The Four Horsemen & Seals 1-2

CB

Truth Matters Church, Inc.

LAST WEEK



- CR Last week we concluded the final review of this journey
 - We reviewed 2 years of lessons in 2 months!
- For our final review we answered the question who the 4 Horsemen are
 - Who are they again?
 - How did we find that answer?

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 - 13 How did we find that answer?
- A: Through Zch 1 we learned that the 4 riders on the 4 colored horses summoned in Rev 6 (Seals 1-4) are angels sent by God to carry out their assigned tasks written in the book/scroll

LAST WEEK'S KEY LEARNINGS

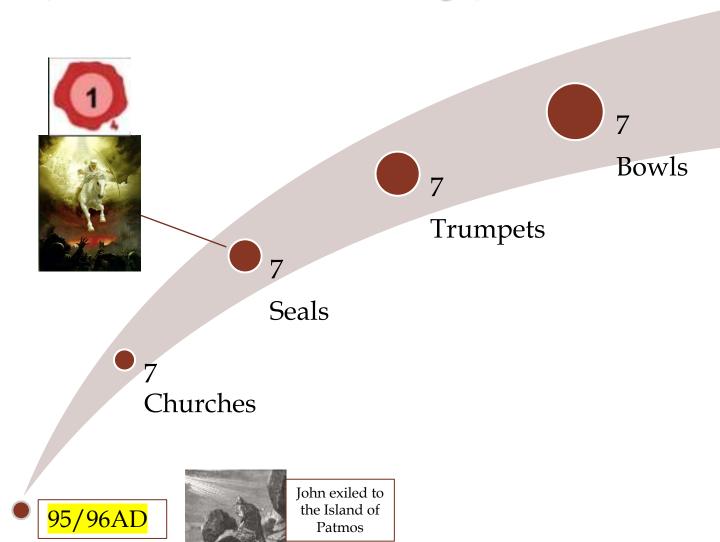
- This rider on white horse "had a bow"
 which signifies WAR
- A "crown was given to him" signifies he was given authority to WAGE WAR
- Castly, we learned where to place the 1st Seal in its historical context

 Castly AFTER 95/96AD end of the age



Revelation

(95/96AD – end of the age)









DEDUCTION:

The 1st Seal began sometime

AFTER 95/96 AD,

AFTER the letters to the 7 churches, but

BEFORE the rest of the Seals 2-7,

BEFORE 7 Trumpets,

BEFORE 7 Bowls,

BEFORE 1,000 year reign

Loose Ends: Geographic Location?



Loose Ends: Geographic Location?



LOOSE ENDS



For Seals 1 & 3 that do not have a geographic location I'd like to remind us of this principle...

"To the Jew first"



- One of our key learnings from our Daniel series is study of end times is centered around the punishment and disciplining of God's chosen people
- With this truth principle in mind in cases a vision or prophecy doesn't have a geographic location, the default should be with Israel in view
- And since the 1st Seal did not have a geographic location mentioned, I'm going to keep Israel in view
- Were are updated examples of specific events where the people of Israel were conquered or subdued after the 1st century per ChatGPT...

