

"The Seal Judgments"

Part 2

Revelation 6:1-17

Introduction: Last week in our study of the book of Revelation we looked at the beginning of the Seal Judgments found in Revelation 6. Chapter 6 verse 1 shows us how the Tribulation will begin after the Rapture of the church.

I need to review back over that which we looked at last week in our study. I had made mention last week of how the Church will have absolutely no place in the Tribulation. The Church will be raptured away before the Tribulation ever begins.

Revelation 3:10

¹⁰ *Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, **I also will keep thee from** the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.*

In the book of Daniel we read the following words:

Daniel 9:24

²⁴ ***Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people** and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.*

Here we see that Daniel was told by Gabriel that 70 weeks of years were determined upon DANIEL'S PEOPLE who are the Jews. So far 69 weeks of years have passed.

Daniel 24:25-26a

²⁵ *Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.*

²⁶ *And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off...*

The 70 weeks of years began when Nehemiah was given the command to rebuild the walls around Jerusalem and Gabriel told Daniel that after 69 weeks of years the Messiah would come and He would be cut off which means He would die. This all happened just as Gabriel had foretold. Now what Daniel and the Jews did not know was there would be a gap

between the 69th and the 70th week of years. That gap is the age we are in today known as the Church Age. The 70th week is yet to come and it will begin after the Rapture of the Church.

The Rapture takes the world and its inhabitants enter into the 70th week and the loosening of the first seal begins the events which will lead to the end of this world as we know it today.

I. **Seal #1**

Part 2

A. **The Anti-Christ**

Notice Revelation 6:1

This rider on the white horse is none other than the Anti-Christ. He is Satan's masterpiece whom Satan has been waiting to bring on the world's scene so as to bring about a worldwide deception.

He rides a white horse because he is a counterfeit. Jesus is also pictured riding a white horse in Revelation 19 when He returns at the end of the Tribulation to set up His Kingdom. Satan's goal is to convince the world, that this man whom he has groomed is the long awaited Messiah.

This man will come on the scene and he will become a world ruler in just a short amount of time. He has a bow without arrows which speaks of peace. He will come on the scene and he will establish a covenant with the nation of Israel for 7 years but in the middle of the 7 years he will break the covenant and there will be full blown persecution upon the Nation of Israel.

Daniel 9:27

²⁷ And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

This verse parallels with what Jesus said in Matthew.

Matthew 24:15-18, 21

¹⁵ *When ye therefore shall see **the abomination of desolation**, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)*

¹⁶ *Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:*

¹⁷ *Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house:*

¹⁸ *Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes.*

²¹ *For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.*

Paul also spoke of the Great Tribulation which will start I the middle of the Tribulation.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-3

But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you.

² *For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.*

³ *For when they shall say, Peace and safety; **then sudden destruction cometh upon them**, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.*

Now before we move onto the next seal judgment I want to help you to see the character of the Anti-Christ.

B. His character

I want to take us back to the book of Genesis in order to learn a little more about the Anti-Christ. The first man we have record of who is a picture of the Anti-Christ is found in the book of Genesis. We will get to him in a moment but I need to show you some other verses to set the stage.

Genesis 3:14-15

¹⁴ *And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:*

¹⁵ *And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.*

This is the very first promise of the coming Redeemer Jesus Christ. Satan would bruise His heel at the cross but Jesus will eventually crush his head in destruction.

Now the woman here no doubt refers to Eve but there is also another meaning and that is the woman here can be seen as the Nation of Israel.

Revelation 12:1-5

*And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a **woman** clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars:*

² *And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.*

³ *And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.*

⁴ *And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the **woman** which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.*

⁵ *And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.*

Satan launched an attack upon the human race after the announcement of the coming Redeemer and he convinced the world to buy into false religion in Genesis 6 when the world of Noah's day became full of corruption. God destroyed the world with a flood but He kept the promise alive through Noah and his family.

Satan's next attack came through a man in Genesis 10.

Genesis 10:8-10

⁸ *And Cush begat **Nimrod**: he began to be a mighty one in the earth.*

⁹ ***He was a mighty hunter before the LORD**: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD.*

¹⁰ *And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of **Shinar**.*

Nimrod was what many would call "A NATURAL BORN LEADER" As he grew Nimrod became a HUNTER but he was not a hunter of animals he was a hunter of men. We can see here in Genesis 10:10 that his kingdom was in Babel, Erech, Calneh, and the land of Shinar.

Let me now show you why he hunted men. Next we see the Tower of Babel.

Genesis 11:1-4

And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech.

² *And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain **in the land of Shinar**; and they dwelt there.*

³ *And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them thoroughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar.*

⁴ *And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.*

Nimrod hunted men and led them in direct rebellion against God. They built a Tower which was the center of a false worship system. This was all in rebellion against God's command.

Genesis 9:1

And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.

Nimrod is a picture of the Anti-Christ. Therefore we can understand the Anti-Christ will come on the scene and he will be a NATURAL BORN LEADER. He will be mighty in power, speech, and in mighty in his leadership skills. He will hunt men whom he can lead in a rebellion against God.

Let me show you a picture of all of this.

Revelation 19:19-21

¹⁹ *And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army.*

²⁰ *And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.*

²¹ *And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.*

Now let me show you a glimpse of the size of the armies whom Satan has gathered.

Revelation 14:18-20

¹⁸ *And another angel came out from the altar, which had power over fire; and cried with a loud cry to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe.*

¹⁹ *And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God.*

²⁰ *And the winepress was trodden without the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs.*

The blood from these armies will flow 180 miles at 4.5 feet deep. That is the blood of a lot of people.

Conclusion:

Now let us get back to the thought for this message. The Anti-Christ could very well be alive today. Let me show you several verses in closing today.

2 Thessalonians 2:1-3

Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him,

² That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.

*³ Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, **except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition:***

There are 2 things which Paul tells these believers which must take place before the Day of the Lord begins.

1. **The falling away.**
2. **The revelation of the Anti-Christ.**

The Anti-Christ cannot come on the scene before the Rapture but I would like to submit to you that the FALLING AWAY or the APOSTASY is already happening. The FALLING AWAY is the departure from the TRUTH of God's Word.

Churches are falling away from the Truth of God's Word more and more every day.

The point is we could be very close to the Rapture which would mean the start of the Tribulation. If you miss the Rapture you will go into the Tribulation. If you are saved today you have the hope that you may never have to die.

If you miss the Rapture your only escape from the Tribulation is death and then it really is no escape for you will be in hell.

The Bible tells us that TODAY is the DAY OF SALVATION.

Jesus died for you to set you free from the power, penalty, and the presence of sin. But you must accept Him as your Savior.