

Lesson 42: The Seal of God

Memory Verse: "Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples." Isaiah 8:16

A. What is the Seal of God?

1. Read Revelation 7:1-4: "And after these things I saw _____ angels standing on the four _____ of the earth, holding the four _____ of the earth, that the wind should not _____ on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the _____ of the _____ God: and he cried with a _____ voice to the four _____, to whom it was given to _____ the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt _____ the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have _____ the servants of our God in their _____. And I heard the _____ of them which were sealed: and there were _____ an hundred and _____ and _____ thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel."

Note: The seal of a king was used to stamp documents to show that they were authentic. This showed that they were truly the king's documents and not false ones. The seal contains the name, title, and territory of the king. The seal of an American president would be:

Name: George Washington

Title: President

Territory: The United States of America

When the servants of God are sealed with the seal of God it shows that they are truly His and not false professors of religion. So only a true authentic Christian could receive the seal of God.

2. What is the purpose of the seal of God? 2 Timothy 2:19

God _____ them that are His. When we are sealed it marks us as truly His.

What choice do these people make? They D_____ from I_____.

They don't just call themselves Christians, they live like Christ.

3. What is God's seal or sign? Ezekiel 20:20 "And hallow my _____; and they shall be a _____ between me and you, that ye may _____ that I am the Lord your _____."

When we keep the Sabbath holy, we show that He is our God. Not everyone who goes to church on Sabbath keeps the Sabbath holy. There is more to it than that. We have chosen to be loyal to God and to obey all His instructions and to allow Him to rule in our hearts to make us holy, so we also choose to keep the Sabbath holy according to Isaiah 58:13:

The Sabbath is a D_____ to us.

We H_____ God in every area of our lives. This is a joy to us.

We do not do our _____ ways, but delight in doing His W_____.

We do not find our _____ pleasure, but delight in finding ways to please Him.

We do not speak our _____ words, but delight in speaking His W_____.

This shows that we have chosen the Creator God as our Lord and Master. "The **seal** of the living God is placed upon those who **conscientiously** keep the Sabbath of the Lord." [7BC 980]. LDE 220.1

"**True observance** of the Sabbath is the **sign of loyalty** to God." [7BC 981]. LDE 220.3

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4. Read Exodus 20:8-11. Find the 3 parts of a seal in this verse:

Name: The _____ thy _____
Title: C _____ [the Lord M _____]
Territory: _____ and _____, the _____,
and _____ that _____ them is

Note: "The Sabbath is not introduced as a new institution but as having been founded at Creation. It is to be remembered and observed as the memorial of the Creator's work. Pointing to God as the Maker of the heavens and the earth, it distinguishes the true God from all false gods. **All who keep the seventh day signify by this act that they are worshipers of Jehovah.** Thus the Sabbath is **the sign of man's allegiance to God** as long as there are any upon the earth to serve Him. 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

B. The Sealing of the Servants of God

5. When will they receive the seal of God? Revelation 7:3.

The angel says: "Hurt not the _____, neither the _____, nor the _____, _____ we have _____ the servants of our God in their foreheads."

They are sealed before the four winds are let loose which will hurt the earth.

6. Where will they receive the seal? Revelation 7:3.

They will receive it in their _____. Just behind your forehead is the frontal lobe of your brain. This is the part of your brain where you make decisions about right and wrong.

Note: The seal of God is not a visible sign, but a **mind which has chosen loyalty to God's Law through the power of Jesus** provided for us by His death on the cross. It is a mind which has become so settled in the truth that **death would be preferable to sinning.**

"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.**" LDE 219.4

7. What will be written in their foreheads? Revelation 14:1 "And I looked, and, lo, a _____ stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred _____ and _____ thousand, having his Father's _____ written in their foreheads."

8. What is the name of God? Let us look at Exodus 33:18,19. Moses asked to see God's _____. God told Moses He would make all His _____ pass before Him and proclaim His _____.

