

Daniel & Revelation End-time Prophecies Sermon Series
Study #39: Prophetic Events of the Sixth Seal
Revelation 6:12-17
Bible Sermon Study Notes by Cary Rodgers, pastor

Brief review

The prophetic scene of the seven seals that start in Revelation 6 is a summarized overview of the great controversy and end time events. When Jesus opens up the first two seals He gives us a picture of His True pure church (White horse) that must go through fiery trials and persecution (Red horse). When Jesus opens seals three and four He gives us a picture of the false corrupt church of Satan (Black horse) and the eternal death consequences of rejecting truth and embracing rebellion (Pale horse).

Satan's false church presents itself as "Christian" with their flowery words. They substitute true righteousness with self-righteousness. They substitute God's commandments with the traditions of man. They substitute holiness with worldliness. They substitute Bible Truth with human reasoning. They substitute true love with lust. Those who reject the ten commandments of God are embracing rebellion against God, but still claim to be "Christian."

Those who have been seduced by Satan and die in their sin have NO hope. Their fate of eternal death is sealed! But those who die in Christ have hope in the resurrection when Jesus returns.

When Jesus opens the fifth seal He reveals a symbolic scene of the faithful who were killed for the sake of Jesus. They were covered with Jesus' robe of righteousness because they gave ALL their sins to God at the altar of sacrifice and learned how to live a holy life in the Holy place. Their prayers and life were acceptable unto God as sweet smelling savor represented as incense at the altar of incense in the holy place that goes before the throne of God in the Most holy place.

In today's study we are going to look at prophetic signs and end time events that must take place before the coming of Jesus. We will also learn lessons from the wicked's response to the Lamb.

What end time signs did John see when Jesus opened the sixth seal?

Revelation 6:12-14

- 12 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;
 13 And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.
 14 And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and **every** mountain and island were moved out of their places.

After the scenes of the first five seals the language changed from being highly symbolic to literal because these events bring our attention to things that cannot be symbolized. These are end time events that will take place immediately before the second coming of Jesus.

These are literal signs as Jesus makes his descent from Heaven through space to earth at His second coming: 1) Great Earthquake 2) Sun blackened 3) Moon as blood 4) Stars (meteors) fallen from heavens. 5) Heavens depart as a scroll

These events happen while Jesus is on His way to this planet, right before he hits our atmosphere!

Earth's Protective shield will be split wide open!

The atmosphere is a protective shield that surrounds our planet with invisible gases that contains oxygen, nitrogen, carbon dioxide, water vapor, and ozone. This layer protects us from the harmful radiation from the

sun. It also helps burn and destroy meteors that come into our atmosphere. Our atmosphere is also a protective blanket so we will not burn up from the sun during the day and freeze to death during the night.

There are three layers to our atmosphere: 1) the troposphere, the stratosphere, and the mesosphere. (see picture) We live in the troposphere about 7 miles high above sea level. This is the location of our clouds and weather. The stratosphere is about 30 miles high with few clouds, no rain, and where the ozone layer is located. The mesosphere is about 50 high, thin air and right before dark space known as the thermosphere.

All three layers of our atmosphere will split open and be rolled back like a scroll like doors prepared for the King of kings and Lord of lords to make His grand entry! Each layer will roll back before Jesus makes his entry. First the mesosphere splits open and rolls back followed by the stratosphere and then troposphere! Once they all roll back as a scroll ALL will be prepared for Jesus to enter and appear!

What does Jesus say about these prophetic signs of the sixth seal and when they will take place?

Matthew 24:27-30

27 For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

28 For wheresoever the carcase is, there will the eagles be gathered together.

29 **Immediately after the tribulation of those days (seven last plagues) shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:**

30 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

These are the same prophetic events that are described in the sixth seal! These signs will happen “immediately after the tribulation” (seven last plagues) as Jesus is making His way through space to our planet. These signs are NOT signs of warning but SIGNS of DELIVERANCE for the faithful.

Joel also refers to these prophetic events of the sixth seal as signs of deliverance for God's faithful at the end of time.

Joel 3:13-16

13 Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness is great.

14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.

15 The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining.

16 The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the **heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel.**

Repeat, these are signs of deliverance NOT warning during the events of the sixth seal.

Before the events of the sixth seal does Jesus use earthquakes, and signs in the sun, moon, and stars as WARNING and preparation messages to be ready for the coming of the Lord? Yes.

Luke 21:11

11 And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven.

Luke 21:25-31

25 And there shall be **signs in the sun**, and in the **moon**, and in the **stars**; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring;

26 Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.

27 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

28 And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.

29 And he spake to them a parable; Behold the fig tree, and all the trees;

30 When they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand.

31 So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the **kingdom of God is nigh at hand.**

When we see the frequency and the intensity of the earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, volcanoes, etc... these are warning signs to get prepared for the second coming of Jesus Christ.

For those still in sin and have not surrendered their ALL to Jesus, the message behind these last days signs is to REPENT, turn from sin and worldliness, confess, turn to Jesus and hold on!

