

The seal of God is a vital subject that should be clearly understood by all. One cannot overstate the importance of the believer understanding and receiving God's identifying seal as it will play a critical role in earth's final hour. The seal of God serves as a protective mechanism for God's people as they pass through what Jesus describes as those days of "great tribulation" (Matthew 24:21, 22). Contrary to popular theology which suggests that the church will be raptured before "the tribulation," the scriptures indicate that God's people must enter the kingdom of God "through much tribulation" (Acts 14:22). Therefore, as we will learn in our study, receiving God's seal is paramount for Bible-believing Christians and all should not rest until they are certain that God's special seal is placed upon them. May the Lord help us to understand and receive His seal as we study What God Says About..."The Seal of God."

HOLD THE WINDS

1. **What did John the Revelator see the four angels on the four corners of the earth holding?**

   "And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree." *Revelation 7:1*

2. **What important identifying mark did the angel ascending from the east possess?**

   "And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea." *Revelation 7:2*

   Note: *The angel ascending from the east in Revelation 7:2-4 has a distinctive seal or invisible mark that enables God's people to stand through the final crisis. Scripture also speaks of the seal of the Holy Spirit*

that is associated with conversion and baptism (2 Cor. 1:22; Eph. 1:13; 4:30).

3. Who must be sealed in their foreheads before the earth is inflicted with massive environmental devastation?

"Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ in their foreheads." *Revelation 7:3*

Note: *The seal of God is received in the forehead—that is within the mind, and it represents the seat of our thinking or a decisive decision. It is placed there by the mighty angel that ascends from the east. It is not a mark that can be seen by human eyes, but it can be seen by God and the holy angels.*

4. According to John the Revelator, how many were sealed?

"And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an _____ and _____ and _____ _____ of all the tribes of the children of Israel." *Revelation 7:4*

Note: *The one hundred and forty and four thousand symbolize faithful overcomers who will be translated to heaven without seeing death at the second coming of Christ.*

FRONTLETS BETWEEN YOUR EYES

Note: *In the book of Deuteronomy, Moses instructs the children of Israel to obey God's commandments, statutes, and judgments and to teach them to their children so that they would obey them when they enter the Canaan Land (Deuteronomy 6:1, 2). God gave specific instructions and practical means in which to ensure that the children of Israel would never forget His teachings. In Deuteronomy 6:7-9, instructions were given for the parents to: diligently "teach" God's words to their children. They were to "bind" them as a sign upon their hand and as "frontlets" between their eyes, and they were to "write" them upon the doorposts of their house and on their gates. Interestingly, God mentions that His words were to be as "frontlets" between their eyes, meaning that God wanted His words to be indelibly imprinted upon their minds and meditated upon. In like manner, as we prepare to enter the heavenly Canaan Land, God wants His Ten Commandment Law to be imprinted upon our minds and written in our foreheads. Further in our study, we will discover that the fourth commandment of God's law, in particular, will play a significant role in the last days as it is intrinsically connected to the seal of God that will be placed in the foreheads of God's people.*

EZEKIEL 9 AND THE MARK

Note: *In the vision of Ezekiel 9, the prophet is primarily referring to the destruction of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar. However, this vision will have another fulfillment in the last days regarding the seal of God spoken of by John in Revelation 7 and alluded to in Revelation 15 and 16.*

5. What did the men who had charge over the city have in their hand?

"He cried also in mine ears with a loud voice, saying, Cause them that have charge over the city to draw near, even every man with _____ _____ _____ in his hand." *Ezekiel 9:1*

6. What did the man clothed with linen have by his side?

"And, behold, six men came from the way of the higher gate, which lieth toward the north, and every man a slaughter weapon in his hand; and one man among them was clothed with linen, with _____ _____ _____ by his side: and they went in, and stood beside the brazen altar." *Ezekiel 9:2*

7. What did God command the man with the writer's inkhorn to place on the foreheads of those who sighed and cried for all the abominations in Jerusalem?

[3]"And the glory of the God of Israel was gone up from the cherub, whereupon he was, to the threshold of the house. And he called to the man clothed with linen, which had the writer's inkhorn by his side. [4]And the LORD said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set _____ _____ upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof." *Ezekiel 9:3, 4*

8. What were the men who followed the man with the writer's inkhorn commanded to do?

"And to the others he said in mine hearing, Go ye after him through the city, and _____: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity." *Ezekiel 9:5*

9. According to Ezekiel 9:6, what served as the only protection during the awful slaughter?

"Slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is _____ _____; and begin at my sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house." *Ezekiel 9:6*

10. What did the men with destroying weapons go forth to do?

"And he said unto them, Defile the house, and fill the courts with the slain: go ye forth. And they went forth, and _____ _____ _____ _____." *Ezekiel 9:7*

11. What did the man with the writer's inkhorn report to God?

"And, behold, the man clothed with linen, which had the inkhorn by his side, reported the matter, saying, _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____." *Ezekiel 9:11*

Note: *The vision of Ezekiel chapter 9 provides historical context of the seal of God. While it primarily refers to the destruction of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar, it graphically depicts a sealing of God's people. All who received the protective mark were spared from the slaughter. Likewise, all who receive the seal of God will be protected in the final crisis at the end.*

BLOOD ON THE DOORPOSTS

12. What specific segment of Egypt's population was to die at midnight?

[4]"And Moses said, Thus saith the LORD, About midnight will I go out into the midst of Egypt: [5]And _____ _____ _____ in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sitteth upon his throne, even unto the firstborn of the maidservant that is behind the mill; and all the firstborn of beasts." *Exodus 11:4, 5*

13. Who did God promise to protect during the tenth plague? His protective measures were designed to put what between the Egyptians and Israel?

