

THE SEAL OF GOD VS THE MARK OF THE BEAST

Instructor: Narlon Edwards

QUESTION 1 – WHAT QUESTION SUMMARIZES THE ENTIRE GOSPEL? [Fill in the blank]

Whose is this _____ and _____? – Mark 12:16

Revelation 12 identifies God's true church, chapter 13 shares how Satan attacks God's church, chapter 14 is God's counterattack to Satan's attack.

How many classes of people exist at the end of time?

Revelation 13:15-18 | Revelation 14:6-12 | Revelation 15:2-3 | Revelation 7:1-4

QUESTION 2 – HOW MANY WILL THERE BE AT THE CLOSE OF PROBATION WITHOUT EITHER THE SEAL OR THE MARK? [Fill in the blank]

_____ has **yet** received the **mark of the beast**... The _____ time has not yet come. {Ev 234.2}

Not one of us will ever receive the **seal** of God while our characters have **one spot or stain upon them**. {5T 214.2}

QUESTION 3 – WHERE IS THE SEAL OF GOD FOUND? [Fill in the blank]

Bind up the testimony, _____ the _____ among my disciples. — Isaiah 8:16

The sabbath is referred to as God's sign/seal four times in scripture:

Exodus 31:13 | Exodus 31:17 | Ezekiel 20:12 | Ezekiel 20:20

'Owth = distinguishing mark

QUESTION 4 – WHAT ARE THE THREE COMPONENTS OF A SEAL?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

QUESTION 5 – WHAT IS THE SEAL AND WHAT LAW IS IT LINKED TO?

Romans 4:11 | Revelation 14:6,7 | Exodus 20:8-11

QUESTION 6 – WHY A SEAL?

| Esther 8:8

QUESTION 7 – WHAT IS THE SEAL? [Fill in the blank]

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 _____, both intellectually and spiritually, so they _____,—just as soon as God's people are **sealed** and prepared for the **shaking**, it will come. {1MR 249.2}

QUESTION 8 – HOW DO YOU MAKE AN IMPRESSION? [Fill in the blank]

It needs _____ & _____

QUESTION 9 – HOW DO YOU MAKE AN IMPRESSION? [Fill in the blank]

It needs contact and pressure

Pressure Above

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Pressure Below:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

QUESTION 10 – WHAT IS THE MARK? [Fill in the blank]

The **Sabbath** will be the **great test** of **loyalty**...{GC 605}

...the _____ of the fourth commandment is the _____ of the living God. {GC 640.1}

QUESTION 11 – WHAT DOES THE ROME CLAIM IS THE SIGN OF IT'S AUTHORITY? [Fill in the blank]

"_____ is our _____ of authority...The church is above the Bible, and this transference of Sabbath observance is proof of that fact." – Catholic Record, Sept 1, 1923

CHANGING TIMES & LAWS

| Daniel 7:25

Sabbath... A Hebrew word signifying rest... Sunday was the name given by the heathens to the first day of the week, because it was a day on which they worshiped the sun." – Bible Encyclopedia p. 561 *John Eadie, D.D., LL.D.*

THE CONVERT'S CATECHISM

Q. Which is the Sabbath day?

A. Saturday is the Sabbath Day.

Q. Why do we observe Sunday instead of Sabbath?

A. ...because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday

THE FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

"You may read the **Bible** from Genesis to Revelation, and you will not find a single line authorizing the sanctification of **Sunday**. The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of **Saturday**." -- Faith of Our Fathers p. 561 *Cardinal James Gibbons*

QUESTION 12 – SEAL VS MARK [Fill in the blank]

Seal: _____

Mark: _____

No one has yet received the mark of the beast. The testing time has not yet come. **There are true Christians in every church**, not excepting the Roman Catholic communion. **None are condemned until they have had the light and have seen the obligation of the fourth commandment.** But when the **decree** shall go forth **enforcing** the counterfeit **sabbath**, and the loud cry of the third angel shall warn men against the **worship** of the **beast** and his **image**, the **line will be clearly drawn** between the false and the true. **Then those who still continue in transgression will receive the mark of the beast.** {Ev 234.2}

The time is not far distant when the test will come to **every** soul. The mark of the beast will be **urged** upon **us**. Those who have **step by step yielded** to **worldly demands** and **conformed** to **worldly customs** will not find it a hard matter to yield to the powers that be, rather than **subject themselves to derision, insult**, threatened imprisonment, and death. The contest is between the commandments of God and the commandments of men. **In this time** the gold will be **separated** from the dross **in the church** True godliness will be clearly distinguished from the appearance and tinsel of it. **Many a star** that we have admired for its brilliancy will then **go out in darkness**. **Chaff** like a cloud will be borne away on the **wind**, even from places where we see only **floors of rich wheat**. – {5T 81.1}

