

"The Seal Judgments"**Part 4****Revelation 6:1-17**

Introduction: For the past 3 weeks we have been in a study of the Seal Judgments which are found in Revelation 6. So far we have looked at the first 2 Seals.

1. Seal #1 - The Anti-Christ

This is Satan's masterpiece that will come on the scene AFTER the rapture of the church. He will come on the scene and he will establish a covenant with the Nation of Israel as he attempts to counterfeit God's Promise of a Covenant made in the Old Testament.

Ezekiel 34:25-28

²⁵ ***And I will make with them a covenant of peace**, and will cause the evil beasts to cease out of the land: and they shall dwell safely in the wilderness, and sleep in the woods.*

²⁶ *And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down in his season; there shall be showers of blessing.*

²⁷ *And the tree of the field shall yield her fruit, and the earth shall yield her increase, and they shall be safe in their land, and shall know that I am the LORD, when I have broken the bands of their yoke, and delivered them out of the hand of those that served themselves of them.*

²⁸ *And they shall no more be a prey to the heathen, neither shall the beast of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and none shall make them afraid.*

As Satan attempts to counterfeit this covenant he will do so to lead the Nation of Israel into destruction.

I am going to borrow some of Dale's teaching from the classes on Thursday evenings to help you to see something here. You may have wonder why Satan is so determined to destroy Israel?

The battle started in Genesis when God announced His Promise of the Redeemer.

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.*

From the woman would come the Redeemer who would crush the head of Satan. From this prophecy forward Satan was focused destroying the Redeemer.

- a. Satan moved Cain to kill Abel thinking Abel was the Redeemer.
- b. Satan influenced the entire world of Noah's day and led them deep into corruption in an attempt to destroy the Promise of Christ.
- c. He then worked through Nimrod leading the earth in rebellion against God.
- d. He worked through Pharaoh in the book of Exodus to kill all baby boys in an attempt to kill the Redeemer.
- e. Then when Jesus was born he worked through Herod to kill Jesus Christ.

These are a few of his attempts and there are many more.

So the question is, "Why is Satan so focused upon destroying Israel today since Christ has come and paid the penalty for man's sin?"

Because the Promise of Jesus earthly return and the Promise of the earthly Kingdom is given to the Nation of Israel and if Israel is completely destroyed then there will be no Kingdom and no return of Jesus Christ at the end of the Tribulation.

Zechariah 12:10

¹⁰ *And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.*

Zechariah 13:1, 9

In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.

⁹ *And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.*

Matthew 23:37-39

³⁷ *O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!*

³⁸ *Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.*

³⁹ *For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.*

The Promise of His earthly return and His earthly Kingdom is to the Nation of Israel and if Satan can destroy Israel he can then stop the return of Christ and therefore he can rule the world and all the inhabitants.

Lesson: ANY teaching today that is anti-Semitic is straight from the pit of hell. ANY teaching today which teaches the Church replaced the Nation of Israel is straight from the pit of hell. Any teaching today which is against the Jews is playing right into the plan which Satan has for the Tribulation.

2. Seal #2 - War on the Earth

When this seal is opened wars begin to break out on the earth. This is the result of God confusing evil. Satan is attempting to counterfeit God covenant of peace and God will not permit it to happen so this horse brings for blood shed.

I. Seal #3

Notice Revelation 6:5

Now we are introduced to a black horse and his entrance is going to bring famine on the earth. Famine always travels with war. Jesus spoke of this in Matthew.

Matthew 24:4-7

⁴ *And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.*

⁵ *For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.*

⁶ *And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.*

⁷ *For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.*

Now if we look closely at Revelation 6:6 we can see just how bad this famine will be.

Notice Revelation 6:5-6

This rider has in his hand a pair of balances or scales to measure out food. Then in verse 6 we see that one of the 4 beasts announces "a measure of wheat for a penny and three measures of barley for a penny".

The "PENNY" here is a "DENARIUS" which was the wages which 1 man would make for 1 day of work. A "MEASURE OF WHEAT" and "THREE MEASURES OF BARLEY" are each the food required to sustain ONE MAN for ONE DAY.

Now let me explain the situation in the beginning of the Tribulation. When the wars break out and the famines begin food will be so scarce and so costly that it will take ONE DAY'S WAGES to buy enough food to sustain one man. If there would be 4 people in a family and only one man could work people are going to starve.

