

Let me give an example of what I'm looking for. In your previous message you mentioned "... until you can actually prove that (even most) of the above occurred in 70AD." I'm not going to pretend to prove modern events occurred back then because I don't need to. But I can prove that the events prophesied in Scripture occurred back then. You mentioned "Mark of the Beast-will be in the hand and in the forehead. Musk embeds Neurolink devices in, just guess, I'll keep you from having to guess-the hand and the forehead. When did this happen prior to 70AD???"

To start, there's no evidence that I can find showing Musk is putting these chips in the hand or forehead. They're being put in the brain, which is neither. But even if you want to say the forehead is synonymous with the brain, that doesn't cover the hand. Regardless, that's beside the point. I cannot show that Musk did this in 70AD because he wasn't alive back then, and the Bible doesn't say it has to be a Neuralink device, so the question seems disingenuous. But I can show you exactly how the prophecy of Revelation 13:16 was fulfilled in that time-frame.

Let's start with the passage itself. While I can go into other prophecies, let's just stick to showing how Revelation 13:16-18 is fulfilled ...

beast to be slain. **16** Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave,^[e] to be marked on the right hand or the forehead, **17** so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name. **18** This calls for wisdom: let the one who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man, and his number is 666.^[f]

Previously you made the claim that according to Pastor JD, "no one knows the day or hour" is a Jewish idiom - a phrase he believed every Jew would have known/understood. I researched and couldn't find a single example in any historical document showing the Jews ever used/knew this phrase before Jesus used it. But "on the right hand or the forehead" actually is a phrase I can prove the Jews had prior reference to. It's in the Shema, which the Jews considered to be the highest piece of all of their Scripture - so much so that Jesus called it the "Greatest commandment," and the pharisees agreed. Here is the Shema from Deuteronomy 6

⁴ Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.^[a] ⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶ These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

This command was extremely widely known by all Jews in Jesus' time - so much so that it was recited daily by virtually every Jew as one of their centralized teachings and prayers. Here's an example source confirming how widely known the Shema was:

<https://bibleproject.com/articles/what-is-the-shema/> - so when I say that every Jew knew this passage, that's not some random "Pastor Bob" saying it. It's literally in Scripture itself and agreed by EVERY biblical scholar (including the ones you're listening to, I'm sure) that this was a central passage to the Jewish people.

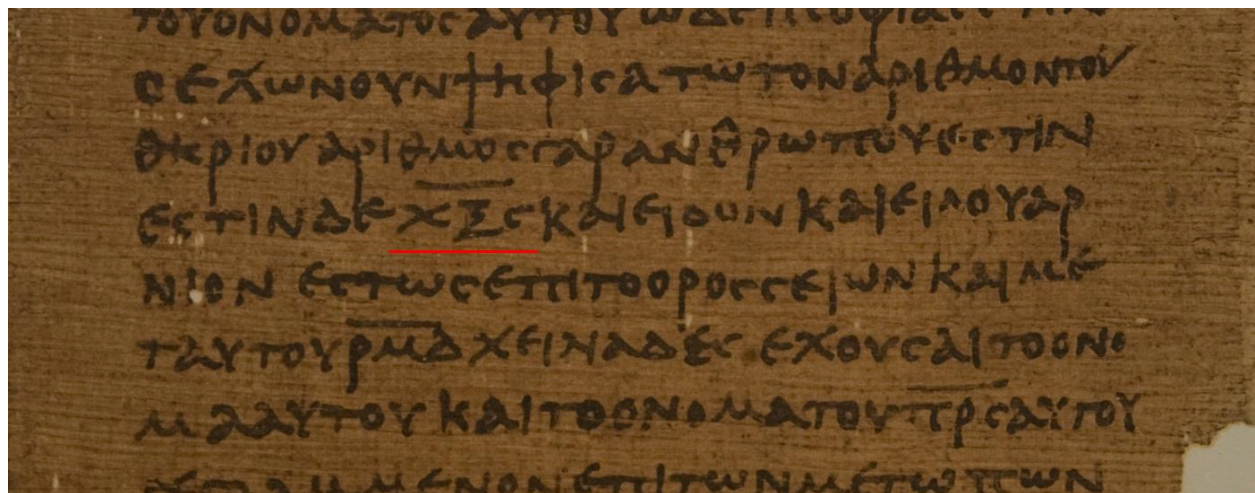
You'll note right away in verse 8 that this massively important teaching says it's to be "on your hands and bind them on your foreheads." Sound familiar? Most Jews did not apply this passage literally. Instead, they understood it to mean that you were fully bought into the concept - it being on your head meant it was central to your thoughts, and on your hand meant it was central to your actions (or in some sects, how you interacted with the world around you). There was a small subset of pharisees who did literally create boxes called "Teffilin" or "Phylacteries" that hyper-legalists would wear at times, but virtually no Christian since the death/resurrection of Jesus has ever interpreted this literally. They have always agreed that it means you are fully devoted to it in thought and action. So, when John uses the exact same concept of "on the hand and forehead" it's quite logically inconsistent for Christians to insist that Revelation must be literal, but not Deuteronomy 6 when they each use the same words - especially when Revelation is broadly agreed upon to be full of metaphor.

