

WHAT IS THE SEAL OF GOD?

A SAVED TO SERVE STUDY GUIDE

Saved To Serve
Prophesy Again

INTRODUCTION

The Seal of the Living God

We let the Bible interpret itself, testing every teaching by "the law and to the testimony" (Isaiah 8:20). The study runs in one continuous sequence — from Point 1 through Point 26. Read each reference in your Bible and write your answers on the lines provided.

1. **PURPOSE** In this series of doctrinal lessons we will identify what the seal of God is, what the sealing experience is, and who seals us. This topic is debated among Seventh-day Adventists and believers of other denominations — so we will let Scripture settle it.

In This Study

1	What the seal of God is	*Revelation 7:1-3*
2	A seal's three parts	*Esther 3; 1 Kings 21*
3	The Sabbath is God's seal	*Isaiah 8:16; Ezekiel 20:12*
4	The seal vs. the mark of the beast	*Revelation 14:9-12*
5	Sealed by the Holy Spirit	*Ephesians 4:30; 1:13*
6	The sealing & victory over sin	*2 Timothy 2:19*
7	The 70 weeks & the example of Job	*Daniel 9; Job 1-2*
8	Applying God's seal to our lives	*1 Corinthians 6:19-20*

◆ BEFORE YOU BEGIN

"And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption."

EPHESIANS 4:30 (KJV)

Keep your Bible open and let each text speak for itself. A seal has three parts — a name, a title, and a territory; watch for them as you study. Answer honestly, compare Scripture with Scripture, and ask the Spirit to seal His truth upon your heart — from Point 1 to Point 26.

2. **Read Revelation 7:1-3. Why has God not yet released the winds of strife upon the earth?**— *Read: Revelation 7:1-3*

3. **NOTE** What is the seal of God? It is the seventh-day Sabbath. We can confirm this by studying how the word "seal" is used in the Bible. The Greek word for "seal" (Strong's #4973) means "a signet; by implication the stamp impressed as a mark of privacy or genuineness." In the natural sense a seal is like a stamp that validates or authenticates a document. Spiritually, when God seals His people He validates them as His, and they choose to obey only His words. A literal seal has three primary parts: the notary's name, title, and territory.

4. **Which scripture shows that a seal has three primary parts? Identify those parts.**— *Read: Esther 3:12, 13; Esther 8:8-10; 1 Kings 21:8 and then verse 1*

5. **Since God will seal His people before He returns, and they must have His seal in order to be saved, where can we find God's seal?**— *Read: Isaiah 8:16*

6. **Which of God's Ten Commandments contains the three parts of a seal? Give the scripture and name the three parts.**

7. **The seal of God, placed upon God's faithful in the last days, stands in contrast to the Mark of the Beast placed upon the wicked (Revelation 13:16-17; 14:9-10). When the Mark of the Beast is enforced, how will God identify His faithful people?**— *Read: Revelation 14:12; Revelation 12:17*

8. **NOTE** It is clear that the Sabbath is the seal of God. But just because you attend church on Saturday and profess to keep the Sabbath, does that mean you will be saved by default? What do these professors of Sabbath-keeping lack? (Read James 1:22.)

> *"Not all who profess to keep the Sabbath will be sealed. There are many even among those who teach the truth to others who will not receive the seal of God in their foreheads... They had the light of truth, they knew their Master's will, they understood every point of our faith, but they had not corresponding works."*
>
> TESTIMONIES FOR THE CHURCH, VOL. 5, P. 213 {5T 213.2}

9. **What is the observing of God's Sabbath a sign of?**— *Read: Ezekiel 20:12*

10. **The Sabbath is a sign that God wants to sanctify us. In what condition does He want to preserve us until His second coming?**— *Read: 1 Thessalonians 5:23*

11. **What is the experience of the people who are being sealed by Jesus?**— *Read: 2 Timothy 2:19*

12. **NOTE** The seal of God will not be placed on individuals who do not gain victory over sin.

> *"Not one of us will ever receive the seal of God while our characters have one spot or stain upon them. It is left with us to remedy the defects in our characters, to cleanse the soul temple of every defilement. Then the latter rain will fall upon us as the early rain fell upon the disciples on the Day of Pentecost."*
>
> TESTIMONIES FOR THE CHURCH, VOL. 5, P. 214 {5T 214.2}

13. **Who preserves us blameless until the Second Coming?**— *Read: 1 Thessalonians 5:24; Jude 24*

14. **Write down some scriptures which teach that we have a role to play in gaining victory over sin.**

15. **By whom, and with whom, are we sealed?**— *Read: Ephesians 4:30; Ephesians 1:13*

16. **IMPORTANT NOTE** Not only does the Holy Spirit seal us — settling us into the truth and stamping God's character upon us — but we are also filled with and sealed with the Holy Spirit. It is His abiding presence in our hearts that helps us keep the commandments and keeps us from sinning, so that we are declared holy by Jesus. (Further study: Ephesians 4:22-32 shows the sins we put off so as not to grieve the Holy Spirit.)

