

REVELATION – THE TIME IS NEAR**THE SEVEN SEALS Part 4**

Revelation 6:1-2	Seal 1 The White Horse and the Arrival of Antichrist
Revelation 6:3-4	Seal 2 The Red Horse and Unleashing of Evil
Revelation 6:5-6	Seal 3 The Black Horse and Worldwide Economic Chaos
Revelation 6:7-8	Seal 4 The Pale Horse and Proliferation of Death
Revelation 6:9-11	Seal 5 The Cry of the Martyrs for Vengeance and Judgment
Revelation 6:12-17	Seal 6 The Cry of the Wicked

Israel's Decline and Resurrection

- King Saul – first king chosen by God when the people of Israel rejected YHWH/Jehovah
- King David – a man after God's own heart whose heir will sit on the throne of Israel
- King Solomon – apostasy and idolatry instituted by his many wives began the decline
- Divided Kingdom
 - Rehoboam – Solomon's son instituted a harsh treatment of the people and the ten tribes to the north revolted against him. (Southern kingdom: Judah (Simeon) & Benjamin)
 - Jeroboam I – led the ten northern tribes (Reuben, Simeon, Ephraim, Issachar, Zebulun, Dan, Asher, Naphtali, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh.)
- 722 bc – Israel (N. kingdom) defeated and exiled by the Assyrian empire,
- 605–582 bc – Judah (S. kingdom) defeated and exiled by the Babylonian empire.¹

May 14, 1948, Israel was resurrected from the ashes and recognized as a sovereign nation once again!

Daniel 7:1-14 Daniel's Apocalyptic End-time vision

In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream, and visions passed through his mind as he was lying in bed. He wrote down the substance of his dream. ² Daniel said: "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me were the four winds of heaven churning up the great sea. ³ Four great beasts, each different from the others, came up out of the sea.

⁴ "The first was like a lion, and it had the wings of an eagle. I watched until its wings were torn off and it was lifted from the ground so that it stood on two feet like a human being, and the mind of a human was given to it.

⁵ "And there before me was a second beast, which looked like a bear. It was raised up on one of its sides, and it had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. It was told, 'Get up and eat your fill of flesh!'

⁶ "After that, I looked, and there before me was another beast, one that looked like a leopard. And on its back it had four wings like those of a bird. This beast had four heads, and it was given authority to rule.

⁷ "After that, in my vision at night I looked, and there before me was a fourth beast—terrifying and frightening and very powerful. It had large iron teeth; it crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left. It was different from all the former beasts, and it had ten horns. ⁸ "While I was thinking about the horns,

¹ Elwell, W. A., & Beitzel, B. J. (1988). [Exile](#). In *Baker encyclopedia of the Bible* (Vol. 1, p. 732). Baker Book House.

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there before me was another horn, a little one, which came up among them; and three of the first horns were uprooted before it. This horn had eyes like the eyes of a human being and a mouth that spoke boastfully.

⁹“As I looked, “thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze.

¹⁰ A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened.

¹¹“Then I continued to watch because of the boastful words the horn was speaking. I kept looking until the beast was slain and its body destroyed and thrown into the blazing fire. ¹²(The other beasts had been stripped of their authority, but were allowed to live for a period of time.)

¹³“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. ¹⁴He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

Revelation 7:1-8 144,000 Israelites Sealed

After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth to prevent any wind from blowing on the land or on the sea or on any tree.

² Then I saw another angel coming up from the east, having the seal of the living God. He called out in a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm the land and the sea: ³“Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.”

⁴ Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel.

	Tribe (birth order)		Mother
⁵ From the tribe of	Judah (4)	12,000 were sealed,	(Leah)
from the tribe of	Reuben (1)	12,000,	(Leah)
from the tribe of	Gad (7)	12,000,	(Zilpah [Leah])
⁶ from the tribe of	Asher (8)	12,000,	(Zilpah [Leah])
from the tribe of	Naphtali (6)	12,000,	(Bilhah [Rachel])
from the tribe of	Manasseh (5*)	12,000,	(replaces Dan* (Bilhah [Rachel])
⁷ from the tribe of	Simeon (2)	12,000,	(Leah)
from the tribe of	Levi (3)	12,000,	(Leah)
from the tribe of	Issachar (9)	12,000,	(Leah)
⁸ from the tribe of	Zebulun (10)	12,000,	(Leah)
from the tribe of	Joseph (11)	12,000,	(Rachel)
from the tribe of	Benjamin (12)	12,000.	(Rachel)

Romans 11:25-32 Paul’s insight into Israel and Gentiles

²⁵ I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in, ²⁶ and in this way all Israel will be saved. As it is written: “The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob.

²⁷ And this is my covenant with them when I take away their sins.” ²⁸ As far as the gospel is concerned, they are

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enemies for your sake; but as far as election is concerned, they are loved on account of the patriarchs, ²⁹ for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, ³¹ so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God's mercy to you. ³² For God has bound everyone over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

Revelation 7:9-17 The Multitude in Heaven from Every Nation, Tribe, People and Language

⁹ After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ And they cried out in a loud voice:

¹⁰ And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

¹¹ All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures.

They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying: "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!"

¹³ Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?" ¹⁴ I answered, "Sir, you know." And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ Therefore, "they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. ¹⁶ 'Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat down on them,' nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷ For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; 'he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'"

5 Important Points about the Multitude

1. A great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands...
 - a. People around the world have heard the good news and believed! They are new creations in Christ and affirm his lordship and deity. They are the bride of Jesus Christ, who loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. (Eph 5:25-27)
2. Multitude proclaims: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."
 - a. Jesus is "'the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.' Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:11-12)
3. Heavenly host of angels, elders and creatures proclaim: "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!"
 - a. The heavenly beings can only affirm the song of the saints for they will never know the joy of salvation by grace through faith!

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4. An elder asks John who this multitude is and John replies he does not know but the elder does! The elder asserts: “These are they who **have come out** of the great tribulation; they **have washed** their robes and **made them white** in the blood of the Lamb. [a present reality in heaven]
 - a. Have come out of the great tribulation
 - i. “At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a **time of distress** such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people—everyone whose **name is found written in the book**—**will be delivered**. (Daniel 12:1)
 - ii. “If the 144,000 of 7:4-8 are protected from this tribulation, then they cannot be identical with the innumerable multitude of 7:9-17, whose members **have come out of** the great tribulation.²
 - b. Only believers in the Lord Jesus Christ can be
 - i. washed in the blood of the Lamb
 - ii. purified inside and out, clothed in Christ as a white robe
 - iii. saved out of the tribulation for they have not been appointed to suffer wrath!
5. This multitude is focused on **WORSHIPPING** the Lord their God
 - a. Therefore (because of their rescue), “they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple
 - b. and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. (dwell with them)
 - i. see Eze. 37:27 My dwelling place will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be my people. (see also Lev 26:11)
 - c. ‘Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat down on them,’ nor any scorching heat. (see Isa. 49:10)
 - d. For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; ‘he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’”
 - i. Jesus proclaimed he is the Great Shepherd and his sheep know his voice and follow him! (Jn. 10) He will care for our every need for all eternity! Believers will spend eternity **worshipping** the Lord/Lamb for ALL he has done for them!

² Aune, p. 474