There's a reason John mirrors the language of the Shema when describing the mark in Revelation 13. Specifically, the antichrist was said in 2 Thessalonians 2:4 to "take his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God." By mirroring the language of the Shema, John is confirming that the antichrist/beast is being raised to the level of calling himself God in a way that every Jew who knew the Shema (which is all of them) would recognize.

To be clear on “the antichrist/beast” (and to get down to what the mark is and how it was fulfilled) - the antichrist is a man, but the “beast” is a nation/empire. I assume you agree that the prophecies of Daniel parallel the prophecies of Revelation in many ways and that John was clearly referencing Daniel when using some of his imagery. Daniel has a dream/vision of multiple beasts, which we know to be a euphemism for empires. And this isn’t an interpretive leap I’m making. In Daniel 7:16-17, Daniel approaches an angel of God asking how the vision is to be interpreted and the angel directly tells him that the beasts are kingdoms. For example, in verse 23 he says: “As for the fourth beast, there shall be a fourth kingdom on earth, which shall be different from all the kingdoms [i.e. the other beasts], and it shall devour the whole earth.” So, beast = kingdom. Antichrist = ruler of the kingdom referenced in Revelation, and the beast of Revelation = the kingdom enacting the antichrist’s rule.

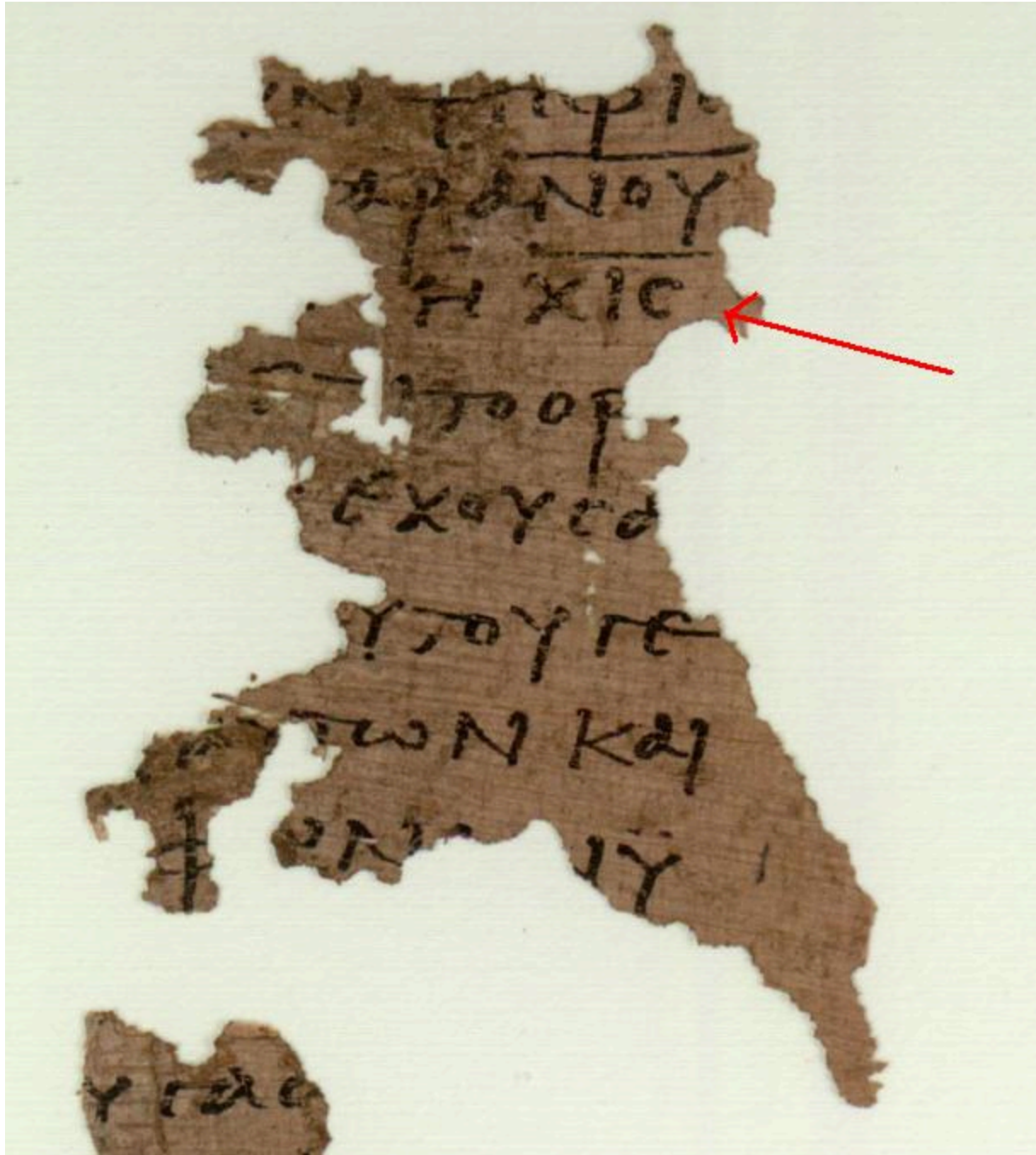
With this in mind, we see that Caesar Nero was the one ruling at the time of the Jewish war in 66-70AD. There’s tons of other evidence to show that he (i.e. the Flavian dynasty, being Nero’s family’s rule) is the antichrist and the roman empire is the beast under their rule name, but for now I’m sticking just to the topic of the mark itself (again, trying not to get distracted). So, let’s look at the number.

