

Revelation 6 Tribulation Overview

Lift Up the Lord Jesus Christ

- **Revelation is in Chronological Order**...basically

1. Jesus revealed as Judge Ch. 1
2. Jesus Judges church Ch.'s 2-3
3. Church in Heaven Ch.'s 4-5
4. Jesus Judges the world Ch.'s 6-19

1 Peter 4:17 ... the time has come for judgment to **begin at the house of God**; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? 18 Now "If the righteous one is scarcely saved, Where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?"

- **Church Judged in Rev 2-3:** True believers saved from the wrath to come
- **Wicked Judged in Rev 6-19:** Christ rejectors/False-Prophet/AC/Devil receive wrath

At the Rapture: Make-believers will continue into the Tribulation as the Apostate church
AKA: Woman rides beast, World-Wide false religious system overseen by False-Prophet

- **Chapter 6 Begins the Tribulation: 2-fold Purpose**

1. **Salvation** for Israel
2. **Wrath** for unrepentant sinners...God's anger toward sin

Zephaniah 3:8b... My determination is to gather the nations To My assembly of kingdoms, To pour on them My **indignation, All My fierce anger**; All the earth shall be devoured With the fire of My jealousy.

- **Chronology leading to Tribulation:**

1. **Holy Spirit's restraint** of evil removed along w/church from earth
2. **Church in Heaven**; i.e. Preserving Salt/ Sin revealing Light gone
3. **Jesus is ready to open the Scroll**; i.e. Deed to Earth/Judgments therein

IMPORTANT: Matthew 24 [Olivet Discourse] is Parallel text to Revelation 6

Matthew 24:3 [Tribulation] [Read] Now as [Jesus] 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?" 4 And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. 5 For many will come in My name, saying, '**I am the Christ,**' and will deceive many. 6 And you will hear **of wars and rumors of wars.** See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be **famines**, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows. 9 "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and **kill you**, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. 10 And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. 11 Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. 12 And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. 13 But he

Daniel 9:27 Then he shall **confirm a covenant with many for one week**; But in the middle of the week [of years] He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering.

1. Anti-Christ shows true colors
2. Possessed by Satan / demanding worship

▪ **Seals 5-7** **Great Tribulation**

1. 2nd 3.5 years of 7
2. Time of Jacob's Trouble
3. **God's Active Wrath...**

John 3:16 ¹⁶For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but **have everlasting life**. ¹⁷For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.¹⁸He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. ¹⁹And **this is the condemnation**, that the light has come into the world, and **men loved darkness** rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

- **Loved:** gr. *Agapaō* fully given over to darkness
- **Darkness:** Shadiness, obscurity, blindness

I. First Seal Rider of the White Horse...Anti-Christ

¹ Now I saw when the **Lamb opened one of the seals**;

John in Throne room of God shown **"things which must take place"**

- Throne set between Heaven/Earth poised for Judgment
- **Jesus takes the Scroll:** Completion of God's plan to Redeem His Creation

Jesus open the First Seal

1b... and I heard **one of the four living creatures** saying with a voice **like thunder, "Come and see."**

- **Living Creatures:** 4 Powerful Angels each announcing a different color horse

First Living Creature announces the First Horse and Rider
Thundering voice of first says to John **"Come and see"** lit. **"Go see!"**

² And I looked, and behold, a **white horse**. He who sat on it had a **bow**; and a **crown was given** to him

- **Chronology: Beginning of Tribulation;** i.e. Beginning of Sorrows

2 Thessalonians 2:10 [Christ rejecters will] perish because they **refused to love the**

truth and so be saved. 11 For this reason **God sends them a powerful delusion** so that they will **believe the lie** 12 and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have **delighted in wickedness**

Strong Delusion? Rider on the White Horse...

- **"Has" a Bow:** Set to cause harm
- **"Given"** gr. *Stephanos* Lit. **Wreath/Garland;** i.e. crown that fades

Given whatever authority he has; God is calling ALL the shots. Allowing this to happen...

