



A BIBLICAL VIEW OF THE END TIMES
Week 36: The Seal Judgements, Part 4
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Review:

- We are presently studying the Seal Judgements of *Revelation 6 through the first part of 8*.
- IMPORTANT: These Seal Judgements FOLLOW the Rapture. John is taken up to heaven in an illustrative and prophetic type of our “*blessed hope*” (*Cf. Titus 2:13*). It is not until AFTER this point that these seven Seal Judgements begin.
- So far, we’ve studied the first two of these Seal Judgements:
 - **Rider on the white horse:** This is the political debut and ascent of the antichrist which leads to a false worldwide peace. In the aftermath and chaos of the global Rapture of the church, the antichrist will be perceived as having all the answers
 - **Rider on the red horse:** The false peace gives way to worldwide conflict and bloodshed. Whatever pretenses of peace had been in place, they yield to open war and conflict between ethnicities and nations

NOTE: Now we come to the third Seal Judgement, and this is the rider on the black horse. This text is found in *Revelation 6:5-6*.

NOTE: Again, I state that my view of these Seal Judgements is that they take place BEFORE the formal commencement of The Tribulation. (I am not the only one to see it this way).

I respect others who may see this sequence differently, but I will continue to offer my arguments for this view as we work our way through this study.

I. **THE THIRD SEAL (*Cf. Revelation 6:5-6*) – “\$10 for a dozen eggs”**

NOTE: Traditionally, this is called the Seal Judgement of FAMINE. It could just as well be called the Seal Judgement of Economic Disaster. Both conditions seem to be equally applicable here. (NOTE: I’ll generally refer to it as ‘famine’ for the sake of clarity).

- A. Black is the color given to this third horse and rider.
 1. Just as white horse = peace, and red horse = war & bloodshed, now we have a black horse indicating famine (This is once again: unbridled economic disaster).
 2. OBSERVE: There is a natural process unfolding in these Seal Judgements that we have seen many times in human history to date:
 - a. Famine often follows war, and hunger and economic ruin are common end results of institutions, societies, and territories that are traumatized by war.

- b. Again, the sequence of these Seal Judgements parallels the details given in the Gospel accounts of the Olivet Discourse in **Matthew, Mark, and Luke**.
 - c. Also, Jesus reminds us in the Olivet Discourse **Matthew 24:6**: right in the middle of describing the same conditions of these Seal Judgements, that: “...*the end is not yet.*”
 - d. That’s an important statement insofar as timing is concerned.
 - e. It suggests that these Seal Judgements are some sort of interlude or a series of events BEFORE the well-prescribed “time of the end,” The Tribulation, begins.
 - f. Jesus notes this particular future global phenomenon of famine and economic ruin
 - g. For example, (Jesus says in **Matthew 24:7** – “...*there will be famine*”). This is one of the main reasons many scholars call this third Seal Judgement a judgment of global “famine.” It’s what Jesus referred to it as.
 - h. AGAIN, NOTE: Jesus’ famine statement follows His prior prophecy of ‘deception’ (leading to false peace) and then to ‘wars and rumors of wars.’
 - i. These Gospel accounts provide the very same sequence as the Seal Judgments we are now studying in **Revelation**
3. This famine continues God’s judgment which began with the opening of the First Seal.
4. Jesus, the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, is opening the scroll with the seven seals. He is beginning the process of taking back the earth from Satan, of claiming His rightful deed, and judging the inhabitants of the earth who have rejected Him and have remained after the Rapture.

NOTE: God has brought extreme famine in judgement before:

(Cf. Lamentations Ch. 5) – This describes the siege of Jerusalem by Babylon (1 ½ years – **Cf. 2 Kings 25 acct. where more details provided**)

-Famine in judgement is also seen in **Haggai 1:5-6**, and **Ezekiel 4:9-17**

-So, even though there is a natural process in this sequence of events, the Bible reinforces the sovereignty and intentions of God in all of man’s affairs.

-That includes famine in judgement. All of our lives are ordered by God, and all conditions in which we live are the result of His sovereign oversight

-It’s why **Matthew 5:45** says “...*He sends rain on the righteous and unrighteous.*” Even the conditions we take for granted are provided by God.

1. But there is something different here in this third Seal Judgement. God will bring famine again, He will exercise His sovereign control once more, but this time the impact is worldwide.
2. This follows the pattern previously established: just as there was worldwide false peace and then worldwide conflict and bloodshed after that....

B. So far, each of the Seal Judgement riders has been carrying something.

1. The white rider was carrying a bow, but no arrows. He conquers through political intrigue.
2. The red rider was carrying a large sword, a battle weapon. He introduces war.
3. And now this black rider, the third one, is carrying “...a pair of scales in his hand.”
4. Various commentary has been offered on the significance of this pair of scales, however one point seems to be overarching:
 - a. This famine is severe enough that global ‘rationing’ becomes the norm.
 - b. This is very similar to the rationing language seen in **Ezekiel 4:9-17**. It’s not even adequate for basic living.
 - c. So, in this particular Seal Judgement, God is setting forth the conditions concerning ‘portion size’ as well as personal resources and abilities to cope. Obviously, many people will not survive.
 - d. This is not a novel concept. Back in 1974, Henry Kissinger, then Sec. of State, said, “*Who controls the food supply controls the people; who controls the energy can control whole continents; who controls money can control the world.*”
 - e. Even back then, Kissinger suggested using the control of food as a weapon to bring about population reduction.

