



T H R E A D I N G T H E P E A R L S . o r g

Threading the Pearls of the Book of Revelation

An Expositional Study

Session 13: The Seven-Sealed Scroll, part 2
Seals 1-4: The Four Horsemen

REVELATION 6:1 — 6:8

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I saw when *the Lamb opened ...the seals*; and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, "Come and see." ²And I looked, and behold, a white horse... ⁴Another horse, fiery red... ⁵...behold, a black horse... ⁸So I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. [REV 6:1-8]



REVELATION 6

1 And I saw that the Lamb had opened one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures, as it were the voice of thunder, saying: Come, and see.

The Lamb

GEN 22:6-8, Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together. ⁷But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸And Abraham said, "My son, *God will provide for Himself the lamb* for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together.

Opened the first of the seven seals

NEH 9:33-38, ...³⁶"Here we are, servants today! And the land that You gave to our fathers, To eat its fruit and its bounty, Here we are, servants in it! ³⁷And it yields much increase to the kings You have set over us, Because of our sins; Also they have dominion over our bodies and our cattle At their pleasure; And we are in great distress. ³⁸"And because of all this, We make a sure covenant, and write it; our leaders, our Levites, and *our priests seal it*".

Then I heard

1KING 20:31, his servants said to him, "Look now, we have heard that the kings of the house of Israel are merciful kings. Please, let us put sackcloth around our waists and ropes around our heads, and go out to the king of Israel; *perhaps he will spare your life*".

One of the four living creatures

EZE 10:3 [WEB], *the cherubim stood on the right side* of the house, when the man went in; and the cloud filled the inner court.

Voice like thunder

EZE 3:12-13, the Spirit lifted me up, and I heard behind me *a great thunderous voice*: "Blessed is the glory of the Lord from His place!" ¹³I also heard the noise of the wings of the living creatures that touched one another, and the noise of the wheels beside them, and a great thunderous noise.

Come!

MATH 8:7-10, ...⁹"For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, '*Come, and he comes*'; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." ¹⁰When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!"

CONSIDER THIS —

If Jesus is our Lord, when He says to us, "Come!" , what are we going to do?
MATH 8:9, When the Lord says to this one, 'Go,' he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to His servant, 'Do this,' he does it."
If Jesus is our Lord,
Then, He is Lord over *all* of our lives, or else, He's not our Lord.



REVELATION 6

2 And I saw: and behold a white horse, and he that sat on him had a bow, and there was a crown given him, and he went forth conquering that he might conquer.

There before me

JOSH 3:1-4, ...³they commanded the people, saying, "When you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, and the priests, the Levites, bearing it, then you shall set out from your place and go after it. ⁴Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure. Do not come near it, that you may know the way by which you must go, for *you have not passed this way before*".

White horse

As a false messiah:

MATH 24:4-5, Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. ⁵For *many will come in My name*, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many;

Horses as couriers of vengeance:

EST 8:13-14, A copy of the document was to be issued as a decree in every province and published for all people, so that the Jews would be ready on that day to avenge themselves on their enemies. ¹⁴*The couriers who rode on royal horses went out, hastened and pressed on by the king's command.* And the decree was issued in Shushan the citadel.

[White horse's] rider

ISA 41:25, "I have raised up one from the north, And he shall come; From the rising of the sun he shall call on My name; And *he shall come against princes* as though mortar, As the potter treads clay.

Bow

ISA 5:25-30, the anger of the Lord is aroused against His people; He has stretched out His hand against them And stricken them, And the hills trembled... ²⁶He will lift up a banner to the nations from afar, And will whistle to them from the end of the earth; Surely they shall come with speed, swiftly. ²⁷No one will be weary or stumble among them, No one will slumber or sleep; Nor will the belt on their loins be loosed, Nor the strap of their sandals be broken; ²⁸Whose

arrows are sharp, And *all their bows bent*; Their horses' hooves will seem like flint, And their wheels like a whirlwind...;

HOS 1:7, I will have mercy on the house of Judah, Will save them by the Lord their God, And *will not save them by bow*, Nor by sword or battle, By horses or horsemen;

GEN 10:8-12 [BBE], Cush was the father of Nimrod, who was the first of the great men of the earth. ⁹He was a very great bowman, so that there is a saying, *Like Nimrod, a very great bowman.* ¹⁰And at the first, his kingdom was Babel and Erech and Accad and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. ¹¹From that land he went out into Assyria, building Nineveh with its wide streets and Calah, ¹²And Resen between Nineveh and Calah, which is a very great town.