John 19:10 ...Pilate said to [Jesus], "Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?" 11 Jesus answered, "You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been **given you from above.**"

Daniel 7:8 [Strength *given* by God] ...and there was another horn, a little one... in this horn, were eyes like the **eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.**

- **Has a bow:** Ready to harm
- **Given a Crown:** Authority from God

2b... and he went out **conquering and to conquer.**

Lit. Set out to **Conquer and for the reason of conquering**
What the Jews were looking for in Messiah

John 5:43 I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; **if another comes in his own name, him you will receive.**

- **Jews expected a warrior. Jesus was their warrior...**

Luke 19:41 Now as [Jesus] drew near, He saw the [Jerusalem] and wept over it, 42 saying, "If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that **make for your peace!** But now they are **hidden from your eyes.** 43 For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, 44 and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the **time of your visitation.**"

Matthew 24:3 [Anti-Christ Parallel] Now 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?" 4 And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. 5 For many will come in My name, saying, '**I am the Christ,**' and will deceive many. For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

- **The deceiver has arrived on White Horse...**I'm here to help
- **Anti-Christ: Against OR in the place of**

1. **AKA:** Man of Sin. Son of Perdition: As was Judas

2. Beast. Bloody and Deceitful Man
3. Wicked One. Man of the Earth/Enemy, Adversary/Little Horn

SUMMARY Rider on the White Horse Anti-Christ. Promise of peace but carrying a bow

II. Second Seal Rider on the Red Horse...War

³ When [Jesus] opened the second seal, I heard the **second living creature** saying, **"Come and see."** ⁴ **Another horse, fiery red**, went out. And it was **granted to** the one who sat on it to take peace from the earth, and that people should kill one another; and there was given to him a great sword.

**Second Living Creature announced the second horse and rider
John, Check this out...War**

- **Fiery Red:** Pseudo-peace begins Tribulation/end with **WORLD WAR:**

Matthew 24:6 [War Parallel] And you will hear of **wars and rumors of wars**. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. ⁷ For **nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom**. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.

- **God's Passive Wrath:** Allowing sin to take its course...

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|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Rider on White Horse | Anti-Christ |
| 2. Rider of Red Horse | War. Naturally followed by... |

III. Third Seal Rider on the Black Horse...Famine

⁵ When He opened the third seal, I heard the **third living creature** say, **"Come and see."** So I looked, and behold, a black horse, and he who sat on it had a **pair of scales** in his hand. ⁶ And I heard 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 the wine.**"

**Third Living Creature announces the third horse and rider
John look at this... Famine**

Matthew 24:7 [Famine Parallel] For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be **famines**, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.

- **Famine on the heels of War:** Natural consequence of war
- **Scales:** Rationing

**Cause food to be rationed...but do not harm the oil and the wine
Rich are getting richer and poor getting poorer**

- **Oil still pumping/Wine still flowing for the Rich**
- **Poor are starving to death**
- **God's Passive Wrath: Allowing sin to take its course...**

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|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Rider on White Horse | Anti-Christ |
| 2. Rider of Red Horse | War. Naturally followed by... |
| 3. Rider on Black Horse | Famine. Naturally followed by... |

IV. Fourth Seal Rider on the Pale Horse... Death

- **Approaching mid-Tribulation:** 3+ Years since rapture

1/4th of Earth's population will be dead from War and Famine...

7 When [Jesus] opened the **fourth seal**, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "**Come and see.**" **8** So I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was **Death, and Hades followed** with him. And power was given to them over a **fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth.**

**Fourth Living Creature announces the fourth horse and rider.
Come and See John...John sees Death**

- **Death is a Result of Sin**

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|------------------------|---|
| 1. Physical Death | Death of our body |
| 2. Spiritual Death | Separation from God while on Earth |
| 3. Eternal [2nd] Death | Separation from God forever. Eternal Punishment |

Death will seem unrestrained in the Tribulation

Matthew 24:7 [Parallel] For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. **8 All these are the beginning of sorrows.**

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|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Rider on White Horse | Anti-Christ |
| 2. Rider of Red Horse | War. Naturally followed by... |
| 3. Rider on Black Horse | Famine. Naturally followed by... |
| 4. Rider on the Pale Horse | Death |

- **After this 5th Seal** Anti-Christ will make his stand:

V. Abomination of Desolation Anti-Christ Revealed

- **Mid-Trib. Chronology**

1. Satan Cast out of Heaven [Rev. 12]
2. Possesses rising world leader; i.e. AC
3. Anti-Christ kills the God's 2 Witnesses
4. Anti-Christ claims deity and defiles the newly built Jewish Temple

Matthew 24:15 [A of D Parallel to Rev 6. All Jewish] "Therefore when you see the **'abomination of desolation,'** spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand), 16 "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. 17 Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. 18 And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. 19 But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! 20 And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath. 21 For **then there will be great tribulation,** such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.

- AC forbids Jews to continue religion/sacrifices
- Jews realize they have been deceived
- Instruction **from Jesus to JEWS** of the Great Tribulation period...
 1. Flee from Judea to the mountains
 2. Don't look back
 3. Those with small children will have it rough
 4. Pray its not on the Sabbath

...For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.

Great Tribulation begins...

Jeremiah 30:7 Alas! For that day is great, So that none is like it; And it is the time of Jacob's trouble, But he shall be saved out of it.

