

Revelation 6

The First Seal on the Scroll

6 Then I saw the Lamb open one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures say with a voice like thunder, "Come!"² I looked, and there was a white horse. Its rider held a bow; a crown was given to him, and he went out as a conqueror in order to conquer.

- Servant of the Lamb.
- The rider isn't Jesus. Revelation 19:11-16.
- Bow – battle from a distance. Also, no mention of arrows.
- Crown – won as a prize...not a royal crown.
 - Conquer with peace. Daniel 8:25
 - Peace. Daniel 9:27
 - Conquer with cunning. 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12
- Matthew 24:5 (CSB): *⁵ For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Messiah,' and they will deceive many.*

The Second Seal

³ When he opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, "Come!"⁴ Then another horse went out, a fiery red one, and its rider was allowed to take peace from the earth, so that people would slaughter one another. And a large sword was given to him.

- Servant of the Lamb.
- Fiery red – probably because of the war and bloodshed.
- Removes peace from the earth.
 - A large sword – indicates up close and personal battle. Daniel 8:24
 - People begin to slaughter one another.
- Matthew 24:6-7a (CSB): *⁶ You are going to hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, because these things must take place, but the end is not yet. ⁷ For nation will rise up against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.*

The Third Seal

⁵ When he opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come!" And I looked, and there was a black horse. Its rider held a set of scales in his hand. ⁶ Then I heard something like a voice among the four living creatures say, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius, but do not harm the oil and the wine."

- Servant of the Lamb.
- Black – black is associated with famine (Lamentations 5:10).
- Scales (weighing scales). Weighing wheat (denarius) and barley (denarius).
- Matthew 24:7b (CSB): *There will be famines...*

The Fourth Seal

⁷ When he opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, "Come!" ⁸ And I looked, and there was a pale green horse. Its rider was named Death, and Hades was following after him. They were given authority over a fourth of the earth, to kill by the sword, by famine, by plague, and by the wild animals of the earth.

- Servant of the Lamb.
- Pale green – sickly
- Rider named Death.
- Hades (place of the dead) followed after him.
- Kill a fourth of the earth – by sword, famine, plague and wild animals.

The Fifth Seal

⁹ When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slaughtered because of the word of God and the testimony they had given. ¹⁰ They cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, the one who is holy and true, how long until you judge those who live on the earth and avenge our blood?" ¹¹ So they were each given a white robe, and they were told to rest a little while longer until the number would be completed of their fellow servants and their brothers and sisters, who were going to be killed just as they had been.

- Martyrs – slain because of the word of God and the testimony.
- Given a white robe.
 - Wait a little longer. 2 Peter 3:9
 - Beheaded? Revelation 20:1-4; Matthew 10:28
- Matthew 24:9 (CSB): *⁹ "Then they will hand you over to be persecuted, and they will kill you. You will be hated by all nations because of my name.*

The Sixth Seal

¹² Then I saw him open the sixth seal. A violent earthquake occurred; the sun turned black like sackcloth made of hair; the entire moon became like blood; ¹³ the stars of heaven fell to the earth as a fig tree drops its unripe figs when shaken by a high wind; ¹⁴ the sky was split apart like a scroll being rolled up; and every mountain and island was moved from its place.

- God alone acts.
- A violent earthquake.
 - Every mountain and island moved.
 - Sun turns black. Moon becomes like blood. Stars of heaven fall. Matthew 24:29; Joel 2:31
 - Sky splits apart. Isaiah 34:4
- Matthew 24:7c (CSB): *earthquakes in various places.*

The Response

¹⁵ Then the kings of the earth, the nobles, the generals, the rich, the powerful, and every slave and free person hid 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 face of the one seated on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb, ¹⁷ because the great day of their wrath has come! And who is able to stand?"

- Man's response to the sixth seal...terror. Nahum 1:6.