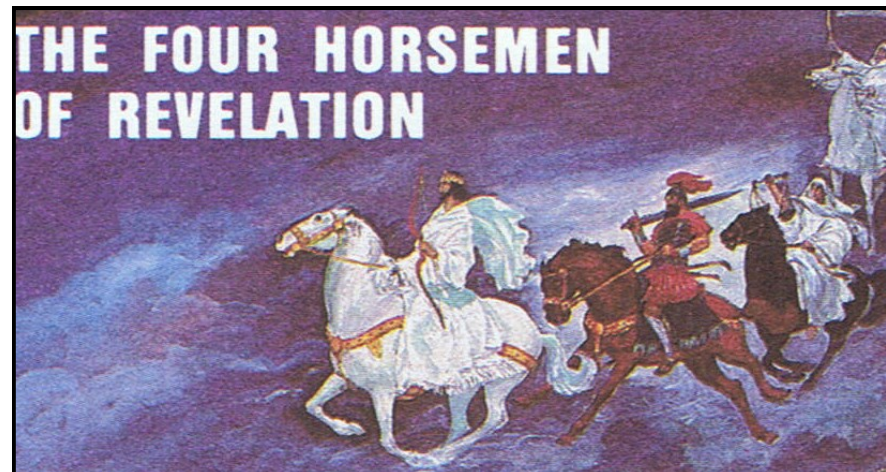


A BIBLE PROPHECY ADVENTURE REVELATION SEMINARS

THE FOUR HORSEMEN OF REVELATION



Virtually everyone in the Christian world has heard of the four horsemen of the Apocalypse. But should you quiz fifteen or twenty of your church friends, the odds are that none of them would have the faintest idea as to who these horsemen really are.

The four horsemen are part of the seven "seals of Revelation, chapters six and eight. These seals are seven symbolic views or word pictures, of major conditions and events which face the people of God from the ascension of Jesus until His second coming. They cover the same time period as do the seven churches of Revelation, chapters 2 and 3.

These exciting and very significant views have been given us by Jesus, Himself, hence, their importance cannot be over-estimated. We must enter this study with much prayer for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, as we endeavour to understand Jesus' special messages to us.

PLEASE SPEND A FEW MINUTES REVIEWING EXHIBIT # 1 ON THE SEVEN SEALS BEFORE YOU BEGIN STUDYING THIS LESSON. ALSO READ REVELATION, CHAPTER SIX.

THE SYMBOLS EXPLAINED

1. **What do horses and riders often represent In prophecy?**
Zechariah 1:8-10; 6:2-5.

Ans: a. Zechariah 1:10 "These are _____ whom the
_____ hath _____ to _____ to

Ans: b. Zechariah 6:5 “These are the four _____*
of the _____, which _____
from _____ the _____
of all the _____.”

RS-009

- Ans:** “The four _____.”

THE SEVEN SEALS

- Ans:** "He went forth _____ and to _____."

The **BOW** symbolizes success in battle against evil, Psalm 7:11, 12; Psalm 45:4, 5. The white horse covers the same time period as the Ephesus church — first century, AD.

- Ans: "Power was given him ... to take _____ from the _____ and that they should _____ one".

15

Foul, blasphemous speech — 2 Timothy 3:1, 2

Rise of many false religions — 2 Peter 2:1, 2; Matthew 24:24;
1 Timothy 4:1-4; Revelation 18:2, 4, 5

Giving of special message to all the world to prepare people for Christ's coming
— Matthew 24:14; Revelation 14:6-14

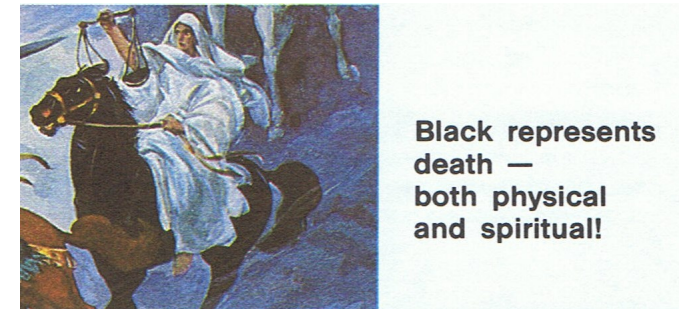
Divorce "without natural affection" — Matthew 24:37-39; cf Genesis 6:2; 2
Timothy 3:1-5

EVER LEARNING AND NEVER COMING TO A KNOWLEDGE OF THE
TRUTH — 2 Timothy 3:1, 7

If you have extra time, please read Matthew, chapter 24; and Luke, chapter 21.
These chapters both list many signs of the Lord's return.

