

POINT OF CLARITY

Primary Purpose of Chapter 6 forward

- 1. To affirm God is in control
- 2. To reveal judgments as both punitive as well as redemptive in that they are intended to bring repentance
- 3. To give hope of a new day when all evil will be vanquished and the Kingdom of Heaven will be fully manifest

POINT OF CLARITY

- Apocalyptic literature: a genre of prophetical writing developed in post-exile Jewish culture
- "Apocalypse" is from the Greek word for "revelation" which means "an unveiling or unfolding of things not previously known."
- •Best known literature of this type created in Judaism from 200 B.C.E. to 100 C.E., and in Christianity from 50 to approximately 350 C.E.

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POINT OF CLARITY

Apocalyptic literature is written in symbolism, poetry, and imageries, as well as in an Old Testament prophetic style (See Matt. 24-25; Mark 13; Luke 21; Rev. 1:2-4; 19:9; 22:7-19). In larger works, such forms are woven as a tapestry to describe events in cataclysmic terms (Daniel, Revelation)

POINT OF CLARITY

Because we will be looking at this vision from the perspective of 1st century Hebraic culture and mindset, we are going to approach John's vision differently than what has been understood and communicated by many modern day commentators

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- This vision reveals both present and future reality.
- It is to be seen as more universal than just specific for one
- period of time in God's redemptive history.

Revelation's 3 sets of 7 • 7 seals -6:1-8:1 • 7 trumpets- 8:2-11:9 • 7 bowls- 15:1- 16:21

Non-Linear View

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
The Seven Vials

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
The Seven Trumpets

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
The Seven Seals

Linear View

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 → 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
The Seven Seals

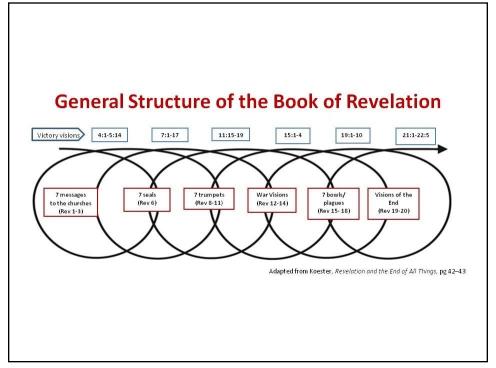
The Seven Trumpets

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 → 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
The Seven Seals

Revelation Teacher Tim Chester

"It is best to see this section as whole series of overlapping visions. The seals on the scroll are opened but before the final 7th seal is opened there is a sequence of 7 trumpets. The theme is revisited again in chapter 16 when 7 bowls are poured out.we need to read Revelation not as a sequential list of events, but as a series of parallel pictures that are designed to stir our imaginations.

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RECAPITUALION/REPETITION

THUNDER/LIGHTNING EARTHQUAKE/HAIL

Rev 8:5-7th seal

Rev11:19-7th trumpet

Rev 16:18-21-7th bowl.

The phrase is an echo of Ex 19:16
Interwoven to Throne Room Rev 4:5

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Tim Chester's Summary

In general the first 5 elements of each series of 7 relate to the realities of history. Number 6 points to what will happen at the end of history. Number 7 portrays what happens beyond. If you keep this pattern in mind, it will be easier to see how these sequences fit together"

Dr. Sam Storm's Summary

All three series of seven judgments (seals, trumpets, bowls) portray events and phenomena that occur repeatedly throughout the course of history between the first and second comings of Christ. All three series of seven judgments bring us to the consummation at the close of human history where we see the final judgment of unbelievers, the salvation and vindication of God's people, and the full manifestation of the kingdom of Christ.

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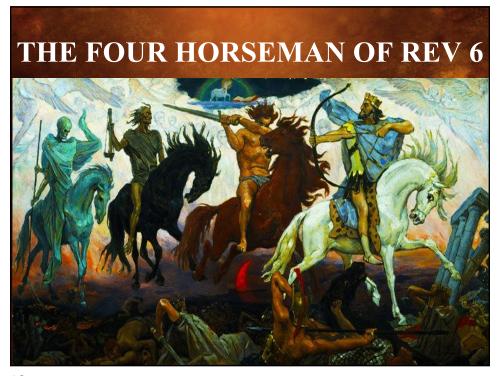
Dr. Sam Storm's Summary

Thus, contrary to the futurist interpretation, Revelation is not concerned merely with events at the close of history, immediately preceding the second coming of Christ. Rather, there are multiple sections in the book, each of which recapitulates the other, that is to say, each of which begins with the first coming of Christ and concludes with the second coming of Christ and the end of history. Each of these sections provides a series of progressively parallel visions that increase in their scope and intensity as they draw nearer to the consummation.

Dr. Sam Storm's Summary

The fact that the trumpet judgments are partial and somewhat limited and the bowl judgments are more complete and final simply indicates that what can occur in a limited or partial manner at any point in history between the two advents of Christ, can also occur at any point in history in a universal or more thorough-going manner. The effect or impact of these plagues of judgment on the unbelieving world is at one time and in one place restricted, while at another time in another place, widespread.