[Rider] was given a crown

ECC 4:13-16, Better a poor and wise youth Than an old and foolish king who will be admonished no more. ¹⁴For *he comes out of prison to be king*, Although he was born poor in his kingdom. ¹⁵I saw all the living who walk under the sun; They were with the second youth who stands in his place. ¹⁶There was no end of all the people over whom he was made king; Yet those who come afterward will not rejoice in him.

He rode out as a conqueror

DAN 11:15-17, the king of the North shall come and build a siege mound, and take a fortified city; and the forces of the South shall not withstand him. *Even his choice troops shall have no strength to resist.*

Bent on conquest

HAG 2:21-23, Speak to Zerubbabel, governor of Judah, saying: 'I will shake heaven and earth. ²²I will overthrow the throne of kingdoms; *I will destroy the strength of the Gentile kingdoms.* I will overthrow the chariots And those who ride in them; The horses and their riders shall come down, Every one by the sword of his brother...'

CONSIDER THIS —

Sometimes 'north' means global north.
Sometimes 'north' means from above, as from heaven (see ISA 14:13).
So, it could be one, the other, or both!

ISA 41:25, "I have raised up one from the north, And he shall come; From the rising of the sun he shall call on My name; And he shall come against princes as though mortar, As the potter treads clay.



REVELATION 6

3 And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature, saying: Come, and see.

Opened the second seal

EST 8:8, You yourselves write a decree concerning the Jews, as you please, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's signet ring; for whatever is written in the king's name and sealed with the king's signet ring *no one can revoke*".

I heard the second living creature say

2COR 6:1-2, We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ²For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, *now is the accepted time*; behold, now is the day of salvation.

Come

2KING 6:11-17, ...¹⁵when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" ¹⁶So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." ¹⁷And Elisha prayed, and said, "*Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.*" Then the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

CONSIDER THIS —

Was Nimrod a good guy, or not?

GEN 10:8-12 [BBE], Cush was the father of Nimrod, who was *the first of the great men of the earth*. ⁹He was a very great bowman, so that there is a saying, Like Nimrod, a very great bowman. [*Consider the places that he established*] ¹⁰at the first, his kingdom was Babel and Erech and Accad and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. ¹¹From that land he went out into Assyria, building Nineveh.



REVELATION 6

4 And there went out another horse that was red: and to him that sat thereon, it was given that he should take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another, and a great sword was given to him.

Another horse came out

As those pursuing Israel in —

EXO 14:8-10, the Lord hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the children of Israel; and the children of Israel went out with boldness. ⁹So *the Egyptians pursued them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh*, his horsemen and his army, and overtook them camping by the sea...

As symbols of wealth in —

DEUT 17:15-16, you shall surely set a king over you whom the Lord your God chooses; one from among your brethren you shall set as king over you; you may not set a foreigner over you, who is not your brother. ¹⁶"But *he shall not multiply horses for himself*, nor cause the people to return to Egypt to multiply horses, for the Lord has said to you, 'You shall not return that way again';

As symbols of war in —

JUDG 5:19-22, The kings came and fought, Then the kings of Canaan fought In Taanach, by the waters of Megiddo; They took no spoils of silver. ²⁰They fought from the heavens; The stars from their courses fought against Sisera. ²¹The torrent of Kishon swept them away, That ancient torrent, the torrent of Kishon. O my soul, march on in strength! ²²Then *the horses' hooves pounded, The galloping, galloping of his steeds*;

