

“The Four Horseman & The 1st Seal”
(Rev 6:1-2)

Part 2



Truth Matters Church, Inc.

Scripture Reading



Revelation 6:1-8 (The Four Horseman)

1 Then I saw when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, "Come." 2 I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.

3 When He broke the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come." 4 And another, a red horse, went out; and to him who sat on it, it was granted to take peace from the earth, and that men would slay one another; and a great sword was given to him.

5 When He broke the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying, "Come." I looked, and behold, a black horse; and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand. 6 And I heard something like a voice in the center of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not damage the oil and the wine."

Scripture Reading



7 When the Lamb broke the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come." 8 I looked, and behold, an ashen horse; and he who sat on it had the name Death; and Hades was following with him. Authority was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by the wild beasts of the earth.

Who are the Four Horseman?



Who are the Four Horseman?



Some teachers and commentators say they are figurative or symbolic in some shape or form:

- ❧ **White** horse: world peace (false peace), series of false Messiahs, Antichrist, world forces, political conquest, purity of the church
- ❧ **Red** horse: color of blood, holocaust of war, civil war, removal of peace
- ❧ **Black** horse: famine, global hunger, sadness, want, woe, darkness, inflation
- ❧ **Ashen** horse: death, pestilence, eternal misery



Who are the Four Horseman?



But *who* does the Scripture say they are?

And to answer this, I'd like for us to cross reference the opening of Zechariah...



Zechariah 1



Zechariah 1:1-11

1 In the eighth month of the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to Zechariah the prophet, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo saying, 2 **“The LORD was very angry with your fathers.** 3 Therefore say to them, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, “Return to Me,” declares the LORD of hosts, “that I may return to you,” says the LORD of hosts. 4 “Do not be like your fathers, to whom the former prophets proclaimed, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, “Return now from your evil ways and from your evil deeds.”’ But they did not listen or give heed to Me,” declares the LORD. 5 “Your fathers, where are they? And the prophets, do they live forever? 6 But did not My words and My statutes, which I commanded My servants the prophets, overtake your fathers? Then they repented and said, ‘As the LORD of hosts purposed to do to us in accordance with our ways and our deeds, so He has dealt with us.’””

Zechariah 1



7 On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month, which is the month Shebat, in the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to Zechariah the prophet, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo, as follows: 8 I saw at night, and behold, **a man** was riding on a **red horse**, and he was standing among the myrtle trees which were in the ravine, with **red, sorrel (choice, fine, best) and white horses behind him**. 9 Then I said, “My lord, what are these?” And **the angel** who was speaking with me said to me, “I will show you what these are.” 10 And the man who was standing among the myrtle trees answered and said, “**These are those whom the LORD has sent to patrol the earth**.” 11 So they answered the angel of the LORD who was standing among the myrtle trees and said, “We have patrolled the earth, and behold, all the earth is peaceful and quiet.” 12 Then the angel of the LORD said, “O LORD of hosts, how long will You have no compassion for Jerusalem and the cities of Judah, with which You have been indignant these **seventy years**?”

SUMMARY OF ZCH 1



- ❧ It started with “The LORD was very angry with your fathers [Israel and Judah]”
- ❧ Zechariah sees in vision a man riding a red horse among other red, white, choice horses
- ❧ Those riding on the horse were sent by the LORD to patrol the earth
- ❧ Those sent to patrol the earth provided a report that it was peaceful and quiet
- ❧ An angel appealed to the LORD of His compassion having been indignant for 70 years (synergy here with the 7 seals)

- ❧ My question for us is, in Zechariah’s vision, were those riding on the horse merely symbolic or figurative? Or were they speaking of something else?

KEY TAKEAWAYS



Before I get to our key takeaways from Zechariah 1:

☞ I'd like to share a brief 1½ minute clip 'Cairo's Apocalypse Horse'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KgTiqqKSJNk&list=PPSV>

KEY TAKEAWAYS



CASE IN POINT:

- ❧ If the riders on the red, white, choice horses were speaking of angelic beings, why is it when we get to the Four Horseman it's no longer speaking of angelic beings?
- ❧ TRANSLATION: The Four Horseman are 4 angelic beings sent to patrol the earth and bring about what was written and decreed inside the sealed book/scroll!
- ❧ God was angry with Israel in Zch 1, God is angry with Israel in Rev 6
- ❧ Their activity does stir up the pot on the earth so to speak, beginning with the people and land of Israel
- ❧ With this out of the way, let's now exposit verse 1...

