

December 7, 2024

# West Valley End-Time Ministries Newsletter

## "Full and Unconditional Pardon"

Last Sunday, Joe Biden issued a "full and unconditional pardon" for his son, Hunter Biden, "for those offenses against the United States which he has committed or may have committed or taken part in during the period from January 1, 2014 through December 1, 2024, including but not limited to all offenses charged or prosecuted (including any that have resulted in convictions)...."

Wow! So that pardon would include any crimes committed which have not yet been discovered, even those crimes for which Hunter might be indicted in the future — including those crimes, the evidence of which may be found on Hunter's laptop, or anywhere else — **and for the last eleven years?!**

When I was a young, I was taught that Jesus died for my sins, enabling me to have eternal life. That was a wonderful truth and supported by Scripture. However, the caveat which always created some element of insecurity in my heart was that His death was for my past sins only, and any future sins would need to be confessed and forgiven in order to maintain my safe standing with God. One text which was used to defend that position by my "instructors" was 1 John 1:9: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." The emphasis was always on the "if" and the "cleansing from sin," never on the faithfulness of God to forgive our sins — much like Jesus' comforting words to Mary Magdalene when He said to her, "Neither do I condemn you, go and sin no more." Again, the emphasis was always on the "go and sin no more" rather than the "neither do I condemn you." Thus, whenever I was asked if I felt that I would be saved when Jesus returned, I was always unsure and would say, as I have heard my say to me since, "I hope so!"

When I became an adult and heard the Gospel of Scripture, I discovered that Jesus died for all my sins, past, present and future — and not only for my **sins**, but for my **sin** — my sinful nature, the spring of wrong thoughts, motives, intentions, and behavior. When Jesus, the Sinless One, took upon Himself my sin as if it were His own, He was able to grant me "full and unconditional pardon" in exchange for my faith in Him! And what a difference that has made in my life! I no longer fear death, nor do I fear that any sin might make me afraid to meet Him on the day of His return, when I see Him face to face! Because of His life of perfect righteousness and His eternal death on my behalf, I stand secure in Him! And so do you, when you place your faith in Him!

In Christ,

PC



Pastor Darrell Chilson

***"We are living in the season of Christ's return."***

***Jesus said, "Watch and be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."***

***The mission of West Valley Ministries is to help Christ's followers recognize the signs of His approaching return and be prepared for that Great Day.***



## John 11 – Part 2

### Jesus Raises Lazarus From the Dead

**38** Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance **39** “Take away the stone,” he said. “But, Lord,” said Martha, the sister of the dead man, “by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days.” **40** Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” **41** So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. **42** I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.” **43** When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” **44** The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes and let him go.”

### The Plot to Kill Jesus

**45** Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him **46** But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. **47** Then the chief priests and the Pharisees called a meeting of the Sanhedrin. “What are we accomplishing?” they asked. “Here is this man performing many signs. **48** If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and then the Romans will come and take away both our temple and our nation.” **49** Then one of them, named Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, spoke up, “You know nothing at all! **50** You do not realize that it is better for you that one man die for the people than that the whole nation perish.” **51** He did not say this on his own, but as high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the Jewish nation, **52** and not only for that nation but also for the

take his life. **54** Therefore Jesus no longer moved about publicly among the people of Judea. Instead he withdrew to a region near the wilderness, to a village called Ephraim, where he stayed with his disciples. **55** When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, many went up from the country to Jerusalem for their ceremonial cleansing before the Passover. **56** They kept looking for Jesus, and as they stood in the temple courts they asked one another, “What do you think? Isn’t he coming to the festival at all?” **57** But the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that anyone who found out where Jesus was should report it so that they might arrest him.



- ◆ How long had Lazarus been dead? And why did Martha hesitate to open his tomb?
- ◆ Why did Jesus thank God for listening to his request? Do you think this has anything to do with Martha's comment in v22 from last week's study?
- ◆ What reflections do you have on this story? Do you see evidence of layers?
- ◆ What was the impact of Jesus's miracle?
- ◆ Why was the meeting of the Sanhedrin called and what did they fear?
- ◆ Who is Caiaphas? Do you think he believed who Jesus was?
- ◆ Where did Jesus withdraw to and why?



