

Revelation Seminars



- Lesson # 9:
- The Four Horsemen of Revelation

- The four horsemen are *part of the seven seals* of Revelation, chapters six and eight. These seals are seven symbolic events which face the people of God, from the ascension of Jesus until His second coming. **They cover the same time period as the seven churches** of Revelation, chapters 2 and 3.

The Symbols Explained

- 1. What do horses and riders represent in prophecy?
- a. **Zech. 1:8 - 10**: "These are they whom the Lord hath sent to walk to and fro through the earth."
- b. **Zech. 6:2 - 5**: "These are the four spirits of the heavens, which go forth from standing before the Lord of all the earth."

■ Note:

- **Hebrews 1:13,14** states plainly that angels are ministering spirits sent by God to minister to His people upon the earth. These spirits are angels which minister over four very important time periods and special events that God's people must pass through, beginning with the New Testament Church.

- 2. Who announced the four mysterious horsemen? Rev. 6:1,3,5,7

- *Answer:* The four beasts.

- Note:

- These are called "four living creatures" in some translations. They have special responsibilities in Heaven.

The Seven Seals



- 3. How is the rider of the white horse described?
 - **Rev. 6:2**
 - "... he that sat on him **had a bow**; and **a crown** was given unto him: and he went forth **conquering** and to conquer.

- Note:

- What a fitting symbol for the church of the first century! So successful was God's church that before Paul died, he said that the gospel had been preached to the entire world! **Col. 1:5,6,23**. WHITE symbolizes the purity of the church (**Ps. 51:7, Is. 1:18**).

4. What did the rider of the red horse do? *Rev. 6:4*



- *Answer:*
- "Power was given unto him to **take peace from the earth**, and that they should kill one another."

■ Note:

- The red horse, under the second seal represents the Roman Government's bloody persecution of the people of God during the 2nd, 3rd & early part of the 4th centuries, A.D. - The same period of time covered by the Smyrna Church. God uses the color red to depict war, slaughter and bloodshed. See
- **Eze. 32:6,11; Jer. 46:10 & Nahum 2:3.**

5. Why did God use a black horse under the third seal?

- **Acts 26:18:**
- “.. from darkness to light”
- **John 12:35:**
- “Walk while you have the light, lest darkness come upon you.”



■ Note:

- Spiritual darkness or blackness is sin, apostasy and error - the very opposite of the light of the gospel. The church during the 4th, 5th and 1st part of the 6th century, became popular, worldly, and finally very corrupt when church and state united. The BLACK horse represents the same era as the Pergamos church, a time when millions of pagans, with their false practices and teachings, came into the church. This resulted in the persecution (represented by the sword) of true, Bible - believing Christians.

6. What did the black horse rider have in his hand? **Rev. 6:5,6**



- *Answer:*
- "A pair of balances."

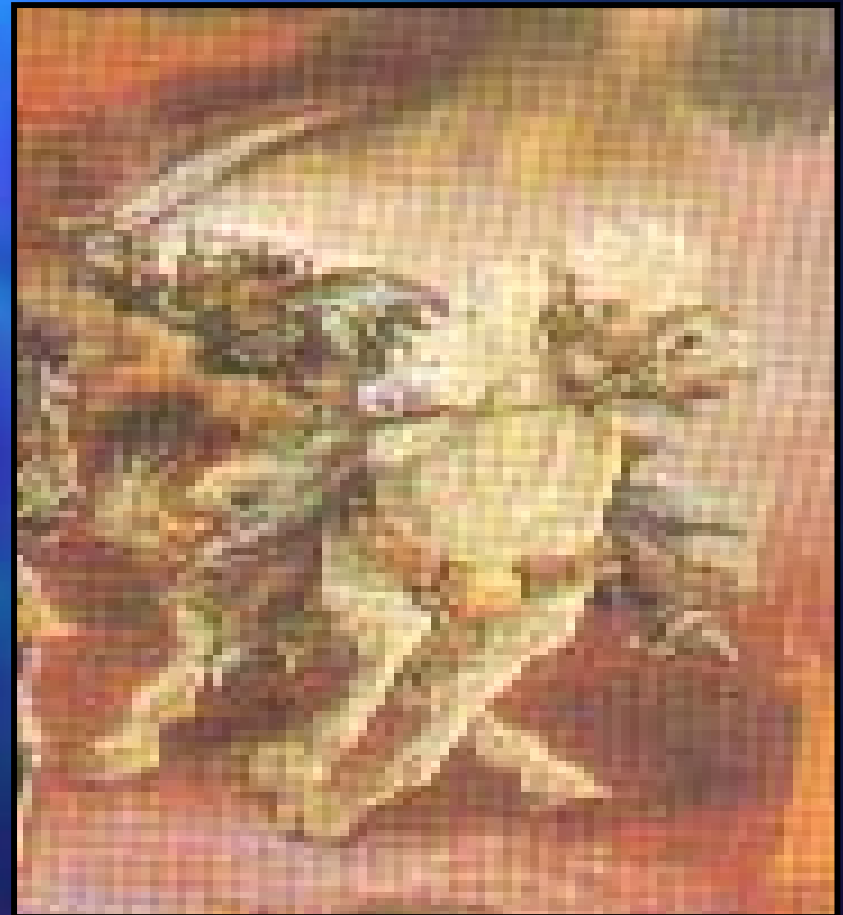
- **Note:** The balances represent the union of church and state when Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire under Constantine. A picture is given of food being weighed during a terrible famine. The famine symbolizes an acute scarcity of the Word of God (**Amos 8:11,12**).

