

The Book of Revelation

The Great Tribulation

I. Introduction

- A. John 16:33c (NAS) *"These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."*
- B. Matt. 6:34 (NAS) *"So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."*
- C. Rev. 6:1-8 (NLT) ¹As I watched, the Lamb broke the first of the seven seals on the scroll. Then I heard one of the four living beings say with a voice like thunder, "Come!" ²I looked up and saw a white horse standing there. Its rider carried a bow, and a crown was placed on his head. He rode out to win many battles and gain the victory. ³When the Lamb broke the second seal, I heard the second living being say, "Come!" ⁴Then another horse appeared, a red one. Its rider was given a mighty sword and the authority to take peace from the earth. And there was war and slaughter everywhere. ⁵When the Lamb broke the third seal, I heard the third living being say, "Come!" I looked up and saw a black horse, and its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand. ⁶And I heard a voice from among the four living beings say, "A loaf of wheat bread or three loaves of barley will cost a day's pay. And don't waste the olive oil and wine." ⁷When the Lamb broke the fourth seal, I heard the fourth living being say, "Come!" ⁸I looked up and saw a horse whose color was pale green. Its rider was named Death, and his companion was the Grave. These two were given authority over one-fourth of the earth, to kill with the sword and famine and disease and wild animals.
- D. Rev. 6:9-11 (NLT) ⁹When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of all who had been martyred for the word of God and for being faithful in their testimony. ¹⁰They shouted to the Lord and said, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you judge the people who belong to this world and avenge our blood for what they have done to us?" ¹¹Then a white robe was given to each of them. And they were told to rest a little longer until the full number of their brothers and sisters—their fellow servants of Jesus who were to be martyred—had joined them.
- E. Rev. 2:13b (NLT) *"You refused to deny me even when Antipas, my faithful witness, was martyred among you there in Satan's city."*
- F. Rev. 6:12 (NLT) *I watched as the Lamb broke the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake. The sun became as dark as black cloth, and the moon became as red as blood.*
- G. Rev. 6:15-17 (NLT) ¹⁵Then the kings of the earth, the rulers, the generals, the wealthy, the powerful, and every slave and free person—all hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains. ¹⁶And they cried to the mountains and the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of the one who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb. For the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to survive?"
- H. Rev. 7:1 (NLT) *Then I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds so they did not blow on the earth or the sea, or even on any tree.*
- I. Rev. 7:2-4 (NLT) ²And I saw another angel coming up from the east, carrying the seal of the living God. And he shouted to those four angels, who had been given power to harm land and sea, ³"Wait! Don't harm the land or the sea or the trees until we have placed the seal of God on the foreheads of his servants." ⁴And I heard how many were marked with the seal of God—144,000 were sealed from all the tribes of Israel.

- J. Rev. 7:9-12 (NLT) ⁹After this I saw a vast crowd, too great to count, from every nation and tribe and people and language, standing in front of the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes and held palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰And they were shouting with a mighty shout, "Salvation comes from our God who sits on the throne and from the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living beings. And they fell before the throne with their faces to the ground and worshiped God. ¹²They sang, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and strength belong to our God forever and ever! Amen."
- K. Rev. 7:13-14 (NLT) ¹³Then one of the twenty-four elders asked me, "Who are these who are clothed in white? Where did they come from?" ¹⁴And I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows." Then he said to me, "These are the ones who died in the great tribulation. They have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb and made them white."
- L. Rev. 7:10 (NLT) "And they were shouting with a mighty shout, "Salvation comes from our God who sits on the throne and from the Lamb!""
- M. Rev. 7:15-17 (NLT) ¹⁵"That is why they stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his Temple. And he who sits on the throne will give them shelter. ¹⁶They will never again be hungry or thirsty; they will never be scorched by the heat of the sun. ¹⁷For the Lamb on the throne will be their Shepherd. He will lead them to springs of life-giving water. And God will wipe every tear from their eyes."

II. Conclusion

Upcoming Messages: 9/20-21/2008 "Key Images From the Seven Trumpets"; 9/27-28 "The Anti-Christ and Common Demonic Strategies"; 10/18-19 "The First Five Minutes of Eternity"; 10/25-26 "The Doctrine of the Judgment of God"; 11/1-2 "Enduring to the End"; 11/8-9 "Extreme Spiritual Reality"; 11/15-16 "The Kind of Person You Will Be in Heaven"; 11/29-30 "The Hope We Have"