

~MARK 2 (119)

[Hebrew, *taw*]

.. Figurative Use

- Among non-Israelites, animals and even slaves were branded with a mark as an indication of ownership. In the case of human's, such property marks were placed on a conspicuous part of the body, such as the forehead.
- Worshipers of false gods at times identified themselves as such by having the mark of their deity on their forehead. However, Yehowah's Law to Israel prohibited disfiguring human's with tattoo marks. This served to counteract any idolatrous practices and taught due regard for God's creation.
- And you must not make cuts in your flesh for a deceased soul, and you must not put tattoo marking upon yourselves. I am Yehowah. ([Leviticus 19:28](#))

See Also BRAND MARK

.. Figurative Use

- The Scriptures allude to **marks** made on human's and refer to these in a figurative sense. In Ezekiel's vision a man with a secretary's inkhorn was commissioned to go through Jerusalem and to put a **mark** [Hebrew, *taw*](#) on those who were sighing and groaning over all the detestable things that were being done in the midst of it.
- This action on their part showed that they were righteous persons, servants belonging to Yehowah, and therefore worthy of preservation at the time for the execution of Yehowah's judgment. The figurative mark on their forehead testified to that fact. ([Ezekiel Chapter 9](#))
- And Yehowah went on to say to him; Pass through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and you must put a **mark** on the foreheads of the men that are sighing and groaning over all the detestable things that are being done in the midst of it. ([Ezekiel 9:4](#)) Footnote
- And by reducing the cities Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes he

- condemned them, setting a pattern for ungodly persons of things to come. (2 Peter 2:6)
- And he delivered righteous Lot, who was greatly distressed by the indulgence of the law-defying people in loose conduct. (2 Peter 2:7)
 - For that righteous man by what he saw and heard while dwelling among them from day to day was tormenting his righteous soul by reason of their lawless deeds. (2 Peter 2:8)
 - On the other hand, in John's vision persons receiving the **mark**, or, engraving, **of the wild beast on their forehead** or on their hand were in line for destruction.
 - The **mark** on the forehead publicly identified them as **worshippers of the wild beast** and therefore as slaves to it. They were thus shown to be opposers of God, for the wild beast received its authority from the dragon, Satan the Devil. The **mark** on the hand would logically signify active support of the wild beast, the hand being used to accomplish work.
 - And it stood still upon the sand of the sea. And I saw a wild beast ascending out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, and upon its horns ten diadems, but upon its heads blasphemous names. (Revelation 13:1)
 - Now the wild beast that I saw was like a leopard, but its feet were as those of a bear, and its mouth was as a lion's mouth. And the dragon gave to the beast its power and its throne and great authority. (Revelation 13:2)
 - And it puts under compulsion all persons, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free and the slaves, that they should give these a mark in their right hand or upon their forehead. (Revelation 13:16)
 - And that nobody might be able to buy or sell except a person having the **mark**, **the name of the wild beast** or the number of its name. (Revelation 13:17)
 - Here is where wisdom comes in. Let the one that has intelligence calculate the number of the wild beast, for it is a man's number, and its number is six hundred and sixty-six. (Revelation 13:18)

- **And another angel, a third, followed them, saying in a loud voice; If anyone worships the wild beast and its image, and receives a mark on his forehead or upon his hand. ([Revelation 14:9](#))**
- **He will also drink of the wine of the anger of God that is poured out undiluted into the cup of his wrath, and he shall be tormented with fire and sulphur in the sight of the holy angels and in the sight of the Lamb. ([Revelation 14:10](#))**
- **And I heard a loud voice out of the sanctuary say to the seven angels; Go and pour out the seven bowls of the anger of God into the earth. ([Revelation 16:1](#))**
- **And the first one went off and poured out his bowl into the earth. And a hurtful and malignant ulcer came to be upon the men that had the mark of the wild beast and that were worshiping its image. ([Revelation 16:2](#))**
- **And I saw thrones, and there were those who sat down on them, and power of judging was given them. Yes, I saw the souls of those executed with the ax for the witness they bore to Jesus and for speaking about God, and those who had worshiped neither the wild beast nor its image and who had not received the mark upon their forehead and upon their hand. And they came to life and ruled as kings with the Christ for a thousand years. ([Revelation 20:4](#))**

See Also BOUNDARY MARK