

The Wrath of God is Revealed Revelation 6

Introduction

1. Review the setting
2. Notice a pattern
3. There are similarities with Matt. 24

Matthew 24	Revelation 6-7
City conquered & destroyed. v. 5	The white horse. v. 1-2
Wars and rumors of wars v. 6	The red horse. v. 3-4
Famines v. 7	The black horse v. 5-6
Pestilences v. 7	The pale horse v. 7-8
Earthquakes v. 7	Earthquake v. 12
Persecution v. 9	Martyrs under the altar v. 9-11
Gathering of the elect v. 31	Gathering of the elect 7:1-8
Then the end shall come v. 14, 36, 42	The end 6:16-17

4. There's a common theme in Revelation to Romans 1-2
 1. The gospel is the power of God for salvation. Rom. 1:16-17
 2. The wrath of God is revealed from heaven against the wicked. Rom. 1:18-32
 3. God will judge sinful men who reject the gospel. Rom. 2:5-7

The First Four Seals - The Wrath of God is revealed from heaven on earth.

1. First Seal: The white horse - _____ 6:1-2
 1. The authority comes from _____.
 2. Who is the rider?
 1. Some say Jesus.
 2. Some say the gospel.
 3. Some say conquest of war.
 1. Matt. 24:7
 2. The bow is a symbol of military power. Is. 61:2, Jer. 49:35, 51:3,56; Ps. 46:9, Ez. 39:3, Ho. 1:5, Zech. 9:10
 3. History confirms this interpretation.

2. Second seal: The red horse - _____ 6:3-4
 1. Red is assigned to _____. 9:17, 12:3, 17:3,4; 18:16
 2. Men slaughter those who don't agree with them.
 3. God is sovereign over this expression of his wrath.
3. Third seal: The black horse - _____ 6:5-6
 1. Black signifies _____ 6:12
 2. A day's worth of food costs a day's wages.
 3. Famine is a sign of God's judgment.
4. Fourth seal: The pale horse - _____ 6:7-8
 1. The wages of sin is _____. Rom. 6:23
 2. Death through sword, famine, pestilence, and wild beasts follows war.
 3. Death derives its authority from _____.
 4. One fourth - the scope of its action is limited.

Fifth Seal - God reveals his comfort to martyrs. 6:9-11

1. This is a comfort to the churches.
2. This is relevant to us.
3. They cry to a just God for justice.
4. They are comforted by
 1. Jesus' righteousness.
 2. Heaven's blessedness.
 3. God's promised to bring judgment. 2 Pet. 3:10
5. There is a specific number of saints to lay down their lives.

Sixth Seal - God's wrath is revealed in the final judgment of the wicked. 6:12-17

1. This is apocalyptic language. Joel 2:30-31, Matt. 24:29
2. Don't visualize, but interpret through other writings.
 1. Regularity of heavenly bodies is referred to in other apocalyptic writings. (Assumption of Moses 10:5, 1 Enoch 2:1, 41:5, 69:16, 20; Testament of Naphtali 3:2; Ps. of Solomon 18:11-14)
 2. The disruption of these heavenly bodies signifies the power of God and usually the end of the cosmos as we know it. (1 Enoch 80:4, Sybylline Oracles 3:801; Ezra 5:4, Matt. 24)
3. God shakes creation. 6:12; Heb. 12:26-27
4. Other interpretations
 1. The failure of family leads to lawlessness and chaos and destruction of local government. Gen. 37:9 Joseph's dream uses these terms.
 1. Sun = Fathers 2. Moon = Mothers 3. Stars = Siblings 4. Sky = law
 2. The rapture of the church leaves nothing but the wicked and cry for a central government.
 1. Sun = God's light 2. Moon = Believer's reflection 3. Stars = Church
 3. The destruction of the world order as we know it. Symbolism in the flags.
 4. Mountains may signify central national authorities. Ps. 72:3, Is. 2:2
 5. Islands may signify rulers far away. Is. 40:15; Is. 49:1
5. No class of the wicked escapes God's wrath.
 1. They look for a refuge, but never turn to God. 6:15-16
 2. God will judge the wicked for their rejection of Jesus Christ - His provision. 6:17