

How Long, Oh Lord?

September 17, 2023

Review:

The Rider on the White Horse: Our Lord Jesus Christ conquering with grace and justice

The Rider on the Red Horse: The slaughter of the saints

The Rider on the Black Horse: Economic hardship and poverty that comes with persecution (especially for the saints)

The Rider on the Pale Horse: Death through wars, famine, pestilence, and wild beasts

Matthew 24:3-13

Revelation 6:9-11

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 witness they had borne. 10 They cried out with a loud voice, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" 11 Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brothers[a] should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been.

"Be of good cheer master Ridley and play the man. For we shall this day light such a candle in England as I trust by God's grace shall never be put out." ~Hugh Latimer upon his martyrdom

1 Peter 4:12-14

Facts:

- In the last 100 years, more Christians have been killed for their faith than the 2,000 years priors combined. Let me be more specific.
- There have been more than 7x's the number of martyrs in last

century for Jesus than the prior 1800 years combined.

· Today, Christianity is against the law in more than 24 countries and punishable by death in quite a few.

5th Seal: the martyrs who stood for Christ unto to death.

The martyrs gathered up are offerings unto Christ (vs. 9).

The martyrs plead for justice (vs. 10).

The martyrs are given comfort (vs. 11a)

- White robes representing the purity and victory they have in and with Christ
- The offer of rest

The martyrs are given an answer to “how long?” (vs. 11b)

Be patient. Not all of you are here yet.

When will Jesus return?

When the exact number of martyrs appointed have been gathered.

(see also Dan. 7:21-22; Mark 13:19-20; Col. 1:24).

2 Peter 3:9

When will Jesus return?

When ALL the elect are saved (2 Peter 3:9)

Who are the “you” and “all”?

2 Peter 3:8

Who are the beloved? Go back to 1 Peter 1:1.

1 Peter 1:1

The “you” and “all” are the beloved. The beloved are the elect. (1 Peter 1:1)

Mark 13:10

Matthew 24:14

When will Jesus return?

When the gospel has been proclaimed to all nations!

Will we lay our life on the line for Christ?

If it was a crime to worship Jesus and witness for Jesus, would you?

Are you willing to face injustice now for justice later?

As you observe and even experience the pains of this world including persecution, be patient and endure.

Do you want to hasten the coming of the Lord? Share your faith!