

# Apocalypse Now ( Revelation Revisited)

Session 6 / Wednesday.

## THE BEGINNING OF THE END - REVELATION 6

1 Review:

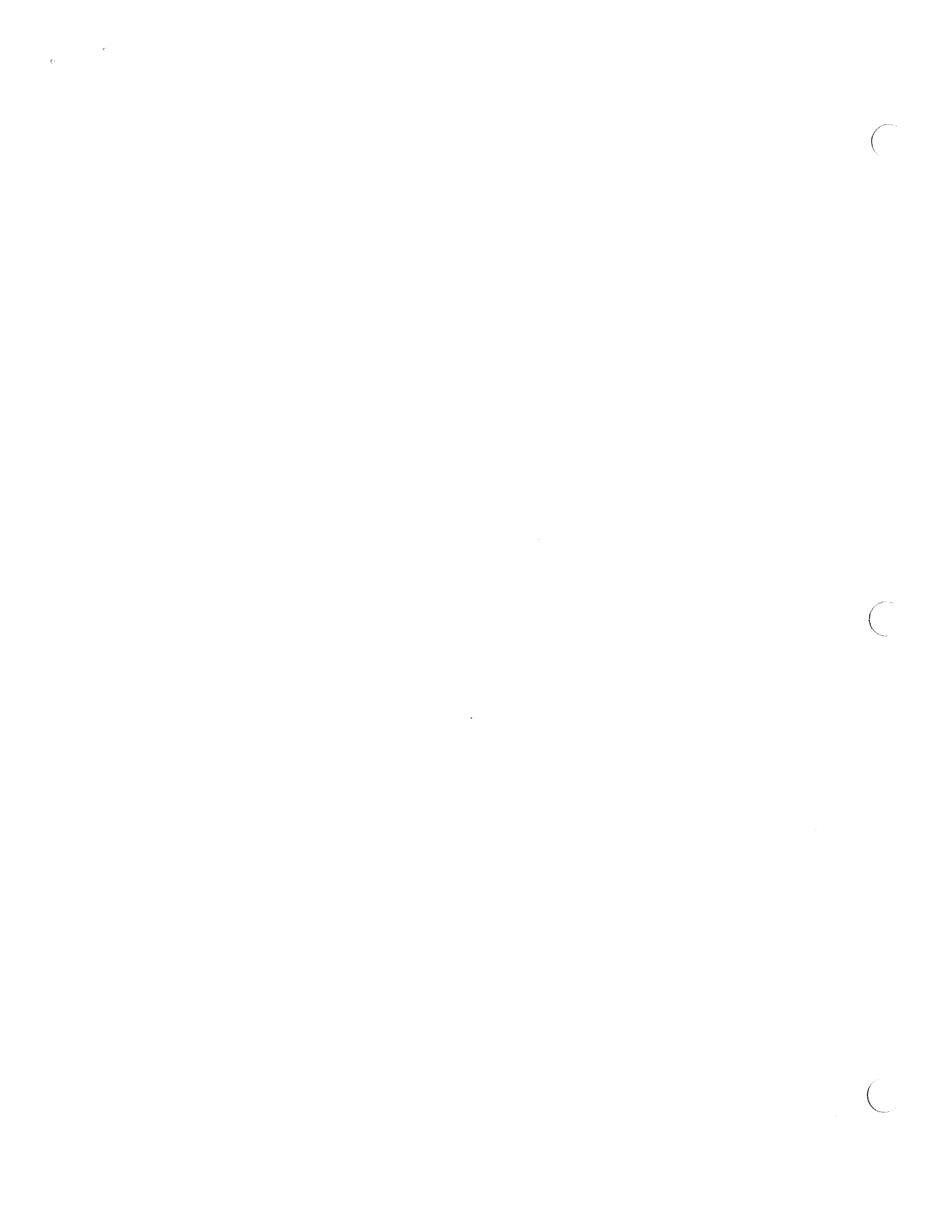
2 Chapter One – We find the aged Apostle John imprisoned on the Isle (island) of Patmos  
3 where he is visited by one other than Christ Himself.

