

SERMON OUTLINE

In Revelation 6:9-17 we are shown 2 characteristics of God through the opening of the 5th & 6th seals.

- I. God is compassionate toward His people (the 5th seal).
 - A. The martyrs ask “How long?” (vs. 9-10).
 - B. God responds:
 - 1. You have conquered (v. 11a).
 - 2. But you must rest a little longer until everyone appointed to conquer are killed (v. 11b).
- II. God is wrathful toward His enemies (the 6th seal).
 - A. The final Day of the Lord will include the cosmos (vs. 12-14).
 - B. The final Day of the Lord will include all unrepentant idolaters (v. 15a).
 - C. The final Day of the Lord will be inescapable: “Who can stand?” (vs. 15b-17).

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, July 15, 2018

Passage: Revelation 6:9-17

Memory Passage: Revelation 6:9-11

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Rev. 6:9-17.** Write a paragraph recounting what you learned in your study of the first 4 seals.
- (b) Why have these saints been “slain,” and what is the symbolic significance of their current location “under the altar?”
- (c) Which altar is depicted in v. 9: the bronze altar (Ex. 27:1-9), the altar of incense (Ex. 30:1-10), neither, or both? Support your answer from the context of Revelation.
- (d) What does the address of the martyrs (“O Sovereign Lord, holy and true”) tell us about their view of God, and why is this important in light of their current plea (cf. 16:7; 19:2)?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Rev. 6:9-17.** Who are “those who dwell upon the earth” both here and throughout Revelation?
- (b) How do you reconcile their plea with these teachings/actions from Jesus (Is. 53:7; Matt. 5:43-48), Stephen (Acts 7:60), and Paul (Rom. 12:14, 19)?
- (c) What does the white robe symbolize (v. 11), and for what were they to “rest a little longer?”
- (d) What do you learn from vs. 9-11 concerning (1) God’s concern for those who suffer for Him, (2) The difference between justice and revenge, (3) How we should pray (cf. Psalm 6:3; 35:17; 74:10; 94:3; et. al.), and (4) The impact of God’s sovereignty on your own endurance?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Rev. 6:9-17.** As you read the following passages answer these questions: (1) When does the judgment described take place? (2) Is the judgment local or universal? (3) Are the judgments literal or symbolic? 6:12-17; Is. 13:9-13, 24:1-23, 34:1-7; Joel 2; Matthew 24:29-35; Mark 13:24-31; Rev. 11:13, 16:17-21, and 20:7-15.
- (b) Now answer the same questions for our passage, Rev. 6:12-17.

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Rev. 6:9-17.** Why does the earth receive judgment (notice its 7-fold description)?
- (b) Why is the list of 7 groups of men suffering the judgment of the Lamb (cf. 19:18-19, 6:10)?
- (c) Why do the earth dwellers hide themselves “in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains,” especially since “every mountain and island was removed from its place” (v. 14)?
- (d) What specific comfort would the 7 persecuted churches find in vs. 15-17? How do these verses affect your endurance in our rapidly changing political and social milieu?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Rev. 6:9-17.** The answers to the 2 questions asked in our passage (“How long . . .” & “Who can stand?”) are in one sense a guide for the rest of Revelation. Today read chapters 7-22 and jot down the answers you find. This is not intended to be a long, intricate assignment! Just read and jot down general ideas and answers. The goal is to interact broadly with the entire book with chapters 4-6 in your mind, not do a deep analysis.

DATE: July 15, 2018

PASSAGE: Revelation 6:9-17

God’s Compassion & Wrath