THE SEQUENCE OF THE SEVEN SEALS

How Jesus Christ Unlocked the Book of Revelation in Matthew 24: From False Worldly Christianity to the Seventh Trumpet

---

"And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?... And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof."

— Revelation 5:1–2, 5 (King James Version)

A Comprehensive Scriptural Narrative
All Scripture Quoted Verbatim from the Authorized King James Version (KJV)

INTRODUCTION

The Master Key to the Book of Revelation

For nearly two thousand years, readers of the Bible have opened the Book of Revelation and felt overwhelmed by its dramatic symbols—four horsemen galloping across the earth, souls crying out beneath a heavenly altar, stars falling from the sky like untimely figs, and seven angels sounding trumpets of judgment. Many people treat Revelation as an impossible puzzle, inventing wild theories or guessing at modern headlines to force meaning into the text. Yet the Bible never leaves God's people to guess. Scripture interprets Scripture, and the very One who opens the seven seals in heaven already explained their exact meaning and sequence while walking upon the earth.

In Revelation chapter 5, the Apostle John weeps because no man in heaven or on earth is found worthy to open the sealed book in the right hand of God. Then an elder comforts him, declaring that Jesus Christ—the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David—has prevailed to open the book and loose its seven seals. Because Jesus Christ is the only One worthy to break those seals, it stands to reason that Jesus Christ is the ultimate interpreter of what those seals contain.

> **Revelation 1:1–3 (KJV):** *"The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John: Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw. Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand."*

Notice the very first words of the book: it is "The Revelation of Jesus Christ." Years before the Apostle John was exiled to the isle of Patmos to record these visions, Jesus sat with His disciples on the Mount of Olives. They asked Him a direct, urgent question about the future: "Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?" (Matthew 24:3). In answering them, Jesus laid out a clear, step-by-step prophetic timeline—the Olivet Discourse—recorded in Matthew 24, Mark 13, and Luke 21.

> **Matthew 24:3–5 (KJV):** *"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 Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many."*

When we place Matthew 24 side by side with Revelation chapter 6, chapter 7, and chapter 8, an astonishing harmony emerges. The sequence of events Jesus Christ gave on the Mount of Olives matches the exact order of the seven seals in the Book of Revelation. Christ Himself provides the master key that unlocks every single seal:

1. The First Seal (The White Horse): False worldly Christianity—a religious deception that comes in Jesus' name, proclaiming truthfully that Jesus is the Christ, yet using that confession as a platform to deceive millions with false doctrine and lawlessness.
2. The Second Seal (The Red Horse): Wars and rumors of wars, nation rising against nation, taking peace from the earth.
3. The Third Seal (The Black Horse): Famines and economic scarcity, where daily bread is weighed out at inflated prices.
4. The Fourth Seal (The Pale Horse): Pestilences, death, and the grave following in the wake of war and famine.
5. The Fifth Seal (The Souls Under the Altar): A vision representing the Great Tribulation—the intense persecution and martyrdom of true believers who hold fast to the literal Word of God.
6. The Sixth Seal (The Cosmic Disturbances): The sun turned to darkness, the moon turned to blood, and the stars falling from heaven immediately after the tribulation of those days.
7. The Seventh Seal (Silence in Heaven and the Seven Trumpets): The Day of the Lord—the year of His recompenses for the controversy of Zion—unfolding through the seven trumpet judgments and culminating in the glorious return of Jesus Christ at the sounding of the seventh trumpet.

Everything fits together without contradiction, speculation, or guesswork. By letting Jesus Christ interpret the seals through His own plain words in Matthew 24, and by tracing supporting scriptures across both the Old and New Testaments, any everyday reader can understand the exact road map of the end times.

CHAPTER 1

The First Seal: The White Horse and False Worldly Christianity

When the Lamb opens the first seal in Revelation 6, John sees a rider upon a white horse. At first glance, casual readers often mistake this rider for Jesus Christ Himself, simply because the horse is white and the rider wears a crown. However, comparing Scripture with Scripture immediately exposes this deadly error. When Jesus Christ returns as King of kings in Revelation 19, He rides a white horse, wears many crowns, is followed by the armies of heaven, and strikes the nations with a sharp sword out of His mouth. By contrast, the rider

of the first seal in Revelation 6 is alone, carries a bow without arrows, is given a single crown, and goes forth strictly to conquer through spiritual deception.

