

The Things That Must Take Place
The First Seal – Good News or Bad News?
Revelation 6:1,2

Introduction:

- A. Are revelations from God about the future meant to be understood?
1. Sometimes they were not meant to be understood by the prophet but only by b_____ living in the time of fulfillment (e.g. Dan 12:8-13)
 2. Sometimes they were meant to be understood p_____ by the original recipients but not fully until the time of fulfillment (e.g. Is 53; see Matt 16:16,21,22).
 3. Sometimes they were meant to be understood fully by all (e.g Micah 5:2)
- B. Is the first seal that Jesus reveals meant to be understood by believers of John's day partially, fully, or not at all?
1. The rest of the seals in this chapter are very p_____ as to their meaning.
 2. Therefore, the first seal is meant to be understood at least in a general sense.

The command given

- A. To whom is the command given?
1. The KJV reads the command as *Come and see*, and makes the reader believe that the command is given to J_____.
 - a. But where did John go?
 - b. Why would he have to come and see again for the next seals if he is already "there?"
 2. Modern versions read the command as *Come*, and then that John says, *and I looked (literally, saw.)*
 - a. This reading is based on the oldest and best Greek copies of this verse.
 - b. Modern versions lead the reader to believe that the living creature is giving the command to J_____
 3. The Greek word translated as *come* is used again in describing the horse and its rider's action *and he came out* (this is clearer in the second horse).

- a. The living creature said, *Come!* and John saw the horse obey the command. It *came out*.
- b. The Greek word can also mean *go*, which makes better sense since the horse and its rider obeys by *going out*.

The color of the horse

A. What does the white horse symbolize?

1. Some think that it symbolizes the Anti-Christ _____ because of what Jesus said in Matt 24:4-9.
 - a. F_____ Christ's will arise (Matt 24:5) = 1st seal
 - b. There will be w_____ (Matt 24:6) = 2nd seal
 - c. There will be f_____ (Matt 24:7) = 4th seal
 - d. There will be p_____ (Matt 24:9) = 5th seal
2. There are two problems with the above view:
 - a. The Anti-Christ is not a false Christ. He does not try to imitate Christ but o_____ Him and all Christians.
 - b. There is not a one-to-one correspondence between Matthew 24 and Revelation 6. – there is nothing that corresponds to the f_____ seal.

B. The colors of the horses correspond with what they bring.

1. The red horse corresponds with w_____
2. The black horse corresponds with d_____
3. The pale green horse (ashen NAS) corresponds with d_____ by various means.
4. The white horse must correspond to something g_____ - White is mentioned 15 times in Revelation and it is never b_____ (1:14; 2:17; 3:4,5,18; 4:4; 6:11; 7:9,13; 19:14; 14:14; 20:11; 19:11,14).

The conquest and crown

A. The rider is given a b_____ and a c_____

1. The Greek word translated *bow* is only used here in the entire N.T. – all we can say that it is a weapon that requires a _____ in conflict
2. The Greek word translated *crown* is a v_____ wreath that an athlete receives for winning a competition.
3. The rider is given victory as he goes out conquering and wherever he goes, he goes to c_____.

- B. This is a picture of good c_____ evil.
1. Revelation 6 is the good news, bad news chapter but gives the good news f_____
 2. How will good prevail over evil?
 - a. The g_____ is God's power to save people and conquers the human h_____ (Rom 1:16)
 - b. God uses all things (even evil) for the g_____ of those who love Him (Rom 8:28)
 - c. God will remove all e_____ from the world (Ps 37:10)
 - d. God will remove all the effects of s_____ including death (1 Cor 15:52-57)

Conclusion:

- A. Each letter to the seven churches ended with a promise to overcomers or conquerors (same Greek word used in 6:2)
1. Conquerors will eat from the tree of l_____ (2:6).
 2. Conquerors will not be hurt by the second d_____ (2:11)
 3. Conquerors will be given a new secret n_____ (2:17),
 4. Conquerors will r_____ the nations with a rod of iron (2:26,27)
 5. Conquerors will never be erased from the book of l_____ (3:5),
 6. Conquerors will have the name of the Father, Jesus, and the New Jerusalem w_____ on them (3:12).
 7. Conquerors will sit down on the t_____ with Jesus (3:21).
- B. Rom 8:37 states, believers overwhelmingly conquer through Jesus Christ our Lord
1. No matter how bad things look remember the good news. G_____ will triumph over evil.
 2. Thanks be to God who gives us the v_____ through our Lord Jesus Christ.