

NOTE:

The first five seals deal with the earth- worldwide judgements on the earth and in the church.
The last two seals deal with heaven- things in the spiritual realm

1. FIRST SEAL- **WHITE HORSE**
2. SECOND SEAL- **RED HORSE**
3. THIRD SEAL- **BLACK HORSE**
4. FOURTH SEAL- **DEATH & THE GRAVE & Wild Animals (Beasts of the earth)**

FIFTH SEAL**Revelation 6:9-11**

⁹ When he opened the fifth seal, I saw **under the altar** the souls of those who had been slaughtered because of the **word of God and the testimony** they had given. ¹⁰ They **cried out with a loud voice**, “Lord, the one who is holy and true, how long until you judge those who live on the earth and **avenge our blood?**” ¹¹ So they were each given **a white robe, and they were told to rest a little while longer until the number would be completed of their fellow servants and their brothers and sisters, who were going to be killed just as they had been.**

1. They were under the altar- symbolic of the Outer Court- at the place of sacrifice or in Greek meaning the “slaughter place”
2. Note that this is not a horse but those who have been martyred for their faith like Stephen in Acts 7-8.
3. Their cause of death: The Word of God and their testimony
4. They “called out in a loud voice” which indicates a state of consciousness
 - A. Active faculties
 - Resting in God’s presence
 - At peace after death
 - Understanding there will be wrath for the wicked
 - This is the pre-Tribulation, first group of martyrs (starting with Stephen), because they are told more were on the way (Rev. 20:4)
 - How Long is answered later in the book: Rev. 10:6 & Rev. 19
 - White Robe- See Rev. 3:4, Believers who have not soiled their garments with unworthiness.

SIXTH SEAL**Revelation 6:12-17**

12 Then I saw him open the sixth seal. **A violent earthquake occurred; the sun turned black like sackcloth made of hair; the entire moon became like blood; the stars of heaven fell to the earth as a fig tree drops its unripe figs when shaken by a high wind;** 14 **the sky was split apart like a scroll being rolled up; and every mountain and island was moved from its place.** 15 **Then the kings of the earth, the nobles, the generals, the rich, the powerful and every slave and free person hid in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains.** 16 and they **said to the mountains and to the rocks, “Fall on us and hide us** from the face of the one seated on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb, 17 **because the great day of their wrath has come!** And who is able to stand?”

1. A violent earthquake occurred- referring to God’s judgement, the end of the age, the Day of the Lord.
Isaiah 13:10; Ezekiel 32:7-8; Joel 2:10
2. The sun turned black- this seal is a supernatural sign from God.
See Matthew 29. Jesus quotes directly from the Septuagint (the ancient Greek Translation of the OT) versions of Isaiah 13:10 and Isaiah 34:4
3. It’s obvious that a great judgement event is occurring here
“Fall on us and hide us” compare prophecies from Hosea 10:8; Luke 23:30
4. The great day of their wrath- The final outpouring of judgement on the world
The “Day of the Lord” Joel 2:11

NOTE:

Following the Seals and reading/interpreting some of the prophecies from the Old Testament, we must revert back to study the end time visions of Daniel as Revelation draws on Daniel’s writings.

Jewish and early Christians knew the references to Daniel and understood much of what Jesus was saying, but just did not know when these things would take place. Although John’s writing refers back to Daniel 7-12, the early Jews and Christians understood the end of days to be a threefold process, beginning with the Tribulation (which would last three and a half years, followed by God’s judgement on the nations of the world). John alludes to the threefold perspective from Daniel. Daniel’s revelations seemed to be “at hand” or “immanent” meaning they could happen at any time.

NOTES: