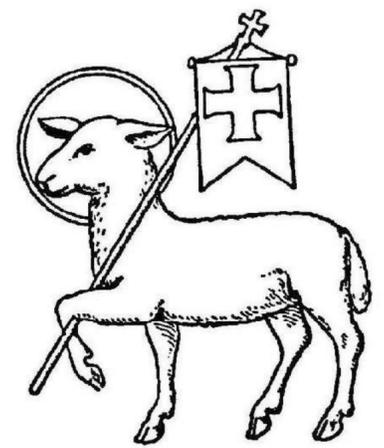


# THE BOOK OF REVELATION

## 5. Seven Seals, Angels and Wbes



Chapters 6, 8, 9:13-21

### Introduction

- The period just prior to the Second Coming, symbolised in the 'scroll with the seven seals', as each scroll is opened, a new judgment is introduced until the completion of the seven (10:7)
- The Apocalypse – the end game.
- Differing interpretations call for a bit more humility, and graciousness.

### Jesus and the end of the world / day of judgment

- Mainly in Matthew 24; Mark 13 and Luke 21. John's Gospel has very little!
- Parables (Matt 21:40; Matt 25:1-13; Matt 15:14-30)
- Promise (Matt 10:15; Matt 12:36; Matt 16:27; Matt 19:28; John 14:3)
- Precept (teaching) mainly in Matthew 24.
- Some of these such as 'wars, earthquakes and famines have been here before, but others have come in the past few decades or even years! (America's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI – 'Star Wars'); the Environment.
- 'birth pangs' increasing frequency and intensity before the end.

### THE SEVEN SEALS (Chapter 6:1-17 & 8:1)

The 'Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse'

**1<sup>st</sup> Seal:** White horse(6:1-3) – (Not Jesus, Rev 19:11) Conquering: World dominion followed by peace (Antichrist?) Matt 24:4-5 False Christ's deceiving many. Peace? *'They make it a desert and call it peace'* (Tacitus)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Seal:** Red horse (6:3-4) Peace is 'taken' from the earth. Violence and war (Matt 24:6-7)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Seal:** (6:5-6) Black horse – Economic collapse. (Matt 24:7)

**4<sup>th</sup> Seal:** (6:7-8) Pale green horse – Death, Hades, War, famine, disease, wild animals.

**5<sup>th</sup> Seal:** (6:9-11) Persecution of Christians. July 2019 HM Government Report. 80% of all religious persecution is towards Christians and is increasing. (Matt 24:9)

**6<sup>th</sup> Seal:** (6:12-14) The skies. Islands disappearing. Fear, and death preferred. (Matt 24:29)

**7<sup>th</sup> Seal:** Silence in heaven, then ....

## THE SEVEN ANGELS WITH SEVEN TRUMPETS (8:6-21 &

**1<sup>st</sup> Angel:** (8:7) Hail, blood, fire – a third of the earth burned up.  
Forest fires in USA, Australia and the Amazon

**2<sup>nd</sup> Angel:** T (8:8-9) the oceans - Cosmic catastrophe or nuclear attack?

**3<sup>rd</sup> Angel:** (8:10-11) The rivers and springs polluted

**4<sup>th</sup> Angel:** (8:12) Sun, moon and stars. Pollution, warfare?

Although God allows these judgments, all of them are 'man made'  
We have brought all this on ourselves.

**5<sup>th</sup> Angel:** (9:1-12) is also the first '**WOE**' – Things now turn from the natural to the supernatural. Unnatural locusts and Apollyon.

**6<sup>th</sup> Angel:** (9:13-19) Is the second '**WOE**' – The army from Euphrates

The condition of most of humanity at this stage (9:20-21)

- Idolatry
- Violence and murder
- Occultism
- Sexual immorality
- Theft

**7<sup>th</sup> Angel:** (11:15-18 & 10:7) Announces - '*No more delay, the mystery of God as spoken by the prophets, will be fulfilled.*' 'The third '**WOE**' is coming very soon.

Rev 12:12 'Woe to the earth for the devil has come down to you in great wrath because he knows that his time is short.'

It is difficult to see what the specific 'woe' is apart from a long trumpet blast announcing the final, but worse phase of judgment and wrath. The 7th trumpet will sound and it will mean **completion**. The 7th trumpet is the 3rd woe and it will be over. Those who have destroyed the earth will be destroyed (11:18)

The mystery of God will be finished. The kingdoms of the world will have become "*the kingdoms of our Lord & His Christ and He shall reign forever and ever.*"