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"Sealing Time for Saints" Part II

In the July 7th issue of TPT we gave a brief overview contained in some specific verses of the Bible that provided us with significant evidence, 'which in part' identity who the 144, 000, 'sealed' servants of God are. In this issue we will delve a little deeper into the study of God's Word, the 'spirit of prophecy,' and other references to uncover more evidence.

Before going forward we need to understand that God's Word is crystal clear concerning the 'sealing time.' Jesus, the Lamb doesn't open the 'seventh' of the "seven seals" of Revelation ¹ until His servants are 'sealed' during the time frame of the prophetic sixth 'seal' in their foreheads.

This last-day '**sealing**' process is progressive and is going on NOW and began in 1700's. During this time period several major prophetic events did occur, that are recorded in history, ² i.e,

1. The Great Lisbon, Portugal Earthquake,

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¹ Revelation chapters 6-8

² Steven N. Haskell. <u>History In The Seals</u>, *The Story of the Seer of Patmos*, South Lancaster, Mass., South Lancaster Printing Co., 1905, pp. 109-126

that occurred, Sunday, November 1, 1755.

- 2. The Dark Day May 19th 1780.
- 3. Millions stars falling from heaven on Nov. 13, 1833.

What make these events so relevant is that they occurred in the exact sequential order as prophesied.

"And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell to earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs..."

Revelation 7:12&13

When the Lamb opens the **seventh seal** the heavenly ministration of Jesus will be finished, probation will close for God's professed people prior to this time. ³ We know that the number seven in the Bible always signifies perfection and completeness.

We also know unequivocally that the 'entrance door' to Noah's ark was 'sealed' seven days before a single rain drop fell. ⁴ The fate of the wicked antediluvians was 'sealed' by the way they responded to God's warning message. The door to the 'Holy Place' in heaven was closed at the culmination of Christ's ministry on October,

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³ Haskell. <u>The Sealing Work</u>. pp. 127-141.

⁴ Genesis 7:4

22 1844, at the passing of the 2300 prophetic days. Jesus then entered the 'open door' of the 'Most Holy Place' to begin His final intercessory work on our behalf. ⁵

The investigative judgment hour also began at this time. That is why it is so vital to our salvation to understand the 'sealing time.' That is why we need to live as if Jesus' coming was today!

What does this mean for us?

Obvious Signs Do Tell The Season

Without getting into a theological quagmire let's examine more Biblical evidence regarding the

144,000 '**sealed'** servants of God. The Bible states that the '**sealing'** angel that '**seals'** God's servants will come from the east. ⁶

Jesus when He comes the second time will come from the east. ⁷ The symbolic drying up of the Euphrates River, {those who support the Papal system} to prepare the way of the kings of

⁷ Matt. 24:27

⁵ E. G. White. <u>In The Holy of Holies</u>. *The Great Controversy*, pp.423-

⁶ Rev. 7:2

the east ⁸represents Jesus' second coming. A star in the east announced the birth of Jesus. ⁹

It is Biblically sound to say in the contexts of the preceding verses, {read footnotes} that the 'sealing' angel is the Lamb of God, Jesus who has power to open the 'seven seals' as well as apply His mark/stamp/seal upon his servant's foreheads. 10

Now let's turn our attention back to the 'seal' of God for more Biblical evidence that will identify God's 'seal,' and then we'll look at the 'sealing progression.'

Ezekiel 20:12&20 states that God's Sabbath's are a 'sign,' {synonymous with seal, mark, token or stamp} that ratifies ¹¹ a covenant between God and his people. The Sabbath is part of God's law. God, being a loving lawgiver has a 'seal' that He places in his servant's hearts and minds that ratifies his covenant with his people. We can find the three essential components that make a 'seal' legal within the fourth commandment of the law of God.

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⁸ Rev. 16:12

⁹ Matt. 2:2, 9&10

¹⁰ Rev. 4:11; 5:1-6:1

¹¹ An agreement, between two entities, making a contract binding or legal.

"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, Six days shalt thou labour, and do all of they work: But the seventh day is the Sabbath of thy Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it." Exodus 20:8-

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The Seal of God

One: Office-Creator

Two: Name-Lord thy God

Three: Territory of the Lord-Heaven and earth

Let's again give some prudence to Isaiah as in our last issue of TPT, {July 7 issue}.

"Bind up the testimony, *seal the law* among my disciples." Isa. 8:16

A great proportion of the ministry of Isaiah was to keep God's law ever before the children of Israel as a **sealed/sealing** document/agreement for all ages-it is a transcript of God's holy character.

