

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SEAL

Matthew 27:66

c530-535B.C. Daniel in the lions' den.

Daniel 6:17 the stone sealed: absolute authority of Darius

God delivered Daniel in spite of the seal!

Fast forward to Jesus.

Major theme of Matthew has to do with the unique **authority** of Jesus:

Matthew 7:29

8:9

9:6, 8

10:1

12:8

20:25ff

21:23-27

Then notice the detail, uniquely in Matthew: 27:66

The **seal** indicates the Sanhedrin and Rome's authority.

Jesus is not permitted out of the grave!

Today we celebrate that Jesus

I. Broke the seals of

A. The _____

John 10:17-18 → Rev 1:18

B. _____

Matt 28:1-4

The State cannot control Christianity because it cannot control Jesus

C. _____

The Grand Inquisitor: people want the bondage of rules.

Jesus frees us to live by the Spirit (Acts 2:33)

II. Has His own seals on _____ ever since

A. Rev 5:1 – 8:5

Jesus has unique authority to open the 7 seals of History because He triumphed (5:5)!

B. Rev 20:3

Jesus sealed Satan in the Pit so he cannot ultimately deceive the Nations

So **Matt 28:18ff**

SO: The broken seal means Jesus is Ruler of History and the Nations

III. Has sealed _____

Therefore you are

A. _____

Rev 7 (note esp v2-4)

(cf.9:4)

II Tim 2:19

Eph 1:13-14; 4:30

This week: Satan can molest you, but he cannot uproot you from Jesus

He has His seal of protection upon you.

Are you sure you are sealed?

4 week Gospels (Matthew – Mark – Luke – John) **discussions**

Read Matthew and come 10am next Sun to Potters House Lounge

B. _____ - _____ with His resurrection power!

Ephesians 1:13-14, 18-20

4:30

This week: you have the resurrection power of Christ to resist temptation.

You are sealed in the Spirit's power