

Revelation 6:1-17

I. Introduction

Chapters 6-16 record three series of disasters and judgments that will occur in the end times. They are God's answer and comfort to the prayers of the believers who were suffering persecution and tribulation at that time.

They represent the fulfillment of justice. If evil is not judged, then justice is not truly established.

They are necessary to accomplish complete salvation—there can be no perfect salvation without judgment.

II. Main Body

Today's passage shows the signs of the end times through the judgments of the seals.

In this sense, Revelation chapters 6-7 closely correspond to Matthew chapters 24-25, almost like mirror images.

1. The First Seal (vv. 1-2) - The Rider on the White Horse

The Antichrist and false prophets

Four reasons why the rider on the white horse is not Jesus Christ:

The context concerns judgments and disasters.

Revelation 5:5 already declares that Christ has overcome.

Jesus is depicted as holding a sword, not a bow.

Comparison with Matthew chapter 24.

As the last days approach, more antichrists, cults, and false prophets will appear.

2. The Second Seal (vv. 3-4) - The Rider on the Red Horse

Slaughter through war

Jesus also spoke of wars as a sign of the end times (Matthew 24:6-7).

In modern warfare, the development of terrifying weapons will lead to mass destruction and killing.

3. The Third Seal (vv. 5-6) - The Rider on the Black Horse with Scales

Famine

"A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius."

This means a full day's wage would only buy enough food for one person.

4. The Fourth Seal (vv. 7-8) - The Rider on the Pale Horse

Death

Death comes through war, famine, and disease (Ezekiel 14:21; Luke 21:11).

The 20th century saw mass killings through two world wars—peace treaties alone cannot guarantee peace.

Even today, many people continue to die from famine and epidemics (Matthew 24:7-8).

5. The Fifth Seal (vv. 9-11) - The Cry of the Martyrs Under the Altar

There is also a temple in heaven (Revelation 7:15; 11:19; Hebrews 8:1-2, 5).

Martyrs are not losers but victors.

Their prayers rise to God like incense and play a role in carrying out God's work in history.

God's response to their prayers:

More martyrs will come, for the sake of the salvation of others.

6. The Sixth Seal (vv. 12-14) - The Day of Final Judgment

The sun becomes dark, the moon turns like blood, and the sky disappears.

Jesus also prophesied this (Matthew 24:29-31), and Peter spoke of it as well (2 Peter 3:10).

When the sixth seal is opened, it marks the day of the end when Jesus returns.

People of the world will be terrified and hide in caves and among the rocks (vv. 15-16).

III. Conclusion

On the day when the Lord returns, money, power, loved ones, or any political power in the world will not be able to protect anyone.

Only God will be our refuge, and Jesus Christ will be our Savior.

Bible Memorization

A VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

“You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains.”
(Matthew 24:6-8)

Bible Reading

3/9(Mon)	3/10(Tue)	3/11(Wed)	3/12(Thur)	3/13(Fri)	3/14(Sat)	3/15(Sun)
Deut. 10-12	Deut. 13-15	Deut. 16-18	Deut. 19-21	Deut. 22-24	Deut. 25-27	Deut. 28

QT

Quiet Time Passage

3/9(Mon)	3/10(Tue)	3/11(Wed)	3/12(Thur)	3/13(Fri)	3/14(Sat)	3/15(Sun)
Matthew 21:23-32	Matthew 21:33-46	Matthew 22:1-14	Matthew 22:15-22	Matthew 22:23-33	Matthew 22:34-46	Matthew 23:1-12

Sharing Questions

1. From today's sermon, share one new insight or blessing you received.

2. Revelation chapters 6-7 and Matthew chapters 24-25 were described as mirror images (decals) of each other. In what ways are they similar?

3. What signs of the last days are mentioned? Share your thoughts.

4. Why are martyrs considered victors rather than losers?