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Lesson Ten

REVELATION'S SEAL OF GOD

Materials for distribution: Lesson 11, Exhibits 1, 2, 3, 4, and Amazing Facts Folder F.

WARM WELCOME, OPENING REMARKS AND PRAYER

In our last class we focused on the Four Horsemen and the Seven Seals of Revelation.

In this session we will study about what God wants to do to prepare us for the world's final crisis.

LESSON PREPARATION
FOR THIS SESSION?
(Show of hands)

Did you learn anything new?

Wasn't this a fascinating subject?

Let's get right into our lesson.

1. <u>LETS READ IN UNISON REVELATION 7:1-3.</u> The scene – just before end of all things.

WHAT EVIDENCE DO YOU SEE OF GOD'S LOVE FOR HIS CHILDREN?

Answer – Before winds of strife are unleashed He wants to prepare His followers for that terrible hour.

He wants to prepare us to stand every test.

10-1

Notes, Questions & Prayer Requests							
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QUIZ QUESTIONS

(Choose one or more answers)

- The messages of Revelation are for:
 Every nation (everybody)
 - B. All of our relatives

C. A select few

- 2. God is not allowing the final winds of war to blow until:
 - A Everybody loves everybody
 - B. Servants of God sealed

C. All have accepted Christ

B

A & B

- 3. At creation, God did these special things
 - to the Seventh day:
 - A Declared it a holiday
 - B. Blessed it

C. Sanctified it

B & C

- 4. Which groups were Sabbath-keepers:
 - A Jesus and His disciples
 - B. Caesar and the Roman soldiers
 - C. Paul and Christian Gentiles

A & C

- **5.** What is the Biblically recommended motive for obedience to God's great moral law (Ten Commandments)?
 - A Love

B. Grace lase shy hoish of strong bosh

C. Peace

OFFERING APPEAL

With or without transparencies, tell class the amount of offerings thus far and invite liberal offerings for this Seminar and to help conduct others. Thank class for their generosity.

Decision Questions

I want you to answer the following statements by placing "Xs" in the upper right hand corner of your Quiz Envelope:

- 1. If tonight's study made sense to you if you feel that it was sound and from God's Word, place an "X".
- 2. Place another "X" if you are ready to say, "Sometime in the future, I would like to keep the Sabbath Day holy according to God's Word."
- 3. I am ready to make this decision because I love Jesus and I want to please him. If this is how you feel place the third "X" on your envelope.

Talk up the next lesson.

Closing Prayer

10-9

REVELATION SEMINARS



REVELATION'S SEAL OF GOD

Would you be surprised to learn that God has a special sign, seal, or mark that He places upon His people?

Would you be startled to learn that unless a person bears this mark at Jesus' return, he cannot enter God's kingdom?

Would you be shocked to discover that most people are totally unaware of God's mark, and thus ignore it?

Would you be amazed to suddenly realize that God is much displeased that men are ignoring His carefully selected mark?

Would you be dumbfounded to find out that one great prime purpose of Revelation is to identify and restore God's mark to His people?

Well, incredible as it may seem, the above five statements are true. Few things are as important to God as His mark. And, tragically, when God looks at most of His people today, He can only shake His head and sadly say, "The mark is missing." It would be difficult to find a more important topic for study. Please pray much as you consider this most crucial matter.

GOD'S SEAL OF PROTECTION

1. Let's move at once into the heart of the subject by reading Revelation 7:1-3 (1807). Notice that a mighty angel has commanded that the final winds of war and destruction not unleash their fury upon the earth and sea until something very important has been completed. What is that important something?

Ans. "Hurt not the earth . . . till we have SEALED

the SERVANTS of GOD

in their FOREHEADS".

-1-

2. What a colossal task!

But Jesus said in Matthew 28:18-20,

"All power is given unto me . . .

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations."

The message of Revelation 14:6-12
is to be given with power "To every nation, kindred, tongue and people,"
just before Jesus comes
by persons like you and me!