"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 men clothed in white linen, which had the writer's inkhorn by his side; And the Lord said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a 'mark' upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof... Slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the 'mark;' and begin at my sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house." Ezek. 9:4, 6

In Ezekiel's day a 'mark,' {not a visible sign that human eyes could see} was placed upon the righteous, {those that sighed and cried over the un-rebuked wickedness among God's people} to protect them from the slaughter of the wicked, by heathen armies used of God to purge his people, committing gross sins, that was to begin at God's sanctuary/church. These scenes will be re-enacted in these last days, judgment, then, too, begins at the "house of God." 12 13

Those who receive God's 'seal' will <u>eschew</u> {avoid it at any cost} evil, and have pure hearts like God's servant Job. ¹⁴

Those who receive God's 'seal' will be over-comers! There will be no fraternizing with sinful,

¹² SDA Bible Commentary, Vol.4, p. 607.

¹³ I Pet. 4:17

¹⁴ Job 1:1-22; I Thess. 5:22&23

worldly practices in their lives or rationalizing away the sins and evil habits of friends, family, and church members-there will be no guile in their mouths. 15

God places much importance on overcoming our sinful self {through the power of Jesus and the Holy Spirit}. ¹⁶ It is apparent that every time God sends powerful messages of rebuke, and victorious living through Jesus, Satan comes along and tells us that it's impossible to overcome our sinful habits as human weaklings.

It's worth noting that the Greek word rendered 'overcome' in the King James Version Revised Standard Version appears as *conqueror*. In the New English Bible the word 'victorious' is used. The Berkeley Version renders overcome as 'the victor.' Finally, Moffatt's translation equates overcoming with 'the conqueror.'17

Philippians 4:13 plainly states that "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me." Another quality of the 'sealed' is they will rely on Christ for their strength, not what the majority of believers are preoccupied with.

The scriptures also state that when we live a godly life, we are killed daily as lambs, {as Jesus} going to the slaughter; and we will be more than

¹⁵ Rev. 2:7, 11, 17, 26; 3:5, 12, 21; 14:4&5 ¹⁶ I John 2:12-17; Rev. 12:11

¹⁷ Arthur S. Maxwell. Good News for You, Washington D.C., R&H Publishing Assn., 1966, pp. 123-134.

conquerors, through Jesus who loved us. ¹⁸ In other words those who will be '**sealed'** would rather die than commit a known sin against the God of Heaven.

"No sin can be tolerated in those who shall walk with Christ in white. The filthy garments are to be removed, and Christ's robe of righteousness is to be placed upon us. *By repentance and faith we are enabled to render obedience to all the commandments of God, and found without blame before Him.* 19

Those who shall meet the approval of God are now afflicting their souls, confessing their sins and earnestly pleading for pardon through Jesus their Advocate. ²⁰

These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the first fruits unto God and to the lamb."

Rev. 14:4

"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for his sheep... I am the good shepherd, and know my

¹⁹ I Corinthians. 10:13; Jude 24

¹⁸ Romans 8:35-37

²⁰ <u>Testimonies</u>, Vol. 5, p. 272, Vol. 2, p. 175.

Jesus knows who His true followers are. His followers head his voice, they are spiritual virgins not defiled with false religion or teachings. He leads, they follow.

"Those who receive the 'seal' of the living God and are protected during the time of trouble must reflect the image of Jesus fully... I saw many were neglecting the preparation so needful and were looking for the time of 'refreshing' and the 'latter rain' to fit them to stand in the day of the Lord and to live in His sight.

Oh how may I saw in the time of trouble without a shelter! They had neglected the needful preparation: therefore they could not receive the refreshing that all must have to fit them to live in the sight of a holy God... Let all remember that God is holy and that none but holy beings can ever dwell in His presence." ²¹

Friends, those who will be prepared for when Jesus comes will be 'sealed' NOW! They will have Jesus' law written in their hearts and minds. ²² Christ's character will be fully reproduced in all who will receive His 'seal'

Who are the 144,000? Jesus knows.

²¹ E. G. White. <u>Early Writtings</u>, p. 71.

²² Heb. 8:10;10:16

What do God's 'professed people' really need to know?

Knowing 'Jesus time' is NOW!
The 'sealing time' is NOW!
Preparation time is NOW!
Repenting time is NOW!
Praying time is NOW!
Forgiving time is NOW!
The time of 'Latter Rain' is NOW!