

Rev14 – **The Four Horsemen - Rev 6:1-8**

I wanted to just SKIM thru the entire Ch 6 of Revelation - *I really did*

Then I realized it was because I didn't want to DWELL on the Suffering, & Pain associated with the Judgment of God

& I THANK GOD - that He STOPPED ME from Doing THAT

Because Skimming over the Wrath of God is a BIG PART

of what has made this Christian Culture so SELF CENTERED
& So Prone to think they *“DESERVE for God to Bless them!”*

The truth is - the Judgment and Wrath we're about to study
is the ONLY THING we deserve from God

NONE of us DESERVES anything better
than Judgment for our Sin

& I pray - that us having the courage to LOOK into the Wrath of God
& the Judgment that MUST come upon the sin of this World

Will CAUSE US to be more & more - forever GRATEFUL
For all God has done for us - IN our SALVATION

If you have RECEIVED (By Faith) the SALVATION of the Lord Jesus -
YOU'RE about to See - Some of What you have been Saved From

& I pray the Study of God's Wrath upon Sin
would have TWO Primary AFFECTS on us

ONE) - I pray it would **CAUSE US** to better understand
the AMAZING GRACE of our God

Who **SAVED us** Not because we Deserved it
But because we Received it FREELY - By FAITH in Him

TWO) - I pray it would **CAUSE US** to be MORE PASSIONATE
about Sharing with those we love

That they CAN be SAVED from the Judgment
that IS coming upon this Sinful World

Let's Pray

When we last left John in Heaven - God is on His Throne
Holding the Title Deed to the Earth

& Center Spotlight is on The Lion of the Tribe of Judah -
The Root of David - The LAMB of God

Who is the ONLY One in ALL Creation Who is ABLE to
take the scroll and open it - - **AND** - - **He DOES**

& **when** He does - a worship scene in Heaven explodes
like nothing we could imagine

As Jesus Christ steps forward
& takes the Scroll from the Father on the Throne

& (as we said) **THIS** - is the Beginning
of the Earth being returned to its Rightful Ruler

& ALL of Creation is bursting forth in WORSHIP because of it

On Earth, However - it is a Different Story --

It's also A Beginning - But it's the Beginning of the END

It's the Beginning of the Judgment of God upon Sin

& it's the Beginning of The END - of Satan's Usurping Rule

& So - - The next THIRTEEN CH'S of Revelation

are DEVOTED to events that occur DURING the Tribulation

THIS is the Beginning of what the Bible calls

"THE Day of the Lord" - Or

"The Great and Terrible Day of the Lord" OR

"The Time of Jacob's Trouble" (severity upon Israel)

We're going to begin looking at the Wrath & Judgment of God
that the World says - *A Loving God would never DO*

But they don't understand the Word - LOVING

God would NOT BE LOVING - to allow us to just continue
in our rebellion & sin - & REAP the destruction it brings

God IS LOVING because the Judgment that MUST come
upon our sin - Jesus Christ TOOK upon Himself

So that all who Receive Him by FAITH would be SAVED
from the Wrath that MUST Come upon Sin

God IS LOVE - - AND He is HOLY & JUST

In His Offer of Salvation we See His LOVE

In the Wrath of the Tribulation - we See His HOLY JUSTICE

Now - Remember - in Rev Ch 4 - we met the FOUR Angelic Beings

Who are the Worship Leaders in Heaven -
Plus - & I mentioned they had another job

Well today we see - those SAME Angelic Beings

Who are Used to Start WORSHIP in Heaven - in Ch 4
Are also Used to Start God's JUDGMENT on the Earth in Ch 6

As Jesus opens each of the 1st 4 Seals on the Scroll . . .

Each of these Angelic Beings give a SHOUT of Command
& JUDGMENT BEGINS - upon the Earth

Revelation 6:1-2 (esv)

1 Now I watched when the Lamb opened one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures say with a voice like thunder, "Come!"

2 And I looked, and behold, a white horse! And its rider had a bow, and a crown was given to him, and he came out conquering, and to conquer.