What a privilege to be involved in something so grand!

- 3. A seal anciently was used for three purposes:
 - a. To signify ownership
 - **b.** To indicate genuineness
 - c. To show authenticity.

God's seal, which He places on the forehead of His true followers, indicates we belong to Him, we are genuine, trusted, true, authentic followers of Jesus.

Placing His seal in the forehead implies that the one sealed has a total commitment to God and His will, to the principles of His government.

Not just externals.

Not just form.

Not just a profession.

4. Read answer to question #4 together

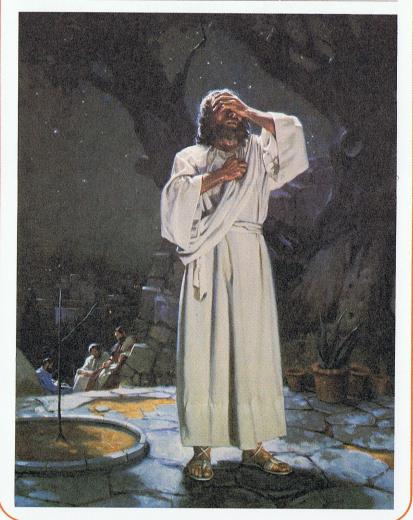
A government seal contains three essential elements:

- 1. The name of its presiding officer
- **2.** His title (President, Prime Minister, etc.)
- **3.** The territory over which he presides.

from sin and HIS miracles. And, most exciting of all, Jesus set this wonderful day aside to be with us and to help us become like Him. Jesus, at Eden, gave people two wonderful institutions to make them supremely happy: marriage and the Sabbath. He must often weep that so many people today ignore these two loving gifts, and thus end up with lives of misery and woe.

27. Isaiah 58:13,14 (1095) and other Bible passages point out that Sabbath keeping brings to a person blessings that are unbelievably rewarding. Would you like to begin receiving these blessings by sharing Jesus' special day with Him?

Ans:



CLASS APPEAL

27. Today hundreds of thousands of people are under conviction regarding God's holy day.

Hundreds of Sunday keeping pastors are becoming convinced they should begin proclaiming the sanctity of God's Seventh-day Bible Sabbath.

Some have lost their pulpits because they have placed God ahead of their careers.

The end of all things is at hand.

God wants to place His seal
in your forehead and mine,
before the winds of war and destruction blow.

Just now, as you consider this important subject, are you ready to ask for God's special guidance as you continue studying God's will for your life?

Let us pray.

APPEAL PRAYER

NOTE: The angel is saying that God will not permit destruction to come upon the earth until His people have all received His seal or mark. With God, the marking of His people is an extremely imperative priority matter. Remember that in symbolic language, winds represent war, strife and destruction. See Exhibit #1, Lesson 1. 2. How widely will the serious messages of Revelation, including the truth about God's seal, sign, or mark, be presented? Revelation 14:6 and KINDRED Ans. "To every NATION and TONGUE and PEOPLE NOTE: Seal, sign and mark are used interchangeably in Scripture. Romans 4:11 (1652); Ezekiel 9:4 (1220); Revelation 7:2,3 (1807) 3. What is a seal? How is it sometimes used in a figurative manner? Romans 4:11 (1652); Ephesians 1:13 (1714); Ephesians 4:30 (1718) Ans: "A SEAL of Righteousness of the faith . . ." "Grieve not the HOLY SPIRIT God, whereby ye are ____SEALED NOTE: In the Bible two figurative uses of the seal are made. a. A seal may stand for a truth or requirement of God. b. A seal may indicate God's ownership and approval. 4. What three things does a government seal contain? Ans: Government seals are used to offically identify national laws and authorize legal documents. Such a seal must give the law-giver's a. Name, b. Title, and c. Territory over which he rules and has authority. 5. What is God's seal in His Holy Law, the Ten Commandments? Exodus 20:8-11 (119) Ans: "The **SEVENTH** day is the **SABBATH** of LORD ____thy God . . . For in six days MADE the Lord heaven and earth". NOTE: The fourth commandment is the seal of God's Ten Commandment Law because it states a. God's Name ("the

Lord thy God"), b. His title or office as Creator ("Made"), and

5. Have you ever looked at the "GREAT SEAL" of the President of the United States? We see his name, title, and territory – What an impressive seal!