4 Chapter Two and Three – Christ’s messages to the Seven Churches in Asia (Turkey)  
5 which correspond with the seven “church ages” since. We are living in the final one -  
6 the Laodicean Church Age.

7 Chapter Four – the Rapture has taken place and all the redeemed of the ages stand  
8 before God in His heavenly throne.

9  
10 Rev. 5:1-14

11 And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within  
12 and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. [2] And I saw a strong angel  
13 proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the  
14 seals thereof? [3] And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was  
15 able to open the book, neither to look thereon. [4] And I wept much, because no man  
16 was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. [5] And one  
17 of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root  
18 of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof. [6]  
19 And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the  
20 midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven  
21 eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. [7] And he came  
22 and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne. [8] And  
23 when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down  
24 before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours,  
25 which are the prayers of saints. [9] And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art  
26 worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast  
27 redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and  
28 nation; [10] And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on  
29 the earth. [11] And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the  
30 throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand  
31 times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; [12] Saying with a loud voice,  
32 Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and  
33 strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. [13] And every creature which is in  
34 heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all  
35 that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be



unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. [14]  
And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.

### IF YOU ARE A FOLLOWER OF CHRIST YOU ARE THERE!

As I took time to point out last week, the scriptures in Chapter Four make it abundantly clear that the redeemed by Christ are on the scene as represented by the 24 elders "seated, crowned and robed" around the throne. (See Page 6 of last week's notes on chapter 4) Remember clearly that we are still short of chapter 6 - which is the chapter in which Jesus allows Antichrist access to Planet Earth.

### THE SCENE AT THE THRONE OF GOD

We, the Bride of Christ, have gathered at the Throne where God Himself sits. As we look in awe, suddenly the Creator holds out His right hand a scroll, written on both sides, and sealed with seven seals.

There was a cult tragedy near Waco, Texas in 1993 when fire engulfed a compound filled with young people led by David Koresh. He assured those gathered that he and only he could interpret the seven seals of Revelation. What he proffered was far from biblical truth. In a stand-off with armed authorities, someone set the fire that resulted in the deaths of eighty in the compound.

The chapter begins with the word "and." Whenever a chapter in scripture opens with that word, we know as Biblical students that the ensuing copy is joined to the preceding chapter. Thus chapters 4 and 5 should be studied together.

### Why Is That Scroll So Important?

The contents of this scroll contains the revelation of the chapters that follow. If you miss the Rapture of the Church, these are the conditions under which you will live during the Tribulation. I assure you - you do NOT want to still be here on earth.

### Your Opportunity To Approach God On His Throne — ???

"A strong angel" cried out, "Who is worthy to open the book (scroll)? Possibly the voice came from one of those four massive cherubim who fly over the throne - but we don't know for sure. Here is the opportunity for those who want to run to the throne and



2 jump in God's lap, smothering Him with kisses. As we learned in last week's study,  
3 there is lightning emanating from the throne! Rev. 4:5 And out of the throne  
4 proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire  
5 burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God. I have no idea what  
6 those voices are, but the seven Spirits of God are those seven manifestations of the Holy  
7 Spirit about which we discussed in last week's study (Isaiah 11:2 And the spirit of the  
8 Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of  
9 counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord;) At this  
10 point, our eye-witness reporter, the Apostle John, said, "I wept much because NO  
11 PERSON WAS FOUND ABLE OR WORTHY TO OPEN THE SCROLL - OR TO  
12 EVEN LOOK AT IT!"

### 13 The One Who Takes The Book

14  
15 Then someone standing near John nudged him and said, "Don't weep - LOOK....LOOK,  
16 JOHN....BEHOLD.....THE LION OF THE TRIBE OF JUDAH HAS PREVAILED TO  
17 TAKE THE SCROLL FROM HIS FATHER'S HANDS! That One, of course, is Jesus  
18 Christ.

