

Sermon Title: **“SEALED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT”**

Ephesians 1:3-14

- In Scripture, Seals were used in a variety of ways:
  1. Matthew 27:62-66 – Seals were used to SECURE something
    - Fearing one of Jesus’ disciples might steal the body, these Pharisees ask Pilate to NOT only put guards at the tomb, but also to Seal the stone
    - The tomb was securely fastened with ropes, which were either set in wax or a cement & Sealed with a signet ring of authority
  2. II Corinthians 1:21-22 – Seals were used to IDENTIFY something
    - God has Sealed us; we’re marked by the Holy Spirit; God has put His signature on us; we’re owned by God
    - The Holy Spirit testifies that we’re a blood bought child of the King
    - The Holy Spirit is proof that we have a living relationship with God
    - This Seal of the Holy Spirit should be clearly visible & easily recognized
  3. Ephesians 1:13-14 – the idea of being Sealed carries the idea to CONFIRM something (or to place it beyond a doubt)
    - Our Sealing confirms to us that our full inheritance WILL come (the Holy Spirit is our first installment)
      - The Holy Spirit guides; directs; teaches; convicts; encourages; comforts; etc.
    - Believers are authenticated by our King (Jesus’) Authority
    - Believers have been Sealed, securing us until the Day of Redemption
    - NO powers on earth, or in Heaven, can mess with our being Sealed
    - Believers’ salvation CANNOT be tampered with
    - We’re also sent out with Authority
      - Believers DON’T go out in our own Authority, but in the SAME power & Authority that we’re Sealed in
      - (We’re basically – Living Signet Rings)
      - ALL of us come with a Message that’s backed with the Full Authority of our King