

# False Christs, Cults & Counterfeits

Text Guide #9

- Rev. 13:18** 666 is the “number of the Beast”.
- Rev. 13:1-8** The nation (beast) referred to is the Vatican City, the Roman Papacy. (Remember, in Bible prophecy, the symbol of a beast represents a kingdom or nation. See Daniel 7:17,23.)
- Rev. 13:18** 666 is “the number of a man”.
- Rev. 13:18** Among the titles ascribed to the pope of Rome is *Vicarius Filii Dei*, meaning “vicar of the Son of God”. The Latin letters comprising this title have a numerical value, as follows.

V – 5	F – 0	D – 500
I – 1	I – 1	E – 0
C – 100	L – 50	I – 1
A – 0	I – 1	
R – 0	I – 1	
I – 1		
U – 5		
S – 0		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <span>112</span> <span>+</span> <span>53</span> <span>+</span> <span>501</span> <span>=</span> <span><b>666</b></span> </div>		

- Rev. 13:3-4** Masses will be deceived by false religious movements in the last days.
- Matt. 24:11** Jesus said many false prophets would arise, and would deceive many.
- Rev. 12:9** Satan desires to deceive the whole world.

*What are some of the identifying points of last-days cults and false religion?*

**False Religion will substitute Jesus.**

- John 14:6** Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.
- Acts 4:12** There is salvation in none other than Jesus.

**False Religion will substitute the Bible.**

- John 17:17** We are to be sanctified by the Word of God, which is the truth.
- Matt 4:4** We are to live by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.
- Isa. 8:20** If someone speaks not according to God’s Word, there is no light in them.

**False Religion often urges group conformity.**

- Rom. 14:12** We are to give account of ourselves to God individually.
- Joshua 24:15** The Bible says we are to choose for ourselves who we are to serve.
- Rev. 14:12** God’s people will keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

**False Religion often confuses the coming of Christ.**

- Titus 2:13** Jesus’ return is the “blessed hope” of believers.
- Isa. 25:9** When Jesus returns, His people have the hope of salvation.
- Rev. 13:3** The world will wonder after the beast in the final days.
- Rev. 13:14** The false prophet will work miracles.
- John 8:32** Jesus says that if we are faithful to His Word, we will know the truth.