

THE SEALING OF GOD'S PEOPLE: OUR HEARTS TO GOD

KEY TEXT—EZEK 9:3-6

WHAT IS SEALING

- ▶ From the WEBSTERS “SEALING is something that confirms, ratifies, or makes secure: GUARANTEE, ASSURANCE
- ▶ “A device with a cut or raised emblem, symbol, or word used especially to certify a signature or authenticate a document.”
- ▶ “To fasten with or as if with a seal to prevent tampering.”

THE SEALING

- ▶ In the Bible this special sealing work is done through activities of the Spirit of God to authenticate the faith of Christ in us: Ephe 1:13, 14 ; Ephe 4:30
- ▶ God sealed Christ—John 6:27
- ▶ **God will seal His people. There is special sealing for God's people going on in these last days so give the heart to Jesus**

THE SEALING IN OLD TESTAMENT: WHO HAD GOD'S SEAL?

- ▶ Ezek 9:3-6
- ▶ Go through Jerusalem and put my seal on some particular people. Who are such People?
- ▶ 1. They have the seal of God
- ▶ 2. They sigh over abominations (Sins) committed in Jerusalem
- ▶ 3. They groan over the abominations (Sins) in Jerusalem
- ▶ 4. They are just, love mercy, and obey God (Micah 6:8)

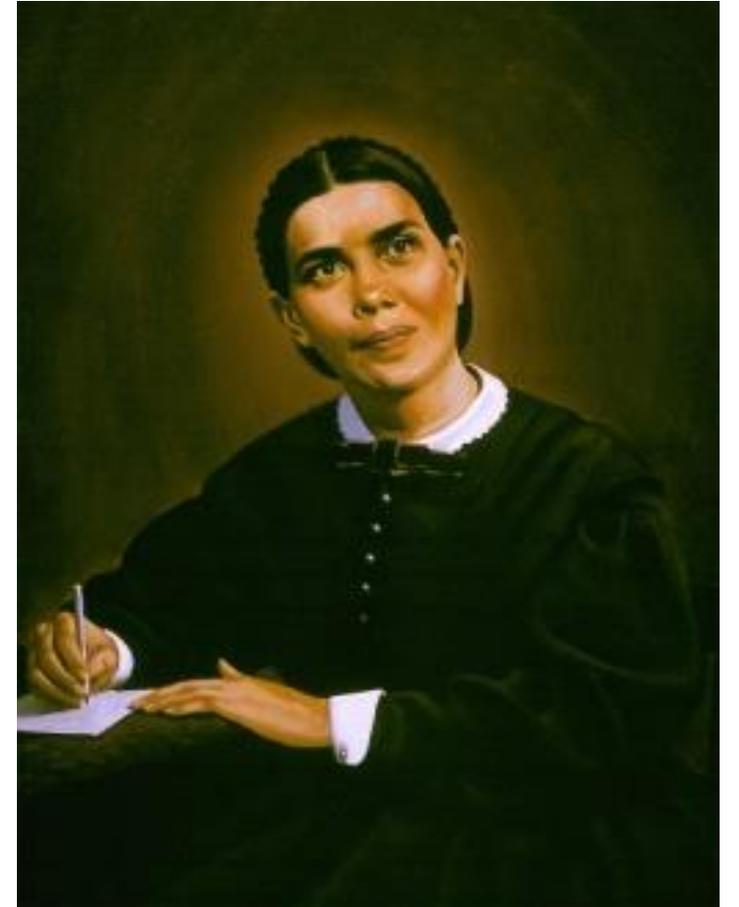
AND TO THE OTHERS: WHAT HAVE THEY DONE?

- ▶ EZEK 9:5-6 ; Isa 24:4-5
- ▶ 1. They had shed blood
- ▶ 2. They had done injustices to many
- ▶ 3. They didn't recognize the presence of God
- ▶ 4. They discarded the law of God (Neh 13:15-18)
- ▶ Isaiah 59:14, 15
- ▶ **TWO CLASSES ARE INVOLVED: SEALED ONES AND UNSEALED**

QUOTE FROM 4T 248.2 (ELEC VERSION)

God will not pass over any transgression of His law more lightly now than in the day when He pronounced judgment against Adam. The Saviour of the world raises his voice in protest against those who regard the divine commandments with carelessness and indifference.

