



Revelation 6 begins with the seals that represent the beginning of Christ's judgment of unbelievers on the earth during the Tribulation period.

The purpose of the Tribulation period is to punish unbelievers for their sin and rejection of Christ and to bring the remnant to faith in Christ. One of the worst horrors of the Tribulation is the many plagues that will strike the world's people, particularly those who reject the Savior and refuse to have their name written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

The judgments are started with the 7 seals.

If God loves mankind, why would He bring such horrible things upon the people (His creation)?

Why would a loving Savior, Christ Jesus, punish people? Doesn't He love everyone?

Answer: “SIN MUST BE PUNISHED” (Exodus 34:6b-7a,
“The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, ⁷ maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished...”

This is “Divine Justice.” Romans 1:18-32. 2:2... “Now we know that God’s judgment against those who do such things is based on truth.”

There is a close similarity between these judgments and the event predicted by Christ in Matthew 24:4 - 31.

What Can We Christians Do With Our Sin?

Do one of two (2) things:

1. **Carry it...**and sin becomes an intolerable, crushing weight!
2. **Confess it...**and experience God’s forgiveness and peace.

Revelation 6:1, "And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see." **The Lamb is Jesus Christ, the only one worthy to open the seals.**

The thunder indicates God revealing something to His people.
Many times throughout the Bible, God's voice has been mistaken for thunder.

Here one of the four beasts, or four living beings, says "Come and see".

Of course, all of the four gospels say "Come and see". We are invited to look into the heavenly stage and see things never told upon the earth until now.

The opening of this first seal will reveal the 1st picture of man's destructive nature.

This part begins what is called "The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse".

The four (4) horsemen present the picture of man's inhumanity to man. They seem to be a divine prediction of the affairs of humankind that will cause much human suffering.

This is not new, for those in control of the affairs of this world have a history of causing their fellow human beings much suffering, with false hopes of peace followed by wars, famines, and death.

Revelation, 6:2, "And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer."

The First Seal: A White Horse

The rider has a bow but no arrows (indicating that although he is militarily strong, in the beginning he does his conquering by diplomacy). Since he wears a crown, we know he is successful in his efforts.

Who is the rider on the white horse? There can be no doubt that it is the Antichrist, who through deceit and clever maneuvering will bring a false peace to the world. But that peace will not last.

That peace will not last!

Note: Many scholars interpret that the rider on the white horse is Jesus (due to the fact that is who is on the white horse in Revelation 19:11-16). However, with no arrows (only a bow) and a passage of "Woe after Woe, destruction and disaster," any picture of the victorious Christ is quite out of place in it.

Victorious leaders rode on white horses after defeating their enemies. I think that the bow without arrows would mean conquering by diplomacy other than by war. It is a false peace...a superman who promises to solve all the world's problems (conniving, cleaver for evil's sake) with the ultimate triumph resulting in a dictatorial leader who makes war with all that God stands for.

Revelation 6:3-4, *"And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see." "And there went out another horse [that was] red: and [power] was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword."*

The Second Seal: John is encouraged to "Come and see".

We, too, may get a glimpse through the eyes and the pen of John.

Red horse means war. This red horse indicates a large war.

I really believe this red horse has to do with a global war of great magnitude. The spirits of war. We believe this seal represents a great conflagration we might call World War III. Only since the advent of the atomic age has it been possible to bring this kind of unimaginable, swift destruction to bear on widely scattered portions of the globe.

His purpose is to cause "mankind to slaughter one another"

The Greek word that is used, and also the verb, means "to butcher, slaughter or massacre someone". This contains a purpose clause which reveals that peace is taken from the earth for the very purpose that mankind should butcher each other. In the remainder of the Revelation's Seals, Trumpets and Golden Bowl Judgments, mankind does this to himself with ruthless skill.

Compares to Zechariah 6:1-4

Revelation 6:5-6, *"And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand." "And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, a measure of wheat for a penny, and*

three measures of barley for a penny; and [see] thou hurt not the oil and the wine".

The Third Seal: A Black Horse - Rampant inflation - a common aftermath of war - Famine is suggested by John's words.

John is indicating that a man will have to work all day just to get enough food to eat, with nothing left over for his family or the elderly.

The famine will be so great, that food will be weighed by the ounce and dispensed carefully.

This famine will probably be as bad as the famine that was in Egypt in Joseph's time. This is run-away inflation to its worst possible conclusion.

In many parts of the world inflation is already to that terrible extreme. I just read in some parts of Africa where the inflation rate is over 1200%.

When inflation is coupled with famine, we see a situation more horrible than we care to imagine.

Oil and wine are symbolic of the Holy Spirit of God. That His Hand will be on the Tribulation Saints protecting them during the tribulation.

The third horseman of the Apocalypse, who rides out early in the Tribulation, will take a heavy toll in deaths and sickness. The black horse he rides is an obvious symbol of famine and disease.

I cannot stress enough, that this famine may not be just physical but spiritual, as well.

Even now there is a terrible famine of truth in the church.

Never before have so many denied: the virgin birth of Christ, the Red Sea parted, Jonah being swallowed by the large fish, God as Father. Jesus is God with us, "Emmanuel",

Many churches are ordaining homosexuals to preach. Secular Humanism makes man a god.

How much more famine of the Spirit can we take?

Truly there will be a physical famine, as well.

Christian Saints (Tribulation Saints) during the tribulation will be saved IN the famine and not FROM the famine.

Noah was saved IN the flood, not FROM the flood.

God can rain manna from heaven if necessary.

I believe God will set up places of refuge where tribulation believers can run, so they can have physical and spiritual food.

God will not forsake the righteous!

Don't be mistaken...The Anti-Christ and those on his side will persecute and even kill those who do not take the mark of the beast. We will see this in some later chapters.

The time has not yet come for the Anti-Christ to start annihilating Christians, Jews, Church leaders...even those who have supported his rise to power.

Always remember...The Christian wins in the end.

Don't Ever Doubt It!