Ezekiel 33:11

11 Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

Jesus gives us Bible prophecy as a great gift to reveal the future events and signs before they take place. Why does He do this? Here is the bottom line.

John 13:19

19 Now I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, ye may **believe that I am he.**

The fulfilling of Bible prophecy is given as a testimony of the reality of God and His plan of salvation through Jesus Christ. This is a wonderful gift from God that we MUST embrace as God's end time soldiers of Jesus. We cannot afford to be distracted and attracted to Satan's devices. We must KEEP our eyes on our General Jesus Christ and His Bible prophecies.

Those who chose to remain ignorant of Bible prophecy will be deceived by Satan's devices and will not be prepared to meet Jesus when he comes.

End time signs have two different messages for two different groups of people. For those still in sin, the message is "repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand." For those who have repented and turned from sin and are clinging to the cross, the message is "your delivery draws nigh, intensify the work."

As a warning to ALL of God's children of the imminence of the second coming, these things happened in the past as signs to WAKE up His people to get ready, get ready, get ready!

Has God ever used the prophetic events of the sixth seal as a precursor and WARNING of what will come upon this earth to prepare the world for the second coming of Jesus? YES!

In the past three centuries God has displayed theses signs of the sixth seal as a wake up call. They all happened in the same exact order of the events of the sixth seal: 1) Great Earthquake 2)Sun blackened 3)Moon as blood 4)Stars (meteors) fallen from heavens.

1) **Great Earthquake: Has the earth ever experienced a great earthquake that covered the earth as a WARNING to wake God's people UP?** Let's look at history.

A. On **November 1, 1755**, this earth experienced the largest earthquake known as the Lisbon Earthquake that violently shook an area of about 4 million square miles causing thousands of deaths. It has been reported that that earthquake was felt in all of Europe, Africa, West Indies, and the Americas.

B. Also in more recent times, on December 26, 2004 an earthquake of a magnitude of 9.3 in the Indian Ocean which was felt in many parts of the earth produced a large tsunami or tidal wave that killed over 150,000 in

South Asia. It is said that the force of this earthquake was as strong as five million atomic bombs that shook the earth for ten minutes.

SIDE NOTE: Did you know that around the time of the tower of Babel that God not only confused the language because of their rebellion but he caused a great earthquake to physically divide the earth?

A great land mass even after the flood was obviously still connected.

Shem who was the son of Noah had a great great grandson, Peleg, who was named as a memorial of this great earthquake that physically divided the earth's great land mass with a rebellious people. (show gif graphic of earth dividing)

Noah > Shem > Arphaxad > Selah > Eber (Hebrew people and language)> Peleg

Genesis 10:25

25 And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of one was Peleg; for in his days was the earth divided; and his brother's name was Joktan.

Genesis 10:25 is referring to a great earthquake that divided the main land of the earth into continents that we have today. How do we know? What does Peleg name mean?

Peleg (Hebrew) The same as H6388; **earthquake**; Peleg, a son of Shem: - Peleg. - Strong's Hebrew Definition

Peleg was born 1757 years after Creation. The earthquake occurred after the flood which was 1657 years after Creation and after the Tower of Babel when the languages were confounded but before the birth of Peleg.

Remember the promise of the Messiah came through the lineage of Shem. Satan was trying stop it through the great rebellion against God at the Tower of Babel. God not only had to scatter them through the confusion of languages but eventually had to physically divide them. If they were not physically divided, the rebellious would have figured out how to communicate through translation to continue in their rebellion. This explains why people are living on various continents of the earth separated by the great oceans.

2) Sun Darken / Moon as Blood: Has the earth experienced the sun turning dark and the moon appearing red as blood? Well history records that on **May 19, 1780**, the sun turned into darkness and the moon appeared to be red as blood. And reports explained that the sun **did not become dark that day by an eclipse**, but was unexplained. Also it was reported that the next evening when the moon became visible it had the appearance of blood. Let's look at a few historical accounts of eyewitnesses of that day. R.M. Devens of New England in *Our First Century*, p. 89 says that "Almost, if not altogether alone, as the most mysterious and as yet unexplained phenomenon of its kind, . . . stands the dark day of May 19, 1780,--a most unaccountable darkening of the whole visible heavens and atmosphere in New England." (EG White, *Great Controversy*, p. 306) Another eye witness of that day, Milo Bostick in *Stone's History of Massachusetts* says, "The moon which was at its full, had the appearance of blood."(Amazing Facts Lesson 8, p. 6)] Amazing.

Both the great earthquake and sun darkening happen during the time America was becoming established as an independent nation and during the time Papal Rome was beginning to lose grip on their empire that ended in 1798.

3) Stars falling from Heaven: Has this earth ever experienced a major meteor shower? Well, history records that on **November 12 & 13, 1833** that the most extensive display of falling stars or meteors fell from the sky about 60,000 per hour. The meteor shower was so large that it was seen from Canada to Mexico. This event was known as the great Leonid Meteor Shower of 1833.