19  
20 He is the "root of David." Jesus' genealogy laid out in Matthew 1 makes this very clear -  
21 Jesus came from David's line. The "seven horns" tell us that Jesus is not weak but has  
22 fulfilled His own words, (Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them,  
23 saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. ) One writer has  
24 observed, "When Jesus comes back, He will come as a lion. His glorious appearing will  
25 be the manifestation of His omnipotence, His all consuming power!"

26  
27 The "seven eyes" represent Christ's omniscience. He will know what every person there  
28 has done in his or her lifetime, every word that has been spoken.

29  
30 This is where we saints see Jesus truly for the first time - to look upon Him with the awe  
31 that we could never fully understand on this earth. As the songwriter, Esther Rusthoi,  
32 wrote,

33 It will be worth it all when we see Jesus /  
34 Life's trials will seem so small when we see Christ /  
35 One glimpse of His dear face all sorrows will erase /  
36 So bravely run the race til we see Christ.

37  
38 Now John sees an amazing sight: As Jesus takes the seven-sealed scroll in His hands, all  
39 the angels, all the saints of God, and those four massive seraphim fall down before Jesus.  
40 Heaven will be filled with music such as we have never heard. John said we will have

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2 harps in our hands and millions upon millions of the now-citizens of Heaven will sing  
3 with voices now glorified and resurrected. What is this song we sing to Him?

4 Rev. 5:9-10

5 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open  
6 the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out  
7 of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; [10] And hast made us unto  
8 our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

9  
10 Thou art worthy! Why is Jesus worthy? Look closely at those lyrics we are singing:

- 11 1. Jesus was slain - on the cross for our sins!
- 12 2. Jesus has resurrected us from death and the hold of Planet Earth.
- 13 3. Jesus has presented us unto God, not as lost sinners, but as His kings and priests,  
14 making it possible for us to reign on Earth during the Millennium!

15  
16 What do angels think of Jesus?

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18 Rev. 5:11-12

19 And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and  
20 the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten  
21 thousand, and thousands of thousands; [12] Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the  
22 Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and  
23 honour, and glory, and blessing.

24  
25 Not even John could completely estimate the number of angels - well over 100-million at  
26 the least! In addition to the multitudes of angels were the teeming millions of the  
27 redeemed throughout the ages. Over the throne are those four massive seraphim, joining  
28 the anthem of praise to Jesus. The angels lead us all in the anthem in which they  
29 declare that to the Lamb (Jesus) should go seven things:

- 30 1. Power
- 31 2. Wealth
- 32 3. Wisdom
- 33 4. Strength
- 34 5. Honor
- 35 6. Glory
- 36 7. Blessing

37  
38 I so appreciate Tim LaHaye's observation: *In a day when humanistic people are*  
39 *unwilling to acknowledge Jesus Christ as more than a good man or a model example, we*  
40 *should note carefully what the angels of heaven WHO KNOW HIM BEST say of Him.*





1 The Bible student should be clearly aware of the fact that one day every knee shall bow  
2 before Christ: Philip. 2:9-11 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and  
3 given him a name which is above every name: [10] That at the name of Jesus every  
4 knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the  
5 earth; [11] And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the  
6 glory of God the Father. That includes all those people who have rejected Christ in  
7 their lives will one day be forced to acknowledge they made a grim mistake and their  
8 worship is now much too late!