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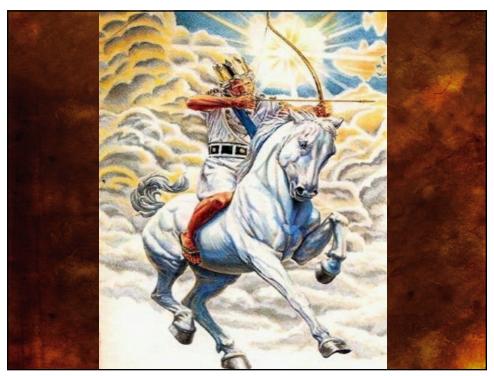
COLORS OF JUDGMENT

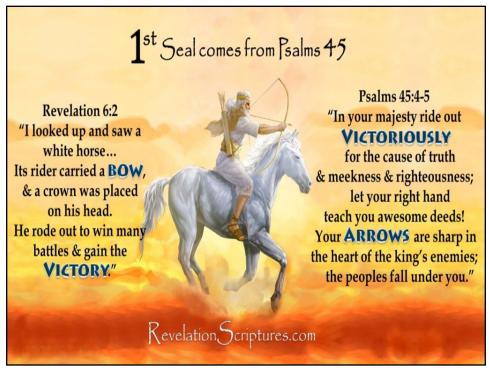
Colors symbolize the common judgments of the earth.

- RED is war and the sword
- BLACK is famine
- PALE is pestilence, disease, wild animals and death.

See 2 Sam 24; Eze. 5:12; Jer 15:1-3; 2 Ki 21; 2 Chr 33; etc.

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Deut 32:23-27NKJV

23'I will heap disasters on them; I will spend My <u>arrows</u> on them. 24 They shall be <u>wasted</u> with hunger, Devoured by <u>pestilence and</u> bitter destruction; I will also send against them the <u>teeth of beasts</u>, With the poison of <u>serpents</u> of the dust. 25 The <u>sword shall</u> destroy outside; There shall be terror within For the young man and virgin, The nursing child with the man of gray hairs.27...; And it is not <u>the LORD who has done all this</u>."

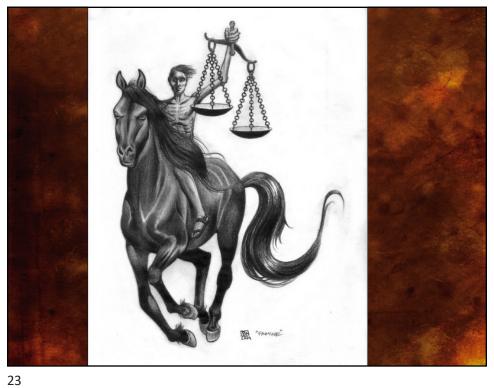
Ezekiel 5:15-17 NKJV

15'So it shall be a reproach, a taunt, a lesson, and an astonishment to the nations that are all around you, when I execute judgments among you in anger and in fury and in furious rebukes. I, the LORD, have spoken. 16 When I send against them the terrible arrows of famine which shall be for destruction, which I will send to destroy you, I will increase the famine upon you and cut off your supply of bread.

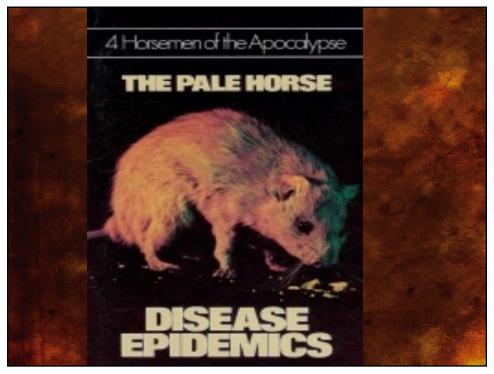
17 So I will send against you famine and wild beasts, and they will bereave you. Pestilence and blood shall pass through you, and I will bring the sword against you. I, the LORD, have spoken.'

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Enoch 47:3-4

3. At that time I beheld the Ancient of days, while he sat upon the throne of his glory, while the book of the living was opened in his presence, and while all the powers which were above the heavens stood around and before him. 4. Then were the hearts of the saints full of joy, because the consummation of righteousness was arrived, the supplication of the saints heard, and the blood of the righteous appreciated by the Lord of spirits.

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The Gospels	Revelation
False Messiahs (Mt 24:4-5)	False Messiahs (6:2)?
Wars (Mt 24:6-7)	Wars (6:3-4)
Famines (Mt 24:7)	Famines (6:5-6)
Earthquakes (Mt 24:7)	Earthquakes (6:2)
Pestilence (Luke 21:11)	Pestilence (6:7-8)
Persecution (Mt 24:9-10)	Persecution (6:9-11)
Celestial Disorders (Mt 24:29)	Celestial Disorders (6:12-13)
Further Details (Mt. 24:11)	Further Details (7:1-18:24)
Son of Man Appears(Mt 24:30-31)	Son of Man Appears (19:11-16)