- 1. Medieval Pogroms (11th 15th centuries): Throughout medieval Europe, Jews faced persecution and violence in the form of pogroms (organized, violent attacks) during times of social and economic unrest. Examples include the Rhineland massacres of the 11th century.
- 2. Expulsion of Jews from England (1290): King Edward I issued the Edict of Expulsion, ordering the expulsion of all Jews from England. They were not officially allowed to return until the 17th century.
- **3. Spanish Inquisition (1478 1834):** The Spanish Inquisition led to the expulsion of Jews from Spain in 1492. Many fled to other European countries, while others converted to Christianity to avoid persecution.
- **4. The Chmielnicki Uprising (1648-1654):** In Eastern Europe, particularly in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, the Cossack Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytsky led a series of massacres against Jews, resulting in significant loss of life.
- 5. Pogroms in the Russian Empire (19th early 20th centuries): Jews in the Russian Empire faced violent pogroms, particularly in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These were often associated with political unrest and anti-Jewish sentiments.
- **6. Dreyfus Affair (1894-1906):** Captain Alfred Dreyfus, a French Jewish officer, was falsely accused of espionage, leading to a lengthy and public trial that exposed deep-seated anti-Semitic sentiments in French society.
- **7. Holocaust (1933-1945):** The systematic genocide perpetrated by Nazi Germany and its collaborators during World War II resulted in the murder of six million Jews. This tragic event is known as the Holocaust.
- **8. Post-World War II Anti-Semitism:** Despite the horror of the Holocaust, anti-Semitism persisted after World War II. This included incidents such as the Kielce Pogrom in Poland in 1946 and the continued spread of anti-Semitic conspiracy theories.
- 9. Soviet Anti-Semitism (1940s-1980s): The Soviet Union, particularly under Joseph Stalin, engaged in anti-Semitic policies, including the persecution of Jewish intellectuals and the infamous Doctors' plot in the late 1940s.
- **10. Arab-Israeli Conflict (1948-ongoing):** Since Israel was established as a nation, the Arab-Israeli conflict escalated and at times been accompanied by anti-Semitic rhetoric and violence, both in the Middle East and in other parts of the world.

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The Great Olivet Discourse

(~30AD - end of the age)



EPOCH 12: JESUS IS COMING WITH THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN AND EVERY EYE WILL SEE HIM

"THE GREAT TRUMPET"

EPOCH 11: ETERNAL GOSPEL PREACHED

By an angel mid heaven

EPOCH 10: SIGN OF SON OF MAN IN THE SKY

The Sign = Lightning

EPOCH 9: GREAT GLOBAL TRIBULATION

Sun/Moon darkened/ Stars fall Mass Deaths



EPOCH 8: JERUSALEM'S TRIBULATION

Israel's final war

EPOCH 7: ISRAEL'S APOSTASY

Towards the end of the age



EPOCHS 6-8: Final Period of Indignation



EPOCH 6: JUDAISM IN FULL EFFECT

Towards the end of the age

EPOCH 1: CHURCH TRIBULATION

1st century - end of age

EPOCH 2: FALSE CHRISTS & FALSE PROPHETS

1st century - end of the age

EPOCH 3: ISRAELI WARS

66AD - end of the age

95/96AD - end of the age-

EPOCH 4: GENTILE WARS

95/96AD - end of the age



1st century - end of the age

EPOCHS 1-5: Early Pangs



LAST WEEK'S KEY LEARNINGS

- That was a summary of our learnings last week
- If you think these riders are just waiting for the last 7 years of history and not relevant these past 2,000 years, you must reconsider in light of what we've learned and are continuing to learn
- With that, let's re-read our immediate text of the Four Horseman in Rev 6:1-8 and we'll continue this journey and look into the 2nd Seal...

Revelation 6



Revelation 6:1-8 (NASB)

The First Seal

1 Then I saw when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, "Come." 2 I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.

The Second Seal

3 When He broke the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come." 4 And another, a red horse, went out; and to him who sat on it, it was granted to take peace from the earth, and that men would slay one another; and a great sword was given to him.

Revelation 6

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The Third Seal

5 When He broke the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying, "Come." I looked, and behold, a black horse; and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand. 6 And I heard something like a voice in the center of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not damage the oil and the wine."

The Fourth Seal

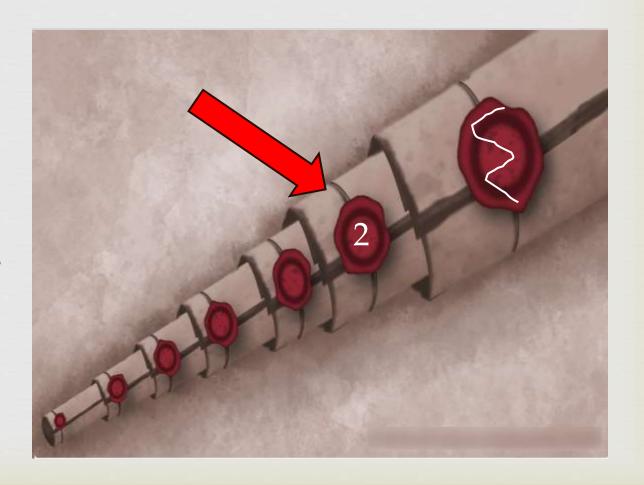
7 When the Lamb broke the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come." 8 I looked, and behold, an ashen horse; and he who sat on it had the name Death; and Hades was following with him. Authority was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by the wild beasts of the earth.