Some people seem to think that upon entering the church they will have their expectations fulfilled, and meet **only** with those who are **pure** and **perfect**. They are zealous in their faith, and when they see **faults in church members**, they say, "We left the world in order to have **no association** with evil characters, but the evil is here also;" and they ask, as did the servants in the parable, "...From whence then hath it tares?" **But we need not be thus disappointed**, for the Lord has not warranted us in coming to the conclusion that the church is perfect; and **all our zeal will not be successful in making the church militant as pure as the church triumphant**. {TM 47.1}

QUESTION 13 – CHURCH TRIUMPHANT [Fill in the blank]

The work is **soon to close**. The _____ of the _____
_____ who have **proved faithful** will **become** the _____
_____.— Ev 707.1

...the **great proportion** of those who now appear to be genuine and true will prove to be **base metal**.
...the **majority forsake us**. {5T 136}

This **sealing** of the servants of God is the **same** that was shown to Ezekiel in vision— {TM 445.2}

Ezekiel 9:4 | Revelation 7:3

Mark this point with care: Those who receive the **pure mark of truth**, wrought in them by the power of the Holy Ghost, represented by a mark by the man in linen, are those “**that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done**” in the church.— {3T 267.1}

In these first disciples was presented **marked diversity**. They were to be the **world’s teachers**, and they represented **widely varied types of character**. In order **successfully** to carry forward the work to which they had been called, these men, **differing** in natural characteristics and in habits of life, needed to come into unity of **feeling, thought, and action**. This unity it was Christ’s object to secure. To this end He sought to bring them into unity with Himself. — {AA 20.2}

It is in the order of God that persons of **varied temperament** should **associate together**..... By this means mutual consideration and **forbearance** will be cultivated, **prejudices** will be **softened**, and **rough points** of character **smoothed**. Harmony may be secured, and the **blending** of the **varied temperaments** may be a **benefit to each**. — {AH 427.1}

God’s family on the earth have many lessons to learn in order to **answer the prayer of Christ**,—his last prayer with his disciples before his humiliation. **The seventeenth chapter of John, which contains this prayer, comprehends more than any other chapter in the New Testament**. — {SpM 387.4}

The **earnest prayers** of this **faithful few will not be in vain**. When the Lord comes forth as an **avenger**, He will also come as a **protector** of **all** those who have **preserved** the **faith** in its **purity** and kept themselves **unspotted** from the **world**.. — {5T 210.1}

KEY TO STAND THE TEST

| 2 Thess 2:8-12

“Most people, sometime in their lives, **stumble across truth**. Most jump up, brush themselves off, and hurry on about their business as if **nothing had happened**.” — *Winston Churchill*

Not all who profess to keep the **Sabbath** will be **sealed**. There are many even among those who **teach the truth to others** who will **not** receive the **seal** of God in their **foreheads**. They had the **light of truth**, they knew their Master's will, they **understood every point of our faith**, but they had not **corresponding works**. These who were so familiar with **prophecy** and the treasures of divine wisdom should have **acted their faith**. {5T 213.2}

| Matthew 7:21-22

THE GREATER LIGHT A PERSON SINS AGAINST, THE GREATER DARKNESS HE PLUNGES INTO

- Judas in the presence of Christ went out in darkness never to return
- Lucifer at the throne of God became a leader in rebellion
- The Jews, God's chosen people, begged for his blood
- Seventh-day Adventist?

THE MORE DARKNESS WE SHUN THE MORE LIGHT AND STRENGTH WE RECEIVE:

- Daniel in Babylon
- Joseph in Egypt
- Waldenses
- Reformers

What are you doing, brethren, in the great work of preparation? Those who are **uniting** with the **world** are receiving the **worldly mold** and preparing for the **mark of the beast**. Those who are **distrustful of self**, who are **humbling** themselves before God and purifying their souls by **obeying the truth**—these are receiving the **heavenly mold** and preparing for the **seal of God in their foreheads**. When the decree goes forth and the stamp is impressed, their character will remain pure and spotless for eternity. {5T 216.1}

Now is the time to prepare. The **seal of God** will **never** be placed upon the **forehead** of an impure man or woman. It will **never** be placed upon the **forehead** of the *ambitious, world-loving* man or woman. It will **never** be placed upon the forehead of men or women of *false tongues* or *deceitful* hearts. **All** who receive the **seal** must be without **spot** before God—candidates for heaven. {5T 216.2}

QUESTION 14 – THE BATTLE IS OVER THE MIND [Fill in the blank]

Seal = _____

Mark = _____

He should understand the nature of the **two principles** that are contending for supremacy...He should see how this **controversy** enters into **every phase of human experience; how in every act of life he himself reveals the one or the other of the two antagonistic motives**; and how, whether he will or not, he is even **now deciding** upon which side of the controversy he will be found. {Ed 190.2}

"You never know how much you really believe anything until it's truth or falsehood become a matter of life and death to you." – C.S. Lewis