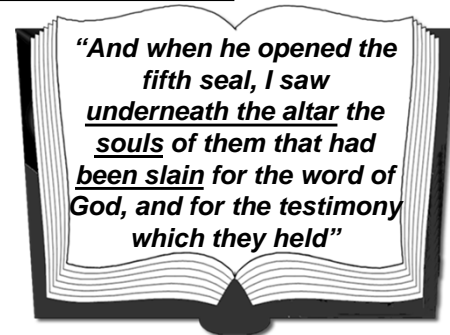


A Study Of The Book Of Revelation

September 27, 2020

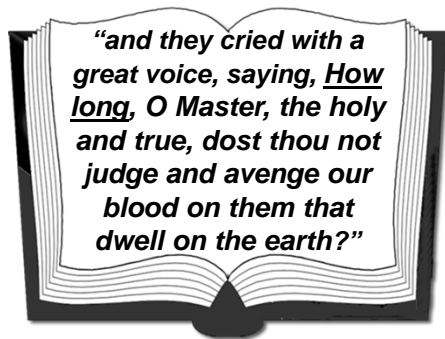
Revelation 6

Revelation 6:9



Revelation 6

Revelation 6:10



Revelation 6

Revelation 6:10

- Perhaps these are some who had been killed by the persecution under the second seal (6:4).
- John himself was exiled for this same cause (1:9).
- "How long, O Master, the holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?"
 - Avenge suggests the idea of a just punishment, a recompense for wrongdoing (19:2). *ekdikeoo, ekdikoo* (Thayer)
 - a. to vindicate one's right, to do one justice – Luke 18:3
 - b. to avenge a thing – 2 Corinthians 10:6
 - This is different from "revenge" which is retaliation. (cf. Romans 12:19-21)

Revelation 6

Fifth Seal – "Souls Under the Altar"

- The **martyrs for truth** – bodies asleep in the grave.
- NOTE: Those who were slain have conscious existence after death.
 - Ecclesiastes 12:7
- Souls of those saints "**under the altar**"
 - Ezekiel 41:22 (Description of the altar)
- Blood cries out for **righteous vindication**
 - Genesis 4:10
- "Slain because of the **word of God**"
- "Testimony they had **maintained**"

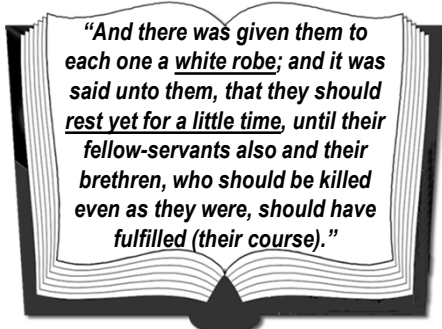
Revelation 6

Fifth Seal – "Souls Under the Altar"

- Cry to God – for His **goodness** and **reliability**
- To judge and **avenge** their blood
- Not for revenge but for **justice**! A just punishment, a recompense for wrongdoing (19:2).
- Men receive time **to repent**, but ...
- Wanted to know "**how much longer**" God would be longsuffering to those hurting His children?

Revelation 6

Revelation 6:11



“And there was given them to each one a white robe; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little time, until their fellow-servants also and their brethren, who should be killed even as they were, should have fulfilled (their course).”

Revelation 6

Fifth Seal – “Souls Under the Altar”

- Answer to their cry:
 - Each is given a white robe
 - “Rest for a little longer”
 - “Until” the persecution is complete.
 - They were encouraged to be patient a little longer until the number of their brethren who were to die as they had died, should be fulfilled.
 - “A certain date is not specified because the days of martyrdom are not yet completed. A further time of testing is yet to follow, but John tells his audience to be assured, the Lord will come. Justice will be meted out, and the martyrs will share in the victory of the King of kings.”

(Robert Harkrider, *Revelation*, Truth Commentaries, Page 163)

Revelation 6

Fifth Seal – “Souls Under the Altar”

- Death is not the end!
- Crown of righteousness and victory
- Rest from their labors (14:13)
- Martyrs will share in the victory of the King of Kings.
- Honored because their faith has passed the test!

Revelation 6

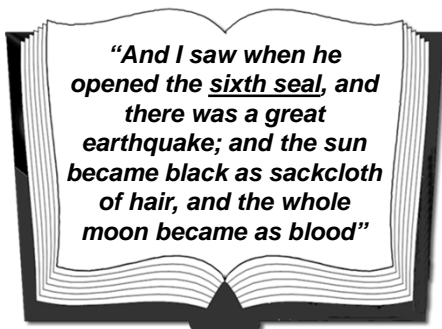
“Each one of them was given a white robe, symbolical of their victory and purity, and they were told to be patient. The time was not ripe for God’s retribution; there were others in the churches who were to suffer, but in the end certain victory would be realized; judgment was on its way.”