God's government also has a "GREAT SEAL".

If we look objectively at the Fourth Commandment, it is clear that it sets forth the authority back of God's Ten Commandments.

It is, in a real sense, the GREAT SEAL of God.

We see His:

- 1. Name Lord thy God
- 2. Title Creator
- **3.** Territory Heaven and Earth
- **6.** Let's look carefully at question #6:

WHAT RIGHT DOES GOD HAVE TO ASK US TO WORSHIP HIM?

The very foundation for all worship is the fact — God is our Creator.

Before all other reasons, we worship God because He created us.

7. AFTER QUESTION #7

Do you want God's mark in your forehead? I do!
I want to be settled and immersed into all of God's truth.
I want His seal to be part of my life.

Does it shock you to see that God is holding back the final events of earth until the message of God as Creator is proclaimed in all the world and His servants have accepted His seal in their foreheads?

Him that 'made heaven, and earth, and the sea' ". The recognition of God as our Creator becomes automatic when we recognize and observe His Sabbath. Also, it continually reminds us of our **Roots** as children of the Great Creator, God. The result of these final Three Angels' Messages, Revelation 14:6-12 (1815), is to gather together and prepare a special people who will be loyally obedient to the commandments of God, and be ready when Jesus returns. These are the people who will have God's sign or seal (His Sabbath) in their foreheads.

25. What does God say, in the ten commandments, that I must do to demonstrate that I worship the creator? Exodus 20:8,11 (119)

it HOLY ... FOR in six days the LORD

MADE HEAVEN and EARTH

NOTE: God commands that I keep the Sabbath holy as proof that I accept and worship Him as Creator. The importance of this commandment cannot be over-emphasized. If people had kept this commandment through the centuries, there would not be one single evolutionist, idolater, or pagan, today. No wonder God is calling people back to Sabbath-keeping at this time in history.

People will keep the Sabbath in the New Earth.



26. Why should Sabbath-keeping be especially exciting to a follower of the Lord Jesus? Mark 2:28 (1455)

Ans. Because the Sabbath is the LORD'S day

NOTE: Remember! Jesus created everything in cooperation with His Father, John 1:1-3, 10,14 (1546); Hebrews 1:1,2 (1757); Ephesians 3:9 (1716); Colossians 1:13-17 (1728). This, of course, includes the Sabbath. The Sabbath is thrilling and exciting to Christians because it centers in Jesus. It is HIS day. It represents: HIS power to create, HIS love, HIS power to save

25. Notice in the Fourth Commandment it clearly implies that if we remember the Sabbath to keep it holy, we are worshipping and honoring God as Creator.

As we have studied before this is the fundamental reason we worship Him.

This is why God, throughout Scripture, calls His children back to worshipping on His holy day.

It is especially significant
that God should refocus attention
on the Sabbath, at this time
when teachings regarding EVOLUTION
so permeate our culture;
when HUMANISM would deny
the very existence of God.

- c. His dominion ("Heaven and Earth"). Thus, the fourth commandment sets forth in unmistakable language, the authority that is back of the Ten Commandments the authority of our Creator and the Government of God.
- Revelation is clear: we worship God because He is our CREATOR, Revelation 4:10,11 (1805), and REDEEMER, Revelation 5:9 (1805). What has God provided for His people as a sign, seal, or mark of His CREATING and REDEEMING power? Exodus 31:16,17 (141); Ezekiel 20:12 (1238)

Ans. THE SABBATH

NOTE: God, Himself, made the Sabbath a sign of His creating, redeeming power. When I keep it holy I demonstrate my acceptance of Him as my Creator and Saviour.