JOB 39:19-25, Have you given the horse strength? Have you clothed his neck with thunder? ²⁰Can you frighten him like a locust? His majestic snorting strikes terror. ²¹He paws in the valley, and rejoices in his strength; *He gallops into the clash of arms*. ²²He mocks at fear, and is not frightened; Nor does he turn back from the sword. ²³The quiver rattles against him, The glittering spear and javelin. ²⁴He devours the distance with fierceness and rage; Nor does he come to a halt because the trumpet has sounded. ²⁵At the blast of the trumpet he says, 'Aha!' He smells the battle from afar, The thunder of captains

and shouting;

As symbols of judgment in —

JER 8:16, *The snorting of His horses was heard* from Dan. The whole land trembled at the sound of the neighing of His strong ones; For they have come and devoured the land and all that is in it, The city and those who dwell in it";

JER 8:6, I listened and heard, But they do not speak aright. No man repented of his wickedness, Saying, 'What have I done?' *Everyone turned to his own course, As the horse rushes into the battle.*

Fiery

ISA 14:29-31, Do not rejoice, all you of Philistia, Because the rod that struck you is broken; For out of the serpent's roots will come forth a viper, And *its offspring will be a fiery flying serpent*...

Red horse

ZECH 1:8-17, I saw by night, and behold, *a man riding on a red horse*, and it stood among the myrtle trees in the hollow; and behind him were horses: red, sorrel, and white. ⁹Then I said, "My lord, what are these?" So the angel who talked with me said to me, "I will show you what they are." ¹⁰And the man who stood among the myrtle trees answered and said, "These are the ones whom the Lord has sent to walk to and fro throughout the earth." ¹¹So they answered the Angel of the Lord, who stood among the myrtle trees, and said, "We have walked to and fro throughout the earth, and behold, all the earth is resting quietly."...

CONSIDER THIS —

The second of four rulers found mentioned in:

DAN 11:16-17, [is] he who comes against [the king of the North]: who, shall do according to his own will, and no one shall stand against him. He shall stand in the Glorious Land *with destruction in his power*. ¹⁷"He shall also set his face to enter with the strength of his whole kingdom, and upright ones with him; thus shall he do.

[Red horse's] rider

2CHR 15:5-6, in those times there was no peace to the one who went out, nor to the one who came in, but *great turmoil was on all the inhabitants of the lands*. ⁶"So nation was destroyed by nation, and city by city, for God troubled them with every adversity.

Rider was given power

JOHN 19:10-11, Pilate said to Him, "Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?" ¹¹Jesus answered, "You could have no power at all against Me unless *it had been given you from above*. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin".

Take peace from the earth

JER 8:9-12, ...¹⁰from the least even to the greatest Everyone is given to covetousness; From the prophet even to the priest Everyone deals falsely. ¹¹For they have healed the hurt of the daughter of My people slightly, *Saying, 'Peace, peace!' When there is no peace*. ¹²Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No! They were not at all ashamed, Nor did they know how to blush. Therefore they shall fall among those who fall; In the time of their punishment They shall be cast down," says the Lord (see also JER 6:13-19);

1THES 5:3, when *they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them*, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape;

EZE 13:9-16, My hand will be against the prophets who envision futility and who divine lies; they shall not be in the assembly of My people, nor be written in the record of the house of Israel, nor shall they enter into the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the Lord God. ¹⁰"Because, indeed, because they have seduced My people, *saying, 'Peace!' when there is no peace*-and one builds a wall, and they plaster it with untempered mortar ¹¹say to those who plaster it with untempered mortar, that it will fall. There will be flooding rain, and you, O great hailstones, shall fall; and a stormy wind shall tear it down...

Make men slay each other

ZECH 8:10, There were no wages for man nor any hire for beast; There was no peace from the enemy for whoever went out or came in; For *I set all men, everyone, against his neighbor*;

MATH 24:6-7, you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. ⁷"For *nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom*.

