

The Revelation of Jesus Christ to the Apostle John

Vision 2: *Christ the Lamb and the Sealed Scroll*

Revelation 5:1-6:8

November 12, 2023

YOUR CUES TO THE TEXT

Vision 2b: THE LAMB AND THE SCROLL (Revelation 5:1-14)

1 Then I saw in the right hand of **him who was seated** on the throne a **scroll** written within and on the back, sealed with **seven seals**. **2** And I saw a **strong angel** proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" **3** And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, **4** and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. **5** And one of the elders said to me, "Weep no more; behold, the **Lion of the tribe of Judah**, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals." **6** And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a **Lamb** standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. **7** And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. **8** And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden **bowls full of incense**, which are the prayers of the saints. **9** And they sang a **new song**, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, **10** and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth." **11** Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering **myriads of myriads** and thousands of thousands, **12** saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" **13** And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" **14** And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" and the elders fell down and worshiped.

VISION 2c: THE SEVEN SEALS ON THE SCROLL (Rev. 6:1-8)

1 Now I watched when the Lamb opened one of the **seven seals**, and I heard one of the four living creatures say with a voice like thunder, "Come!" **2** And I looked, and behold, a **white horse**! And its rider had a **bow**, and a crown was given to him, and he came out conquering, and to conquer. **3** When he opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, "Come!" **4** And out came another **horse, bright red**. Its rider was permitted to take peace from the earth, so that people should slay one another, and he was given a great sword. **5** When he opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come!" And I looked, and behold, a **black horse**! And its rider had a pair of scales in his hand. **6** And I heard what seemed to be a voice in the midst of the four living creatures, saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a **denarius**, and do not harm the oil and wine!" **7** When he opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, "Come!"

THE LAMB AND THE SCROLL (Revelation 5:1-14)

- him who was seated* - God the Father
scroll - Epigraph (record of synchronous events)
seven seals - breaking seals 'releases' the synchronous events described in the scroll
- strong angel* - Probably Gabriel
- Lion of the Tribe of Judah* - Conquering Messiah
- Lamb* - a sacrificial victim (the Cross)
- bowls of incense* - Prayers of the saints
- new song* - Christ has come and fulfilled promises ("OLD SONG" - OT waiting for Messiah to come)
- myriads* - countless mass

THE SEVEN SEALS ON THE SCROLL (Rev. 6:1-8)

- > Read MATTHEW 24:3-24 first (Signs of the End)
- SEVEN SEALS - 1-4: FOUR HORSEMEN OF APOCALYPSE
ZECHARIAH 1:8-10 (Horses = God works in history)
 - WHITE HORSE - The saving Word of God (Gospel)
MATTHEW 24:14 (Global preaching signals End)
 - BOW - the LONG REACH of the Word of God

8 And I looked, and behold, **a pale horse!** And its rider's name was Death, and **Hades** followed him. And they were given authority over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by wild beasts of the earth.

INSTANT RE-PLAY

MULTIPLE LITERARY (WRITING) STYLES IN THE BIBLE

1. Historical Reporting
2. Poetry
3. Fable
4. Allegory
5. Symbolism
6. **Apocalyptic (reveals that which has been hidden)**
 - a. Dualism
 - b. End of the World (Armageddon)
 - c. Historical context
 - d. Disguised language
 - e. Visions (actual and symbolic)
 - f. Messiah and Anti-Messiah
 - g. Angeology and demonology
 - h. Symbolic numbers
 - i. Predicted disaster and death
 - j. Colors and astral influence
 - k. Old Testament themes
 - l. Figurative language

3. FIERY RED HORSE (Bloody war upon the earth)

See MATTHEW 24:6-7 (Wars and Rumors of wars)
Your best commentary on this section

5. BLACK HORSE - Economic Injustice and Inflation

6. DENARIUS - One day's wages for common laborer

8. PALE HORSE - Calamitous death

8. HADES - receptacle of disembodied spirits of
damned unbelievers



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