

Aug '55

"BRANDS" - "STIGMATA" - Gal. 6:17.

"Stigmata" - actual marks - figurative & symbolic -

What was the "branding"? 5 classes - "I wear the uniform of a Christian"

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|---|---|
| 1. <u>Slaves</u> - "bore his ear with an awl" - <u>ownership</u> - | These marks sealed Christ's ownership of Paul.
They proclaimed his Allegiance - the Consecration - |
| 2. <u>Soldiers</u> - tattoo - "Alpha" on his chest - <u>Allegiance</u> - | |
| 3. <u>Religious devotees</u> - (Sealed with sacred brand) <u>Consecration</u> - | |
| 4. <u>Criminals</u> - "Stigma" - <u>CAIN</u> - <u>Exposure</u> - | |
| 5. <u>the Abhorred ones</u> - a mark of <u>insult</u> - <u>Reproach</u> - | |
- Philopater marked the Jews with the ivy leaf -

What were the Marks? - Scars & Sores - Sores - disfigurement -

2 Cor 11: 23-28 - battered & bruised -

5 Jewish floggings - 3 Roman beatings plowed furrows -
Cruel - barbarous - inhuman - brutal -

(1 Cor. 4: 9-13.)

Why the Stigmata are mentioned -

1. The emphatic "I" - (Contrast between himself & the Judaizers) -
2. "The brands of the Lord Jesus" - [vs. 12, 15 drawing a contrast between Moses and Christ]
Circumcision the mark of Moses.
3. "Let no man trouble me" -
He had received enough scars to place his loyalty - to measure his devotion

How do these Stigmata concern ourselves -

1. They tell us never be ashamed of bearing {reproach / suffering} for Christ's sake
The most honored disciples counted himself the branded slave

2. They tell us we should not fear to bear them in our bodies
[John Knot from the French galleys - his hands - Chained - 18 mos.
Mrs Knot kissed the hands -

[Mary Slessor (Calabar missionary) - hands hardened - callous
What sacrificial love those hands spoke -

3. They suggest that we bear the marks of Christ in our character
In a moral & spiritual sense the marks reproduced -

→ [His HOLINESS and LOVE -
His GRACE and MEEKNESS -
His SELF-SACRIFICING WILLINGNESS -

The marks that speak of Ownership - Allegiance - Consecration -

4. They predict glories ahead! PAUL - "I am now ready to be offered -

4. He knows each one by name - Hurt when one does not come -
He will not forget one - He knows hurts & burdens - Needs -
5. His bounty is sufficient for all - - Never failed one yet -
He knows He can reach the deepest need.
6. His promise intended for all time - In Isaiah's day - In N.T. now
→ Him that cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out
7. The many to whom this promise has proved true -

How Simple the Gospel! "Come! I will give" -
Something to Some One! When you do HE will give Rest

1. Come away from
2. It is in the present tense - Come, Now!
You need Him Now. You are hungry - You are thirsty - Sick -
3. Come just as you are!
You are faint - feeble - ready to die - Trust Him

How Unselfish His aims! "I will give you rest!"
He is rich - He wants to give