



Prophetic Observer

September 2020—Vol. 27, No. 9

Keeping Time On God's Prophetic Clock

L-380

The Implantable Microchip

by Bob Glaze

For years, many Bible students have sought after answers to the identity of the “mark of the Beast.” The first mention of a mark upon a man was Cain, who had murdered his brother Abel. The question is, “In what form was the mark?” Was the mark a physical mark, such as something like a tattoo? Or, was it a spiritual mark that conveyed to others that he was an outcast of God? In Genesis 4:15, Scripture states that a “mark” was placed upon him, not in him.

However, in the case of the “mark of the Beast” the mark is said to be placed inside the unbeliever: “And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads” (Rev. 13:16). Could the tiny microchip meet the qualifications of the “mark”? The process of inserting a tiny chip into the right hand of individuals for identification has already begun.

It is well known that Biohax International of Sweden has implanted over 4,000 employees with microchips in their right hands. The process began over five years ago by a firm established by a former professional body piercer. Workers use the chip for train tickets, gym memberships, food, soft drinks, and entrance into locked doors at work. This makes punching a timeclock obsolete. Workers also use these to store their emergency contact information. The convenience it provides is catching on in European and American businesses and personal lives.

In July 2017, in River Falls, Wisconsin, fifty employees of Three Square Market voluntarily received the microchip implants (www.theatlantic.com).

In Florida, a wife had her family implanted to help with her husband's health monitoring. There are many good reasons to get an implant, such as a person can be found who has lost his way because of dementia or other mental illnesses. A company that implants reports that company scientists are al-

ready working on a global positioning system (www.cbs.com).

However, just how common is the use of implantable microchips? According to www.marketwatch.com, there are perhaps many companies or individuals that are already voluntarily having themselves implanted. In some cases, companies may be requiring their employees to be chipped. To guard against forced chipping, Indiana passed a bill in the State House of Representatives unanimously making it illegal to force employees to receive the chip in order to keep their job. “In some cases, it's tech-savvy workers who bring the chips to their bosses' attention,” said Amal Graafstra, CEO of Dangerous Things, a Seattle, Washington-based implantable chip manufacturer and distributor, and VivoKey Technologies, a chip manufacturer.

The above noted source also stated, “Those workers—typically on the IT side of a business—get an implant for personal use. The microchip is typically inserted between the thumb and index finger. The chips Graafstra's company sells start around \$50, plus an optional \$50 for insertion with an affiliated doctor or piercing expert.”

Is the introduction of human microchipping a precursor to the “mark of the Beast,” or just another step forward in future conditioning of people in order to better control them during the Tribulation period, or is it a giant conspiracy to cover-up what is really happening behind the scenes? The most notable conspiracy involves billionaire Bill Gates. It has been reported that he is donating billions of dollars to WHO to immunize the world against COVID-19. And, the vaccine is to contain a chip that will allow everyone to unknowingly be able to be controlled in the future. The part about chipping has not been proven one way or the other (www.usatoday.com).

However, the theory could have some merit. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation helps to fund a study in a public

health initiative done at MIT. *USA Today* notes, “The team had developed an ‘approach to encode medical history on a patient’ by including a small amount of dye with a vaccine. The dye, which would be invisible to the naked eye but observable through a specialized cell phone app using infrared light, would keep a record of a child’s vaccines. The technique may be especially useful in developing countries, where record keeping is often more difficult.” Was the dye meant to be a microchip?

There is always a certain amount of truth in every conspiracy. In this case we are looking for a possible clue as to what the mark will be and how it will be distributed. If the microchip is the answer, then Satan’s helpers will need to get busy and start chipping everyone who will enter into the Tribulation period. The question is, “How will they know who to chip?” Prior to the Tribulation period the chip cannot be the “mark” because this will invariably include some Christians who are clueless as to what is happening. Will these be accepting the “mark” and not be removed at the Rapture? Will babies who are chipped be included in this group? The Rapture will separate the wheat from the tares. Those during the Tribulation who refuse the “mark” will be beheaded. Therefore, chipping could be a control device for the Antichrist. There will be nothing that will keep a born-again believer in Jesus Christ as Savior from being removed at the Rapture. “For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord”(Romans 8:38–39).