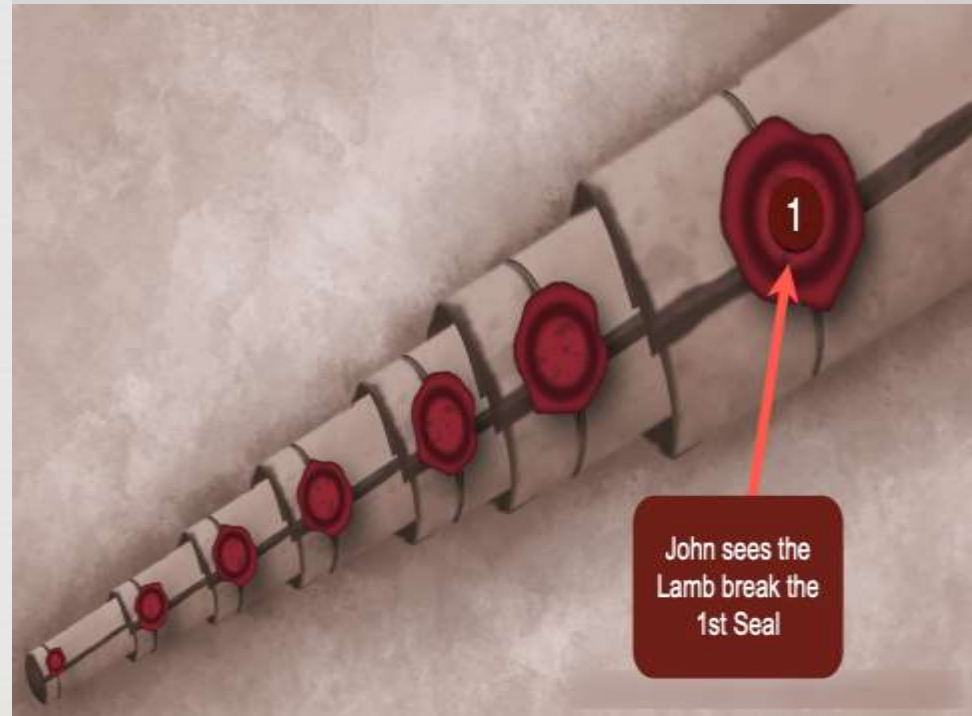


Exposit: Rev 6:1



1 Then I saw when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, "Come."

- ✧ "Then I saw" - can be rendered "Also I saw" - this vision flows in sequence chronologically
- ✧ "when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals" - straightforward the Lamb as if slain broke one of the seven seals
 - ✧ Again what are the contents in the scroll/book?