## “REVELATION IN REVIEW”

For several months now we have been discussing the prophecies of Revelation in our classes and newsletters. And over the course of time, the major prophecies of Revelation which pertain to our future as Christians have been studied. The details of these discourses are embodied in the videos and newsletters accessible in the following links:

<https://wvetm.com/class-videos-1>

<https://wvetm.com/newsletters>

Classes are held each Saturday afternoon at 2 p.m. Mountain Standard Time at:

<https://westvalleyend-timeministries-511.my.webex.com/meet/pastor>

and your emails are welcome and will be answered by sending your questions and comments to:

[Pastor@wvetm.com](mailto:Pastor@wvetm.com)

### **Revelation in Review – Part 3**


#### **The Seven Seals:**


Revelation 6 begins with Jesus opening the first of seven seals, found on the scroll of the previous chapter — a scroll which He had received from the “right hand” of the Father. As each of the seven seals are opened, major events take place upon the earth, all shortly before Jesus returns. Among the seven seals, and sandwiched between the first seal and the last seals, are three warning judgments, intended by God to announce the beginning of the end of all things. Jesus spoke of these three judgments as “the beginning of sorrows” in Matthew 24:8.

#### **The First Seal:**

The first seal tells of a rider on a white horse, in whose hand is a bow. He is wearing a crown and is going forth through the earth “conquering and to conquer.” The twice mentioned form of the word “conquer” denotes a massive and unstoppable Gospel Campaign throughout the earth, God seeking to prepare people for the end of all things and for His second coming of Christ. Jesus tells us in Matthew 24:14 that “the gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world ... and then the end will come.” In Revelation 14:6, John sees “an angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach ... to every nation, tribe, tongue and people.” And in Revelation 11, John tells us that “the two witnesses ... will prophesy” for three-and-a-half years, unstoppable in the proclamation of their message to the world until their testimony is finished. Then Jesus will come.

So the events of the first seal are the backdrop — a bookend, if you please, for the judgments spoken of in the next three seals or events — “sword, famine, and pestilence” — and “the wild beasts of the earth,” likely a consequential result of the three judgments. The mission of the “rider on the





white horse” is to offer God’s grace to a lost world before “the hour of His judgment.” In Revelation 14:6, John sees the gospel being proclaimed powerfully by the angel flying in the midst of heaven as “the hour of his judgment” approaches. The purpose of the events of the seals is to warn the world of God’s impending judgment while His mercy is still extended and His grace available to the sinner.

### **The Second Seal:**

The second seal depicts a rider on a red horse with a sword in his hand, bringing bloodshed and death, and “taking peace from the earth.” This seal denotes a great loss of life as a result of various forms of chaos and unrest soon to be seen in the earth. Already the stage is set and the players are in position to “take peace from the earth.” Not only are there ongoing wars and threats of international conflict, there is great potential for domestic terrorism and anarchy in our own nation today. However this prophecy plays out in the near future, its fulfillment will certainly be recognized by the world and particularly by those who are “watching” as Jesus told us to do.

### **The Third Seal:**


The events to transpire as the third seal is opened are described by a rider on a black horse with scales in his hand, weighing out essential foods consumed by humanity. Under this seal there will be widespread famine in the earth. There are a number of likely causes for the famine foretold, in light of presence of several of God’s judgments coming upon the earth, including the first four trumpets of Revelation 8. But it is certain it will not be a result of “global warming”!

### **The Fourth Seal:**

The final “horse of the apocalypse” (representing the fourth seal) is pale, and its rider brings the judgment of widespread pestilence and death in the earth. Our world has very recently had a taste of pestilence in the earth, but COVID has been little more than a preview of greater plagues which are to come upon our world. And at this point, it is important to understand that the impact of each of the seals is worldwide in their scope. John tells us that sword, famine, and pestilence (and wild beasts of the earth) will have an impact “one-fourth of the earth” (Revelation 6:8).

