

The Revelation

Six Week Study

Week 1: Chapters 1-5

Week 2: Chapters 6-9

Week 3: Chapters 10-13

Week 4: Chapters 14-16

Week 5: Chapters 17-19

Week 6: Chapters 20-22

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The Seven Sealed Scroll Judgments of God Chapters 6-8

Jesus takes the scroll and begins breaking the seals. As he does judgment is exerted over the earth:



1. The **First Seal** – White Horse of C _____ 6:1-2



2. The **Second Seal** – Red Horse of W _____ 6:3-4



3. The **Third Seal** – Black Horse of F _____ 6:5-6



4. The **Fourth Seal** – Pale Horse of D _____
(with Hades following it) 6:7-8 In his wake a quarter of all human population will be dead.



These first four seals are grouped together thematically by the horse and rider theme.

They Parallel Matthew 24:4-7

Revelation 6:1 I watched as the Lamb opened the **first** of the seven seals. Then I heard one of the four living creatures say in a voice like thunder, "Come!"
² I looked, and there before me was a **white horse**! Its rider held a bow, and he was given a crown, and he rode out as a conqueror bent on conquest.
³ When the Lamb opened the **second seal**, I heard the second living creature say, "Come!"
⁴ Then another horse came out, a fiery **red one**. Its rider was given power to take peace from the earth and to make men slay each other. To him was given a large sword.
⁵ When the Lamb opened the **third seal**, I heard the third living creature say, "Come!" I looked, and there before me was a **black horse**! Its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand.
⁶ Then I heard what sounded like a voice among the four living creatures, saying, "A quart of wheat for a day's wages, and three quarts of barley for a day's wages, and do not damage the oil and the wine!"
⁷ When the Lamb opened the **fourth seal**, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, "Come!"
⁸ I looked, and there before me was a **pale horse**! Its rider was named Death, and Hades was following close behind him. They were given power over a fourth of the earth to kill by sword, famine and plague, and by the wild beasts of the earth.

⁹ When he opened the **fifth seal**, I saw **under the altar the souls** of those who had been slain because of the word of God and the testimony they had maintained.

¹⁰ They called out in a loud voice, "How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?"

¹¹ Then each of them was given a white robe, and they were told to wait a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and brothers who were to be killed as they had been was completed.

¹² I watched as he opened the **sixth seal**. There was a great earthquake. The **sun turned black** like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole **moon turned blood red**,

¹³ and the **stars in the sky fell to earth**, as late figs drop from a fig tree when shaken by a strong wind.

¹⁴ The sky receded like a scroll, rolling up, and **every mountain and island was removed from its place**.

¹⁵ Then the kings of the earth, the princes, the generals, the rich, the mighty, and every slave and every free man **hid in caves** and among the rocks of the mountains.

¹⁶ They called to the mountains and the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!"

¹⁷ **For the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?"**

4. The **Fifth Seal** – S_____ under the Altar 6:9-10 These souls are crying out for their live to be avenged. In place of vengeance they are given white robes.



6. The **Sixth Seal**– Earthquake, Sun Darkened, Moon Blood Red 6-11:16 This is the severest of the seal judgments and description is the longest. The point is that “the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?” (6:16)



INTERLUDE:

An Interlude takes place before the breaking of the seventh seal. There are several interludes in the Revelation. Each one gives additional information that is germane to the ongoing story—a sort of additional background material section. This interlude serves to expand on the question of Rev 6:17 “Who can stand?” The answer is given in chapter 7. The 144,000 stand while a great multitude take a stand at a great cost, their lives. So, the interlude is like a pause in the action to give the reader background material for the judgments being executed.



The 144,000 are J _____ Believers Sealed by God to Stand 7:1-8

God always has a remnant of His people and in the coming tribulation (after the church age is over and the rapture has taken place) God will have a remnant from His people Israel again.

The 144,000 are sealed and no harm will occur on the earth until they are sealed. 7:1-3 This means that they were sealed at the beginning of the tribulation.

Who's missing? D _____ Why?