A large sword [was given to him]

EZE 11:8-11, "You have feared the sword; and *I will bring a sword upon you*," says the Lord God. ⁹"And I will bring you out of its midst, and deliver you into the hands of strangers, and execute judgments on you. ¹⁰"You shall fall by the sword. I will judge you at the border of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the Lord...;

DAN 11:16-19, he who comes against [the king of the North] shall do according to his own will, and no one shall stand against him. He shall stand in the Glorious Land *with destruction in his power*. ¹⁷"He shall also set his face to enter with the strength of his whole kingdom, and upright ones with him; thus shall he do...





REVELATION 6

5 And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying: Come, and see. And behold a black horse, and he that sat on him had a pair of scales in his hand.

Opened the third seal

EST 8:10-12, he wrote in the name of King Ahasuerus, *sealed it with the king's signet ring, and sent letters by couriers on horseback*, riding on royal horses bred from swift steeds. ¹¹By these letters the king permitted the Jews who were in every city to gather together and protect their lives-to destroy, kill, and annihilate all the forces of any people or province that would assault them...

I heard the third living creature say

MARK 10:46-50, ...⁴⁷when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸Then many warned him to be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be called. Then they called the blind man, saying to him, "*Be of good cheer. Rise, He is calling you.*" ⁵⁰And throwing aside his garment, he rose and came to Jesus.

Come!

JOHN 11:43-44, when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!" ⁴⁴And *he who had died came out* bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Loose him, and let him go".

Black horse

ZECH 6:1-5, Then I turned and raised my eyes and looked, and behold, four chariots were coming from between two mountains, and the mountains were mountains of bronze. ²With the first chariot were red horses, with *the second chariot black horses*, ³with the third chariot white horses, and with the fourth chariot dappled horses-strong steeds. ⁴Then I answered and said to the angel who talked with me, "What are these, my lord?" ⁵And the angel answered and said to me, "These are four spirits of heaven, who go out from their station before the Lord of all the earth.

[Black horse's] rider

ZECH 6:6-8, "*The one with the black horses is going to the north country*, the white are going after them, and the dappled are going toward the south country." ⁷Then the strong steeds went out, eager to go, that they might walk to and fro throughout the earth. And He said, "Go, walk to and fro throughout the earth." So they walked to and fro throughout the earth. ⁸And He called to me, and spoke to me, saying, "See, those who go toward the north country have given rest to My Spirit in the north country".

A pair of scales in his hand

DAN 11:20, There shall arise in his place *one who imposes taxes* on the glorious kingdom; but within a few days he shall be destroyed, but not in anger or in battle;
HOS 12:7, "A cunning Canaanite! *Deceitful scales are in his hand*; He loves to oppress;
AMOS 8:3-6, the songs of the temple Shall be wailing in that day," Says the Lord God-"Many dead bodies everywhere, They shall be thrown out in silence." ⁴Hear this, you who swallow up the needy, And make the poor of the land fail, ⁵Saying: "When will the New Moon be past, That we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, That we may trade wheat? Making the ephah small and the shekel large, *Falsifying the scales by deceit*, ⁶That we may buy the poor for silver, And the needy for a pair of sandals-Even sell the bad wheat?"
MATH 24:7-8, nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And *there will be famines*, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. ⁸"All these are the beginning of sorrows.

CONSIDER THIS —

ZECH 6:1-5, He beheld, four chariots were coming from between two mountains... ²the first chariot were red horses, with the second chariot black horses, ³with the third chariot white horses, and with the fourth chariot dappled horses-strong steeds. [*Thankfully, Zechariah asks*], ⁴"What are these, my lord?" ⁵And the angel answered, "These are four spirits of heaven, who go out from their station before the Lord of all the earth."



REVELATION 6

6 And I heard as it were a voice in the midst of the four living creatures, saying: Two pounds of wheat for a penny, and thrice two pounds of barley for a penny, and see thou hurt not the wine and the oil.

Sounded like a voice

ISA 50:10, Who among you fears the Lord? *Who obeys the voice of His Servant?* Who walks in darkness And has no light? Let him trust in the name of the Lord And rely upon his God.

Among the four living creatures

DAN 10:8-9, I was left alone when I saw this great vision, and no strength remained in me; for my vigor was turned to frailty in me, and I retained no strength. ⁹Yet *I heard the sound of his words*; and while I heard the sound of his words I was in a deep sleep on my face, with my face to the ground.

