



**WELCOME
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BIBLE HOUSE
OF
GRACE**

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**Seal
and
Sealed**

(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.

Seal and Sealed.

Topics.

- Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book.
- God has put his seal in our hearts.

DO NOT SEAL UP THE WORDS OF THE PROPHECY OF THIS BOOK

The words, 'seal up' means:

- To confirm and verify.
- To close-up for security and to hide.
- To keep secret.

It carries the idea of concealing a thing and storing it away for future use. In contrast to John being told not to seal the book of Revelation the great prophets, Isaiah and Daniel were commanded to seal up their prophecies.

- **Daniel 8:26:** The vision of the evenings and the mornings that has been told is true, but 'seal up' the vision, for it refers to many days from now.
- **Daniel 12:4:** Daniel, shut up the words and 'seal' the book, until the time of the end.
- **Daniel 12:9:** Go your way, Daniel, for the words are 'sealed' until the time of the end.

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Isaiah and Daniel were commanded to seal up their prophecies because they related to far-distant times in the future (i.e., the time of the end). The idea in sealing them was, that they should make the record sure and unchangeable; that they should finish it, and lay it up for future ages; so that in far-distant times the events might be compared with the prophecy and it might be seen that there was an exact correspondence between the prophecy and the fulfilment.

In contrast to the prophecies of Isaiah and Daniel which pertained to future ages, and therefore would not be immediately demanded for their use, the events which John had been shown in his heavenly visions were about to begin to be fulfilled, and were to be of immediate use in comforting persecuted and suffering brothers and sisters in Christ. This is the reason John was told not to 'seal' up the vision and the book, but to lay them open so that those who were suffering trials and hardships would have the assurance that Christ would finally triumph. Though the visions of John do extend to the end of the age and even into eternity, he was not to lay them up for future generations, because they concerned the present times. The angel told John:

- These words are trustworthy and true, the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must 'soon' take place (Rev. 22:6).
- Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the 'time is near' (Rev. 22:6).

The fulfilment of Isaiah and Daniel's prophecy was distant, that of John's prophecy was near, and it was for this reason John was to write down and make public what he had seen and heard, and send his letters in an open

book unsealed to the churches so they would be able to read of all these heavenly visions, and be comforted in their afflictions and persecutions.

The New Testament is the time of the end of this age and the fulfilment of Isaiah and Daniel's prophecies.

The Time is at Hand: these words, do not mean that these events would soon be completed. The idea is that they would soon begin and continue until they climax in the final triumph of Christ and the Christian faith. In the very beginning of the book of Revelation we are told that it is:

- The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that, must 'soon' take place (Rev. 1:1).

The time is at hand, means the things in this book shall soon begin to be fulfilled in John's generation, and from the time of John, they will continue to be fulfilled, until they are fully filled when Christ returns in glory.

GOD HAS PUT HIS SEAL IN OUR HEARTS

- **2 Corinthians 1:21-22:** And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, ²² and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee (the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts in KJV).

The word 'seal' in this verse literally means:

- To seal up.
- To close and make fast with a seal, or signet; as on legal documents and letters, etc., so that they may not be read.

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It has the following various applications:

- To denote ownership.
- To distinguish one thing from another.
- To show esteem and affection for persons or things.
- To protect and secure a thing.
- To hide and conceal something.

All these applications can be expressive of the grace of God sealing his people in distinguishing them from the rest of the world, claiming them as His, setting His affections on them and securing, protecting, and keeping them for eternal life. Nevertheless, the use of the word seal is not limited to these applications only, as it is also used in the sense of setting a seal (or mark) on anything to certify that it is genuine and authentic, confirmed and approved of as when a deed, will or agreement is sealed, not only as proof and evidence that it is authorised and approved of, but also that it is permanent and unchanging. This means, when the word 'sealed' is applied to those in Christ, it denotes:

- They are approved of by God.
- The Holy Spirit is given to them, to confirm them as belonging to God.
- God grants them His Spirit which not only produces in their heart's feelings, hopes, and desires which are evidence that they are favoured

by God and accepted as His adopted children, but also confirms that their hope is genuine and their redemption and salvation is sure, in the same way as a seal makes a will, a document or an agreement undisputable, definite and without question guaranteed.

The sealing and earnest pledge of God: God grants His Holy Spirit to those in Christ as the certain pledge that they are His children and will be approved of and saved in the last day. This sealing and earnest pledge consists of the ordinary operations of the Spirit on the heart which brings about the following four spiritual changes:

1. Repentance, faith, hope and joy.
2. The desire to honour God and the name of Christ.
3. The ongoing growth of the fruits of the Spirit (i.e., kindness, mercy, compassion, forgiveness, and grace etc.
4. That same passionate and intimate cry, "Abba! Father!" that Jesus cried when praying to his heavenly Father in the Garden of Gethsemane. (Mark 14:36).

The apostle Paul wrote:

- **Romans 8:15:** For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"
- **Galatians 4:6:** And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

All these verses evidence, that the Holy Spirit has renewed the heart, and that the Christian is sealed for the day of redemption.

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.