17. **Let us now examine examples in Scripture proving that receiving the seal of God is connected to gaining victory over sin. What were the Jews to finish before the end of the 70-weeks prophecy in order to "seal up the vision"?**— *Read: Daniel 9:24*

18. **NOTE** Before the end of the 70-weeks prophecy, the Jews were to finish transgression, reconcile with God, and bring in righteousness — or their probation as God's chosen people would close. Instead they crucified Jesus in A.D. 31, continued in rebellion, and sealed their fate by stoning Stephen in A.D. 34. They were given time to gain victory over sin, and chose not to. This is an example of the sealing experience in the last days.

19. **What words will Jesus speak concerning every person's record, just before He closes probation and returns?**— *Read: Revelation 22:11-12*

20. **We have established that the seal of God is connected to gaining victory over sin. How is Job described by God?**— *Read: Job 1:1, 8*

21. **Job had every earthly support cut off (chapters 1–2) as Satan sought to prove Job served God only for temporal blessings. What did Job do after losing all his substance?**— *Read: Job 1:20*

a) **During Job's time of trouble, what is said of him?**— *Read: Job 1:22; Job 2:10*

b) **NOTE** The controversy between the seal of God and the Mark of the Beast is over worship. Job's life is a type of what God's faithful people will experience in the last days: he went through a time of trouble but did not sin, and was declared perfect and upright by God.

22. **Notice a principle we learn from a biblical seal: what could not be done once a document was sealed?**— *Read: Esther 8:8; Daniel 6:17*

23. **What is the seal of God also called?**— *Read: Romans 4:11*

24. **What must a person do in order to be declared clean and righteous by Jesus?** *— Read: 1 John 1:9; Psalm 32:1-5*

25. **NOTE** The sinner must believe that Jesus declares him righteous once he sincerely confesses and forsakes sin. The justified person must then believe that Jesus can keep him from returning to sin, and must choose to follow God's words and commune with Jesus daily. See James 4:7-8; Jude 24; 2 Corinthians 10:3-5.

26. **FURTHER STUDY** To recap: the seal of God is keeping the seventh-day Sabbath and gaining victory over sin — being filled with the Holy Spirit, who settles us into truth so that we never choose to sin again. Remember that a seal has three parts — name, title, and territory — and see how each applies to our lives:

GOD'S NAME — JESUS CHRIST His people must not merely profess to be Christians, but live like Christians. See Philippians 2:3-8; Galatians 5:19-23.

GOD'S TITLE — CREATOR His people must believe not only that Jesus created humanity, but that He wants to create in them a clean heart. See Psalm 51:1-19.

GOD'S TERRITORY — THE WORLD His people are not their own, but were bought with a price, and must therefore glorify God in their bodies and spirits. See 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.

Notes

AS WE CLOSE

Sealed unto the Day of Redemption

The seal of God is the seventh-day Sabbath, kept by a people who have gained victory over sin through the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit. In the final crisis, when the Mark of the Beast is enforced, God will identify His faithful ones by this seal — they keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus. The seal is not merely a day observed, but a character restored: God's name, His title, and His territory stamped upon the soul.

> **REVELATION 7:2-3 (KJV)**
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> *"And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God... saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads."*

Will you receive the seal of the living God, and be kept blameless unto the day of redemption?

REFERENCES

Sources & Notes

> **A WORD OF CAUTION**
>
> *"Not one of us will ever receive the seal of God while our characters have one spot or stain upon them."*
>
> ELLEN G. WHITE · TESTIMONIES FOR THE CHURCH, VOL. 5, P. 214 {5T 214.2}

SCRIPTURE & SPIRIT OF PROPHECY

1. Ellen G. White, Testimonies for the Church, vol. 5, p. 213 {5T 213.2}.
2. Ellen G. White, Testimonies for the Church, vol. 5, p. 214 {5T 214.2}.

STUDY REFERENCE & MINISTRY

3. Strong's Greek Concordance #4973 — "sphragis," a signet or seal that authenticates. biblehub.com/greek/4973 ↗
4. Saved To Serve — Pastor Andrew Henriques. prophesyagain.org ↗

All Scripture is quoted from the King James Version (KJV). Spirit of Prophecy references are cited for study and comment.