What’s Happening To Our Children

One of the greatest crimes being carried out today is sex trafficking. “Human trafficking involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act. Every year, millions of men, women, and children are trafficked worldwide—including right here in the United States. It can happen in any community and victims can be any age, race, gender, or nationality. Traffickers might use violence, manipulation, or false promises of well-paying jobs or romantic relationships to lure victims into trafficking situations” (www.dhs.gov).

Every day on the news we hear of children—both boys and girls—who have been reported missing. Many are never found and many are found dead. Perhaps your family has been affected by this heinous crime and grievous sin. There

are many stories being circulated by different groups about different important celebrities and political figures which cannot be proven because of their protected status.

However, there was one celebrity who could not be suppressed: Jeffrey Epstein. With his unmasking, publicity showed just how many Hollywood giants and high-profile politicians are involved in the industry of sex trafficking. It has been rumored that Ellen DeGeneres, Oprah Winfrey, the Gates, and the Clintons are under house arrest. While the rumors are not true, this does not necessarily exempt them from guilt. This is a crime by godless individuals and should be punished as such. In Matthew 18:6, Jesus said: “But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.”

According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 460,000 children are reported missing in the United States each year. This is only a fraction of children who go missing here and abroad. In many countries, missing children are not even reported and no statistics are kept. Canada is a far second to the United States with 45,288 children reported missing each year (www.globalmissingkids.org).

Where are these children? Frantic parents place everything on hold until they are found, or exhaust themselves and others in search of them. Many have gone into slavery of various kinds, including sex slavery. Many have been shipped off to brothels and labor farms in foreign countries, never to be heard from again.

Having been to many Muslim countries in the Middle East, I was reminded that blonde-haired girls are in high demand for sex slaves and should be guarded at all times and not be allowed to wander alone. All abductions, including those in the United States, can take only seconds but can last a lifetime for the victim and the family as well.

When I was a kid in the 1940s, abductions were seldom heard of. We were reared in a different world than exists today. Our most precious possessions are our children, and forces are at work to destroy them and the homes they came from. Stealing a child must carry the harshest penalty to curb it from happening, including the death penalty. Our children are God’s gift and our next generation of leaders and must be protected.

“Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they ... shall speak with the enemies in the gate” (Psalm 127:3–5).

A Call to Self-Examination

by Pastor Larry Spargimino, PhD.

“Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith” (2 Cor. 13:5).

The American church is in desperate need of revival. As we approach the November 2020 presidential election, do we meet the conditions outlined in 2 Chronicles 7:14? Notice, I wrote, “the American church.” Revival is not for left-wing protesters, abortion doctors, and progressive candidates. Revival is for the church.

The problem I am addressing is the sad state of the church. Recent surveys are showing that professing Christians live like everyone else. Evidence of Christian spirituality, in many cases, is nonexistent. The church is marked by compromise with evil, cowardice, and an attitude that basically says, “Let’s wait around and see what happens.” Bad idea. Elie Wiesel, Nobel Laureate and Holocaust survivor, wrote: “We must always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented.”

Why are so many Christians refusing to take sides in moral and political issues? Why is it that only one in four Christians even vote? Deep-seated problems of the heart. How can we find out whether or not we are spiritually sick?

I want to suggest that we all need to do some serious self-examination. I am going to use an outline that A. W. Tozer called “Rules For Self-Discovery,” with some modification. The commentary is mine. There are seven. I am going to call them “Rules For Self-Examination.”

1. What Do I Want the Most?

Our cravings and desires tell us much about our spiritual condition. They are reflective of our natures. Birds want to fly, just as fish want to swim. Animals are governed by their physical needs. Look at a pasture and all the cattle have their heads down. They are not praying; they are eating.

Human beings have physical needs since we have bodies. We get tired. We get hungry. But certainly Christians are not just bodies. The Apostle Paul wrote about sanctification: “And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Thess. 5:23).

We can all agree that there is a physical part to us, as well as a spiritual, immaterial part to us. As I’ve grown in the faith,

I have become more aware of how the invisible affects the visible. We are physical beings created in the image of God.

If I had a portrait taken of me the day before I was saved, and one taken the day after, there would be no significant changes. My dog did not bark at me the day before I was saved, neither did he think I was a stranger the day after I was saved. But inwardly, I was very different.

Sometimes the spiritual dimension of our being is so powerful that I would have to conclude that we are not physical beings in search of a spiritual experience, but spiritual beings in search of a physical experience. “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (2 Cor. 5:17).