> **Revelation 6:1–2 (KJV):** *"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. 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."*

What is the very first warning Jesus Christ gave His disciples when they asked for the sign of His coming and the end of the world? He did not start with earthquakes, wars, or famines. He started with religious deception:

> **Matthew 24:4–5 (KJV):** *"And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many."*

Look closely at the exact words Jesus used: "For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many." Read that carefully! In English, many people misread this verse as saying that thousands of crazy men will walk around claiming, "I am Jesus Christ." While a few impostors have existed in history, they have never deceived the masses of the world. Look at what the text actually says: they come in Jesus' name—meaning they claim to represent Jesus, preach under His banner, and put His name on their churches—and they say, "I am Christ," or rather, they proclaim the true statement that Jesus is the Christ! Yet they use that true confession as a platform to deceive many.

Why does this rider sit upon a white horse? Because white symbolizes righteousness, purity, and light. False worldly Christianity presents itself as pure, righteous, loving, and godly. It wears the outward appearance of the true faith. It uses the name of Jesus, sings songs about Jesus, and openly declares that Jesus is the Messiah, the Christ. Because it proclaims this undeniable truth—that Jesus is the Christ—millions of unsuspecting people drop their guard. Once people accept the messenger because he speaks the name of Jesus, that false teacher uses the platform of Christ's name to inject false doctrine, abolish God's commandments, and lead multitudes away from the true Word of God.

> **2 Corinthians 11:13–15 (KJV):** *"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works."*

The Apostle Paul confirmed this exact phenomenon. Satan's ministers do not show up wearing horns and carrying pitchforks. They transform themselves into "the apostles of Christ" and "ministers of righteousness." They ride a white horse! They preach a counterfeit gospel while claiming to represent Jesus. Later in Matthew 24, Jesus repeated this warning twice more because spiritual deception is the defining danger of the end times:

> **Matthew 24:11, 24 (KJV):** *"And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many... For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect."*

How does false worldly Christianity operate? It takes the true name of Jesus Christ and uses it to sell a message that flatly contradicts what Jesus and the prophets actually taught. Jesus warned that on the Day of Judgment, countless religious people who preached in His name and performed mighty religious works will be rejected because they practiced iniquity—which literally means lawlessness, or the rejection of God's law.

> **Matthew 7:21–23 (KJV):** *"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."*

Notice how those people called Jesus "Lord, Lord." They preached in His name. They believed and proclaimed that Jesus is the Christ. Yet they refused to do the will of the Father, casting aside God's commandments, statutes, and judgments under the false claim that Christ's grace gives men license to live without God's law. The Apostle Paul warned Timothy that a time would come when mainstream, worldly Christianity would refuse to endure sound doctrine, preferring instead smooth, comforting fables taught by popular preachers:

> **2 Timothy 4:3–4 (KJV):** *"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables."*

> **2 Timothy 3:1, 5 (KJV):** *"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come... Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."*

This is the white horse of the first seal. Since the first century—when the Apostle John already observed that "even now are there many antichrists" (1 John 2:18) going out from among the church—this spirit of false worldly Christianity has ridden forth conquering and to conquer. It wears the white robes of Christian profession, proclaims that Jesus is the Christ, and uses that truth as a Trojan horse to spread traditions of men, holidays rooted in paganism, false prophecies, and lawlessness across the entire globe.

> **Mark 7:7–9 (KJV):** *"Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do. And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition."*

When we recognize that the first horseman is false worldly Christianity, the entire sequence of Revelation snaps into crystal clarity. Before wars, famines, and plagues sweep the earth, the primary spiritual threat is a massive counterfeit religion operating in Jesus' own name.

CHAPTER 2

The Second, Third, and Fourth Seals: War, Famine, and Pestilence

Immediately after warning His disciples about religious deception in Matthew 24:4–5, Jesus moved directly to the next three signs in exact sequential order. Let us trace how the second, third, and fourth horsemen of Revelation 6 correspond word for word with Matthew 24:6–8.

The Second Seal: The Red Horse of War

In Revelation 6:3–4, the Lamb opens the second seal, and a fiery red horse appears. Its rider is given power to strip peace from the earth so that human beings slaughter one another.

> **Revelation 6:3–4 (KJV):** *"And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see. 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."*

Now look at the very next words out of Jesus' mouth in Matthew 24 immediately after His warning about those who come in His name deceiving many:

> **Matthew 24:6–7 (KJV):** *"And 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. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom:"*

The match is exact. First comes false religion on the white horse; second comes global conflict and bloodshed on the red horse. Notice also Jesus' crucial stabilizing statement: "see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet." Wars and rumors of wars are part of the unfolding birth pains, not the immediate end itself.