“In 1833, two years after Miller began to present in public the evidences of Christ's soon coming, the last of the signs appeared which were promised by the Saviour as tokens of His second advent. Said Jesus: "The stars shall fall from heaven." - {Ellen White, Great Controversy p. 333}

"the whole firmament, over all the United States, being then, for hours, in fiery commotion! No celestial phenomenon has ever occurred in this country, since its first settlement, which was viewed with such intense admiration by one class in the community, or with so much dread and alarm by another." "Its sublimity and awful beauty still linger in many minds. . . . Never did rain fall much thicker than the meteors fell toward the earth; east, west, north, and south, it was the same. In a word, the whole heavens seemed in motion. . . . The display, as described in Professor Silliman's Journal, was seen all over North America. . . . From two o'clock until broad daylight, the sky being perfectly serene and cloudless, an incessant play of dazzlingly brilliant luminosities was kept up in the whole heavens." {Great Controversy p. 333}

“In the New York Journal of Commerce of November 14, 1833, appeared a long article regarding this wonderful phenomenon, containing this statement: "No philosopher or scholar has told or recorded an event, I suppose, like that of yesterday morning. A prophet eighteen hundred years ago foretold it exactly, if we will be at the trouble of understanding stars falling to mean falling stars, . . . in the only sense in which it is possible to be literally true."” {Great Controversy 334}

1833 was around the time of the great awakening and the advent message concerning the second coming of Jesus. ALL these signs were warning signs to wake up and watch and pray and do the work and will of God.

All these signs in the past have happened in the order of the sixth seal as warning signs and tokens of testimony of the soon coming of Jesus 1) Great Earthquake 2)Sun blackened 3)Moon as blood 4)Stars (meteors) fallen from heavens.

Going back to events of the sixth seal... These are also literal signs that will happen as Jesus makes his descent from heaven to earth at His second coming.

What will be the response of the proud and rebellious wicked who rejected the everlasting covenant of Jesus in the prophetic scenes of the sixth seal? In other words, what will they say and do when the whole earth is shaking, the sun goes black, the moon turns into blood and the stars fall from heaven?

Revelation 6:15-17

15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;
16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:
17 For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

These include those black horse “Christians” who rather serve man and their human reasoning. They rather have their Netflix and Dish Network then investigating truth for themselves from God’s Word.

Remember sin separates us from God. In our sinful rebellion, we run from God. Those in sin want to hide from the presence of God.

What did Adam and Eve do after they sinned when God was calling to meet with them?

Genesis 3:8

8 And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

In the scenes of the sixth seal the wicked realize their fate. All their pride is now overcome with great distress and fear. They want to hide from the WRATH of the Lamb!

Satan walks about like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. Jesus walks about like a Lamb seeking whom he may save!

Those who reject the Lamb's gift to save them from eternal death WILL reap the consequences.

Ecclesiastes 8:11-13

11 Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.

12 Though a sinner do evil an hundred times, and his days be prolonged, yet surely I know that it shall be well with them that fear God, which fear before him:

13 But it shall **not be well with the wicked**, neither shall he prolong his days, which are as a shadow; because he feareth not before God.

Who are those who hide themselves from the wrath of the Lamb?

Revelation 13:16-17

16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:

17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

How does Isaiah describe the scenes of the sixth seal and the wicked's fate.

Isaiah 13:6-13

6 Howl ye; for the day of the LORD is at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty.

7 Therefore shall all hands be faint, and every man's heart shall melt:

8 And they shall be afraid: pangs and sorrows shall take hold of them; they shall be in pain as a woman that travaileth: they shall be amazed one at another; their faces shall be as flames.

9 Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it.

10 For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine.

11 And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogance of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible.

12 I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir.

13 Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall remove out of her place, in the wrath of the LORD of hosts, and in the day of his fierce anger.

While the earth is shaking, the sun darkened, the moon as blood, meteors falling from the sky, and our atmosphere split open like a scroll, what will happen as Jesus enters our atmosphere?

2 Peter 3:10

10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

What will happen to the wicked when Jesus appears in our atmosphere and every eye will see Him?

2 Thessalonians 2:8

8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall **destroy with the brightness of his coming**:

Jeremiah 25:33

33 And the slain of the LORD shall be at that day from one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth: they shall not be lamented, neither gathered, nor buried; they shall be dung upon the ground.

When Jesus enters our atmosphere and fills the earth with His presence of BRIGHT light the wicked will be killed by it. They will lay over all the earth like dung upon the ground.

It is clear from the Bible that the wicked will not be able to stand before the Lamb when He comes.

At the end of Revelation 6:17 they cry OUT “WHO WILL BE ABLE TO STAND”?

Luke 21:36

36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

Do you want to be able to stand? It is preparation time now. You MUST go through both phases of the sacrifice at the altar of sacrifice and the altar of incense. You and I MUST give up sin and worldliness at the altar of sacrifice and then live a life of holiness at the altar of incense in obedience to God's Word, daily.

WHO WILL BE ABLE TO STAND WHEN JESUS COMES... REVELATION CHAPTER SEVEN HAS MORE TO ANSWER THE QUESTION.... TO BE CONTINUED... POWERFUL!!!

APPEAL APPEAL APPEAL...