

Text

Revelation 6: 1-8

THE SEVEN SEAL JUDGMENTS: EVENTS PRECEDING THE GREAT TRIBULATION

Four Horsemen

Revelation 6: 1 [KJ]

“1 And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see.

2 And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.

3 And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see.

4 And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword.

5 And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand.

6 And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine.

7 And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see.

8 And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth”

The Lamb Breaks the First Four Seals of the Book of Destiny:
The Appearance of the Antichrist and His Power. [Rev. 6:1-8]

Brief Outline of Rev. 6: 1-8

1 The 1st Seal: A white horse and rider

- a. He possesses a bow
- b. He is given a crown
- c. His purpose: He goes forth to conquer

2 The 2nd Seal: A red horse and rider

- a. He is given power and a great sword
- b. He removes peace and causes killing or war

3 The 3rd Seal: A black horse and rider

- a. He possesses a set of scales
- b. He causes famine and scarcity
- c. He controls food distribution, but he protects the rich (oil and wine)

4 The 4th Seal: A pale horse and rider

- a. He has the name of Death
- b. He is followed by Hell
- c. He is given one fourth of the earth to kill by war and famine

Jesus paid the price of redemption for sinful man, but it also did something else for sinful man, *it secured judgment!*

* Judgment and wrath is just as much a part of Christ's sacrifice as is His grace and love ... it matters which side you stand on grace and love or judgment as to which one you will experience!

* Many in the church today are happy to teach and preach on Christ's grace and love, which is truth and great to understand but we must always remember there is also a message of judgment.

God reveals to us and gives us a warning about the reality of future judgment, not to only satisfy our curiosity about the future events but to reveal the reality of God's love that saves us from wrath for those who repent; God's love warns about wrath to come for the hardened heart.

3.

Revelation 6: 1 [KJ]

“And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see”

- * Now we see the dramatic moment has arrived.
- * God's book—the book of destiny, the great book of history, the book that spells out what is to happen in the end time—is now to be opened.

Note: the Lamb *does not* open the scroll at this point

- * He merely **breaks** *the seals*.
- * The events of *the seals* are not the end of history itself.

Revelation 6: 1-2 [KJ]

“And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see.
2 And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer”

Note:

The first four seal judgments seem to be a description of the antichrist: First by the one on the [**white horse**] His rising to power gaining control over the nations of the earth. He will do it by waging war (**the red horse**), by gaining control over the economy (**the black horse**), and by having his opponents put to death (**the pale horse**).

The First Seal

The first seal shows a white horse with a rider who was given a crown and holds a bow ... he is allowed to go forth and conquer the earth.

Revelation 6: 2 [KJ]

“And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer”

- * This is not a reference to Jesus Christ, He is the one who opens the seal,
- * This is a reference to allowing Anti-Christ to conquer the Earth during the tribulation period.

4.

Sin will finally have its master present in the person of Anti-Christ!

The Crown

The crown he wears here in [Revelation 6](#) is different from the crown worn by Christ in [Revelation 19](#)

[Rev. 6](#) - it is the crown of the *conqueror* (*stephanos*) not the *royal crown* of a *King* (*diadem*) found in [Revelation 19](#)

The Bow

- * The *bow* symbolizes *conquest*.
- * In the Old Testament it is always the symbol of military power (Psalm 46:9; Jeremiah 51:51; Hosea 1:5)

The white rider in this *first seal* is the antichrist

- * How is the antichrist going to conquer the world?
- * Scripture tells us that it is going to be *through deception*.
- * Because of the sins and evil of people, because people have chosen to go the way of sin and evil, the *antichrist is going to be able to deceive them*.

[2 Thessalonians 2: 8-10](#)

"And then shall that Wicked be revealed....even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all *deceivableness* of *unrighteousness* in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved"

The Second Seal

[Revelation 6: 3-4](#)

"3 And when he had opened *the second seal*, I heard the second beast say, Come and see.

4 And there went out another *horse that was red*: and *power was given to him* that sat thereon *to take peace from the earth*, and that they should kill one another: and there *was given unto him a great sword*"

The *second seal* shows a judgment of painful conquest, *a red horse and the rider has power to take peace from the Earth*.

5.

* He is the rider who has power to take peace from the earth so that men will kill each other. [*Today violence is abounding – home invasions etc.*]

* He is the rider who is given a great sword.

* He is the rider... of strife...of violence...of assault...of division...of abuse...of anger...of hate...of uprising...of murder...of war

He is the rider who divides – race against race, class against class, neighbor against neighbor, employee against employer, husband against wife, religion against religion, and nation against nation.