## 9 Chapter Six - The Beginning Of The Tribulation

10 In the previous chapter we saw Jesus take the scroll from the hand of God, the scroll  
11 which contains the coming judgments during the seven-year tribulation period. The  
12 remainder of Revelation clearly UNVEILS (Apocalypse) what is coming to this Earth.  
13 Jesus breaks the first seal and a horseman appears on this planet.  
14

15 The Bible gives more space to this coming seven-year span than any other comparable  
16 time frame. The Old Testament mentions it over 50 times with such phrases as:

17 The Day of Calamity  
18 The Day of Wrath  
19 The Day of Jacob's Trouble  
20 The Day of Vengeance of our God  
21 The Time of Trouble  
22 The Day of the Lord

23 In the New Testament there are over a dozen such references. Jesus Himself used the  
24 word "tribulation" in His Olivet Prophecy Message: Matthew 24:21 For then shall be  
25 great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no,  
26 nor ever shall be. Allow our Lord's words to sink into your brain! Jesus said that this  
27 would be the most disastrous time in the history of mankind!  
28

29 Our mid and post tribulation friends conclude that much of the suffering of humanity  
30 today is the tribulation. Not even close. We shall see in our study that over half of the  
31 world's population will die during the tribulation; that multitudes of those who commit  
32 their lives to Christ in this time period will die martyrs' deaths. Small wonder Paul  
33 referred to the Rapture as THE BLESSED HOPE OF THE BELIEVERS.  
34

## 35 What Is God's Purpose For The Tribulation?

36 Daniel 9:24 ... to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make  
37



reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

1. To finish the transgression.... This has to do with Israel and the Jewish people around the world. Scripture informs us that the people of Israel will turn to Christ in a great revival, out of which will come 144,000 divinely-protected (sealed) witnesses who evangelize the world.
2. To put an end to sin. Satan will be bound in hell and God will deal with this issue of sin, which He hates.
3. To make reconciliation for wickedness - which means to atone for the wickedness of humanity.
4. To usher into humanity everlasting righteousness.
5. To bring to an end all prophecies and visions.
6. To anoint the most Holy. This could well be the end of the Dome of the Rock and the reestablishment of the Temple in Jerusalem.

#### How The Tribulation Starts

Daniel 9:27

And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

Who is this "he" referred to? None other than Antichrist. As soon as the followers of Christ, living and dead, are raptured from this planet, Satan makes his move and sends forth his pathetic imitation of Jesus, the Antichrist.

Now, back to chapter six:

Rev. 6:1-17

And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. [2] And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer. [3] And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. [4] And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword. [5] And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on



him had a pair of balances in his hand. [6] And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine. [7] And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see. [8] And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth. [9] And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were 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, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? [11] And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled. [12] And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; [13] And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. [14] And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. [15] And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens 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 that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: [17] For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

In these next chapters, we are going to see God send **THREE SETS OF DIVINE JUDGMENTS** upon the earth. They are:

- The Seals
- The Trumpets
- The Bowls (or Vials)

In this chapter we are introduced to the **FOUR HORSEMEN OF THE APOCALYPSE**. Oh, dear friend.....you do not want to be here when they arrive!

1. The First Horseman - Seal # 1: THE ANTICHRIST ARRIVES! Note carefully how Antichrist arrives: He is carrying a bow, but no apparent arrows. And he goes forth to conquer.

In a previous study, I laid out my own convictions and conclusions that the Antichrist and the Muslim Mahdi are one and the same. Bear in mind please this is my own conclusion



and is not necessarily that of the church of God. (Nor is it the conclusion of my good friend Joel Rosenberg.) It is the conviction, however, of others who are also scholarly in the Word of God. It seems to me the scriptural depictions of Antichrist and the Muslim depictions of the Mahdi (the 12<sup>th</sup> Imam) are the same. Suffice it to say both the Antichrist and the Mahdi come on the scene to eradicate Christians and our faith from the Earth.

Bearing no arrows, only a bow, it appears that Antichrist will attempt to gain power by peaceful means. It is a short-lived effort, we note, when we come to:

The Second Horseman - Seal #2: This is massive war (I believe primarily directed toward Israel). Rev. 6:4 **And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword. Who gives power to Antichrist to take peace from the earth? Satan.**

For these horrendous seven years on Earth, humanity will be ruled by a TRIUMVIRATE FROM HELL: SATAN (THE UNHOLY FATHER); ANTICHRIST (THE UNHOLY SON) AND THE FALSE PROPHET (THE UNHOLY SPIRIT).