We have never experienced a famine in the USA so it is difficult for us to get our minds wrapped around what this will be like. Let me show give you a glimpse from the pen of Jeremiah.

Lamentations 4:4-10

⁴ The tongue of the sucking child cleaveth to the roof of his mouth for thirst: the young children ask bread, and no man breaketh it unto them.

⁵ They that did feed delicately are desolate in the streets: they that were brought up in scarlet embrace dunghills.

⁶ For the punishment of the iniquity of the daughter of my people is greater than the punishment of the sin of Sodom, that was overthrown as in a moment, and no hands stayed on her.

⁷ Her Nazarites were purer than snow, they were whiter than milk, they were more ruddy in body than rubies, their polishing was of sapphire:

⁸ Their visage is blacker than a coal; they are not known in the streets: their skin cleaveth to their bones; it is withered, it is become like a stick.

⁹ They that be slain with the sword are better than they that be slain with hunger: for these pine away, stricken through for want of the fruits of the field.

¹⁰ The hands of the pitiful women have sodden their own children: they were their meat in the destruction of the daughter of my people.

This is what happened when during the time Jerusalem was besieged by the Babylonians.

Let me show you another picture in the city of Samaria when they were under siege.

2 Kings 6:24-29

²⁴ *And it came to pass after this, that Benhadad king of Syria gathered all his host, and went up, and besieged Samaria.*

²⁵ *And there was a great famine in Samaria: and, behold, they besieged it, until an ass's head was sold for fourscore pieces of silver, and the fourth part of a cab of dove's dung for five pieces of silver.*

²⁶ *And as the king of Israel was passing by upon the wall, there cried a woman unto him, saying, Help, my lord, O king.*

²⁷ *And he said, If the LORD do not help thee, whence shall I help thee? out of the barnfloor, or out of the winepress?*

²⁸ *And the king said unto her, What aileth thee? And she answered, This woman said unto me, Give thy son, that we may eat him to day, and we will eat my son to morrow.*

²⁹ *So we boiled my son, and did eat him: and I said unto her on the next day, Give thy son, that we may eat him: and she hath hid her son.*

Now this is what a famine will do to people but the famines spoken of in Revelation 6 are far worse. You may wonder how they could be worse:

The reason is because the RESTRAINTS will be removed from the demonic world and the depravity of man will be fully exposed.

If you were to enter this time period and the famines hit and you have food you better believe someone is coming after you to kill you and to rob you of your food.

Let me give you something else to consider. When we were starting our building project I spoke with a truck driver who delivered the metal for the floor in the fellowship hall and he told me about trucking food to New York City. When one of the hurricanes hit a while back they could not get the trucks into the city and they were lined up along the highway. He explained to me that in 3 days if there would be no deliveries going into the city of New York they would run out of food. In 3 days they would be out of food. In the Tribulation many cities are going to run out of food which means the people of the city will begin to make their way out into the rural areas in search of food.

To say that life will be difficult during the Tribulation would be a major understatement.

Notice Revelation 6:6 again.

There is yet another statement here that we have not looked at. There is a command given in this verse "TO HURT NOT THE OIL AND THE WINE". There are many different views concerning this statement but if we keep it in context I believe it is rather easy to grasp.

Oil and wine were luxuries and they were very important for cooking. The point here is that when the famine hits after the wars those who are here are not to waste anything. It will all be needed in order to sustain life.

We live in a day today where there is much wasted. Jesus was very careful while He walked the face of the earth to not be wasteful.

John 6:11-13

¹¹ *And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would.*

¹² *When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost.*

¹³ *Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten.*

Conclusion:

So far we have just looked at 3 seals and we are not even 3 and $\frac{1}{2}$ years deep into the Tribulation yet. Life on the earth will be extremely difficult during this time. I can say this truthfully, "You do not want to be here to experience any of this!" I can also say, "God does not want you here to experience any of this!" He has made a way for you to escape this coming Judgment.

John 3:36

³⁶ *He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.*

Hebrews 9:22

²² *And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.*

Hebrews 10:14-17

¹⁴ *For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.*

¹⁵ *Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before,*

¹⁶ *This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;*

¹⁷ **And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.**