

Everlasting Gospel Bible Studies

Lesson 28

SABBATH, THE SEAL OF GOD



In biblical times, a king's ring contained a seal which was used to stamp and seal letters and decrees. The seal usually contained his name, title and territory. Consider the seal for an American president:

Name: George Washington

Title: President

Territory: The United States of America

The king's seal was of great significance, and when pressed into wax to seal a decree, no unauthorized person dare break that seal. With the Medes and the Persians, even the king himself might not reverse the decree.

A. THE SEAL OF GOD

1. What is the seal or sign of God? Ezekiel 20:20

NOTE: The seal also refers to a sign in the context of our study. See Romans 4:11.

2. Identify the three characteristics that make up the seal of God in the Sabbath commandment, Exodus 20:8-11:

a) Name _____

b) Title _____

c) Territory _____

NOTE: The fourth commandment contains His name "The Lord thy



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Taking the Three Angel's Messages to the world

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God," His title "Creator" and His territory, "heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is."

B. THE SEALING OF THE SERVANTS OF GOD

3. Who will receive the seal of God? Revelation 7:3

NOTE: This sealing in Revelation identifies those people whose loyalty to God cannot be shaken. Of course they keep His commandments, including the Sabbath.

4. Where will the servants of God receive the seal? Revelation 7:3

NOTE: The seal of God will be placed in the forehead. The seal is not a visible sign, but a mind which has chosen loyalty to God's law through the blood of Jesus; a mind which has become so settled in the truth that death would be preferable to sinning.

5. What will be written in the servants' foreheads?

Revelation 22:3-4

NOTE: In the Bible, people's characters were indicated by the names they were given (1 Samuel 25:25). It was quite common for a change of name to take place when there had been a change of character (Genesis 32:27, 28; Acts 13:9). The thoughts and feelings of the mind together make up the character. Therefore, the sealed ones will have the character of Christ written in their foreheads; they will have His perfect thoughts and feelings.

~ NOTES ~

SUMMARY

The seal of God is the Sabbath. To receive the seal is to keep all of God's commandments, including the Sabbath commandment, through the faith of Jesus. God gives us the promise that we may keep His law with all our hearts. The sealed ones have reflected the character of Jesus fully. Only those who have fortified their minds with the law and the Word of God daily, will fully bear the likeness of Christ's character. The time of trouble will not come until the 144,000 are sealed. The servants of God will be protected during the fall of the plagues, because they have been sealed. The seal will be placed in the forehead. The seal of God is not a visible sign but is a mind fortified in the truth of God. The harvest time, the Second Coming of Jesus, will come after the 144,000 are sealed to claim them as His own.

PERSONAL COMMITMENT

Today I claim Jesus' promise to help me keep all the commandments, including the Sabbath commandment, so that I may be ready to receive the seal of God..

Signed: _____

6. **What will the servants of God do from the heart?**
Ephesians 6:5-6
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7. **What is the will of God? Psalm 40:8; 1 Thessalonians 4:3**
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NOTE: Only those whose hearts delight in keeping the commandments of God will receive the seal of God.

8. **As we abide under the protection of God's covenant with man, what has He promised to fulfill in us? Hebrews 8:10, 10:16, 17**
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NOTE: "Heart" and "mind" are nearly synonymous terms used to describe the source of our thoughts and feelings, our will and intent (I Chronicles 28:9; Proverbs 23:7). God promises to write His law in our hearts so that it might direct our inmost thoughts and feelings. Thus His thoughts become our contemplation and His will becomes our choice. Therefore we are able to keep all His laws, including the Sabbath commandment, from our heart and as our delight.

C. THE TIME OF SEALING

9. **What will take place after the servants of God are sealed?**
Revelation 7:1-3
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NOTE: In prophetic language, "winds" refer to strife, war, and trouble (Jeremiah 49:36-37). The four winds represent worldwide trouble, which is the time of trouble of Daniel 12:1. The earth, the sea, the sun, the air, and the wicked will be affected by the plagues during the time of trouble. But the servants of God will not be hurt by the plagues because they will be sealed. The angels are holding back the wind, or the time of trouble, until the servants of God shall be sealed.

- 10. After the time of trouble, what climactic event will occur?**
Luke 21:25, 27
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NOTE: Christ will come after the time of trouble to deliver His servants (Daniel 12:1).

D. THE FIRSTFRUITS AND THE HARVEST

- 11. What is the number of those who are sealed? Revelation 7:4**
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NOTE: The symbolic context seems to suggest that this number is not to be taken literally.

- 12. What are the characteristics of the 144,000? Revelation 14:1, 4-5**
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NOTE: The 144,000 will be so united with Christ that they are without fault before the throne of God. A perfect character is required of all those who will receive the seal of God. The 144,000 are called the firstfruits, which means that of the great final harvest of the earth, they are the first to ripen to a matured representation of Christ's character.

- 13. What will take place after the firstfruits is brought forth?**
Mark 4:28-29
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- 14. At the second coming, what does Jesus have in His hand?**
Revelation 14:14-15
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NOTE: In Revelation 14, the Second Coming is depicted as Jesus

coming in the clouds of heaven. These clouds represent the myriads of angels that will attend Him as He comes back to the earth. The sharp sickle is symbolic of the harvest of the faithful of all ages who will return with Him to heaven.

F. THIRD ANGELS MESSAGE

- 15. Whom are we to worship according to the everlasting gospel?**
Revelation 14:6-7
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NOTE: The first angel, who has the everlasting gospel, proclaims the message to worship God. The only true way to worship the God of creation is to worship Him on the Sabbath day (Exodus 20:10.11).

- 16. What are we warned not to receive in our forehead?**
Revelation 14:9
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- 17. What will happen to those who worship the beast?**
Revelation 14:10-11
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NOTE: The worshipers of the beast will receive the wrath of God during the time of trouble.

- 18. Who will have the victory over the beast? I John 5:4;**
Revelation 15:2
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NOTE: Those who have the victory will stand on the sea of glass and have the harps of God. Notice that the 144,000 have harps.