"But against any of _____ _____ _____ _____ shall not a dog move his tongue, against man or beast: that ye may know how that the LORD doth _____ _____ _____ between the Egyptians and Israel." *Exodus 11:7*

14. What important substance were the children of Israel to put on the side and upper doorpost for protection?

"And they shall take of _____ _____, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it." *Exodus 12:7*

Note: *Just as a real mark was placed upon the doorposts of the Israelites' dwelling places, a real mark that angels can see will be placed upon God's sealed people to shelter them from the impending destruction.*

15. What did the death angel have to see upon the houses in order for the children of Israel's lives to be spared?

"And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see _____ _____, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt." *Exodus 12:13*

16. According to Exodus 12:29, who was smitten at midnight?

"And it came to pass, that at midnight the LORD smote _____ _____ _____ in the land of _____, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle." *Exodus 12:29*

THE SEAL OF GOD – A CLOSER LOOK

17. According to Isaiah 8:16, what is the seal?

"Bind up the testimony, seal _____ _____ among my disciples." *Isaiah 8:16*

Note: *The prophet Isaiah clearly associates the seal with the law. He is speaking of the moral law of the Ten Commandments that is to be sealed among God's people.*

18. According to Hebrews 8:10, speaking of the new covenant, where did God promise to put His law?

"For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws _____ _____ _____, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people." *Hebrews 8:10*

19. Specifically, which commandment or holy day in the moral law contains the seal of God?

[8]"Remember _____ _____ _____, to keep it holy. [9]Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: [10]But _____ _____ _____ is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates." *Exodus 20:8-10*

20. A seal has three components: (1) The name (2) The title and (3) The territory. Identify the three components of the seal of God found in the fourth commandment.

"For in six days (1) _____ _____ (2) _____ (3) _____ and _____, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it." *Exodus 20:11*

THE SIGN AND SEAL ARE SYNONYMOUS

21. According to Romans 4:11, what two terms does the apostle Paul use interchangeably when speaking of Abraham?

"And he received _____ _____ of circumcision, ____ _____ of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised: that he might be the father of all them that believe, though they be not circumcised; that righteousness might be imputed unto them also." *Romans 4:11*

Note: *According to Romans 4:11, the apostle Paul indicates that the terms sign and seal are interchangeable in the Bible.*

22. Why did God give Israel His Sabbaths? What special work does God do within the life of those who keep the Sabbath?

"Moreover also I gave them my sabbaths, _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____, that they might know that I am the LORD that _____ _____." *Ezekiel 20:12*

Note: *The seventh-day Sabbath was given to Israel as a sign between God and His people. The Sabbath distinguishes the Creator, the true and living God, from all other false gods. It is also a sign that God sanctifies His people—sets them apart as a holy people unto Himself.*

23. The Sabbath, the seal of God's authority, is also identified as what between God and His people?

"And hallow my sabbaths; and they shall be _____ _____ between me and you, that ye may know that I am the LORD your God." *Ezekiel 20:20*

Note: *God instructed Israel to reverence His Sabbath as an identifiable sign between God and His people. It is important to note that the Sabbath of the fourth commandment, instituted at Creation, is to be observed by all the inhabitants of the earth. The Sabbath was made for all mankind, not exclusively for the Jews (Mark 2:27, 28). When the Sabbath is observed, it indicates man's allegiance to the Creator as the only One who is to be worshipped and served.*

24. How long was Israel to keep the Sabbath, the distinguishable sign between God and His people?

[12]"And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, [13]Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you _____ _____ _____; that ye may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you." *Exodus 31:12, 13*

THREE KEY POINTS ABOUT THE SEAL

(A) A SEAL OF PROTECTION – God will only protect those who have the seal of the living God.

Note: *In order to receive the seal of the living God, we must fully reflect the character of God. All who receive the seal of God will be protected in the time of trouble.*

(B) A SEAL OF POSSESSION – God claims ownership of those who possess His seal.

Note: *The seventh-day Sabbath is the seal of the living God. It is a sign between God and His people and also a sign of God's rightful authority over those whom He has created. When we keep the Sabbath, we acknowledge God's rightful authority and worship Him as the Creator and supreme ruler over our lives.*

(C) A SEAL OF CHARACTER PERFECTION – God will place His seal on those who have the inward sign of character that is manifested in the outward sign of Sabbath observance.

Note: *God will never place His seal upon the forehead of an impure person. God's seal will be placed upon the forehead of those who reflect the character of Christ fully and keep the seventh-day Sabbath holy. Those who receive the seal of God will obtain victory over sin by the indwelling power of Christ in their hearts. This special group of people will allow Christ to perfect that which concerns them (Psalm 138:8).*

25. What does God know as it pertains to the seal?

"Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth _____ _____ _____ _____. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity." *2 Timothy 2:19*

THE SEA OF GLASS

26. Where in vision did John see those standing who had won the victory over the beast and his image and over his mark? What did they have in their hands?

[1]"And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God. [2]And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on _____ _____ _____ _____, having _____ _____ _____ _____." *Revelation 15:1, 2*

Note: *God's sealed people will stand victorious on the sea of glass with the redeemed of all ages.*

SUMMARY

The seal of God plays a critical role in the last days of earth's history. The mighty angel from the east is carrying on the sealing work while the four angels are holding back the winds of strife. This seal received in the forehead, the mind—representing a decisive decision to keep the Sabbath of the fourth commandment—enables God's people to stand through the final crisis. Those who keep the true Sabbath are the only ones who will be protected and preserved during the great tribulation. The seal has been shown to be a seal of protection, possession, and character perfection. God will place His seal on those who have the inward sign of character that is manifested in the outward sign of Sabbath observance.

27. Dear friend, will you accept God's Sabbath and allow the mighty angel to place God's seal in your forehead? _____

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