***Reviewing Revelation—Chapter 6***

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| **THE SEVEN SEALS OF THE REVELATION** | | | | | |
| **Seal** | **Text** | **WHAT THE PROPHET JOHN SAW** | | **THE MEANING** | **Related Texts** |
| [**1**](http://www.avoiceinthewilderness.org/prophecy/revbook/seals1-4.html) | Rev. 6:2 | A WHITE HORSE | Its rider carried a bow and went forth conquering and to conquer. | This seal portrays the going forth of Yahweh's Warning Truth concerning **COUNTERFEIT**: Baptisms, Sabbath Days, Messiahs and Bibles. Beware! | Jer. 29:17-18 Matt. 24:4-5 Luke 21:8 |
| [**2**](http://www.avoiceinthewilderness.org/prophecy/revbook/seals1-4.html#secondSeal) | Rev. 6:3-4 | A RED HORSE | Its rider was given a great sword and proceeded to take peace from the earth. | This seal tells of **wars, revolutions** and **bloodshed** on an unparalleled scale. The great sword symbolizes world wars involving many nations. | Matt. 24:6 Luke 21:9-10 Jer. 25:27-38 |
| [**3**](http://www.avoiceinthewilderness.org/prophecy/revbook/seals1-4.html#thirdSeal) | Rev. 6:5-6 | A BLACK HORSE | Its rider held a pair of scales and weighed out food at extremely high prices. (E.g. a whole day's wages for two measures of wheat). | This seal brings to view world-wide **famines** when prices for even the barest of life's necessities will spiral out of control. (A whole day's wages for two measures of wheat). | Matt. 24:7 Luke 21:11 |
| [**4**](http://www.avoiceinthewilderness.org/prophecy/revbook/seals1-4.html#fourthSeal) | Rev. 6:7-8 | A PALE, SICKLY HORSE | Its rider's name was Death and Hell followed him. | This seal symbolizes **pestilence** and **disease epidemics** of various kinds which will lay low millions of people. | Matt. 24:7 Luke 21:11 |
| [**5**](http://www.avoiceinthewilderness.org/prophecy/revbook/seals5-6.html) | Rev. 6:9-11 | SOULS UNDER THE ALTAR | Souls were heard crying for justice. They were told to wait for a while till a further martyrdom took place. | This seal reveals a further persecution of God's people, a persecution as intense as any which occurred in the past. | Matt. 24:9-10 Luke 21:12-19 |
| [**6**](http://www.avoiceinthewilderness.org/prophecy/revbook/seals5-6.html#sixthSeal) | Rev. 6:12-17 | CELESTIAL SIGNS | 1. A great earthquake. 2. The sun turned black. 3. The moon turned blood-red. 4. The stars (meteorites) fell. 5. The sky was rolled back as a scroll. 6. Earth's population was terrified. | These are literal signs in the physical universe. When they occur blind panic will overtake the inhabitants of the world.  Note: The Messiah does **not** return to earth during this seal. | Matt. 24:29 Luke 21:25-26 Jer. 4:23-28 |
| Revelation chapter 7 is inserted between Seals 6 & 7 | | [THE SEALING OF YAHWEH'S SERVANTS](http://www.avoiceinthewilderness.org/prophecy/revbook/sealing.html) | By divine authority the devastation of the **earth**, the **sea** and the **trees** was delayed till the servants of God were sealed in their foreheads and right hands. 144,000 Israelites were sealed. | The Signature of Yahweh the God of Israel is the Sabbath days in the sacred calendar. These are the seventh day of the week (Saturday) and the seven annual Sabbaths as specified in Lev. chapter 23. Each one is a sacred memorial of a divine achievement in the plan of Salvation. In short, Yahweh seals his people with **obedience**. | Ezekiel. 20:12&20 Exodus 13:9 Exodus 31:13- 17 Ezekiel 9 |
| [**7**](http://www.avoiceinthewilderness.org/prophecy/revbook/trump1-5.html) | Rev. 8:7 | Trumpet [1](http://www.avoiceinthewilderness.org/prophecy/revbook/trump1-5.html#firstTrumpet) | A third of the earth, a third of the trees and all the green grass were burned. | This damaging of the earth, the sea and the trees will only take place after the sealing work is completed (Rev. 7:3). The Trumpets, in other words, cannot even commence their destruction till all 144,000 Israelites are sealed.  When the Trumpets eventually do sound, a time of great devastation will begin on earth.  The terms earth, sea, trees, grass, fish, ships etc. may have symbolic as well as literal meanings. But it must be remembered that ONE THIRD OF MANKIND are slain at Trumpet No. 6, so it is most unlikely that these terms also represent mankind. |  |
| Rev. 8:8-9 | Trumpet [2](http://www.avoiceinthewilderness.org/prophecy/revbook/trump1-5.html#secondTrumpet) | A third of the sea became like the blood of a dead man. A third of the fish perished and a third of the ships sank. |
| Rev. 8:10-11 | Trumpet [3](http://www.avoiceinthewilderness.org/prophecy/revbook/trump1-5.html#thirdTrumpet) | A third of the rivers of water were made bitter and many people died. |
| Rev. 8:12 | Trumpet [4](http://www.avoiceinthewilderness.org/prophecy/revbook/trump1-5.html#fourthTrumpet) | The sun, moon and the stars were then darkened by a third. |
| Rev. 9:1-12 | Trumpet [**5**](http://www.avoiceinthewilderness.org/prophecy/revbook/trump1-5.html#fifthTrumpet)  **FIRST WOE!** | The Bottomless Pit (Abyss) was then opened and an evil host led by Abaddon the King of the Abyss came forth. They proceeded to torture all mankind for five months - all except those who had received Yahweh's Seal at the time of the sealing. These believers were supernaturally protected from Abaddon's power. | The Abyss is a place - or condition - in which God has imprisoned a host of evil angels. Abaddon, the King of the Abyss, is a demon of great depravity. At this Trumpet, he is given leave to torture and brutalize mankind for 5 months: that is, all except the servants of the Most High who accepted the Seal of God in their foreheads and right hands (minds and actions) at the time of the sealing. | Luke 8:30-33 2 Peter 2:4 Jude 6 |
| Rev. 9:13 to Rev. 11:14 | Trumpet [**6**](http://www.avoiceinthewilderness.org/prophecy/revbook/trump6.html)  **SECOND WOE!** | Four mighty angels were then loosed from the Great River Euphrates. Aided by a force of 200,000,000 they killed ONE THIRD OF MANKIND. At this time the holy city is trampled underfoot for a period of 42 months (3½ years).  Yahweh's Two Witnesses also preach to the world during this 42 month period.  At the end of this woe the Beast who ascends from out of the Abyss will kill the Two Witnesses; but after 3½ days they are resurrected and carried to heaven in great glory. | During this seal, ONE THIRD OF MANKIND will be slain.  The Beast, who we are told also rises from the Abyss, could well be Abaddon the Destroyer, the Lawless One, the Son of Hell, the Exterminator from the Bottomless Pit. His Mark is the age-old counterfeit of Yahweh's Signature and will again manifest itself when the bogus Sabbaths of Christendom (Sunday, Christmas, Easter etc.) are enforced by law throughout the world. | Daniel 7:25 Daniel 12 Rev. 12:6-14 Rev. 13 Zech. 14:1-2 2 Thess. 2:1-17 |
| Rev. 11:15 | Trumpet [**7**](http://www.avoiceinthewilderness.org/prophecy/revbook/trump7.html)  **THIRD WOE!** | This is a time for God's anger, his judgment of the nations and the rewarding of his saints. At this Trumpet the kingdoms of this world will pass to their rightful ruler, the Messiah of Israel. | Yahushua, the Son of God, will return to earth at this Last Trumpet.  The Beast will vainly attempt to make war with the returning Christ, but he will perish in the attempt. The Messiah's millennial reign of peace will then begin. | Matt. 24:30 Rev. 19:11-21 1 Thess. 4:14-17 |

