The Labour government has revealed that it intends to give police powers to request proof of identification on demand for the first time since the end of the Second World War. The legislation, which forms part of the draft Immigration and Citizenship bill, is to be announced during the Queen's speech later on this month. The new powers follow the introduction of an identification card, which all foreign nationals working in Britain are now required to carry. But critics say the laws are so vague that they could in theory be applied to any British citizen who had been abroad for any length of time, and that the scheme effectively amounts to a compulsory identification system being brought in by the back door. While British citizens would not be required by law to hold an identity card, police could in theory demand that any citizen produce proof of their identification. Those that fail to do so could face a fine of up to £5000 or a year in jail. Police already have powers to request proof of identification on suspicion that a crime has been committed. But the new legislation would go much further than that, making it a criminal offence for a person to refuse to produce some form of personal identification when demanded.

Quote: *"Phil Booth, national coordinator of the NO2ID campaign, said: "We have not had any sort of law like this outside of war time. "In practice it will be impossible to determine who has or has not entered the UK and therefore this applies to anyone in the UK." Liberal Democrat home affairs spokesman Chris Huhne added: "This is potentially a catch-all power which would allow the police or the officials to arrest and hold anyone who was unable to prove their own identity. "The Government has always promised that it would never introduce such a draconian intrusion into our daily lives."*

As we have seen recently, Labour's plans for the national identification scheme are wide-ranging. Former British Prime Minister Tony Blair had originally sought to bring in a compulsory national identification card system, but was prevented from doing so by the House of Lords, which viewed the plan as a serious infringement of civil liberties. Last month the government rolled out their foreign national identification card scheme, and British citizens will be able to apply for their own identity cards from the end of next year. While the government insists the national identification card scheme will not be compulsory in theory, these new laws may make it so in practice. The Bible states that during the tribulation period, an identification system will be launched that will also be compulsory in practice. For without the Mark of the Beast you won't be able to buy or sell anything.

Revelation 13:16-17
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.

There is much talk nowadays about personal identification in relation to the problem of international terrorism. Governments are talking about creating a white-list of individuals whom they know to be 'safe' people, and presumably those who remain unidentified or refuse to be identified constitute a 'threat' to national security. Hitler had the same idea with the Jews and their identifying yellow shield of David. It will be much the same during the tribulation period. Satan's goal will be to identify all of his followers with the Mark, and presumably those who remain unidentified or refuse to be identified will be followers of Christ. That's the idea behind the Mark, and it will make his task of 'overcoming' the tribulation saints easier. But praise God all those who have trusted in Jesus Christ for salvation have been sealed with God's Holy Spirit of promise (Ephesians 4:30). We have been sealed unto the day of redemption, when Christ shall come to redeem us from this fallen world, and there is no power in heaven or Earth that can take that away from us. Have you trusted in Jesus Christ for salvation? Are you sealed unto the day of redemption, or are you destined for the coming day of wrath (Revelation 6:16-17)? Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved (Acts 16:31).

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