

The Book of Revelation Course.

These notes of mine have time code references shown in brackets. They relate to Mike Bickle's MP3 audio files on his Book of Revelation study. You may also refer to his complete pdf session notes on the IHOP website. Mike has also produced an excellent A5 size study guide which can be purchased from IHOP.

The purpose of these notes, for each session, is to complement what Mike has already written. Many of the sentences written in my notes, are what Mike has actually said on the audio file.

05. The Seals of Judgement and God's Protection. (Rev. 6-7)

I. Introduction to the seven seals

A. (01:22-03:07) Review of Ch.5 The scroll speaks of the title deed to the earth and the action plan to cleanse the planet of evil. The seals when broken release judgement against the anti-Christ. This is done by Jesus through the praying end time church.

B-C. (03:08-04:14) The seals are literal, future and progressive and numbered. They are released in sequential order.

D. (04:15:07:31) The timing of this is important. The scroll has not been opened yet, but it would be sometime after the bowls of prayer are full. It can only happen when a mature praying church is on the earth.

E-F-G-H. (07:32:13:15) The judgements begin against the great harlot (the false church) and the anti-Christ. The judgements are released for two purposes. The first is to restrict the anti-Christ's power and regime. The second is to produce a response from those not saved for salvation. This is the dilemma the forerunners will need to explain. How can a God of love do this? It is because of his love that he is doing it! The words 'come and see' Rev.6:1 is for us to draw near to the heart of God so we understand these things. Isa.33:17-18 gives us a look at the fierceness of his love. The Lord uses the least severe means to reach the greatest number at the deepest level. IThes.5:9

II. First seal: Anti-Christ's political aggression (Rev.6:2)

A-B. (13:16-18:05) When he is recognised on a global level, Jesus releases the first seal. This is when the harlot church is already well established, the joining of all religions into a false religion-including some deluded believers) The true church will be viewed as intolerant by the false church and much persecution will take place. But then when the anti-Christ comes to power with the 10 kings, they hate the harlot church and destroys her. The white horse while representing purity is a counterfeit of Jesus white horse.

C-D-E-F-G. (18:06:21:50) The anti-Christ has an 'arrowless' bow'. This represents a bloodless war or simply a threat of war. The nations are enjoying a counterfeit world peace (IThes.5:3). A crown will be given to him representing power from God first, power from the devil next and power from the kings of the earth last. God releases the anti-Christ on the kingdom of darkness though he is the number 1 champion of darkness. 'Is given' is used 22 times in Revelation. Rev.13:7)

III. Second seal: Worldwide bloodshed and the final world war. (Rev.6:3-4)

A-B. (21:51-26:10) When Jesus opens the second seal, the red horse and rider are released. The great sword represents world war breaking out. Rev.6:3-4 This is evil nations waging war against each other and also the anti-Christ waging war against the harlot. It is world chaos. Rev.17:1-7. The kingdom of darkness is waging war against itself.

IV. Third seal: Famine and economic crisis (Rev. 6:5-6)

A-B. (26:11-29:35) The black horse and rider with a pair of scales. Following the world war there is the worst economic crisis in history followed by severe famine. A denarius for a quart of wheat represents a day's wages for the most minimal substance for one person. Barley is less nutritious and a third the price of wheat.

V. Fourth seal: Death to one-fourth of the earth's people. (Rev.6:7-8)

A-B. (29:35-35:13) This is still Jesus releasing this seal. The pale horse (ashen colour) represents death. The word translated death means 'pestilence' or 'disease'. These are the same 4 judgements

mentioned in Ezek.5:17; 14:21. Forerunners are called to 'come and see' so they can take the message to the church. Forerunners are at the point of the arrow. (35:14-38:38) This is extra on the Fourth seal. Death relates to the physical body, Hades follows taking the unbeliever's spirit to confinement till the second resurrection.

VI. Fifth seal: Prayer releasing judgement. (Rev.6:9-11)

A-B-C-D-E-F-G-H. (38:39-48:00) This is one of the most misunderstood seals. This is a further judgement against the anti-Christ. It is building in intensity as they unfold. The prayer ministry in heaven is in tune with that on the earth. The martyrs are not asking for personal revenge but for God to do justice against the kingdom of darkness. "How long" is one of the most recorded prayers in scripture? See references in pdf notes. Also see Lk. 18:7-8 where the question is asked, but Jesus asks in return "will I find agreement (prayer) for this on the earth when I come". Many think that the Jesus of Revelation cannot possibly be the same Jesus, but He is! God's judgements are holy in that they do not violate love, and they are true in judging the guilty with accurate information.

VII. The Sixth seal: Cosmic disturbances. (Rev.6:12-17))

A. (48:01-54:05) This takes activity to another level on the anti-Christ's empire. Cosmic disturbances are being released by the prayer movement both in heaven and on earth. We do not pray for these things until the time is right and we are given the word to do so from the Holy Spirit.

B-C-D-E No commentary by MB for this. There will be a great earthquake or a worldwide geophysical upheaval, the sun and moon darkened possibly by volcanic ash. There will be great signs from heaven. Lk.21:11 Stars falling from heaven speak may be of asteroids hitting the earth. The sky will recede may mean there will be a "window" into heaven where God's wrath is revealed. This will create panic in unbelievers and their leaders. Forerunners will proclaim this at the opening of the first seal. The question of the hour will be "who is able to stand?" Rev. 6:17

VIII. First parenthetical section: Who can stand? (Rev.7:1-17)

A-B-C-D-E. (54:06-1:02:17) The story line unfolds in 5 parenthetical segments. These are the times when John asks 'What about the saints' and then the angel gives him details. The angel shows John that the people of God are going to have a supernatural protective seal on their foreheads for both physical and spiritual protection. See Ezek. 9:4-6 which gives a terrifying description of God issuing orders to kill all who do not have the mark. None are spared except those with his mark.

end of teaching.