ALL 4 of these HORSES Represent Battle & Strength

& The WHITE HORSE represents Military Victory

The BOW is a symbol of Conquest - but notice it has NO ARROWS

The CROWN is the Victors Crown

This White Horse & Rider represent
STRENGTH - VICTORY - CONQUEST

& if you know just a LITTLE BIT about Revelation - you might
see this & say - ALRIGHT !! - Jesus is ALREADY coming back !!

White Horse - Bow - Crown - Conquering . . . ??

That SEEMS Like Jesus - Doesn't it ??

Which is Exactly how Satan So Often APPEARS - He is the ANTITHESIS of Jesus Christ - he is the ANTI-CHRIST

& we believe **THAT** is **exactly** what we **SEE here**
Right at the Beginning of the Tribulation . . .

We have **the Anti-Christ** - **Coming** to the Earth
as a **Conquering King** - A **Mighty Victor**

& **He's coming** with a **BOW** - but **NO ARROWS** - Because **He's**
coming in **PEACE** - & He is **Conquering** in **PEACE**

Which **is exactly HOW** the **Anti-Christ** will come - & exactly **HOW**
he will **CONQUER** - **He will** (initially) **bring** - **PEACE** on Earth

It **will be** a **FALSE PEACE** - & the world will **EASILY FALL** for it

DAN 9:27 says - The **Anti-Christ** will come
& **make** a **Covenant of Peace** with Israel **for 7 years**

Which is **actually** the **beginning** of the **Tribulation period**

& so - - **The Tribulation** period **actually begins** with **PEACE**
BUT - it is a Totally **FALSE PEACE**

& **the world** is being **SO Set-Up** for **this Peace** right now
because **ALL eyes** are on **Israel** & the **Conflicts** centered there

You see - **Spiritually** - **Jerusalem** is the **CENTER of the World**
& **THAT** is **where** the **Anti-Christ** will **BRING** his **FALSE Peace**

We've talked about **the WAR** between the **Powers of the World**
and **Israel** - Prophesied in **EZEKIEL 38 & 39**

& we can't tell exactly WHEN that war is going to occur

But it seems like it's either JUST BEFORE - or NOT LONG AFTER
the Rider of the White horse comes with his FALSE PEACE

& we'll understand that MORE - when we meet the 2nd Horseman

But BOTH - This FALSE PEACE - & (Most Prob) The War of EZE 38
Occur DURING the Tribulation Period

Which means - whether you see Imminent WAR - or Seemingly
Miraculous PEACE - occurring around Israel & the Middle East

Either Way - your response should be - Get Ready for RAPTURE -
Because WE are in HEAVEN - when BOTH these events occur

Now - if you CHOOSE to REJECT CHRIST & take your chances on
earth - you better enjoy that False Peace while you have it

Because the 2nd Horseman Takes It Away as quickly as it came

Revelation 6:3–4 (esv)

3 When he (Jesus) opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, "Come!"

4 And out came another horse, bright red. Its rider was permitted to take peace from the earth, so that people should slay one another, and he was given a great sword.

This Horse - Represents WAR
it is BRIGHT RED for the color of blood

& It's Rider - TAKES the False Peace from the Earth
SO THAT people should slay one another

Which could EASILY FIT the Battle of Ezekiel 38

& notice- This is **NOT GOD** slaying people -
it's **People** slaying **ONE ANOTHER**

The Horseman is given a **GREAT SWORD** to **accomplish** this

But the **GREEK Word** for **SWORD** here
doesn't mean a **LARGE Sword**

it's **the Word** for the **Short Sword** - that **can** be **hidden in a coat**
It's **called** the **Assassins' Sword**

& **so** in **this Judgment** - Mankind **TURNS** on **ONE ANOTHER**
in **Wars & Violence** of **Every** Possible **KIND**

Which might make **you think** we're in the **Tribulation** **already**

But **The SCOPE** of these **Judgments**
are **like nothing** this world **has ever seen**

So - **1st Comes** - A **FALSE PEACE** to the Earth
2nd - That **False Peace** - turns into **REAL WAR**

& the **3rd Horseman** Brings **the CONSEQUENCES** - **of** all that **WAR**

Revelation 6:5–6 (esv)

5 When he (Jesus) opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come!" And I looked, and behold, a black horse! And its rider had a pair of scales in his hand.