7. Where does the great angel of Revelation 7 say this sign or seal of God will be placed on a person? Revelation 7:3 (1807)

Ans. "In their __ FOREHEADS

NOTE: The forehead represents the mind. We serve the Lord with our minds, Romans 7:25 (1656). So, when we consent to keep God's Sabbath we are marked, or signed, in our minds, which are represented by the forehead. Just think of it! Angels are holding back the fury of Satan until God's people everywhere have accepted His sign.

The Sabbath is for all people.



GOD'S HOLY SABBATH

8. When did God make the Sabbath? Genesis 2:1-4 (2)

Ans."When the Lord God made the EARTH

and the **HEAVENS**

NOTE: After the six days of creation, God made the Sabbath on the seventh day.

9. WHY DO YOU THINK GOD CHOSE THE ELEMENT OF "TIME" TO FOCUS OUR MINDS UPON HIM?

Answer – God created us for fellowship with Him.

Fellowship requires time.

Nothing is so fitting as a unit of time.

Nothing is so meaningful for mankind,

as to have a special time

to worship Him.

10. God "SANCTIFIED" or set apart for holy use, every SEVENTH DAY, at the very beginning of time.

- 12. When God made the Sabbath, there was no Jew or Gentile.
 Only man! God made the Sabbath for Adam and ALL his descendants.
 That includes you and me.
- 13. To forget the Sabbath was to forget God.
 In the Fourth Commandment God is saying:
 "DON'T FORGET ME!
 I created you!
 I love you!"

GOD'S PEOPLE IDENTIFIED

19.	How does Revelation refer to the people who will be saved in God's Kingdom? Revelation 14:12 (1815); Revelation 12:17 (1813)
	Ans. As the people who KEEP the COMMANDMENTS
	NOTE: This includes Sabbath-keeping, since it is the fourth commandment, Exodus 20:8-11 (119).
20.	Why is breaking God's commandments, or law, so serious? I John 3:4 (1792)
	Ans. Because breaking God's law is SIN
	and the wages of sin is DEATH . Romans 6:23 (1655)
21.	In Isaiah 58:1 (1094), God says "cry aloud" and show "my people" their sin. What sin is He specifically referring to in verse 13?
	Ans. He said they were trampling upon His SABBATH.
	NOTE: In Isaiah's day they were trampling upon God's Sabbath seal. Men, today, are doing the same serious thing. God says that His own dear people, who love Him, are trampling His Sabbath under foot. His command is to "cry aloud" and explain the Sabbath to them, because His loving sheep will gladly follow Him in Sabbath-keeping when they understand. They long to please. That is why He claims them as His sheep.
22.	What day will the saints keep in the New Earth? Isaiah 66:22,23 (1105)
	Ans: SABBATH
23.	What should be my motivation for obedience to God's commands? John 14:15 (1576)
	Ans: Love of THE LORD
24.	How does Revelation show that a special message about the Sabbath sign or Seal will go to the world just before Jesus comes? Revelation 14:6,7,12,14 (1815)
	Ans: "Worship HIM that MADE HEAVEN
	and EARTH " "they that KEEP
	the COMMANDMENTS of God, and the FAITH of Jesus".
	NOTE: This final presentation of the gospel calls the inhabitants of earth back to the worship of the Creator and actually quotes part of the 4th commandment, "Worship

- 19. The expression "the Commandments" in the Bible means "God's Ten Commandments".
- 20. When we do not "obey" God
 we are indicating we don't trust Him.
 Separation from God,
 the source of life,
 brings death.

- **22.** I want to get in the habit now of living like we will in the New Earth, Don't you?
- **23.** Obedience not motivated by love, is heavy drudgery and results in legalism.
- 24. The answer to our question is another case of God guiding John to choose words from Holy Scripture.

 This time, directly from the Fourth Commandment.

We will automatically worship God as Creator, if we honor Him on His holy day, the Sabbath.

