

“The Lamb: Lord over All”

Revelation 6:1-8

The first four seals – The vision of the Four Horsemen

Revelation #13

Preliminary:

1. The significance of the breaking of the seals

2. The grouping of the first four seals

3. The place and significance of these judgments

1. The First Seal: The Conquest and Subjugation of Nations vv. 1-2

– **The White Horse and its Rider** *“And I looked, and behold, a white horse.
He who sat on it had a bow; and crown was given to him,
and he went out conquering and to conquer.”*

- The Emblems of Power

- A white horse: the color of triumph
- A bow and a crown: the accoutrements of conquest

- **The Authority given** *“he went out conquering and to conquer.”*

- **Who is the rider?**

2. The Second Seal: The Horror of War vv. 3-4

– **The Red Horse and its Rider** *“Another horse, fiery red went out.
And it was granted to the one who sat on it to take peace
from the earth, and that people should kill one another;
and there was given to him a great sword.”*

- The Emblems of Power

- A fiery red horse: the color of blood
- A great sword: a weapon of far-reaching conquest

- **The Authority given** *“to take peace from the earth, and that people should kill one another”*

3. The Third Seal: The Blight of Hunger and Poverty vv. 5-6

– **The Black Horse and its Rider** *“I looked, and behold, a black horse,
and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand.
And I heard a voice saying,
‘A quart of wheat for a denarius,
and three quarts of barley for a denarius;
and do not harm the oil and wine.’”*

- **The Emblems of Power:**

- A black horse: the color of death
- A pair of scales: An indicator of rationing
- A pronouncement of exorbitant food prices due to shortage
Yet the impact is *in some measure* limited

- **The Authority given: The inflicting of hunger and poverty**

- One of the common effects of warfare
- Also an effect of famine

4. The Fourth Seal: The Ravages of Death vv. 7-8

– **The Pale Horse and its Rider** *“So I looked, and behold, a pale horse.
And the name of him who sat on it was Death,
and Hades followed with him.
And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, -
to kill with the sword, with hunger, with death,
and by the beasts of the earth.”*

- **The Emblem of Power:**

- A pale horse: the color of death
- The rider named, “Death”
- The rider’s companion: “Hades”

- **The Authority given: Death through warfare, famine, disease, and creatures**
(A composite of the effects of the previous Horses and Riders?)

- Its Extent: Over a fourth of the earth!

Further Application