He is the rider who takes peace from the earth and causes every kind of division he can. He is the rider who destroys every human relationship that he can.

2 Timothy 3:1-3

"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, lacking self-restraint, fierce, despisers of those that are good"

The last days will bring terrible days of wars and rumors of wars.

Matthew 24: 6-7

"And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom"

The Third Seal

Revelation 6: 5-6

"And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand.

6 And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine"

6.

The third seal is opened and a black horse with a rider holding scales comes forward, with power to produce famine on the Earth.

* This rider the antichrist has power to control the economy and distribution of food.

* Food will be rationed in the end time.

* Remember there will be more wars and conflicts and violence raging all over the world during the end time than ever before.

* The result of war is often famine, and the end time will be no different.

The only difference is that the famine will be far more severe and involve far more people. The end times will see an intensification of all the terrible sufferings known to man.

Note

* This rider (the antichrist) has a set of scales to measure out the wheat. Wheat or barley was the basic food for people in John's day.

* Note that it took... a "penny" (denarius) to buy a measure of wheat, that is, about a quart.

* A Penny to buy three measures of barley

* A penny was about a day's wage.

* Imagine working and earning only enough money to buy what food was needed for that day!

The rider controls food distribution. This is probably one way that he gains and holds control over the world, at least for a season. The idea is that food will be strictly controlled.

Note: There will be plenty of oil and wine.

* How could oil and wine which come from trees and vines be available when wheat and barley are scarce and shrivelled up with a draught?

* From stockpiles and from the fact that trees and vines have roots more deeply in the ground than crops.

They can usually survive and produce more through a draught than crops. Also, trees will produce for years without being cared for.

7.

War will keep men from growing crops, but trees will keep on producing without much attention.

- * **Oil and wine were luxury items in the ancient world.**
- * **As is true in most famines, the wealthy will have food, the poor will not.**
- * **The times will be marked by famine after famine all over the world. It will take all a man can do just to survive.**

Matthew 24:6-7

"And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places"

The Fourth Seal

Revelation 6: 7-8

" 7 And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see.

8 And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth"

The fourth seal was a pale horse and a rider with the power to kill 1/4 of the population of the world

- * The tragic results of sin is death and destruction
- * This is the plight of sin unchecked and unchallenged

The **Amplified** translates the word pale as **"ashy pale horse"** - *[black and blue as if made so by bruising] [Abusive spirit like never before]*

1. The rider (antichrist) has a name: that of death; and sitting right behind him is hell [hades], the realm of the dead.

His very name announces that some terrible devastation is about to be set loose upon the earth.

8.

2. The rider (antichrist) is given power to cause unbelievable pain and suffering: he is personally responsible for killing one fourth of the people on earth.

Unbelievable!

How can one rider possibly kill one fourth of the people, a number that would equal over one billion today?

* **The sword** can help to kill that many people. That is, war and genocide

* **Hunger and starvation** can help to kill that many people. That is, the rider can starve people and cause famine due to war and the rationing of food.

* **Death - Pestilence** can help to kill that many people: that is, germ warfare and the diseases that result from the unsanitary conditions of refugee and concentration camps and from war and genocide, unsanitary conditions and the outbreak of both old and new diseases such as we witnessed with the venereal diseases, flu epidemics, small pox, polio, measles, aids, and diphtheria. And there will be little if any medical supplies.

* **Wild beasts** will help to kill that many people. That is, due to war and the transplanting of people, billions of people, especially children, will be homeless. This rider is responsible for exposing people to the beasts of the forests and jungles who will be just as hungry and insane from the lack of food as people will be.

As terrible as the four horsemen events are, they are not the worst judgments that are to take place upon earth. The worst will still lie ahead when the end time itself is launched.

These judgments are just the seal judgments.

The end time judgments are called the trumpet judgments and the bowl judgments.

May God use us to tell others about the Lord Jesus Christ and to lead them to His salvation before the end comes.

9.

Conclusion

Revelation 6: 1-8 Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse

Four seals on the scroll are opened

- * 1st – white horse and rider comes forth to conquer
- * 2nd – a red horse rider comes forth to remove peace and cause killing and war
- * 3rd – a black horse and rider comes forth to control food distribution and protects the rich [oil and wine]
- * 4th – a pale horse and rider comes forth and will take the lives of one fourth of the earth to kill by wars and famine

Lets pray that we are disciples of the Word of God so we can tell others about the salvation of the Lord before the great tribulation comes forth.