***“Reviewing Revelation”—Chapter 6, The First Six Seals***

**The events that occur as the first four seals are broken, terrible as they are, are not manifestations of the judgments and Wrath of Yahuah, which will be plagues sent forth from “heaven” (outside our solar system) ominously announced by natural cataclysms when the sixth seal is broken (cf. 6:16, 17) and beginning when the seventh seal is broken (cf. 8:1, 7). The events revealed by the breaking of the first four seals are pointed out to John by the living creatures which apparently represent Yahuah’s natural creation and His power over it. They are natural manifestations and consequences of the wrath of Satan (cf. 12:12), released on the earth as his incarnation, the anti-messiah, goes forth conquering and to conquer. Notice also that the seals are on the outside of the scroll. So, they reveal events that are categorically different from the events that are revealed on the inside of the scroll. They must be opened first, therefore are precursors to the events of the judgments and Wrath of Yahuah - the plagues of the trumpet/bowl judgments (chapters 8, 9, 11, 15 and 16).**

**At this point, by comparing Scripture with Scripture, we can fill in more details included in the events that are revealed when the six seals are broken. Some of those details are given to us through the prophet Daniel who told us of the coming of the anti-messiah who will sign a “strong covenant” (Hebrew: *gabar beriyth*) with Israel for seven years (the Final Seven Years) but treacherously break that treaty at the midpoint of the seven years (Daniel 9:27). He will then persecute Yahuah’s People (the Great Tribulation), martyring most of them (except those specially protected by Yahuah) during the last half of the seven years (Daniel 7:25; Revelation 13:5). Yahushua also previewed the events of the six seals for his Disciples by outlining them exactly as described in the Revelation, including the same details that Daniel foretold, with special emphasis on the Great Tribulation (which will begin with the “abomination of desolation”) and the cataclysmic sixth seal events that announce the trumpet judgments and the bowls of the Wrath of Yahuah (Matthew 24:5-29).**

**Here is another key to fully understanding the Revelation: the Wrath of Yahuah is not just the Wrath of Yahuah the Father, but of Yahuah the Son (the Lamb). As we will see, the Son is fully involved, in Heaven and on Earth, in the orchestration and execution of the Wrath of Yahuah. He is in Heaven and on Earth(as we will see) and traveling back and forth between Heaven and Earth participating in all the events that affect His creation during the Final Seven Years, and afterwards. As has already been explained, the events of the sixth seal are not the manifestations of the Wrath of Yahuah, which are the events on the inside of the scroll and begin with the opening of the seventh seal (8:1, 7). The events of the sixth seal occur just before and announce the beginning of the Day of the Lord (cf. Joel 3:14, 15; Matthew 24:29; Acts 2:20), which includes the plagues of the judgments and Wrath of Yahuah; the return of the Lord with the armies of Heaven; the Battle of "Armageddon"; the establishment of the Lord’s millennial kingdom on Earth; the Final Judgment; and the destruction of the heavens and the earth (cf. 2 Peter 3:10). Chapter 6 opens with the first four seals, the “four horsemen of the Apocalypse.” The lamb opens them! Take note: When one of the “Living Creatures” speaks, it is about the earth; if it’s about heaven, an elder explains it. It is clear that the first four seals are different from the final three seals, a distinction also recognized in the trumpet judgments. In addition, it is clear that the breaking of a seal inaugurates the events of that seal. Therefore, what term properly reflects the Lamb’s relationship to these events? Does the Lamb *cause* or *allow* the events? Is He *directly* or *indirectly* responsible for the events? In relation to the first four seals, a third party causes the first, second, and fourth seals. The third seal indicates that "a voice in the center of the four living creatures" announces the impact of the third seal. Therefore, God is the *direct cause* of these events... As all events on earth are controlled by heaven, the first four seals are broken in heaven to allow the riders to ride on earth. As in all cases, God allows evil, but is never its author or agent.** The sixth seal announces the impending or imminent arrival of the wrath of God and the seventh seal demonstrates the wrath of God. The Lamb receives the scroll in chapter five and breaks the first seal in chapter six. There is no indication of a time lapse between these two chapters. . Here it is obviously introducing a new segment in a continuing vision

