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God's Name Written on the Forehead.

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

God's Name Written on the Forehead and Being Sealed.

Topics.

- Having the Fathers name written on or in the forehead and being sealed.
- Holy to the LORD and the high priest's turban of fine linen (mitre in KJV).
- Holiness, is being set apart for God.
- Bells inscribed with "Holy to the LORD" on horses' robes.

A PERSONAL NOTE

Though I have always loved reading and studying the Scriptures and have now walked with Christ and in God's grace for around fifty years the following studies should not be taken to be dogmatic, inflexible or the final word on the matter since I am fully aware that my mind is limited by mortality and that greater understanding of God's revelation is continually becoming clearer before our eyes as we move closer to the time of Christ's glorious return in glory.

INTRODUCTION

Some suppose that the metaphor of having the Fathers name on the forehead and being sealed, is taken from the ancient and cruel practice of branding a slave with the name or mark of his master, and so the primary idea of the expression: "His servants will bear His name upon their foreheads," is absolute ownership. The difficulty with this idea is that God does not force Himself upon anyone and never will. He invites us by His Spirit, by His love and through the message of the Bloodstained cross of Calvary and the Gospel, after which we are free to choose to accept or reject the invitation. However, the practice of marking slaves is certainly fitting for the woman spoken of in the book of revelation that has written on her forehead the name, mystery: "Babylon the great, mother of prostitutes and of earth's abominations and all her followers. (Rev. 17:5).

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THE FATHERS NAME WRITTEN ON THE FOREHEAD

Having the Fathers name written on or in the forehead and being sealed both carry the same thought, and signify the following ideas:

- God has forgiven, redeemed, sanctified, justified, saved and baptised the redeemed in the Holy Spirit, and fully adopted and accepted them into His family as sons and daughters of His Son the Lord Jesus Christ and set them apart for His purposes.
- God and the Lord Jesus Christ fully owns and protects the faithful (physically or spiritually depending on the context) and keeps them secure for eternal life and everlasting happiness in glory, and will keep them from the seven judgments of wrath.
- God has written the name of the redeemed in the Lambs Book of Life; they have Christ's words and the Gospel on their heart and he is the uppermost thought of their mind and greatest passion of their innermost being, and there is always a conscious awareness of him and his heavenly Father.

Naturally all these traits are invisible, spiritual and hidden in the heart, the mind, and the core being of every faithful believer, but such things cannot be contained or kept within, but flow from the heart out manifesting themselves in their confession and good works done from love, kindness, mercy, compassion, forgiveness etc., toward others which clearly evidences that they are children of God, so much so that it could be rightly said that they have God's name written across their foreheads, meaning they are completely possessed by Him in every way possible. This is especially so since those who are sealed and have the Father's name written on their forehead (symbolically speaking) are not ashamed of being God's children or of their faith or doing the Lord's work or openly proclaiming His word and sharing His Gospel and their faith in God and in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Added to this they follow the Lamb wherever he goes and endeavour to live a lifestyle that honours God and brings a good testimony to the name of Jesus. When a person proudly displays another person's name on a garment of clothing it signifies that they greatly honour that person, likewise, when a person writes their name on one of their books, it signifies they own and treasure that book, so to have a person's name on the forehead greatly magnifies this principle. To write the name of God upon the forehead, carries the idea of His people being like him in personality and character (i.e., love, kindness, mercy, compassion and forgiveness etc.). Obviously, at this present time such a perfect holy condition cannot be reached, since the life and inward nature of all who are redeemed, is blurred by the sinful dysfunctions and aberrations that dwell the flesh. It is only when the faithful literally see the Lord face to face and put on immortality that God's Holiness will clearly shine for all to see. To signify such Holiness biblical writers, use the expression, "they have the Father's name written on their forehead."

HOLY TO THE LORD AND THE HIGH PRIEST'S TURBAN OF FINE LINEN (MITRE IN KJV).

In the book of Revelation, it is written:

- I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads. (Rev. 14:1)

This is a vision of the Lamb, and the 144,000 who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads and of those who follow the Lamb wherever he goes and verse four tells us that they have been:

- Redeemed from mankind as firstfruits for God and the Lamb. (Rev. 14:4).

This group of believers are pictured standing on Mount Zion (upon which the City of Jerusalem is built) saying, "Fear God for the hour of His judgment has come." (Rev. 14:1-7). The firstfruits is an allusion to the firstfruits offering of the lump of the harvest under the Levitical law, that was sanctified and represented the full harvest and showed that it was coming, likewise, the 144,00 and the redeemed called the firstfruits to God, and to the Lamb, represent the whole global body of Christ. In the context of this chapter the firstfruits refer to all who attain to the first resurrection who will be raised to be priests of God and of Christ, and reign with him on earth for a thousand years. (Rev. 20:5-6). In Revelation chapter twenty-two we read:

- They (God's servants) will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. (Revelation. 22:4).

