

Chapter 6 – Opening Six Seals

Foundation Scripture:

Joh 16:33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

A. Overview

2Pe 3:11 [Seeing] then [that] all these things shall be dissolved, what manner [of persons] ought ye to be in [all] holy conversation and godliness,
2Pe 3:12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

B. Your Protection

Deu 4:30 When thou art in tribulation, and all these things are come upon thee, [even] in the latter days, if thou turn to the LORD thy God, and shalt be obedient unto his voice;
Deu 4:31 (For the LORD thy God [is] a merciful God;) **he will not forsake thee**, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he sware unto them.

Psa 91:1 He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

Psa 91:2 I will say of the LORD, [He is] my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

Psa 91:7 A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; [but] it shall not come nigh thee.

Psa 91:10 There shall **no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.**

Matt 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Mat 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Mat 28:20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, [even] **unto the end of the world.** Amen

Luk 10:19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Rom 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Rom 5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, **we shall be saved from wrath** through him.

Rom 5:10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

Rom 8:32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

Rom 8:37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors (i.e., **super-conquerors**) through him that loved us.

C. The Six Seals

Summary

By opening the Seals, God is showing us future events so that we may prepare ourselves for the times to come. The seals result from the actions of men for God has said in James 4:1 that wars come from the lusts of men. But we are protected when we serve God and not mammon.

2Co 6:15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

2Co 6:16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in [them]; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

2Co 6:17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean [thing]; and I will receive you,

2Co 6:18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

Rev 18:4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

Rev 18:5 For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.

1. Seal 1, which is conquering, shows men preparing to war with men.

Rev 6:1 And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see.

Rev 6:2 And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.

2. Seal 2, which is war, shows men warring with men.

Rev 6:3 And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see.

Rev 6:4 And there went out another horse [that was] red: and [power] was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword.

3. Seal 3, which is famine, is the result of both men's actions and of nature responding to those actions.

Rev 6:5 And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand.

Rev 6:6 And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and [see] thou hurt not the oil and the wine.

4. Seal 4 is death, resulting from war, famine and beasts over the fourth part of the earth.

Rev 6:7 And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see.

Rev 6:8 And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the **fourth part of the earth**, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.

<u>Summary</u>	<u>in MM sq miles</u>
Area of earth	196
Area of earth land mass	57
Africa area	12
Middle East (ME) area	03

Fraction = (Africa + ME) / land area = $15/57 = 1/4$ (actually 0.26, not 0.25)

5. Seal 5 are the martyrs, who were killed by the tribulation above.
Rev 6:9 And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were 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 Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?
Rev 6:11 And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, **until** their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they [were], should be fulfilled. **See Page 4 Persecution.**
6. Seal 6 is a massive earthquake with heavenly and earthly manifestations.
Rev 6:12 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;
Rev 6:13 And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.
Rev 6:14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.
Rev 6:15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;
Rev 6:16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:
Rev 6:17 For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

Comments on Seal 6

Because all previous five seals involve the actions of men, it can be induced that the sixth seal is also a result of men's actions. Consistent with what has been previously shown, it is likely to be the result of a nuclear war. The falling stars are probably missiles or satellites being shot down.

It is true that the earthquake could be of a natural cause or the result of a meteor hitting the earth. However, since in Chap 8 a falling star is identified as the cause of the earthquake, it is reasonable to assume that here the cause is not a meteor.

The Prophecy of Jesus

Matt 24:29 Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: Matt 24:30 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.

The description in Matt 24:29 does matchup very well with those shown by the opening of the Sixth Seal except for the "powers of heaven". In Rev 8 we see that the third part of the

sun, moon and stars are darkened. After Rev 8, there is never another mention of the darkening of these three except in Rev 9:2 where “...the sun and air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.”

Of course, here in Rev 8, there is no mention of the “sign of the Son of man in heaven” nor of His coming, as described in Matt 24:30. Even without understanding the events, which must come to pass for the fulfillment of the four secondary themes as previously studied, these two exceptions concerning the “powers of heaven” and the “sign of the Son of man in heaven” tell us that this point is not the time of His return nor of the Rapture.

Persecution of Christians

A list generated by [Open Doors USA](#), a nonprofit organization focused on serving persecuted Christians, shows the Middle East accounts for a majority of countries ranked in the top 10 for extreme persecution of Christians. In order, the countries are as follows:

1. North Korea
2. Somalia
3. Afghanistan
4. Pakistan
5. Sudan
6. Syria
7. Iraq
8. Iran
9. Yemen
10. Eritrea

Egypt ranks No. 21. According to the Christian advocacy group, one in 12 Christians today experiences high, very high or extreme persecution for their faith. Nearly 215 million Christians face high persecution, with 100 million of those living in Asia.

The Center for the Study of Global Christianity, an academic research center that monitors worldwide demographic trends in Christianity, estimates that between the years 2005 and 2015, [900,000](#) Christians were martyred — an average of 90,000 Christians each year.