

BOOK OF REVELATION

Part 12 – Opening the Scroll: Chapter 6:1-8

I. INTRODUCTION

Review of Chapter 4: The Apostle John is now shown the future, sees a picture of the rapture, which occurs at the end of the church age, and then is shown heaven and sees the scene around the Throne of God, the four special seraphim angels, the 24 elders, and the saints of all ages.

Review of Chapter 5: The Apostle John has just witnessed God the Father present the seven sealed scroll and an angel asking if anyone was worthy to open the scroll. The Lord Jesus Christ appears, takes the scroll, and is declared worthy to take the scroll by all those around the Throne of God: the angels, the elders, the saints.

Now we are ready to witness the Lord Jesus Christ open the seven sealed scroll. Remember one thing, that we will repeat throughout the study of the book of the Revelation: The believer (the saint), both dead and alive, in the Lord Jesus Christ will be taken up in the Rapture, and not go through the Tribulation and the events we are about to study. Let that be a comfort to you.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 “For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: (17) Then we which are alive **and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.** (18) **Wherefore comfort one another with these words.**

A note here to the reader. We will insert the appropriate prophetic events here from other portions of scripture as they chronologically occur in the passages we are studying. We will use the words CONCURRENT EVENT and we will give the scripture and references that apply to the event(s).

II. EXEGESIS – THE OPENING OF THE SEVEN SEALED SCROLL: THE FIRST FOUR SEALS.

CONCURRENT EVENT - AFTER THE RAPTURE AND BEFORE THE FIRST SEAL: INVASION OF ISRAEL AND THEIR DESTRUCTION ON THE MOUNTAINS OF ISRAEL: EZEKIEL 38,39

There has been much disagreement about the timing of these passages. We could spend several messages dealing with this passage. We will not do a full exegesis of these passages here but will study a few of the highlights and see how they fit chronologically into our study.

Ezekiel 36 deals with the dispersion of Israel among the nations that began with the destruction of Jerusalem by the Roman army under the command of General Titus in 70 A.D. Ezekiel 37 deals with the resurrection of Israel from the dispersion among the nations, represented by the valley of dry bones that comes back together, has flesh put upon them, then come back to life and stand as a large army. This is the perfect picture of the return of Israel that began in the early 20th Century. In May 1948, when the British Mandate for Palestine expired and the day after it expired the Zionists movement declared Israel to be a nation state once again. They were recognized by the United Nations as a nation state.

Ezekiel 38:3 “Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal: (5) Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet: (6) Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with thee.

Gog is the leader of Meshech and Tubal. Gog will be the leader of this armada of nations that will attempt to invade Israel from almost every direction. Notice the directions that they come from:

- **Meshech: North of Israel - Modern day southern Russia - Meshech a son of Japeth.**
- **Persia: East of Israel - Modern day Iran and Iraq - Phut the son of Ham**
- **Ethiopia: South-southwest of Israel - Northeast Africa and south of Egypt - Cush, son of Ham**
- **Libya: South-southwest of Israel - west of Egypt – also from Phut the son of Ham**
- **Gomer: North of Israel - Modern day Turkey. - Gomer the elder son of Japeth.**
- **Togarmah: North-northeast of Israel – son of Gomer**

Ezekiel 38:8-9 After many days thou shalt be visited: in the latter years thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste: but it is brought forth out of the nations, and they shall dwell safely all of them. (9) Thou shalt ascend and come like a storm, thou shalt be like a cloud to cover the land, thou, and all thy bands, and many people with thee.

After Israel is returned to the land, settled in the land, and reasonable secure, that the enemies of Israel will plan to invade Israel from nearly every direction. This invasion will be unlike any attempted invasion of Israel seen before in recorded history. God will “harden” their hearts toward Israel just like He did Pharaoh in book of Exodus. This is only because these nations have already hardened their hearts against God and Israel. Notice in these passages that the villages have no walls. In ancient times nearly every town or city had a wall around it for defense. Today, it is not common practice to have walls around your town or city anymore, due to tactics of modern warfare. So this prophecy could have not seen fulfillment in the time the the Scripture was “scribed” onto paper.