The Third Seal: The Black Horse of Famine

When the Lamb opens the third seal in Revelation 6:5–6, John sees a black horse whose rider holds a pair of balances—scales used to weigh out scarce food by the ounce. A voice cries out that a measure of wheat (barely enough for one man's daily meal) costs a penny (a full day's wage), while basic luxuries like oil and wine are strictly rationed or kept out of reach of the poor.

> **Revelation 6:5–6 (KJV):** *"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. 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."*

Look back at Matthew 24:7. Immediately after saying, "For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom," what is the very next word Jesus speaks?

> **Matthew 24:7 (KJV):** *"For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places."*

War inevitably destroys crops, disrupts supply chains, burns fields, and triggers economic collapse. Thus, the red horse of war is naturally followed by the black horse of famine. In Scripture, black is frequently associated with starvation and the parched skin of famine victims, as described in Lamentations 5:10: "Our skin was black like an oven because of the terrible famine."

The Fourth Seal: The Pale Horse of Pestilence and Death

When the Lamb opens the fourth seal in Revelation 6:7–8, John beholds a sickly pale horse—the color of a corpse. The rider's name is Death, and Hell (the grave) follows right

behind him, sweeping away a fourth part of the earth through the combined devastation of the sword, hunger, death (pestilence/disease), and the beasts of the earth.

> **Revelation 6:7–8 (KJV):** *"And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the fourth beast say, Come and see. 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."*

Again, compare this with Matthew 24:7 and the parallel account in Luke 21:11. Right after "famines," Jesus lists "pestilences" (deadly plagues and diseases that always follow war and starvation when sanitation collapses and immune systems fail). And what does Jesus call these first four seals combined?

> **Matthew 24:8 (KJV):** *"All these are the beginning of sorrows."*

> **Luke 21:10–11 (KJV):** *"Then said he unto them, Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven."*

False worldly Christianity, wars, famines, and pestilences constitute "the beginning of sorrows"—the first four seals. Together, they set the stage for the fifth seal, where the focus shifts directly to the intense persecution of God's true people.

CHAPTER 3

The Fifth Seal: The Vision of the Great Tribulation

When the Lamb opens the fifth seal in Revelation 6:9, there are no more horses. Instead, John is given a solemn vision inside the heavenly temple. Beneath the altar, he sees the souls of those who had been slain for the Word of God and for the testimony which they held.

> **Revelation 6:9–11 (KJV):** *"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 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? 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."*

Why does this vision appear at the exact fifth position in the sequence of seals? Turn back to Matthew 24:9. Immediately after Jesus says, “All these are the beginning of sorrows” (verse 8), what is the very next event He describes in verse 9?

> **Matthew 24:9–10 (KJV):** *“Then 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. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.”*

The alignment is breathtaking! Look at the exact sequence:
• Seals 1–4 = Matthew 24:4–8 (False Christianity, wars, famines, pestilences — “the beginning of sorrows”).
• Seal 5 = Matthew 24:9–22 (Tribulation, hatred of all nations, betrayal, and martyrdom of true believers — the Great Tribulation).

Notice the key phrase in Revelation 6:11: the martyred saints from past ages are told to rest a little season “until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.” That final wave of martyrdom—when true Christians who refuse to bow to false worldly Christianity and the Beast system are hunted down and killed—is the Great Tribulation!

> **Matthew 24:21–22 (KJV):** *“For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.”*

Who is targeted during this fifth seal of Great Tribulation, and who persecutes them? Scripture makes it unmistakably clear that those who hold fast to the literal Word of God and keep His commandments are hated not only by secular governments, but fiercely betrayed and persecuted by false worldly Christians (the first horseman!). Jesus warned His disciples that religious people would kill them while thinking they were serving God:

> **John 16:2–3 (KJV):** *“They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service. And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me.”*

> **Revelation 12:17 (KJV):** *“And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.”*

Look at the exact description of the martyrs under the fifth seal in Revelation 6:9: they were slain "for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held." And look at Revelation 12:17: the dragon makes war with the remnant "which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." Furthermore, in Revelation 7—which gives us a closer look at the multitude emerging out of this very tribulation—an elder explicitly identifies who these white-robed saints are:

> **Revelation 7:13–14 (KJV):** *"And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."*

Notice the connection between Revelation 6:11 ("white robes were given unto every one of them") and Revelation 7:14 ("These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb"). The fifth seal is undeniably a vision representing the Great Tribulation—the final period of intense persecution against God's true, commandment-keeping remnant.