1. **Compare Revelation’s Four Horsemen with those in Zechariah 1:8, “**I saw by night, and behold a man riding upon a red horse, and he stood among the myrtle trees that were in the bottom; and behind him were there red horses, speckled, and white,” **AND 6:2-6, “**In the first chariot were red horses; and in the second chariot black horses; 3And in the third chariot white horses; and in the fourth chariot grisled and bay horses. 4Then I answered and said unto the angel that talked with me, What are these, my lord? 5And the angel answered and said unto me, These are the four spirits of the heavens, which go forth from standing before the Lord of all the earth. 6The black horses which are therein go forth into the north country; and the white go forth after them; and the grisled go forth toward the south country.”
2. There is a striking similarity to the Book of Revelation’s Four Horsemen and Jesus’ Olivet Prophecy.  Since both are from Jesus we should not be surprised.  What is surprising is the prophecy that Jesus gives of the end times in Matthew 24 and 25 and in Revelation chapter six are amazingly similar.  **The disciples had just asked Jesus two questions; when will the temple be destroyed (Matt 24:1-2, “**And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple.2And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.”**) and “what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age” (Matt 24:4c)?**  There are startling parallels in Jesus’ answer in Matthew 24 and [Revelation 6](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+6) and the fact that the seals that are opened match those of the horsemen.

**1“1And 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. 2And 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.”**

***Matthew 24:4-6 “And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. 5For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.6and ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.”***

1. **Discuss the strong verb used here, “I saw.” very important linking phrase used thirty-three times throughout the book of Revelation.** It can introduce a new vision or a major segment of a continuing vision
2. **Who are “the four living creatures?” This is the first example of an angelic being commanding another angelic being to do a particular deed. This indicates a hierarchical structure among the angelic host**. Each seal is associated with a living creature (*zoa*, one of the cherubim of Ezekiel 1 and 10) who called out "come" (or, it could be translated "go forth") to each horseman.
3. **List the three descriptors of the white horse rider—THE FIRST SEAL.** I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had (1) a bow; and (2) a crown was given to him, and (3) he went out conquering and to conquer. The identity of the rider….this is the person who will later be identified as *the* ***beast from the sea* (Rev 13:1, “**And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.”**)** As the primary antagonist and counterpart to the Lamb in the Revelation, the beast best accords with the description given in the first seal.
   1. **Compare with beast from Revelation 13:1, “**And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.”
   2. **Why “a white horse?**” **A white horse --the fact that the horse is white is symbolic. A conquering rider fits best with the lawless one prophetically depicted in II Thessalonians 2:3-4, “**Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;4Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.”
   3. **First, the rider is mounted on a white horse. HE REPRESENTS ‘TRIUMPH,’ BECAUSE THE HORSES USED IN ROMAN TRIUMPHS WERE WHITE!** 
      1. **Contrast with the white horse rider in Revelation 19:11-21, “**And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. 12His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. 13And he was clothed with vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. 14And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. 15And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, King Of Kings, And Lord Of Lords. 17And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; 18That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great. 19And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. 20And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. 21And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.” **This has led some commentators to argue that the reader is Christ Himself. This can hardly be the case given that Christ breaks the seals. Equally, it is clear that the seals initiate events on the earth in connection with the end of the age during which the Lord will return to earth from heaven. During this period, there is no prophetic indication that the Lord will initiate this period by conquering on the earth. The white horse imagery is the first indicator of the rider’s identity. As the imitator of Christ and world-deceiver, the beast fulfills his destiny. The white horse is a part of his deception.**
      2. **Compare this ‘character’ to Nimrod. Use Genesis 10:8-12, “**And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth. 9He was a mighty hunter before the Lord: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the Lord. 10And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. 11Out of that land went forth Asshur, and builded Nineveh, and the city Rehoboth, and Calah, 12And Resen between Nineveh and Calah: the same is a great city.” The idea of a satanic dictator over men goes back all the way to Nimrod, the ruler over Babel in [**2**](https://www.studylight.org/desk/index.cgi?q1=Genesis+10:8-14&t1=en_nas)**,** where it says he was a *mighty hunter before the Lord*. **This has the sense that he was a mighty hunter of *men*, and that this was offensive to the face of God.**
   4. **DESCRIPTOR #1--What does “the bow” represent? See Psalm 45:4-5, “**And in thy majesty ride prosperously because of truth and meekness and righteousness; and thy right hand shall teach thee terrible things.5Thine arrows are sharp in the heart of the king's enemies; whereby the people fall under thee.” A bow is used in Scripture in both a literal and figurative manner. It was not the favorite weapon of choice for Roman soldiers and in modern warfare, a bow would be useless. The *bow* is used figuratively in Scripture as a symbol of war. The bow is an ancient instrument of war. This rider is prepared for war. NOTE; THERE ARE NO ARROWS.
   5. **DESCRIPTOR #2--A crown was given to him; examine II Samuel 12:29-30, “**29And David gathered all the people together, and went to Rabbah, and fought against it, and took it. 30And he took their king's crown from off his head, the weight whereof was a talent of gold with the precious stones: and it was set on David's head. And he brought forth the spoil of the city in great abundance.” A crown is a symbol of authority or right to rule. ***Was given* indicates that this rider does not take authority, but that it is given to him.** The *giver* is not explicitly identified, but context indicates that either God or Satan is the ultimate cause behind each action indicated in these passages. **The crown (stephanos) denotes rule or authority (II Sam 12:29-30).**
   6. **DESCRIPTOR #3--He went out conquering and to conquer; see Matthew 24:5, “**For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many,” **and Psalm 45:3, “**Gird thy sword upon thy thigh, O most mighty, with thy glory and thy majesty.” **Here we see the purpose of the rider. He conquers. What he conquers is not indicated.** The Lord Jesus predicted that the end of the age would begin with a dramatic increase in false proclaimers. These false proclaimers will proclaim one message, but have false motives
4. **Talk about “Come and see.”** The modern political and social scene is certainly set for the emergence of such a political leader. All that waits is for the Lord to allow it in His timing after He takes His church from this earth.
   1. **Check out 2 Thessalonians 2:6-7, “*And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way.*”** **Significantly, the *first* seal opened brings this dictator to prominence. We understand that the seventieth week of Daniel 9 begins when this dictator will *confirm a covenant with* [the] *many*, referring to the Jewish people.**

