

Rethinking Revelation 6 Part 4

(July 10, 2023)

This was a tough one to write for a number of reasons. Readers may find themselves objecting to some of what I'm saying and I want to state at the outset that *I could be wrong*. I'm not afraid to admit that and I see this article as part of a process in determining truth regarding God's Word. I *want* to be correct about any interpretation I pin to His Word, not because I want so-called bragging rights, but because when I stand before Him, I want Him to tell me that I understood His Word and was correct about a majority of things related to it.

I realize I will not be correct about everything simply because I am a fallen human being saved by grace and growing through a combination of His grace, my submission and ultimately, His ability to save me to the uttermost. The idea that I (or you), will arrive to perfect knowledge in this life is a bit absurd. There *are* truths we can actually know. For instance, we can and should know that salvation comes through Christ alone, through grace alone in faith alone. There is no "work" that I can add to the finished work of Jesus. He is Almighty God, the Second Person of the Trinity, Creator, Savior, Messiah and Ruler of the universe He created. There are other truths that I will not negotiate on because the Bible clearly lists them for us. We either believe them as they are revealed or we reject them, but those truths are clear. If you want to know more about what I believe the Bible teaches, simply go to the page here labeled "Our Beliefs."

However, having said that, we all know that there is wiggle room in certain areas. But human beings are funny creatures. We will often land on a particular viewpoint and then tend to believe everyone else who does not share that same belief is 100% wrong. We are not afraid to tell them either and often because there is disagreement, there is often acrimony. We should be willing to discuss, to consider, to absorb another thought or opinion and compare it to Scripture. If we still believe our view is the stronger view, that's fine. However, we should not be so quick to condemn unless we are talking about "another Gospel," which promotes a false salvation.

Since I began writing this particular series, I wasn't sure where I was going to land. The thing that continues to bother me has to do with **Seal 1** of **Revelation 6:1-8**. Here we are talking about the first four seals or what is commonly referred to as the *four horsemen of the apocalypse*. In John's vision, he sees many things and starting in **Revelation 6:1**, he sees a white horse with a rider. That rider wears a type of crown and comes conquering and to conquer. I was always taught that this particular rider is the Antichrist. It seemed to make perfect sense, but I think I was missing something and I'd like to ask a question about it for you to consider.

If each of the four first seals has a horse and rider, why is it we generally only *personify* the first horse and rider? Each horse is a different color and each rider has something he uses against global society, yet only the first rider on the white horse we take to mean an actual person in this sphere. The other three are *not* personified and are simply ascribed things like "war" or "pestilence," etc. The first rider on the white horse is said to be Antichrist (with some believing it to be Jesus). Is it because that rider wears a crown? I think that has been the main reason. He is seen as an imposter, trying to be like Jesus. I'd like

to offer something else here and see if it gels with you *and* with the tone or meaning of Scripture. Are you willing to do that?

What if the first horse and rider represent something else, *other* than the Antichrist? What if without this particular horse and rider, the other seals (2, 3, and 4), could not really occur? Everything then is based on what the first horse and rider will be and do. By the way, I will state this up front as well. I fully believe the first four seals all clearly pave the way for the man of sin/son of perdition/Antichrist to rise to the top of the heap. If not for the opening of the first four seals (Seal 1 especially), I don't believe Antichrist would have an opening. The first four seals lay the groundwork, building on the previous seal, making his appearance a reality. Each seal does something to global society that pushes the world toward the point where Antichrist can and will make his appearance.

As I've discussed before in this series, I do not see the actual starting point of the 70th week spoken of by the prophet in **Daniel 9:24-27** in any of the four seals. They *could* be built into it without specially mentioning it, but I simply do not see a specific point we can acknowledge as being the actual starting point of the Tribulation and we know from the **Daniel** passage that the Tribulation officially starts when this coming Antichrist will "confirm" a covenant (already in existence by then), with "the many" (nations? Israel?), for "one week" (seven years). This coming week is the *final* week of human history and culminates in the physical return of Jesus to this earth. So while **Daniel** provides the actual starting point of the Tribulation, I simply do not see it mentioned in the **Revelation 6** passage, do you?

So for now, I am going with the premise that the first seal (white horse and rider), is *not* the actual Antichrist, but is part of a global phenomenon that paves the way for the Antichrist to rise. So what does it represent that will make the arrival of the actual Antichrist easier?

I'm beginning to think the first horse and rider represent the global and continual **obfuscation of truth**. If we consider what has been happening throughout the globe since COVID, we gain an understanding of how this obfuscation of truth has worked. It's not simply related to COVID either, but there are numerous areas in which I believe the obfuscation of truth has laid the groundwork for the coming man of sin who is opposed to God (**2 Thessalonians 2**). How is he opposed to God? Everything about the Antichrist is based in **lies**. He will be a master at obfuscating truth and transfixing the majority of global society with his lies.

Just some of the lies global society is dealing with are:

- COVID
 - safe and effective jab
 - PCR testing
 - "long COVID"
 - lock downs, masks & jab stop transmission and infection
- Climate Change
 - renewable energy sources
 - fake food
 - eliminating cows and farms

- eliminating things that use "fossil fuels"
- creation of 15-minute cities
- digital health passports
- USA's southern "secure" border
- Ukraine vs Russia aka WWII
- Political upheaval and realignment of nations throughout the world
- CBDCs, elimination of cash
- Artificial Intelligence
- Social Media Censorship
- January 6th attempt to overthrow the USA
- Transgenderism - men can become pregnant; people can change their gender

With respect to COVID, we now know unequivocally that the lies surrounding COVID are many, too many to detail here but we've done so previously. Ivermectin and Hydroxychloroquine were said to not be effective in treating COVID. Remdesivir was ballyhoo'd, which created major organ failure. That, coupled with putting patients on ventilators, wound up killing them instead of making them better. We were told the COVID jab was the only thing that would actually keep people from getting COVID and stopping the transmission to others; that the jab was "safe and effective." None of this turned out to be true. How could the experts not know, yet they apparently did not know and now they are trying to backtrack to exonerate themselves.

