

# THE SEAL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

## PART 12 EPHESIANS CHAPTER ONE

Ephesians 1:13 NKJV

*In Him you also ~~trusted~~, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise.*

Ephesians 1:13 - Literally **SLIDE**

*In Him, having heard and **believed the word of truth**—the gospel of your salvation—you were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit.*

THIS IS THE HOLY SPIRIT SECTION OF EPHESIANS 1

- THE FIRST SECTION UNVEILS THE FATHER'S WORK IN REDEMPTION
- THE SECOND SECTION FOCUSES MORE ON THE SON'S ROLE, **HERE**,
- THE THIRD SECTION, UNVEILS THE HOLY SPIRIT'S ROLE IN OUR LIVES HERE & NOW, MAKING REAL ALL WE BELIEVE & CONFESS

### THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE PERSON OF OUR EXPERIENCE

It was never God's intention that **His truth** should be a dull, esoteric doctrine ... Neither did He want Christianity to be a society of serious theologians with an intellectual ideology ...

GOD WANTS HIS PEOPLE TO KNOW & **EXPERIENCE** HIS TRUTH. THIS IS THE GREAT ROLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

FIRSTLY, HE REVEALS THE TRUTH TO US ...

BUT THEN HE ALSO ... **LEADS US INTO THE EXPERIENCE OF THAT TRUTH.**

John 16:13 **SLIDE**

*... When He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you **into** all truth ...*

**NB** Not just to an Intellectual Understanding of The Truth but **INTO** the very Experience of it ...

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE PERSON WHO MAKES IT REAL TO US, HERE & NOW.

**As opposed to the Jewish teachers of hard, cold law ...**

**Jesus spoke about experiencing truth -**

John 8:32

*... You shall know The Truth and The Truth shall make you **FREE**.*

## **THIS FREEDOM IS THE EXPERIENCE OF KNOWING TRUTH**

**THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE PERSON OF OUR EXPERIENCE.**

**There would be no connection to God without the Holy Spirit** ... no understanding of the truth without Him and no experience of salvation -

**Ephesians 2:18**

*For through Him we ... have access by one Spirit unto the Father.*

**SO, HERE WE READ OF A GREAT EXPERIENCE CALLED ...  
BEING SEALED WITH THE SPIRIT**

**Ephesians 1:13** Literally **SLIDE**

*In Him, having heard and believed the word of truth—the gospel of your salvation—you were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit.*

**WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE SEALED?**

**were sealed** (esphragisthēte) Verb - Aorist Indicative Passive - 2nd Person Plural  
To seal, set a seal upon. From sphragis; to stamp for security or preservation; by implication, to keep secret, to attest ... to impress ... to emboss

**Sealing is something usually done to authenticate a document.**

**BUT HERE'S THE SIGNIFICANT POINT FOR US ...**

**SLIDE** **WHATEVER WAS SEALED BORE THE MARK OF THE OWNER – IT BORE THE IDENTITY OF THE OWNER**

**So in our case** **SLIDE**

- **WE ARE THE DOCUMENT**
- **THE FATHER IS THE ONE WHO SEALS**
- **THE HOLY SPIRIT HIMSELF IS THE SEAL**

**As a believer, God now puts His seal upon me to emboss me with His character ... **I AM INFUSED WITH HIS CHARACTER – HIS NATURE** ...**

**We read about this in Romans -**

**Romans 5:5** **SLIDE**

*... The love of God has been **poured out in our hearts** by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.*

**THE FIRST THING WE SEE ABOUT THIS SEAL IS THAT IT IS NOT THE AUTOMATIC EXPERIENCE OF OUR SALVATION ...**

## IT IS A SEPARATE EXPERIENCE

Some people believe that this is something that happens to us at salvation ... but the verb tense here states otherwise -

Ephesians 1:13 Literally **SLIDE**

*In Him, **having [already] heard and believed** the word of truth—the gospel of your salvation—you were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit.*

**THIS EXPERIENCE COMES AFTER WE HAVE ‘BELIEVED THE TRUTH’ ...**

It is subsequent to our believing ...

It may happen at the same time, but often it does not ...

Titus 3:5-6 **SLIDE**

*... He saved us, through (1) the washing of regeneration and (2) renewing of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup>whom **He poured out on us** abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour.*

**NB:** Titus calls ‘the sealing’ ‘renewing’ but I believe they are the same thing ...

*I personally came to a faith in Jesus as the Saviour, after being confronted by some Christians. I arrived at an intellectual conclusion that Jesus was the Saviour of mankind by the leading of the Holy Spirit. At that time I changed my lifestyle ...*

*I went to church ... I started talking about Jesus ... But ...*

**AS YET I WAS NOT SEALED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

*That happened to me some time later when I was in a prayer meeting and I was filled to overflowing by the Holy Spirit ...*

**SLIDE**

**BEFORE THIS EXPERIENCE ...** I was living my life and taking the Holy Spirit along with me ...

**AFTER THIS EXPERIENCE ...** He started living through me and taking me along with Him ...

*We see the same kind of thing happening with **John Wesley**.*

*He was a preacher but was afraid of dying as he had no real assurance of his salvation, though **he sought it**.*

*One day at Aldersgate, as he listened to Martin Luther’s preface to Romans being read ... it happened ...*

**SLIDE** *He said, ‘**I felt my heart strangely warmed and I knew ...**’*

*Thursday, 25.—‘The moment I awakened, “Jesus, Master,” was in my heart and in my mouth ...*

*‘I could taste the good word of God in the anthem which began, “My song shall be always of the loving-kindness of the Lord:” ‘It is impossible to believe that God could speak thus to my soul and I AM NOT MOVED to the very vitals of my being ...’*

John Wesley was a Stoic unemotional logician, but after he was sealed by the Holy Spirit ... **his soul became alive** ... and he went on to do great things for God ...