Martyrs for Jesus

- 7. Who rode the pale horse? What followed? Rev. 6:8

Answer:

His name was death, and hell followed him.



■ Note:

- The pale horse with its rider DEATH, followed by the grave ("Hades" in Greek), symbolizes the millions of God's people destroyed by sword, starvation, wild beasts, and other cruel methods of torture and killing. This period is covered by the Thyatira church from the 6th through the 15th centuries
- (known as the Dark Ages).

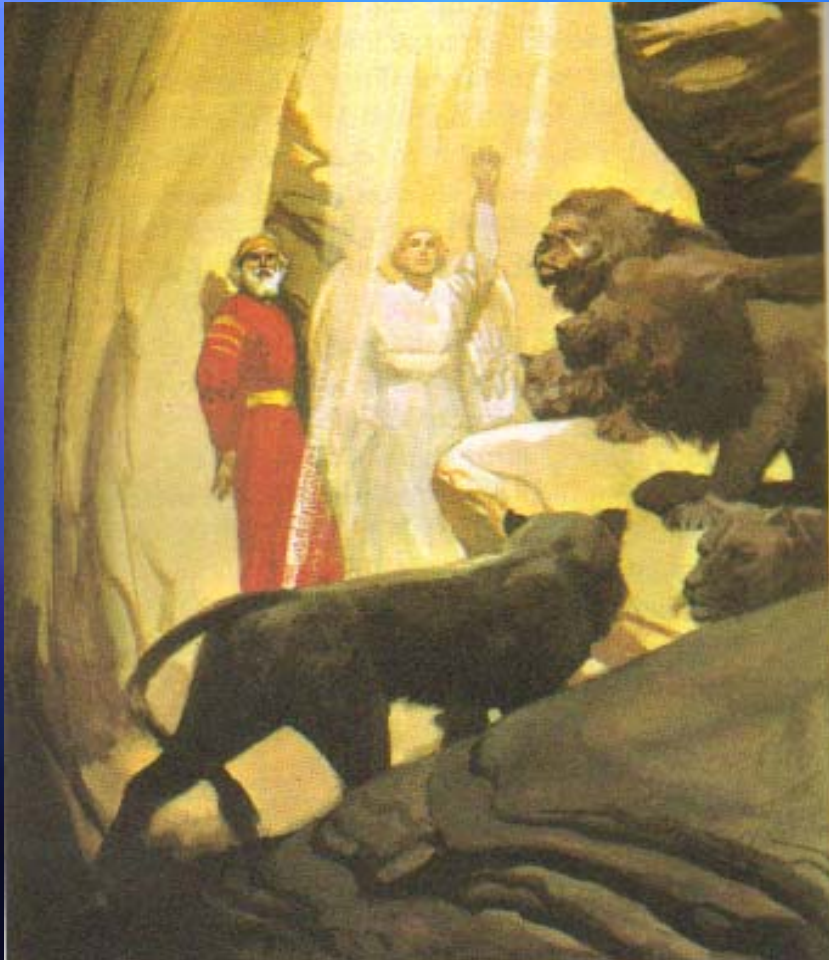
- Now, instead of the GOVERNMENT persecuting Bible - believing Christians, it was the church. This terrible time of persecution was prophesied by Jesus (**Matt. 24:21**); and by other Bible writers (**Dan. 7:21,25; Rev. 13:5, 12:6,14, 17:6**). Jesus plans for these martyrs to be closest to Him in His new kingdom!
Rev. 7:13 - 17.

