

The Lion and The Lamb

Revelation 6:1-8

- Beginning in chapter four through chapter five we've seen both God The Father, and The Lamb Jesus Christ receive praise and worship from the four living creatures, the twenty four elders, the Angels, and finally from all of creation in 5:13. Now from chapter six through chapter nineteen a dramatic change happens, as the worship to God, described earlier in chapters four and five, is replaced by the wrath of God, that's described, beginning here in chapter six through chapter nineteen.
- It seems strange to us that worship and judgement should go together, but this is because we do not fully understand either the holiness of God or the sinfulness of man. Neither do we grasp the total picture of what God wants to accomplish, and how the forces of evil have opposed Him, as God is longsuffering, but eventually He must judge sin and vindicate His servants, and these chapters clearly show us this.

V1-8

- **V1-2** remember there was a scroll with seven seals in the Right Hand of The Father that no one could open, and John began to sob greatly because no one could open and read the scroll. But one of the elders told him not to weep, for The Lion of the tribe of Judah, The Root of David, He will open the scroll.
- When John looked expecting to see a lion based on what he was told, but instead, sees a Lamb that had been killed and yet is alive and standing, and although it still had the marks of its sacrifice, is not presented as an object of pity, but One Who is all Powerful (having seven horns) and all Knowing (having seven eyes). He alone is worthy to take the scroll and open the seals, therefore rescuing John from his grief.
- John sees The Lamb take the scroll and open one of the seals and then one of the four living creatures says with a voice like thunder "come and see". When he looked a rider on a white horse, and he has a bow, a crown, and he is a conqueror. Most would assume that the rider on the white horse was Jesus, as **Rev 19:11-16** says Jesus does return on a white horse, but this is a satanic dictator who imitates Jesus.

- Notice it says he rules as a crown is given to him, but with a bow and not a sword, and he exercises dominion over the earth, as he goes out conquering and to conquer. But as we'll see in the later verses, by the company this man keeps, we will know without a shadow of a doubt that he is not Jesus.
- Also the word for crown here is "**Stephanos**" which means the victor's crown, in **Rev 19:12** the crown that Jesus wears is "**Diadema**" the Kingly crown. Antichrist can never wear the diadem, because it belongs only to The Son of God, all he can do is produce a counterfeit > **2 Cor 2:11**- don't be ignorant of Satan's device, **2 Cor 11:14**- disguise falsehood from truth, **Jn 8:44**- Satan is the father of lies.
- **V3-4** back to his company he shows up on a white horse and a bow as a symbol of peace, but soon that white horse is replaced by a red one that symbolizes war. Its interesting that in reading this we can see that the rider didn't need to bring war and destruction, all he needed to do was remove peace from the earth, and once peace is taken away men quickly rush in with war and bloodshed.
- **V5-6** as each seal is opened one of the four living creatures summons another rider, this one is on a black horse, and with it brings inflation and scarcity, as the scales are needed to carefully measure and ration food, wheat and barley are twelve times higher than normal, as this is what war brings, everything sky rockets in price, as a denarius was a days wage and that is what it will cost for a loaf of bread (barley).
- Yet in the midst of all this famine and hunger people the rich and those with means will say "**do not harm the oil and the wine**". Is it not like that today, prices for eggs and milk, and gas for the regular folks were very concerned about, the rich could care less, just make sure those who bottle the alcohol keep coming to work, those who work at the airport so I can fly to my vacations keep the skies safe, you hungry that's the poor people's problem, we rich!
- **V7-8** the fourth seal is opened and as John looks a pale horse emerges and this time the rider is named death. Pale here comes from the Greek word "chloros" where we get our English word chlorine from which is a yellowish, green color. Being that death is riding it, we see sword, hunger, pestilence, (death) and wild beasts turned loose, with all of this going on you can understand why hell (hades) followed it. Death claims the body while hell claims the soul that's the ultimate goal of Satan.

- In closing although we see the world being destroyed with war, famine, pestilence, and chaos, remember Who it is that is opening the seals (Jesus). That means He is still in control > **2 Thess 2:7**- The antichrist is already diabolically working his mischief throughout the world, but God is holding him back, through The Holy Spirit, but once The Holy Spirit is removed, when the church is raptured, this is when Revelation four, where John is told “to Come up here” so will we the church.