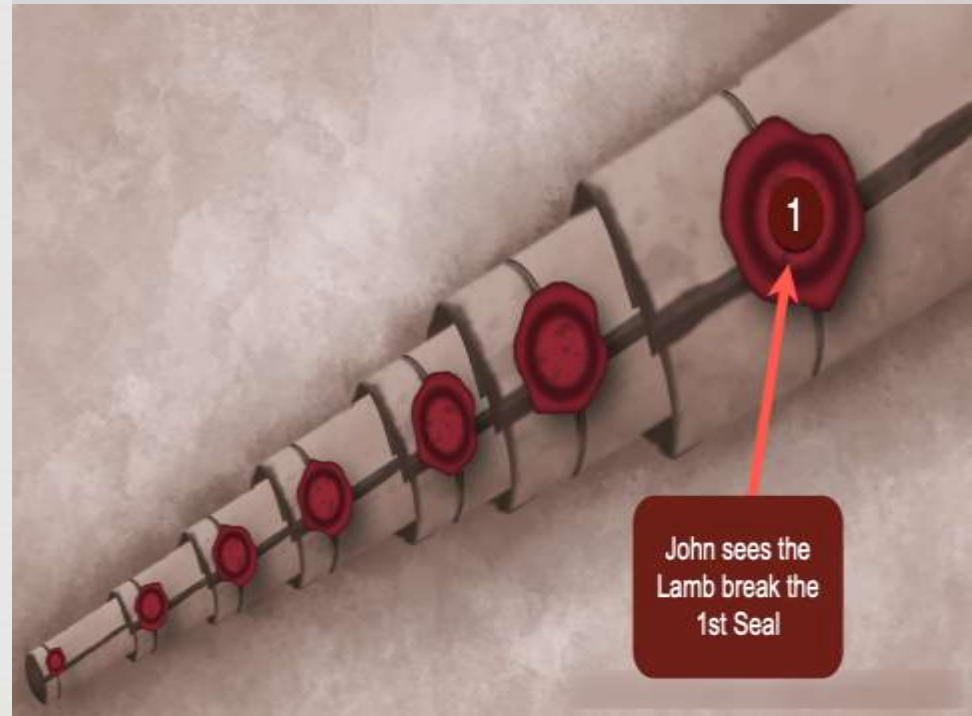
Exposit: Rev 6:1



1 Then I saw when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, “Come.”

✧ “and I heard” following the breaking of the 1st seal, John “heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, “Come.”

✧ Not only are the 4 Living Creatures leaders of heaven’s worship team, but part of the scope and responsibilities include calling forth other angelic beings



Exposit: Rev 6:2



2 I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.

- ✧ John sees a rider on a white horse
- ✧ Again whose the rider?
- ✧ This rider “had a bow” [more on this]
- ✧ “crown was given to him” [more on this]
- ✧ And John describes that he went out “conquering and to conquer” [more on this]



“had a bow”



- ❧ “bow” is τόxon and is used only 1x in the entire NT here in Rev 6:2
 - ❧ NOTE: just because “arrow” was not mentioned, does NOT mean this figure came in peace or represents peace
- ❧ In our Key of David Study
- ❧ I did a holistic view of τόxon’s Hebrew equivalent word qesheth (in OT)

“had a bow”



☞ “bow” or qesheth (75x in the OT) and it could have several meanings depending on context:

- ☞ Refer to hunting (with actual bow + arrow)
- ☞ Bowmen, archers (with actual bow + arrow)
- ☞ Figurative of might
- ☞ Rainbow
- ☞ War
- ☞ Weapon of war (bow or sword)
- ☞ Impending attack (bend a bow)

“had a bow”



- ❧ Since bow (tóxon) + “conquering and to conquer” is the context, the bow (tóxon) is to be understood as war
- ❧ TRANSLATION: The 1st Seal will manifest itself with Wars and rumors of war, kingdom rising against kingdom, and nation rising against nation
- ❧ Beginning in the Middle East, Mediterranean countries
- ❧ This flows with the next description of this rider...

“a crown was given to him”



- ❧ “crown” is stephanos which we covered extensively in Our Promised Crown study
- ❧ And I’d like to refer to a slide where we covered stephanos



Stephanos



- ❧ Stephanos was used 18x in the NT and can mean an actual crown worn on the head or figuratively, here are some examples
 - ❧ stephanos of thorns: was placed on Jesus's head when He was mocked, scourged and crucified (Mt 27, Mk 15, Jn 19)
 - ❧ stephanos of wreath: worn by victors who competed in Paul's day (1Cor 9)
 - ❧ joy and stephanos: Paul called the Philippian and Thessalonian believers his joy and stephanos (Phi 4, 1Th 2)
 - ❧ stephanos of righteousness: Paul said there is laid up for him a stephanos of righteousness on his way of being beheaded (2Ti 4)
 - ❧ stephanos of life: James said "Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the stephanos of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him" (Jam 1); and last but not least
 - ❧ stephanos of glory: Peter said "when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory" - 1 Pet 5:4