This is a vision of the redeemed, resurrected to the throne of God and of the Lamb and seeing God's face in the heavenly City New Jerusalem with His name on their foreheads (in their foreheads in the KJV). (Rev. 22:3-4). The Father's name written on the forehead may be an allusion to the holy crown made from a plate of pure gold with the words, "Holy to the

LORD” engraved on it that was placed on the high priest’s turban declaring him to be separated to the LORD. This was worn on his forehead so that it would be noticeably seen by all Israel. (Exod. 28:36-38) (Exod. 39:30). The high priest was the official representative of the nation of Israel. He stood before God on behalf of Israel with the inscription “Holiness to the LORD,” shining on the golden plate on his forehead, as a witness and testimony that, the calling of God’s people was holiness.

HOLINESS IS BEING SET APART FOR GOD

Holiness is not just about living morally and righteously, but must first begin with being set apart for God. It, is about self-surrender and yielding ourselves to God. We become holy when:

- We say, “Lord, take me and mould me, and fill me and cleanse me, and do with me what as you will,” and we surrender our will, our heart and our mind in submission, to God’s commandments and to His providences.
- We accept with graciousness what we gain and what we lose, the joys and the sorrows and yield our hearts to God, by giving Him supreme and sovereign place in our innermost being, and turning to Him the whole theme of our lives and desires, and hopes and confidences.
- We fill our minds with joyful submission to God’s truth, and occupy our thoughts with His sovereign name and His word and revelation, and carry Him with us in the hidden corners of our consciousness, even while we are busy going about our daily life and our work and duties.

The core of holiness to the Lord, is self-surrender, this is also the core-essence of Christianity. When we do the things mentioned above, it can be rightly said, that we have begun to write upon or in our foreheads, “Holiness to the LORD,” and when we are resurrected to eternal glory the writing will be complete.

BELLS INSCRIBED WITH “HOLY TO THE LORD” ON HORSES’ ROBES

Zechariah has a prophetic vision of the millennial Messianic age and says:

- On that day (the day the LORD will be king over all the earth) (v9). there shall be inscribed on the bells of the horses, “Holy to the LORD.” (Zech. 14:20).

This is prophesied at the very near end of Israel’s recorded history in the Old Testament, and refers to the restoration of God’s Kingdom during the Messianic period, in which the inscription, “Holy to the LORD,” that was engraved on the high priest’s turban, is also seen engraved on the bells that adorn the robes of the horses, that Israel used for pomp display and ceremony. Zechariah goes on to say that:

- The pots in the house of the LORD shall be as the bowls before the altar. (Zech. 14:20).

The humble pots in the LORDS House that were used for the common service of the temple will be like the bowls placed before the altar, into which the sacred blood of the sacrifice offerings was poured. The meaning here, is that the most common thing will be as a most sacred thing. Zechariah then adds:

- Every pot in Jerusalem and Judah shall be holy to the LORD of hosts, so that all who sacrifice may come and take of them and boil the meat of the sacrifice in them. (Zechariah 14:21).

Every pot refers to all the common domestic vessels of pottery that were in the houses of the poor in the city, all will be given the high esteem that the sacred vessels of the temple have. The kitchens of Jerusalem and the

common places will be as places of worship as is the Most Holy Place of the temple. No longer will the priests be the only ones that can eat sacrificed meat cooked in the holy vessels, but all will be able to freely eat as the high priest and priesthood ate. Zechariah then says:

- There shall no longer be a trader in the house of the LORD of hosts on that day. (Zechariah. 14:21).

The vision carries the idea, that everyone in the millennial Jerusalem will be holy before, the LORD of hosts and when the heavenly Jerusalem descends to earth there will be an entire ending on earth of any distinction between the priests and common all will be sacred and all may wear the crown, "Holiness to the LORD."

OVERVIEW

Having the Fathers name written on or in the forehead and being sealed carry the same idea. Both symbolises that a believer is completely forgiven, justified, owned, loved and possessed by God and saved to eternal life, and that they are wholly surrendered to Him in love, mind, spirit, will heart and behaviour. It means they are entirely approved of by God in every way possible and symbolically testifies that they are His treasured possession fully belonging to Him and completely accepted into His Kingdom.

FOOTNOTE

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.