

Revelation 6:9-11

Jesus opened the fifth seal. Who did John see? What happened to those people?

These martyrs (people who died for being Christians) were under the incense altar. What does the incense mean (see Rev. 5:8)? What were they praying?

Notice they didn't take revenge on their enemies. Can we get revenge against someone who hurts us? Read Romans 12:19 (1424).

These people represent everyone in the whole church who gets persecuted for believing in Jesus. What did God give each person?

Revelation 6:12-17

When Jesus opened the sixth seal, what things happened to the earth and sky?

This is the first picture in Revelation of the end of the world. Will anyone be able to hide from that judgment?

To Think About...

Jesus lets the world experience suffering because of sin. But He is also our Savior from sin and the world!

The Book of Revelation God's Picture of History and Heaven

Lesson 5, Chapter 6:1-17

To Begin...

Have you ever been in the middle of a forest fire or tornado or other natural disaster? How did that make you feel? As you read this, are you in the middle of the events in Revelation? How does that make you feel?

The Seals of God's Judgment

Chapter 6 begins the part of Revelation that everyone thinks is so interesting. Now in the book we see many strange things happening in heaven and on earth.

There are 3 different visions, each with 7 parts; the 7 seals, 7 trumpets, and 7 bowls. They are all the same in some ways. As we study each vision in detail, we will see how they are different.

The Three Visions

<i>Seven Seals</i>	<i>Seven Trumpets</i>	<i>Seven Bowls</i>
Seals 1-4: Earthly events	Trumpets 1-4: Earthly events	Bowls 1-4: Earthly events
Seal 5: Spiritual event	Trumpet 5: Spiritual event	Bowl 5: Spiritual event.
No battle picture	Trumpet 6: Great Battle	Bowl 6: Battle of Armageddon
Seal 6: End of this world.	Trumpet 7: End of this world.	Bowl 7: End of this world.
Seal 7: Introduces next vision.		

The First Four Seals, the Four Horsemen

Each horseman is not a specific person in history. Each horseman represents many people in history, or groups of people, or things that happen on earth.

Revelation 6:1-2

What does the first horseman do? What three things show that is his job?

1. Riding a _____.
2. Holding a _____.
3. He was given a _____.

“Good guys always wear white.” Is that true? Is this a good guy or a bad guy? (Hint – he’s like the other horsemen. Are they good or bad?)

Will this horseman be able to defeat Christ’s church?
Can any evil government or power stop His church?
Read Matthew 16:18 (1232).

Revelation 6:3-4

What does the second horseman do? Do we see this happening today? Read Mark 13:7-8 (1276).

The second horseman had a large sword. Jesus also has a sharp sword (Rev. 1:16). Are they the same or different? How?

Revelation 6:5-6

Black is the color of death. Long ago, this often meant death because of starvation, because of a drought. How bad was the hunger? What did food cost?

Will drought and hunger destroy everyone and everything? Or will some food always be left?

Revelation 6:7-8

What does the fourth horseman represent? What follows him?

Who sent these 4 horsemen? How does that affect how you see cruel war, killing, famine, and death? Who is really in charge?

Different Colors?

The book of Revelation is full of different sights, sounds, and colors. Colors are important. White shows victory, usually God’s victory, but sometimes means someone else’s victory. Sometimes white will mean pure. Black means death or severe hunger. Red is like blood, showing fighting or war. Pale or pale green means death, like a dead body. The normal color green reminds us of growing plants and means life. Purple or scarlet (bright red) is the color that kings wear, but gold is the color for God, the King of kings.

What About...