

*The lamb, as slain, is worthy to open the book*

*Rev 6:8 And I saw: and behold, a pale horse, and he that sat upon it, his name was Death, and hades followed with him; and authority was given to him over the fourth of the earth to slay with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and by the beasts of the earth.* - Rev 6:8

This Lesson Outline was prepared by John M. Wharton

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#### Sources -

All bible text, unless otherwise indicated, is the Darby Translation. ASV indicates the American Standard Version, with KJV indicating the King James Version. Quotations are often included from various classic christian commentaries such as John Gill's Expositor, Jamieson, Fausset and Brown, Robertson's New Testament Word Pictures, and others. Greek and Hebrew word definitions are often included from the Strong's Concordance, unless otherwise indicated. All of these sources, both the bible text's, commentaries, and Strong's definition's are taken from the excellent source, the e-Sword Bible Computer Program, unless otherwise indicated.

#### Introduction -

With the opening up of the first four seals of the book by the lamb that was slain we see the four horsemen of the apocalypse as they are commonly viewed. There is significant use of symbolism in the following chapters that not to say that the symbols don't represent literal events that will happen because they do. The key to understanding the symbolism involved is to study carefully comparing them against other such symbols used in Bible prophecy. One hint is that significant amounts of the symbols used in Daniel's prophecies are also used in prophecies of this Revelation. We must now determine in these coming lessons the meaning and if possible general time in relation to the Bible's prophetic timeline of the coming events.

#### Lesson Text - Revelation Chapter 6

**Rev 6:1** And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying, as a voice of thunder, Come *and see* .

**G4973** σφραγίς sphragis 'sfrag-ece' Probably strengthened from G5420; a *signet* (as *fencing* in or protecting from misappropriation); by **implication** the *stamp* impressed (as a mark of privacy, or genuineness), literally or figuratively: - seal.

**REV 6:2** AND I SAW: AND BEHOLD, A WHITE HORSE, AND HE THAT SAT UPON IT HAVING A BOW; AND A CROWN WAS GIVEN TO HIM, AND HE WENT FORTH CONQUERING AND THAT HE MIGHT CONQUER.

#### Comments -

IT HAS BEEN OBSERVED THAT THIS WARLORD RIDES OUT WITH A BOW IN HIS HAND BUT NO MENTION OF

ANY ARROWS. NO INDICATION THAT THE BOW HAS AN ARROW SET IN IT TO SHOOT. THIS MAY SYMBOLIZE THE THOUGHT THAT HE SEEMS TO COME AS A POWERFUL LEADER WHO ATTEMPTS TO BRING PEACE AND NOT WARFARE.

**Rev 6:3**And when it opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, Come *and see* .

**Rev 6:4**And another, a red horse, went forth; and to him that sat upon it, to him it was given to take peace from the earth, and that they should slay one another; and there was given to him a great sword.

Comments –

Whatever peace had been achieved (with sincere motives or otherwise) by the efforts of the first rider on the white horse they fail and open warfare follows shortly on his heels.

**Rev 6:5**And when it opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying, Come *and see* . And I saw: and behold, a black horse, and he that sat upon it having a balance in his hand.

**Rev 6:6**And I heard as a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, A choenix of wheat for a denarius, and three choenixes of barley for a denarius: and do not injure the oil and the wine.

Adam Clarke from the e-Sword Bible Program -

**A measure of wheat for a penny** - The chaenix here mentioned was a measure of dry things; and although the capacity is not exactly known, yet it is generally agreed that it contained as much as one man could consume in a day; and a penny, the Roman denarius, was the ordinary pay of a laborer. So it appears that in this scarcity each might be able to obtain a bare subsistence by his daily labor; but a man could not, in such cases, provide for a family.

**Three measures of barley** - This seems to have been the proportion of value between the wheat and the barley. Barley was allowed to afford a poor aliment, and was given to the Roman soldiers instead of wheat, by way of punishment.

**Hurt not the oil and the wine** - Be sparing of these: use them not as delicacies, but for necessity; because neither the vines nor the olives will be productive.

**Rev 6:7**And when it opened the fourth seal, I heard *the voice of* the fourth living creature saying, Come *and see* .

**Rev 6:8**And I saw: and behold, a pale horse, and he that sat upon it, his name *was* Death, and hades followed with him; and authority was given to him over the fourth of the earth to slay with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and by the beasts of the earth.

**Rev 6:9**And when it opened the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar the souls of them that had been slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held;

**Rev 6:10**and they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O sovereign Ruler, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell upon the earth?

**Rev 6:11**And there was given to them, to each one a white robe; and it was said

to them that they should rest yet a little while, until both their fellow-bondmen and their brethren, who were about to be killed as they, should be fulfilled.

**Rev 6:12**And I saw when it opened the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as hair sackcloth, and the whole moon became as blood,

**Rev 6:13**and the stars of heaven fell upon the earth, as a fig tree, shaken by a great wind, casts its unseasonable figs.

**Rev 6:14**And the heaven was removed as a book rolled up, and every mountain and island were removed out of their places.

**Rev 6:15**And the kings of the earth, and the great, and the chiliarchs, and the rich, and the strong, and every bondman and freeman, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains;

**Rev 6:16**and they say to the mountains and to the rocks, Fall on us, and have us hidden from *the* face of him that sits upon the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb;

**Rev 6:17**because the great day of his wrath is come, and who is able to stand?

#### **Conclusion -**

**We have seen in chapter 6 of this Revelation to John the four riders of the apocalypse.**