Rev 6:3: The 2nd Seal



3 When He broke the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come."

- "He" is speaking of the Lord Jesus
- "When He broke" follows after the 1st Seal– this vision continues to flow in sequence chronologically
- When the Lamb as if slain broke the 2nd Seal, one of the 4 Living Creatures made another summon, "Come."



Exposit: Rev 6:2



4 And another, a red horse, went out; and to him who sat on it, it was granted to take peace from the earth, and that men would slay one another; and a great sword was given to him.

- "And another" different horseA red horse
- "him who sat on it" different angel
- TRANSLATION: Another angel was summoned by the 2nd living creature after the 1st angel was summoned by the 1st living creature and this angel rode on a red horse



Rider on a



Exposit: Rev 6:2





- "was granted to take peace from the earth" [more on this] so that
- "that men would slay one another" [more on this]
- "a great sword was given him" [more on this]

Rider on a RED HORSE



"granted to take peace"



- "granted" is didōmi which means given
- As far as the geography of this vision it's "from the earth" not just Israel
- Peace is the opposite of war or freedom of disturbance, no war, or the end of war
- Thus, to take peace is to cause disturbances, rumors of wars, start new wars, or continue former ones





"granted to take peace"



How does this play out on earth?

Hint: What human institution has authority on earth and declare war?

Rider on a RED HORSE



"granted to take peace"



- Mow does this play out on earth?
 - Hint: What human institution has authority on earth and declare war?
 - Answer: Nations and kingdoms!
- TRANSLATION: This angel was given authority to take peace from the earth by causing disturbances and conflicts between nations and kingdoms, resulting in new wars, the removal of nations/kingdoms and the rise of other nations/kingdoms

Rider on a RED HORSE



"that men would slay one another"



- "that men" an example that men are pawns in the heavenlies
- Why can I say that? Because authority was given from heaven that brought about the cause and effect
 - "our struggle is not against flesh and blood"
- "would slay one another" slay is sphazō which means to slaughter

 Example of sphazō is Cain slew his brother Abel
- This angel is given authority to rise up nation against nation, kingdom against kingdom
- The result: peace taken from earth; men would slay one another
- This ties into this next description of this angel...

"a great sword was given him"



- And for this one, I'd like for us to cross reference Ezekiel 21
 - Sword is mentioned several times in prophetic judgment
- Context: the prophet Ezekiel was commanded to speak and prophesy against the sanctuaries and the land of Israel
- This passage also makes mention of a key figure who will be here at the end times



Ezekiel 21:1-7 (NASB)

1 And the word of the LORD came to me saying, 2 "Son of man, set your face toward Jerusalem, and speak against the sanctuaries and prophesy against the land of Israel; 3 and say to the land of Israel, 'Thus says the LORD, "Behold, I am against you; and I will draw My sword out of its sheath and cut off from you the righteous and the wicked. 4 Because I will cut off from you the righteous and the wicked, therefore My sword will go forth from its sheath against all flesh from south to north. 5 Thus all flesh will know that I, the LORD, have drawn My sword out of its sheath. It will not return to its sheath again."' 6 As for you, son of man, groan with breaking heart and bitter grief, groan in their sight. 7 And when they say to you, 'Why do you groan?' you shall say, 'Because of the news that is coming; and every heart will melt, all hands will be feeble, every spirit will faint and all knees will be weak as water. Behold, it comes and it will happen,' declares the Lord GOD."



8 Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 9 "Son of man, prophesy and say, 'Thus says the LORD.' Say,

'A sword, a sword sharpened

And also polished!

10 'Sharpened to make a slaughter,

Polished to flash like lightning!'