Therefore: God's G _____ = God's G _____ = God's N _____

What did God proclaim when He proclaimed His name? Exodus 34:6,7

"And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God,
M _____ and G _____,
L _____, and abundant in G _____
and T _____, Keeping M _____ for thousands,
F _____ iniquity and transgression and sin,

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and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation. [Justice]" God's Name is His C _____.

Note: "It is inevitable that children should suffer from the consequences of parental wrongdoing, but **they are not punished for the parents' guilt, except as they participate in their sins.** It is usually the case, however, that children walk in the steps of their parents. By inheritance and example the sons become partakers of the father's sin. Wrong tendencies, perverted appetites, and debased morals, as well as physical disease and degeneracy, are transmitted as a legacy from father to son, to the third and fourth generation. This fearful truth should have a solemn power to restrain men from following a course of sin. ... And to those who are faithful in His service, **mercy is promised**, not merely to the third and fourth generation, as is the wrath threatened against those who hate Him, but to thousands of generations.' [Exodus 20:6]" PP 306.3,4

"God desires men and women to awake to a sense of His great mercy and loving-kindness. **Every blessing we receive comes from Him.** The Governor of the universe, He takes cognizance of the words and actions of human beings. He knows whether His children are deserving of praise or of condemnation. **Each human being will be rewarded or punished according to his works.** Retribution must come upon those who disregard the laws which God has made. Those who are loyal and obedient will be rewarded with the richest blessings. Those who are disloyal and presumptuous who dishonor the laws of God's kingdom, refusing to repent, will surely be punished with death." ST, Nov. 30, 1904 par. 3

God is the **perfect balance** of **mercy** and **justice**. This was the character that Jesus demonstrated while He was here on earth. This was clearly demonstrated at the cross. Here the justice of God is demonstrated in the death of Christ. This is the just punishment for sin in the universe. But God demonstrated His love and mercy toward us by putting the punishment on Christ instead of on us. God is loving and forgiving, but He cannot **approve** of or **accept** or **allow** sin to continue. From His own character of love and goodness, He has provided a plan for all to get rid of sin from their lives. Those who choose not to accept this plan cannot be helped and will have to have the punishment for sin themselves. This is the second death.

When the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads, they will have God's name, or His character so deeply imprinted in their minds that they will **never** change. They will have this perfect balance of mercy and justice in their lives too. They will have the love of God in their hearts but at the same time they will hate sin the way Jesus hated sin.

9. How are we sealed? Ephesians 1:13

We H _____ the word of T _____.

This is the G _____ of our S _____ from sin.

We B _____ that this gospel is really true.

So we T _____ in Christ to free us from sin.

He gives us the H _____ S _____ in our hearts.

When the Holy Spirit comes to us, what will He do? John 16:8

He will R _____ our S _____, our wrong ways.

He will show us the way of R _____.

He will make us realize that we are responsible for our choices, for there will be a J _____ which will determine if we listened to Him or not.

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If we do listen and choose R _____ instead of S _____ God has promised that we will be sealed.

10. When we allow the Holy Spirit to do this work in us by co-operating with Him and listening to Him in our conscience and as we study God's Word, we can be

"C _____ of this very thing, that he which hath _____ a _____ work in [us] will _____ it until the day of Jesus Christ:" Philippians 1:6

The Holy Spirit will do His work in us until we are changed into the character of Jesus completely. The Holy Spirit in our hearts is a **pledge** from God showing that we are His.

2 Corinthians 1:22 "Who hath also _____ us, and given the _____ [a pledge] of the _____ in our _____." But it all depends on whether we will allow Him and invite Him to dwell in our hearts and do His work in us or if we want our own way.

11. Ephesians 4:30 warns us that it is possible to can G _____ the Holy Spirit.

But He is the One that S _____ us. So this would be a fatal mistake.

If we are grieving the Holy Spirit, we need to recognize it and repent right away.

What are some of the ways we could grieve the Holy Spirit? Ephesians 4:29,31

If we let corrupt _____ proceed out of our mouth.

Or if we let B _____, and wrath, and A _____, and C _____, and _____ speaking or M _____ rule us.

