

THE KINGDOM PRINCIPLE OF THE SEALING OF THE SAINTS

Facts About Sealing In Biblical Days

1. In ancient days, a SIGNET or a SEAL was stamped or inscribed upon things of value. These included precious stones and metals, pottery and clay vessels which contained valuable scrolls or documents, and commodities for shipment to distant lands.
2. This “seal” or “mark” of a signet ring carried the full authority and power of the office it represented. It was like a personal signature which denoted ownership and identity.
3. A seal placed upon a scroll or document would prevent the reading of an item, or the altering of its contents. A seal indicated that it was set and permanent.
4. Sealing guaranteed the preservation of property; it was a mark of privacy.
5. The Hebrew word for “signet or seal” denotes a signature ring, a signet ring; the root word means to “close up, seal, mark”; Nehemiah 10:1; Esther 3:12; 8:8,10; Daniel 6:17.
6. The Greek word for “seal” means to stamp (with a signet or private mark) for security and preservation; it is a token of “proof” of authenticity, of that which is genuine. The inscription or impression that is made by a seal speaks of that which is confirmed, proven, authenticated; John 3:33; 6:27; Rom. 4:11; Eph. 1:13; 4:30; Rev. 5:1; 9:4; 20:3.
7. A signet ring was made of stone or precious metal worn on the hand (or suspended by a cord around the neck) by kings and distinguished rulers. It contained an engraved pattern or design and it made a permanent inscription, forming an official SEAL upon the soft clay, plaster or wax. It left a deep impression, revealing the owner’s identity.
8. The modern day equivalent of the signet seal would indicate the authority recognized with full “power of attorney”; it is similar to the notary public’s stamp today.

The Spiritual Significance Of Sealing And The Signet Ring

1. It is a sign, a supernatural method of insulating God’s servants.
2. God does not force His seal upon any person; His “imprint” is formed within the one who accepts the terms of His covenant. Seals were affixed to covenants; Neh. 9:38; 10:1.
3. God’s seal within us points to the initial down payment that anticipates the future, full redemption of God’s “marked” possession; Ephesians 1:14; 2 Corinthians 5:5.
4. Haggai 2:23 records that “Zerubbabel” was called the Lord’s “signet ring”:
 - a. Zerubbabel was an important leader involved in the reconstruction of the Jewish temple. He was the governor of the rebuilt Jerusalem, and a descendant of king David.
 - b. God gave him encouragement and hope; he was chosen for a noble purpose. Through him, the Davidic line was reinstated; God was renewing His covenant with David.
 - c. Judah’s future could look forward to the coming of another “Son of David”, the Messiah, who would one day “overturn royal thrones and shatter the power of the foreign kingdoms; Haggai 2:22.
 - d. Zerubbabel was also called “my servant”; this title was often used as an O.T. messianic reference; 2 Sam. 3:18; Is. 42:1-9; Ezek. 34:23-24; He was a picture of the future Messiah, Jesus Christ, who would establish His people in the Promised Land. Under His ministry, a greater and eternal temple would be built, Zech. 6:12-13, as He would lead God’s people into worship in spirit and in truth; John 4:23.
 - e. Three prophetic descriptions of Zerubbabel point to Jesus: “my servant”, “the Lord’s signet ring”, Haggai 2:23, and he was a descendant, a “son” of David; 1 Chron. 3:19.

f. Jesus is our “Heavenly Zerubbabel”: “Him hath the Father sealed” or preserved; John 6:27. To Him has been given all power and authority (executive right and privilege) in Heaven and on Earth; Matthew 28:18.

5. When Joseph was promoted in Egypt, Pharaoh took off his signet ring from his hand and put it upon Joseph’s hand. He was second in authority in Pharaoh’s kingdom; Genesis 41:40-43. Joseph is a strong biblical type of the Lord Jesus Christ.

6. God’s seal is fully integrated within His “document”; it is imbedded within the Word of God. Fundamental inscriptions, the marks of a divine pattern are seen: the message of Redemption, the Cross of Jesus Christ and His atoning sacrifice through His Blood, the doctrine of the Trinity, the Feasts of the Lord and their complete fulfillment in Him. Any attempt to tamper with it (by adding to or taking away from it), is an attempt to destroy the “divine seal” and is thereby exposed as a fraud; Rev. 22:18-19.

7. Scrolls and deeds of purchase in biblical days were often put into earthenware vessels. Jesus has the right and the authority to “open us up” like a scroll to read aloud what He has written inside. We become a living decree, His word written upon our hearts, through which an invitation to eternal life is offered to others; Jer. 31:33; 2 Cor. 3:2; 4:7.

8. Seals upon scrolls or books are opened at God’s discretion. The “opening of seals” which have been securely fastened, are opened only with God’s permission; Is. 29:11-12; Daniel 9:24; Rev. 5:1-5.

