Revelation 6

Revelation 6:1-2 NKJV

Now I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals; and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, "Come and 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, and he went out conquering and to conquer.

Introduction:

- Just finished the Throne Room scene in chapters 4 and 5.
 - The Lamb has taken the scroll
 - The scroll is the title deed to the earth
 - It contains the "how" Jesus will reclaim what is rightfully His.
- The scene now will switch to what will be taking place on earth
- Review of Matthew 24:3-8
- Very similar to Revelation 6
- Verse 1
 - Lamb opened one of the seals
 - One of the 4 living creatures (Chapter 4) commands John to come and see
 - A drama unfolds before John

- Verse 2 (The four horsemen of the apacolypse)
 - What did John see?
 - A white horse
 - White symbolizes many things
 - But when parallel to Jesus teaching in Matthew 24, I think it is best to assume it symbolizes peace here
 - Who sat on this horse?
 - Some commentators say Christ.
 - Others say Antichrist
 - I think it is best to assume this rider is an impersonal force because the other riders in this passage are.
 - It is not Christ
 - The rider has A crown/ Jesus has many
 - He carries a bow/ Christ a sword (19:15)
 - Christ returns at the end of the tribulation not he beginning
 - Is it the AntiChrist (perhaps symbolically) but I think it is referencing an impersonal force of which the AntiChrist will have a great part in.
 - A crown was given to him
 - Notice the rider has a bow but no arrows
 - It will be a peaceful conquest

- Nikita Krushev once bragged that the US would fall without firing a shot
- The Cold War ended peacefully
- This person will be rewarded by the world for establishing "world peace" (crown given to him)
- It will be a false peace
 - Society will be duped into a false sense of security
 - The OT prophets spoke to this as well
 - Jeremiah 6:14 NKJV They have also healed the hurt of My people slightly, Saying, 'Peace, peace!'
 When there is no peace.
 - Jeremiah 8:11 NKJV For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of My people slightly, Saying, 'Peace, peace!' When there is no peace.
 - Jeremiah 14:13-14 NKJV Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, the prophets say to them, 'You shall not see the sword, nor shall you have famine, but I will give you assured peace in this place." [14] And the LORD said to me, "The prophets prophesy lies in My name. I have not sent them, commanded them,

nor spoken to them; they prophesy to you a false vision, divination, a worthless thing, and the deceit of their heart.

Conclusion:

- The stage is being set
- The world is being prepped for this great deceit even now.
- It will just seem natural to many when this false peace appears.
- One of the greatest movements in our society is humanism married with communism

Humanism is a progressive philosophy of life that, without theism or other supernatural beliefs, affirms our ability and responsibility to lead ethical lives of personal fulfillment that aspire to the greater good.

American Humanist Association

Humanism is a rational philosophy informed by science, inspired by art, and motivated by compassion. Affirming the dignity of each human being, it supports the maximization of individual liberty and opportunity consonant with social and planetary responsibility. It advocates the extension of participatory democracy and the expansion of the open society, standing for human rights and social justice. Free of supernaturalism, it recognizes human beings as a part of nature and holds that values-be they religious, ethical, social, or political-have their source in human experience and culture. Humanism thus derives the goals of life from human need and interest rather than from theological or ideological abstractions, and asserts that humanity must take responsibility for its own destiny.

The Humanist Magazine

Humanism is a democratic and ethical lifestance which affirms that human beings have the right and responsibility to give meaning and shape to their own lives. It stands for the building of a more humane society through an ethics

based on human and other natural values in a spirit of reason and free inquiry through human capabilities. It is not theistic, and it does not accept supernatural views of reality.

Humanists International

Humanism is an approach to life based on reason and our common humanity, recognizing that moral values are properly founded on human nature and experience alone.

The Bristol Humanist Group

Humanism is: A joyous alternative to religions that believe in a supernatural god and life in a hereafter. Humanists believe that this is the only life of which we have certain knowledge and that we owe it to ourselves and others to make it the best life possible for ourselves and all with whom we share this fragile planet. A belief that when people are free to think for themselves, using reason and knowledge as their tools, they are best able to solve this world's problems. An appreciation of the art, literature, music and crafts that are our heritage from the past and of the creativity that, if nourished, can continuously enrich our lives. Humanism is, in sum, a philosophy of those in love with life. Humanists take responsibility for their own lives and relish the adventure of being part of new discoveries, seeking new knowledge, exploring new options. Instead of finding solace in prefabricated answers to the great questions of life, humanists enjoy the open-endedness of a quest and the freedom of discovery that this entails.

The Humanist Society of Western New York

Humanism is the light of my life and the fire in my soul. It is the deep felt conviction, in every fiber of my being that human love is a power far transcending the relentless, onward rush of our largely deterministic cosmos. All human life must seek a reason for existence within the bounds of an uncaring physical world, and it is love coupled with empathy, democracy, and a commitment to selfless service which undergirds the faith of a humanist.

Bette Chambers, former president of the AHA

Humanism is a philosophy, world view, or lifestance based on naturalism-the conviction that the universe or nature is all that exists or is real. Humanism serves, for many humanists, some of the psychological and social functions of a religion, but without belief in deities, transcendental entities, miracles, life after death, and the supernatural. Humanists seek to understand the universe by using science and its methods of critical inquiry-logical reasoning, empirical evidence, and skeptical evaluation of conjectures and conclusions-to obtain reliable knowledge. Humanists affirm that humans have the freedom to give meaning, value, and purpose to their lives by their own

independent thought, free inquiry, and responsible, creative activity. Humanists stand for the building of a more humane, just, compassionate, and democratic society using a pragmatic ethics based on human reason, experience, and reliable knowledge-an ethics that judges the consequences of human actions by the well-being of all life on Earth.

