

The Seal Judgements

The Seal Judgements-Overview

These are the first in a three part series of judgements. They are followed by the Trumpet judgements and lastly by the Bowl judgements. All are released by Jesus.

There are seven seal judgements. These seals have to be broken in order for what is on the scroll to be released. They are warnings about what is to come. The first 4 are grouped together, followed by 5-6, and then number 7 is separate. They are literal and occur in the first three and a half years of the great tribulation.

The 7 seal judgements are about God lifting His restraining hand off the human race, allowing sin to manifest fully. This has to happen so that His justice and love can be understood. The judgements are redemptive by nature. The seal judgements will focus on the nations that align themselves with Babylon, the harlot church. The antichrist will support and tolerate this harlot religion for a short time. He will then destroy it and impose his own tyrannical religious, political and economic systems.

First Seal.

The first seal releases the antichrist on his white horse.

Explanation of words used in (Rev 6:2)

The *white horse* is a symbol of righteousness, speed and strength but is a counterfeit.

The *crowns* is a symbol of the authority given to the antichrist by God so that he may reign in the world for a short time.

The *arrowless* bow speaks of increasing the antichrists initial rule without bloodshed. He will only threaten and speak of war.

Conquering. He will have a series of unbelievable conquests on a global level. His initial success will focus upon political and economic change. War will come later.

Given. His power is given to him first by God and afterwards by Satan.

The events that happen in proximity to the first seal.

There will be judgement on the harlot church. The two witnesses appear on the scene. Satan is cast to the earth with his entire demonic host. The antichrist develops his apparent head wound and subsequent healing. The abomination of desolation is set up in the temple in Jerusalem. The mark of the beast is operating as part of a worldwide economic system.

Second Seal.

The second seal is the release of the fiery red horse and his rider.

Explanation of words used in (Rev 6:3-4)

The *fiery red* horse speaks of world wide bloodshed and world war which breaks out after the short time of peace and safety. (see 1 Thess 5:3)

The *great sword*. This sword brings with it great civil and military conflict.

Take peace from the earth is confirming what will happen. It will begin with civil unrest, then oppression by governments, then international war.

Granted Jesus allows the release of this sword to evil men while at the same time remaining in control.

The events that happen in proximity to the second seal are as previously mentioned, being the end of world peace followed by world military conflict.

Third Seal.

The third seal is the release of the black horse and rider.

Explanation of words used in (Rev 6:5-6)

The black horse speaks of sorrow, sadness and mourning.

Pair of scales speaks of economic crisis on a global level.

Quart of wheat for a denarius. A days wages will only buy a minimum day's food for 1 person.

Three quarts of barley for a denarius. Barley is less nutritious than wheat.

Do not harm the oil and the wine. The famine will not touch the rich of the antichrist regime.

The events that happen in proximity to the third seal will be severe famine following the world war. There will be starvation worldwide. The antichrist economic system will only permit those with the mark of the beast to buy food. People will kill each other for food to survive. It will be a devastating time in which to live.

Fourth Seal.

The fourth seal releases the pale horse whose rider is death.

Explanation of words used in (Rev 6:7-8)

The pale horse speaks of the colour of death. The ashen colour of the face of a dead person.

A fourth of the earth. One fourth of the worlds population will die unnatural deaths.

Hades followed with him. Hades is the place unbelievers go when they die. Hell is another word for Hades. Their spirit is taken there until the end of the millennium. Then they appear before the great white throne for judgement.

Power was given to them speaks of the first 3 seals coming to a climax at the fourth seal.

The events taking place at the fourth seal are the cumulative death toll from the first 2 and including the fourth seal. A predicted death toll may be in the order of 2 billion out of 8 billion.

Fifth Seal.

The fifth seal releases the prayer movement in heaven and on earth to a higher level of intensity. It is an interesting seal to understand. It is about Jesus releasing a great increase in prayer from those in heaven and those on the earth against the antichrist. We do not understand the power of this seal yet. However, a spirit of prayer will be upon every ministry in the end-time church.

