

## The 7 Seals

Jesus is depicted in the Book of Revelation, after the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter, as being in heaven and in charge. The events described in the opening of the seals on the scroll describe the general history of the time between Jesus' ascension and his coming at the Rapture. The 6<sup>th</sup> Seal describes the time of the removal of the Church, and the 7<sup>th</sup> Seal changes the focus of God's attention back onto HIS chosen people, the Jews; and the earth dwellers who don't or won't believe in HIM. The Body of Christ, the Church, is not involved in the events of the Book of Revelation after chapter 6.

When you read the Book of Revelation, remember that you are now looking at world events from a heavenly view. Time is different up there.

Rev 5:6 Then I saw a lamb standing in the middle of the throne, the four living creatures, and the elders. He looked like he had been slaughtered. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent into all the earth. [This is a picture of Jesus after his ascension into heaven]

Rev 5:7 He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who sits on the throne.

Rev 6:1 Then I saw the lamb open the first of the seven seals. I heard one of the four living creatures say with a voice like thunder, "Go!"

Rev 6:2 Then I looked, and there was a white horse! Its rider had a bow, and a victor's crown had been given to him. He went out as a conqueror to conquer. [This is a picture of the Holy Spirit being sent ]

Rev 6:3 When the lamb opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, "Go!"

Rev 6:4 A second horse went out. It was fiery red, and its rider was given permission to take peace away from the earth and to make people slaughter one another. So he was given a large sword.

[This is a picture of the increase of wars over the last 2000 years since his crucifixion]

Rev 6:5 When the lamb opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Go!" I looked, and there was a black horse! Its rider held a scale in his hand.

Rev 6:6 I heard what sounded like a voice from among the four living creatures, saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, or three quarts of barley for a denarius. But don't damage the olive oil or the wine!" [This is a picture of the increase of famine]

Rev 6:7 When the lamb opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, "Go!"

Rev 6:8 I looked, and there was a pale green horse! Its rider's name was Death, and Hades followed him. They were given authority over one-fourth of the earth to kill people using wars, famines, plagues, and the wild animals of the earth. [This is a picture of the increase of martyrdom- the killing of people for no reason other than not liking their religion or politics]

Jesus told us this would happen when he was talking to his disciples;

Luk 21:9 And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once."

Luk 21:10 Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.

Luk 21:11 There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven.

Rev 6:9 When the lamb opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been killed because of the word of God and the testimony they had given.

There is a special place in heaven, close to the throne of God, for people who are killed for staying faithful to HIS Word.

Rev 6:12 Then I saw the lamb open the sixth seal. There was a powerful earthquake. The sun turned as black as sackcloth made of hair, and the full moon turned as red as blood.

[smoke and ash from volcanoes will do that]

Rev 6:13 The stars in the sky fell to the earth like a fig tree drops its fruit when it is shaken by a strong wind.

Rev 6:14 The sky vanished like a scroll being rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved from its place. [It is a great big earthquake]

Rev 6:15 Then the kings of the earth, the important people, the generals, the rich, the powerful, and all the slaves and free people concealed themselves in caves and among the rocks in the mountains.

[we know there are underground bunkers and shelters already prepared]

Rev 6:16 They told the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of the one who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the lamb. [a name for Jesus]

Rev 6:17 For the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to endure it?"

So; We have a big natural disaster described here. What makes these people know that it came from God and Jesus?

Mat 24:3 As he sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?"

Mat 24:30 Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then[later] all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. [This is a picture of the return of the king]

The sign of the Son of Man is the Rapture of the Church. Everyone knows about the Rapture and when all the Christians just disappear, the non-believers will realize what is going on, but it will be too late to get on board. The Christian Church will have been removed from danger.

The rest of the book is about God dealing with HIS people the Jews, getting them ready for the kingdom of God that comes with the return of the king.

### The Return Of The King Of Kings And Lord Of Lords

Jesus is shown to be riding a white horse, radiating power, and in the lead of a tremendous army in Revelation 19. He imprisons his enemies and sets up a kingdom of truth and love that lasts for 1000 years with those that died for being true to his name being resurrected to be with him.

### The White Throne and the New Beginning

Jesus has one last fight with The Deceiver, and judgement is made from the Great White Throne of God upon all the souls that have ever lived on the earth; that haven't been judged already by the Rapture, or the 1<sup>st</sup> resurrection. The universe will be remade even better and we will all live eternally "happily ever after" in the presence and family of God our Father.