**3 “And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. 4And 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.”**

**Matthew 24:6-7a “6And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.7For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom…”**

1. **List the sequence of events in verses 3-4.** When He broke the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come." And another, a red horse, went out; and to him who sat on it, (1) it was granted to take peace from the earth, and (2) that men would kill one another; and (3) a great sword was given to him.
2. **Discuss “the red horse**”—**THE SECOND SEAL** **** A red horse is the color designation for the second horse. Unlike white, which is a possible color for a horse, *fiery red* clearly is not intended to be taken literally. Given the nature of the second seal, fiery red **may be intended to be symbolic of bloodshed. Another horse, fiery red, went out. And it was granted to the one who sat on it to take peace from the earth**: This rider didn't need to *bring* war and destruction. All he needed to do was ***take* peace from the earth**. Once this **peace** - God's gift to man - was taken, men quickly rush in with war and destruction.
   1. **DESCRIPTOR #1—“To take peace from the earth.”**
   2. **DESCRIPTOR #2—“That they should kill one another.”**
   3. **DESCRIPTOR #3—“That they should kill one another.”**
   4. **Third party control, why? Use the term, “it was granted.”**
   5. **Will this rider’s influence be felt worldwide?**  From the earth = suggests that this rider’s influence will be felt worldwide. John does not intend that every nation on the face of the earth will be at war, but that the climate of the earth will be one of warfare and unrest.
   6. **Discuss the “great sword.**” **See Romans 13:4, “**And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? Who is able to make war with him?” A great sword is symbolic of authority to put to death. Again, the agency of a third party is required. This proves what heaven authorizes earth executes.
      1. [**Hebrews 4:12**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Hebrews-4-12/)**, “**For the word of God [is] quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and [is] a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”
      2. [**Matthew 26:52-54**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Matthew-26-52_26-54/), “Then said Jesus unto him, Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the 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. 6And 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.”**

**Matthew 24:7b-8 “…and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. 8All these are the beginning of sorrows.**

1. **Describe the influence of the black horse—THE THIRD SEAL** A black horse = is symbolic of famine. Since black is a possible color for a horse, some are tempted to argue for a literal black horse here. However, this horse, as the previous ones, represents a condition about to be let loose on the earth. **This speaks of a time of *scarcity*.** These prices are about twelve times higher than normal. It means that it would cost a day's wage to buy the ingredients for a loaf of bread. This describes "a time of famine when life will be reduced to the barest necessities."
   1. **Talk about “Balances….famine?” See Leviticus 26:26, “**And when I have broken the staff of your bread, ten women shall bake your bread in one oven, and they shall deliver you your bread again by weight: and ye shall eat, and not be satisfied,”  **and Ezekiel 4:16-17, “**Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, behold, I will break the staff of bread in Jerusalem: and they shall eat bread by weight, and with care; and they shall drink water by measure, and with astonishment: 17That they may want bread and water, and be astonished one with another, and consume away for their iniquity.”….**a measure and ration food. A pair of scales represents the dire situation some will face on the earth. A balance scale would be used for weighing bread only in a severe famine. Leviticus 26:26 and Ezekiel 4:16-17 both indicate that weighed bread is a condition of severe famine.**
   2. **Why a reference to “wheat and barley?”** A denarius represented a day’s wage. A quart of wheat or three quarts of barley provided barely enough food for a family to subsist on for a day or two. Oil and wine were luxury items, which, in times of famine (which inevitably follow wars), only the wealthy could afford. Therefore, what the Lord seems to be telling the rider of the black horse is, “Let the poor suffer, but do not harm the food of the wealthy,” which could, ironically, be a curse on the wealthy because those who are poor and who suffer are much more likely to repent and accept the Lord’s salvation than are those who prosper. Wheat…barley = is one of two harvest in the Middle East. Wheat is necessary for bread and barley for porridge and the stalk for feeding animals.
      1. **What is a denarius? See Matthew 20:1-16, “**For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard. 2And when he had agreed with the labourers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard.3And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, 4And said unto them; Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you. And they went their way. 5Again he went out about the sixth and ninth hour, and did likewise.6And about the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle?7They say unto him, Because no man hath hired us. He saith unto them, Go ye also into the vineyard; and whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive. 8So when even was come, the lord of the vineyard saith unto his steward, Call the labourers, and give them their hire, beginning from the last unto the first. 9And when they came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny. 10But when the first came, they supposed that they should have received more; and they likewise received every man a penny. 11And when they had received it, they murmured against the goodman of the house, 12Saying, These last have wrought but one hour, and thou hast made them equal unto us, which have borne the burden and heat of the day. 13But he answered one of them, and said, Friend, I do thee no wrong: didst not thou agree with me for a penny? 14Take that thine is, and go thy way: I will give unto this last, even as unto thee. 15Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good? 16So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.” **Denarius was indicated to be a day’s wage by the Lord in Matthew 20:1-16.**
      2. **Compare with 1 Corinthians 1:26, “**For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called,” **and James 2:5, “**Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him.”
   3. **What is the voice heard here? Review Revelation 4:6, “**And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind,” **and 5:6, “**And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.” A voice in the center of the four living creatures **is previously identified as the Lamb** (Rev 4:6, 5:6). The voice declares the condition of the earth. **Again, heaven is actively involved in the events connected with the seals.**
   4. **What do “wine and oil” represent?** Wine and oil is the second of two harvests in the Middle East. Olives and grapes are spared destruction. **Do not harm the oil and the wine**: **Yet, the nicer things will be available for those who can afford them. There will still be the oil and the wine that should not be harmed.**

