



- yes / no**
1. I remember the day I received the Seal of God.
 2. The Seal of God is directly connected to one of the 10 Commandments.
 3. In the last days, people will not be sealed until after the close of probation.
 4. The opposite of the Mark of the Beast is the Seal of God.
 5. As Christians, we should not live as if we are confident of our own salvation.

dig deep

° IN THE PAST, WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN TOLD THE "SEAL OF GOD" REALLY IS?

READ: 2 Corinthians 1:21,22 [NIV]

21 Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, 22 set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

¶ In the Bible references to follow, you will see several of these words repeated: **anointed, seal, deposit** and **guarantee**. So, for these two verses in 2 Cor. 2, let's only focus on one: ANOINTED. What do you think it means here that God anointed us?

– **Anointed** (Χριστός [*chrisos*]) to make like the anointed one, Christ. Is this what the text means when it says that "it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ"?

READ: Ephesians 1:13,14 [NIV]

13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

¶ What do you think it means, "When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit"?

– You were **sealed** (εσφραγισθητε [*esphragisthete*]) to be sealed securely, to place a mark of ownership, a signature to provide proof of identity, to guarantee the genuineness, to mark bags with an accurate measure of contents, to guarantee the security of something.

notes

READ: 2 Corinthians 5:4,5 [NIV]

4 For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. 5 Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

§ What do you think it means that God “has given us the Spirit as a deposit”?

→ **Deposit (ἀρραβών [arrabón])** The deposit made by the buyer to the seller as a guarantee that the full amount will be paid over at the proper time..

‡ In modern Greek, they also use arrabón as a term for a very special object. What does this tell you about God’s desire for you, and what does this tell you about His character?

‡ How does this “object” **guarantee** “what is to come”?

this week's conversation with God

1. Am I fully “engaged” with God by inviting the Holy Spirit to join my life?
2. How am I realizing the guarantee that God has given me?
3. What new beautiful element of God’s character do I see now?

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