The blood of those martyred during the tribulation period adds fuel to this prayer movement. It is the next most powerful seal to be released by Jesus because from here on the power from heaven is being brought to bear on the antichrist and his regime.

Explanation of words used in (Rev 6:9-17)

Under the alter is the golden alter of incense before the throne in heaven

How long is not a cry for personal revenge by the tribulation martyrs but that God would remove reprobate people (those who cannot be saved) from oppressing others and that God's holiness would be vindicated.

Our blood (the martyr's blood). The blood that was shed and is in the earth cries out in unison with the prayer movement.

Until you judge. The saints cry out for God to stop the oppression by the reprobates. While God has no pleasure in the death of the wicked He will in righteousness carry out judgement against the oppressors.

We currently pray for the ungodly to be saved but a time will come when we will pray for God's judgement on the reprobate (those who have stepped over the line and cannot be saved).

The events that will happen from this seal onwards will be an outpouring and demonstration of God's supernatural power through His end time church. Miracles will be common, the dead raised, the blind seeing and the lame walking. In all segments of business and society there will be a very marked contrast between the works of God and those of the devil. God's favour will be on his people and His judgement on the wicked.

Sixth Seal.

The sixth seal releases cosmic disturbances.

It is the first answer to the cry of the martyrs in the previous seal. It begins with a number of supernatural judgements released by Jesus. All the evil people on the earth, from the great to the small, recognise it is of Jesus' doing and in their terror want to hide and escape from the wrath of the Lamb and the Father (v17). They still do not want to repent and hate Jesus even more.

Explanation of words used in (Rev 6:12-17)

The sky receded is when the veil between heaven and earth is taken away, the glory of heaven is able to be seen by all on the earth. There are many other manifestations of the glory of God shown at this time. All those on the earth understand that this is the day of the Lord.

The earthquake, the sun, the moon, the stars are all supernatural happenings. We do not need to fully understand each of them, but just to know they will occur.

Mountains moved means much of the earth's surface will be shaken and moved. Islands may disappear. There will be great devastation in the cities of the world. See Isaiah 2:10-19, Nahum 1:5-7.

The events are major! Cataclysmic showings in the heavens resulting in great fear and terror on the earth for those aligned to the antichrist. The planet will be shaken like never before. All those who do not fear God, from the great to the small, will want to crawl into holes and hiding places to avoid the great and terrible day of the Lord.

Seventh Seal.

The seventh seal portrays anointed prayer mixed with fire. It is preparatory to the 7 trumpet judgements. The seventh seal shows us the power that finally comes from the strengthened prayer movement. God's willingness to answer is seen by the appearance of the seven angels and them being given the seven trumpets. It is a moment in heaven all have been anticipating.

Explanation of words used in (Rev 8:1-6)

Silence...for about half an hour. A dreadful but glorious silence in heaven signifying the impending judgements to come. All in heaven are speechless. Those on the earth are terrified.

The seven angels...the seven trumpets. This is the commissioning and action time of the seven angelic messengers who stand before the throne of God.

Another angel...golden censer...given much incense. Another dramatic moment in heaven. There is much reference in scripture given to the importance of 'bowls of incense-live coals of fire-prayers of the saints'.

The angel's hand. Here the angel mixes the sweet incense with the prayers of the saints on the golden altar so that the smoke of the incense ascends before God's throne.

fire from the altar, and threw it to the earth. This is the action resulting from the prayers offered. Great cosmic disturbances now occur on the earth in the form of noises, lightnings and thunderings and earthquakes.

The seven angels prepared to sound. Much has been done prior to this moment to bring about repentance with little result. It is now time for the trumpet judgements to begin.

The events now demonstrate heaven's response to the prayer movement's increased activity since the 5th seal. One sees the fullness of the power of intercession taking place upon the earth. The contrast between the silence in heaven for half an hour is followed by a continuation of thunderings, lightnings and earthquakes. Because of the prayers offered before the throne, judgmental fire is thrown to the earth causing destruction and death. It finishes with the awesome preparation for the 7 trumpet judgements.

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