

# Ephesians Series

Lesson #203

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Dean Bible Ministries

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Secured by Our Seal  
Ephesians 4:30



# EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK  
& WARFARE  
OF THE BELIEVER

**Eph. 4:30, “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.” [NKJV]**

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- a. And do not grieve**
- b. the Holy Spirit of God**
- c. by whom you were sealed**
- d. for the day of redemption**

**Eph. 4:30, “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.” [NKJV]**

***λυπέω *lupeō* 2 plur pres  
act impera to grieve,  
sorrow, pain, mental or  
emotional distress,  
sadness***

**Isa. 55:8, “ ‘For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,’ says the LORD.**

**Isa. 55:9, “ ‘For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.’ ”**

***Yhwh* is the Infinite, Personal Creator-God.**

**As such He is beyond our finite, creaturely ability to comprehend in many ways. We can know true things about God, but cannot comprehend all things.**

**To understand Him, Scripture uses analogies and idioms.**

# Idioms

**Idioms are common expressions which are not to be understood literally, but they do have a set meaning. An idiom is an expression whose meaning is not related to the literal meaning of the words.**

## **Anthropomorphisms and Anthropopathisms**

**In anthropomorphisms, human physical characteristics which God does not actually possess are applied to God to reveal His plans, policies, and attributes in a way that humans can understand and relate to.**

**Deut. 33:27, “The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms; He will thrust out the enemy from before you, and will say, ‘Destroy!’ ”**

**2 Chron. 16:9, “For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him. In this you have done foolishly; therefore from now on you shall have wars.”**



**Ex. 33:23, “Then I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back; but My face shall not be seen.”**

**Num. 6:25, “The LORD make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you;”**

**Psa. 13:1, “How long, O LORD? Will You forget me forever? How long will You hide Your face from me?”**

# Anthropopathisms

**In anthropopathisms human emotions which God does not actually possess are ascribed to Him to help us understand His plans, policies, and purposes.**

**Joel 2:18, “Then the LORD will be zealous for His land, and pity His people.”**

**Ex. 15:7, “And in the greatness of Your excellence You have overthrown those who rose against You; You sent forth Your wrath; It consumed them like stubble.”**

**Isa. 63:10, “But they rebelled and grieved His Holy Spirit;  
So He turned Himself against them as an enemy, and He  
fought against them.”**

**Ezek. 6:9, “Then those of you who escape will remember  
Me among the nations where they are carried captive,  
because I was crushed by their adulterous heart which has  
departed from Me, and by their eyes which play the harlot  
after their idols; they will loathe themselves for the evils  
which they committed in all their abominations.”**

**Psa. 78:39, “For He remembered that they were but flesh, a breath that passes away and does not come again.**

**Psa. 78:40, “How often they provoked Him in the wilderness, and grieved Him in the desert!**

**Psa. 78:41, “Yes, again and again they tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel.”**

# **“Grieving the Spirit”**

**Conclusions: Grieving God or the Holy Spirit describes with human references to grief, sadness, disappointment, sorrow, the impact on God’s righteousness when the believer rebels or acts contrary to God’s character.**

**What the Bible Teaches  
About**

**The Personality of  
the Holy Spirit**



**Eph. 4:30, “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.” [NKJV]**

**The Holy Spirit has the attributes of personhood: knowledge, volition, guiding, directing, performing miracles, interceding for us.**

**The Holy Spirit can be lied to, blasphemed, and resisted.**

**Eph. 4:30, “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.” [NKJV]**

- a. And do not grieve**
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## **5. The Holy Spirit can be lied to, resisted, and blasphemed.**

**Acts 5:3, “But Peter said, ‘Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself?’ ”**

**Acts 7:51, “You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you.”**

**Matt. 12:31, “Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men.”**

**6. In this passage He is described with the fullest expression of His titles: The Holy Spirit of God.**

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# **What the Bible Teaches About**

## **Sealed by the Holy Spirit**



# ETERNAL REALITIES



ACTS 16:31

IN CHRIST

Baptism by the  
Holy Spirit

Sealed by  
the Spirit  
Indwelt by  
the Spirit

**Eph. 1:13, “In Whom (Him), you also—when you heard the word of truth (the gospel of your salvation)—In Whom (Him), when you believed—you were sealed by the Holy Spirit of promise,” [RD]**

**πιστεύω *pisteuo***

**aor act participle of  
time, “when”**

**masc plur nom  
to believe, trust**

**Eph. 1:13, “In Whom (Him), you also—when you heard the word of truth (the gospel of your salvation)—In Whom (Him), when you believed—you were sealed by the Holy Spirit of promise,” [RD]**

**πιστεύω *pisteuo***

**aor act part masc**

**plur nom**

**to believe, trust**

**σφραγίζω *sphragizo***

**2 plur aor pass**

**indic**

**to seal**

**The action of the participle, “when you believed,” comes logically prior to, but immediately results in the sealing.**

**Eph. 1:14, “who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.”**

**ἀρραβών *arrabōn* masc  
sing nom down payment,  
deposit, pledge, earnest**



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**1 Cor. 6:20, “For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.”**