**“7And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see.8And 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.”**

**Matthew 24:8-10 “All these are the beginning of sorrows.9Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.10And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.”**

1. **Elaborate on the Pale Horse—THE FOURTH SEAL ** An ashen horse = green, which indicates a symbol, perhaps of life. This last rider shows that there will be a tremendous death toll from the dictatorship, war, famine and other calamities described by the previous three horsemen. **Power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill**: Power **was** **given** to the horseman, and **given** by God. Though all hell breaks loose on the earth, God is very much in control. He still holds the scroll and opens the seals.
   1. **Who are “Death and Hades?”** Some think that Death and Hades are personified places or conditions, but they may also be fallen angels: Death the angel that separates the soul from the body and Hades the angel that carries the unsaved soul to its waiting place until the Final Judgment. Death is not cessation of existence; it is a separation. Physical death is the separation of the soul from the body, and spiritual death is the separation of the soul from Yahuah. As power is given to the riders of the first three horses, power is given to Death and Hades to kill (separate from life) and consign to Hades.**Death and Hades = is referred to here as a person. This is called "personification" and is a figure of speech.**
   2. **See Revelation (using this phrase three times)**; **see Revelation** **1:18**, “I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death,” **6:8,** “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,” **20:13-14, “**13And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.14And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.” ***The term death is always followed by the term Hades. Since Hades is a result of death (there would be no Hades if there was no death); death is primary.***
   3. **See Revelation 20:14, “**4And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.” Then, after the resurrection of the unsaved, Death and Hades are cast into the lake of fire (the final “Hell”) (20:14).**The population of the earth at the present time (2013) is about 7,400,000,000 people. That means that if the events of the fourth seal occurred today, about 1,850,000,000 people would die.**
   4. **Review Matthew 24:3, *“And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world,”* and 8, *“All these are the beginning of sorrows.”*** During the few years of the opening of the seals of Revelation, the suffering and carnage will increase exponentially and there will be no mistaking that we are at the *“End of the Age”* and the *“beginning of sorrows.”*
   5. **Talk about “fourth of the earth.” Review Daniel 2 and Ezekiel 38.** The focus is clearly on the people of this "fourth of the earth." The beast will be given "a fourth of the earth," but he will attempt to take control of the whole earth. Based on Daniel 2 and Ezekiel 38 the final Beast Empire will consist of peoples from modern day Iraq, Iran, Syria, Ethiopia, Libya, Ukraine, Turkey, Russia and Germany. These nations at present combine populations equal to about one-tenth the total population of the earth. However, geographically, these nations equal one-fourth the earth’s total landmass. (9 million square miles)
   6. **Review “to kill.**” To kill-- this is the purpose of Antichrist’s dominion. This does not mean that he will kill "a fourth of the earth," but that he could if he wanted to do so. The "fourth of the earth" reference does not refer to *Christians*.
   7. **Re-visit the reference to “Sword, famine, pestilence and wild beasts.”**
      1. **See Jeremiah 24:10, “**And I will send the sword, the famine, and the pestilence, among them, till they be consumed from off the land that I gave unto them and to their fathers,” **Ezekiel 12:16, “**But I will leave a few men of them from the sword, from the famine, and from the pestilence; that they may declare all their abominations among the heathen whither they come; and they shall know that I am the Lord,” **and Ezekiel 14:21, “For thus saith the Lord God; How much more when I send my four sore judgments upon Jerusalem, the sword, and the famine, and the noisome beast, and the pestilence, to cut off from it man and beast?” NOTE: FOUR PESTILENCES/ FOUR HORSES.**
      2. **Define “wild beasts.” Use Revelation 13:1, *“****And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy,”* ***7, “****And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations,”* ***11, “****And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon,”* ***and 15, “****And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.”* The word “BEASTS” is *tharion* and its basic meaning is *beast*. It can be translated *beast* (***Titus 1:12, “One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, the Cretians are always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies.”)*** or *wild beast* (***Acts 11:5-6 (Peter), :******I was in the city of Joppa praying: and in a trance I saw a vision, A certain vessel descend, as it had been a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came even to me: 6Upon the which when I had fastened mine eyes, I considered, and saw four-footed beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.”)*** Context determines which translation is best. It is used thirty-nine times in the book of Revelation. In thirty-eight occurrences, the term refers either to the beast, the false prophet (the second beast) or the image of the beast, and it is correctly translated *beast*.
      3. **Review Matthew 24:21.** Our modern age has seen hundreds of millions killed by dictators, war, and famine. Yet all that will pale in comparison to the death toll coming in the wake of this ultimate dictator. No wonder Jesus said of this time “***For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be.* “(**[**Matthew 24:21**](https://www.studylight.org/desk/index.cgi?q1=Matthew+24:21&t1=en_nas)**)**