NOTE: The **RED** colour of the second horse fitly represents the bloody
destruction and persecution of God's people by Rome during the second,
third and early part of the fourth centuries, Ezekiel 32:6, 11; Jeremiah 46:10;
Nahum 2:3. By this persecution, the peace of God's people was destroyed.

The **SWORD** is associated with war and bloodshed, Isaiah 3:25; cf 1
Chronicles 22:8. It is also associated with persecution, Acts 12:1, 2. The red
horse covers the same time period as the Smyrna Church.



5. As the third seal was opened, a black horse appeared. What does black symbolize? Acts 26:18; John 12:35

Ans: a. Acts 26:18 “To turn them from _____
to _____.”

Ans: b. John 12:35 “_____ while ye have the
_____ lest _____ come upon you.”

NOTE: Repeatedly, in the Scripture, darkness or blackness symbolizes moral darkness, sin, apostasy and error — the very opposite of the light of the gospel. The symbol is very fitting for the church during the 4th, 5th and half of the 6th centuries (the Pergamos church period) when Christianity became the state religion. Millions of unconverted people crowded into the church. Popularity and compromise brought Pagan errors into the church, which virtually crowded out the gospel.

6. What did the rider of the black horse have in his hand? Revelation 6:5, 6

Ans: "A pair of _____.”

NOTE: The picture of verse six is of food being weighed during a terrible famine. A penny, which was a day's wages, could hardly buy enough food for one person. How could a man feed his family — not to mention the supplying of their other needs? This famine also symbolizes an acute scarcity of the Word of God, Amos 8:11, 12. Bibles were not available to the people and the church stopped preaching the Word. The result was a severe famine

for hearing God's Word. The **OIL** represents the Holy Spirit, Zechariah 4:2-6, and the **WINE**, Jesus' blood of atonement, Matthew 26:27-29. These two precious gifts were not to be lost sight of during this intense spiritual famine.

MARTYRS FOR JESUS

7. **What was the name of the rider of the pale horse of the fourth seal? What followed this horse? Revelation 6:8**

Ans: The rider's name was “_____” and “_____” followed him.

NOTE: The pale horse with the rider **DEATH**, followed closely by the grave ("hades" in Greek), is perfect symbolism of the devastating persecution of God's people and the multiplied millions who were destroyed by sword, starvation, wild beasts and other cruel methods. This is the same period covered by the Thyatira church — from the sixth through the 15th centuries, the period known as the Dark Ages. Jesus said this period of tribulation was the worst ever to be, Matthew 24:21. And even more tragic, it was the **CHURCH**, now in apostasy, which was persecuting and killing those who differed with her. This terrible period of tribulation is mentioned other times in the Bible, Daniel 7:21, 25; 12:7; Revelation 13:5; 12:6, 14; 17:6, because it almost destroyed God's true people from the earth. Jesus plans for these martyrs to be closest to Him in His new kingdom, Revelation 7:13-17.

8. **When the fifth seal was opened, what did John see under the altar? What were they saying? Revelation. 6:9, 10.**

Ans: a. "The _____ of them that were _____ for the _____ of _____."

Ans: b. "How long, O _____ ... dost thou _____ ... avenge our _____."

