

The Book of Revelation: Session 11

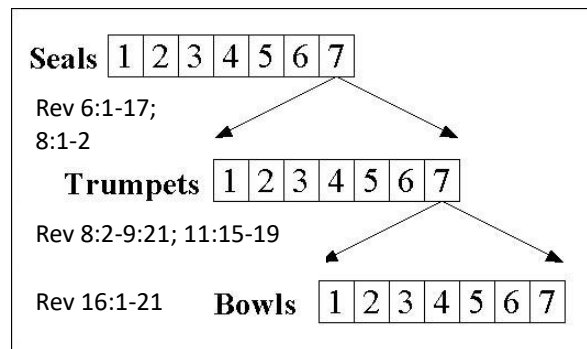
Revelation 6

YouTube: “Verse by Verse Teaching | Revelation 6 | Gary Hamrick”
(taught on September 9, 2020 | 49:34 minutes)

Notes:

- 1st Seal: Rider on a white horse (bow, but no arrows): Bow, a symbol of peace. Arrows, a symbol of war. “This rider will come under the guise of peace, but will actually bring war.” This rider is the Antichrist.
- 2nd Seal: Rider on a red horse: Red is the colour of bloodshed.
- 3rd Seal: Rider on a black horse: Famine and economic collapse.
- 4th Seal: Rider on a pale (greenish) horse: The death of many unbelievers.
- 5th Seal: The death of some believers.
- 6th Seal: Universal catastrophes (volcanoes, earthquakes, asteroids, etc.)

“We have a choice. We can either hide (run) from God, or run to God.”



Introduction: “The scroll contained the title deed to the earth. Unlike normal title deeds, it did not contain a description of Christ’s inheritance, but rather details how He will execute His reclaiming of what is rightfully His. ... The unrolling of the scroll marks the beginning of God’s wrath and judgment on sinful mankind as the Lord takes back creation from the usurper, Satan.” (John MacArthur)



Questions:

1. Read Revelation 6:1. The Lamb (Jesus) opens the seals! Chuck Swindoll explains, “God’s judgments are completely under His control. ... In the book of Revelation, we find that the initial action bringing judgment initiates in heaven. Then, and only then, are the actors on earth commanded or allowed to act.” How does it impact you to know that, evening during the time of Tribulation on earth, heaven is in charge?
2. Read Revelation 6:2-8. John MacArthur speaks of these broken seals unleashing “forces” on earth. Seal #1 unleashes “worldwide peace,” a peace without bloodshed, but a peace that is short-lived. Seal #2 unleashes “violence and war,” wielding a “large sword” (verse 4). Swindoll explains, “This sword is not the *rhomphaia* of order and justice that comes from the mouth of Christ (Rev 1:16). It’s the dagger-like *machaira* of assassination, uprising, and warfare.” Seal #3 unleashes “inflation,” due likely to food shortages. Seal #4 unleashes “massive loss of life” due to the sword, famine, plague, and wild beasts. Likely, what will the people of earth be feeling and doing and when this all is happening?
3. Read Revelation 6:9-11. Through the prayers of Tribulation martyrs, Seal #5 unleashes “God’s vengeance” on those that killed them. Read 2 Peter 3:3-15. What attributes of God does Peter highlight here? Some day, God’s patience will run out on this world, just as it ran out in Noah’s day. In the meantime, as we wait, how does Peter tell us to live?
4. Read Revelation 6:12-17. Seal #6 unleashes “fear,” produced by cataclysms on earth and in the heavens. How easy or hard is it to fathom that many on planet earth, at this point, still refuse to pledge their allegiance to the Lamb of God, sitting on the throne?

Want to dig deeper? Engage with these sermons by John MacArthur, taught in 1992:

- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-23/the-coming-of-world-peace>
- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-24/the-beginning-of-the-end>
- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-25/gods-great-day-of-wrath>
- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-26/fear-of-the-wrath-to-come-part-1>
- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-27/fear-of-the-wrath-to-come-part-2>