**“9And 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:10And 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?11And 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.”**

1. **Elaborate on the souls slain—THE FIFTH SEAL ** And when he broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar…. The fifth seal = initiates a second series of seals that are unlike the first four. Gone are the horses and riders who initiate events. The fact that death reigned over "a fourth of the earth" in the fourth seal makes the fifth seal a probable result. **The relationship between seals five, six and seven is the wrath of God: seal 5 asks for it; seal 6 announces it; and seal 7 depicts it to indicate that the wrath of God has begun through Revelation 6:10.**
   1. **Who are these souls?** the souls of those who had been slain
      1. **Why were they slain?** 1. For the word of God, and 2. For the testimony which they held
      2. **What do their words point out?** "How long, O Lord, holy and true, wilt Thou refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" And there was given to each of them
      3. **Where else do we see white robes? SEE #12.**
      4. **And, what was the message to these souls?** and they were told that they should (1) rest for a little while longer, until the number of their (2) fellow servants and their brethren who were to be killed even as they had been, should be completed also.
   2. **Discuss “the altar.” Refer to Leviticus 4:7**. A very definite *altar* is in view here. Yet, this is the first of eight occurrences of the term in the Revelation. Two distinct "altars" are represented in the Revelation. That these souls were **under the altar** emphasizes that their life blood was poured out as an offering to God. The idea is drawn from [***Leviticus 4:7***](https://www.studylight.org/desk/index.cgi?q1=Leviticus+4:7&t1=en_nas)***: And he shall pour the remaining blood at the base of the altar of the burnt offering.***
      1. **The altar of incense is mentioned in Revelation 8:5, “**And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake,” **and 9:13, “**And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God.”
      2. **The altar of burnt offerings is mentioned in Revelation 6:9, *“****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,”* ***11:1, “An****d there was given me a reed like unto a rod: and the angel stood, saying, Rise, and measure the temple of God, and the altar, and them that worship therein,”* ***and 16:7****, “And I heard another out of the altar say, Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are thy judgments.”* The altar of burnt offerings was located in the court of the priests. The altar of incense was located in the holy place before the curtain that separated the holy place from the most holy place. **Therefore, the altar mentioned in Revelation 6:8 is likely the altar of incense which may suggest why the souls "cry out with a loud voice."**
      3. **Why would these faithful souls be kept underneath this particular altar?** No explicit reason is given. However, inasmuch as these individuals paid the ultimate sacrifice for God (physical death), they are symbolically kept at the place nearest to God, the very place from which God receives fragrant aromas, the altar of incense. We should discern that God finds great pleasure in these souls.
         1. **Define “souls.”** **See Revelation 6:9, “***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,”* **and 20:4, *“****And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.”* This term is used twice in the Revelation (Rev 6:9 and 20:4). **In both cases, those represented have not been resurrected.**
         2. **“Who had been slain” occurs in Revelation 5:12, “**Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing,” **13:8, “**And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world,” **and 18:24, “**And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth.”  **Discuss.** In Revelation 5:12 and 13:8, it describes the Lord’s death by crucifixion. In Revelation 18:24, it describes the death of "all who have been slain on the earth." The result is the important issue—death.
            1. **Contrast with Revelation 20:**4, *“And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.”*