6 And I heard what seemed to be a voice in the midst of the four living creatures, saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius, and do not harm the oil and wine!"

The BLACK horse - is the color of FAMINE

& FAMINE is always a part of large scale wars
& this Horseman brings World-Wide Famine to the Earth

a DENARIUS is - One Days WAGE
& a QUART of Wheat is enough for One good LOAF of bread

Which means - this is like a Loaf of Good Wheat Bread
costing about \$100 today

Or - you can get 3 LOAVES of Barley Bread for that same \$100
But Barley is a Grain that's normally given to Animals

& in Reality - in this situation - Most people won't be able
to Buy Bread at all - This is World-Wide Famine

Except maybe for the RICH - - at least for now
Notice - the end of V.6 says - *and do not harm the oil and wine!*

This MAY refer to the Food Items of the RICH
which are NOT YET being affected by this Famine

Which will serve to create MORE of the Assassins Type War
that was brought by the Previous Horseman

& Remember - These Vs's are Only INTRODUCING -
They're just SENDING OUT these 4 Horseman

But these Judgments Don't just GO AWAY
at the End of the Two verses that introduce each of them

The Judgments of the 4 HORSEMAN - ALL REMAIN on the earth
(in various forms) - until the END of the Tribulation

They are - The Anti-Christ - War - Famine . . .
& the 4th Horseman - - Death

Revelation 6:7–8 (esv)

7 *When he opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, “Come!”*

8 *And I looked, and behold, a pale horse! And its rider’s name was Death, and Hades followed him. And they were given authority over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by wild beasts of the earth.*

The word PALE - is the word from which we get - “CHLORINE”
It’s a Pale Green Horse - like Chlorine Gas

One Commentator described this color as
The color of a corpse, in the state of decay

The Rider’s name is DEATH - & HADES is following him

& they are given Authority to Kill
ONE-FOURTH of the Population of the Earth

If this were to happen today - after allowing for Believers taken up
in the Rapture - This could be 1 1/2 BILLION people

Now - I tried to add up ALL the death tolls of ALL the Wars
on EARTH since 100 ad (YES - there is an app for that)

& the best I could do - is around 500Million (1/2 a Billion)

So this Horseman is allowed to SLAY - THREE TIMES
the TOTAL number of people Killed in ALL of WARS together
in the Past 2,000 yrs

This is DEATH on a Scale this world has NEVER SEEN

& these DEATHS are NOT INCLUDING those who have already fallen - from the Two Previous Horsemen

But what is MOST SHOCKING here - is WE THINK we've Entered the MAJOR Judgment of God - but we HAVE NOT

Actually - These 4 Horseman - Bring Judgments that are Primarily - MAN bringing destruction upon MAN

Up to this point - God's HAND has NOT been DIRECTLY USED to bring Judgment upon the earth

Next week - God begins Bringing Judgment BY His OWN HAND & things get MUCH MUCH WORSE

These FOUR HORSEMEN - that BEGIN the Tribulation period

are JUST THAT - They are only the BEGINNING of the "Day of God's Wrath" upon a sinful & rebellious world

& we are SHAKEN - Just READING about these Judgments

But we KNOW God is IN CONTROL - & We KNOW He is in the PROCESS of RETURNING this World - to its Rightful Ruler

& we say - BETTER to KNOW NOW - than WHEN it Begins !!

