

“Opening the Seals” Revelation 6:1-17

Intro:

- * Talk about opening the seal to something, especially something destructive.
- * Illustration: Opening up something highly contaminating or toxic.
- * This is what is happening in Revelation 6 as the Lamb Who is Worthy to open the seals of the Scroll does so.

Reflecting on the Word: What does John see when the Lamb breaks the first 6 seals?

Seal 1 (6:1-2)

1 Then I saw when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, “Come.”

2 I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.---**Daniel 9:27; Ezekiel 39:3;**

Matthew 24:24

Seal 2 (6:3-4)

3 When He broke the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, “Come.”

4 And another, a red horse, went out; and to him who sat on it, it was granted to take peace from the earth, and that men would slay one another; and a great sword was given to him.---**Matthew 24:6-7; 2 Kings 3:22-23**

Seal 3 (6:5-6)

5 When He broke the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying, “Come.” I looked, and behold, a black horse; and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand.

6 And I heard something like a voice in the center of the four living creatures saying, “A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not damage the oil and the wine.”---**Deuteronomy 7:13; Hosea 2:8, 22**

Seal 4 (7-8)

7 When the Lamb broke the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, “Come.”

8 I looked, and behold, an ashen horse; and he who sat on it had the name Death; and Hades was following with him. Authority was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by the wild beasts of the earth.

Seal 5 (6:9-11)

9 When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained;

10 and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, “How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?”---**Romans 12:19; 2 Thessalonians 1:8; Luke 18:7-8**

11 And there was given to each of them a white robe; and they were told that they should rest for a little while longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brethren who were to be killed even as they had been, would be completed also.---**Revelation 16:16; 19:1-2; 2 Corinthians 5:1-3**

Seal 6 (6:12-17)

12 I looked when He broke the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth made of hair, and the whole moon became like blood;

13 and the stars of the sky fell to the earth, as a fig tree casts its unripe figs when shaken by a

great wind.

14 The sky was split apart like a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

15 Then the kings of the earth and the great men and the commanders and the rich and the strong and every slave and free man hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains;---**Isaiah 2:10-21; 24:21**

16 and they said to the mountains and to the rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the presence of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb;---**Jeremiah 30:7; Matthew**

24:21-22, 29; Revelation 14:10, 19; 15:1, 7; 16:1; 19:15; Isaiah 2:10, 19, 21; 13:10; 34:4;

Jeremiah 4:29; Ezekiel 32:7-8; Joel 2:31; 3:15; Zephaniah 1:14-18; Luke 21:11, 25-26

17 for the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?”---**Joel 2:11; Nahum**

1:6-7; Malachi 3:2

Responding to the Word:

Revelation 6:1-17
Word Studies

Saw:

To perceive by sight or have the power to perceive by sight; pay attention & understand
Aorist Indicative Active

Broke:

To open in a physical or abstract sense
Aorist Indicative Active

Seals:

A fastener consisting of a resinous composition (signet like wax) that is malleable when warm used for sealing up (and authenticating) documents and parcels and letters

Come:

Come and see
Present Imperative Middle/Passive

Crown (Stephanos):

Wreath (Hellenistic) or diadem worn on the head to signify victory, glory or prestige (and sometime sovereignty)

Given:

To be granted to be in one's possession whether physically or abstractly

Conquering:

To defeat, overcome prevail, win a victory over as in a contest or military conflict
Present Participle Active

Peace:

Harmonious relations and freedom from disputes especially during the absence of war

Slay:

To slaughter or kill violently someone indiscriminately and mercilessly
Future Indicative Active

Great:

Remarkable or out of the ordinary in degree, magnitude or effect

Looked:

Same as saw in 6:1

Quart:

A dry unit equal to a little less than 2 pints or 67.2 cubic inches often used as grain measurements

Denarius:

A Roman coin equal to a day's wage

Damage:

To injure or cause harm to
Aorist Indicative Active

Oil:

Olive oil processed out of the fruit used for food, lamp oil, perfumes and other functions

Wine:

Fermented juice of grapes

Hades:

The grave or abode of the dead that holds prisoner at death

Authority:

Ruling authority over a domain or sphere

Kill:

To cause to die or put to death knowingly or intentionally
Aorist Infinitive Active

Pestilence:

A specific manner or kind of death, perhaps caused by illness

Souls:

The immaterial part of a person which is the actuating cause of individual life; the site of all the physiological faculties (such as heart, mind and conscience)

Word:

Gospel

Testimony:

Witness, something that serves as evidence

Maintained (Echo):

To have either in a concrete or abstract sense

Imperfect Indicative Active

Cried Out:

To utter aloud or shout often with surprise, horror or joy

Aorist Indicative Active

Loud:

Great volume or intensity

How Long:

When

Holy:

Moral purity

True:

Truthful or expressing the truth

Refrain:

Not

Judge:

To hear and pass judgment as the judge of a legal case

Present Indicative Active

Avenging:

Present Indicative Active

Blood:

Murder, the unlawful killing of a human being by another human being

Robe:

Any high quality stately robe reflecting positions of state or priestly functions

Rest:

Relax, take a break from one's activities in order to be refreshed

Future Indicative Middle

Sackcloth:

Garment typically indicative of mourning

Split Apart:

To separate, burst or come open suddenly and violently as if from internal pressure

Great Men:

Very important or influential person

Wrath:

The punitive outworking of God's righteous indignation at sin; perhaps s=describing an anger long building

Great:

Remarkable or out of the ordinary in degree, magnitude or effect

Day:

Event, a day assigned to a particular purpose or observance

Able:

To be able or become sufficient to meet a need or task, capable

Present Indicative Middle/Passive

Stand:

To endure or withstand by facing and withstanding with courage

Aorist Infinitive Passive

