

# The Four Horsemen and the Cry for Justice

## Revelation Series – Week 5

**Bible Texts:** Revelation 6:1–11; Matthew 24:1–14; 2 Peter 3:14

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### Jesus Holds the Future

Revelation 5 ends in a triumphant note—Jesus, the Lamb of God, takes the scroll representing the future of the world. He alone is worthy of opening it. But when the seals begin to break in Revelation 6, judgment is released, not peace. These judgments remind us that our world is groaning and broken, waiting for redemption.

*Reflection Question:* What brings you greater peace—knowing the future is unknown or knowing Jesus holds the future?

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## 2. The Four Horsemen of Revelation

Each of the first four seals opens with a rider on a colored horse—white, red, black, and pale. These are not symbolic fantasies, but real forces seen throughout history:

- The white horse likely represents conquest or military ambition, which leads to:
- The red horse stands for violence and bloodshed, which leads to:
- The black horse signals famine and economic collapse, which leads to:
- The pale horse brings death, which touches every life, which leads to:

These aren't just future events — they describe the brokenness and chaos already present in our world.

*Reflection Question:* Which of the four horsemen (conquest, violence, famine, death) have you seen most clearly in today's world?

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### 3. The Fifth Seal: The Martyrs Cry Out

The fifth seal reveals a glimpse of heaven, where the souls of Christian martyrs cry out for justice. From ancient Rome to modern-day Nigeria and North Korea, believers have suffered and died for their faith. God tells them to rest; their vindication is coming.

*Reflection Question:* How can we remember and support persecuted believers around the world?

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### 4. Jesus Foretold All of This (Matthew 24)

Jesus warned that wars, famines, persecution, and false teachers would come. These are not signs of God losing control, but of His return drawing near. Just like the destruction of the temple in 70 A.D. fulfilled Jesus' prophecy, a final judgment is also coming.

*Reflection Question:* How does knowing Jesus warned of these hardships affect your trust in Him?

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## 5. How Should We Live? (2 Peter 3:14)

Peter gives us three simple but powerful instructions:

1. Be at peace – Keep your heart anchored in Jesus.
2. Live holy – Be set apart by your love, character, and hope.
3. Follow God, not culture – Stand on truth even when the world shifts.

Jesus is coming back. Until then, stay faithful.

*Reflection Question:* Which of Peter's three instructions do you need to focus on this week?

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Closing Encouragement: The scroll is in the hands of the Lamb. Though judgment unfolds and the world shakes, we do not fear. We stay ready, live faithfully, and spread the gospel—because our King is coming, and His victory is sure.