Stephanos



- ❧ Based on context rider on white horse, what fits best:
 - ❧ stephanos of thorns: was placed on Jesus's head when He was mocked, scourged and crucified (Mt 27, Mk 15, Jn 19)
 - ❧ stephanos of wreath: worn by victors who competed in Paul's day (1Cor 9)
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 - ❧ stephanos of glory: Peter said "when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory" - 1 Pet 5:4

Stephanos



Based on context rider on white horse, what fits best:

- stephanos of thorns: was placed on Jesus's head when He was mocked, scourged and crucified (Mt 27, M TRANSLATION: This will manifest on earth when a king rises to power and wage war in the name (authority) of righteousness, life, and glory
- stephanos of wreath: worn by victors
- joy and stephanos: Paul called the joy and stephanos (Phi 4, 1Th 2)
- stephanos of **righteousness**: Paul said there is laid up for him a stephanos of righteousness on his way of being beheaded (2Ti 4)
- stephanos of **life**: James said "Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the stephanos of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him" (Jam 1); and last but not least
- stephanos of **glory**: Peter said "when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory" - 1 Pet 5:4

CONJECTURE



- ⌘ Notice that contrary to popular opinion, I haven't argued that the rider on the white horse is referring to Antichrist
- ⌘ Why?
- ⌘ For starters I believe our understanding of Antichrist may be skewed
- ⌘ Both the Beast (from the Sea: Antigod) and False Prophet (Beast from the Earth: Antichrist) doesn't arrive on the scene until the 7th Trumpet
- ⌘ So I'm not going to agree or argue to say the rider on the white horse is Antichrist
- ⌘ Also, from what we've just learned if from Zch 1 was referring to angels, the rider on the white horse in Rev 6 must be an angel!
- ⌘ And whatever that angel was tasked to do will manifest itself on earth!

CONJECTURE



Furthermore:

- ❧ I wasn't able to connect the rider on the white horse with any of the Four Beasts
- ❧ I believe this vision simply means an angel was given a crown signifying authority was given him by the Lamb Who was found worthy to execute the judgments written in the sealed book
- ❧ So I'm resigned to not say anything beyond to say the rider on the white horse was an angel with authority and given a specific task and starts "conquering and to conquer" and that angelic activity will manifest itself on earth when the Lion King in Daniel's vision arrives on the scene

“conquering and to conquer”



- ❧ “conquering and to conquer” is the Greek verb nikaō and its root word is nikē
- ❧ nikē means exactly how its translated, to conquer, be victorious, prevail, overcome, subdue
- ❧ How will this be manifested on this side of heaven?
- ❧ Through wars, rumors of wars, nation rising up against nation and kingdom against kingdom
- ❧ Beginning with the Lion King of the 4 Beasts then expands from there



TRANSLATION: When we take into consideration Daniel's Four Beast visions the way the 1st seal will manifest on earth is when the 1st of 4 Kings (the Lion King) in his vision begins to move in the Middle East and surrounding Mediterranean nations

- ☞ Wars
- ☞ Rumors of wars
- ☞ Nation rising up against nation
- ☞ Kingdom against kingdom



Closing



What is one tell-tell way to know that we're at least in the 1st Seal

Daniel 7:2-4

2 Daniel said, "I was looking in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the great sea. 3 And four great beasts were coming up from the sea, different from one another. 4 The first **was like a lion** and had the wings of an eagle. I kept looking until its wings were plucked, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand on two feet like a man; **a human mind also was given to it.**



Closing



The countries in play in this 1st Seal:

- ☞ Turkey
- ☞ Syria
- ☞ Lebanon
- ☞ Israel
- ☞ Jordan
- ☞ Egypt



- ☞ When a human mind or an artificial brain is given to a king or world leader in that part of the world, that is a clear tell tell sign that we're in the 1st seal of prophecy

Sometime after the breaking of the 1st Seal:
A king will arise, wage war and destroy
Jerusalem and its sanctuary (make desolate)

Punishment ended; Israel
repents; Messiah atones
for their sin; ushers in
everlasting righteousness

FINAL PERIOD OF THE INDIGNATION

70TH WEEK
(extended)

454BC



The beginning of
Israel's destruction

approx. 2031AD Messianic
kingdom

