

Seal “JUDGMENTS”. Jesus coming on the scene wouldn’t be a “judgment”. The rider of the white horse is the Antichrist. He’s released at the onset of the Tribulation. A counterfeit of Christ.

- ✓ Seal #2 – The Red Horse (War) – *“And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, Come and see. And there went out another horse that was red: Its rider was given a mighty sword and the authority to take peace from the earth. And there was war and slaughter everywhere.” (Rev. 6:3-4)*
- ✓ Seal #3 – The Black Horse (Famine) – *“And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo, a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of scales in his hand. And I heard a voice in the midst of the living creatures say, A measure (choenix) of wheat for a penny ...” (Rev. 6:5-6)*
- ✓ A “measure of wheat” was enough to feed one person for one day. A “penny” was a full day’s wage. So, it’s going to take a full day’s pay just to feed yourself for the day.
- ✓ Seal #4 – The Pale (Chloros/Green – Mk. 6:39, Rev. 4:4) Horse – (Death) – *“And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, Come and see. And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed close behind. And power was given to them over one-fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with disease, and with the beasts of the earth.” (Rev. 6:7-8)*
- ✓ 5TH Seal – Martyrdom; 6TH Seal – A Great Earthquake; 7TH Seal – Trumpet Judgments. (He opens the 7th Seal and the angels w/ trumpets appear.)

The 7 Trumpet Judgments

Rev. 8:1 – *“And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and they were given seven trumpets.”*

04 – THE “EARTH STORY”

What Is the Tribulation Like?

1.) A Time of Intense Trouble

Matthew 24:21 – *“There will be great trouble and terrible suffering in those days, beyond the magnitude of anything the world has ever seen or ever will see.”*

2.) A Time Characterized by Wrath

- a. Man is Angry – *“And the nations were ANGRY ...” (Rev. 11:18)*
- b. Satan is Angry – *“The devil is come down unto you, having great WRATH, because he knows that he has but a short time. (Rev. 12:12)*
- c. God is Angry – *“(They) 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 that sits on the throne, and from the WRATH of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand? (Rev. 6:15-17)*

God’s Judgment Side

- ✓ Sometimes people struggle with the idea of God’s judgment. (I have unsaved friends that complain about it regularly. But to be honest, they’re more than a little inconsistent. They’ll look at the injustice in the world and say, “If there’s really a God, why doesn’t He do something about that?” But then, in the Book of Revelation, when God *does*, they’re mad at Him for it.) Since this can be a difficult issue, let’s talk about the judgment side of God.
- i.) Before God Pours Out Judgment, He Always Extends Mercy
- ✓ This is a theme you’ll find *throughout* Scripture. No matter *how* ungodly a person has been, God ALWAYS wants to show mercy. (We saw it with the pastor’s wife in Thyatira.)

Rev. 2:21 – “And **I gave her space** to repent of her fornication ...”

- ✓ Think of the gravity of the situation! The pastor’s wife was luring the men into sexual sin. On purpose! (The pastor’s wife! You can’t get much worse than that!) *Still*, God’s first thought was mercy. God *always* wants to show mercy.

ii.) God is Longsuffering, But He’s Not “Infinite-Suffering”

- ✓ When people reject God’s offer of mercy, and persist in their sin, eventually God *will* judge. (So, let’s talk about that.)

iii.) What Is Judgment?

- ✓ Before I tell you what judgment is, let me tell you what it isn’t. Judgment is NOT “anger out of control”. (Like, “God’s anger has built up to a point where He can’t take it anymore, and finally, He explodes”.) No, God is NEVER out of control!!!
- ✓ So, what is judgment? **Judgment is God’s righteous response to evil and injustice**. As I said before, God offers forgiveness and mercy first. But when people cling to their sin and refuse to repent, God will give them the justice that their sin deserves.
- ✓ But here’s another thought. Even when God judges, He’s hoping people wake up and turn to Him. (You see that *throughout* the Book of Revelation. God pours out judgment ... then it says, “and they still wouldn’t repent”. God judges *again* ... “and they *still* wouldn’t repent.” That gives us insight into what God was looking for when He judged. Repentance!
- ✓ I look at it this way: Judgment is God is turning up the pressure. We do that with *our* kids! They disobey, and we remove their TV privileges. They still won’t change, so they lose their cell phone. They keep on resisting, and we “ground” them. As long as they resist, we keep turning up the pressure, in hopes that they’ll change. That’s *exactly* what God is doing. He extends mercy for as long as He can. But if *persist* in sin, He knows there’s hell on the other side of this. If they keep going the way they’re going, they’re doomed. So