Also notice what the martyrs under the fifth seal cry out in Revelation 6:10: "How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?" They are asking God when He will bring His judgment and vengeance upon a wicked, persecuting world. That question directly leads us to the sixth and seventh seals, where God answers their cry!

CHAPTER 4

The Sixth Seal: The Heavenly Signs Immediately After the Tribulation

Once the Great Tribulation of the fifth seal reaches its climax—cut short by God so that the elect are not completely wiped off the earth—what happens next? Look at the opening of the sixth seal in Revelation 6:12–17:

> **Revelation 6:12–17 (KJV):** *"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; 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. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. 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; 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: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?"*

Now turn back to Matthew 24:29. Immediately after describing the Great Tribulation in verses 21–28, what does Jesus Christ declare happens next?

> **Matthew 24:29–30 (KJV):** *"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 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."*

Every single detail matches! Look at the timeline Jesus gave:
1. First comes the Great Tribulation (Matthew 24:21 / Fifth Seal).
2. "Immediately after the tribulation of those days," cosmic signs shake the universe: the sun is darkened, the moon turns to blood, the stars fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens are shaken (Matthew 24:29 / Sixth Seal).
3. Terrified humanity realizes that "the great day of his wrath is come" (Revelation 6:17).

The Old Testament prophets foretold these exact heavenly signs centuries earlier, always tying them to the threshold of the Day of the Lord's wrath. The Prophet Joel wrote:

> **Joel 2:30–31 (KJV):** *"And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come."*

> **Joel 3:14–15 (KJV):** *"Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining."*

And the Prophet Isaiah described the heavens rolling up like a scroll alongside the Day of the Lord's vengeance:

> **Isaiah 34:4, 8 (KJV):** *"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... For it is the day of the LORD's vengeance, and the year of recompences for the controversy of Zion."*

Look at the exact wording in Isaiah 34:4 compared with Revelation 6:13–14! Both passages describe the heavens being rolled together as a scroll and the stars falling like figs from a fig tree! And notice what Isaiah 34:8 calls the period that begins right after these cosmic signs: "the day of the LORD's vengeance, and the year of recompences for the controversy of Zion."

In the sixth seal, the terrified kings and peoples of the earth cry out, "For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" (Revelation 6:17). Before the seventh seal is opened to unleash that Day of the Lord, Revelation chapter 7 pauses to answer their question: "Who shall be able to stand?" God seals 144,000 servants of Israel in their foreheads so they are protected from the coming trumpet judgments, and He shows the innumerable multitude of saints who came out of the Great Tribulation standing safely before His throne.

CHAPTER 5

The Seventh Seal: The Day of the Lord and the Year of Recompenses

With God's servants sealed and protected in Revelation chapter 7, the Lamb opens the seventh and final seal in Revelation chapter 8:

> **Revelation 8:1–2 (KJV):** *"And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour. And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets."*

Here is a crucial biblical truth that many readers miss: the seventh seal does not end the story in a single flash; rather, the seventh seal opens up into the seven trumpets! The seven trumpets are the contents of the seventh seal. And what is this period of the seven trumpets? It is the Day of the Lord—God's direct intervention in human affairs to judge the wicked, avenge the blood of His martyred saints (answering their prayer in the fifth seal), and prepare the earth for the reign of Jesus Christ.

In biblical prophecy, "the Day of the Lord" is not merely a 24-hour Tuesday or Wednesday. When the prophets speak of the Day of the Lord in end-time judgment, Scripture reveals that it spans a prophetic year—specifically termed in Isaiah 34:8 "the day of the LORD's vengeance, and the year of recompences for the controversy of Zion." Throughout the Old Testament, God frequently uses the prophetic principle of a day for a year when executing judgment (Numbers 14:34; Ezekiel 4:6), and Isaiah explicitly links "the day of the LORD's vengeance" with "the year of recompences."

