Revelation 6 Part 2

Hi, this is Richard Oliver, with part two of Revelation six, this is unit sixteen in our study of the book of Revelation. And we are up to verse seven.

'And when He had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see.

'And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.'

This is a nasty, nasty situation here.

And the fourth beast, of course, is the eagle.

The rider, for the first time of the horses, the single rider of all four horses, is named. His name is Death. And hell follows.

So the concept of the church, the man-organised church, is conquering and controlling and will control a quarter of the earth is what is going on here. This is what's being talked about.

Now, I mentioned earlier in an earlier lesson that the book of Matthew also has the seals, they're already there. And the first seal was a rider looking like Christ. The second one was making war, he had power. This, of course, is the time of the Pergamos church age when church and state come together. It's when the church has the ability to decide who is a heretic and who isn't, and deal with them accordingly, and they have. We go right on through — of course the most famous groups are the Inquisition, and so on. But that's been going on all the time. And then there is the dark horse rider, the Dark Ages. And finally the pale horse rider.

The pale horse is actually a mixture of all three previous horses; the white, the black and the red.

And let's go back to Matthew twenty-four verse four, for as Jesus said 'Take heed that no man deceive you.

'For many shall come in My name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.'

That's the first horse rider.

'And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.'

That is the red horse rider.

'For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom:'

If you go into the history of the church that's exactly what they were doing. Harold, at the Battle of Hastings, he gave up because he found out that William the Conqueror had been to the pope and the pope had given England to William the Conqueror. And, of course, Harold, as a good Catholic, was stunned, he was outmanoeuvred by the church, or by William and the church. And the Battle of Hastings, of course, went wrong for the Anglo-Saxons and those of us who have got French ancestry started to come over from that time.

'And there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.'

There are famines. Remember the food was to be dished out for a set price, and God said don't touch the oil or the wine. The whole economy went to the pack. And this is the time when men's intellect, the third beast, the power of God, against the third horse rider.

And then, of course, we get to the fourth seal.

'All these are the beginning of sorrows.'

They're the mixture. They're all of those previous ones are going on right now. There is a move of the church which looks absolutely wonderful. It looks white, it looks pure, it looks like a God-given thing, but it's not. It's not.

There are areas of the world where the church is warring against other denominations, other groups and so on. The red horse rider is still going. He's still ticking along there, he's part of the pale horse now.

And, of course, there's areas of the world where Rome is in charge and there is a lot of mystery, everything is hidden, and those people are in darkness. The Dark Ages can still exist, and the dark horse rider is still operating.

So, at these last times we have all those three horses wrapped up in one. And depending on who and where you are as to what the effects you will receive, and what attacks will be made on you.

The whole issue, once again, is not a denominational thing, this is whether you believe Jesus Christ is your Saviour or whether you think you will have salvation through your church. Now only one died for you. Church never died for you. Jesus Christ died for you. That's the issue.

Back into Revelation chapter six, verse nine.

Now the four beasts only apply to the first four seals. Those four seals apply to the church, to Christians from the time of Christ right on through to the end of time.

Now, verse nine, 'And when He had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the Word of God, and for the testimony which they held:'

Notice it does not say for the testimony of Jesus Christ. They had the Word of God and they had a testimony. But it was not of Jesus.

'And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?'

They want justice. They want an eye-for-an-eye and a tooth-for-a-tooth. These people are Jews. And the whole point of when they start crying out is after the Holocaust. They had been kicked from country to country throughout history, and then the Holocaust, six million Jews were killed, something they will never forget. But those souls are these ones under the altar. All through time, but especially the Holocaust. And they're saying, 'God, why aren't You dealing with these issues?'

Verse eleven, 'And white robes were given unto every one of them;' They were made pure. 'and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.'

So there's another time of trouble coming for them.

'And I beheld when He had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;'

This is the coming judgement of the world.

'And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.

'And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.'

That earthquake in Japan a little while ago shifted the whole island, not very much, a few centimetres, but it moved it. What this is talking about is an earthquake so big, so massive, that everything's going to move.

'And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;

'And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

'For the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?'

Everyone on the earth is going to be really, really troubled. But the Bride, or Christ's people, are already out of that area, they were raptured away.

God bless you, see you later.