Revelation 6:1-8 The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse

The Lamb who is worthy

A worthy Judge (John 8:46 / Romans 2:1-2) *No charges can be brought against Him Whereas we are guilty of the same charges we accuse others of doing*An authoritative Judge (John 5:22, 27, 30 / James 4:12)

He has been given authority from God and He seeks only to please Him

The Invitation – to know His plan (Isaiah 1:18 / Jeremiah 33:3 / Amos 3:7 / Ephesians 3:8-11)

God invites us to reason with Him, He desires to make His plan known to us

The Four Horsemen This begins the judgments of the Tribulation

The white horse (1-2) (Daniel 11:21-24; 36-39 / II Thessalonians 2:3-4)

Carrying a bow – no mention of arrows *He comes in through deceit and intrigue*

Crown given to him He claims to be the leader of the universe

Conqueror – he is bent on conquest *He seeks the place of authority and power*

The red horse (3-4)

Peace is taken from the earth (Isaiah 48:22 / Luke 19:42 / II Thessalonians 2:6-7)

The wicked rule when the church is removed – they reject the source of peace Power to make men slay each other (Galatians 5:15)

Removing restraints – sin will master us (Genesis 4:7)

Powerful weapon – given a large sword

He will gain control of the world's weapon systems

The black horse (5-6) (Amos 8:11-14)

When God's revelation is gone men will choose a path leading to destruction & famine Expensive rations – a days wages for one person's food

Essentials protected (oil for cooking & wine for purifying)

The pale horse (7-8) (Hebrews 9:27)

Death and Hades prevailing disease & plague follow war and famine

Destroying one-fourth of the world's population (Ezekiel 14:12-23/II Corinthians 5:21)

Being made righteous in Christ is the only escape from death

Discussion questions for Revelation 6:1-8

Why is Jesus alone worthy to Judge?

(Hebrews 4:13) He knows the motives behind all that we do (Hebrews 4:15) He understands our temptations – yet He was without sin (John 5:30) He is just – He seeks always to please His Father (James 2:12-13; 4:12) He is merciful – He has the power to save and to judge

How does knowing and understanding God's plan help us cope with life?

(Psalm 138:7-8) He has a purpose for each of our lives – even our sufferings (Romans 8:28-29) He works all things for our good - according to His purpose (Psalm 103:6 / Isaiah 61:11) He will make all things right!

In what way can the four horsemen be viewed as man's wrath? As God's wrath? (James 4:1-2) *Our selfishness leads to conflict – even war and famine* (Matthew 24:21) *The magnitude of these judgments has never been seen* (Revelation 5:4-5) *Jesus is the only one worthy to open these scrolls*

Why might it be more of a concern when someone comes to power through political intrigue and deceit rather than by conquest? (John 8:44 / Isaiah 5:20) *They are deceitful. They call evil good and good evil. They use deceit to promise one thing and yet deliver something else. They are powerful manipulators of people.*

How is it that men can be made to slay each other? How can Satan use these tactics to destroy a church? (Genesis 6:5 / Jeremiah 17:9 / Romans 3:10-18) *Our own hearts and desires are bent on evil. Unless we approach one another in humility, conflict and jealousy will result in distrust and division in the body.*

How can the principles of the 4 horsemen be applied to the spiritual death of a church?

(II Peter 2:17-19) Deceit is used to bring false teachers into positions of authority

(Jude 19) Division is sown among the body

(II Timothy 4:3-4) Devoid of the truth – people are taught what they want to ear

(II Timothy 2:17) Diseased teaching spreads like a cancer or gangrene

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