rather than let them keep going, He brings judgment. Keep that in mind as we look at the next section of Revelation.

A Series of 28 Judgments

- ✓ The **Seven Seals** are things that happen to the Nations. The **Seven Trumpets** are things that happen to Nature. The **Seven Bowls** are things that happen to Man. The **Seven Thunders** are unknown. (I *do* have a theory, which I’ll share in a minute.)

The Seven Seals

- ✓ The first four Seals release the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse.
- ✓ Seal #1 – The White Horse – “As I watched, the Lamb broke the first seal and began to unroll the scroll. Then one of the four Living creatures, with a voice that sounded like thunder, said, “Come and see”. I looked, and there before me was a white horse! Its rider held a bow, and he was given a crown, and he rode out as a conqueror bent on conquest.” (Rev. 6:1-2)
- ✓ Some have assumed that, since this rider is on a white horse, it must be Jesus (Rev. 19:11). But this *can’t* be Jesus. Think about it! Horseman #1 is released on earth while Jesus is in Heaven, opening the Seals. (They *can’t* be the same person.)
- ✓ Not only that: Horseman #1 is given a crown, but Jesus’ head is crowned with *many* crowns (19:12). Horseman #1 has a bow (with no arrows), but Jesus has a sharp two-edged sword coming out of His mouth.
- ✓ Remember, Satan is a counterfeiter. Horseman #1 is the Antichrist. He comes in the *place* of Christ and is a *counterfeit* of Christ. He’s released at the onset of the Tribulation.
- ✓ Think: If this rider *were* Jesus, then someone should talk to Him about the company He keeps, because the other three riders are clearly evil: (War, Famine and Death/Hell.) Remember, these are

- ✓ **The Trumpets describe things that happen to Nature.** In each of these judgments, one-third of *something* is going to be destroyed. (Many of these judgments align with Exodus judgments.)

Trumpet #1 – Hail & fire mixed with blood – (Ex. 9:22-23)

Trumpet #2 – A “Meteor” flung into the sea – (Ex. 7:17)

Trumpet #3 – A star wiped out 1/3 of the rivers – (Wormwood)

Trumpet #4 – A third part of the sun was smitten – (Ex. 10:21-22)

Trumpet #5 – Locusts out of the pit – (Five months of torment)

Trumpet #6 – Demonic army

Trumpet #7 – Thunder, earthquake and hail

The 7 Bowl (Vial) Judgments

*Rev. 15:1-8 – “And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvelous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for **in them is completed the wrath of God** ... And the seven angels came out of the temple, having seven golden bowls **full of the wrath of God** ... “*

Bowl #1 – Boils – (Exodus 9:8-11)

Bowl #2 – Sea to Blood

Bowl #3 – Fresh Water to Blood

Bowl #4 – Great Heat

Bowl #5 – Darkness – (Exodus 10:22-23)

Bowl #6 – Euphrates Dried Up

Bowl #7 – Great Hail (120 lb.)

The 7 Thunder Judgments – (Rev. 10:1-6)

- ✓ We can only speculate. We’ve had judgments on the Nations, and Nature, and Man. The last realm to shake loose is the demonic realm (11:15). Satan is called the prince of the power of the “air”. It makes sense that the “Thunders” would take place in that realm. (If these are judgments on the demonic realm, there’d be no reason to tell us about it.)
- ✓ The Book closes with the 2nd Coming, the Millennium, and the New Heaven and Earth.