**1 Cor. 7:23, “You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men.”**

**Rom. 6:17, “But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.**

**Rom. 6:18, “And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.”**

**Rom. 6:22, “But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life.”**

**At this point we learn that sealing:**

- 1. Is a guarantee.**
- 2. That the Holy Spirit Himself, in His indwelling, is the sealing.**
- 3. That this seal is a guarantee that the promise of eternal salvation will be fulfilled.**
- 4. That fulfillment is identified as the “redemption of the purchased possession.”**

# Outline

- 1. Briefly define the term.**
- 2. What is the meaning of σφραγίζω *sphragizo* (“to seal”)?**
- 3. What is the meaning of ἀρραβών *arrabōn* (“pledge”)?**
- 4. What do these four passages teach us?**
  - 2 Cor. 1:21–22**
  - 2 Cor. 5:5**
  - Eph. 1:13–14**
  - Eph. 4:30**
- 5. Why is this important to us in our spiritual life?**

## **Definition**

**The seal by the Spirit is the down payment that certifies God's ownership and protection which secures the salvation of the Church Age believer from the moment of faith when the Holy Spirit indwells until ultimate salvation in glorification is realized.**

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**Eph. 1:13, “In Whom (Him), you also—when you heard the word of truth (the gospel of your salvation)—In Whom (Him), when you believed—you were sealed by the Holy Spirit of promise,” [RD]**

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# Example of Sealing



**Dan. 6:17, “Then a stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the signets of his lords, that the purpose concerning Daniel might not be changed.”**

**Matt. 27:66, “So they went and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone and setting the guard.”**

**Sealing is a mark of ownership. Some people put the mark of the seal on everything they owned. Thus a family signet ring was very important.**

**Rev. 7:3, “saying, ‘Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.’**

**Rev. 7:4, “And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred and forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel were sealed:”**

**Rev. 20:3, “and he cast him into the bottomless pit [abyss], and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.”**

**Rev. 5:1, “And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals.**

**Rev. 5:2, “Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, ‘Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?’ ”**

**Rev. 10:4, “Now when the seven thunders uttered their voices, I was about to write; but I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, ‘Seal up the things which the seven thunders uttered, and do not write them.’ ”**

**Gen. 41:42, “Then Pharaoh took his signet ring off his hand and put it on Joseph’s hand; and he clothed him in garments of fine linen and put a gold chain around his neck.**

**Gen. 41:43, “And he had him ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried out before him, ‘Bow the knee!’ So he set him over all the land of Egypt.**

**Gen. 41:44, “Pharaoh also said to Joseph, ‘I am Pharaoh, and without your consent no man may lift his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt.’ ”**



**Hag. 2:23, “ ‘In that day,’ says the LORD of hosts, ‘I will take you, Zerubbabel My servant, the son of Shealtiel,’ says the LORD, ‘and will make you like a signet ring; for I have chosen you,’ says the LORD of hosts.”**





**Rom. 4:11, “And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while still uncircumcised, that he might be the father of all those who believe, though they are uncircumcised, that righteousness might be imputed to them also,”**

## **Summary of the Basic Uses of a Seal:**

- **to authorize, authenticate, or bestow authority,**
- **to identify ownership,**
- **to protect, to secure, make inaccessible,**
- **to guarantee the fulfillment of a covenant or pledge.**

**3. What is the meaning of ἀρραβών *arrabōn* (“pledge”)?**

**An earnest, deposit, down payment**

**or**

**A pledge**

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  - Eph. 4:30**

**2 Cor. 1:21, “Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God,**

**2 Cor. 1:22, “who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.” [pledge, deposit]**

**βεβαιόω *Bebaiōo***

**pres act part masc sing**

**nom**

**to confirm, to make**

**certain**

**σφραγίζω *sphragizo***

**2 plur aor mid ptcp**

**masc sing nom with**

**the article**

**who (referring to God)**

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**ἄρραβών *arrabōn* masc**

**sing nom down payment,  
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**2 Cor. 5:5, “Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.”**

**Eph. 1:13, “In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,**

**Eph. 1:14, “who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.”**



**Eph. 4:30, “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.”**

**ἀπολύτρωσις *apolutrōsis***

**fem sing gen**

**The root of this word group (*lut*) indicates the payment of a price to release something or someone.**

**redemption, release,  
ransom**

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**Mark 10:45, “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”**

**Php. 3:20–21, “For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.”**

**Rom. 8:23, “Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.”**

**For the Church Age believer:**

**The sealing indicates that we are authenticated as a believer, as a member of the Church, the body of Christ, the royal family of God.**

**We have been purchased (redeemed) and are owned by God.**

**We are secure and protected in our position, our salvation, our identification with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection.**

**The indwelling of the Holy Spirit for all believers from the instant of salvation, guarantees our future, ultimate redemption, and full salvation guaranteeing that our salvation is eternally secure and can never be lost.**