

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible
Current Book: Revelation – verse by verse

Scripture(s) for Today: Revelation 6:1-17 – Jesus opens the seals; 4 horsemen take center stage

Today's Message:

"Four Horsemen"



INTRODUCTION

Last week, Jesus Christ emerged in the throne room of the universe to take the seven-sealed book from God the Father. He appeared as the Lamb that was slain and a worthy redeemer of the saints! Heaven erupted in contagious worship of Him! Today, we arrive at a **FAMOUS** portion of Scripture. Most people have heard something about the "Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse." Yet, most are clueless about the context and the **IDENTITY** of the horsemen. Big trouble is coming to planet earth, and the Lamb gets it started by opening the seals of the book. By the time we finish this chapter, we will have completed nearly the entire Tribulation Period. Pay close attention and listen for God.

LEARNING TOGETHER

1. The Text Rev 6:1-17

#1. The Context – the next 14 chapters will deal with the **TRIBULATION** Period.

1. The Church has been **REMOVED** from planet earth.
 - ✓ *Rev 4:1-2 – ... behold, a door was opened in heaven... Come up hither...*
2. The earth will experience a **TIME** of tribulation like never before or again.
 - ✓ *Mt 24:21 – ... great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world...*
 - ✓ *Jer 30:7 – ... that day is great... none is like it... the time of Jacob's trouble...*
 - ✓ *Dan 12:1 – ... a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation...*
3. There are **4** accounts of the Tribulation Period in Revelation.
 - ✓ *Seven seals... Seven trumpets... the Beast details... Seven viols...*
 - ✓ *There were 4 accounts of Jesus' 1st coming – Matthew, Mark, Luke, John*

NOTE The book of Revelation is not in chronological order. Study and rightly divide it!

#2. The Horsemen – four horsemen bring **TROUBLE** to planet earth. (vs 1-8)

- **The 1st Seal** – the horseman on the **WHITE** horse. *2 Cor 11:14; 4:4; Jn14:30; 1Pet5:8*
 - ✓ *He that sat on him had a bow... Gen 9:13; 10:9; 25:27; Dan 8:25; 11:21*
 - ✓ *A crown was given unto him... Dan 8:23-24; Rev 17:2,18; 18:3,9; Mt 24:24*
 - ✓ *He went forth conquering, and to conquer.*

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- **The 2nd Seal** – the horseman on the **RED** horse. **WAR** **Mt 24:6-8**
 - ✓ *Power was given to him... to **take peace** from the earth...*
 - ✓ *That **they should kill one another**... there was given unto him **a great sword**.*
- **The 3rd Seal** – the horseman on the **BLACK** horse. **FAMINE** **Lam 5:8-10**
 - ✓ *A **pair of balances** in his hand... a **measure** of wheat for a penny... Hag 1; Ezk 4*
 - ✓ *See thou **hurt not** the oil and the wine.*
- **The 4th Seal** – the horseman on the **PALE** horse. **DEATH/HELL** **Jer 14:12**
 - ✓ *His name that sat on him **was Death**... and Hell followed with him.*
 - ✓ *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... Ezk 14*

NOTE The judgment of God falls on the earth; the Antichrist grows in power/influence.

#3. The **Altar** – there were **SOULS** of martyrs located under the altar! (vs 9-11)

- **The 5th Seal** – the martyrs will be killed by **BEHEADING** at an altar! **Rev 20:4**
 - ✓ *They were **slain for the word of God**, and for their testimony... Deu 21:6; Mt 14:10*
 - ✓ *They cried with a loud voice, saying, "**How long, O Lord**" to avenge their blood...*
 - ✓ ***White robes** were given unto every one of them... **rest** for a little season...*

NOTE Why does Satan love / use beheading? It is more than killing; it is an evil hatred.

#4. The **Signs** – God **SHOOK** the heavens and the earth! (vs 12-17)

- **The 6th Seal** – the heavens and the earth were visibly **CHANGED!** **Isa 13:13; Hag 2**
 - ✓ *There was a **great earthquake**... sun became black... moon became as blood...*
 - ✓ *The **stars of heaven** fell unto the earth, even **as a fig tree**... when she is shaken...*
 - ✓ *The **heaven departed** as a scroll... **every mountain and island** were moved...*
 - ✓ *The **kings, great men, rich men, chief captains, mighty men**... hid themselves...*
 - ✓ *For the **great day of his wrath** is come; and who shall be able to stand?*

NOTE God has always connected Christ's return in glory with incredible signs in creation!

2. The Lesson (How can we learn from our passage today?)

1. God wanted you to know the **FUTURE** in advance; His goal was salvation.

- God chose to do this because He wants all to be saved; He is a loving God. He is love.

❖ **Question:** "Do these things cause you to fear?" **2 Tim 1:7; 2 Pet 3:9; 1 John 4:18**

2. God has given you a remarkable **OPPORTUNITY**; His work waits for you.

- What does it say about you if you know what will happen and do not care to act?

❖ **Question:** "Do you really care? about souls?" **Jer 8:8; Mal 1:6,7,13;2:14,17;3:8,13**

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