	Ans."The seventhis the Sabbath".	
	NOTE: God made the Sabbath from a 24-hour day — the seventh day. It is made of time, and time is what it takes to develop a warm friendship with the Lord. He offers me 24 hours a week of His priceless time so He and I can become warm, close friends. A marriage cannot succeed unless the partners spend time together. Neither will my love relationship with the Lord succeed unless we are together. If the leader of my country offered to spend one day with me, how honored I would be! I would allow nothing to interfere with that appointment. But the King of the Universe, has planned into His incredibly important schedule an appointment to meet me one day a week. How can I ignore such an offer?	
10.	What three things did God do at creation that made the seventh day special? Genesis 2:2,3 (2)	
	Ans."And He RESTED on the seventh day and God BLESSED the seventh day and SAUCT FIED it".	
	NOTE: "Sanctify" means to set aside for a sacred use. As the Bible is different from any other book, and our national flag is different from any other piece of cloth, so the Sabbath is totally different from any other day. The literal 24-hour period was made holy by God.	
11.	When God blesses something, for how long is it blessed? I Chronicles 17:27 (680)	
	Ans. "Thou blessest, O Lord, and it shall be blest forever."	
12.	For whom did God make the Sabbath? Mark 2:27,28 (1455)	
	Ans."The Sabbath was made for	
	NOTE: Some say that the Sabbath was made for the Jews only, and not for Gentiles. But Jesus says it was made for all men or people everywhere.	
13.	Read the Sabbath commandment, Exodus 20:8-11 (119). What specific command is given here regarding the Sabbath?	
	Ans. "REMEMBER the SABBATH day to KEEP it holy"	

From what did God make the Sabbath? Exodus 20:10 (120)

forget.

NOTE: This command is so clear that a person would have to

try hard to misunderstand it. It is the only command of the ten

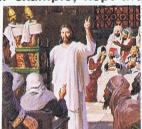
beginning with the word "Remember". God saw that men would

14. Jesus was accused of doing away with God's law.
WHAT DID HE SAY TO THIS ACCUSATION?

- 15. Does it surprise you to learn that Jesus and His followers, even after His death, kept the Sabbath – God's holy day?
- **16.** To answer this question LET'S READ I Peter 2:21 in unison.
- **17.** What day did the Gentiles keep, who became Christians from Paul's preaching?
- 18. AFTER NOTE: ask the following question:

Jesus expected His followers to keep His holy day?

Jesus, our example, kept the Sabbath.



THE NEW TESTAMENT SABBATH

 Have the ten commandments, which mandate Sabbath-keeping, ever been repealed? Luke 16:17 (1526)

Ans. "It is easier for HEAVEN and EARTH to PASS

than for one TITTLE of the LAW to FAIL ".

NOTE: God's law and His commandments are the same thing, Matthew 5:17-19 (1402); Romans 13:8-10 (1664).

15. Which day did Jesus and Paul keep Holy? Luke 4:16 (1496); Acts 17:2 (1623)

Ans. THE SABBATH DAY

16. How should it affect me, personally, to learn that Jesus kept the Sabbath? I Peter 2:21 (1782)

Ans. Christ is my example. I should **follow** His steps.

NOTE: Since Jesus set an example for me in Sabbath-keeping, surely I will want to follow Him in keeping it.

17. Did Christian Gentiles keep the Sabbath? Acts 13:42 (1616)

Ans. YES

NOTE: Verse 43 points out that these Sabbath-keeping Gentiles were also living under grace.

18. What did Jesus say that lets us know that He did not plan to change the Sabbath at the time of His resurrection? Matthew 24:20 (1439)

Ans. Jesus said they should pray that they would not have to

flee in winter or on the SABBATH when Jerusalem fell.

NOTE: When Jesus made this statement He knew that Jerusalem would be destroyed almost forty years in the future. But He said, "Pray that you won't have to flee on the Sabbath", because He expected them to be keeping the Sabbath forty years after His ascension.