

Sunday Bible Study Session 2 – November 9, 2014

"Opening of the Seven Seals" – (Revelation Chapters 6:1-17)

Read [Revelation 6:1-17](#).

TRIBULATION – 3 VIEWS

- REVELATION 6 (SEALS) – [SUMMARY OF THE TRIBULATION](#)
- REVELATION 8-11 – (TRUMPETS) – PRESENTS THE TRIBULATION FROM THE STANDPOINT OF THE GENTILES
- REVELATION 12-19 – (VIALS) – PRESENTS THE TRIBULATION FROM THE STANDPOINT OF THE JEWS.

SUMMARY OF DANIEL'S 70TH WEEK

- I. 1st Seal – *White Horse* – Revelation 6:1-2 – (*Rulership, conquest*)
- II. 2nd Seal – *Red Horse* – Revelation 6:3-4 – (*Warfare, bloodshed*)
- III. 3rd Seal – *Black Horse* – Revelation 6:5-6 – (*Famine*)
- IV. 4th Seal – *Pale Horse* – Revelation 6:7-8 – (*Death*)
- V. 5th Seal – *Martyrdom* – Revelation 6:9-11 – (*Believers slain for the Word of God*)
- VI. 6th Seal – *Natural Catastrophe* – Revelation 6:12-17 – *Earthquakes (Sun became black, Moon became as blood)*

Read from Ray Sullins' book on Revelation the summary on the opening of the seven seals. Following is a more detailed look at each of the seven seals.

First Seal – White Horse – Revelation 6:1-2 – "[1]Then I saw when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, "Come." [2]I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer."

- The opening of this seal is the first characteristic presented of the Tribulation. *Thunder* in verse 1 refers to warning of coming judgment (also referenced in [Revelation 4:5](#)). In Chapter 4, one of the *living creatures* showed John through an open door to heaven this vision which has its origin in [Zechariah 6:1-8](#). The *white horse* represents *rulership and conquest*, emphasizing political power and conquest. There are 4 spheres of influence during the Tribulation. The *White Horse* is Most likely the *king of the west*, dictator of the revived Roman empire, found in [Daniel 7:7, 23, 24](#). There is also the King of the North, possibly Russian influence, found in [Daniel 11:40](#). The third is the King of the South, possibly Pan-Arabic block, also in [Daniel 11:40](#), and finally, the King of the East, possibly China, found in [Revelation 16:12](#).

Sunday Bible Study Session 2 – November 9, 2014 (Continued)

"Opening of the Seven Seals" – (Revelation Chapters 6:1-17)

- Other verses referencing the *White Horse*, Dictator of the revived Roman Empire include [II Thessalonians 2:1-12](#), [Revelation 13:1-10](#), [Revelation 17](#), and Daniel's visions in [chapters 8 and 9](#). This particular dictator on the white horse has a bow (military power) and a crown (coronation by Satan). Revelation 6:2 says that he will be "*conquering to conquer*".

Second Seal – Red Horse – Revelation 6:3-4 – Emphasizes bloody revolution, rebellion and horrible warfare – "[3]When He broke the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come." [4]And another, a red horse, went out; and to him who sat on it, it was granted to take peace from the earth, and that men would slay one another; and a great sword was given to him."

3rd Seal – Black Horse – Revelation 6:5-6 – Inflation, scarcity of food, famine – "[5]When He broke the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying, "Come." 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 something like a voice in the center of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not damage the oil and the wine."'" Here, we see that a small silver coin can buy these items for the rich; They want to maintain their way of life. In famine, the rich get richer.

4th Seal – Pale Horse – Revelation 6:7-8 – This refers to the death of unbelievers – "[7]When the Lamb broke the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come." [8]I looked, and behold, an ashen horse; and he who sat on it had the name Death; and Hades was following with him. Authority was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by the wild beasts of the earth." ¼ of the lost of the earth will be slaughtered during the Tribulation with warfare (*Sword*), hunger (*famine*), disease (*pestilence*), and violence (*wild beasts*).

5th Seal – Martyrdom – Revelation 6:9-11 – This refers to believers slain for the Word of God. The word "*slain*" in verse 9 is in the perfect tense, meaning that it took place in the past, was consummated, and continued; these people were slain "*under the altar*" as in brazen altar, or sacrificed for the Word of God. *White Robes* on everyone in verse 11 is an indication of perfect righteousness, which can only be imputed righteousness, meaning these martyrs were regenerate.

6th Seal – Natural Catastrophe – Revelation 6:12-17 – Nature will be "acting up", and people will be terrified. Tribulational earthquakes are described in these passages ([Mark 13:8](#); [Matt 24:7](#); [Revelation 8:5](#); [11:13](#); [16:18](#)). God often judges with natural disaster. During the Tribulation these catastrophes will come with great frequency. In verse 12 we see great darkness like fabric made of camel hair like the walls of tents to make them very dark, and the whole moon being blood-red. Similar catastrophe has happened already in history; In 1883, Krakatoa, an island in today's Indonesia experienced a huge volcanic eruption in which 18 square miles blew up, making a sound

Sunday Bible Study Session 2 – November 9, 2014 (Continued) "Opening of the Seven Seals" – (Revelation Chapters 6:1-17)

heard 3000 miles away. It was said the sun was completely blacked out, and at night, the moon was bright red (like blood). Volcanic ash rose 17 miles high, and was seen falling the next day in London and tidal waves traveled around the world. During this time, we're told that 36,000 people were killed in 1883. [Matthew 27:45](#) tells us of another dark day in history – at the time of the Cross, when our Lord took upon Himself our sins. In [Revelation 1:7](#) we see that when Christ returns "with the clouds" at the 2nd Advent it will be dark. There are many scriptures describing dark days ([Zechariah 14:4-6](#); [Joel 2:10-11](#); [Amos 5:18](#); [Matthew 24:29](#); [Luke 21:25](#)). Revelation 6:13 also describes stars falling; this is likely a reference to destructive meteor showers. Verses 14-17 possibly is describing nuclear activity, nuclear judgment. The activity is in the sky or atmosphere, which the KJV calls heaven.

The Bible describes heaven in 3 ways:

- 1st Heaven – [Genesis 1:6-8](#) describes heaven as an atmosphere around the earth.
- 2nd Heaven – A place where angels live and operate.
- 3rd Heaven - [2 Corinthians 12:2](#) – Throne of God

Revelation 6:15-17 describes the reaction of people to these judgments of natural catastrophe. There are seven classifications of people: kings, great men, rich men, chief captains (military general officers), strong men, slaves (blue collar) and free men (professionals). *All* of these will hide in the dens and the rocks of the mountains. Everyone will try to escape this disaster, from kings to laborers, frightened at the manifestations of the Power of the Lord Jesus Christ. These are people who will have refused God's Way. This rejection is depicted in [II Thessalonians 2:3-12](#), Verse 17 of Revelation 6 presents the great Day of Wrath, asking "*who is able to stand?*"

This is a presentation of the Baptism of Fire.

BOF (Baptism of Fire)

THE BAPTISM OF FIRE IS THE DOWN PAYMENT ON THE LAKE OF FIRE FOR THE UNBELIEVERS OF THE TRIBULATION.

The Tribulation will be a horrible time indeed – but because we *do not mix the Age of Israel with the Age of Grace*, because we do not blend dispensations – on the authority of the Word of God, no Church Age believer will ever experience this.