NOTE: Here is symbolism from Moses' altar of burnt offerings. The sacrifice was offered and the blood poured out at the base of the altar, Leviticus 4:7. In the 5th seal, the blood of the martyred saints cried out symbolically to God, like the blood of Abel did after he was slain by his brother, Genesis 4:10. The word "soul" also means "life", Job 12:10, and the "blood" is the "life", Deuteronomy 12:23, so, soul here refers to the blood or lives of those who had been slain. Dr. Adam Clark, the noted Methodist commentator, says, "The altar is upon the earth, not in heaven". (UNFOLDING THE REVELATION, page 69). And Albert Barnes, the famed Presbyterian commentator, says, "We are not to suppose that this literally occurred ... for the whole representation is symbolical; nor are we to suppose that the injured and the wronged . actually pray for vengeance on those who have wronged them". — NOTES ON THE NEW TESTAMENT,

RS-009

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SIGNS THAT SHOW JESUS WILL RETURN IN OUR DAY

Accumulation of wealth — James 5:1-8
 Capital/Labour troubles — James 5:1-8
 War preparations — Matthew 24:6, 7; Revelation 11:18
 Increase of knowledge — Daniel 12:4
 Unrest, upheaval — Luke 21:25-27
 Craze for pleasure — 2 Timothy 3:1-4
 Religious scepticism — Luke 18:8
 Intemperance, physical decay — Luke 17:26-30
 Falling away from Bible truth — 2 Timothy 4:1-4
 Moral degeneracy and decline of spirituality — 2 Timothy 3:1-5
 Unparalleled travel — Daniel 12:4
 Destructive earthquakes, cyclones, famines, etc. — Matthew 24:7
 Abounding lawlessness — Matthew 24:12; 2 Timothy 3:1-5
 Scoffers — 2 Peter 3:3-5
 Communication with spirits — 1 Timothy 4:1-2
 Deceptive miracles — Revelation 16:14; 2 Corinthians 11:13-15
 Great peace movements — 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6
 False Christs/prophets — Matthew 24:24
 People will be too busy — Luke 21:34; Matthew 24:37-39
 Men will have power to destroy the earth — Revelation 11:18
 Increasing crime and evil — 2 Timothy 3:1-5, 13
 Denial of creation — 2 Peter 3:3-6
 Fear, distress of nations — Luke 21:25, 26
 Heresy and apostasy — 2 Thessalonians 2:3; II Peter 2:1, 2
 Children disobedient to parents — 2 Timothy 3:1, 2
 Truce breakers — 2 Timothy 3:1, 3

(November 13, 1833) ... COVERED NO INCONSIDERABLE PORTION OF THE EARTH'S SURFACE ... covering the entire vault of heaven with myriads of fire balls." **Geography of the Heavens**, p. 157. Within a little over a half century after the darkening of the sun and moon, this most remarkable of all meteoric showers took place.

When God's great prophetic clock struck the hour, events as predicted took place:

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| | 1. November 1, 1755
— The great earthquake |
| then 25 years later, | 2. May 19, 1780
— The dark day and the moon as blood |
| then 53 years later, | 3. November 13, 1833
— The falling of the stars |

Vol. 9, (Book of Revelation), page 171.

**9. How long were the martyrs to rest before being rewarded?
Revelation 6:11**

Ans: "They should _____ yet for a _____ season"

NOTE: The **WHITE ROBES** indicate victory for these martyrs, Revelation 19:8; 3:5. Though their victory was already won, they were to rest or sleep in the tomb a little season, till Jesus returns and rewards all His saints together, at the same time, Revelation 22:12; Hebrews 11:39, 40. The late George Eldon Ladd, former professor of New Testament theology at Fuller Theological Seminary, says in his Revelation commentary, "The fact that John saw the souls of the martyrs under the altar has nothing to do with the state of the dead or their situation in the intermediate state; it is merely a way of picturing the sad fact that they had been martyred in the name of their God". AN ENTIRE SEMINAR LESSON WILL DEAL WITH THE SUBJECT OF OUR DEAD LOVED ONES. IT IS ENTITLED, "THE KEYS OF DEATH". WATCH FOR IT. The 5th seal covers the same era as the fifth church, Sardis — from the 16th to the mid-18th century. The horrible persecution of the fourth seal continued under the fifth. Jesus said this period of persecution or tribulation would be shortened. And, indeed, it was shortened by the dynamic preaching of Huss, Jerome, Knox, Tyndale, Luther and other great men of God of the reformation.