Instead, what does the Holy Spirit tell us to do? Ephesians 4:29-32

He teaches us that our words should be "that which is _____ to the use of edifying, that it may minister _____ unto the _____."

He teaches us to put _____ from us "all bitterness, and _____, and anger, and clamour, and evil _____, with all malice." Put it far away.

And He teaches us instead to be " _____ one to another, T _____, F _____ one another, even **as** _____ for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

When we don't listen to His instruction, but follow our own way instead, we

G _____ the Holy Spirit. He loves us the same as God loves us and it grieves Him when we continue in our sinful, destructive ways.

12. What do those who are sealed do? Revelation 14:12

They have great P _____.

They keep the _____ of God.

They have the _____ of Jesus.

Look in Lesson 38 for further explanations of these characteristics.

Note: "The seal of the living God will be placed upon those only who **bear a likeness to Christ in character.**" FLB 287.2

"As wax takes the impression of the seal, **so the soul is to take the impression of the Spirit of God and retain the image of Christ.**" FLB 287.3

"It is **obedience to the principles of the commandments** of God, that **molds the character** after the **divine similitude.**" FLB 287.4

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13. What kind of obedience do they have? Matt. 23:28 OR Eph. 6:6 [Underline one]
Matthew 23:28 "Even so ye also _____ righteous unto _____, but _____ ye are full of hypocrisy and _____."

Ephesians 6:6 "Not with _____, as _____; but as the _____ of Christ, _____ the _____ of God from the _____."

The servants of God do the _____ of God from the _____. It is the _____ of God who will receive the _____ of God in their foreheads. (Rev. 7:3)

Read Romans 6:16-18, 22. We become servants to the one we _____. When we obey the Word of God from the _____, we stop being servants of _____ and become free from _____. This is how we become servants of _____.

14. How do we obey God from the heart? What does God promise to do for us?

Hebrews 8:10 "For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my _____ into their _____, and _____ them in their _____: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:"

God promises to _____ His Law in our _____ and _____ so that it will direct our innermost **thoughts** and **feelings**. As we think His thoughts, His will becomes our **choice**. His will becomes the basis for our decisions and our actions. He can only do this when we co-operate with Him. How do we co-operate? We choose to do what the psalmist did: "Thy _____ have I _____ in mine _____, that I might not _____ against thee." Psalm 119:11

15. Will this be a drudgery to us? Psalm 40:8 "I _____ to do thy _____, O my God: yea, thy _____ is within my _____."

Note: Only those whose hearts **delight** in keeping God's commandments will receive the seal of God. **They are obedient from the heart.** Keeping **all** of God's commandments, including the Sabbath commandment, will be our own **choice** from the heart and it will be our delight. We don't do it because we **have to do it**, but because we **love God and His way** and we **willingly** choose it.

"He who has the love of God shed abroad in his heart, **will reflect the purity and love which exist in Jehovah**, and which Christ represented in our world. He who has the love of God in his heart has **no enmity against the law of God**, but renders **willing obedience** to all His commandments, and **this constitutes Christianity**. He who has supreme love to God **will reveal love to his fellow-men**, who belong to God both by creation and redemption. Love is the fulfilling of the law; and it is the duty of every child of God to render **obedience** to His commandments. ... SD 51.2

"**Love to God must be a living principle, underlying every act and word and thought.** If in the strength of Christ we are seeking to **maintain such a consecration**, we shall be **daily holding communion with God**. ... The principles of God's law will dwell in the heart, and control the actions. It will then be as **natural** for us to **seek purity and holiness**, to shun the spirit and example of the world, and to **seek to benefit all around us**, as it is for the angels of glory to execute the mission of love assigned them." SD 51.4

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16. What will not happen until God's people are sealed? Revelation 7:1-4

The A_____ will not let the W_____ of strife blow on the earth to H_____ the earth.

17. What will happen when the angels let go the winds of strife? Daniel 12:1

"And at that time shall Michael _____, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of _____, such as _____ was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be _____, every one that shall be found _____ in the _____." The people who have the seal of God will be delivered from this great time of trouble because their names are written in the book of life. It is the time when the 7 last plagues of Revelation 16 are poured out on the earth.

