

GOD'S PEOPLE: SIGNED, SEALED, AND DELIVERED

Revelation 7:1-3

Introduction:

- A. Things to note about the first six seals
 - 1. They are not necessarily in chr_____ order.
 - 2. Many of them o_____ other seals.
 - 3. Some of them have happened and will continue to happen until Jesus r_____.
 - 4. The sixth seal happens after the first five.
- B. Things to note about the sixth seal
 - 1. It is a revelation about the D_____ of the Lord
 - 2. It is from the perspective of what the unbelieving world will experience – the w_____ of God and the Lamb.
 - 3. It will come upon the unbelieving world when they will be living in p_____ and safety (1Thess 5:3)
- C. Before the seventh seal is broke, a revelation is made about the believing world
 - 1. 1Thess 5:9,10 states that the Day of the Lord will not overtake believers like a thief in the night because believers are not destined for w_____ but salvation so that believers live with Jesus when He comes.
 - 2. Rev 7:1-3 reveals that A_____ God's people are signed, sealed, and delivered.

Signed up as s_____ (v. 3)

- A. God's bondservants (slaves, servants, bondslaves)?
 - 1. Who are they? - Rev 1:1 uses the term to refer to all b_____
 - 2. What are they to do?
 - a. We are not just saved from the penalty of sin, but FROM the p_____ of sin TO s_____ the Lord (Rom 6:22)
 - b. How are we to serve the Lord?
 - 1) By serving the unbelievers around us - When you have opportunity, are you doing g_____ to all people without discrimination as Gal 6:10 commands? (this is loving our neighbor)

2) By serving the believers we know and gather with –
are you b_____ up believers as Eph 4:12

- B. Which gives the best picture of who you are? – circle one
1. A Christian
 2. A servant of the Lord

Sealed up for i_____ (vv 2,3)

A. A seal in the ancient world was an imprint on a w_____ substance.

1. The waxy substance served to keep something c_____.
2. The imprint served to identify the o_____.

B. Examples

1. Biblical

- a. S_____ were sometimes sealed (Dan 12:4; Rev 5:1)
- b. Jesus's t_____ was sealed by Pilate's ring impression.

2. Modern

- a. The t_____ of a car indicates the owner.
- b. The ear t_____ on cattle indicates the owner.

C. Therefore, the seal of God is God's stamp of His ownership on us. This was the common Christian vocabulary

1. God sealed us and gave us the S_____ as a pledge (2Cor 1:22)
2. After trusting Christ, we were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of p_____ (Eph 1:13,14)
3. Believers are sealed by the Holy Spirit for the day of r_____ (Eph 4:30).
4. The above verses reveal the seal to be the Holy Spirit who l_____ inside us (1Cor 6:19). God knows those who belong to Him (2Tim 2:19)

Delivered from God's w_____ (v. 1)

A. Before harm comes to the earth, sea, and trees, God has to save (seal) all the people He is going to save.

1. They will be e_____ from His wrath.
2. Some ask the wrong question (how?) and dive into speculation rather than listening to God's revelation.

- a. Speculation - Christians who are alive will be raptured up to h_____ before the Day of God's wrath.
 - 1) There is not one scripture that states this.
 - 2) 1Thess 4:16,17 states alive believers will be taken up in the a_____ to be with the Jesus who is coming down from heaven to the earth.
- b. Speculation keeps people from listening to the revelation.
 - 1) The Trinity
 - a) Speculation – how can there be the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit yet only one God.
 - b) Revelation – God does not reveal how He is but _____ He is.
 - 2) A lesson from John 3 – Nicodemus was so focused on speculating HOW entering God's kingdom by faith was p_____ (see verse 9) that it kept him from accepting the revelation that entering God's kingdom is only by faith (see vv 5,16).

B. Accept the Revelation

1. That there will be believers on the earth when Jesus returns from h_____ (1Thess 4:16)
2. That believers will not experience God's w_____ but will obtain salvation (1Thess 5:9).
3. That all believers of every era will be with Jesus in the a_____ when He returns (1Thess 4:17).

Conclusion:

Believers:

1. Are signed up as God's s_____
2. Have been sealed up with God's S _____
3. Will be delivered from God's w _____