Ezekiel 38:10-12 “Thus saith the Lord GOD; It shall also come to pass, that at the same time shall things come into thy mind, and thou shalt think an evil thought: (11) And thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unwallled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates, (12) To take a spoil, and to take a prey; to turn thine hand upon the desolate places that are now inhabited, and upon the people that are gathered out of the nations, which have gotten cattle and goods, that dwell in the midst of the land.

This massive army will then gather and start to move towards Israel. This army will be most likely an invasion by land, sea, and air. Notice particularly the reference, “as a cloud to cover the land”.

Ezekiel 38:14-23 (14) Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say unto Gog, Thus saith the Lord GOD; In that day when my people of Israel dwelleth safely, shalt thou not know it? (15) And thou shalt come from thy place out of the north parts, thou, and many people with thee, all of them riding upon horses, a great company, and a mighty army: (16) And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes.

Then God will turn against this massive armies by the most unexpected means: (1) God will use the forces of nature which will include: fire, brimstone, and even carnivorous creatures against them, and (2) The armies, of which will be composed many nations, will turn on each other.

Ezekiel 38:17-23 (17) Thus saith the Lord GOD; Art thou he of whom I have spoken in old time by my servants the prophets of Israel, which prophesied in those days many years that I would bring thee against them? (18) And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord GOD, that my fury shall come up in my face. (19) For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel; (20) So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep upon the earth, and all the men that are upon the face of the earth, shall shake at my presence, and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground. (21) And I will call for a sword against him throughout all my mountains, saith the Lord GOD: every man's sword shall be against his brother. (22) And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone. (23) Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the LORD.

After God decimates 5/6 of this massive army, he will finish the remnants of this army with causing their armaments to fail and then the vultures and other carnivorous animals will eat their dead bodies.

Ezekiel 39:1-4 “(1)Therefore, thou son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal:(2) And I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of

thee, and will cause thee to come up from the north parts, and will bring thee upon the mountains of Israel: (3) And I will smite thy bow out of thy left hand, and will cause thine arrows to fall out of thy right hand. (4) Thou shalt fall upon the mountains of Israel, thou, and all thy bands, and the people that is with thee: I will give thee unto the ravenous birds of every sort, and to the beasts of the field to be devoured.”

Ezekiel 39:9-12 gives us the clues necessary to figure out the general timing of this attempted assault on Israel and its subsequent failure. Notice that in Verse 9 it says, “and they shall burn with fire seven years:”. The Jews will not have to cut down any firewood. There will be so many so many weapons left from this army that they will not have to cut firewood for seven years. The length of the tribulation, according to Daniel 9, will be seven years. So it is most likely this invasion of Israel and its failure will occur right before the Rapture or after the Rapture and before the opening of the First Seal and its concurrent events, which we will describe shortly. If this occurs before the rapture, then the Rapture must not be far from that time. We will study the First Seal next.

During the Millennial Kingdom, the earth will be restored to its condition before the fall of man because the Lord Jesus Christ will be here on earth and the curse that God put on the world at creation will be lifted during that time. Part of the earth's condition would be no excessive heat or cold during the Millennial Kingdom, due to the lifting of God's curse on creation. Therefore the Jews, or anyone else will need to gather firewood to stay warm.

Also the Jews will bury the dead seven months. During the time of peace under the First Seal, that we will study next, they will have temporary peace in the land to bury all the dead and the Anti-Christ will appear to them to be a messiah, which they will find to their horror later is Anti-Christ.

Ezekiel 39:9-12 “And they that dwell in the cities of Israel shall go forth, and shall set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields and the bucklers, the bows and the arrows, and the handstaves, and the spears, and they shall burn them with fire seven years: (10) So that they shall take no wood out of the field, neither cut down any out of the forests; for they shall burn the weapons with fire: and they shall spoil those that spoiled them, and rob those that robbed them, saith the Lord GOD. (11) And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will give unto Gog a place there of graves in Israel, the valley of the passengers on the east of the sea: and it shall stop the noses of the passengers: and there shall they bury Gog and all his multitude: and they shall call it The valley of Hamongog. (12) And seven months shall the house of Israel be burying of them, that they may cleanse the land.