Note: "Many will not receive the seal of God because they do not keep His commandments or bear the fruits of righteousness. Mar 241.4

"The great mass of professing Christians will meet with **bitter disappointment** in the day of God. They have not upon their foreheads the seal of the living God. **Lukewarm and halfhearted, they dishonor God far more than the avowed unbeliever.** They grope in darkness, when they might be walking in the noonday light of the Word, under the guidance of One who never errs. Mar 241.5

"Those whom the Lamb shall lead by the fountains of living waters, and from whose eyes He shall wipe away all tears, will be **those now receiving the knowledge and understanding revealed in the Bible, the Word of God.** ... Mar 241.6

"We are to **copy no human being.** There is no human being wise enough to be our criterion. We are to look to the man Christ Jesus, who is complete in the perfection of righteousness and holiness. He is the author and finisher of our faith. **He is the pattern man. His experience is the measure of the experience that we are to gain. His character is our model.** Let us, then, take our minds off the perplexities and the difficulties of this life, and fix them on Him, that by beholding we may be changed into His likeness. We may behold Christ to good purpose. We may safely look to Him; for He is all-wise. **As we look to Him and think of Him, He will be formed within, the hope of glory.**" Mar 241.7

18. What does Satan want for you? 1 Peter 5:8 "Be sober, be vigilant; because your _____ [enemy] the devil, as a roaring _____, walketh about, seeking whom he may _____." He wants to "devour" you. He wants to catch you in his S_____ and take you C_____ and have you do his W_____ [see 2 Timothy 2:26]. If that is what he is doing with you, you must get out of that snare. The only way to do this is to **surrender fully** to Jesus because He is the only one strong enough to free you from the power of Satan. Then you must **exercise your choice** to listen to the Holy Spirit instead of Satan's lies. Satan wants you to be destroyed with him instead of living forever with Jesus. Would you like that? YES NO

Note: "Satan is now using every device in this sealing time to keep the minds of God's people from the present truth, and to cause them to waver. I saw a covering that God was drawing over His people to protect them in the time of trouble; and every soul that was decided on the truth, and was pure in heart, was to be covered with the covering of the Almighty. Satan knew this, and he was at work in

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mighty power to keep the **minds** of as many people as he possibly could **wavering** and **unsettled** on the truth. ... I saw that Satan was at work ... to **distract**, **deceive**, and **draw away** God's people, just **now in this sealing time**. I saw some who were **not standing stiffly for present truth**. Their knees were **trembling**, and their feet **sliding** because they were **not firmly planted on the truth**. SD 342.2

"Satan was trying his **every art** to hold them where they were, until the sealing was **past**, until the covering was drawn over God's people, and they left **without a shelter** from the burning wrath of God, in the seven last plagues. SD 342.3

"We are brought out of the darkness of the world into God's marvelous light.

If we **receive** the image of God,

if our souls are **cleansed** from every moral defilement,

the **seal** of God **will** be placed upon our foreheads, and we **shall** be **prepared** for the closing scenes of this earth's history. But we have no time to lose. **The more we study the life of Christ with a heart to learn, the more Christlike we become**. SD 342.4

"The **sealing** time is very short, and will soon be over. **Now is the time**, while the four angels are holding the four winds, to **make our calling and election sure**." SD 342.5

19. How will people feel during that time? Luke 21:26

"Men's hearts [will be] _____ them for _____, and for looking after those things which are _____ on the _____. " In other words, they will be scared to death about the things that are happening.

20. What happens after the time of trouble? Luke 21:27

"And then shall they _____ the Son of man _____ in a _____ with _____ and great _____."

21. What is the number of those who are sealed? Revelation 7:4 _____

22. What are the characteristics of the 144,000? Revelation 14:1,4,5

a. The Father's _____ is written in their _____.

They have His character of goodness, mercy, longsuffering, truth, graciousness, forgiveness, and justice.

b. They are not _____ with _____. [woman = church]

They have no part in the false religious systems of the world.

c. They _____ the _____ [Jesus] wherever He goes.