Startling signs draw men's minds to study Bible prophecy.



SIGNS IN THE HEAVENS

**10. What shocking events take place as the sixth seal opens?
Revelation 6:12, 13**

Ans: a. "There was a great _____."

Ans: b. "The _____ became _____."

Ans: c. "The _____ became as _____."

Ans: d. "The _____ of heaven _____."

NOTE Please see Exhibit #2 for historical documentation of these signs.

11. The next momentous event under the sixth seal is the second coming of Jesus. Read the graphic description in Revelation 6:14-17. Why do the unsaved call for the rocks and the mountains to fall on them?

Ans: "For the great _____ of His _____ is _____."
and who _____ be _____ to _____?"

NOTE: IT IS SOBERING, INDEED, TO REALIZE THAT WE ARE NOW LIVING BETWEEN VERSE 13 and 14 OF THE SIXTH SEAL OF REVELATION 6. IT HAS BEEN 150 YEARS SINCE THE LAST SIGN, THE FALLING OF THE STARS. THE NEXT SIGN IS ABOUT TO APPEAR "And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory". Matthew 24:30. Please note that the sixth seal covers the time periods of both the sixth and seventh churches, Philadelphia and Laodicea — from about the middle of the 18th century to the coming of Jesus.

RS-009



SEAL OF GOD

"WHO SHALL BE ABLE TO STAND?" is the question the lost will cry out in terror at Jesus' second coming?

Jesus interrupts, before opening the 7th seal, and spends the entire 7th chapter to tell us WHO WILL BE READY.

12. To be ready, what must first be received from the angel?
Revelation 7:2, 3.

Ans: "Hurt not the earth ... till we have _____ the

came shortly after the period of persecution sometimes called the Dark Ages.

THE MOON RED AS BLOOD — NORTH AMERICA

May 19, 1780

The night of the dark day was so black, a piece of white paper could not be seen when held directly in front of the eyes. People looked for the moon, but like the sun, it was blacked out. At about midnight, the unusual darkness lifted and the moon appeared but it was as red as blood. Milo Bostwick says of this event, "The moon, which was at its full, had the appearance of blood. The alarm that it caused and the frequent talk about it impressed it deeply on my mind." **Stone's History of Beverly, Massachusetts.**

FALLING OF THE STARS — NORTH AMERICA

November 13, 1833

"The morning of November 13th, 1833, was rendered memorable by an exhibition of the phenomenon called SHOOTING STARS, which was probably more extensive and magnificent than any similar one hitherto recorded. . . Probably no celestial phenomenon has ever occurred in this country, since its first settlement, which was viewed with so much admiration and delight by one class of spectators, or with so much astonishment and fear by another class. For some time after the occurrence, the 'meteoric phenomenon' was the principal topic of conversation in every circle." - **American Journal of Science and Arts, Vol. XXV, 1834.**

R. M. Devens, speaking of the great star shower, said, "The whole firmament, all over the United States, being then, for hours in fiery commotion." **The Great Events of Our Past History**, pp. 214,215.

Of this event Charles A. Young, a Professor of Astronomy at Princeton University says: "Probably the MOST REMARKABLE of all the meteoric showers . . was that of the Leonids, on November 12, 1833. The number... was estimated as high as 2,000,000 an hour for five or six hours." **Manual of Astronomy**, p. 469. The heavens were ablaze with falling stars. People thought surely it was the Judgment Day.

Of the extent of visibility of this meteoric display we read in the Encyclopaedia Americana, under Article "Meteors" as follows: "This spectacle ... WITNESSED THROUGHOUT NORTH AMERICA . . excited the greatest interest ... Hundreds of thousands of shooting stars fell ... Some observers compared their number to the flakes of a snowstorm, or to the raindrops in a shower." The spectacle was of the sublimest order. It began about nine o'clock in the evening and continued until well after daylight.

