

- I. Background for Part 4 (Chapters 6-22)
- A. Here, as we start chapter 6, we are continuing the throne room vision. Having taken the scroll, Jesus is now opening it, breaking the seven _____, as John witnesses the effects they have in setting up all of creation for the end.
 - B. The opening of the scroll and its contents lay out a 21 event judgment series divided into three parts. Each part increases in intensity and severity from the previous part. The seal and the trumpet judgments are _____ judgments, meaning that they prepare the earth for judgment.
 - C. It's important to note that all of the seals and trumpets and bowls are not concurrent, but _____. That's the scholarly way of saying they don't happen at the same time, but in numerical order.
 - D. Chapter 6 is the first _____ section of Revelation.
 - E. To really get what happens from this point on in Revelation, we need a basic understanding of Old Testament prophecy found in the book of _____.
 - F. Daniel is told that the rest of Israel's history can be numbered as seventy _____.
 - G. These sevens represent 7 year periods. They are sometimes called weeks because they are grouped together in groups of sevens, much like our weeks are a grouping of seven days. The first 69 sevens or 483 years, lead up to the cutting off of the _____. Amazingly enough, when counted from the year Daniel had this vision using the Jewish calendar of a 360 day year, 483 years later is 33AD the year Jesus was crucified! On top of this, Daniel chapter 11 is a description of what happens during some of these 69 sevens. The details found in Daniels book are so incredibly accurate to history that many have tried to use it's accuracy as proof that the book of Daniel is a forgery written after the fact. Isn't God awesome!
 - H. With the cutting off of the anointed one at the death of Jesus, Gabriel stops narrating history, having only completed 69 of the 70 sevens. This is because, with the rejection of their Messiah, Gabriel reveals that the Jews would have no significant mark on history for a while. According to Jesus as he explained to his disciples in Luke 21, this lasts until "times of the _____ are fulfilled."
 - I. In Chapter 12, the Angel picks up and explains to Daniel that the last week, or period of seven years, will be a time of distress such as hasn't happened in the history of the world before it (v. 2). In Revelation this is known as the great _____.
 - J. The last group of seven years is divided into 2 halves, the first being the rise and rule of the Antichrist and the second being the Great Tribulation.

II. VERSE BY VERSE – CHAPTER 6

- A. 1st Seal (Rev. 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.*
 1. First we see that it was Jesus as the _____ who is opening these seals and releasing judgments on the earth.
 2. It's interesting that in response to opening each of the first four seals, it's one of the four living creatures who cries, "Come!" It's not a coincidence that the 4 horsemen are commanded by the 4 living creatures. The ones who spend the most time in God's presence receiving the greatest amount of revelation of Him and worshipping Him the most are the ones who are _____ to lead His actions upon the earth.
 3. *a white horse* – This is not a reference to Jesus. The reason this rider has a white horse is that he seems to be righteous. He actually pretends to be Jesus, though he is a _____ Christ. This rider goes out and begins conquering the earth. At first, people think he is on a righteous crusade because of the appearance of his motivations and truly look to him as the savior that all humanity, even the Jews, have hoped for.

4. *had a bow* – This phrase tells us that he possesses military might with the capability of striking his enemies at a _____.
 5. *A crown was given to him* seems to signify that he is very _____, very quickly in taking a vast amount of territory. He has been granted supernatural authority to do this and seems not only good, but also unstoppable.
 6. Who is this rider? Most scholars agree that this is none other than the spirit who empowers the _____. He begins conquering the earth and the nations love him at first, but then several are not ok with being conquered and rebel. This actually sets up the next seal judgment. The point of this first seal is that it is a judgment against man's desire to _____ himself without God.
- B. 2nd Seal (Rev. 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.*
1. This second seal is a judgment against man's desire to provide _____ for himself.
 2. *second living creature...a red horse went out* – Here we see another one of the 4 living creatures around the throne of God responding to Jesus' leadership and commanding another horseman to go forth and carry out his purpose. The redness of this spirit speaks of the _____ and war that he specializes in bringing.
 3. *granted to take peace from the earth* – Here we see that today we live under the benefit of a covering of _____ that God has placed over the earth. Mankind will truly be left to their own devices and only those with the Spirit of God within them will have and operate in peace of any kind.
 4. *a great sword was given to him* – So on top of taking peace away from men, this spirit will offer a sword in its place.
 5. It is clear that many will follow the Antichrist. However, there will be nations throughout the earth that _____ his takeover (Dan 11:30, 11:39-44). When he begins conquering them by force these nations will band together and a new world war will break out. No place on the planet will be untouched. Possessed by Satan himself, the Antichrist will be bent on conquering the entire world and receiving every man's worship.
- C. 3rd Seal (Rev. 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."*
1. The third seal is a judgment against man's desire to provide _____ (food and water) for himself. God limits the extent of this famine in His mercy.
 2. *a black horse* – this spirit, again released by one of the four living creatures, is depicted as riding a black horse. It is black because of the fear, death, mourning, and sorrow he releases upon the earth.
 3. *A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius* – The famine is intense because a denarius was one day's _____. Things will get so bad that for the majority of people, a full days work will only earn them enough money to purchase enough grain to feed one person for one day. If they went for a lower quality, less nutritious source of food such as barley, they could provide food for 3 people for the same price.
 4. *do not damage the oil and the wine* – Many commentators think this has to do with the idea that often during famine, a few select _____ people remain unaffected while the vast majority of poorer people are tyrannically mistreated