Steven Schafersman

Humanism is a philosophy of life that considers the welfare of humankind – rather than the welfare of a supposed God or gods – to be of paramount importance. Humanism maintains there is no evidence a supernatural power ever needed or wanted anything from people, ever communicated to them, or ever interfered with the laws of nature to assist or harm anyone. Humanism's focus, then, is on using human efforts to meet human needs and wants in this world. History shows that those efforts are most effective when they involve both compassion and the scientific method – which includes reliance on reason, evidence, and free inquiry. Humanism says people can find purpose in life and maximize their long-term happiness by developing their talents and using those talents for the service of humanity. Humanists believe that this approach to life is more productive and leads to a deeper and longer-lasting satisfaction than a hedonistic pursuit of material or sensual pleasures that soon fade.

While service to others is a major focus of Humanism, recreation and relaxation are not ignored, for these too are necessary for long-term health and happiness. The key is moderation in all things. Humanism considers the universe to be the result of an extremely long and complex evolution under immutable laws of nature. Humanists view this natural world as wondrous and precious, and as offering limitless opportunities for exploration, fascination, creativity, companionship, and joy. Because science cannot now and probably never will be able to explain the ultimate origin or destiny of the universe, I think Humanism can include more than atheists and agnostics. The lack of definite answers to these ultimate questions leaves room for reasonable people to hypothesize about the origin of the natural universe, and even to hope for some form of life beyond this one. In fact, two of Humanism's greatest Iuminaries, Thomas Paine and Robert Ingersoll, maintained a hope for an afterlife. On the issue of whether God exists, Ingersoll was agnostic, and Paine believed in a deistic God who established the laws of nature but then stepped away and never intervenes in the world. Those beliefs did not interfere with their ability to lead outstanding humanistic lives. Thus, in my opinion, people holding such views can be Humanists if they believe that humanity is on its own in this world, and the lack of any evidence for an afterlife means this life should be lived as though it's the only one we have.

- Joseph C. Sommer

Key Issues

The AHA strives to bring about a progressive society where being "good without a god" is an accepted way to live life. We accomplish this through our defense of civil liberties and secular governance, by our outreach to the growing number of people without religious belief or preference, and through a continued refinement and advancement of the humanist worldview.

Defending Nontheists and Promoting Humanism Religion and Government Separation Social Justice Scientific Integrity Promoting Peace

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Gene Roddenberry

Katharine Hepburn

Kristen Bell

Dax Shepard

Media and Journalism

Amy Goodman

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Michelle Goldberg

Ira Flatow

Pacifica Radio Foundation

The Onion

Revelation 6:3-4 NKJV

When He 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.

- (vv 3, 4)
 - The 2nd horseman
 - Fiery, red horse
 - Usually symbolizes blood or bloodshed
 - Symbolic of war
 - The rider was <u>granted power</u> to take peace from the earth
 - Man may think he is powerful and in charge
 - But, it is God who is sovereign
 - People will kill one another (war)
 - He was given a great sword
 - Sword brings about death (Machaira→refers to a short sword a Roman soldier carried into battle)
 - Great military power
 - Great war of the scale the world has yet to see

Revelation 6:5-6 NKJV

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."

- (vv 5, 6)
 - The 3rd Horseman
 - Black horse (black associated with famine)
 - Rider had a set of scales for rationing (famine economic disaster)

- Remember destruction from war
- Lack of food supplies
- Corrupted government powers
- Quart of wheat will cost a day's wages
- 3 quarts of barley for a day's wages
 - Rationing
 - Hyper-inflation
 - (1914) After WWI US dollars were 1 for every
 4.2 German Marks
 - o (1923) 1 Us dollar was worth 4.2 trillion marks
- "do not harm the oil and wine"
 - Refers to luxuries of the rich
 - The corrupted, rich rulers will live a life of luxury while people suffer on a large scale.

Revelation 6:7-8 NKJV

When He 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.

- The 4th Horseman
 - Pale horse→ (chloros) ashen, sickly pale yellow/green
 - The color of a decomposing body
 - Represents death
 - Death sat upon this horse
 - Hades (Hell) follow with him
 - He has 4 tools
 - War, famine, pestilence, wild beasts
 - He had power to kill ¼ of the world population
 - 2 billion people would die right now
 - COVID and the revelation of bioweapons labs.
 - "Wild beasts"
 - Possibly rats?

- Bubonic plague killed ⅓ of Europe in the middle ages
- It could be some kind of vermin.
- Whatever it is, it will be deadly.
- Some reports say that the US alone has over 300 of these facilities world wide
 - Deadly pathogens
 - Covid leaked from one of those labs in China

Revelation 6:9-11 NKJV

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?" [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.

- John "souls" of those who have been martyred for the word of God and holding to their Christian testimony (faith).
 - They were crying with a loud voice!
 - How long?
 - How long will the wicked prosper?
 - How long before you avenge those who have shed our blood unjustly?
 - This will be a massive number.
 - Read excerpt from Foxe's Book of Martyrs
 - While this is many, there were more Christians martyred in the 20th century than all others combined.
 - I don't think that number will improve but only get worse.
- The answer:
 - A white robe was given to each of the martyrs.
 - "Rest a little while longer"
 - Because there will be more joining you.
 - When the last martyr joins them, judgment will commence.
 - Why the wait?
 - <u>Isaiah 48:9 NKJV</u> "For My name's sake I will defer My anger, And for My praise I will restrain it from you, So that I do not cut you off.

- 1 Peter 3:18-20 NKJV For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, [19] by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, [20] who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.
- <u>2 Peter 3:8-10 NKJV</u> But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. [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. [10] But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.