

# 144,000: The Sealed of God

Presented by:  
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# The Context: Rev. 7:1-4

- ⊗ The Four Winds = Winds of Strife
  - ⊗ John sees the elements of nature--earthquake, tempest, and political strife-- represented as being held by four angels. These winds are under control until God gives the word to let them go. {TM 444.3}
- ⊗ They are held back until the sealing process is done.
- ⊗ This is something very important and irreversible.

# The Purpose of a Seal

- ⊗ Proof of identity and ownership
- ⊗ Mark of authenticity
- ⊗ Mark of approval/guarantee
- ⊗ Signals completion
- ⊗ To close, bind, or shut something up in order to prevent tampering. (i.e. wax seal on letters, or a sticker)

# The Sabbath

- ⊗ A Seal Contains: The Name, Title, and Territory of the governing authority.
- ⊗ The seal of God's law is found in the fourth commandment. This only, of all the ten, brings to view both the name and the title of the Lawgiver. It declares Him to be the Creator of the heavens and the earth, and thus shows His claim to reverence and worship above all others. Aside from this precept, there is nothing in the Decalogue to show by whose authority the law is given. {GC 452.1}
- ⊗ The fourth commandment is the only one of all the ten in which are found both the name and the title of the Lawgiver. It is the only one that shows by whose authority the law is given. Thus it contains the seal of God, affixed to His law as evidence of its authenticity and binding force. {PP 307.2}

# Sabbath-keepers

- ⊗ The seal of the living God is placed upon those who conscientiously keep the Sabbath of the Lord.--7BC 980 (1897).
- ⊗ Those who would have the seal of God in their foreheads must keep the Sabbath of the fourth commandment.--7BC 970 (1899).
- ⊗ Keeping the Sabbath indicates that these people keep the rest of the commandments.
- ⊗ It indicates who they belong to.

# Law & Character

- ⊗ Christ came to our world to represent the character of God as it is represented in His holy law; for His law is a transcript of His character. {2SM 106.2}

# Christ's Character

- ⊗ The seal of the living God will be placed upon those only who bear a likeness to Christ in character.--7BC 970 (1895).
- ⊗ Those who receive the seal of the living God and are protected in the time of trouble must reflect the image of Jesus fully.--EW 71 (1851).
- ⊗ Remember the talents.
- ⊗ Possessing Christ's character is more than simply keeping a checklist of rules.

# Character: More than a checklist.

- ⊗ The Fruit of the Spirit. (Gal 5:22-23)
- ⊗ Crying and sighing for Jerusalem. (Eze 9:1-5)



Jesus gazes upon the scene, and the vast multitude hush their shouts, spellbound by the sudden vision of beauty. All eyes turn upon the Saviour, expecting to see in His countenance the admiration they themselves feel. But instead of this they behold a cloud of sorrow. They are surprised and disappointed to see His eyes fill with tears, and His body rock to and fro like a tree before the tempest, while a wail of anguish bursts from His quivering lips, as if from the depths of a broken heart...it was not because of these reminders of His cruel death that the Redeemer wept and groaned in anguish of spirit. His was no selfish sorrow. The thought of His own agony did not intimidate that noble, self-sacrificing soul. It was the sight of Jerusalem that pierced the heart of Jesus--Jerusalem that had rejected the Son of God and scorned His love, that refused to be convinced by His mighty miracles, and was about to take His life. He saw what she was in her guilt of rejecting her Redeemer, and what she might have been had she accepted Him who alone could heal her wound. He had come to save her; how could He give her up? [DA 575-576]

# Character: More than a checklist.

- ⊗ The Fruit of the Spirit. (Gal 5:22-23)
  - ⊗ Qualities that can't be artificially manufactured.
- ⊗ Crying and sighing for Jerusalem. (Eze 9:1-5)
  - ⊗ Having the heart of Jesus.

# Sealed = Done

Are we striving with all our God-given powers to reach the measure of the stature of men and women in Christ? Are we seeking for His fullness, ever reaching higher and higher, trying to attain to the perfection of His character? When God's servants reach this point, they will be sealed in their foreheads. The recording angel will declare, "It is done." They will be complete in Him whose they are by creation and by redemption.--3SM 427 (1899).

*There is a threshold of completion, but not something identifiable by man. Moreover, development continues even in Heaven.*

# Settling into the Truth

Just as soon as the people of God are sealed in their foreheads-- it is not any seal or mark that can be seen, but a settling into the truth, both intellectually and spiritually, so they cannot be moved--just as soon as God's people are sealed and prepared for the shaking, it will come. --4BC 1161 (1902). {LDE 219.4}

*The seal is invisible. No man knows when someone is sealed, only the heavenly intelligences do. However, the seal is God's mark of guarantee that these people have reached a "point of no return."*

# The point of no return

All true obedience comes from the heart. It was heart work with Christ. And if we consent, He will so identify Himself with our thoughts and aims, so blend our hearts and minds into conformity to His will, that when obeying Him we shall be but carrying out our own impulses. The will, refined and sanctified, will find its highest delight in doing His service. When we know God as it is our privilege to know Him, our life will be a life of continual obedience. Through an appreciation of the character of Christ, through communion with God, sin will become hateful to us. {DA 668.3}

(The New Covenant – Jeremiah 31:33; Hebrews 8:10; 10:16-17)

# 3 Attributes

- ⦿ The Sabbath
- ⦿ Christ's Character
- ⦿ Settling into the truth; can't be moved

# The Test

- ⊗ If God makes a claim that those who are sealed “cannot be moved,” what do you suppose must happen?
- ⊗ Remember Job? - Job 1:1,8; 2:3.
- ⊗ The observance of the Lord's memorial, the Sabbath instituted in Eden, the seventh-day Sabbath, is the test of our loyalty to God.--Letter 94, 1900. {LDE 220.5}

# The Seal

In the last days, the Sabbath is the testing point to demonstrate the truthfulness of God's claim that His people would obey Him unto death. It is the visible demonstration of their unswerving allegiance and complete surrender in every other area of their lives. The reason they are able to do this, and the reason why they would want to, is because they have become transformed into the likeness of Jesus. They live solely for the glory of their Father.

This entire process from start to finish is completed only through the merits and grace of Jesus Christ.



# Hold! Hold!

I saw four angels who had a work to do on the earth, and were on their way to accomplish it. Jesus was clothed with priestly garments. He gazed in pity on the remnant, then raised His hands, and with a voice of deep pity cried, "My blood, Father, My blood, My blood, My blood!" Then I saw an exceeding bright light come from God, who sat upon the great white throne, and was shed all about Jesus. Then I saw an angel with a commission from Jesus, swiftly flying to the four angels who had a work to do on the earth, and waving something up and down in his hand, and crying with a loud voice, "Hold! Hold! Hold! Hold! until the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads." {EW 38.1}

# Hold! Hold!

I asked my accompanying angel the meaning of what I heard, and what the four angels were about to do. He said to me that it was God that restrained the powers, and that He gave His angels charge over things on the earth; that the four angels had power from God to hold the four winds, and that they were about to let them go; but while their hands were loosening, and the four winds were about to blow, the merciful eye of Jesus gazed on the remnant that were not sealed, and He raised His hands to the Father and pleaded with Him that He had spilled His blood for them. Then another angel was commissioned to fly swiftly to the four angels and bid them hold, until the servants of God were sealed with the seal of the living God in their foreheads. {EW 38.2}