VERSE 1: “And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see.”

The Lord Jesus Christ commences with the opening of the scroll with seven different seals. The first seal would have to be broken to begin opening the scroll.

One of the four “beasts” makes the invitation for the Apostle John to come and see what happened when the Lord Jesus opened the scroll. When we studied Chapter 4, we discovered that these four “beasts” were seraphim angels with a very special appearance: having six wings, and four faces (calf, man, lamb, and an ox). We do not know which one of the four “beasts” that proclaimed this invitation to the Apostle John, but GOD knows.

Notice the announcement was not spoken softly but with great volume that the Apostle John compares to the sound produced when lightning strikes: Thunder.

VERSE 2: “And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.”

The Apostle John sees a white horse with a conquering warrior riding upon it. Notice here that this conquer is on a white horse, indicating a king or ruler. Also notice that this conquer had a bow, but there is a lack of arrows or a spear, which would have been customary at the time for a conquering ruler or king, on his way to execute a military conquest. Despite the lack of ammunition, this conquering ruler is successful with a massive conquest of most if not all the known world and without violence. He will rule with the blessing of those he was under his rule.

This First Seal is the rise of the Anti-Christ at the beginning of the Tribulation. The Anti-Christ will appear to many to be charming, talented, and to have all the answers to the world's problems. It is these characteristics of the Anti-Christ that will help in this takeover of most if not all the known world. Remember the world has been plunged into chaos by the Rapture and the world will be looking for someone who has the solutions to all the problems the world will face at that time.

Also remember two other things: With the removal of the saints and the Holy Spirit in the Rapture, and the delusion sent by God to those who reject the Gospel, there will be no restraint against the spirit of Anti-Christ that has always been prevalent in the world, evil will be allowed to proceed without any restraint at all. We see the Apostle Paul was shown the same revelation in 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 and 8-12

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4, 8-12 “(3) Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; (4) Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. (8) And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: (9) Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, (10) And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. (11) And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: (12) That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

The Kingdom of the Anti-Christ will be composed of ten kingdoms and will be a revival of the Roman Empire. This is also referred to in the book of Daniel 2:41-43, in the interpretation of the dream that King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon had concerning the image he saw that was smashed to pieces by the stone made without hands, which that stone was a clear reference to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Daniel 2:41-43 “(41) And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay. (42) And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. (43) And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay.

This kingdom of the Anti-Christ, being composed of ten kingdoms is also referred to in Daniel 7:23-25. Verses 23-24 describe the rise of the Anti-Christ from the ten kingdoms and them subduing them and ruling them as their leader. This new kingdom of the Anti-Christ will rule most of the known world, but it is possible that some areas could hold out. Only God knows for sure. Then verse 25 occurs in the second 3 ½ years of the Tribulation, which is the Great Tribulation, as known in scripture as the time of Jacob's trouble. Then he will rule all of the world, not as a benevolent ruler but as a ruthless dictator. We will study more of this part of his rule in Revelation Chapter 13.

Daniel 7:23-25 “(23) Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. (24) And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.(25) And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

CONCURRENT EVENTS – DURING THE FIRST SEAL: We now see the following three concurrent events that are foretold in scripture and they happen during the time prophesied here in the opening of the first seal.

**(1) SIGNING OF THE PEACE TREATY WITH ISRAEL:
BEGINNING OF DANIEL'S 70TH WEEK**

At the time of the opening of the First Seal the Anti-Christ, the rider on the white horse, will sign a peace treaty with Israel, that will be part of the “bloodless” conquest of the Anti-Christ. This is referred to in Daniel 9:24-27.

Daniel 9:24-27 “(24) Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. (25) Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in

troublesome times. (26) And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself; and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. (27) And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

The word “weeks” in verse 24, carries the meaning in the original language a period of seven years. The word “covenant” in verse 27 carries the meaning of a “compact” or “treaty”. We see here the passage in the book of Daniel concerning the 70 weeks, which is representative of a period of 490 years. This period is broken down in the scripture here as follows:

- Seven weeks (49 years): The proclamation to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem to the finishing of the wall of Jerusalem.
- Sixty two weeks (434 years): The finishing of the wall of Jerusalem, including the rebuilding of the city, to the crucifixion of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- One week (7 years): This commences with the covenant, or treaty, that the Anti-Christ will make with Israel. This is obvious because the returned nation of Israel from captivity here is the context of this passage.