Note: "We need not wait till we are translated to follow Christ. God's people may do this here below. We shall follow the Lamb of God in the courts above **only if we follow Him here**. ... We are not to follow Christ fitfully or capriciously, only when it is for our advantage.

We must **choose** to follow Him. **In daily life we must follow His example**, as a flock trustfully follows its shepherd. We are to follow Him by **suffering for His sake**, saying at every step, 'Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him' (Job 13:15). **His life practice must be our life practice**. And as we thus seek to be like Him and to **bring our wills into conformity to His will** we shall reveal Him. ... HP 298.3

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Shall we not show our **loyalty** by keeping God's commandments here, in this our place of probation? HP 298.3,4

"Are we following Christ with **unswerving loyalty**,
keeping His life of **perfect obedience**, of **purity** and **self-sacrifice**, ever before us
that **by beholding** we may become **changed into His image**?

Do we strive to **imitate His fidelity**?

If we **educate ourselves** to say, **Be Thou my Pattern**;

if by the eye of faith we see Him as a living Saviour,

we shall be **strengthened to follow Him**.

Then with the undefiled we shall follow Him in the future life." HP 298.5

d. They were _____ from among _____.

e. They were the _____ unto God.

Note: The 144,000 are called firstfruits. Of the great final harvest of the earth, they are the first to ripen to a **mature** representation of Christ's character.

f. In their _____ was found no _____.

Note: "If Christ is indeed abiding in our hearts,
we shall **love God**,
we shall **love to obey** all His commandments,
and this **love** will continually **deepen** and **strengthen**.

If we represent Christ to the world,

we shall be **pure in heart, in life, in character**;

we shall be **holy in conversation**;

there will be **no guile in our hearts or upon our lips.**" LHU 325.2

"Truth is of God; deception in all its myriad forms is of Satan, and whoever in any way
departs from the straight line of truth is betraying himself into the power of the wicked
one. Those who have learned of Christ will 'have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of
darkness.' Ephesians 5:11. In **speech**, as in **life**, they will be **simple, straightforward, and**
true, for they are preparing for the fellowship of those holy ones in whose mouth is found
no guile. (See Revelation 14:5)." PK 252.3

"If the lips were constantly guarded so that no guile could corrupt them, what an
amount of suffering, degradation, and misery might be prevented. If we would **say nothing**
to wound or grieve, except in necessary reproof of sin, that God might not be dishonored,
how much misunderstanding, bitterness, and anguish would be prevented. If we
would **speak words of good cheer, words of hope and faith in God**, how much light we
might shed upon the pathway of others, to be reflected in still brighter beams upon our
own souls. The path of obedience to God is the path of virtue, of health, and happiness.
The **plan of salvation**, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures, opens up a way whereby man
may secure **happiness** and prolong his days upon the earth, as well as enjoy the **favor** of
Heaven and secure that **future life** which measures with the life of God."

RH, Oct. 16, 1883 par. 5

"O that every one of our youth would realize the evil of foolish conversation, and
correct the habit of speaking idle words! Let every one who has indulged in this sin
repent of it, confess it before God, and put it far from him. **In speaking foolish words, you**
have dishonored the name of Christ; for you have misrepresented Him in character.
No word of guile was found in His lips, no word of prevarication or falsehood. The people

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that are described as making up the one hundred and forty-four thousand, have the Father's name written in their foreheads, and of them it is said: 'In their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.' Rev. 14:5." OHC 292.4

"The sin of evilspeaking begins with the cherishing of evil thoughts.

Guile includes impurity in all its forms.

An impure thought **tolerated**, an unholy desire **cherished**, and the soul is **contaminated**, its integrity **compromised**.

'Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.'

If we would not commit sin, we must **shun its very beginnings**.

Every emotion and desire must be held in subjection to reason and conscience.

Every unholy thought must be instantly repelled.

To your closet, followers of Christ.

Pray in faith and with all the heart.

Satan is watching to ensnare your feet.

