



The Seven Churches and the Seven Seals

Part 6

October 3, 2021

Over the past 6 weeks, we have worked our way through the Seven Churches of Asia Minor that the Apostle John was instructed to write to per the Words of Christ. Today we will pick up at chapter 4 of the Book of the Revelation and set a course forward! The span of Chapters from Revelation 4 to Revelation 8 are the chapters that cover the 7 Seals which expand the first 3 and ½ years of the Tribulation Period.

My goal today is to cover these chapters and wrap up this series as we prepare to continue in this same vein of study beginning next Sunday with our Supernatural Series. So let's dive into Revelation chapter 4 for a chapter by chapter overview of the text.

- **In Revelation 4, John records about The Throne in Heaven**

- In this chapter, John is caught up in the Third Heaven which is a type and shadow of the Rapture of the Saints leading up to the Tribulation Period.
- According to the text, there is a Heavenly Door that is opened up so that John could see the Church standing around the throne of God with the 24 Elders who are before the Sea of Glass. This is very important because the Saints and the Elders are already there; indicating of a Pre-Tribulation Rapture. Their crowns are tied to the Judgment Seat of Christ!

- In Revelation 5, John records his experience with The Scroll and the Lamb

- In this chapter, we learn of the Scroll with Seven Seals that only Christ is worthy of opening! John weeps because there was not one worthy to take the Scroll and open the seals until the Lamb of God was revealed! Jesus is then worshiped because He is the only one worthy to break the seals and open the scroll!
- The Scroll in this chapter is vitally important because the Scroll is the Title Deed to the Earth that Adam lost in the Garden of Eden in Genesis 3; Jesus, by taking the Scroll and opening the seals begins the process of reclaiming the Earth for Himself as the Second Adam. (EXPLAIN)

- In Revelation 6, John records the breaking of the 7 Seals!

- The First Seal releases the White Horse whose rider had a bow and a crown, and he was sent forth conquering and to conquer.
- The Second Seal releases the Red Horse whose rider was permitted to take peace from the Earth so that people would kill one another and he was given a great sword.

- The Third Seal releases the Black Horse whose rider was given a set of scales in his hand; he is the symbol of famine because the scripture says in verse 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!”
- The Fourth Seal releases the Pale Horse whose rider’s name was Death and Hell followed after him
 - The second half of Verse 8 records, “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.”
- The Fifth Seal reveals the Souls under the Altar who had been slain for the Word of God and for the witness they had borne were crying out for judgment and vengeance for what had been done to them; notice verse 10-11, “¹⁰They 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?”
¹¹Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brothers

should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been.

- The Sixth Seal releases multiple cataclysms: a great earthquake, the Sun becomes black as sackcloth, the full moon becomes like blood, and the stars of the sky begin to fall to the earth.
- The sky vanishes away like a scroll and every mountain and island are removed from its place.
 - This signifies a global impact of this earthquake on the earth and there are to be signs in the heavens! Notice signs in the Earth and in the Heavens.
- The Seventh Seal is not released until Revelation Chapter 8.
 - Notice a very important Scripture recorded in verses 15-17 of Revelation 6, “¹⁵Then the kings of the earth and the great ones and the generals and the rich and the powerful, and everyone, slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, ¹⁶calling to the mountains and rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, ¹⁷for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?”

The Wrath of the Who? THE WRATH OF THE LAMB!

- The First 3 and ½ years of the Tribulation Period is the Wrath of the Lamb and the Last 3 and ½ years of the Tribulation Period is the Wrath of the God!
- The Wrath of God is poured out in the Seven Bowl Judgments of Revelation 16.

● In Revelation 7, John records the 144,000 of Israel Sealed and a Mighty Multitude from every Nation is before the Throne of God!

- In verses 1-8, there are angels released into the Earth to hold back the four winds of the Earth and then a mighty angel ascends from the rising of the Sun with the seal of God with the intent of sealing 144,000 Jews to be witnesses in the Earth!
- In verses 9-17, there is a mighty multitude from every Nation standing before the Throne of God. Notice verses 9-14, “⁹ After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

¹¹ And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.” ¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?” ¹⁴ I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

- These are those who are being born again during the Tribulation Period and are either dying from the chaos around them or being martyred upon the Earth.
- People can still be born again during the Tribulation Period. The Holy Ghost is still active in the Earth to convict Sinners of their sins.

(Pastor Brad, if you will come...)

- In Revelation 8, the Apostle John records the breaking of the Seventh Seal, the Golden Censer and The Seven Trumpets!

- The Seventh Seal – Revelation 8:1-5 records, “When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. ²Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. ³And another angel came and stood at the altar with a golden censer, and he was given much incense to offer with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar before the throne, ⁴and the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, rose before God from the hand of the angel. ⁵Then the angel took the censer and filled it with fire from the altar and threw it on the earth, and there were peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake.”
- The Seventh Seal releases thirty minutes of silence in Heaven during which time Seven Angels are summoned and are given 7 Trumpets and verse 6 sets the stage for Seven Angels prepared to blow their Seven Trumpets of Judgment:

- In verse 7, the First Trumpet released Hail and Fire mixed with blood and these were thrown upon the Earth. And a third of the earth was burned up and a third of the trees were burned up and all green grass was burned up.
- In verse 8, the Second Trumpet released a massive meteor, the text states, “something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea and a third of the sea became blood.”
- There is a massive meteor that is going to hit the Earth during the tribulation period. The Bible goes on to say that a third of the living creatures in the sea died and a third of the ships were destroyed.
- This meteor doesn’t just turn the water into blood but it generates a massive tsunami that destroys a third of the worlds ships that were at sea when it struck.
- In verse 10, the Third Trumpet released a great star that falls from the Heavens that is blazing like a torch and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water.

- The star's name is Wormwood and a third of the waters became wormwood and many people died from the water because it was poisonous.
- In verse 12, the Fourth Trumpet was released and a third of the sun was struck as well as a third of the moon and a third of the stars so that a third of their light might be darkened; this directly affects day time and night time timeframes and the differentiation thereof.
- In verse 13, the Bible records, ¹⁸“Then I looked, and I heard an eagle crying with a loud voice as it flew directly overhead, “Woe, woe, woe to those who dwell on the earth, at the blasts of the other trumpets that the three angels are about to blow!”

As we prepare to close our time together today and bring this series to an end, I want to reiterate the heart behind this series just one last time. The intention of teaching through this series found its genesis in my desire to motivate our church to get serious about soul winning, inviting people to church, and reaching the broken and hurting of our community because we can all look at these chapters and see just how these almost 2,000 prophecies could come to pass in our present hour.

I honestly believe that if we all, myself included, realized just how late of an hour that we are living in that we would be all the more motivated to get our hearts right with the Father, choose to serve Christ all the days of our lives and be faithful to His Church in our attendance, in our support and in our invitations of asking friends and loved ones to come to church with us. Church family, the hour is getting late. The nations of the world are aligning. Evil seems to have a foothold in every arena of our world; politically and otherwise. The Church needs to look up because our redemption is drawing nigh! Let us pray...