1. Who will be protected through the seven last plagues?
Revelation 7:3 Saying, Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have ______________ the servants of our God on their foreheads.

NOTE: Those who receive God’s seal in their foreheads will be protected during the plagues (Psalm 91:7-11).

2. What is this “seal” the righteous have in their foreheads?
Isaiah 8:16 Bind up the testimony, seal the ______________ among my disciples.

NOTE: God’s seal is found in His law. A seal is what makes a document official, and it normally contains three characteristics: Name, Office, and Territory. An example would be “Cyrus king of Persia” in Ezra 1:1.

3. Which of the Ten Commandments contains all the elements of a seal?
Exodus 20:11 For in six days the ______________ the heavens and the earth, the sea, and ______________ that is in them.

NOTE: The fourth commandment is the only one that contains all three elements of a seal: (1) “the heavens”—His Name, (2) “the earth”—His Office as Creator, (3) “the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them”—His territory.

4. What has God given as a special sign of His power?
Ezekiel 10:12 I also gave them My Sabbaths, to be a ______________ and in their ______________ I will write them.

NOTE: God clearly states that He gave the Sabbath as a sign of His power to create and sanctify. It is His seal, or mark of authority. The words “seal,” “sign,” “mark,” and “token” are used interchangeably throughout the Bible (compare Genesis 17:11 with Romans 4:11 and Revelation 7:3 with Ezekiel 9:4).

5. What does the second beast of Revelation 13 force all to receive?
Revelation 13:16 He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a ______________ on their right hand or on their forehead.

NOTE: Those who receive the mark of the beast will be identified either by the seal of God or the mark of the beast.

6. What is the mark of the beast?
NOTE: We identified the first beast of Revelation 13 in Lesson 19. What is its mark of power and authority? The best way to discover its mark of authority is to ask the papacy directly. Notice the following section from a Catholic catechism:

“Q. Which is the Sabbath day?
A. A Saturday is the Sabbath day.

“Q. Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday?
A. We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday.”

Here is another statement from a catechism:

“Q. Have you any other way of proving that the Church has power to institute festivals of precept?
A. Had she not such power, she could not have done that in which all modern revolutionists agree with her—she could not have substituted the observance of Sunday the first day of the week, for the observance of Saturday the seventh day, a change for which there is no Scriptural authority.”

So the papacy is saying that its mark of power and authority is making Sunday a holy day—a change that virtually the entire Christian world accepts. (See supplement entitled “What Important Question Does the Papacy Ask Protestants?”)


7. Is either the mark of the beast or the seal of God visible?
Hebrews 10:16 Says the LORD: I will put My laws into their ______________, and in their ______________ I will write them.

Ecclesiastes 9:10 Whatever your ______________ finds to do, do it with your might.

Exodus 13:9 It shall be as a ______________ to you on your hand and as a ______________ between your eyes, that the LORD’s law may be ______________ you.

Isaiah 59:6, 7 Their works are works of iniquity, and the act of violence is in their ______________, . . . Their ______________ are thoughts of iniquity, wasting and destruction are in their paths.

NOTE: Neither the mark of the beast nor the seal of God is outwardly visible. The forehead represents the mind, and the hand is a symbol of work. “On the hand” and “between the eyes” are consistent symbols in Scripture for a person’s thoughts and actions (Exodus 13:16; Deuteronomy 6:8, 11:18). A person will receive the mark of the beast in his forehead by choosing to believe that Sunday is a holy day in spite of Bible truth. A person will be marked in the right hand by working on God’s Sabbath or by outwardly keeping Sunday laws for convenient reasons—such as a job, family, etc. Although the sign is invisible to men, God will know who has which mark (2 Timothy 2:20). In a sense, each person will mark himself. If I respect and regard God’s holy Sabbath, He will mark me as His own. If I regard the beast’s false Sabbath, He will mark me as belonging to the beast.
11. How did God’s ancient leaders regard the great things of His law?

Hosea 8:12 I have written for him the great things of My law, But they were considered a __________ thing.

NOTE: Times have not changed. God has placed the Sabbath, His great sign, in the middle of His law and begins that commandment with the word "remember." Yet many people today feel that keeping His seventh-day Sabbath is a strange thing.

13. What specific sin does God command His leaders to denounce?

Isaiah 58:1, 13, 14 Cry aloud, spare not, lift up your voice like a trumpet; My people their transgression. … If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your __________ on My holy day, and call the Sabbath a __________, the holy day of the LORD honorable, … then you shall delight yourself in the LORD.

NOTE: God charges spiritual leaders to call Sabbath-breaking a sin and to insist that His people keep His Sabbath day holy. As with the disciples of old, our only safety is in obeying rather than in murmuring (Acts 5:29).

15. When you decide to accept Jesus and fully follow Him, what happens?

Matthew 11:29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find __________ for your __________.

NOTE: Glorious rest and peace enter your heart at conversion. The Sabbath, which means "rest," is a symbol of the rest and peace that comes from the new birth (Hebrews 4:1-10). Those who are truly born again will keep the Sabbath as a blessed sign of that rest (notice verses 6, 9, 10). There is no joy like the joy that comes to a converted person who keeps God's Sabbath holy.

What was God’s criticism of His ancient priests, or pastors?

Daniel 7:25 He shall … intend to change …

NOTE: Daniel 7 reveals an Old Testament description of the Antichrist power. It clearly predicts that the beast would attempt to change both God’s laws and times. The papacy has tried to change God’s laws by: (1) omitting the second commandment against veneration of images, (2) shortening the fourth commandment from 94 words to just eight in order to avoid mentioning which day is the Sabbath, and (3) dividing the tenth commandment into two commandments. The papacy attempted to change God’s times by: (1) teaching people to recognize the first day of the week as the Sabbath instead of the seventh day, and (2) adopting the pagan Roman practice of beginning each day at midnight instead of sundown. God’s timing for the Sabbath is from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday night (Leviticus 23:32). No mortal should ever dare to tamper with God’s sacred law or times (Matthew 5:18).

ANSWER: __________.