- **World warned before the Great Tribulation:** Today is the day of Salvation
- **Go into GT like a frog in a heating pot of water enjoying its warmth...**

Luke 17:26 And as it was **in the days of Noah,** so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: ²⁷ They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.

- **Attack on Israel [Jews] starts just following** the Abomination of Desolation:

Daniel 11:31 And forces shall be mustered by [AC], and they shall **defile the sanctuary** fortress; then they shall take away the daily sacrifices, and place there the **abomination of desolation.**

VI. Great Tribulation Begins Dragon Attack

- Attack on Jews/Tribulation Saints has a predetermined time of 3 ½ years:

Daniel 7:25 Then the saints [saved in GT] shall be given into his hand For a **time and times and half a time.**

Daniel 12:11 "And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there shall be **one thousand two hundred and ninety days.**

- Jesus will come back with us exactly **3.5 years** after AC desecrates Temple.

VII. Fifth Seal Martyrs

Matthew 24:8 [Martyr Parallel] All these [Seals 1-4] are the beginning of sorrows. 9 "Then **they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you**, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. 10 And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. 11 Then many false prophets will rise up and **deceive many.** 12 And because lawlessness will abound, the **love of many will grow cold.**

- **They will deliver you up**; i.e. "rat you out" as a believer...and kill you
- **Love of many will grow cold**: No loyalty. Take care number one

⁹ When He opened the **fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the testimony** which they held. ¹⁰ And they cried with a loud voice, saying, "**How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"**

- **5th Seal lasts MOST of the last 3 ½ years**
 1. Salvation
 2. Martyrdom

Jesus opens the Fifth Seal John sees Souls of Tribulation Martyrs under the Altar

- **Souls under the Altar**: No soul sleep...straight to heaven

2 Corinthians 5:8 ... to be absent from the body [is] to be **present with the Lord.**

Martyrs killed by AC during the Great Tribulation

"How long until Lord until you avenge OUR blood on those who dwell on the earth

- **Clear distinction**:
 1. Heaven dwellers: Asking for retribution by God on...
 2. Earth dwellers: Those who dwell on the earth

¹¹ Then a **white robe** was given to each of them; and it was said to them

that they should **rest a little while longer**, until both the number of their fellow servants and their brethren, who would be killed as they were, was completed.

- **Given** a White robe:

Paul said he was suffering...Jesus said "My grace is sufficient for you"

- Tribulation Martyrs Graced with God's provision:
 1. To endure a little longer
 2. To wait for God's perfect timing
 3. To understand His plan is perfect

Wait until My number of martyrs is complete? They are witnesses to unsaved

- We can wreak havoc by not waiting on God's timing...
- If God answered our prayer to come back today how many would be lost?

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

SUMMARY Fifth Seal Martyrs

After God's martyrs become numerous God's Passive Judgment becomes active

VIII. Sixth Seal Cosmic Disturbances/Second Coming

- **NOTE: Revelation 6:** Seals are Overview of Entire Tribulation to 2nd Coming

¹² I looked when [Jesus] opened the **sixth seal**, and behold, there was a **great earthquake**; and the **sun became black** as sackcloth of hair, and the **moon became like blood**. ¹³ And the **stars of heaven fell** to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind.

- **Chronology:**

1. End of Great Tribulation
2. Both **Judgment** and **Salvation**

Joel 2:28 "...I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. 29 And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days. "And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: Blood and fire and pillars of smoke. 31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, **Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD**. 32 And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the LORD Shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be

deliverance, As the LORD has said, Among the remnant whom the LORD calls. [C.f. Acts 2]

- **Salvation for those who repent:** Fear of the Lord
- **Judgment for those who dig in:** Fists to the Lord

Jesus opens the Sixth Seal

Great Earthquake/Sun Blackened/Moon turns Blood Red/Stars falling

...as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind.

- **Things are winding up...Literally**

¹⁴ Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place.

- **Ushering in the Second Coming of Jesus Christ:**

Matthew 24:29 [Cosmic / 2nd Coming Parallel] "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the **sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.** 30 Then **the sign of the Son of Man** will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. 31 And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

¹⁵ And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, ¹⁶ and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the **wrath of the Lamb! ¹⁷ **For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"****

- Section 1 Ch. 1 Glorified Christ set to Judge
- Section 2 Ch's 2-3 Jesus Judges Churches
- Section 3 Ch's 4-5 Church in Heaven/Heating up on Earth

Chapter 6

Tribulation Overview 6 Seals

- **Tribulation** First 4 Seals are opened which are the 4 riders and Horses
- **Abomination of Desolation** Anti-Christ revealed
- **Great Tribulation**

Chapter 7: 144,000 Jewish Witnesses raised up