

**"After the Rapture"**

**Part 2**

**Revelation 6**

**Introduction:** Last week in our morning message we were looking at life on earth after the Rapture of the church. In our study we looked at several points.

1. The Rapture

We defined the Rapture and looked at the verses in the Word of God which teach concerning the Rapture.

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-17**

*<sup>13</sup> But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.*

*<sup>14</sup> For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.*

*<sup>15</sup> For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.*

*<sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:*

*<sup>17</sup> Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.*

*<sup>18</sup> Wherefore comfort one another with these words.*

To the church of Philadelphia Jesus made a promise.

**Revelation 3:10**

*<sup>10</sup> 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.*

2. The Unleashing of Evil

**2 Thessalonians 2:7-8**

*<sup>7</sup> For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.*

<sup>8</sup> And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

### 3. The Judgments

Now when we began to look at the judgments, we started in Revelation 6 with the Seal Judgments. Before we get back to the Seals, I need to remind you of something which we have discussed many times.

When we study the book of Revelation, we must interpret it literally. If we break the bands of literal interpretation, then we open the door for people to make the passage say anything which they desire. Basically, if the bands of literal interpretation are broken then it is the person with the greatest imagination who has the most exciting sermon.

God intends that when a man or a woman picks up His Word and begins to read, that they understand it literally.

#### Illustration:

Let us say the headlines in the paper read something like this, "The President of the United States is traveling to Israel to meet with Benjamin Netanyahu." Can you imagine someone saying, "This means that the President is going to Russia to meet with Putin"? That would make no sense. In the same way when we read the Word of God, we must interpret it literally unless the Bible tells us otherwise.

- Seal #1 - The Anti-Christ
- Seal #2 - War
- Seal #3 - Famine

Let me show you the conditions in Samaria when they were under siege.

#### 2 Kings 6:24-29

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

<sup>25</sup> 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.

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

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

*<sup>28</sup> 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.*

*<sup>29</sup> 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.*

➤ **Seal #4 - Death**

**Notice Revelation 6:7-8**

Here we see one-fourth of the world's population will die. Today's population is 7.8 billion. So, if one-fourth died that would be about 2 billion people. This is more than the US, Japan, and China all combined.

There are 4 ways in which they will die.

1. Sword
2. Hunger
3. Death/Disease
4. Beasts

This brings us to where we are in our message today.

**Seal #5 - Persecution**

**Notice Revelation 6:9-11**

When this seal is opened, we see that persecution breaks out upon the earth. This should NOT surprise us for this is under the kingdom of the Anti-Christ and so we can be sure his kingdom will be anti-God. Anyone who gets saved in the Tribulation will have a very difficult time of surviving.

**Daniel 7:23-25**

*<sup>23</sup> Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.*

*<sup>24</sup> And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.*

*<sup>25</sup> And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.*

**Mark 13:8-13**

<sup>8</sup> For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be earthquakes in divers places, and there shall be famines and troubles: these are the beginnings of sorrows.

<sup>9</sup> But take heed to yourselves: for they shall deliver you up to councils; and in the synagogues ye shall be beaten: and ye shall be brought before rulers and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them.

<sup>10</sup> And the gospel must first be published among all nations.

<sup>11</sup> But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost.

<sup>12</sup> Now the brother shall betray the brother to death, and the father the son; and children shall rise up against their parents, and shall cause them to be put to death.

<sup>13</sup> And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

➤ **Seal #6 - Earthly and Cosmic Disturbances**

**Notice Revelation 6:12-14**

What happens when this sixth seal is opened will be devastating to the people on the earth. There will be a GREAT EARTHQUAKE when this seal is opened. This is not like the earthquakes of today. That which happens today is caused by the groanings of the earth and because the earth is under the curse.

**Romans 8:19-22**

<sup>19</sup> For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.

<sup>20</sup> For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope,

<sup>21</sup> Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

<sup>22</sup> For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

The earthquake here in Revelation 6 is different. This is the result of GOD SHAKING THE EARTH.

**Haggai 2:6-7**

<sup>6</sup> For thus saith the LORD of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and **I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land;**

<sup>7</sup> And I will **shake all nations**, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts.

Now let us get back to Revelation again. The earthquake that happens when this 6<sup>th</sup> seal is opened is an earthquake far worse than our world has ever seen before.

Let me give you some thoughts about what effects this earthquake will have.

**1. Tsunami's in the oceans.**

Can you just imagine what will happen to the seaport cities?

- ✓ In 2004 an earthquake hit the west coast of Sumatra and the tsunami from that quake was over 100 feet high. It killed between 230,000 - 280,000 people.

**2. Volcanoes erupting around the globe.**

There is a volcano under Yellowstone Park the size of Los Angeles California.

**3. Breaking of buried gas lines.**

**4. Power outages.**

**5. Buildings destroyed.**

Then on top of all of this will be the lawlessness of society. These are just a few of the catastrophes which will be the results of the earthquake.

**Notice Revelation 6:12-13**

The word for "earthquake" means "to shake". God will not only shake the earth but also the heavens.

**Joel 2:10**

<sup>10</sup> The earth shall quake before them; **the heavens shall tremble**: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining:

**Haggai 2:6**

<sup>6</sup> For thus saith the LORD of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land;

The word for "STARS" here in Revelation 6 is the word "ASTER" which is the very word which we get asteroid from. What is described here as the heavens are shaken seems to be a great storm of asteroids which pummel the earth.

Let us now notice how man will respond.

#### **Notice Revelation 6:15-17**

The inhabitants of the earth realize this is from God and that it is His wrath, but they still will not repent and turn to Jesus Christ. They will cry out to the mountains, but they will not cry out to God!

How do they know this is from God?

#### **Notice Revelation 6:14**

Listen to the words of Mills on this verse:

*"In order to ensure that there is no misunderstanding on the source of these disasters, God will open the heavens for an instant, and the people on earth will be given a glimpse of God and the Lamb on their thrones. This pictures an extended scroll suddenly being split; the two ends recoil, spring-like, around the end rod to which the scroll is attached. Suddenly, earth can peer into Heaven as Stephen did in Acts 7:56. Man sees Him who sits on the throne and the Lamb. Men will know they are experiencing the wrath of God, and this knowledge will be even more fearsome to them than the great natural catastrophes they will have endured."*

#### **Conclusion:**

These people in Revelation 6:15-17 show the danger of rejecting the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The more you reject Jesus Christ the harder your heart becomes and the harder it becomes to believe.

#### **2 Corinthians 6:2**

<sup>2</sup> (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)

Jesus Christ died on the cross to pay your sin debt. He died because you and I were helpless to save ourselves.

**Ephesians 2:8-9**

<sup>8</sup> *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:*

<sup>9</sup> *Not of works, lest any man should boast.*

**1 Corinthians 15:3-4**

<sup>3</sup> *For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;*

<sup>4</sup> *And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:*

**John 1:11-12**

<sup>11</sup> *He came unto his own, and his own received him not.*

<sup>12</sup> *But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:*