Or shall we rejoice, the rod of My son despising every tree? 11 It is given to be polished, that it may be handled; the sword is sharpened and polished, to give it into the hand of the slayer. 12 Cry out and wail, son of man; for it is against My people, it is against all the officials of Israel. They are delivered over to the sword with My people, therefore strike your thigh. 13 For there is a testing; and what if even the rod which despises will be no more?" declares the Lord GOD.

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14 "You therefore, son of man, prophesy and clap your hands together; and let the sword be doubled the third time, the sword for the slain. It is the sword for the great one slain, which surrounds them, 15 that their hearts may melt, and many fall at all their gates. I have given the glittering sword. Ah! It is made for striking like lightning, it is wrapped up in readiness for slaughter. 16 Show yourself sharp, go to the right; set yourself; go to the left, wherever your edge is appointed. 17 I will also clap My hands together, and I will appease My wrath; I, the LORD, have spoken."

After addressing the king of Babylon in verses 18-23, lets jump to v . 24...

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24 "Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, 'Because you have made your iniquity to be remembered, in that your transgressions are uncovered, so that in all your deeds your sins appear — because you have come to remembrance, you will be seized with the hand. 25 And you, O slain, wicked one, the prince of Israel, whose day has come, in the time of the punishment of the end,' 26 thus says the Lord GOD, 'Remove the turban and take off the crown; this will no longer be the same. Exalt that which is low and abase that which is high. 27 A ruin, a ruin, I will make it. This also will be no more until He comes whose right it is, and I will give it to Him.'

- We'll pause there... that was a mouthful

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- There are several things that are still not clear to me in this passage, but what drew me to this passage was Ezk 21 shares 3 similar elements with Seals 1 & 2:
 - SWORD + SLAUGHTER + CROWN
- ™ In Ezekiel, the people of Israel were given to slaughter because the LORD 's wrath was against them
- God likened this to Him drawing out His sword out of the sheath; never to put back
- All of Israel, including their officials, are given over to be slaughtered for their sins
- And this sword was given to "the hand of the slayer" Ezk 21:11
 - Presumably an angel

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™ In this prophecy we're introduced to a figure:

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- A key figure will arise as "prince of Israel" or a "ruler of Israel"

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- A key figure will arise as "prince of Israel" or a "ruler of Israel"
- "in the time of the punishment of the end" = end of the indignation = end times



- There are also was a prophecy of a figure wearing a crown, let's review again Ezk 21: 24 "Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, 'Because you have made your iniquity to be remembered, in that your transgressions are uncovered, so that in all your deeds your sins appear because you have come to remembrance, you will be seized with the hand. 25 And you, O slain, wicked one, the prince of Israel, whose day has come, in the time of the punishment of the end,' 26 thus says the Lord GOD, 'Remove the turban and take off the crown; this will no longer be the same. Exalt that which is low and abase that which is high. 27 A ruin, a ruin, a ruin, I will make it. This also will be no more until He comes whose right it is, and I will give it to Him.'
- A key figure will arise as "prince of Israel" or a "ruler of Israel"
- "in the time of the punishment of the end" = end of the indignation = end times
- Ezekiel sees a wicked one, a ruler of Israel in the end time wearing a turban and crown I can't help but be drawn to the high priestly attire in Exo 29...

Exodus 29

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God instructing Moses:

4 Then you shall bring Aaron and his sons to the doorway of the tent of meeting and wash them with water. 5 You shall take the garments, and put on Aaron the tunic and the robe of the ephod and the ephod and the breastpiece, and gird him with the skillfully woven band of the ephod; 6 and you shall set the turban on his head and put the holy crown on the turban. 7 Then you shall take the anointing oil and pour it on his head and anoint him.

Exodus 29



- In Exo 29 we see that is part of the high priest attire
- From here I'm drown to Daniel's 70 Week prophecy because he too speaks of a key end times figure...



70 Weeks Prophecy

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Dan 9:

26 Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah [Jesus] will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined. 27 And he [the prince who is to come] will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate."

Ezk 21 & Dan 9



- In Ezk 21 we have a wicked end times ruler of Israel wearing a turban + crown In Exo 29 we see that is part of the high priest attire
- In Dan 9 makes mention of "the prince who is to come" also an end times figure
- Which leads me to a deduction...