8. What did John see and hear under the 5th seal?

Rev. 6:9,10

■ *Answer:*

- a. Saw souls "slain for the word of God."
- b. Heard them cry for God to avenge their blood.



■ Note:

- In the 5th seal the blood of the martyred saints cried out symbolically to God, like the blood of Abel did after he was slain by his brother (Gen.4:10). It was a terrible time of persecution when true, Bible - believing Christians were put to the death by the millions for their faith.

9. How long do they rest before receiving their rewards? **Rev. 6:11**

- "And white robes were given unto every one of them."

■ **Answer:**

- "For a little season, until their fellow-servants also, and their brethren should be ... fulfilled."

■ Note:

- The WHITE ROBES indicate victory for these martyrs (Rev. 19:8, 3:5).

Though their victory was already won, they were to rest or sleep in the tomb a little season till Jesus returns and rewards **all** His saints - together, at the same time!

- (Heb. 11:39,40)

■ Note:

- The 5th seal covers the same era as the 5th church, - Sardis - from the 16th to the mid 18th century. So the horrible persecution of the 4th seal continued under the 5th seal. Jesus said this time of persecution would be shortened (Matt. 24:21,22). It was drastically shortened, and finally stopped by the dynamic preaching of the great preachers of the Reformation.

Signs in the Heavens

- 10. What events take place as the 6th seal opens?
Rev. 6:12,13



Four Signs:

- a. "A great earthquake."
- b. "The stars fell."
- c. "The moon became as blood."
- d. "The sun became black."

■ Note:

- When God made the sun, moon and stars at Creation He said, "Let them be for **signs**, and for seasons, and for days and for years." **Gen. 1:14**. So these great **signs** appeared in the heavens.

The Great Earthquake of Nov. 1, 1755:

- **This was the greatest catastrophe the world had seen since Noah's flood. It was felt over the greater part of Europe, Africa and America. Since it centered in Portugal, it is commonly referred to as The Lisbon Earthquake.**

The Dark Day of May 19, 1780

- This caused great alarm, and many thought the end of the world had come. Beginning in mid - morning, it became so dark that lamps had to be lighted in the houses. The darkness covered a large part of North America, and caused serious - minded people to study their Bible for an answer.

The Moon Red as Blood, May 19, 1780

- About midnight, the unusual darkness lifted and the moon appeared, but it was as red as blood. This represented the closing of an era when a true knowledge of Jesus the Son of Righteousness had been obscured (during the Dark Ages), and the blood of millions of true Bible - believing Christians was spilled.

The Falling of the Stars, November 13, 1833

- This was an exciting display of heavenly fireworks, perhaps the greatest ever witnessed on the face of the earth! It was seen across North America, and it is estimated that 200,000 stars an hour fell over a period of 5 or 6 hours. People thought that surely it was the Judgement Day. So when God's prophetic clock struck - the signs in the heavens appeared.

11. The next great event under the 6th seal is?

Rev. 6:14 - 17



- *Answer:*
- The second coming of Christ. Then the wicked will cry, "The great day of His wrath is come."

■ Note:

- It is sobering indeed to realize that we are now living between **verses 13 & 14** of the 6th seal **of Revelation 6**. The next great sign will be the sudden appearing of Jesus Christ coming in the clouds of glory **(Matt. 24:30)**! The 6th seal covers the time periods of both the 6th & 7th Churches - Philadelphia & Laodicea - from about the middle of the 18th century to the coming of Jesus.

Seal of God

- **12. Who will be able to stand when Jesus returns?**

- **Rev. 7:2,3**

- *Answer:*

- Those who are sealed by God: "Hurt not the earth ... till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads."