He said: " Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least Commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them the same shall be called great in the kingdom of Heaven."



GOD'S EXPECTATION FOR US:

2TIM 2:19

- ▶ REV 12:17 ; 2THESS 2:1-4
- ▶ God is expecting us to accept the grace provided for us in Christ to **“renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly in the present age. “ Titus 2:11, 12**
- ▶ “When Billy Graham wrote his book, ***World Aflame***, it is reported that he gave the first chapter to his wife, Ruth, to review. She sat quietly reading this powerful description of world conditions and then look up and said, ‘Billy, if Christ does not come soon, He will have to raise Sodom and Gomorrha from the dead and apologize to them, for this generation is more sinful than their generation.’” ***Hope Beyond Tomorrow*** p. 60 by Mark Finley

GOD'S SEALING IN THESE LAST DAYS

- ▶ God's people have similar characteristics as in Ezek 9:3-6.
- ▶ Because of the love of God in their hearts due to the faith of Jesus they cherish they are obedient to God's law. Christ reigns in their lives. (MATT 5:17-19)
- ▶ **Rev 14:12 and "All of the commandments of the Decalogue are vital, and none are to be neglected** (James 2:10)." SDA Believes, p.284.
- ▶ Exod 20:8-11

GOD'S SEALING

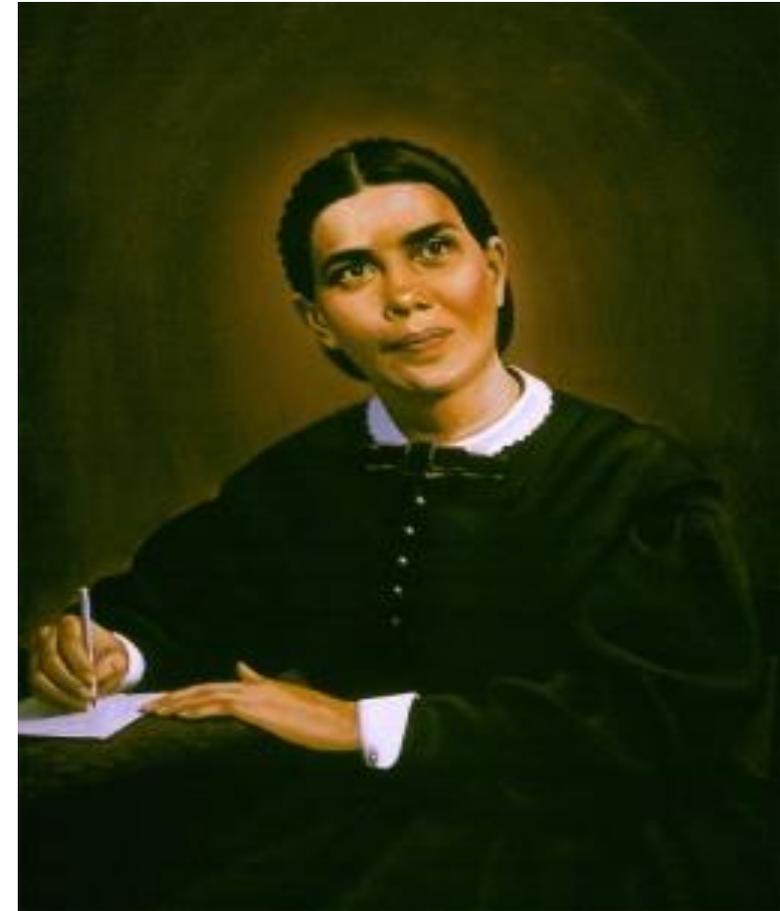
- ▶ “REMEMBER,” the Sabbath commandment has this important feature.
- ▶ “As a memorial of Creation, Sabbath observance is an antidote for idolatry. Keeping the Sabbath, then, becomes the sign of our allegiance to the true God—a sign that we acknowledge His sovereignty as Creator and King.” *Ibid.*, p.284
- ▶ **Christ is the great I AM who gave Sabbath, (Saturday, the 7TH Day of the week) at creation. John 8:58 ; Heb1:1, 2
Exod 3:14 ; John 1:1-3 ; Luke 4:16**