### **The Fifth Seal:**

All of the following seals are of a different nature than the previous three and tell the final story of humanity upon earth — both the “righteous” and the “wicked” — the saved and the lost. The fifth seal is descriptive of the experience of those messengers of God who have been the voices for God in the earth and have suffered martyrdom for their testimony. They are the “one hundred and forty-four thousand”; the “two witnesses”; the “angel (Grk: *literally messenger*) flying in the midst of heaven” proclaiming the saving message of God’s grace for the sinner in the last “hour of His judgment.” They are the victims of the efforts of “the dragon, the beast and the false prophet” to silence God’s call to “worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water,” at a time when the power of evil are calling the world to “worship the beast” of Revelation 13:12.







### The Sixth Seal:

The events of the sixth seal describe the return of Jesus in the clouds of heaven and portray the cataclysmic display of the sun, moon and stars as the earth and the heavens announce in an unmistakable manner the return of the King of Kings to deliver His people from those whose seek their life and take them to the place He has prepared for them. Jesus also spoke of these events, which are to occur as the elements of creation announce the coming of their Creator and an end to sin, death, and all that sin has wrought in our human family and upon God’s originally perfect creation. (See Matthew 24:29-31).

Under the sixth seal, we also witness in advance the terror of the lost as they see Jesus coming in all His glory and realize their eternal doom. For them it will be a “day of reckoning,” a day when they clearly see the mighty power of our victorious Savior, the One whose grace they have rejected and whose followers they have persecuted. Now “the great Day of Judgment” is upon them, and “they cry for the rocks and the mountains to fall upon them and hide them from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!” Revelation 6:16.

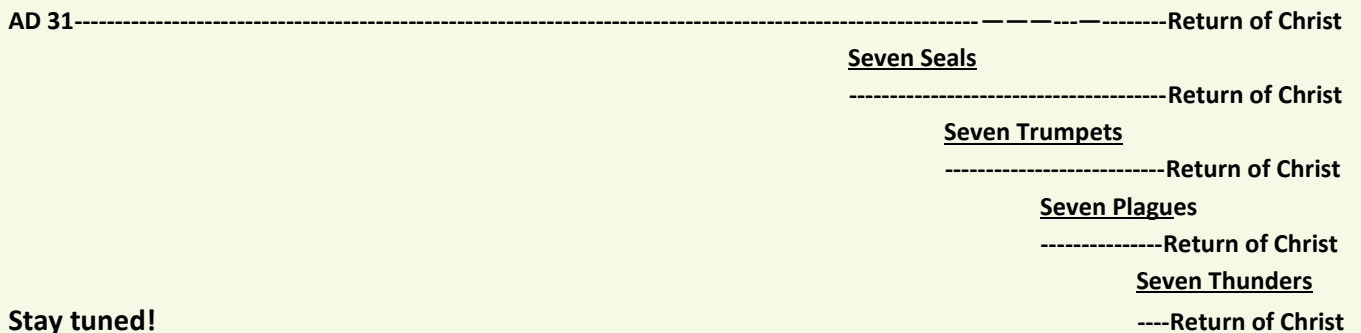
In contrast, when the saved of all the ages, and particularly the followers of Christ living at the end of time, see Jesus coming in the clouds of heaven with all His armies with Him, their cry will be, “Lo, this is our God! We have waited for Him, and He will save us!” I plan to be among that throng, how about you?

### The Seventh Seal:

The opening of the seventh seal takes place in Revelation 8:1, and coincides with the close of the messages to the seven churches, the seven trumpets, and the seven plagues. The language in each case is, “And there were voices, thunderings, lightnings, and a great earthquake,” and each time this language is used it is associated with an open temple in heaven, a voice from the throne saying, “It is done,” or something indicating the completion of God’s work in saving a lost race. What follows is the descent of Jesus and a host of angels accompanying Him to earth to redeem His Church, purchased with His blood!

**One Last Observation:** Each set of “sevens” — the churches, the seals, the trumpets, the plagues, and even the thunders of Revelation 10:3, 4, by their very nature **begin** in sequence yet at subsequent points in time. Yet they all end at the same time when the work of God in the earth is fully complete. Thus, it is noteworthy that the events of each set of “sevens” in Revelation begin sometime during the course of the “seven” before — much like the waves of the ocean come in sequence yet begin their formation before the wave before it crashes on the beach. Graphically and chronologically these events will look like this on a timeline:

The Period of the Seven Churches – The Christian Era



Stay tuned!

