



## **The pale horse brings death.**

**Revelation 6:7-8**, “When He (the Lamb) opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, ‘Come and see.’ So I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth,”

**A Pale Horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death: This last rider shows that there will be a tremendous death toll from the dictatorship, war, famine and other calamities described by the previous three horsemen.**

Our modern age has seen hundreds of millions killed by dictators, war, and famine. Yet all that will pale in comparison to the death toll coming in the wake of this ultimate dictator. No wonder Jesus said of this time, “For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be, (Matthew 24:21)

- **Power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill:** Power was given to the horseman, and given by God. Though all hell breaks loose on the earth, God is very much in control. Jesus still holds the scroll and opens the seals.

***¼ of the world is about 1.7 Billion people. 5 times the population of U.S.***

**Remember, this is the will of God (“God’s will” stating what He has given as to the inheritance of the unbelievers). Also, remember...the choice is with mankind (believers/unbelievers...His creation).**

***Again...go back to what we said as to reason for all this... “SIN MUST BE PUNISHED (Exodus 34:6b-7). This is “Divine Justice.” Romans 1:18-32. 2:2.***

***The fifth and sixth seals of the scroll are going to be opened. Can mankind take it? You might not understand it; but, the truth is in the Word.***

**Revelation 6:9-10**, “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. 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?’”

**Note: The fifth seal brings forth the cry of the martyrs.**

- That these souls were **under the altar** emphasizes that their lifeblood was poured out as an offering to God. The idea is drawn from Leviticus 4:7: *And he shall pour the remaining blood at the base of the altar of the burnt offering.*
- It is probably best to see this as the cry of *all* martyrs for God's truth, not merely believers persecuted by the coming world leader, the first horseman of Revelation 6:1-2.
- These souls in heaven cried out for vengeance (**until You judge and avenge our blood**). We usually don't think of God's people crying out for vengeance, but here they made their cry to God, and leave the matter with Him.

**Question: Do you know that the people in heaven know that sin has to be punished?**

- **When God's people are persecuted, He will set it right.**
- **It isn't wrong for God's people to ask Him to do what He promised to do.**
  - **In this way the blood of Abel cried out from the ground for vengeance (Genesis 4:10),**
  - **The blood of unavenged murders in the land of Israel (Numbers 35:33).**

**Revelation 6:11**, “Then each of them was given a white robe, and they were told to wait a little longer, until the full number of their fellow servants, their brothers and sisters, were killed just as they had been.”

**It was said to them that they should rest a little while longer:  
These saints were instructed to wait.**

**How long must they wait? Until both the number of their fellow servants and their brethren, who would be killed as they were, was completed.**

**This may mean that they should wait until all God's appointed martyrs are killed.**

**Don't criticize the martyrs for asking for judgment unless you have to walk in their shoes!**

**Remember...**

***The Depravity of Man is seen here. Man, left to his will...will kill at will all those who worship the true and living God.***

***The opening of the sixth seal brings cosmic disruption, displacement, devastation, distress, desolation, darkness, and destruction.***

***Revelation 6:12-17***, "I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood. And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place. And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

***In the Bible, celestial disturbances are often connected with the coming of the Messiah. Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Joel, Zephaniah and Jesus Himself all described such things.***

*A passage from Zephaniah is an example: "The great day of the LORD is near; it is near and hastens quickly. The noise of the day of the LORD is bitter; there the mighty men shall cry out. That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of devastation and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet and alarm against the fortified cities and against the high towers." (Zephaniah 1:14-16)*

*Joel 2:10-11: The sun and moon grow dark, and stars diminish their brightness . . . for the day of the LORD is great and terrible; who can endure it?*

- ***It is best to regard these pictures as real, but poetic descriptively.***
- ***John did not use technically precise scientific language, but he simply described what he saw.***

**Note: All people are equally brought low by God's wrath (Rich, poor, kings, Presidents/Important People...and slaves and every free person).**

***Two things we can notice:***

- 1. It is Universal.*** No matter how significant or insignificant... Nobody escapes the wrath of God (They know they are guilty).
- 2. They Seek Somewhere to Hide.*** What did Adam and Eve do when God came on the scene? They hid...they knew they sinned.

***The judgment is all the more profound because it is the wrath of the Lamb.***

***They hid not only from the terror of the judgments, but from the face of Him who sits on the throne.***

"What sinners dread most is not death, but the revealed presence of God."

***The sixth seal concluded with a valid question:  
Who is able to stand?***

***Only the believer can stand before this great judgment, the one who is justified by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.***

*Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand. (Romans 5:1-2)*

*I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which you also received and in which you stand. (1 Corinthians 15:1)*

*Testifying that this is the true grace of God in which you stand. (1 Peter 5:12)*

***The believer can stand in the face of this great wrath of God because Jesus already bore the wrath the believer deserved.***

***In other words, "Don't sweat it...Jesus has already endured the wrath for you."***

