed a crusade against the Waldenses and Albigenses, fellow Christians who dared to disagree

with certain teachings of the medieval church. Thousands perished. Some have estimated that perhaps millions died as martyrs at the hands of church agents during the Middle Ages.

6. The Papacy freely admits its responsibility for certain changes in Christian teaching. "Thus the church makes many laws that are not found in the Bible. For example, ... it enforces the laws of Sunday worship with the penalty of serious sin" (*Instructions for Non-Catholics*, p. 61).

"The Catholic Church for over one thousand years before the existence of a Protestant, by virtue of her divine mission, changed the day from Saturday to Sunday" (*Catholic Mirror*, September 1893).

7. The Papacy ruled or dominated much of Christianity for 1,260 years. How do we know the time was 1,260 years? According to biblical reckoning, a time is one year, times (the Hebrew word translated "times" literally means "two") is two years, and the dividing of a time is half a year. The rule given in the Bible is that when it uses a day symbolically, it stands for a year (Eze. 4:6; Num. 14:34). Careful study of biblical time prophecy reveals that it is based on a symbolic year of 360 days. (The actual Jewish calendar had a year of 12 lunar months of 28 and 29 days, totaling 354 days, with an extra, or double, twelfth month, added to keep it in sync with the seasons and astronomical movements.) Thus three prophetic years and a half contained 1,260 days, which would be 1,260 years for the continuation of the supremacy of the little horn. The papal supremacy began in A.D. 538, when the Ostrogoths, the last of the three political powers resisting the influence of the Papacy, succumbed. Adding 1,260 years to 538, we come to 1798. And it was in February of that year that a French army under the leadership of General Berthier entered Rome and took the pope prisoner. Revelation 13:3 says that the symbolic beast would receive a deadly wound, and it happened in 1798. The same verse declares: "and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast." Students of prophecy regard this prophecy as fulfilled in 1929 when Mussolini restored the pope to the Vatican and once more he became a secular ruler, reigning over Vatican City. Today all the world listens to the pope on religious issues-not always following, but listening.

The Great Reformers. Some may say that all this is hard to accept. Don't get me wrong—this prophecy is not speaking against individuals, for the Catholic Church is filled with fine people who love the Lord. Rather, the Bible speaks against any power or system that goes against or contrary to the Word of God. Martin Luther, the founder of the Lutheran Church, never felt free to break with the leadership of the medieval church and some of its teachings until he recognized the papal system as embodying the principles of the antichrist. John Knox's sermon that launched him on his mission as church reformer focused on prophecies that he saw as describing the papal system. John Rogers preached against the papal system, and it resulted in his becoming the first Protestant martyr under the reign of the British queen Mary. Rogers died at the stake at Smithfield, in London. John Huss decried the moral laxity of the clergy, denied Peter as the church's foundation, and declared the Word of God to be the only rule of faith. The Council of Constance convicted him, and he died at the stake. All the reformers were unanimous in the matter. They saw the papal system as reflecting the principles of the antichrist.

Protest. What has happened to the Protestant churches? The word "Protestant" came from a Middle French word that meant "to witness for" or "to stand up" for something. It later came to be used in the sense of witnessing against something or to stand up in opposition to another thing. One who "protested" defended something against another position. Protestants "stood up for" or "witnessed for" the Word of God. Unfortunately, many Protestants have begun to abandon their witness for the Word of God and are joining hands with those who follow the principles of the antichrist power. For the various churches to unite under such principles is a sign of the end, and God says in Revelation 18:4: "Come out of her, my people."

One thing that most denominations have in common and that makes it easier for them to join with each other is a shared belief in Sunday sacredness. Notice what the Catholic Church says about the Sabbath:

"Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change [Saturday Sabbath to Sunday] was her act. . . . And the act is a mark of her ecclesiastical authority in religious things (H. F. Thomas, chancellor of Cardinal Gibbons).

"The observance of Sunday by the Protestants is an homage they pay, in spite of themselves, to the authority of the [Catholic] church" (*Plain Talk about the Protestantism of Today*, p. 213).

"The Bible says, 'Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.' The Catholic Church says, No. By my divine power I abolish the Sabbath day and command you to keep holy the first day of the week.' And lo! The entire civilized world bows down in a reverent obedience to the command of the holy Catholic Church" (Father T. Enright, former president of the Redemptoral College, Kansas City, Missouri).

"Sunday is a Catholic institution, and its claims to observance can be defended only on Catholic principles.... From beginning to end of Scripture there is not a single passage that warrants the transfer of weekly public worship from the last day of the week to the first" (*Catholic Press* [Sydney, Australia], August 1900).

"We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church, in the Council of Laodicea . . . transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday" (*The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine*, p. 50).

FOUR FACTS NOW STAND OUT IN BOLD RELIEF:

- 1. The change from Sabbath to Sunday cannot be found in the Bible (see study 22).
- 2. God predicted that a power in opposition to Him would "think to change" His times and laws.
- 3. The Papacy openly declares that it has changed God's law.
- 4. Thus in effect the Papacy exalts itself above God, as forecast by the apostle Paul in 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4.

God says: "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.... The seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God" (Ex. 20:8-11).

"And hallow my sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the Lord your God" (Eze. 20:20).

The Bible says all the world will wonder after the antichrist power (Rev. 13:8).

7. MINISTRY OF ANGELS [A]

Unseen angels always accompany God's followers. They protect His people as they walk in the path of obedience and duty.

1—Ps. 103:20	6—Acts 1:9-11	11—Rev. 5:11
2—Ps. 34:7	7—Heb. 13:2	12—Ps. 68:17
3—Acts 8:26	8—Matt. 13:39	13—Heb. 12:22
4—Heb. 1:13, 14	9—Matt. 24:30, 31	14—Gen. 28:12
5—Matt. 18:10	10—Matt. 25:31	15—Luke 15:10