This passage describes the seventy weeks, preceding the anointing of “the most holy” which will commence the 1000 year Millennial Kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ.

What is not revealed to Daniel is that there is a great interval of time between the crucifixion of the Lord Jesus Christ and the signing of the peace treaty with Israel. This interval of time is the Church Age and then the Rapture of the Church.

The Lord Jesus makes reference to this event in Matthew 24:15 and further clarifies that that the abomination is a person or an image. We will clarify this further when we study Revelation 13. The reference to “whosoever readeth let him understand” is the admonition of the Lord Jesus to study and understand the prophecy correctly.

Matthew 24:15: “When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)

(2) RISE OF THE TWO WITNESSES: Shortly following the commencement of the peace treaty with Israel, the ministry of the Two Witnesses will begin. Their ministry is described in detail in Revelation 11. These witness will have their ministry in Jerusalem and will be God's witnesses, to a world devoid of any believers or only a few believers that have accept Christ as Saviour since the Rapture. They will have special powers given to them by God, will not be able to be killed, and will have ministry lasting for the first 3 ½ years of the Tribulation.

Revelation 11:2-4 “(2)But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months. (3) And I will give power unto my two

witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. (4) These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.

Through their prophetic preaching they will lead many to the Lord Jesus Christ following the Rapture, through their prophecy. We will study the Two Witnesses in detail when we study Revelation 11.

(3) ARISING OF THE GREAT WHORE – The Scarlet Clothed Woman

During the time of the opening of the First Seal, we see the arising of “great whore”. She is described in detail in Revelation 17. The verses later in Chapter 17 give the interpretation of who the scarlet clothed woman is.

Revelation 17:3-6 “So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. (4) And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: (5) And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.”

This woman, is an one world “church” or one world religion that will lead the world to follow the Anti-Christ. This one world religion will be formed after the Rapture and will consist of all of the religions around the world and also the denominations that claimed they were Christian, that had a head knowledge of the things of God but did not know Christ as Saviour in their hearts. In the chaos after the Rapture, they will quickly meld into a one world religion.

The headquarters for the one world religion could possibly be in Rome, which is located on seven hills or “mountains”. The ancient city of Rome came to encompass these seven hills in the time of the Roman Empire.

Revelation 17:9 “And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.

The Roman Empire was ruled from Rome, which encompassed the known world at the time. Some had speculated this could be near ancient Babylon. Only God knows for sure.

Revelation 17:18 “And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.”

This one world religion will have an relationship of political fornication with the ten kingdoms of the Anti-Christ and will no doubt help him solidify his base of power. The one world religion will have affect on the ten kingdoms and the Anti-Christ but in reality the Anti-Christ will use the one world religion. But this relationship of fornication will only last for the first part of the Tribulation, for 3 ½ years.

Revelation 17:12 “And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which

have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

A small but growing remnant will come to accept Christ as Saviour through (1) The prophesy of the Two Witnesses and (2) Christian print, electronic, and social media left behind by the Church Age saints following the Rapture. All of the rest of the known world will follow willingly the one world religion, in obedience to the Anti-Christ.

***VERSE 3: “And when he had opened the second seal,
I heard the second beast say, Come and see.***

Now we see the next “beast” or the second of four special seraphim angels, invite the Apostle John to witness the opening of the Second Seal by the Lord Jesus Christ, which would have been on the scroll but on the inside and visible only after breaking the first seal and unrolling the scroll to this seal.

***VERSE 4: “And there went out another horse that was red:
and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth,
and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword.”***

Now we see a rider on a red horse. This rider takes peace from the earth, with authorization from God. The sword is representative of military confrontation, the result of war. This Second Seal is a world wide war with much bloodshed and no doubt killing of massive numbers of people. It could possibly be a faction rising up against the rule of the Anti-Christ or the few nations or regions of the world not already under his rule. Only God knows for sure.