Most people know it as “666.” Here’s an example of what’s known as “Papyrus 47” - a third century record of Revelation 13 showing the mark of the beast:



The red underlined portion shows three characters - the first is the “x” representing 600, the next is a symbol that stands for 60, and the final one looking like a “c” stands for 6.

There’s actually an older manuscript known as Papyrus 115, which is the earliest copy we have ever found of Revelation 13 - and it does not use 666 as the mark of the beast, but instead uses 616:



You can see between the two images that the first and third characters (what look like: “X” and “C”) are the same, but the middle one is different. There are MULTIPLE copies of other early records showing this “616” translation of Revelation 13, confirming it was widely used for much of Christian history, just the same as the 666 number was used.

The regions these manuscripts were found is significant. The 666 was found in Greek-speaking areas, whereas the 616 number was found on the drafts in more Romanized Latin-speaking areas. Why is that relevant? Because the way each region marked Nero’s name (often-times

with his face as well) is different. To be clear: I believe the mark of the beast was the coin with Nero's face/name inscribed on them. Let's take a look at the coins themselves:



This shows his name as "Nero," which was how everyone in Roman-Latin-speaking areas called him. Most of the coins we have use this name for him. When Hebrews would write his name in their own transliteration, it would read (using English letters): "nrw qsr." In Hebrew numerology, this totals 616, consistent with the earliest known text (Papyrus 115) of Revelation 13.

So where does 666 come from? In Greek-speaking areas they called him "Neron Caesar" - and when you add the extra "n", the Hebrew letter for that adds 50 to the value, which $616 + 50 = 666$. Here's an image showing specifically how the characters are numbered:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 200 & 60 & 100 & 50 & 6 & 200 & 50 \\ \text{ק} & \text{ס} & \text{ר} & \text{נ} & \text{ר} & \text{ו} & \text{ן} \\ \text{Kæsar} & & \text{Neron} & & & & \end{array} = 666$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 200 & 60 & 100 & 6 & 200 & 50 \\ \text{ק} & \text{ס} & \text{ר} & \text{נ} & \text{ר} & \text{ו} \\ \text{Kæsar} & & \text{Nero} & & & \end{array} = 616$$

So if the beast is the Roman empire, the head of that empire is Nero/Neron Caesar whose name and face appear directly on the coins. Now go back to Revelation 13:17 and recognize that the "mark of the beast" isn't just a number. It's "the name of the beast or the number of its name." As the head of the empire, Nero's name represented the beast and his is the only name that would make sense to associate with the entirety of the empire under his rule.

Okay, so now let's look a bit earlier in the verse: "so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark." See how much it makes sense that the mark of the beast is literally the coins needed to buy/sell things throughout the Roman Empire? It'd be quite a stretch to say that the US would defy the constitution to the point of prohibiting the use of cash to anyone who doesn't have a Neuralink device. I simply don't believe ANY government will say "you must have a Neuralink device or else you're prohibited from making any purchases at any stores in our nation." The very proposition is absurd. But it makes PERFECT sense that if the mark is the money itself - literally containing the name of the antichrist as representative of his empire (the beast) which totals 666 and 616 in their respective linguistic regions - without which one could not engage in financial transactions, because in those days there were no credit cards, so you HAD to use the coins in order to buy/sell throughout the empire.

