Holy Spirit – Sealing

Ephesians 1:13b – "...in whom also after that you believed, you were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise." 2 Cor. 1:22 – "Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts."

When a person accepts Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit is given as the earnest (down payment) of our future inheritance.

- THE SEALING OF THE SPIRIT BELONGS TO EVERY SAVED PERSON.
 - 1. This sealing takes place at the moment of salvation and the believer is never unsealed.
 - 2. This sealing is not dependent upon behavior.
 - 3. Never in the Bible are we exhorted to be sealed.
 - 4. We are admonished to be filled, but not sealed.
 - 5. The sealing of the Holy Spirit follows automatically with our being born-again.

Paul told the Corinthians that he could not write unto them as unto spiritual, ($\pi\nu$ ευματικός) "but as unto carnal, (σαρκίνος) even as unto babes ($\nu\eta\pi$ ίος – infants) in Christ" (1 Cor. 3:1). To those same folk in the second letter, Paul said: "Now he who makes firm us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God: Who hath also SEALED us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts." (2 Cor. 1:21, 22)

- II. THE SEALING OF THE SPIRIT SIGNIFIES A FINISHED TRANSACTION. (Phil. 1:6) "He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it (finish it, complete it) unto the day of Jesus Christ (rapture).
- III. THE SEALING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT SPEAKS OF OWNERSHIP.
 - 1. Sealing the mark (brand, insignia) of God upon the believer.
 - 2. Jesus asked His disciples, "Whose insignia is on the coin?" "Caesar" was the reply! "Give to Caesar that which belongs to Caesar and to God that which belongs to God", said Jesus. (Luke 20:24,25)

Holy Spirit — Sealing (Continued)

- IV. THE SEALING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT SPEAKS OF AUTHORITY.
 - 1. In the Old Testament, we read of such men as Pharaoh giving to Joseph a ring, (Gen. 41:42) or the King of Persia giving to Mordecai a ring (Esther 8:2) as a symbol of authority.
 - 2. In Acts 1:8 we read, "You shall receive power (authority) and you shall be witnesses of me in Jerusalem, Judaea, Samaria, and unto the extremity of the earth."
 - 3. Paul said to the Ephesians (Eph. 2:5, 6) "We have been raised together with Christ into a place of responsibility and authority".
- V. THE SEALING OF THE SPIRIT SIGNIFIES SECURITY.
 - 1. Security is one of the greatest truths in the Word of God.
 - 2. Like any Biblical subject in God's Word, security can be mis-represented and abused.
 - 3. On the other hand, we are not to deny ourselves of the blessings of this great DOCTRINE OF THE BIBLE.
 - 4. "Nevertheless, the foundation of God stands sure, having the SEAL, the Lord knows those who are his. And let everyone that names the name of Christ depart (stand away) from iniquity." (2 Timothy 2:19)
 - 5. "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them to me, is greater than all and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one."
 - 6. When a person accepts Jesus Christ as Savior, he is:
 - > Redeemed from the guilt of sin.
 - > Redeemed from the power of sin as he is controlled by the power of the Holy Spirit.
 - ➤ Will be redeemed from the very presence of sin at the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ when he is taken away from this earth and upon the reception of a new, glorified, spiritual, resurrection body.