My American friend Jen sent me an article today on the proposed implementation of British Prime Minister Tony Blair's national ID system. The Prime Minister hopes to bring in a national identity card system which he claims will reduce fraud and prevent terrorism. The Labour government and the House of Lords in this country fought a bitter war over the bill, which would have required Britons applying for a passport to leave the country, to also apply for a national identity card. The Labour government had insisted applying for the national identity card was entirely voluntary. Of course this was an outright lie, for anyone knows a security system is only as strong as its weakest link, and whoever heard of a "voluntary" national ID card? The Lords rejected this bill as an effort to bring in compulsory national identification through the back door, but the best compromise they could achieve with the government was to push the bill back a few years. Recently we had the news that the Labour government is planning to introduce compulsory fingerprinting of children to start off their national biometric identification database, and all by the year 2010. The national identity card system is also due to come in around this time. But Britons aren't the only ones to be concerned over their governments plans to number them. American Christians are also voicing their concerns over President Bush's " Real ID " scheme, that it may become a precursor to the "Mark of the Beast" system.

Quote: *""People are very concerned if the federal government gives you a number, it will be the mark of the beast," said Missouri Rep. Jim Guest, the sponsor of a resolution similar to Whitaker's. "There are everyday people who get the connection to 666." Legislators in Georgia, Maine, Montana, New Mexico, Vermont, Washington state and Wyoming have also balked at Real ID and a bill filed in Congress by Rep. Thomas Allen, D-Maine, would repeal it. Many complain that states will have to pay billions of dollars to put the system in place by the end of 2009, as mandated by Congress. Resolutions in Arkansas, Georgia, Maine and Missouri were offered after legislators read materials, spoke to or had indirect contact with Endtime Ministries of Dallas, whose magazine, radio show and outreach examines current events through the prism of Christian apocalypse.*

While I don't think either President Bush's "Real ID" system, or Prime Minister Blair's national identity card system are the actual "Mark of the Beast", I do believe this system will lead to the implementation of that described in the book of Revelation. Over the last few years it seems the global elite have become more brazen in their efforts to gain control of the world system. We've seen laws on homosexual "marriage" being passed almost simultaneously around the world, and now the push for a global ID card, again being passed almost simultaneously.

The Bible states that the false prophet will be the one to make the Mark compulsory during the tribulation period. The Bible does not say that people who do not take the Mark will be killed, and for this reason I believe we should be very wary of national identity schemes such as these. It is those who refuse to worship the Antichrist that will be put to death. Perhaps the Mark will be issued to coax non-religious people into accepting the Antichrist as God. But Revelation is clear, the Lord sees taking the Mark as synonymous with worship of the Antichrist (Revelation 14:9-11), and those who do so will never be saved.

Revelation 13:16-18

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: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.

Source Boston Globe