But there's more! It gets even more fascinating when we realize that these Roman coins were not used by the Jewish people prior to the Roman-Jewish war. For example, take a look at this article on numismatics (i.e. study of historical coin/currency) of Jerusalem: https://www.academia.edu/4491083/Ariel_D.T._A_Survey_of_the_Coin_Finds_in_Jerusalem_until_the_end_of_Byzantine_Period_.Liber_Annuus_32_1982_273_326. It's interesting that this was from a non-Christian source trying to disprove the Bible and aspects of Revelation, but instead found: "The absence of Roman coins in hoards in Jerusalem before A.D. 70 is significant because it establishes that, while some Roman coins may have circulated, they certainly were not dominant until later."

Why would Jews not be using Roman coins prior to 70AD? Because of the second commandment, which prohibited making (and also in Jewish rabbinical writings: touching) graven images. This is why you'll note that in most historical representations of biblical stories, you'll see Jews holding Roman coins with a cloth (such as in the retellings of Matthew's account of "paying taxes to caesar") - because it was widely known that Jews were not allowed to touch the Roman coins, given they bore the graven image of Caesar's face on them (see image above).

What did the Jews use instead of the Roman coins? Here are examples:



Above is the "Gratus" and below is the "Prutah"



Below is another mint of the Prutah that was specifically found to be in circulation during 67-68AD



You can see that none of these had images of a ruler's face on them. Going back to the numismatic article I linked above, recall that it said that Roman coins were not found in Jewish coin hordes prior to 70AD. It continues several pages later: "the most significant explanation for the high number of First Revolt coins found in Jerusalem is the huge destruction that 'sealed' the city in debris in AD70 [i.e. how they found hordes of coins that nobody had uncovered before]. In addition, the fact that these coins were no longer accepted by authorities after A.D. 70, probably had the effect of significantly lowering their value in the marketplace" - while he's trying to explain why the coin hordes existed (i.e. value was too low to be worthwhile), his explanation confirms that the coins were not allowed to be used in the Roman Empire during/after the tribulation of 66-70AD.

To be clear, when Jerusalem/Judea was destroyed by the Romans, that included the mint that printed these Jewish coins, which is why they weren't found to be in circulation post-70AD, and everyone HAD to use Roman coinage (containing the antichrist's/beast's face and name) in order to buy/sell throughout the Roman Empire. The same article above notes: With the establishment of this mint, Jerusalem's bronze currency changed from one of many varied sources to an entirely indigenous currency [i.e. unique to the Jewish people], which continued generally uninterrupted through to Jerusalem's destruction in AD 70 ... One finds a marked difference between the coin-currency of Jerusalem in periods when a local mint existed and in periods without one."

It later writes: "With the exception of the Hasmonean and Herodian periods, when Tyrian shekels were current, the valuable coin currency clearly shows who were the rulers of Judea: independent Jewish silver during the First Revolt, Ptolemaic and Seleucid silver in the periods of control, and Roman silver and gold after A.D. 70 ... After A.D. 70, Jerusalem's currency reflects its total incorporation into the Roman world. Even in late Roman and Byzantine Jerusalem, we find no clear evidence of any special treatment of the Holy City reflected in the coins" - meaning that even Jerusalem itself was forced to use Roman coinage after AD 70, and Rome no longer allowed it special privileges as it did prior to the war when Jews were allowed a modicum of self-governance and use of their own currency.

One last tidbit that I'll include and is perhaps relevant, while we talk about coinage as the mark of the beast is the following coin which was found repeatedly in circulation at the time too:



On the right you can see the transcription “Divi F” which is a Latin abbreviation for “Divi Filius” meaning “Son of God.” This was widely used as a phrase among several caesars of the time. Literally, they were taking Jesus’ title of “Son of God” from the Jews and adopting it for themselves. I’m not sure how much more “anti-Christ” you can get than that.

To summarize:

- The coins used throughout the Roman Empire are the mark of the beast
- They fulfill Revelation 13 by literally containing the name of the antichrist as representative for the beast (Roman Empire), which totals 666 and 616 in different regions depending on their spelling of “Nero” or “Neron” (the extra “n” having a value of 50).
- These coins were literally mandated throughout the Roman empire and people could no longer use the separate Jewish currency that was all but eradicated throughout the war.
- The mention of them being on the “hand and forehead” is John referencing the Shema to show how the antichrist’s proclamation of self-divinity and worship is meant to mirror/parallel the epitome of God’s proclamation of divinity and worship among the Jews.