A quart of wheat for a day's wages*

* NOTE: 'Denarius' in other translations

As an idiom of believers in —

LUKE 3:16-17, John answered, saying to all, "I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and *gather the wheat into His barn*; but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire";

Symbolizing famine by contrast to —

2KING 7:1-4, Elisha said, "Hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord: 'Tomorrow about this time *a seah of fine flour shall be sold for a shekel, and two seahs of barley for a shekel*, at the gate of Samaria.' " ²So an officer on whose hand the king leaned answered the man of God and said, "Look, if the Lord would make windows in heaven, could this thing be?" And he said, "In fact, you shall see it with your eyes, but you shall not eat of it." ...;

As a timing reference in —

RUTH 2:22-23, Naomi said to Ruth her daughter-in-law, "It is good, my daughter, that you go out with his young women, and that people do not meet you in any other field." ²³So she stayed close by the young women of Boaz, to *glean until the*

end of barley harvest and wheat harvest; and she dwelt with her mother-in-law;

As a prophecy indicator in —

JOEL 1:10-15, The field is wasted, The land mourns; For the grain is ruined, The new wine is dried up, The oil fails. ¹¹Be ashamed, you farmers, Wail, you vinedressers, *For the wheat and the barley; Because the harvest of the field has perished...* ¹⁵Alas for the day! For the day of the Lord is at hand; It shall come as destruction from the Almighty.

Three quarts of barley for a day's wages

EZE 12:16-19, I will spare a few of their men from the sword, from famine, and from pestilence, that they may declare all their abominations among the Gentiles wherever they go. Then they shall know that I am the Lord." ¹⁷Moreover the word of the Lord came to me, saying, ¹⁸"Son of man, eat your bread with quaking, and drink your water with trembling and anxiety. ¹⁹"And say to the people of the land, 'Thus says the Lord God to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the land of Israel: *They shall eat their bread with anxiety*, and drink their water with dread, so that her land may be emptied of all who are in it, because of the violence of all those who dwell in it.

Do not damage the oil and wine

NEH 5:1-11, ...⁵now our flesh is as the flesh of our brethren, our children as their children; and indeed we are forcing our sons and our daughters to be slaves, and some of our daughters have been brought into slavery. It is not in our power to redeem them, *for other men have our lands and vineyards*"... ¹¹"Restore now to them, even this day, their lands, their vineyards, their olive groves, and their houses, also a hundredth of the money and the grain, the new wine and the oil, that you have charged them";

PRO 21:17, He who loves pleasure will be a poor man; *He who loves wine and oil will not be rich.*

CONSIDER THIS —

What are the four severe judgments of God?

EZE 14:21-22, For thus says the Lord God: "How much more it shall be when I send My four severe judgments on Jerusalem—the sword and famine and wild beasts and pestilence—to cut off man and beast from it? ²²Yet behold, there shall be left in it a remnant who will be brought out, both sons and daughters; surely they will come out to you, and you will see their ways and their doings. Then you will be comforted concerning the disaster that I have brought upon Jerusalem, all that I have brought upon it.



REVELATION 6

7 And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature, saying: Come, and see.

Opened the fourth seal

EZE 14:19-23, if I send a pestilence into that land and pour out My fury on it in blood, and cut off from it man and beast, ²⁰"even though Noah, Daniel, and Job were in it, as I live," says the Lord God, "they would deliver neither son nor daughter; they would deliver only themselves by their righteousness." ²¹For thus says the Lord God: "How much more it shall be when I send My four severe judgments on Jerusalem—the sword and famine and wild beasts and pestilence—to cut off man and beast from it?

I heard the voice

HEB 4:7, He designates a certain day, saying in David, "Today," after such a long time, as it has been said: "Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts.";

EZE 3:10-11, He said to me: "Son of man, *receive into your heart all My words that I speak to you, and hear with your ears.* ¹¹"And go, get to the captives, to the children of your people, and speak to them and tell them, 'Thus says the Lord God,' whether they hear, or whether they refuse".