OBSERVE: God has touched mankind in several key areas now
(a.) serenity, (b.) stability, and now, (c.) self-sufficiency

C. Scales’ are a notable item in the Bible:

1. **(Cf. Proverbs 16:11)** “*A just balance and scales belong to the LORD; All the weights of the bag are His concern.*”
2. (NOTE: God sees the transaction process as being important. Proper portions are something He takes pleasure in, so, in judgment, He will also bring about severe ‘rationing.’
3. **(Cf. Proverbs 20:23)** “*The LORD detests differing weights, and dishonest scales do not please him.*”
4. (NOTE: Dishonest rationing and the money schemes that go with it will likely be rampant at this future time.
5. When there is this kind of full-scale war all over the globe – especially with the kind of weaponry we have today - people stop producing food,

economies fall apart, food supplies are destroyed, and distribution of resources is severely limited.

6. As a result, extreme rationing is going to take place because of the scarcity of food.
 7. A good way of seeing this is the rider on the black horse also has a weapon of sorts.
 8. It is a pair of scales, and that is used for measuring. Food is going to be rationed...it's going to be measured out.
 9. We can understand this in one respect as food lines. Starving people standing in food lines were common after WWI and WWII.
 10. Such food lines are present around the world today where war and famine has decimated countries.
- D. While these Seal Judgements thus far have much to do with 'man's atrocities to man,' we must remind ourselves once more that God is still behind it all.
1. NOTE: (**Revelation 4:6**) "I heard as it were a voice in the center of the four living creatures." Who is in the center of the four living creatures? GOD!
 2. It's very possible here that the voice of God says, "*A quart of wheat for a denarius, three quarts of barley for a denarius and do not harm the oil and the wine.*"
 3. God is speaking. It's a reminder that this is a judgment from God.
- E. It's God who sets the specific terms of the famine and the resulting hardship.
1. They are very harsh parameters. Besides the famine, we must also factor in the severe inflation element too. We are told the specific terms:
 - a. A denarius was one day's wages. This was the standard economy of the time of the writing of **Revelation**.
 - b. A 'quart of wheat' would sustain one person with a moderate appetite for one day. (NOTE: This was the allotment for a Roman soldier)
 - c. Here is what's being said: One will require an entire day's wages to eat the bare minimum for himself, which would provide nothing for a family. These are indeed famine conditions as well as profound economic ruin.
 - d. As far as "barley" is concerned: common food / nothing special / normally used in Biblical times for animal feed.
 - e. All means and systems for 'preparing for retirement and old age' come to a sudden end.
 - f. The world conditions are focused upon basic and desperate survival.
 2. Then there is this cryptic statement): "*Do not damage the oil and the wine.*" There are two possible interpretations:
 - a. Traditionally these are the foods of the rich – the wealthy are not affected as much. This famine will be hardest on the common people and the poorest which is always the case.
 - b. Be very careful with food resources for they are most precious.

(NOTE: I think both truths apply here, but the first one differentiating the wealthy from the common person is the better focus).

NOTE: We should not be surprised at this specific insight. We already see this differentiation element between classes of people in our own time more and more.

If you've been reading the news for the past couple of years, you've already seen this overarching process in play as the elites make *"Rules for thee but not for me..."* (our leaders, and other global and national leaders, have chosen to play by a different set of rules for themselves)

- *It's why Nancy Pelosi proudly showed off her collection of high-end gourmet ice cream during a time when most people were scrambling to find toilet paper and basic goods*
- *It's why our leaders exempted themselves from receiving the vaccine while they tried their best to force the rest of us to take it*
- *It's why the World Economic Forum leaders required private UN-vaccinated pilots to fly them there at the same time as they have pressured airlines to vaccinate all their pilots*
- *It's why the WEF leadership like Bill Gates want you and I to eat bugs while they eat meat*
- *It's why lockdowns affected the average person, but liberal mayors and governors were out partying without masks*
- *And here in this Biblical text of **Revelation 6:6**, we continue to see that there will exist this disparity between the 'have's' and the 'have nots.'*
- *A time is coming where this separation element will become extreme, and it will affect basic matters of sustenance.*

NOTE: Again – if you've been paying attention to responsible news sources, you ALREADY know that there is a global attack on the food system in our time.

- *The globalist-socialist elites have decided to decimate all avenues of food supply, commercial food preparation, and even domestic cooking (efforts to outlaw gas stoves)*
- *Last I looked, there were well over 1000 reported arsons on food factories and other food industry facilities within our nation alone (and nearly all of them within the last two years)*
- *It's happening all over the world > this relentless pressure to disrupt the food system and create short supplies of basic goods (look at what the Dutch farmers are dealing with now)*
- *But again – these are tactics by the elite globalists to introduce chaos and ruin. It's their plan to put the squeeze on the common person, to make them totally subordinate to their tyrannical ideas, and to cultivate chaos.*
- *Every effort is being exerted to cause people to become physically unhealthy, to die off, and to depopulate the planet. This – IMO – is the chief motive at play these days....*
- *It's all being done under the false religion of "climate control" and this is not going to stop.*
- *In the first three Seal Judgements so far, we are seeing a furtherance (an exacerbation) of the same events and tactics we are witnessing in our own time.*
- *As tough as we see things becoming now, the Bible is reminding us that present conditions and dynamics are going to become a WHOLE lot worse!*