

Revelation: Chapter 6

Opening Question: What is the purpose of the six “seal” judgments set forth in chapter 6 and to which curses on Israel do they correspond?

Key Takeaways:

1. Revelation chapter 6 is located in the first of three passes through the last seven year period or “seventieth week of Daniel 9” and describes what is taking place both in heaven and on earth during this time.
2. A scroll with seven seals, introduced in chapter 5, is the land deed to the Promised Land, described in Jeremiah 32, and each seal is a covenant curse on Israel, described in Deuteronomy 28, designed to bring Israel to repentance.
3. How God fulfills His ultimate desire to restore Israel, keeping His covenant promises, is coming to pass in Revelation.
4. “Come” spoken by the living creatures in chapter 6 verses 3,5,7 is calling for the Lord to come.
5. The beginning of Christ’s coming, or return, starts with Israel’s repentance which is set in motion by the first seal.
6. The Lord will not return until Israel repents.
7. “Take peace from the earth” in verse 4 is the removing of the false peace Israel has brokered with Satan through his representative identified in Revelation as “the beast” and in Daniel 9:24 as the “prince who is to come” and in 2 Thessalonians 2 as “the man of lawlessness” and “son of destruction.”

Discussion Questions:

1. Read aloud together Revelation chapters 4-6. How does recognizing the seal judgments against Israel described in chapter 6, designed to bring Israel to repentance and set in motion the Lord’s return inform what is happening in this section?
2. Read aloud together Jeremiah 32-33 identify and discuss the specific promises God makes to Israel in these chapters. Keep these promises in mind as you continue through Revelation.
3. Discuss the statement that the last remaining part of God’s redemptive history is the fulfillment of His promises to Israel. See Jeremiah 32:42, and Jeremiah 33:25-26. How does recognizing this help you make sense of what is taking place in the Book of Revelation?

Practical Application:

1. Reread Revelation chapters 4-6 part of the first pass (chapters 4-18) through the last seven years or “seventieth week of Daniel 9.” Recognize that these events are being revealed in heaven and describe things happening both in heaven and on the earth during this last seven years.
2. Read Deuteronomy 28:15-68 to understand the “seal judgments” on Israel. What did these covenant curses accomplish? Why was this necessary for the Lord to return?
3. What is the identity of those under the altar in Revelation 6:9-11? Describe what is happening in this scene. How does the reality of martyrdom fit into your idea of being a Christ follower?

Closing Prayer:

Father, Thank You for faithfulness to keep every promise You have revealed in Your Word. We look forward to every one them coming to pass. Please give us all that we need to endure now knowing that the return of the King, Jesus the Christ, is drawing near. We are blessed to be among those who have taken refuge in Him.
Amen.