2. **Where else do we see the phrase, “How long?” Examine Psalm 6:3-4, *“****My soul is also sore vexed: but thou, O Lord, how long? 4Return, O Lord, deliver my soul: oh save me for thy mercies' sake,”* ***13:1-2, “****How long wilt thou forget me, O Lord? for ever? how long wilt thou hide thy face from me? 2How long shall I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily? how long shall mine enemy be exalted over me?”* ***35:17, “****Lord, how long wilt thou look on? rescue my soul from their destructions, my darling from the lions,”*  ***2 Samuel 3:28-29, “****And afterward when David heard it, he said, I and my kingdom are guiltless before the Lord for ever from the blood of Abner the son of Ner: 29Let it rest on the head of Joab, and on all his father's house; and let there not fail from the house of Joab one that hath an issue, or that is a leper, or that leaneth on a staff, or that falleth on the sword, or that lacketh bread,”* ***and Nehemiah 4:4-5, “****Hear, O our God; for we are despised: and turn their reproach upon their own head, and give them for a prey in the land of captivity: 5And cover not their iniquity, and let not their sin be blotted out from before thee: for they have provoked thee to anger before the builders.”* The importance of the martyrs comes to light at this point. They question the Lord concerning their persecutors. **The phrase "how long?" in the context of a prayer is not uncommon in Scripture—particularly the Old Testament.** This is very similar to many Psalms which demand of God that He punish evil doers. King David prayed such a prayer (2 Sam 3:28-29). Nehemiah prayed a similar prayer (Neh 4:4-5).
   * 1. **Parallel the verb “*to avenge”* with Revelation 19:2, *“****For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath* ***avenged the blood*** *of his servants at her hand.”****….***which depicts the end of God’s wrath. No clue has yet surfaced **to indicate that the wrath of God has begun through Revelation 6:10.**
     2. **Compare the martyr’s cry with that of Abel’s blood and the earth’s voice defiled by unlawful blood-shed. See Genesis 4:10, “**And he said, what hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground,” **and Numbers 35:33, “So ye shall not pollute the land wherein ye are: for blood it defileth the land: and the land cannot be cleansed of the blood that is shed therein, but by the blood of him that shed it**.” In this way the blood of Abel cried out from the ground for vengeance ([Genesis 4:10](https://www.studylight.org/desk/index.cgi?q1=Genesis+4:10&t1=en_nas)), as did the blood of unavenged murders in the land of Israel ([Numbers 35:33](https://www.studylight.org/desk/index.cgi?q1=Numbers+35:33&t1=en_nas)).
3. **Who are the “earth dwellers?”** "Those who dwell on the earth" is an oft-used phrase that refers to the same group each time it is used in the book of Revelation. ." Revelation 3:10 is the first use in Revelation of a phrase I call "earth dwellers" but usually translated "those who dwell upon the earth." ***This phrase is used eleven times in nine verses in Revelation (3:10; 6:10; 8:13; 11:10-- 2xs; 13:8, 12, 14--2xs; 14:6; 17:8). "Earth dwellers" is a designation for persistent unbelievers during the tribulation.***
   1. **Revelation 3:10 – those represented by the phrase are the object of the test that faithful followers of Christ are promised deliverance from.**
   2. **Revelation 6:10 – they are directly responsible for the violent deaths of the faithful followers of Christ under the altar in heaven.**
   3. **Revelation 8:13 – they are the expressed objects of the three "woes" expressed in trumpets five, six and seven.**
   4. **Revelation 11:10a – they rejoice when the beast from the bottomless pit is finally able to put the two witnesses of God to death.**
   5. **Revelation 11:10b – they are the objects of the torment of the two witnesses.**
   6. **Revelation 13:8 – they are the non-elect worshippers of the beast who comes up out of the sea.**
   7. **Revelation 13:12—they worship the beast after he is healed from his head wound.**
   8. **Revelation 13: 14a – the beast that comes up out of earth deceives them.**
   9. **Revelation 13:14b – they make an image of the beast that comes up out of the sea.**
   10. **Revelation 14:6—the angel witnesses to them.**
   11. **Revelation 17:8 – they are the non-elect who wonder at the restoration of the beast from the abyss. In each verse quoted above, those represented by the phrase "those who dwell upon the earth" are either hostile to the people of God or supportive of the beast and his endeavors.**
4. **Who wears “a white robe?”** White garments are clearly the proper attire of those in the presence of God. Notice it will be the attire of:
   1. **The overcomers, (Revelation 3:4-5, 18).**
   2. **The 24 Elders, (Revelation 4:4).**
   3. **The martyrs, (Revelation 6:11).**
   4. **The universally innumerable multitude, (Revelation 7:9).**
   5. **The armies of heaven, (Revelation 19:14).** It is not altogether certain that literal "white robes" are the intent of John. More than likely, "white robes" are a metaphor (a figure of speech) that connotes moral purity. Moral purity can be possessed in this life as well as the life to come in the presence of God. John indicates that the Lord instructs the church at Laodicea "to buy from Me…white garments that you may clothe yourself." In other words, they can wear the robes, now.
      1. **See Revelation 4:1-4.** Yet, the Sardis church is promised "white garments" when the Lord returns. This supports the conclusion that "white garments" represent moral purity and not necessarily literal attire.