What do real Christians want the most? To enjoy victory over sin and temptation; to pray for our loved ones and relatives to be saved before it is too late; to experience the fullness of the Holy Spirit; to see and enjoy reconciliation with a spouse, a child, a co-worker. Every Christian wants to see people saved and profess their faith through the waters of baptism. We all have to ask, “Are these the things that *I want?*”

2. What Do I Think About the Most?

Philippians 4:8 makes it very plain: “Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, *think on these things.*”

We think with our minds, but we also think with our hearts and our feelings. “For as a man thinketh in his heart, so is he” (Prov. 23:7). Examine your thinking, and especially what you think about the most. You will know a lot about yourself.

3. How Do I Use My Money?

When I was a young assistant pastor, my mentor and lead pastor said, “If your pocketbook isn’t converted, neither is your heart.” Christians spend their money differently than non-Christians do. Christians support the Lord’s work. Money is not a “lord” to serve, but a means by which we serve the Lord.

Look at your garage, your home ... what have you been spending your money on?

No one should conclude that I am against vacations and various forms of recreation. This is not an appeal to leading an austere life of sleeping in a cave and only eating a bowl of gruel or watery porridge at mealtime. The Apostle Paul wrote, “I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound” (Phil. 4:11-12). Paul is not saying that we must never want change or improvement, but simply that he is not disturbed or disquieted with whatever his condition is.

4. What Do I Do With My Leisure Time?

When I was touring in Germany several years ago, our guide pointed out that under communism, farmers worked from 9 to 5. If a cow was calving at 11 p.m., it didn't matter to the farmer. The government owned the farm. Under a private ownership arrangement, however, there is no one who was responsible for the calving cow except the farmer. “Leisure time” is a rare commodity for some professions.

However, most employers allow employees vacation time. People take their vacation and are involved in a variety of pursuits. Some stay home and work through a “honey-do list”—“honey here's a list of things I would like you to do on your vacation.” Others are quite free in what they do and where they go. Freedom can be used responsibly or irresponsibly. We all have a limited amount of time to serve God. The Bible says, “Redeeming the time, because the days are evil” (Eph. 5:16).

Family time is a good way to use leisure time. Sometimes our schedules are so busy and cluttered that the family suffers, though we would wish that would not happen. Time for family Bible studies, looking at Christian movies together, attending special services or Christian concerts, are all valid. Leisure time is rare for some, but necessary for all. Use it wisely.

5. What Kind Of Company Do I Enjoy?

The circle of your friends reveals a lot about you. We spend time with people that we are comfortable with because they are like us. We enjoy their acceptance and are glad to be a part of their group. So, who are you comfortable with? Can you speak to God about your friends or do you wish that God didn't know about your friends?

Someone may ask, “Pastor Larry, are you saying that there are some people we should be unfriendly to? Isn't that being stuck up and elitist?” We should never have a holier-than-thou attitude. But we have to make a distinction between an acquaintance and a friend. We all have many acquaintances.

They are people we work with and go to school with. But friendship goes deeper. A true friend is someone who can encourage us when we are down, and correct us when we stray. A true friend is a person whose values mirror those values taught in the Scriptures. Friends should be chosen wisely because, as Paul reminded the Corinthians, the wrong company can corrupt the best of character (see 1 Cor. 15:33).

6. Who and What Do I Admire?

As the moral standards of our culture become further removed from biblical standards, I've noticed a strange phenomenon: People admire those who exhibit the worst sort of behavior. People who despise authority, mock their parents, and live outside the circle of decency and propriety are the new heroes. There is something about the way they flaunt the rules and have no regard for respecting others. They are the new moral models for an immoral culture.

Christian character can be seen in those who admire Jesus and admire those who most model His example. People who are slow to judge and condemn, who think before they answer, who show patience and kindness are regarded as wimps. Meekness is seen as weakness, but meekness is really strength under control. What kind of people are you drawn to? Whom do you admire? Answer these questions and you will experience self-discovery.

7. What Do I Laugh At?

Before I was saved I laughed at jokes—and told some myself—that I would never tell now. In fact, there were two things in my life that I noticed after I was saved: a change in my language, especially when I experience anger, and the jokes I used to laugh at. They don't produce laughter any longer—only grief.

America is at a crossroads. We need to pray fervently. We need God's help. Without it we will perish as a nation of free men. The whole world will suffer. The Bible is clear. Good character has a lot to do with the prayers God answers. “If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me” (Ps. 66:18).

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