

DAY 15: THE EMERGING WORLD ORDER AND THE COMING WORLD WAR

There is a need to study and understand the Book of Revelation with patience and humility so that we are knowledgeable about how to obey the Lord's commands in the final days. We must be prepared to shout what the Bible shouts, say what the Bible says, and be silent on issues that the Bible is silent about.

I. THE NATURE OF THE SEVEN SEALS

- A. The seals are released by Jesus (not Satan, not accidental)
 - 1. In response to the body of Christ, the church, crying out "Maranatha!"
 - 2. Upon the tearing of each seal, there is a judgement event poured out on the Earth
- B. The seals are eschatological
 - 1. They are End Times events, not past, historical events
 - 2. The seals are not cyclical
- C. The seals are future events
- D. The seals are sequential events
 - 1. The names of the seals are numerical because they are meant to be understood as sequential events
- E. The seals are intensifying in nature
 - 1. Each event is more intense than the previous until they culminate in the end when "it is complete" ([Revelation 21:6](#))
- F. The judgement events are intentional
 - 1. Because Jesus is the one opening the seals, we can be certain that they are thought out, planned events
 - 2. "When the judgements of God are on the Earth, the nations will learn righteousness" ([Isaiah 26](#))
 - 3. The raising up of the Antichrist is a sovereignly ordained event ([Daniel 7](#), [Revelation 12-13](#))

MARANATHA GLOBAL BIBLE STUDY
THE BOOK OF REVELATION // DALTON THOMAS

Now I watched when the Lamb opened one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures say with a voice like thunder, “Come!” 2 And I looked, and behold, a white horse! And its rider had a bow, and a crown was given to him, and he came out conquering, and to conquer. ([Revelation 6:1-2](#))

II. THE FIRST SEAL

- A. Opens with a call to “Come!”, to draw near, to listen, to see ([v. 1](#))
- B. Conquering and to conquer ([v. 2](#))
 - 1. Initial conquest and a future conquest to come
- C. The rider on the white horse ([v. 2](#)) is not Jesus, Jesus is opening the seal
 - 1. This rider is the Antichrist
 - 2. The other horses bring immense suffering to the Earth, it makes sense that the first would, too
- D. The rider’s bow is bloodless at this point ([v. 2](#))
- E. The rider’s crown speaks of authority ([v. 2](#)) that is given to him and he receives
 - 1. If a false prophet rises up, draws you away from the Lord, know that the Lord raised him up to test you ([Deuteronomy 13](#))

III. TIMING OF THE FIRST SEAL

- A. The first seal is likely torn either:
 - 1. At the beginning of Daniel’s seventieth week, beginning the final seven years
 - 2. In the middle of Daniel’s seventieth week, with the Abomination of Desolation
- B. Certainly the rider on the white horse ([v. 2](#)) is the Antichrist, who sets in motion the events of the Great Tribulation
- C. However, these verses could be describing either his initial rise to power or his revealing when he establishes the Abomination of Desolation and attacks Israel
- D. The Abomination of Desolation is described as the event that sets in motion the final three-and-a-half years ([Matthew 24](#), [Jeremiah 30](#), [Daniel 8, 9, 11, 12](#), [Revelation 12-13](#), [2 Thessalonians 2](#))
 - 1. Does the rise of the Antichrist set in motion the first half of the week? ([Daniel 11:21](#))
 - 2. The Antichrist invades Jerusalem later on, the Abomination of Desolation takes place ([Daniel 11:31](#))
- E. Jesus separates the birth pains and hard labor

IV. THE NATURE OF THE FIRST FOUR HORSES

- A. All are humans doing things to humans
 - 1. Antichrist conquers land and people
 - 2. Peace taken, men slay each other
 - 3. Financial interactions of people
 - 4. Death covers the Earth because of what men do to each other
- B. The tearing of the first seal, and the first four seals, likely take place during the first half of the final seven years
- C. Eventually there is a turning point (after the fourth seal) where the events are now enacted by God, divine activity
 - 1. Turns the vegetation to ash
 - 2. Water to blood
 - 3. Darkens the sun, stars, moon
 - 4. Sends demonic locust plagues
 - 5. Sends hailstones
- D. The first four events set the context for the hard labor of the Great Tribulation
 - 1. However, these events are likely not the Great Tribulation
- E. However, there is also evidence to suggest that the first seal could be the Abomination of Desolation
 - 1. The Antichrist emerges, conquers Jerusalem, and desires to conquer more than just Jerusalem ([Revelation 17-18](#))

V. THE NEW WORLD ORDER

- A. The second seal describes the rider being “permitted to take peace from the Earth” ([Revelation 6:3](#))
- B. Scripture shows us that the New World Order will be in a context of perceived peace and safety
 - 1. White horse - perceived peace ([v. 2](#))
- C. The Antichrist, when he rises, establishes a New World Order in the Middle East that requires the nations to recognize that new structure
 - 1. Will have impact on the whole Earth
 - 2. Will not initially be violent, but will lead there
- D. There will be a final World War ([Daniel 11](#)) because of the rising World Order
- E. When we are watching for the rise of the Antichrist and the New World Order, we are watching for someone who rises and immediately begins conquering ([v. 2](#))
 - 1. His conquering will establish a kind of peace (not true peace)
- F. There will be wars and rumors of war before the Final War takes place
 - 1. ISIS, the Syrian Civil War, the Arab Spring all changed the Middle East
 - 2. This doesn’t mean that this war is necessarily the final war
- G. The Antichrist’s end-game conquest will be Jerusalem-centered