

The Four Horsemen

September 10, 2023

Revelation 6:1-8

Now I watched when the Lamb opened one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures say with a voice like thunder, "Come!" 2 And I looked, and behold, a white horse! And its rider had a bow, and a crown was given to him, and he came out conquering, and to conquer.

3 When he opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, "Come!" 4 And out came another horse, bright red. Its rider was permitted to take peace from the earth, so that people should slay one another, and he was given a great sword.

5 When he opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come!" And I looked, and behold, a black horse! And its rider had a pair of scales in his hand. 6 And I heard what seemed to be 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 wine!"

7 When he opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, "Come!" 8 And I looked, and behold, a pale horse! And its rider's name was Death, and Hades followed him. And they were given authority over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by wild beasts of the earth.

White horse and rider: Jesus or Antichrist?

In Scripture, Horses generally symbolize strength, terror, warfare, and conquest

All four horses are commanded to come forth through the four living creatures surrounding God's throne to afflict judgment upon the earth.

The White horse and rider represents Jesus

- It fits the word studies (white, crown, conqueror)

- It fits the context

o Jesus conquering, warning, worshipped

o Rev. 19:11-16 (Have this section on a slide)

o In harmony with the purpose of the book which is the victory of Christ and His church.

o In harmony with the gospel of Matthew 10:34

o In harmony with Psalm 45:3-5

These horsemen ride concurrently and have been since the 1st century

The red horse displays the religious persecution of God's people

Matthew 10:34-39

The black horse displays economic hardship and poverty due to injustice (especially for Christians).

The pale horse displays war, famine, pestilence, wild beasts, death and hell

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

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

The Rider on the Black Horse: Economic hardship and poverty especially for the saints

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

They are an appeal to everyone everywhere to repent.

These judgements appeal to each of us. Repent. Believe on the Lord Jesus.

These judgments are opportunity for the elect to shine.

Be thankful and share Christ with your neighbors

“Let the horror of divine wrath and judgment in Revelation awaken you to two inescapable realities: gratitude and evangelism! First, the fact that you have trusted Jesus to endure in your place the wrath and judgment you otherwise deserved to experience ought to awaken profound thanksgiving for the forgiveness of sins. Second, countless individuals still abide under the wrath of God. If ever there were an incentive to take the gospel to men and women around us, this is it.”
~Sam Storms

The elect will never experience God’s dreaded wrath.