“**12And 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; 13And 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. 14And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. 15And 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; 16And 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: 17For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?”**

1. **What happens with the Cosmic Disturbances--THE SIXTH SEAL? Refer to Luke 21:26, *“****And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; 26Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.”* Cosmic Disruption. **The sixth seal continues a pattern begun at seal five, which demonstrates a difference between seals one through four and seals five through seven**. No horse and rider is indicated. The question of the Martyrs is answered indirectly. The sign that announces the imminent arrival of the wrath of God is given in the form of earthly and cosmic disturbances unparalleled in human history. The impact is obvious—"men fainting from fear and the expectation of the things which are coming upon the world (Luke 21:26)." John introduces earthly and cosmic disturbances, which are unparalleled in human history.
   1. **EVENT #1--Talk about the great earthquake; use Matthew 24:29, “**Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken,” **and Mark 13:25, “**And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken.” **However, Isaiah 29:6, “**Thou shalt be visited of the LORD of hosts with thunder, and with earthquake, and great noise, with storm and tempest, and the flame of devouring fire**, “ and Joel 3:16, “**The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD *will be* the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel,” **as comparison.** 
      1. *See also Zephaniah 1:14-16. The great day of the Lord is near; it is near and hastens quickly. The noise of the day of the Lord is bitter; there the mighty men shall cry out. That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of devastation and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet and alarm against the fortified cities and against the high towers.* ([Zephaniah 1:14-16](https://www.studylight.org/desk/index.cgi?q1=Zephaniah+1:14-16&t1=en_nas))
   2. **EVENT #2--What does “the sun became black as sackcloth made of hair” indicate? See Matthew 24:29, ““**Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken,”….indicates that the sun will not give light, i.e. darkness in the universe. This point is echoed in Matthew 24:29. A total solar eclipse renders the earth dark, but does not cause a drop in temperature.
   3. **EVENT #3--Does “the whole moon became like blood” point to a “blood moon” or a loss of light?** Possibly both… this third sign concerns the moon’s loss as a light source.
   4. **EVENT #4--What are “the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs?” Angels or real stars?** The context suggests that a figure of speech is intended. The loss of their light is what is meant here. As a fig tree casts its unripe figs when shaken by a great wind = this simile explains John's intent concerning the stars.
      1. **Note the same echoing in Isaiah 34:4,** “And all the host of heaven shall be dissolved, and the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll: and all their host shall fall down, as the leaf falleth off from the vine, and as a falling *fig* from the fig tree,” which depicts both the leaves and the figs dropping, John highlights the figs. **Matthew 24:29** states, "the stars will fall from the sky." **Mark 13:25** says, "the stars will be falling from heaven." **and Joel 3:15** records, "the stars [will] lose their brightness." This is in concert with that which happens to the sun and the moon, i.e. the stars give off no light. It will look as if the stars have fallen from the heavens.
   5. **EVENT #5--Talk about the fifth cosmic disturbance John highlights, “the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together.” Refer to Isaiah 34:4, “**And all the host of heaven shall be dissolved, and the heavens shall be rolled together as a scroll: and all their host shall fall down, as the leaf falleth off from the vine, and as a falling *fig* from the fig tree.”
   6. **EVENT #6—How does every mountain and island move out of their places?**
      1. **Contrast this with Revelation 16:20, “**And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.” This should not be confused with the seventh and final bowl judgment of Revelation 16:20. There, John indicates that no mountain shall be found and every island will flee away. Here the emphasis is on disappearance or ceasing to exist, but in Revelation 6:14 the emphasis is simple transition from one place to another. This textual detail should not be overlooked or minimized. Two distinct events are described in these two passages and only by minimizing the textual details can these two passages be described as the same event.
   7. **EVENT #7—Why do** **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; 16And 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?**
   8. **See Revelation 19:18-19**, “That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great. 19And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army.” **This is intended to show that all unbelievers living on the earth at this time are the subjects of the coming wrath**. Revelation 19:18-19 indicates that these are the very groups God shall sacrifice to the birds at His great supper.
      1. **Review Isaiah** **2:19, "**And men will go into caves of the rocks, and into holes of the ground before the terror of the Lord, and before the splendor of His majesty, when He arises to make the earth tremble."
2. **What do these seven cataclysms accomplish?** Clearly, these seven cataclysms are designed to accomplish one thing—to get man’s attention. No man on the face of the earth at this time can possibly conclude anything other than the fact that the great God of heaven is coming in wrath, particularly when the Lamb is seen descending from heaven!
3. **Discuss the “wrath of God” as depicted in the Bible.** **Use Matthew 24:29-30, “**Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: 30And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory,” **and Joel 2:30-31, “**And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. 31The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord come.” ***These six signs described above have a rich history in the Old Testament. The single most important event prophetically depicted in the Old Testament is the eschatological wrath of God***—**The Day of the Lord**. John has eclectically gathered from Isaiah and Joel those cataclysms, which the Lord Jesus Himself depicted in Matthew 24:29-30. Significantly, **Joel 2:31 places an important time marker in relationship to these events. Joel declares, "The sun will be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, *before* the great and awesome day of the Lord comes."** Any and everyone who attempts to make the sign that initiates the Day of the Lord and Day of the Lord equal must violate this verse. Joel is clear: the sign occurs *before* the Day of the Lord comes. Whatever else the first four seals are, they are *not* a part of the eschatological wrath of God, a fact to be substantiated later.
4. **Who sits on the throne?** Is a clear reference to God the Father. Throughout the book of Revelation, and in this context (notice the Lamb), God the Father is seated on the throne.
   1. **See Job 13:11**, “Shall not his excellency make you afraid? and his dread fall upon you?,” **and 2 Peter 1:17,** "For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased***,” received honor and glory from God the Father…the Majestic Glory…." Job 13:11 records, "Will not His majesty terrify you, and the dread of Him falls on you?" The point is this: there is going to be a manifestation of God the Father at this event. It will involve His glory, which might be depicted through a great throne since God is invisible.***
5. **Elaborate on “the wrath of the Lamb.” Reference John 5:27, “**And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man,” **Acts 10:42, “**To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins,” **and Daniel 7:13-14, “**I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. 14And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.” ***Jesus is the second object of terror for the wicked who seek death and burial as an escape. It is clear that the Lamb is Jesus Christ, the second member of the Trinity. With the Lamb is connected wrath.*** **This is the first explicit usage of the term *wrath* in the book of Revelation.** That it is connected with the Lamb should not be taken lightly. Jesus is the eschatological Judge. He executes the Father’s wishes. The Lord Jesus clearly states that He and the Father are one in every way important. Therefore, His wrath is their wrath and their wrath is His wrath.
6. **And, here is the question for all ages: “Who is able to stand?”** This rhetorical question demands an answer, which is "no one!" There is no wicked person able to stand up against the wrath of God. *The sun and moon grow dark, and stars diminish their brightness . . . for the day of the Lord is great and terrible;* ***who can endure it?***
7. **See also** [**Joel 2:10-11**](https://www.studylight.org/desk/index.cgi?q1=Joel+2:10-11&t1=en_nas)**, “**The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining:11And the Lord shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the Lord is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?”
8. **What is the “theme” for Revelation 6? Your “take away” for your today’s life?**

***And, here are the promises:***

***Romans 5:1-2, Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom also we have access by faith into this grace in wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.”***

***I Corinthians 15:1-2, “Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;2By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.”***

***I Peter 5:12, “By Silvanus, a faithful brother unto you, as I suppose, I have written briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand.”***

***John 10:27-30, “*My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father’s hand. I and my Father are one.”**