The fourth living creature

PSM 99:1-2, The Lord reigns; Let the peoples tremble! *He dwells between the cherubim;* Let the earth be moved! ²The Lord is great in Zion, And He is high above all the peoples.

Come!

DAN 9:20-23, while I was speaking, praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the Lord my God for the holy mountain of my God, ²¹yes, while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, reached me about the time of the evening offering. ²²And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, "O Daniel, *I have now come forth to give you skill to understand.* ²³"At the beginning of your supplications the command went out, and I have come to tell you, for you are greatly beloved; therefore consider the matter, and understand the vision.

CONSIDER THIS —

What is our response?

HEB 11:7, By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen...

[Why?] That *he be moved with godly fear*, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

Okay. So, we are being warned of things not yet seen through Revelation. *Who* is our ark?



REVELATION 6

8 And behold a pale horse, and he that sat upon him, his name was Death, and hell followed him. And power was given to him over the four parts of the earth, to kill with sword, with famine, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.

I looked

HEB 11:7, By faith Noah, *being divinely warned of things not yet seen*, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

Pale horse

JER 30:5-7, For thus says the Lord: 'We have heard a voice of trembling, Of fear, and not of peace. ⁶Ask now, and see, Whether a man is ever in labor with child? So why do I see every man with his hands on his loins Like a woman in labor, *And all faces turned pale?* ⁷Alas! For that day is great, So that none is like it; And it is the time of Jacob's trouble, But he shall be saved out of it.

Rider was named Death

DEUT 32:23-25, 'I will heap disasters on them; I will spend My arrows on them. ²⁴They shall be wasted with hunger, Devoured by pestilence and bitter destruction; I will also send against them the teeth of beasts, With the poison of serpents of the dust. ²⁵*The sword shall destroy outside; There shall be terror within* For the young man and virgin, The nursing child with the man of gray hairs.

Hades was following close behind him

ISA 5:14-15, Sheol has enlarged itself And opened its mouth beyond measure; Their glory and their multitude and their pomp, And he who is jubilant, shall descend into it. ¹⁵*People shall be brought down*, Each man shall be humbled, And the eyes of the lofty shall be humbled;

JOB 11:7-11, Can you search out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limits of the Almighty? ⁸They are higher than heaven-what can you do? Deeper than Sheol-what can you

know? ⁹Their measure is longer than the earth And broader than the sea. ¹⁰*If He passes by, imprisons, and gathers to judgment, Then who can hinder Him?* ¹¹For He knows deceitful men; He sees wickedness also.

[Death and Hades] were give power

PRO 14:12-13, There is a way that seems right to a man, But *its end is the way of death*. ¹³Even in laughter the heart may sorrow, And the end of mirth may be grief;

PRO 16:25-26, There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death. ²⁶The person who labors, labors for himself, For *his hungry mouth drives him on*.

A fourth of the earth to kill

AMOS 2:14-16, flight shall perish from the swift, The strong shall not strengthen his power, *Nor shall the mighty deliver himself*; ¹⁵He shall not stand who handles the bow, The swift of foot shall not escape, Nor shall he who rides a horse deliver himself. ¹⁶The most courageous men of might Shall flee naked in that day," Says the Lord;

JER 14:11-18, the Lord said to me, "Do not pray for this people, for their good. ¹²"When they fast, I will not hear their cry; and when they offer burnt offering and grain offering, I will not accept them. But *I will consume them by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence.*" ...;

EZE 7:15-16, *The sword is outside, And the pestilence and famine within*. Whoever is in the field Will die by the sword; And whoever is in the city, Famine and pestilence will devour him. ¹⁶Those who survive will escape and be on the mountains Like doves of the valleys, All of them mourning, Each for his iniquity.

