

Lesson 7 – A Study of the Holy Spirit
Sealed with the Spirit
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I. How are we “sealed with the Spirit? (Eph 1:13-14; 4:30)

Ephesians 1:13-14 - In Him you also *trusted*, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Ephesians 4:30 - And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

A. **σφραγίζω** - *seal*; (1) literally *seal up, secure by putting a seal on* (MT 27.66); figuratively, as keeping something secret *seal (up), conceal* (RV 10.4); (2) as providing a sign of identification or ownership (*mark with a seal* (RV 7.3); metaphorically, of endowment with the Spirit (EP 1.13); (3) figuratively, from the idea of an official seal on a document; (a) *confirm, attest, certify* (JN 3.33) – **Friberg Lexicon**

1. “It is generally a ‘mark’ imposed by God, by which God recognizes a Christian’s authenticity and ownership... The seal with which Christians are sealed is basically a Divine identification process, by which God recognizes who are His children.” – Carl Lungstrum

B. Throughout history those who have been molded by the teaching of God’s Spirit are known by God and for any man who looks closely at His people.

1. The people of God will mourn over sin! (**Ezk 9:3-4**)

Ezekiel 9:3-4 - Now the glory of the God of Israel had gone up from the cherub, where it had been, to the threshold of the temple. And He called to the man clothed with linen, who *had* the writer's inkhorn at his side; ⁴ and the LORD said to him, "Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and cry over all the abominations that are done within it."

2. The people of God will put the spiritual above the physical! (**Jn 6:27**)

^{NKJ} **John 6:27** - "Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him."

3. Circumcision for the Jews should have been a mark that they were wholly obedient to God. (**Rom 4:11**)

^{NKJ} **Romans 4:11** - And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which *he had while still* uncircumcised, that he might be the father of all those who believe, though they are uncircumcised, that righteousness might be imputed to them also,

4. God knows those who are His and their life shows it! (**2 Tim 2:19**)

^{NKJ} **2 Timothy 2:19** - Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity."

5. God protects those who are His during judgments He makes upon the world.

(Rev 7:2-4; 9:4)

Revelation 7:2-4 - Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, ³ saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads." ⁴ And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred *and* forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel *were* sealed:

Revelation 9:4 - They were commanded not to harm the grass of the earth, or any green thing, or any tree, but only those men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads.

C. **Class discussion:** How should these truths encourage us?

II. *The Holy Spirit accomplishes this sealing by the revealed word of God*

A. As has been pointed out in earlier studies, the sword of the Spirit is the word of God. (Eph 6:17)

Ephesians 6:17 - And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

B. There is an understood process by which God molds us.

1. We are called. (2 Thess 2:13-14)

2 Thessalonians 2:13-14 ¹³ But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, ¹⁴ to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. We are saved. (Eph 1:13)

Ephesians 1:13 ¹³ In Him you also *trusted*, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,

3. We are transformed. (Rom 12:1-2)

^{NKJ} **Romans 12:1** I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

4. We are filled with hope. (Rom 8:24-25; 2 Pt 1:2-4)

Romans 8:24-25 ²⁴ For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for *it* with perseverance.

2 Peter 1:2-4 ² Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, ³ as His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, ⁴ by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption *that is* in the world through lust.