

## Revelation 6:1-12 First Six Seals




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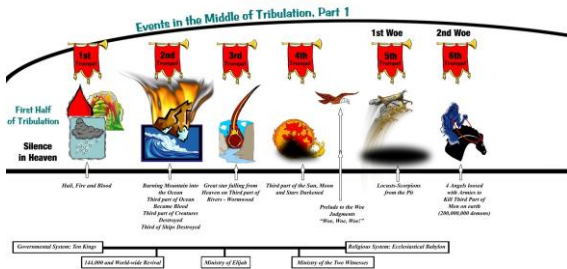
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### Trumpet Judgments of The Great Tribulation Revelation 8:1 to 9:21



page 122-263 in book

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## Revelation 6:2 - First Seal



- Please note that it is the Lamb who opens the 7 sealed scroll
- The Lamb starts and controls things.
  - All that happens from Rev 6 onward is due to the Lamb directing
  - The first seal is opened and a Living Creature says, "Come!" in a thundering voice
  - Out comes the rider on the white horse
    - The horse represents the war machine in John's day
    - The horse is white, likely symbolizing victory in some sense
    - Though the horse gives the impression of purity, this does not mean that it is since looks can be deceiving
    - The rider on the horse carries a bow symbolizing the **threat** of war
    - He rides out "conquering" and "to conquer"
    - He likely does this through "peaceful" and political means since he has no arrows/amm
    - There are numerous views as to who this person is, but he is likely the Antichrist, who will be allowed to rule over all the earth for a short time

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## Revelation 6:3-4 – Second Seal

- The Lamb opens the Second Seal
- Second Living Creature says, "Come!"
- A fiery red horse rides onto the scene taking peace from the earth
  - The red color likely symbolizes bloodshed and war
  - When this horse rides onto the scene, peace will be removed and replaced with war
- Considering the Olivet Discourse (Matthew 24), we see parallels:
  - Peace is likely removed at the middle of the Tribulation (Matt. 24:6-7a; Mark 13:7-8a; Luke 21:9-10)
  - Jesus spoke of Tribulation and then Great Tribulation that occurs after the midpoint when Antichrist defiles the rebuilt Temple (2 Thess 2)
  - The rider has a "great sword" (v4), which means he has been given a license to kill
  - This COULD include the Gog/Magog War of Ezekiel 38-39
  - Once the Jews realize who the Antichrist is, they run for the hills and he seeks to kill them

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## Revelation 6:5-6 – Third Seal

- The Lamb opens the Third Seal
- Third Living Creature says, "Come and see"
- A black horse rides onto the scene
  - The black color likely symbolizes scarcity of food
  - This often occurs during and following large wars
  - Rider carries a scale symbolizing commerce and his control of commodity prices
  - A voice is heard: *"A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not harm the oil and the wine."*
  - The voice is probably the Lamb's since He directs the action
    - Wheat represents "good" food
    - Barley represents "cheap cattle" food
    - Both will be seriously affected via inflationary pricing
    - Quart of wheat will provide one day's ration but will also cost one day's wages during middle of Tribulation
    - Wheat, barley, oil, and wine were the staple foods in Palestine and Asia Minor during John's day
    - Food will be strictly controlled by Antichrist
    - The poor will suffer the most of course

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## Revelation 6:7-8 – Fourth Seal

- The Lamb opens the Fourth Seal
- Fourth Living Creature says, "Come and see"
- A pale horse rides onto the scene
  - The pale/ashen (literally pale green), color likely symbolizes death (a human corpse)
  - The rider is likely again the Antichrist since his name means "death"
  - Death claims the material part of the person; Hades claims the spiritual part of the unbelieving person
  - God grants Death to take one-fourth of the people from the earth in death up to this point of the Tribulation
  - One fourth of the current population would equal **one and a half billion** people removed from the earth

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### Revelation 6:9-11 – Fifth Seal

- The Lamb opens the Fifth Seal
- We instantly see martyrs under the altar (in Heaven)
- These are believers who were killed for their faith in and testimony of God
- These believers died during the period of the Tribulation John had just described
- Their fidelity and faithfulness to the word of God is what resulted in their deaths
- If the PreTrib Rapture is the correct view, then these would be people who became believers after that event
- They became believers during first half of Tribulation and became martyrs because of their faith
- The resurrection of these saints does not occur until the end of the seven-year period (cf. 20:4)
- "How long...?" (v10), signifies that God's long-suffering has ended and "those who live on the earth" likely refers to unbelievers

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### Revelation 6:9-11 – Fifth Seal

- God does not rebuke the martyrs for wanting justice
- He comforts them and gives them long white robes (v11)
- This robe likely symbolizes salvation and immortality
- Spirits would not be able to wear robes proving that these have temporary bodies until their resurrection
- More believers would be martyred before it was time for Jesus to physically return to earth to:
  - Judge the nations
  - Establish His 1,000 year kingdom

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### Revelation 6:12-14 – Sixth Seal

- Scene shifts from Heaven back to Earth
- The Lamb opens the Sixth Seal
- No Living Creature voice
- A massive earthquake occurs throughout the earth (cf. Luke 21:11)
- The darkening of the sun (cf. Isa. 13:10; Ezek. 32:7-8; Joel 2:10, 31; Amos 8:9; Matt. 24:29; Mark 13:24-25; Luke 21:25)
- the reddening of the moon (cf. Joel 2:31; Acts 2:20), and
- the falling of the stars to earth (a meteor-like shower?) appear from the context to be consequences of this sixth seal judgment.
- It is probably best to take these things literally – that will actually occur
- Jesus did as much in His Olivet Discourse and gave no indication His words were to be taken symbolically
- The sky will split open (v14) and roll back
- This will give earth-dwellers a glimpse into Heaven's Throne room (possibly in either visions or in reality)
- The earthquake (v12) will cause mountains and islands to rise and fall

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## Revelation 6:15-17 – Sixth Seal

- Those dwelling on the earth try to hide themselves (v15), just as Adam and Eve did –
- ALL people regardless of rank and station in life are in abject fear of what is happening
- They wanted to DIE (v16) not understanding that death would not protect them!
- The **great day of God's wrath** has finally come (v17) and
  - The people do NOT turn in repentance to God, but
  - Turn AWAY from Him in terror!
- By the end of the Sixth Seal Judgment, they will know that they have been experiencing God's wrath
- The **day of the Lord** includes Daniel's seventieth week (seven years) of judgment, Christ's return to the earth, and His thousand-year reign on the earth
- The Tribulation will be a distinct judgment of God that is unique from all other times of distress the earth has experienced (Jer 30:7)
- It will be worldwide and extremely severe

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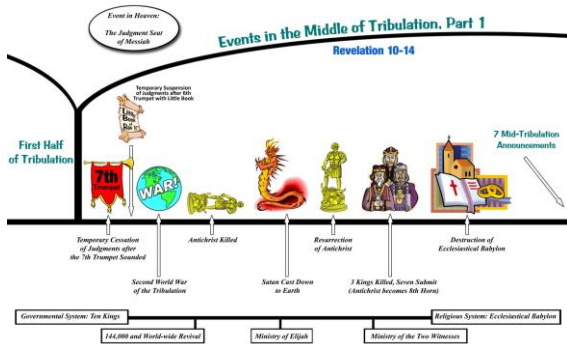
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### Events in the Middle of The Great Tribulation




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