Elijah Burritt says: "The most sublime phenomenon of shooting stars

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"SIGNS" UNDER THE SIXTH SEAL

When God made the sun, moon and stars at creation, He said, "Let them be for **SIGNS**, for seasons, and for days, and years", Genesis 1:14. So we should not be surprised to find God giving us signs of His return in the heavens. He planned it from the beginning.

LISBON, PORTUGAL EARTHQUAKE

November 1, 1755

"The sixth seal opens with great convulsions of the earth. One of the most extensively felt earthquakes ever recorded occurred November 1, 1755. It is sometimes called 'the Lisbon earthquake,' because the greater part of that city was destroyed with the loss of between 60,000 and 90,000 lives. The sea rose to fifty feet above its ordinary level.

'The great earthquake of (November 1) 1755, extended over a tract of at least four millions of square miles ... It pervaded the greater portions of the continents of Europe, Africa, and America.' — **Robert Sears, Wonders of the World**, pp. 50,58" — **Unfolding the Revelation**, p. 71.

Up to this point in human history, this earthquake was probably the greatest natural disaster since Noah's flood.

THE DARK DAY — NORTH AMERICA

May 19, 1780

"Almost, if not altogether alone, as the most mysterious and as yet unexplained phenomenon of its kind, in nature's diversified range of events, ... stands the dark day of May 19th, 1780, — a most unaccountable darkening of the whole visible heavens and atmosphere in New England." — R. M. Devens, **Our First Century**, pp. 89,90.

Noah Webster, in his "American Dictionary of the English Language" (1882 edition), says of the dark day, "The true cause of this remarkable phenomenon is not known." Since Webster's day, some have explained this strange phenomenon on a natural basis. There may well be a natural cause. After all, God used a natural means to open the Red Sea for Israel, Exodus 14:21. The important point is that a strange, dark day occurred at the right time as Jesus said it would. It

_____ of our _____ in their
_____".

NOTE: The people who will be ready for Jesus' coming must first, receive God's seal or sign in their foreheads. Do you know what this sign is? OUR NEXT SEMINAR LESSON EXPLAINS WHAT THIS IMPERATIVE SIGN IS. WHAT COULD BE MORE IMPORTANT?

GOD HAS GRACIOUSLY GIVEN MANY OTHER SIGNS WHICH DESCRIBE THE DAYS JUST BEFORE JESUS' COMING. PLEASE PRAYERFULLY REVIEW EXHIBIT #3, WHICH LISTS MANY OF THESE SIGNS.

13. The gospel must go to every person on earth before Jesus comes, Revelation 14:6; Matthew 24:14. What happens as seen as all have heard the gospel? Revelation 14:14

Ans: _____

NOTE The gospel is sweeping across the earth like a prairie grass fire in the wind.

14. I cannot know the day or hour of Jesus return, Matthew 24:38 but what can I know as I look at the signs? Matthew 24:33

Ans: "_____ that it is _____, _____
at the _____".

NOTE: This is no guess work We can KNOW that it is near.

SILENCE IN HEAVEN

15. What happened when the seventh seal was opened? Revelation 8:1

Ans: "There was _____ in _____ about
the _____ of _____ an _____."

NOTE: This silence takes place at the time of Jesus' coming. Heaven is silent because it is empty. All the angels come with Jesus, Matthew 25:31.

16. How should we react when we review the signs of Jesus' return? Luke 21:28.

Ans: "Look _____ and _____ up your _____,
for your _____ draweth _____."

NOTE: Our most exciting thoughts should be of our Lord's return.