> **Isaiah 63:4 (KJV):** *"For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come."*

> **Isaiah 61:2 (KJV):** *"To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;"*

Look at how Isaiah 61:2 and Isaiah 63:4 pair "the day of vengeance" with "the year of my redeemed." During His earthly ministry, Jesus read from Isaiah 61:1–2 in the synagogue at Nazareth (Luke 4:18–19) and stopped right in the middle of the sentence—at "to preach the acceptable year of the Lord"—closing the book before reading "and the day of vengeance of our God." Why did He stop there? Because His first coming was to proclaim the acceptable year of grace and salvation, whereas "the day of vengeance of our God" (the year of His recompenses) was reserved for the seventh seal at the end of this age!

Let us examine the devastating judgments of the Day of the Lord that unfold as the seven angels blow their trumpets inside the seventh seal:

> **Revelation 8:5–7 (KJV):** *"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 the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound. The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up."*

Look at how the first four trumpets strike the physical environment of the earth:
• First Trumpet (Revelation 8:7): Hail and fire mingled with blood burn up a third part of the trees and all green grass.
• Second Trumpet (Revelation 8:8–9): A great mountain burning with fire is cast into the sea; a third part of the sea becomes blood, killing a third of sea creatures and destroying a third of ships.
• Third Trumpet (Revelation 8:10–11): A great star named Wormwood falls from heaven, poisoning a third part of the rivers and fountains of waters.
• Fourth Trumpet (Revelation 8:12): A third part of the sun, moon, and stars is smitten, darkening a third of the day and night.

Then an angel flies through the midst of heaven crying, "Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabiters of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound!" (Revelation 8:13). Those final three trumpets—the three Woes—bring terrifying

supernatural torment and global military destruction upon unrepentant humanity during this year of God's recompenses:

> **Revelation 9:1–6 (KJV):** *"And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads. And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man. And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them."*

Notice the critical detail in Revelation 9:4–5: the demonic locusts of the fifth trumpet (the First Woe) are forbidden to touch anyone who has the seal of God in their foreheads, and they are given power to torment the unsealed wicked for five months—nearly half of the one-year Day of the Lord! Then comes the sixth trumpet (the Second Woe) in Revelation 9:13–19, unleashing a massive army of two hundred million horsemen that slays a third part of the remaining unrepentant population.

Throughout all of these trumpet plagues, notice that God's true people—who were sealed in Revelation 7 before the seventh seal opened—are supernaturally protected, just as ancient Israel was protected in the land of Goshen while the plagues of Egypt fell upon Pharaoh's kingdom. The Prophet Zephaniah describes this exact Day of the Lord:

> **Zephaniah 1:14–16 (KJV):** *"The great day of the LORD is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of the LORD: the mighty man shall cry there bitterly. That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, A day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers."*

Notice how Zephaniah calls the Day of the Lord "A day of the trumpet and alarm"! It is literally the time of the seven trumpets of the seventh seal.

CHAPTER 6

The Seventh Trumpet: The Glorious Return of Jesus Christ

Finally, within the seventh seal—at the conclusion of the Day of the Lord, the year of His recompenses—the seventh angel sounds the seventh and final trumpet. What happens at the seventh trumpet? Jesus Christ returns in power and great glory, the dead in Christ are resurrected, the living saints are changed in the twinkling of an eye, and the kingdoms of this world become the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ!

> **Revelation 11:15–18 (KJV):** *"And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth."*

Look at how every piece of Scripture confirms that Jesus Christ returns at the seventh trumpet—which is also called "the last trump" by the Apostle Paul and "a great sound of a trumpet" by Jesus Himself in Matthew 24!

> **Matthew 24:30–31 (KJV):** *"And 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 he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."*

> **1 Corinthians 15:51–52 (KJV):** *"Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."*

> **1 Thessalonians 4:16–17 (KJV):** *"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together*

> *with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."*

Look at the absolute unity of those four scriptures:
• Matthew 24:31: Christ comes in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory and gathers His elect "with a great sound of a trumpet."
• 1 Corinthians 15:52: The dead are raised incorruptible and the living saints are changed to immortality "at the last trump."
• 1 Thessalonians 4:16: The Lord descends from heaven "with the trump of God," raising the dead in Christ.
• Revelation 11:15, 18: "And the seventh angel sounded… and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints."

