



## REVELATIONS FROM CRISES!

### *REVELATION 6*

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Introduction, Four Horsemen and their Riders,  
Revelation, like the word of God itself, is both contextual and prophetic.

Imminent and transcendent

Immediate and futuristic

The four horses and their riders stand for the four great destructive forces which are in the times before the end to be dispatched against the evil world by the holy wrath of God. He was looking at certain trends in his own day and was prophesying based upon what he saw in his time. He knew that certain behavior would lead to certain ends based upon his understanding of the holiness of God. The destruction that he saw should not be confused with any historic figures or events of our day.

Jesus words, Mark 13: 1-8

Many images in Revelation are not original but are based in Hebrew Scriptures:

Zechariah 6: 1-8

Christ in the Revelation

Our choice: *Savior and Lord (who conquers and gives us the victory)* ----OR----

*King and Lord who is also Judge*

Those who belong to God live through the destruction that unrighteousness and ungodliness being upon the world but are not destroyed by it.

Verse 1, The First Seal: The White Horse of Conquest

Not to be confused with white horse and rider in Revelation 19: 11-16

The destruction of military power

Conquering generals rode white horses

Bow as symbol of war (Jeremiah 51: 56; Hosea 1: 5; Psalm 46: 9)

Verse 2, The Second Seal: The Blood-red Horse of Strife

Rider does not use the sword; wickedness causes people to destroy themselves

Verse, 3-4, The Third Seal: The Black Horse of Famine

Famine stirs up a spirit of generosity and sharing among those who have the right spirit. However suffering stirs up a spirit of greed, price-gouging, graft and selfishness among the wicked

The olive and the vine were much more deeply rooted than the corn; and they could stand drought, which would wipe out the corn crop.

Verses 5-6, The Fourth Seal: The Pale Horse of Pestilence and Death

Nature and the environment react against the wickedness of evil.

Abuse of the environment is also sin. However it is not a new sin.

John saw environmental and natural disasters in his time, which he understood to be the judgment of God.

It is interesting that God used nature and environment as judgment against the

Egyptians in Exodus. In Revelation, nature and environment will also play a role in the latter-day liberation of God's people and the judgment of sin.

Verses 9-11, The Fifth Seal: The Souls of the Martyrs

Scenes shifts from terror on earth to ministry and comfort in heaven

The cry of the martyrs reflect the human characteristics of faith:

Questions with Certainty

Impatience (When?) and Assurance (I know!)

Verses 12-17, The Sixth Seal:

Be careful what we ask for: Terror comes right after the question of the martyrs

Not literal but poetic truth: There is a power that humbles every human and political power.

There is no hiding place from God's wrath

Who is able to stand?

Those who know and not simply pronounce the name of the Lord Jesus

Those who are blood washed

The true church of the living God

We stand through and not exempt from whatever is coming

Standing Through Tough Times: Lessons from the Cross

Cross means of our Redemption

Redemption is costly

Redemption comes by way of suffering and sacrifice

Redemption can be deceiving at first glance because terror comes before triumph

Even in the worst of times, Christ still reigns