I'm inclined to believe the key figure in Ezk 21 and Dan 9 is speaking of the SAME person

Antichrist (who comes before Antigod)

Dan 9:27 speaks of 2 key figures:

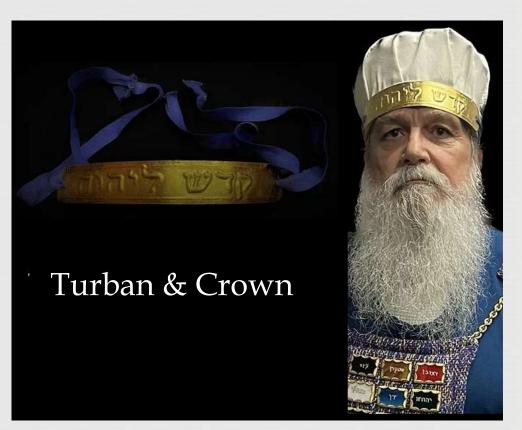
And he [the prince who is to come or Antichrist] will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he [Antichrist] will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one [Antigod] who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate."



- Thus, Antichrist may very well be a High Priest who arrives on the scene in Israel with ruling authority
- With such authority, Antichrist will make a 7 years covenant with the many (Israel included), but in the middle of that covenant renegade on that covenant and turn against Israel
 - Antigod comes after him
- How do I think Antichrist will look like?



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- With such authority, Antichrist will make a 7 years covenant with the many (Israel included), but in the middle of that covenant renegade on that covenant and turn against Israel
 - Antigod comes after him
- How do I think Antichrist will look like?
- A: Like one of the High Priests of the OT

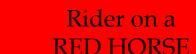


"that men would slay one another"



And to the last description of this angel "that men would slay one another"

- After taking peace, men will quite literally slay one another with a sword!
- And for this I'd like for our last cross reference today and pull in a particular epoch from the Great Olivet Discourse...





"brother will betray brother to death"



Mark 13:12-13

12 Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and have them put to death. 13 You will be hated by all because of My name, but the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.



- If Ezk 21/Dan 9/Rev 6/Mar 13 are all speaking of the same end times event (there sure are strong synergies), then our Lord in His discourse gave more details of the end of Israel's indignation and the end times
- Reace will be taken from the earth
- Ramily will turn against family (middle of the covenant) killed by sword
- The land will be desolate
- And this will be done in the name or authority of Christ

"that men would slay one another"

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 □ TRANSLATION: This angel was given authority to take peace from the earth. This will result in the slaughtering of one another - beginning in Israel. Furthermore, a False Christ (Antichrist) claiming divine authority will orchestrate a holy covenant among several nations (7 years), but in the middle of that covenant will renegade resulting in the slaughter of many - beginning with Israel

As we continue on we will see this will eventually expand to Christians











- We are starting to see the Four Horseman are working in concert with one another

- The rider on the white horse is first and his primary focus is to conquer and subdue Israel − then the world

Rider on a WHITE HORSE



Rider on a RED HORSE









- The rider on the 2nd red horse is assisting with that
- Reginning with Israel's slaughter, then the rest

Rider on a WHITE HORSE



Rider on a RED HORSE





- - Was it given to the angel and he wore it?
 - Or was it given to him that he might crown someone else that will manifest itself on earth?
- Well with our deduction from Ezk 21 and Exo 29, I say Yes to both
- And the 1st Seal prophecy could very well be pointing to this...



Rider on a WHITE HORSE





- Meaning what may signal that we are towards the end of the period of the indignation is when a Great High Priest arrives on the scene in Israel and has governing authority
- We learned through our Daniel series and Great Olivet Discourse study is that one of the things to look out for is the building of the 3rd Temple and when Judaism is in full effect



Rider on a WHITE HORSE





- ™ This figure ushers in a 7 year holy covenant
- □ Israel takes the bait
- Comparison of the rest, including Christians...
- And the rider on the red horse will do his part to see to it that these things come to pass



Rider on a WHITE HORSE





- That concludes our study for this week
- Next Up: The 3rd Seal: Rider on a black horse
- CR Let's see what we can unpack there next time
- AMEN. AMEN.