

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

Revelation 6:1-8

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

❖ Day 1

Read Revelation 6:1-8.

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Commands are double-underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

¹Then 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."

²I 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.

³When He broke the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying,
 "Come."

⁴And 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.

⁵When 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.

⁶And 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."

⁷When the Lamb broke the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying,
 "Come."

⁸I 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.

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1. It's been several months since we've been in Revelation. Read back over chapters 4 and 5, or even chapters 1-5, and if you have notes from those passages, consider reviewing them. How would you summarize what has happened in the book up to this point?
2. Revelation 6:1 makes several references to what has appeared earlier in the book: Where is John when he's seeing this? Who is the Lamb? What are the seven seals? What are the four living creatures?
3. What is the significance of breaking the seals?
4. How does the image of a lamb in this particular chapter subvert our normal idea of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God?
5. Read Zechariah 1:7-11 and 6:1-8. How do Zechariah's visions of God's horsemen compare with what John sees here in Revelation? What is the purpose of the horsemen in both?
6. Read over verses 2-8 several times. What is similar about the four descriptions of the four seals being broken? What is different?

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13. What follows Death in verse 8?

14. Who gives Death and Hades authority to kill?

❖ Day 3

Read Revelation 6:1-8 again.

15. Read Ezekiel 14:21 and its context in 14:12-23. How do both this verse and Revelation 6:8 show how God judges those who rebel against Him?

16. What is the progression of judgement in the first four seals?

17. What causes all of the terrible things in this passage to take place?

18. What is God sovereign over, according to this passage?

19. To what extent is God sovereign over these things?

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20. For what purpose will God one day exercise His sovereignty over these things?

21. Summarize this passage in 21 words or less.

22. What are five ways the church ought to respond to these prophecies of coming judgement?

In preparation for Sunday, pray for understanding and submission to the truths found in this passage of God's sovereignty in judgement.