GOD'S SEALING

Col 3:1-2, 5-7 ; Matt 7:21-23

“The world will be convinced, not by what the pulpit teaches, but by what the church lives. The minister in the desk announces the theory of the gospel; the practical piety of the church demonstrates its power.” 7T p. 16

**“Many a star that we have greatly admired for its brilliance will then go out in darkness.”
LDE p.178**



GOD'S SEALING

- ▶ “The Sabbath commandment functions as the seal of God’s law.”
SDA Believes, p.284
- ▶ A seal has three important elements:
 - ▶ 1. The name of the owner of the seal
 - ▶ 2. The title of the owner
 - ▶ 3. The jurisdiction of the owner
- ▶ **“The seal implies that the official himself approved of the legislation and that all the power of his office stands behind you.” *Ibid.***

GOD'S SEALING

- ▶ Exod 20:10, 11 : the three elements are revealed in the Sabbath Commandment
- ▶ 1. The name—**THE LORD OUR GOD**
- ▶ 2. The Title—The One who made, **The CREATOR**
- ▶ 3. The jurisdiction, His territory—**The Heavens and Earth**

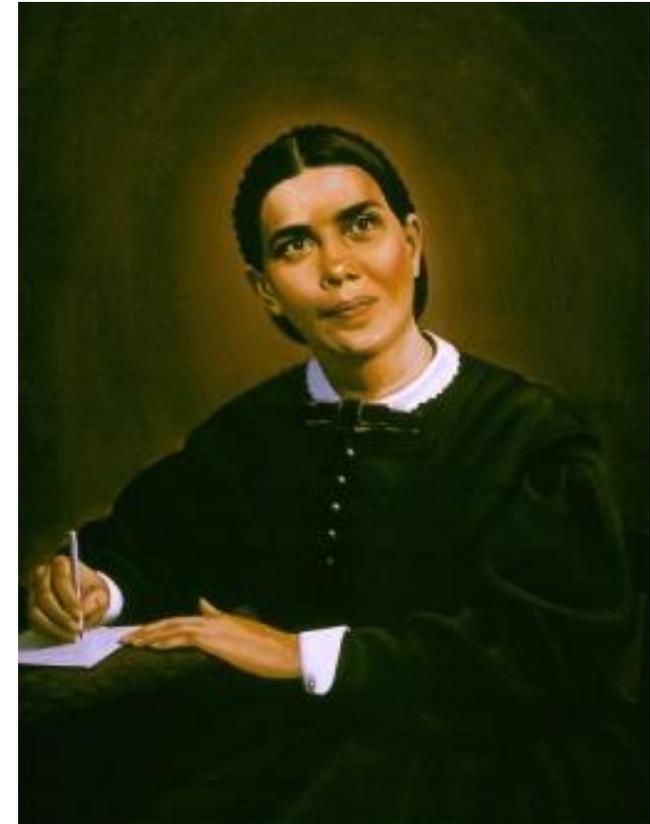
- ▶ “Scripture reveals that before the Second Advent the whole world will be divided into two classes: those who are loyal and “keep the commandment of God and the Faith of Jesus”, and those who worship the beast and his image.” (Rev 14:12, 9)” *Ibid.*, p.289

MARK OF THE BEAST: REV 14:9-11

“John was called to behold a people distinct from who worship the beast or his image by keeping the first day of the week. The observance of this day is the mark of the beast.

The mark of the beast is the papal sabbath.
(Sunday)

When the test comes, it will be clearly shown what the mark of the beast is. It is the keeping of Sunday.” LDE p. 223, 224



ARE YOU SEALED BY GOD, MY FRIEND?

Do you possess the character of Jesus? Do we use the Sabbath for funeral Celebration and other worldly things?

Have you given your heart to Jesus? Rev 3:20

By Pr. Kwanin Boakye

