

Revelation A Wednesday Night Bible Study

Lesson #17 is a continuation of Lesson #16

11/01/2006

The Judgment of God, The Great Tribulation, The Great Day of God's Wrath

Christ Opens The Seven Seals

SEAL	REF.	DESCRIPTION	MEANING
1. Rider on the white horse	6:1-2	A rider on a white horse has a bow and a crown was given to him and he went forth conquering.	Many Bible students see this as Christ because of Rev. 19:11. However, Christ is opening the seals and sending forth the judgments. Anti-Christ appears as a peace-maker (Dan. 8:25; 11:21). We know that Anti-Christ appears as a "minister of righteousness" (2 Cor. 11:13-15) and is welcomed by the false prophets who proclaim "peace, peace when there is no peace" (Ezekiel 13:1-10). Anti-Christ temporarily appears to conquer the saints (Rev. 11:7; 13:7).
2. Rider on the red horse	6:3-4	A rider on a red horse is given a great sword and great power to take peace from the earth and cause men to kill each other.	The false peace brought by Anti-Christ is now removed by war. Had the first rider been Christ, His peace would have been permanent.
3. Rider on the black horse	6:5-6	A rider on a black horse is given a set of scales to measure food.	One of the results of war is the shortage of food, so a world-famine follows the time of war.
4. Rider on a pale horse	6:7-8	The rider is called "Death" and Hell (Hades), the place of the dead, follows him. He kills one-fourth of the people on the earth with the sword and hunger and with wild beasts.	During the Great Tribulation death will be the most common experience on earth. At this point one out of four people on the earth will die. Later ((9:15) one person out of three of those still living will die. Even later (14:20) so many will be killed that their blood will fill a valley 180 miles long and five feet deep. In the end death will finally be destroyed (1 Cor. 15:26).
5. Souls of the martyrs are seen under the altar	6:9-11	The souls of those martyred because of their witness to the world of God and Christ are seen under the altar crying out for vengeance and justice.	God announces to them that they must wait for a while and then He will avenge their deaths. Meanwhile, as they wait, they will be joined by their "fellow servants," those who are to be martyred during the Great Tribulation.
6. Chaos in nature	6:12-17	God begins to use His weapons of judgment from what He has created. Against His weapons there is no defense, only fear and desperation.	The wrath of God and of The Lamb are seen in the great earthquake, the movement of the mountains and islands, and the falling of the stars from the sky. God's judgment has begun and there is no refuge for sinful man.
7. Silence in heaven	8:1	There is complete silence in heaven.	The opening of the seventh seal introduces the next set of judgments — the Trumpet Judgments, an even more severe and intense set of judgments.

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Overview of Chapters Six Through Eighteen

7:1-17 EXPLANATION INTERLUDE FOR THE 144,000 AND THE GENTILES WON BY THEIR WITNESSING

8:1 SEVENTH SEAL OPENED

8:2-6 TRUMPET JUDGMENTS INTRODUCED

8:7 **First Trumpet Judgment:** hail, fire, blood

8:8 **Second Trumpet Judgment:** a great mountain cast into sea

8:10 **Third Trumpet Judgment:** a great star falls from heaven into rivers and fountains; called "Wormwood"

8:12 **Fourth Trumpet Judgment:** 1/3 of the sun, moon, stars smitten

8:13 **Angel crying "Woe, Woe, Woe" and introducing the "Woe" judgments**

9:1 **Fifth Trumpet Judgment — First "Woe" Judgment:** Key to bottomless pit given star fallen from heaven (Satan)
Locusts released from bottomless pit to attack wicked men on earth

9:13 **Sixth Trumpet Judgment — Second "Woe" Judgment:** Four angels loosed from the great river Euphrates; army of
200,000,000; 1/3 of men die

10:1-11:14 EXPLANATION INTERLUDE BETWEEN SIXTH AND SEVENTH TRUMPET JUDGMENTS

The little book; The two prophets of God; Introduction of last 3 1/2 years

11:15 **Seventh Trumpet Judgment — Third "Woe" Judgment:**

11:15-14:20 EXPLANATION INTERLUDE BETWEEN SOUNDING OF SEVENTH TRUMPET AND THE SEVEN LAST PLAGUES, THE BOWL OR JUDGMENTS

11:15-19 Worship service in heaven

12:1-17 Summary of history of conflict between God and Satan

13:1-18 Presentation of compound Anti-Christ:

1. Political Anti-Christ. — The Beast

2. Religious Anti-Christ — The False Prophet

14:1-5 Worship service in heaven focusing on the 144,000

14:6-20 Preview of final events of judgment

15:1-16:1 THE BOWL OR VIAL JUDGMENTS INTRODUCED

16:2 **First Bowl Judgment:** grievous sores inflicted upon the wicked

16:3 **Second Bowl Judgment:** sea becomes as blood and all things in the sea die

16:4 **Third Bowl Judgment:** rivers and fountains become as blood; judgment upon the wicked in behalf of martyrs

16:8 **Fourth Bowl Judgment:** Sun scorches men with fire

16:10 **Fifth Bowl Judgment:** the kingdom of the beast is turned into darkness and men gnaw their tongues in pain

16:12 **Sixth Bowl Judgment:** three unclean spirits come out of the great river Euphrates to gather men to Armageddon

16:17 **Seventh Bowl Judgment:** a great earthquake occurs and every mountain and island disappears and great hail falls from heaven

17:1-18:24 JUDGMENTS UPON BABYLON

17:1-18 **Judgment of Commercial Babylon**

18:1-24 **Judgment of Religious Babylon**