- D. 4th Seal (Rev. 6:7-8) 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.*
1. The fourth seal is a judgment against man's desire to provide _____ for himself. God limits this one in his mercy in that death can only be brought to ¼ of the earth.
 2. *an ashen horse* – this spirit is depicted as pale or gray-green in color, the color of rot and decay.
 3. *had the name Death; and Hades was following with him* – This is the only one of the riders named. Death is described as the _____ of God (1 Cor. 15:26). God alone is the only One with power over death for Jesus has the keys of death and Hades (Rev. 1:18). we see here that Jesus exercises His authority over death, allowing him to take ¼ of the earth to Hades to await judgment.
 4. *to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by the wild beasts of the earth* – This is truly a horrific time unlike any seen before. Only those who walk in the truly supernatural power of the Holy Spirit OR turn to the Antichrist for protection have any chance of surviving. Within a year ¼ of the earth is a wasteland of death.
 5. Some scholars try to say that ¼ of humanity is just too many people to kill in a one year period. I reject this idea because a man, supernaturally empowered as the Antichrist will be, could certainly be the catalyst to bring such a thing about.
- E. 5th Seal (Rev. 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?"* 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.*
1. Remember, the seal judgments are preparing the earth and men for the real judgments to come which are written within the scroll. They are the removal of God's divine protection and restraints that keep men and demons from fully carrying out that which is in their _____.
 2. So let's understand has been happening. As God has lifted his hand of protection, provision, and restraint, allowing men to obtain what they've always wanted, dominion and authority in the earth without God's intervention, the results have been absolutely horrific. Not only have men been found completely wicked and unable to provide anything for themselves apart from God, they have wholeheartedly embraced a _____ of God, turning violently against the representatives of God in the earth – Jews and the church! With great hatred and anger, encouraged by the mark of the beast system, men will greatly enjoy seeing the destruction of Christianity by martyring mass numbers of saints all through the first 4 seal judgments.
 3. What we see here are the souls of men and women who have already been martyred for the sake of Jesus. We know that these are martyrs who lost their lives during the 1st four seal judgments because they ask for vindication against those who are currently living on the earth. They move God's _____, who, in perfect love and justice responds that judgment is coming, but there are still more who are to be martyred before the end.
 4. We have to understand that martyrdom is not a judgment or bad thing for believers. In actuality it is a tremendous blessing and honor for a Christian to lose his or her life for the sake of _____! Remember, Jesus said "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven" (Matt. 5:10).

5. So what is the judgment here? Only God knows when the greatest stroke of mercy is to give grace or to give judgment. God will at this point direct his church to _____ with Him in praying forth the release of judgment against the antichrist and his empire of wicked men. Remember Amos 3:7 *Surely the Lord God does nothing unless He reveals His secret counsel to His servants the prophets.* Their prayers are for the justice of God to bring an end to the suffering of His people still on the planet. Such a cry from the church will actually hasten the events of judgment, enabling God's wrath to be poured out in the quickest and most merciful way, giving the greatest opportunity for the most men to repent. God agrees, though He says He won't end it immediately. However, He does change the nature of the judgments with this next seal.
- F. Sixth Seal (Rev. 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; 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; 17 for the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"*
1. Here we see that God is supernaturally answering the prayers of his people, crying out for vindication. The effect is a _____ in the nature of the judgments being released. From this point on, almost all of the judgments more direct.
 2. The language that John uses to describe these events seems a little strange at first. He talks about the sun becoming black as sackcloth and the moon becoming blood and stars falling like figs from a fig tree, etc. These are actually references to earlier prophetic passages from the Old Testament such as Isaiah 2:19-21, Joel 2:30-31, and in Isaiah 34:4. This is the beginning of the time period that the Old and New Testaments refer over and over to as the great and terrible _____ of the Lord.
 3. So it begins with a tremendous earthquake that affects the _____ globe. It's such a massive earthquake that the shape of surface of the earth changes, with every mountain and island being affected.
 4. The word translated "stars" here is the Greek word "_____" which can refer to any heavenly body, including comets, shooting stars or space debris. Shooting stars begin to rain down in such volume that it seems as though every star in heaven must be falling on the planet. In fact, it's so bad that verse 15 tells us that every human being, from the richest and most powerful to the poorest desperately seek cover in caves and holes in the ground. Surely this earthquake and the following effects are unprecedented in human history and are only outdone by later judgments.
 5. "*The sky was split apart like a scroll when it is rolled up,*" Some say this is just a massive atmospheric disturbance that was difficult for John to describe. Others believe that this is a description of the natural sky being opened up to reveal the Heavenly realm, causing men and women to realize that this is a judgment by God, not just a series of really unfortunate events
 6. Looking at the last verse here, whether by supernatural revelation or the testimony of believers, the nations do realize that the Lord, Himself, has begun to specifically target the earth with His power and judgment. As a result the question that begins to rack every mind is "Who is able to stand?" This is an echo of the prophecy of Malachi 3:2, "*But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears?*"