CONSIDER THIS —

Count the disasters that Moses prophesied would come:

DEUT 32:23-25, 'I will heap disasters on them; (1) I will spend My arrows on them. (2) ²⁴They shall be wasted with hunger, (3) Devoured by pestilence and (4) bitter destruction;

That 'bitter destruction' (or death) is further broken down into four. Moses summarizes with: I will also send against them the teeth of beasts, With the poison of serpents of the dust. ²⁵The sword shall destroy outside; There shall be terror within For the young man and virgin, The nursing child with the man of gray hairs. (So, for ALL)

Kill by Sword

DAN 11:21-31, in his place shall arise a vile person, to whom they will not give the honor of royalty; but he shall come in peaceably, and seize the kingdom by intrigue...²⁴"He shall enter peaceably, even into the richest places of the province; and he shall do what his fathers have not done, nor his forefathers: he shall disperse among them the plunder, spoil, and riches; and he shall devise his plans against the strongholds, but only for a time.²⁵"He shall stir up his power and his courage against the king of the South with a great army. And the king of the South shall be stirred up to battle with a very great and mighty army; but he shall not stand, for they shall devise plans against him.²⁶"Yes, those who eat of the portion of his delicacies shall destroy him; his army shall be swept away, and many shall fall down slain.²⁷"*Both these kings' hearts shall be bent on evil, and they shall speak lies at the same table; but it shall not prosper, for the end will still be at the appointed time...*

Kill by... Famine

EZE 6:11-14, 'Thus says the Lord God: "Pound your fists and stamp your feet, and say, 'Alas, for all the evil abominations of the house of Israel! For they shall fall by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence.¹²'He who is far off shall die by the pestilence, he who is near shall fall by the sword, and *he who remains and is besieged shall die by the famine*. Thus will I spend My fury upon them...;
PSM 33:18-19, Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him, On those who hope in His mercy,¹⁹To deliver their soul from death, And *to keep them alive in famine*.

Kill by... Plague

AMOS 4:10, "*I sent among you a plague after the manner of Egypt; Your young men I killed with a sword, Along with your captive horses; I made the stench of your camps come up into your nostrils; Yet you have not returned to Me,*" Says the Lord.

Kill by... the wild beasts of the earth

EZE 5:16-17, 'When I send against them the terrible arrows of famine which shall be for destruction, which I will send to destroy you, I will increase the famine upon you and cut off your supply of bread.¹⁷'So I will send against you *famine and wild beasts, and they will bereave you*. Pestilence and blood shall pass through you, and I will bring the sword against you. I, the Lord, have spoken".





GROUP DISCUSSION

REV 6:1, I saw when *the Lamb opened one of the seals*; and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, "Come and see."

⊕ **1a. Who is the 'Lamb' that is opening the seals?**

(see also JOHN 1:29, JOHN 1:36, & REV 5:6)

REV 6:2, I looked, and behold, a white horse. *He who sat on it had a bow*; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.

⊕ **1b. Is the Lamb the one riding on the white horse?**

(see HOS 1:7, & GEN 10:8-12)

REV 6:3-4, He opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come and see." ⁴Another horse, fiery red, went out. And it was granted to the one who sat on it to *take peace from the earth, and that people should kill one another*; and there was given to him a great sword.

MATH 24:6-7, See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. ⁷"For *nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom*.

⊕ **2. How might Jesus have spoken of these events?**

What is the expected response from believers?

(see also MATH 24:5-8, & MARK 13:10-23)

REV 6:5-6, He opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come and see." So I looked, and behold, a black horse, and he who sat on it *had a pair of scales in his hand*. ⁶And I heard a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not harm the oil and the wine." AMOS 8:4-5, Hear this, you who swallow up the needy, And make the poor of the land fail, ⁵Saying: "When will the New Moon be past, That we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, That we may trade wheat? Making the ephah small and the shekel large, *Falsifying the scales by deceit*."

⊕ **3. What might the scales in the rider's hand signify?**

(see also PSM 62:9-10, ISA 40:12-17, & EZE 5:1-2)

REV 6:7-8, He opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come and see." ⁸So I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. And *power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth*.

⊕ **4a. What are the four powers given to Death and Hades?**

⊕ **4b. Why might there be a pattern to these disasters?**

(see also EZE 5:16-17, & JER 14:10-12)

NEXT SESSION —