Ray Summers, *Worthy is the Lamb*, Pages 142-143

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Revelation 6

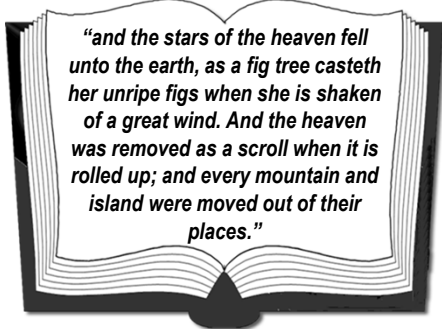
Revelation 6:12



“And I saw when he opened the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the whole moon became as blood”

Revelation 6

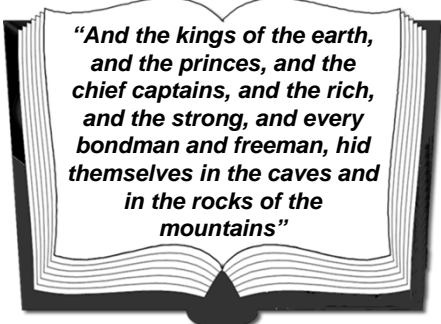
Revelation 6:13-14



“and the stars of the heaven fell unto the earth, as a fig tree casteth her unripe figs when she is shaken of a great wind. And the heaven was removed as a scroll when it is rolled up; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.”

Revelation 6

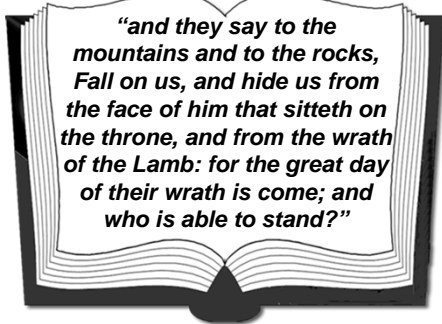
Revelation 6:15



*“And the kings of the earth,
and the princes, and the
chief captains, and the rich,
and the strong, and every
bondman and freeman, hid
themselves in the caves and
in the rocks of the
mountains”*

Revelation 6

Revelation 6:16-17



*“and they say to the
mountains and to the rocks,
Fall on us, and hide us from
the face of him that sitteth on
the throne, and from the wrath
of the Lamb: for the great day
of their wrath is come; and
who is able to stand?”*

Revelation 6

Sixth Seal – “Announcement of Judgment”

- No one is hurt in **verses 15-16** – yet!
- Announcement of **judgment** to come is vividly portrayed.
- **“Wrath of the Lamb”**
 - No one will be able to stand against God’s righteous judgment!

Vision of John’s judgment can be seen in the Old Testament on other judgments:

- Stars falling: Ezekiel 32:7-8; Isaiah 13:10
- Fig trees: Isaiah 34:3-5; Matthew 21:18-21; Matthew 24:32; Luke 21:29
- Heaven removed: Isaiah 34:3-5
- Mountains removed: Isaiah 13:13; 29:5-6
- Isles removed (Tyre): Ezekiel 26:15-19
- cf. Fall of Jerusalem. Matthew 24:29ff

Revelation 6

Sixth Seal – “Announcement of Judgment”

- Vision of **John’s judgment** can be seen in the Old Testament on other judgments (Continued):
 - **Isaiah 2:10-21** – (Judah/Jerusalem)
 - **Isaiah 29:6** – (Judah/Jerusalem)
 - **Isaiah 34:4** – “sky spilt” (Edom)
 - **Isaiah 13:10** – “sun dark” (Babylon)
 - **Zephaniah 1:14-15** – (Judah)
 - **Joel 2:10** – (Judah/Jerusalem)
 - **Micah 1:3-6** – mountains (Samaria – Israel/Jerusalem – Judah)
 - **Jeremiah 4:23-26** – (Judah)
- Vision of John’s judgment can be seen in the New Testament in the fall of Jerusalem. (Matthew 24:29).

Revelation 6

Sixth Seal – “Announcement of Judgment”

- Men from every background of life who refuse to serve the Lord shall seek to flee from His wrath (Isaiah 2:19; Hosea 10:8; Luke 23:30).
- This seal reveals what is **ahead**.
- A judgment, which comes upon the ungodly, for it’s the **Lamb’s wrath**
- The mighty society and civil structures which **oppose God’s people** are set for destruction
- **Who will be able to stand?**
- **What will happen to God’s people?**
- **Answers** lie ahead of us ... Though the book of Revelation is a message of fear for the wicked, it also brings comfort and great consolation to the righteous.

Revelation 6

Conclusion:

“Many are the modern references to ‘the four horsemen’ of this passage, but few understand that they rightfully declare the sovereignty of God. He permits the horsemen to ride. He controls them. He limits them. And he stops them when they have served their purpose. Modern media do not tell the world this truth. They announce the tragedies of war, famine, and disease. They report the injustices of mankind, but the media do not report that the Lamb of God is King of all the earth. The world looks for wisdom in its statesmen, healing in the discovery of its scientists, and victory in the strategy of its generals. But the believer knows differently. He has knowledge of the true powers that rule the world. Though the book of Revelation is a message of fear for the wicked, it also brings comfort and great consolation to the righteous.”

(Robert Harkrider, *Revelation*, Truth Commentaries, Page 165)