Please study Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39 concerning the results of the second horseman. I believe this will be the demise of Russia as she leads an amalgamation of nations against Israel. No earthly nation will come to Israel's defense. However, SOMEONE does: Ezekiel 38:18-23 **And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog (Russia) shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord God, that my fury shall come up in my face. [19] For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel; [20] So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep upon the earth, and all the men that are upon the face of the earth, shall shake at my presence, and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground. [21] And I will call for a sword against him throughout all my mountains, saith the Lord God: every man's sword shall be against his brother. [22] And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone. [23] Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the Lord.**





2 The Third Horseman - Seal # 3: This will be global famine. Rev. 6:5-6 And when  
3 he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I  
4 beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his  
5 hand. [6] And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat  
6 for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil  
7 and the wine.

8 Historically, famine often follows war. Using the units of measurement or money in this  
9 passage, the indication is that a person will have to work for an entire day to make enough  
10 money for food for that day. Then....what about the rest of the family? "See thou hurt  
11 not the oil and the wine" seems to me to be an indication that the some of the rich will get  
12 even richer during this time.

13  
14 Even though it currently seems to us Americans that food is in abundance, the fact of the  
15 matter is that the supply line is pretty thin. It would not take a whole lot to interfere with  
16 that flow and cause massive shortages.

17  
18 The Fourth Horseman - Seal # 4: This rider brings death on a massive scale. Rev.  
19 6:7-8 And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast  
20 say, Come and see. [8] And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat  
21 on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them  
22 over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with  
23 death, and with the beasts of the earth.

24  
25 Remember, this is only the "opening salvo" of the Tribulation period. And already the  
26 four horsemen have caused one-fourth of the earth to die through wars and hunger.  
27 According to current world population stats, this would represent about 1/12 BILLION  
28 people. To put that in perspective: World War II caused the deaths of about sixty  
29 MILLION people. That deadly figure is only a small fraction of the casualties caused by  
30 the Four Riders of the Apocalypse.

31  
32 The Fifth Seal - The Martyred Tribulation Saints: Rev. 6:9-11 And when he had  
33 opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the  
34 word of God, and for the testimony which they held: [10] And they cried with a loud  
35 voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our  
36 blood on them that dwell on the earth? [11] And white robes were given unto every  
37 one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season,  
38 until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were,  
39 should be fulfilled.

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As a result of Russian-led attack of Israel and its subsequent annihilation as the fury of God is revealed against it, 144,000 Spirit-filled Jews will begin the great evangelization of lost souls this world has ever seen. Antichrist will immediately attack these believers who will pay for their faith with their lives.

I have heard some currently-non-believers say they might not get saved now, but during the Tribulation they will accept Christ. I do not believe that even one person who has heard the Gospel and rejected it will be saved then. *If you cannot live for Christ NOW in this free land of the United States and Canada, how could you ever have the nerve to live for Him in the Tribulation?*

**The Sixth Seal - Catastrophe on Earth: Rev. 6:12-17** And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; [13] And the stars (meteors?) of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. [14] And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. [15] And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens 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 that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: [17] For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

We have been told for years that the Earth is going to have a massive earthquake at some point. We have already had some earthquakes in history so severe that the ask seemed to blot out the sun (“...and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair” - vs. 12). There will be world-wide panic - yet still the fear will not drive people to repentance before God; rather, like our ancestors Adam and Eve, they will try to hide from His presence.

In our next study, there is a “parenthesis” in which we study the 144,000 sealed witnesses in Revelation 7 and the introduction to the Trumpet Judgments, introduced when Jesus tears off the 7<sup>th</sup> seal from God’s book of Judgment.

