The Mark of the Beast as explained in Revelation 13, is the mark that some people will choose to receive from the beast, which is the number of man, 666. The Scripture is clear that no one gets the mark of the beast by accident or sleight-of-hand. To receive the mark of the beast is to knowingly worship the beast. (Revelation 13:12; 14:9; 16:2; 19:20). There is not one without the other. To receive the mark of the beast, you must worship the beast, and do so willingly and deliberately.

Christians who have been sealed and filled with the Holy Spirit simply won't be able to do this. As a result, the Bible tells us that you won't be able to sell or buy without it, and that some of them may even be executed (Revelation 13:15); all believers will be rewarded for their patient endurance (Revelation 14:12; 20:4). The time may come when proof of vaccination is required to travel, to be outside, or to enter into public buildings (including grocery stores). However, this does not mean that vaccination is the mark of the beast. Though both may have somewhat-similar restrictions of behavior associated with them, that does not make them the same thing. (In fact, if you have ever been on a mission's trip with Crossroads, you have been subject to this kind of requirement, as vaccines are required to get into both the countries of Lebanon and Mali.) Again, the mark of the beast absolutely requires an expression of worship and allegiance to the one who opposes Jesus. This is the understanding of the symbolism of it being on both your hand (action) and your forehead (thoughts).

Overall, medical advancements are a gift from God. There are a lot of opinions about vaccinations, even pre-covid. Whether you choose to get the vaccine or not is up to you. Whatever you decide, we think it's safe to say that the Covid vaccine is not the mark of the beast.

Crossroads Church Pastoral Team