Examples of God Sealing His People

The scriptures tell us to “grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby YE ARE SEALED with His “mark” unto the day of redemption”; Eph. 4:30.

1. The three “signets” (seals) of Aaron’s high priestly garments points to a “3-Fold Sealing” of the Royal Priesthood; 1 Peter 2:5:

a. There was a SIGNET of the BREASTPLATE; Ex. 28:21. The first “sealing” points to the new birth, a “circumcision of the heart”, followed by water baptism for the remission of sin. The names of the tribes of Israel were engraved upon stones the way a gem cutter engraves a seal. These graven stones were set in gold and placed upon the breastplate which was worn by the high priest; Exodus 28:21; Rom. 4:11. Each of the 12 stones were inscribed with their names (denote nature, character) revealing an aspect of our new nature in Christ; Jer.31:33; Ezek. 36:26; Rom. 2:28-29; 4:11; Col. 2:11-12.

b. There was a SIGNET of the ONYX STONES; Ex. 28:11. The second “sealing” involves the baptism in the Holy Spirit, which gives us power for service. Graven stones were fastened onto a shoulder piece, worn by the high priest. Even as the “shoulders” of the priests bore the “Ark”, this speaks to us of the extension and release of the authority and power of God’s Kingdom; Exodus 28:11; Isaiah 9:6. The shoulder, the arm and the hand point to His strength, provision and the ministry released in and through His people; Luke 10:19; Acts 1:8; 5:32; 1 Peter 5:6.

c. There was a SIGNET of the GOLDEN PLATE; Ex. 28:36-37. The third “sealing” points to full stature and maturity of the believer. It involves a baptism in fire, by which gold is refined. A plate of pure gold was engraved as on a seal, with the words “Holiness To The Lord”. Attached to a turban, and worn on the forehead, this points to a “renewed mind”, the mind of Christ; Rom. 12:2; Phil. 2:5; Heb. 8:10; Rev. 14:1.

2. Noah followed God’s instructions in the building of an ark. God preserved Noah, his family and many animals; Genesis 7:13-16. They were “shut it”, sealed before the Flood.

3. Those who sigh and groan over the evil abominations in the midst of the city are sealed; Ezekiel 9:4.
4. The blood of a Passover lamb was placed as a token (seal of protection), upon the door posts of the peoples' houses to protect them from the plague of death; Exodus 12:7,13.
5. Angels seal 144,000 Israelites before the impending judgment and destruction; Revelation 7:2-4.
6. "(God) Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest (pledge) of the Spirit in our hearts"; 2 Corinthians 1:22; 5:5.
7. "In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise"; Ephesians 1:13.

Things Of Value Are Sealed

1. The Law - "Bind up the testimony, SEAL the law among my disciples"; Isaiah 8:16.
2. The Words Of A Book - "And the vision of all is become unto you as the words of a book that is SEALED, which men deliver to one that is learned..."; Isaiah 29:11.
3. The King's Decree - "...for the writing which is written in the king's name, and SEALED with the king's ring, may no man reverse"; Esther 8:8.
4. A Covenant - "And because of all this we make a sure covenant, and write it, and our princes, Levites and priests, SEAL unto it"; Nehemiah 9:38.
5. Prophetic Revelation / Understanding - is sealed until the end of the age. "And he said, Go thy way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and SEALED till the time of the end"; Daniel 12:9.
6. The Book Of Revelation - is a book sealed with seven seals – "And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, SEALED with seven SEALS"; Revelation 5:1.
7. God's Garden - (a metaphor for His Bride), His private "pleasure ground". "A garden inclosed is my sister, my spouse, a spring shut up, a fountain SEALED"; see Song of Sol. 4:12-16; 5:1 This "garden" speaks of His Bride:
 - a. She is "locked, defended, protected, guarded", like the Garden of Eden.
 - b. She is His alone; this "fountain" is sealed, not for public use, but for Him exclusively. She is God's private property; she does not belong to the world; John 17:16.
 - c. This "garden" produces pleasant "fruits" and fragrant "spices"; she is for beauty and pleasure, not "commerce" (Rev. 18). The fruit of the spirit and the ingredients for the anointing oil and incense are found in her; Galatians 5:22-23; Exodus 30:22-38.
 - d. She has become His "dwelling place of rest"; this "mansion" is for Him; John 14:2, 23. Living waters flow within her, as well as the "honey" and "milk" of the Promised Land, the "Kingdom diet"; Deut. 26:9; Song of Sol. 4:11; 5:1. These qualities reveal His satisfaction with her, their union in the Wedding Feast, the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.
 - e. The King comes into His Garden when there is fruit and spice to SATISFY HIM.
8. His Bride - requests a permanent place in His heart, and a desire to be sustained with the strength of His arm - "Set me as a SEAL upon thine heart as a SEAL upon thine arm..."; We see her coming up from the wilderness leaning on her Beloved; Song of Sol. 8:5-6.