***VERSE 5: “And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say,
Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse;
and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand.***

Now we see the next “beast” or the second of four special seraphim angels, invite the Apostle John to witness the opening of the Third Seal by the Lord Jesus Christ, further unrolling the sealed scroll. Now we see a rider on a black horse holding a set of “balances” in his hand. Today we would recognize these balances as a balance scale typical used in commerce in the last few centuries before the availability of modern scales. One would put a known weight on one side and put the unknown weight of the same material on the other side. If they weighed the same, then the sides of the balance scale would be at the same level.

***VERSE 6: “And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say,
A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny;
and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine.”***

This voice, most likely one of the other seraphim angels or one the “Seven Spirits of God”, which were other special angels, decrees that a penny will purchase a measure of wheat or three measures of barley. The word “penny” here refers to a Roman coin, the Denarius. The Denarius was at that time the payment for a standard day's wages.

A “measure of wheat” would be about one quart in volume in today's measurements. This would be considered the bread for one man's consumption in a day. Barley, which was less valuable

than wheat at the time, was about one third the price of wheat in the market of that day. Therefore a day's wages would be required to buy just food for that day's existence, never mind what other needs a person would have. This indicates a scarcity of food during this time, due to famine, often caused by bad growing weather or sometimes war destroying food crops.

This Third Seal is a massive world wide famine. The color black was often a reference to starvation in ancient times. This famine is no doubt the result of the world wide war, which would no doubt destroy food crops and/or those who would be involved in the harvesting process.

Notice however that “the oil and the wine” are not touched. This “oil” was a reference to olive oil which was expensive at that time and “wine” was a reference here to what is called in other places in scripture “old wine” or fermented wine. Non fermented wine, or grape juice, would have been destroyed along with the other food crops. Oil and wine were possessions of the financially more prosperous in ancient society. The wealthy would be able to afford to buy what they needed and wanted, through one means or another, to sustain their lifestyle through this series of judgments so far.

***VERSE 7: “And when he had opened the fourth seal,
I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see.”***

Now we see the next “beast” or the last of four special seraphim angels, invite the Apostle John to witness the opening of the Fourth Seal by the Lord Jesus Christ, further unrolling the sealed scroll.

***VERSE 8: “And I looked, and behold a pale horse:
and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him.
And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth,
to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.***

Now we see a rider on a pale horse. The color pale indicates that one is very sick or has died. This rider has a specific name: Death. Death is given the authority by God to kill one fourth of the inhabitants of the earth. Death here is the final consequences of the opening of the Second Seal, which was world wide war, and the Third Seal, which was a world wide famine resulting from the consequences of the war. This judgment will not discriminate between the masses that reject him and the small remnant of new Tribulation saints. Many of them will die too from this judgment.

Also notice that the animals on earth contribute to this death toll. This could be from one of two causes: (1) Many will be weakened by war and famine and may not be able to protect themselves against scavenging animals, such as buzzards or (2) The animals in creation could possibly lose their natural fear of man and then the animals become the hunters instead of the hunted. Only God knows for sure.

One fourth of the earth's population is killed by one of the above causes. These Seal judgments are the natural consequences of God taking his hand of restraint off of the world and are not apparently supernatural in cause. This will change in the upcoming judgments.

In our next study we will conclude Revelation Chapter 6 and see the opening of the Fifth Seal and the Sixth Seal and then man's amazing reaction to God's judgment: His unwillingness to repent even after all of these judgments.

III. APPLICATIONS

- **OVERRIDDING PRINCIPLE:** The Church Age saints will not go through the Tribulation. If nothing else is learned through this study, remember this.
- **The Tribulation is God's judgment on a world that has rejected the Lord Jesus Christ.**
- **Have you accepted Christ as Saviour and therefore be spared from these judgments.**
- **God's plan will unfold according to his word and his own timetable, not man's**
- **These judgments from God is allowing sin to run its full course. They are mainly man's judgment upon himself. God's judgment today operates that way very often.**
- **God's judgments often are limited in scope to give man a change to repent, but his judgment will one day be full and complete.**
- **We see here what happens when man wants a world without God.**