The Great Multitude of Gentile Believers 7:9-17



The great multitude is different from the 144,000 for they are Gentiles and they too are God's people. All heaven worships God for saving them.

Revelation 7:1 After this I saw **four angels standing at the four corners of the earth**, holding back the four winds of the earth to prevent any wind from blowing on the land or on the sea or on any tree.

² Then I saw another angel coming up from the east, having the seal of the living God. He called out in a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm the land and the sea:

³ "Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God."

⁴ Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: **144,000** from all the tribes of Israel.

⁵ From the tribe of **Judah** 12,000 were sealed, from the tribe of **Reuben** 12,000, from the tribe of **Gad** 12,000,

⁶ from the tribe of **Asher** 12,000, from the tribe of **Naphtali** 12,000, from the tribe of **Manasseh** 12,000,

⁷ from the tribe of **Simeon** 12,000, from the tribe of **Levi** 12,000, from the tribe of **Issachar** 12,000,

⁸ from the tribe of **Zebulun** 12,000, from the tribe of **Joseph** 12,000, from the tribe of **Benjamin** 12,000.

⁹ After this I looked and there before me was **a great multitude that no one could count**, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands.

¹⁰ And they cried out in a loud voice: **"Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."**

¹¹ All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,

¹² saying: "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!"

¹³ Then **one of the elders** asked me, "These in white robes--**who are they**, and where did they come from?"

¹⁴ I answered, "Sir, you know." And he said, "**These are they who have come out of the great tribulation**; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ Therefore, "they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them.

¹⁶ Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷ For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."



Revelation 8:1

When he opened **the seventh seal**, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.

² And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets.

³ Another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer, with the prayers of all the saints, on the golden altar before the throne.

⁴ The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of the saints, went up before God from the angel's hand.

⁵ Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and hurled it on the earth; and there came peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning and an earthquake.

quo (starting of the judgment on the Cosmos) and the terminus ad quem (the ending point of the judgment upon the Cosmos).

So "Who are they?" They are those who will believe in Jesus as their Savior after the rapture because the church has already gone to heaven at the rapture. Therefore, this multitude will be the Tribulation Saints who have come out of the Tribulation.

They wear white robes (see 6:9-10) and worship Christ with the elders (the elders are most likely representative of the church). An Elder tells us who they are: "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." They were killed in the tribulation (later in the vision the source of their deaths will be revealed as a future coming world dictator called a "Beast" will wage war against them. The point is people will get saved in the tribulation period and **martyred** for their faith—and God will reward them.

THE INTERLUDE ENDS

THE SEVENTH SEAL

7. **The Seventh Seal** – S _____
for Half an Hour (and Seven
Angels with Trumpets) 8:1-5



All heaven stood still when the final seal was broken, as if the next event itself would be the return of the glorious Lord to the earth to take up His kingdom. But instead seven angels emerge with seven trumpets that will prove to be more judgment to fall on the earth before the coming of the kingdom of God on earth.



One notable angel fills a censer from the altar and hurls it down to the earth. That is followed by: "there came peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning and an earthquake." Rev 8:5

This take us back to Rev 4:5 where the same expression was used. It is a literary devise that denotes the terminus ad



Although there are various views that try to explain the relationship of the Seven Seals to the Seven Trumpets (and later to the Seven Bowls) this study takes the “Telescopic Approach.” By that it is meant that the Seven Trumpet judgments are couched in the Seventh Seal, which also ends with “And there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder...” 11:19. Likewise the seven Bowl judgments of Rev 16 end with “Then there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder...” 16:18. All three sets of seven judgments end at the same time, but are sequential (like a telescope, that pulls out a shaft that extents the viewer).



The Seven Trumpet Judgments

The Trumpets are more severe than the Seal judgments:



1. The **First Trumpet**– H_____ and F_____ mixed with Blood (1/3 burned up) 8:7



2. The **Second Trumpet**– Huge M_____ thrown into sea (1/3 salt water turned to blood) 8:8-9



3. The **Third Trumpet**– A S_____ falls on falls on rivers (1/3 fresh water turn bitter) 8:10-11



4. The **Fourth Trumpet**– 1/3 Sun, Moon, Stars S_____ 8:12-13

⁶ Then the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared to sound them.