Most within global society turned on those who did not willingly receive the emergency use authorized experimental jab. They wanted us at the very least pushed the fringes of society. Many were very vocal about not offering emergency care to anyone who did not take the jab. Many of those folks have since died "suddenly" because they *did* take the jab and developed blood clots, aneurysms, strokes or heart attacks because of it. The denials continue regarding the jab and adverse effects/death. This is just related to COVID. We're not even going into the other things listed above, much of it connected to the scam of "climate change."

My point is simple. The world has been experiencing a constant stream of lies that have gutted the ability of many to think clearly. People have been taken in by the lies spread by the rider on the white horse. He has "conquered" and continues "conquering" global society through those lies.

Of course lies have always been with us. Just read the **Psalms** or **Proverbs** to understand this about human nature. Just read **Genesis 3** to understand how Satan, the supreme liar, used lies and deceptive language to trap our first parents into changing their relationship with our Creator and bringing destruction upon themselves (and us), because of it.

However, the big difference in all the lies before and the lies now is that previous to COVID, lies were more *localized*. Since COVID, the obfuscation of truth has taken on global meaning. In other words, the effects of lies by people in power is conflated to affect the entire globe all at once because leaders of nearly every nation embraced and spread those lies. Because of this, the obfuscation of truth has taken

root in every aspect of society; workplace environment, in families, social media, in public, political arena, etc. It is not going away, folks. It is here to stay and grow.

I don't recall the vast numbers of people who sit before congressional hearing panels and deliberately lie to members of Congress as they do today. They lie either by deliberately stating something that is not true or by stating they don't know when they actually do. Worse, they refuse to answer questions under the guise of not commenting on an ongoing "investigation" or its not in their purview. Social media also has become a place where people have to talk in code or algorithms will see certain words and silence a person. Censorship of truth is in full swing on nearly all social media platforms.

The obfuscation of truth is *the* groundwork for what is coming and without it, Seals 2, 3 and 4 could not occur nearly as easily or with such coming ferocity. Because of the obfuscation of truth, families are torn apart, nations are at each other's throats and the world is being plunged into a global war between Ukraine and Russia. Everyone is supposed to side with Ukraine. Because of the obfuscation of truth, we are to accept the faulty notion that climate change is destroying the earth with the head of the UN recently calling for the complete destruction of things that rely on fossil fuels. Because of the obfuscation of truth, peace on earth is a thing of the past (Seal 2), inflation and scarcity of food and other items is becoming the norm (Seal 3). Massive death worldwide will be the result (Seal 4).

In my mind, Seal 1, the white horse and rider, is not the Antichrist, but the near total obfuscation of truth so that people will believe and embrace lies as truth. This is not just in the secular arena but also within Christendom as noted by both Paul and Peter in their epistles. The entirety of the planet is awash in lies because of the deliberate obfuscation of truth and people are reacting to those lies as though they are truth. A good deal of this is artificially created by the media, which has not been interested in truth for decades. We are presented with one picture and that is what many to most accept.

Can you see how the first four seals can so clearly and easily create a situation throughout the globe where the Antichrist will be fully accepted by nearly all of those living on the earth? There will be such a mess caused initially by the obfuscation of truth that the world will clamor for anyone who will claim to have the solutions to the mess that we are in. If the Rapture were to occur at any point during the first four seals, that will only add to the difficulties this earth will face. Without Seal 1 - the obfuscation of truth - the other seals would not be able to occur to the global degree represented. In order for the second, third and fourth seals to occur with such ferocity, Seal 1 must do its work. Seal 1, I believe is the absolute obfuscation of truth so that the entire world believes lies and acts accordingly.

We also need to remember that God Himself will send a strong delusion so that people believe the lie (**2 Thessalonians 2:11**). The fact that you, dear reader, have not bought or succumbed to the lies that prevail now is testimony of Christ within you. You, being one of the elect, cannot be deceived in that way because it is simply not possible according to Scripture (**Matthew 24:24**). This is not because you are smarter. It's because the Holy Spirit lives within you, seals you and works to protect you as you continue to submit to His authority over you.

Let me be clear. While I do not necessarily believe Seal 1 is the Antichrist, I fully believe that the first four seals especially build the foundation and pave the way for the man of sin to appear on the scene.

The world is being destroyed through massive obfuscation of truth. This is the starting point. Without this, the other seals would not occur. It all starts with lies. Satan, the father of lies, caused humanity to fall *through* his lies. Lies create massive damage between people and nations. Globalized obfuscation of truth (something fairly new), is the means by which Satan is gaining dominance over the entire globe, something he could not do so easily before this particular decade's technological achievements.

The lies will increase. Truth will continue to be ignored and obfuscated. Seals 2, 3 and 4 will continue and increase in ferocity and when all seems lost and hopeless, Antichrist will step up onto the world's stage and be hailed as savior of the world.

I don't want to leave this on a "downer" note, but I also don't want to prolong this article because of its length already. I'll talk about what our approach to this growing obfuscation of truth should be next time.

Okay, let me hear your thoughts.