

The Olivet Discourse—Part 3
“The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse”
Matthew 24:3-8; Revelation 6:1-8

I. The First Seal—The White Horse of the A_____

(Matt. 24:4-5 & Rev. 6:1-2)

- a. Some with different Eschatological understandings, believe that this rider is Jesus primarily because he rides a white horse (cf. Rev. 19:11)
- b. “**The spirit of the antichrist**” has been with us since the beginning of the church (cf. 1 John 4:2-3; 2:18, 22; 2 John 1:7 & Acts 5:36-7; 21:38; 2 Cor. 11:13; 2 Thess. 2; 1 Tim. 6:3; 2 Tim. 3:1-14; 4:1-5; 2 Peter 2:1-3)
- c. Although there have been many heretics and antichrists, there will be THE Antichrist who will declare ***I am the Christ*** (cf. Dan. 9:26-27; 2 Thess. 2:3-12; Rev. 13:1-10)
 - i. Note that although Satan appears to be in charge of the rise of the Antichrist, it is Jesus who opens the Seal.
- d. **Four Reasons Why this Horseman is the Antichrist:**
 - i. The context of the other 3 horsemen is Judgment
 - ii. His ***crown*** is a ***stephanos*** (στέφανος) = laurel wreath of victory vs. Jesus’ ***diadema*** (διάδημα) = royal or kingship crown (cf. Rev. 14:12)
 - iii. He has a ***bow*** without arrows, not a sword (cf. 1 Chr. 5:18; Ps. 18:34; Dan. 9:24-27; Rev. 19:14)
 - iv. His ***white horse*** is a deception because Satan is the father of lies and the Antichrist is his ultimate counterfeit (cf. Gen. 3:1-4; 1 Chron. 21:1; John 8:44; Rev. 12:9)

II. The Second Seal—The Red Horse of W_____

(Matt. 24:6-7a & Rev. 6:3-4)

- a. There have been wars and rumors of wars since Cain killed Abel but during the Tribulation the frequency and intensity will reach never seen before levels (cf. Gen. 4; Dan. 11; Rev. 12:3; 17:3)
- b. ***red*** is the color of blood and war

- c. ***to take peace from the earth*** could mean either God causes it or the Antichrist can’t conceal it

- d. He replaces his arrowless ***bow*** with a ***great sword***

III. The Third Seal—The Black Horse of F_____

(Matt. 24:7b & Rev. 6:5-6)

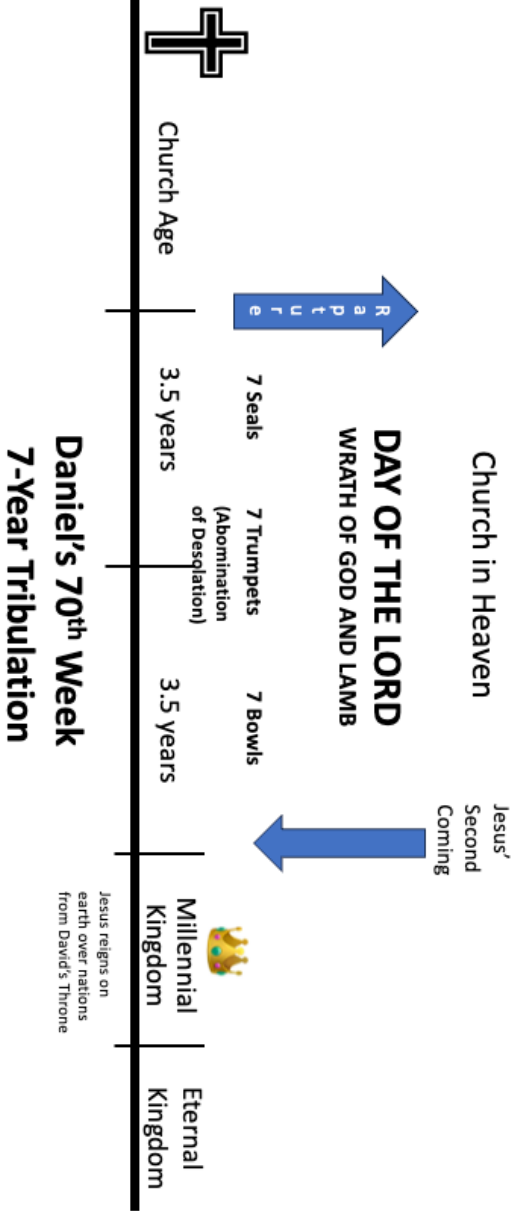
- a. The Old Testament associates famine with God’s Wrath (cf. Lev. 26:18, 20:26-27; Deut. 28:23-24, 38-42, 47-48, 53-57)
- b. ***black*** often symbolizes famine (cf. Jer. 14:1-2; Lam. 5:8-10)
- c. ***a pair of scales in his hand*** = symbolizes famine because food must be measured by weight (cf. Lev. 26:26)
- d. ***A quart of wheat*** & ***three quarts of barley*** both equal roughly one man’s daily ration
- e. ***a denarius*** = a day’s wages = The problem is the price leaves no room to feed a family and leads to starvation:
- f. There is no clear consensus on the reference to ***the oil and wine*** but it could mean a limited famine or a great and volatile disparity between the rich and the poor

IV. The Fourth Seal—The Ashen Horse of D_____

(Rev. 6:7-8)

- a. ***ashen*** = ***chlōros*** (χλωρός) = “green” or “pale greenish gray”
- b. ***Hades*** (ᾗδης) = “a place or abode of the dead,” “Sheol”
- c. ***a fourth of the earth*** = today is over 2 billion people
- d. ***to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by the wild beasts of the earth*** = God’s warning of “four severe judgments” against Israel (cf. Ezek. 14:21; cf. Lev. 26:21-26; Deut. 27-29; Jer. 15:2; 24:10; 27:8; 19:7-8; 32:24, 36; 34:17; Ezek. 5:12, 17; Amos 4:6-10)

Pre-tribulational Rapture View



(Michael Viach)