

The Lamb Opens the Seals Revelation 6:1-8

I. He Opens Each Seal – Rev. 6

1. All heaven declares Him worthy – Rev. 5:8-14
The Cherubim, the 24 elders, & Hosts of God's angels
2. The Father has committed all judgment to the Son – John 5:20-27
That all men should honor the Son, even as they honor the Father
3. He Opens the First Seal – 6:1-2
One of the Cherubim announces this Judgment
Speaks with a "thunder-like" voice
He calls for those who hear, to pay attention to one who "comes"
The Rider on a white horse comes
This rider has a bow, and a crown, given to him
Note that the bow is without an arrow
Suggesting a somewhat peaceful approach
In Daniel 9:27 this prince will make a "strong covenant" with many (Israel)
But will break this covenant after 3 ½ years (abominations of desolations)
He truly came out conquering, and to conquer
4. The interpretation of this takes us to Matt. 24
Jesus is coming out of the Temple with His disciples
He tells them of the destruction of the Temple—24:1-2
They ask Him "when" and the "end of the age"
5. Jesus lists signs of this end similar to Rev. 6
He speaks of "false Christs" – 24:4-5
Who come to "deceive you"
Speaks of wars, famines, pestilences, & earthquakes" – 6-7
Since Rev. 6 was spoken by Jesus it ought to be the same
6. Jesus will come on a white horse but after the Tribulation
Rev. 19:11-16
7. Matthew 24 takes us back to Daniel 9 – 24:15:26
In Dan. 9:24-27 we have God's outline of 70 "sevens" for Israel
A prince is to come from Gentile nations to make a covenant with Israel – 9:27
But he shall break that covenant at ½ week (3 ½ years)
He shall put an end to sacrifice & offerings
Making the Temple "abomination of desolation" – Matt. 24:15
8. This points to antichrist rather than Jesus Christ
Therefore the opening of the 1st seal brings antichrist
But God allows this to happen to allow humans to face evil
Consider what is written in 2 Thess. 2:1-4
This "man of sin" exalts himself as a world leader
And actually sits in the Temple of God
Showing himself that He is God
Is not this the ruler on the "white horse" of Rev. 6:1-2

II. The Lamb Opens Seals 2-4

1. These 3 seals often are seen in human history
They are also linked together in Matt. 24:6-7
After world war I they were seen as signs of Christ's return
After world war II some again took them as signs
But Jesus said that these are not always signs
2. Jesus said that they may be the "beginning of sorrows"
In Matt. 24:8
3. God may often use these to awaken us
Call us to think seriously about our relationship with Our Lord
4. These 3 seals often follow one and two
When men go out "to conquer" they often follow
5. Opening the 2nd seal – Rev. 6:3-4
Again one of the Cherubim calls us to attention with "come"
Another horse appears but "white" now becomes "red"
The rider is permitted to take peace from the earth
"So that people should slay one another"
"And he was given a great sword"
This may be warfare or man's loss of value of human life
6. Opening the 3rd seal – Rev. 6:5-6
Third Cherubim announces "come"
John looked and he saw a black horse
"The rider had a pair of scales in his hand"
A voice seemed to cry out
"A quart of wheat for a denarius" and "3 quarts of barley for a denarius"
A denarius was a days wages – it would feed one adult
This black horse speaks of economic disaster and famine
But note that it does no harm to "the oil and wine" (the wealthy)
7. Opening the 4th seal – Rev. 6:7-8
Fourth Cherubim says "Come"
John looked and he saw a "pale horse"
Its rider's name is given – "Death, and Hades" followed him
"They were given authority over a fourth of earth"
"To kill with sword and with famine and by wild beasts of the earth"
8. These 3 seals are warning signs from God
A day is coming when men will be held accountable to God
What kind of relationship have we had with God?
How have we responded to God's Son, provided for our redemption?
How do we respond to God's Word, passed down to us?