

God's Relationship Seal

AIM:	To explain why the Sabbath is the channel for the seal of God.
THEME:	Christ as Creator.
OUTLINE:	<p>Go to Rev 7:1 and Rev 14:1 and observe the context of this seal or mark being placed in the forehead. 2 Tim 2:19 tells us that a seal contains two aspects: (1) A relationship between God and man that (2) causes man to depart from iniquity. This process is shown in the table in the middle of the chart. The Sabbath represents the relationship of God and his people. Ezek 20:12,20. The Sabbath is sanctified by God and gives to those who believe a special gift of the Holy Spirit in greater measure than any other day. This special gift of the Spirit is magnified out through the new moons and other feast Sabbaths. Eze 46:1; Isa 66:23. Lev 23. The Sabbath gives to us the power of God to perform in us the second part of the seal – to depart from iniquity.</p> <p>The seal can also be seen in a political sense. Any governmental or royal seal contains three elements: (1) Name (2) Title (3) Dominion. These three elements are found in the Sabbath. The text at the bottom of the chart is colour coded to show where the seal occurs in the fourth commandment.</p> <p>The pictures on the left hand side illustrate the fact that those who are sealed have the mind of Christ. This makes sense because only those who know the mind of Christ can know Him and only those who know Him will have eternal life. John 17:3.</p>
NOTES:	<p>SEALING THE LAW God's law (a transcript of God's character) is written into the minds of His people as He promised in the second covenant. Heb 8:10. This process is accomplished by faith in God's recreative power to restore humanity. This power of the Spirit comes during the Sabbaths, new moons and feasts of the Lord. This faith is signified by the observance of the Seventh-day Sabbath, new moons and feasts. This is the seal of ownership for it contains God's right to worship and service. The Sabbaths provides the best time to bring every thought captive to Christ (2 Cor 10:5) and in this process become like Him. 1 John 2:2.</p> <p>All heaven was represented to me as beholding and watching upon the Sabbath those who acknowledge the claims of the fourth commandment and are observing the Sabbath. Angels were marking their interest in, and high regard for, this divine institution. Those who sanctified the Lord God in their hearts by a strictly devotional frame of mind, and who sought to improve the sacred hours in keeping the Sabbath to the best of their ability, and to honor God by calling the Sabbath a delight--these the angels were specially blessing with light and health, and special strength was given them. 2T 704,705</p> <p>CONNECTING RELATIONSHIP TO THE SABBATH So how do you connect a relationship with God to the Sabbath? My wife and I, have certain special events in our "Marriage Calendar". We set aside certain days that figured prominently in the development of our relationship. Each time we revisit those special days, they take on more meaning and depth. Why? Because our relationship has grown, and because these events are symbols of our relationship, they grow in meaning directly proportional to the meaning of our relationship. In the same way the Sabbaths, new moons and feasts are a marriage calendar to celebrate the relationship of God with His people. It is significant that the first day that Adam and Eve spent with God was the Sabbath. Man and woman first celebrated their relationship with their loving Creator on Friday evening to really get acquainted. Up to this point there was naming animals and meeting Eve and the adjustment to new surroundings. Then in the Sabbath Adam and Eve could just behold their Creator and receive His Spirit in greater measure. For this reason God has used the Sabbath to literally restore us to open fellowship with God, like the first time that God and Adam and Eve spent time together on Friday evening. In Exodus 20:8-11 we see the Creator-creation relationship. In Deuteronomy 5:15 we see the Deliverer-delivered relationship connected to the Sabbath. Lastly we will have a millennial Sabbath after the second coming for 1000 years. To celebrate our final freedom from sin when God comes to take us home and celebrate a 1000 year Sabbath of rest.</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p><i>The Great Controversy</i>, Chapter 26 – "A Work of Reform". Sabbath Fountain by Adrian Ebens; Living Bread from Heaven by Adrian Ebens</p>