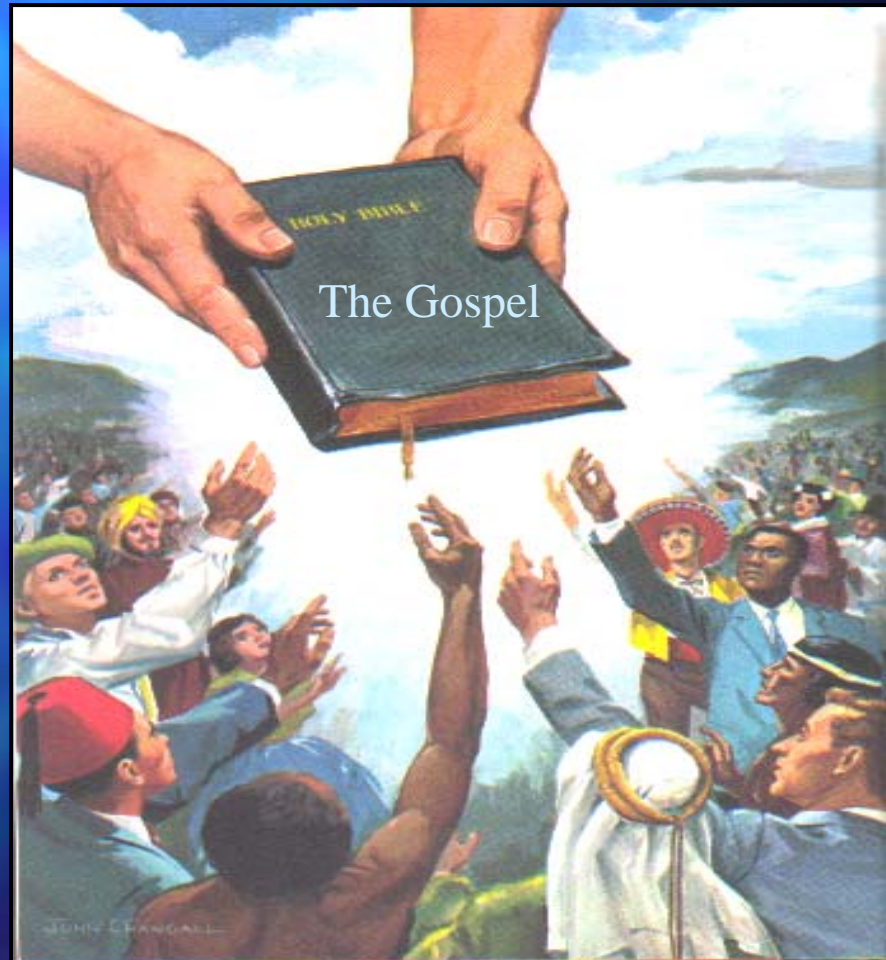
■ Note:

- The people who will be ready for Jesus' coming must first receive God's seal - a sign in their foreheads. Our next seminar lessons explains what this very important sign or seal is, and how you may receive it.

13. What happens when all have heard the gospel?

Rev. 14:6,14

- *Answer:*
 - Jesus comes in the clouds.



■ Note:

- The Everlasting Gospel and the Three Angels' Messages of Revelation 14:6 - 10, with God's Sealing Truth is sweeping across the earth like a prairie grass fire in the wind! Get ready for the next lesson.