There is no secret rapture before the tribulation! Notice how clearly Matthew 24 refutes any idea that Christians are whisked away before the seals are opened. In Matthew 24:29, Jesus plainly states that the cosmic signs happen "Immediately after the tribulation of those days," and only then (verses 30–31) does the Son of Man appear in the clouds with a great sound of a trumpet to gather His elect! Furthermore, Revelation 10:7 confirms that the mystery of God—the resurrection and glorification of the saints—is finished specifically when the seventh angel begins to sound:

> **Revelation 10:7 (KJV):** *"But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets."*

And in Revelation 19, John sees the heavens open as Jesus Christ descends upon His true white horse—not the counterfeit white horse of the first seal—to tread the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God (the seventh vial/bowl of wrath poured out at the seventh trumpet) and establish His literal Kingdom upon the earth:

> **Revelation 19:11–16 (KJV):** *"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. His 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. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean. And 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. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."*

CHAPTER 7

Side-by-Side Harmony: Matthew 24 and the Seven Seals

To see how completely Jesus Christ unlocked the Book of Revelation in His Olivet Discourse, review the side-by-side comparison below. Every single seal in Revelation chapters 6 through 11 follows the exact chronological sequence spoken by Jesus in Matthew chapter 24.

Seal / Event	Revelation Scripture	Matthew 24 Sequence	Prophetic Meaning
1st Seal: White Horse	Rev. 6:1–2 Rider with a bow and crown conquering	Matt. 24:4–5, 11 Many come in Christ's name, confessing Christ to deceive many	False worldly Christianity using Jesus' name as a platform to teach false doctrine and lawlessness.
2nd Seal: Red Horse	Rev. 6:3–4 Peace taken from the earth; great sword	Matt. 24:6–7 Wars, rumors of wars, nation against nation	Escalating global wars and violent geopolitical conflict.
3rd Seal: Black Horse	Rev. 6:5–6 Balances in hand; wheat & barley weighed	Matt. 24:7 Famines in divers places	Severe food shortages, inflation, and economic scarcity.
4th Seal: Pale Horse	Rev. 6:7–8 Death and Hell killing 1/4 of the earth	Matt. 24:7–8 Pestilences (beginning of sorrows)	Deadly plagues, disease outbreaks, and mass mortality.
5th Seal: Souls Under Altar	Rev. 6:9–11; 7:14 Martyrs slain for the Word of God	Matt. 24:9–22 Hatred of all nations, betrayal, Great Tribulation	A vision representing the Great Tribulation—persecution and martyrdom of true believers.
6th Seal: Cosmic Signs	Rev. 6:12–17 Sun black, moon blood, stars fall, sky rolls up	Matt. 24:29 Immediately after tribulation: sun/moon dark, stars fall	Heavenly signs announcing that the Great Day of the Lord's wrath has arrived.
7th Seal: Seven Trumpets	Rev. 8:1–2; 11:15 Silence, 7 trumpets, Christ reigns at 7th trump	Matt. 24:30–31 Sign of Son of Man; Christ returns with great trumpet	The Day of the Lord (year of recompenses); Christ returns at the 7th trumpet to gather His elect.

CONCLUSION

Watching and Holding Fast to the Literal Word of God

When we read the Book of Revelation through the lens of Matthew 24, the fog of confusion lifts completely. We do not need speculative charts, political guesswork, or sensational headlines to understand what is coming upon the earth. Jesus Christ Himself gave us the exact sequence before He went to the cross, and He personally broke the seven seals in heaven to reveal the same timeline to the Apostle John.

First comes the white horse of false worldly Christianity—a massive religious system that uses the true confession that Jesus is the Christ as a platform to preach false doctrine, abolish God's commandments, and deceive millions. Next come the red, black, and pale horses of war, famine, and pestilence—the beginning of sorrows. Fifth comes the vision of the souls under the altar, depicting the Great Tribulation in which true believers who refuse to compromise the literal Word of God are hated, betrayed, and martyred. Sixth come the unmistakable cosmic signs immediately after the tribulation—the darkened sun, the blood-red moon, and the falling stars. Seventh comes the opening of the seventh seal, unleashing the Day of the Lord—the year of His recompenses—during which the seven angels sound their trumpets, culminating at the seventh trumpet when Jesus Christ descends from heaven in glory to resurrect the dead in Christ, gather His elect, and establish the Kingdom of God on earth.

> **Matthew 24:42, 44 (KJV):** *"Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come... Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."*

> **Revelation 22:12–14 (KJV):** *"And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."*

Jesus Christ left this prophetic road map so that His true followers would never be deceived by counterfeit Christianity or shaken when wars, famines, and tribulations arise. By holding fast to the literal Word of God and keeping His commandments, believers can stand firm through every seal until the seventh trumpet sounds and our King returns.