THIS IS THAT AMAZING EXPERIENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT WHO ...  
**LIBERATES US ... RELEASES OUR EMOTIONS ... CHANGES OUR VALUES ...**

*Thomas Goodwin said, ‘There is only One experience above and beyond the sealing of the Spirit and that is to be in heaven itself, there is nothing greater, it is the greatest experience on Earth, nothing greater than Heaven itself.’*

**IF THIS HASN'T YET HAPPENED TO YOU, PLEASE DON'T BE DISCOURAGED BECAUSE YOU CAN HAVE THIS GREAT EXPERIENCE TOO**

**THIS IS A PREDESTINED EXPERIENCE FOR YOU  
GOD HAS PROVIDED THIS EXPERIENCE FOR EVERY BELIEVER  
HE PURPOSED IT ... HE PROMISED IT ...**

Ephesians 1:13 Literally **SLIDE**

*In Him, having heard and believed the word of truth—the gospel of your salvation—you were sealed with **the promised Holy Spirit**.*

Acts 1:4-5

*And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but **to wait for the Promise of the Father**, “which,” He said, “you have heard from Me; <sup>5</sup> for John truly baptized with water, but **you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.**”*

Acts 2:33

*Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father **the promise of the Holy Spirit**, He poured out this which you now see and hear.*

**Acts 2:17**

***And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. (NOT SELECTED INDIVIDUALS)***

### **THIS RELEASES US INTO TRUE HEART-FELT WORSHIP**

**Galatians 4:6** Berean Study Bible **SLIDE**

***And because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"***

**NB: We are already sons before the Holy Spirit causes our hearts to cry out to our Father.**

### **OUR BELIEFS & VALUES CHANGE**

**2 Timothy 2:19** **SLIDE**

***Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity."***

From the very earliest times it was a custom, to inscribe upon a building or a monument an inscription which told of its origin and purpose. In some cases, as in the oldest monuments of Egypt, the engraved writing told the name of the royal or priestly builder; so in [Revelation 21:14](#).

The Jew was especially accustomed to see the words and promises of his God written or graven on his doorposts and on his gates. (See [Deuteronomy 6:9](#); [Deuteronomy 11:20](#) and too, the words of [Job 19:24](#), where he would have his most solemn declaration of faith graven or sealed on a rock for ever.)

### **THE FIRST SIGNIFICANT CHARACTER MARK IS ...**

**SLIDE** **RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD ... HE KNOWS ME PERSONALLY**

**"The Lord knows those who are His,"**

This is not just that the Lord knows about me ... He knows me personally and I sense it ...

Your soul starts to wake up to something you never knew before ...

You start to sense the Father's care for you ... that you belong to him ...

He has put his seal upon you ...

**THIS IS A REAL RELATIONSHIP INVOLVING THE HEART & MIND ...**

### **THE SECOND SIGNIFICANT CHARACTER MARK IS ...**

**I LOVE RIGHTEOUSNESS – MY VALUES CHANGE**

You have a sincere desire to depart from iniquity - your own iniquity and other's.  
This is the seal upon your soul.

**NOW YOU START TO THINK VERY DIFFERENTLY FROM THE  
WORLD'S SELF-MADE TRUTHS & RENEGADE THEORIES ...**

**You know you are sealed ...**

**You start to love the things of God ...**

**You become grieved by the darkness and evil ...**

**This is His seal upon your soul.**

*Let me say, anyone who has been sealed in their soul cannot ever  
advocate 'Abortion'.*

It is against the very character of God for which His Seal stands.

People who approve this may have been born again ... but not sealed.

**IT IS A HOLY EXPERIENCE / SEALED BY THE **HOLY** SPIRIT**

**NB: You don't have to be made Holy before you receive This  
Experience ... But this experience will begin to make you Holy ...**

*Certain things happened to me ...*

- *I had a ravishing hunger for His word ...*
- *I was filled with joy and peace ...*
- *I couldn't stop talking about Jesus to everyone ...*
- *My language changed - 'I remember driving my car and some  
guy swerved in front of me and I let out the 'f' word as I used  
to do. But there was such a huge reaction inside I couldn't  
say it anymore.*
- *I also started singing and speaking in tongues of praise to  
Him ...*

*Sometimes, the poverty of our spiritual life is because we have not  
yet experienced this Overflowing of The Holy Spirit in us.*

*Maybe we don't understand ...*

*Maybe we just don't want to or won't believe this thing ...*

The lack of this experience is why some people need the Pastor's  
assurance again and again to feel right with God, each week to be  
convinced again ...

*Dr Sibbs a great Puritan gave the example of a child who needs to  
keep getting the assurance of His Father's love by coming back  
again and again ... to receive assurance.*

***But then one day the Father just picks up the child and cuddles Him ... kisses Him ... smiles on Him ... and the child is impacted.***

**THE PRODIGAL SON EXPERIENCED THIS IN THE FATHER'S EMBRACE. HE FELT HIS KISSES ... HE WAS OVERWHELMED IN THE FATHER'S ARMS ...**

**You, too, can experience all God has for you ...  
Open your heart to Him and ask Him to seal you, fill you with His Holy Spirit ...**