14. How can I know when Jesus will appear?

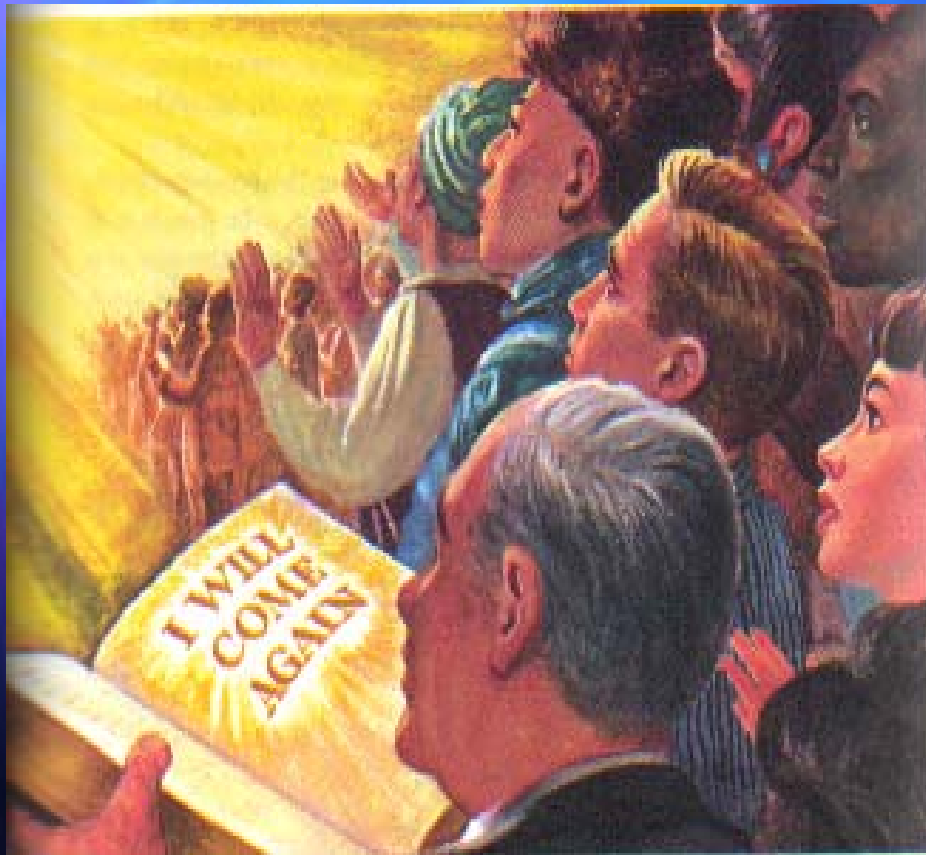
Matt. 24:33

- Answer: When you see the signs, "Know that it is near even at the door."
- **Note**: It is very exciting to know the second coming of Jesus is near! However, no man knows the exact day or hour of His return (Matt. 24:36). The all important question is, "Are you ready?"

Silence in Heaven

- **15. What happens when the 7th seal is opened? Rev. 8:1**
- "There was silence in Heaven for about the space of half an hour."
- **Note:** This silence takes place at the time of Jesus' coming. Heaven is silent because Heaven is empty. The Father and all the holy angels will come with Jesus when He returns for His saints (Matt. 16:27, 25:31).

16. How should we act during signs of Jesus' return? **Luke 21:28**



- "Look up and lift up your heads for your redemption draweth nigh."
- Note: Our most exciting thoughts should be of our Lord's return. We must make our preparation for this great event first in our lives, and tell others so they too, may be ready.

17. How does Jesus feel when we ask for His help? **Jude 24,25**

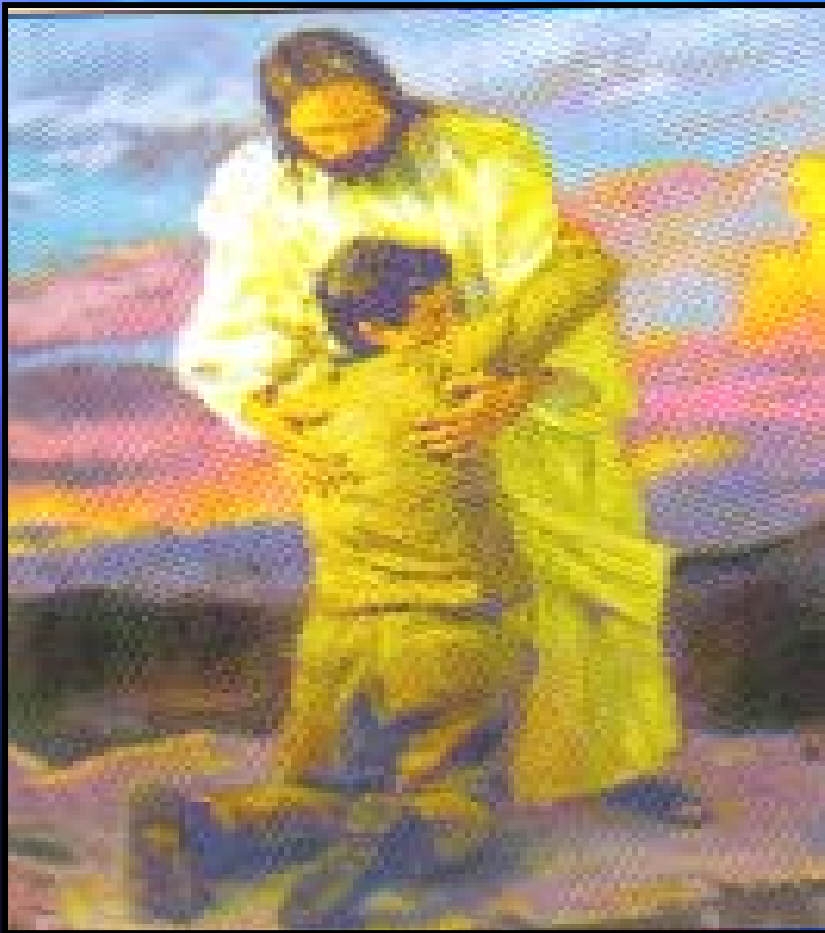


- He will “keep you from falling and present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy.”

Remember:

- 1. No matter who you are, or what your past has been, Jesus will accept you if you really want to be saved.
- 2. He will forgive your sins and help you to prepare for His great and glorious coming, so you may take that amazing space journey from earth to heaven.

18. Will you decide now to do whatever Jesus wants you to do?



- Note:
- Read **Matt. 24** & **Luke 21** for a more detailed study of the present day signs of Jesus' return. We are likely the last generation to be living upon the earth before Jesus comes!