You must have help from above if you would escape his **devices**. 5T 177.1

"By faith and prayer **all may meet the requirements of the gospel**." 5T 177.2

g. They are without _____ before the _____ of God.

"Oh! let the deep, earnest, anxious inquiry come from your soul, **Shall I stand without fault before the throne of God?** Only the faultless will be there. None will be translated to heaven while their hearts are filled with the rubbish of earth. Every defect in the moral character must first be **remedied**, every stain removed by the cleansing blood of Christ, and **all** the unlovely, unlovable traits of character **overcome**." 1T 705.2

"How long a time are you designing to take to prepare to be introduced into the society of heavenly angels in glory? ... The work for you must be done here. This earth is the fitting-up place. You have not one moment to lose. **All is harmony, peace, and love in heaven. No discord, no strife, no censuring, no unloving words, no clouded brows, no jars** there; and **no one** will be introduced there who possesses any of these elements so **destructive** to peace and happiness. **Study to be rich in good works**, ready to distribute, **willing** to communicate, laying up for yourselves a good foundation against the time to come, that you may **lay hold** on everlasting life." 1T 705.3

"If your whole interest is in the truth and the preparatory work for this time **you will be sanctified** through the truth and **receive a fitness for immortality**. ... The **thorough work of preparation** must go on with all who profess the truth, until we stand before the throne of God without fault, without a spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing. **God will cleanse you if you will submit to the purifying process**." Mar 90.5

"Do you desire to have all imperfections removed from your character, that you may be found without fault before the throne of God? If so, you have a work to do for yourself which no one else can do for you. You have an individual responsibility before God. **You can walk in the light**, and **daily receive strength from God to overcome every imperfection**, and finally be among the faithful, true, and holy in the kingdom of God." 2T 312.1

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23. How did the 144,000 attain such a perfect character? Jude 1:24

"Now unto him that is _____ to _____ **you** from _____, and to present **you** _____ before the _____ of his _____ with exceeding _____."

Note: "**We may** lay hold of the merits of the blood of Christ by faith, and **through His grace and power we may have strength to overcome** our errors, our sins, our imperfections of character, and come off **victorious**, having washed our robes in the blood of the Lamb." 3T 183.1

"Because your heavenly Father 'is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil' (Luke 6:35), because He has stooped to lift you up, therefore, said Jesus, **you may become like Him in character**, and stand without fault in the presence of men and angels." MB 76.1

"**With untold love our God has loved us**, and our love awakens toward Him as we comprehend something of the length and breadth and depth and height of this love that passeth knowledge. By the revelation of the attractive loveliness of Christ, by the knowledge of His love expressed to us while we were yet sinners, the stubborn heart is **melted** and **subdued**, and the sinner is transformed and becomes a child of heaven. **God does not employ compulsory measures; love is the agent which He uses to expel sin from the heart.** By it He changes pride into humility, and enmity and unbelief into love and faith." MB 76.3

"**God is love.** Like rays of light from the sun, love and light and joy flow out from Him to all His creatures. **It is His nature to give. His very life is the outflow of unselfish love.** ... He tells us to be perfect as He is, in the same manner. We are to be **centers of light and blessing to our little circle**, even as He is to the universe. We have **nothing** of ourselves, but the light of **His love** shines upon us, and we are to **reflect its brightness.** 'In His borrowed goodness good,' **we may be perfect in our sphere**, even as **God** is perfect in His." MB 77.2

God's promises are sure. He has promised to **change** us into His image, to present us faultless before His throne, if we will only **co-operate** with Him and **choose** His way instead of our own. Then we can receive the seal of God. **Make your choice** for God and His way **daily.**

"In every case the **great decision** is to be made whether we shall receive **the mark of the beast** or his image,

OR

the seal of the living God.

And **now**, when we are on the borders of the eternal world,

What can be of so much **value** to us as to be found **loyal** and true to the God of heaven?

What is there that we should prize above His truth and His law?

What **education** can be given to the students in our schools

that is so **necessary** as a knowledge of 'What saith the Scriptures?' " 6T 130.2