Now - I want take some time - to show you the Remarkable Parallel between Rev Ch 6 - & Mat Ch 24

Let's TURN there

In MAT 24 we find "The Olivet Discourse" - Which is a discourse Jesus had with His disciples while seated on the Mt of Olives

When you sit on the Mt of Olives - you look over all of Jerusalem

& it was here - Looking over the Center of the World that Jesus talked to His Disciples about the end times

Some of us have SAT Right There - & for me this is one of the most moving places in Jerusalem

JUST BEFORE the Olivet Discourse Jesus was LAMENTING over Jerusalem

& He said in Mat 23:37-39 - "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem . . . How often would I have gathered your children together . . . and you were not willing! - I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, BARUCH HABA VA SHEM ADONAI - 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.' "

Jesus IS Coming Back to Jerusalem

& the Next time the world sees Him - they will know - FOR SURE He IS - Yeshua Ya Mashiycha - Jesus Our Messiah

But on THAT Day - Back in Matthew 24:3 - we read (esv)
3 As he sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?"

Matthew 24:4–5 (esv)

4 And Jesus answered them, "See that no one leads you astray.
5 For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and they will lead many astray.

This is Horseman #1 - The WHITE Horse of the Anti-Christ

1Jn 2:18 says - MANY Anti-Christ's will come in the last days -

But **the one** who brings **THIS False PEACE** - is **THE AntiChrist**

Matthew 24:6-7(a) (esv)

6 And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars . . . (then v.7)

7 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. . .

This is Horseman #2 - The RED Horse of War - Nation against Nation - Kingdom against Kingdom - Like nothing we've seen

Then Matthew 24:7(b) (esv)

7 . . . and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places.

This is Horsemen #'S 3 & 4 - Bringing Massive Death on the Earth

In LUKE'S account of this event - in Luke 21:11 (esv)

11 There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven.

The **FAMINES** - & the **PESTILENCES** - are **Horsemen 3 & 4**

& the **Earthquakes** - **Terrors** - & **Great Signs** from Heaven . . .

Those are **ALL contained** in the **SIXTH Seal** - **Next Week**

& then back in Matthew 24:9 we read (esv)

9 "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake.

& **THAT** - is the **5th Seal** - which **we'll also see** **Next Week**

Many people have used the Olivet Discourse to try to Point to TODAY - & the Imminent Coming of THE RAPTURE

BUT - The Question from the Disciples was - "What will be the Sign of your COMING" - as in THE SECOND COMING

& Jesus gives them a Summary of the Beginning of the Tribulation Which Precedes His SECOND COMING

***But Listen* - Even Tho Jesus refers to ALL SIX Seals that are opened in Rev Ch 6**

**in Matthew 24:8 - Jesus says (esv)
*8 All these are but the beginning of the birth pains.***

**As terrible as these Judgments are -
They are *but the beginning of the birth pains***

**& So - If we are SAVED today
What does this Judgment on Earth mean - to US ??**

We'll be in Heaven - We'll be IN AWE of the Indescribable Worship going on in the Throne Room of God

& we'll be IN AWE of these Four Horseman - be called up & sent forth - as the Tribulation BEGINS on earth

& so WHAT does all this mean to US ??

As I said when we started today - these Truths should EFFECT US in *at least* TWO Distinct Ways

1) - That we would understand more & more - That Our Sin Deserves Judgment as much as ANYONE ELSE'S

& it is **ONLY** by the **Amazing GRACE** & the **Unconditional LOVE** of our God - That **we've been SAVED** from this **WRATH to Come**

NOT because we **DESERVED IT** - But **because** we've **RECEIVED IT FREELY** - **BY putting** our **FAITH** in **Jesus Christ !!**

2) That these Truths would Impact - how we approach others with the Good News

The GOSPEL means GOOD NEWS - But it is only GOOD NEWS to the Extent that we understand WHAT we are SAVED FROM

& **The Revelation of God's Coming JUDGMENT is what we are SAVED FROM**

Listen Carefully pls - to Romans 5:8–9 (ESV)

8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

9 Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

The **GOOD NEWS** of the **Book of Revelation** - is that we **CAN BE SAVED** from the **Coming Judgment** on this Earth

We **Were SINNERS** - **Headed** for **God's Judgment** **When** Jesus **SAVED US**

& **NOW** - **Because** we've been **MADE RIGHT** - **By** His **Own Blood**

MUCH MORE shall we be **Saved BY HIM** **FROM** the **Wrath of God** that is **to COME** **Let's Pray**