17. What is Jesus delighted to do for us if we ask Him? Jude 24, 25

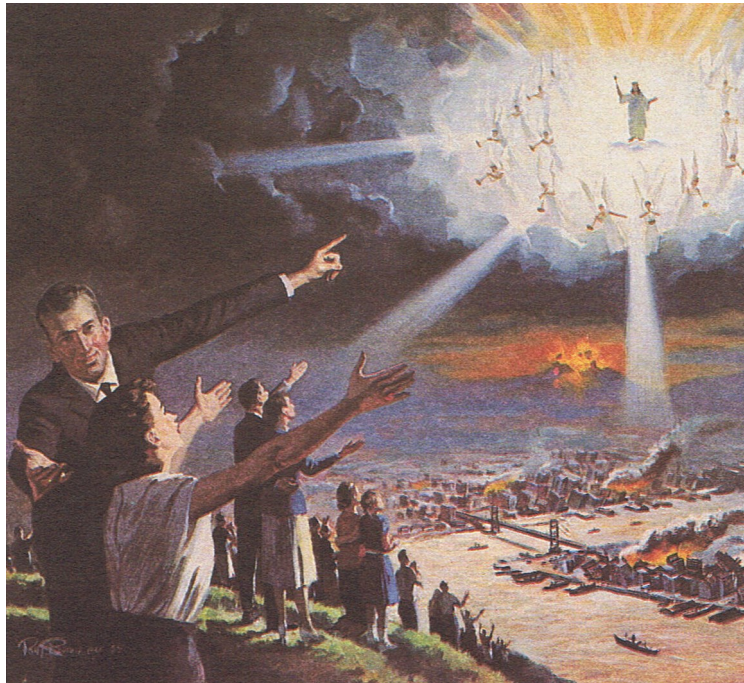
Ans: Keep us from _____ and present us _____ before the presence of His glory with exceeding _____.

NOTE: Jesus **GUARANTEES** us a place in His kingdom if we follow where He leads.

18. Jesus wants to take you on that fabulous space journey from earth to heaven. Will you decide, now, to follow where He leads, so He can slate . you for that trip?

Ans: _____

NOTE: After studying this lesson, please review again Exhibit #1 on the seven seals. It will be most helpful.



"Look up, and lift up your heads;
for your redemption draweth nigh."
Luke 21:28

RS-009

A BIBLE PROPHECY ADVENTURE
REVELATION SEMINARS

THE SEVEN SEALS OF REVELATION						
NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	ACTIVITIES	APPROX. DATE	MEANING OF SYMBOLS	CORRESPONDING CHURCH	
1st	White horse Rider has bow & crown	Went forth conquering	1st century A.D.	Horse & Rider = Angels White = Purity Crown = Victory Bow = Success against evil	Ephesus	
2nd	Red horse Rider has a great sword	Take peace from earth Kill one another	2nd, 3rd, and 1st part of 4th centuries	Red = Bloody Persecution Sword = Symbol of bloodshed	Smyrna	
3rd	Black horse Rider has pair of balances	Weighing wheat and barley and selling for exorbitant prices	4th, 5th, and 1/2 of 6th centuries	Black = Moral darkness Weighing grain & selling for exorbitant prices = Great spiritual famine for Scripture Oil = Holy Spirit Wine = Atoning blood of Jesus	Pergamos	
4th	Pale horse Rider is Death Followed by the Grave	Power to kill with hunger, sword and beasts	2nd half of the 6th through the 15th centuries	Pale = Symbol of Death Death & Grave = Devastating destruction of God's people during tribulation	Thyatira	
5th	Souls of slain under altar	Cried out for God to avenge their blood. White robes given them Wait a little season	16th, 17th and half of the 18th centuries	Souls crying out = symbolic crying out as Abel's blood did White Robes = Victory through Jesus Rest a Season = Wait in graves till Jesus' return with the rewards	Sardis	
6th	Earthquake Sun became black Moon into blood Stars fall 2nd coming of Jesus		Mid-18th century to second coming of Jesus	Earthquake = Lisbon earthquake, 11-1-1755 Sun Dark = Dark Day, 5-19-1780 Moon to Blood = Color of blood, 5-19-1780 Stars to fall = Stars fell 11-13-1833 2nd Coming = yet future	Philadelphia and Laodicea	
7th	Silence in Heaven		At second coming	Silence for 1/2 hr: 1/2 hour would be 7 1/2 days when using prophetic guide of 1 prophetic day equals 1 literal year. Jesus takes 7 1/2 days for His 2nd coming. It is silent in heaven because the angels come with Jesus at 2nd coming.		