



## END TIMES: WHAT'S GOING ON?

### "Seven Seals and Seven Trumpets" Revelation 6:1-11:19

No. 4606

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Before the scroll outlining God's plan could be opened, the seven seals had to be broken, outlining "what must happen" before the plan is consummated.

#### I. The Breaking of the Six Seals. 6:1-15; cf. Mark 13; Matthew 24; Luke 21

- A. The white horse: warfare. vv. 1-2; Mark 13:7
- B. The red horse: international strife. vv. 3-4; Mark 13:8a
- C. The black horse: famine, economic inequity. vv. 5-6; Mark 13:8c
- D. The pale horse: death and Hades. vv. 7-8; Mark 13:12
- E. The martyrs under the altar: persecution. vv. 9-11; Mark 13:11
- F. The earthquake, moon, and stars: Day of wrath. vv. 12-17; Mark 13:24-25  
"The wrath of God is being revealed (Romans 1:18), but the day of wrath will come."

#### II. Interlude: God's Servants Sealed and Saved. 7:1-17

- A. The sealing of the 144,000. 7:1-8
  - 1. The horsemen ride, the winds blow, but are restrained by the sealing.
  - 2. The 144,000 = the complete number of the "Israel of God." See Matthew 19:28
- B. The worship of "the great multitude"; same group from another perspective.

#### III. The Breaking of the Seventh Seal. 8:1-5

- A. The silence of heaven: A sense of awe as the prayers of the saints are heard.
- B. Prayer and incense presented: Answered in heaven; impact on earth.

#### IV. The Sounding of the Six Trumpets. 8:6-9:21

- A. The seals portray the suffering of the "sealed" church.
- B. The trumpets "warn" of the judgment of "inhabitants of earth." v. 13
- C. Unrepentant despite evidence and experience of judgment. 9:20

#### V. Interlude: Before the End, the Church Has a Task to Fulfill. 10:1-11:14

- A. A colossal angel gives John a strong message (sealed): We don't know it all!
- B. No more delay; opportunities over; mystery of God accomplished. 10:6-7
- C. John eats a sweet and sour scroll...and is told to share its message universally.
- D. Temple measured; worshippers counted; (secure) Gentiles trample. Luke 21:24
- E. Two witnesses (modeled on Moses, Elijah) minister for 1260 days = 42 months.
- F. Killed, abused, resurrected (after 3 days), exalted: Church triumphant.

#### VI. The Sounding of the Seventh Trumpet. 11:15-19

- A. Heaven announces, "The time (*kairos*) has come." 11:18
- B. Church rejoices; wrong is punished; right rewarded; justice and mercy win.