⁷ **The first angel sounded his trumpet, and there came hail and fire mixed with blood, and it was hurled down upon the earth. A third of the earth was burned up, a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up.**

⁸ **The second angel sounded his trumpet, and something like a huge mountain, all ablaze, was thrown into the sea. A third of the sea turned into blood,**

⁹ a third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed.

¹⁰ **The third angel sounded his trumpet, and a great star, blazing like a torch, fell from the sky on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water--**

¹¹ the name of the **star is Wormwood.** A third of the waters turned bitter, and many people died from the waters that had become bitter.

¹² **The fourth angel sounded his trumpet, and a third of the sun was struck, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them turned dark. A third of the day was without light, and also a third of the night.**

BEFORE THE 5TH TRUMPET

¹³ As I watched, I heard an **eagle that was flying** in midair call out in a loud voice: "**Woe! Woe! Woe** to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the trumpet blasts about to be sounded by the other three angels!"



The next three trumpets are WOES! 8:13

Revelation 9:1 The **fifth** angel sounded his trumpet, and I saw a star that had fallen from the sky to the earth. The star was given the key to the shaft of the Abyss.

² When he opened the Abyss, smoke rose from it like the **smoke** from a gigantic furnace. The sun and sky were darkened by the smoke from the Abyss.

³ And **out of the smoke locusts** came down upon the earth and were given power like that of scorpions of the earth.

⁴ They were told not to harm the grass of the earth or any plant or tree, but only those people who did not have the seal of God on their foreheads.

⁵ They were not given power to kill them, but only to torture them for five months. And the agony they suffered was like that of the **sting of a scorpion** when it strikes a man.

⁶ During those days men will seek death, but will not find it; they will long to die, but death will elude them.

⁷ **The locusts looked like horses** prepared for battle. On their heads they wore something like **crowns of gold**, and their faces resembled **human faces**.

⁸ Their **hair** was like women's hair, and their teeth were like **lions' teeth**.

⁹ They had breastplates like **breastplates of iron**, and the sound of their **wings** was like the thundering of many horses and chariots rushing into battle.

¹⁰ They had **tails and stings like scorpions**, and in their tails they had power to torment people for five months.

¹¹ **They had as king over them the angel of the Abyss, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon, and in Greek, Apollyon.**

¹² The first woe is past; two other woes are yet to come.

5. The **Fifth Trumpet**—**WOE**
Star fallen with key to A_____
release tormenting locusts
9:1-12



6. The **Sixth Trumpet**—**WOE** _____ million army (1/3 mankind killed) 9:13-21



¹³ The **sixth** angel sounded his **trumpet**, and I heard a voice coming from the horns of the **golden altar** that is before God.

¹⁴ It said to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "**Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates.**"

¹⁵ And the four angels who had been kept ready for this very hour and day and month and year were released to kill a third of mankind.

¹⁶ **The number of the mounted troops was two hundred million. I heard their number.**

¹⁷ The **horses and riders** I saw in my vision looked like this: Their **breastplates** were fiery red, dark blue, and yellow as sulfur. The heads of the horses resembled the **heads of lions**, and **out of their mouths came fire, smoke and sulfur.**

¹⁸ A third of mankind was killed by the three plagues of fire, smoke and sulfur that came out of their mouths.

¹⁹ The power of the horses was in their mouths and in their tails; for their **tails were like snakes**, having heads with which they inflict injury.

²⁰ **The rest of mankind that were not killed by these plagues still did not repent of the work of their hands; they did not stop worshiping demons, and idols of gold, silver, bronze, stone and wood--idols that cannot see or hear or walk.**

²¹ Nor did they repent of their murders, their magic arts, their sexual immorality or their thefts.

We will pause the action here. Next time we will pick up chapters 10-13. Read ahead!