Rethinking Revelation 6 Part 1

(June 7, 2023)

Ever since the world was hit with the COVID pandemic (<u>plan</u>demic?), I have been looking at and considering the ramifications of **Revelation 6**. For many years, I have looked at the events occurring there as being <u>inside</u> the Tribulation. It's always made sense that way and nearly every conservative Bible scholar I've studied has said as much. All of the more liberal Bible scholars I've studied have usually gone the way of hyperbole, allegory or something else other than taking Scripture in its most plain and ordinary sense.

What I find absolutely fascinating though (and this is recent for me), is that the first several seals that are opened in **Revelation 6**, in essence, could be occurring *now*. Let's take a look and find out why I think that this may be the case.

At the onset, I want to state without equivocation: *<u>I could be wrong</u>*. I want to be clear about stating that because I actually could be wrong.

I believe I am correct in understanding the following biblical facts:

- a future seven year Tribulation ahead of us
- that Antichrist will be supreme ruler of the earth during that time
- through the Antichrist, the world will worship Satan
- our Lord and Savior, Jesus, will physically return to this earth at the end of the Tribulation
- somewhere from this point to the our Lord's physical return, the Rapture will occur (I favor the PreTrib Rapture because that's what I see being taught in Scripture, but it does not matter to me *when* it occurs)
- when Jesus physically returns, He will defeat every one of His foes on this earth, starting with Antichrist and judge the nations
- Jesus will set up His 1,000 year kingdom over which He will rule as the Supreme Monarch
- at the end of the 1,000 year kingdom, the Great White Throne of Judgment will occur
- following this, our Lord will create new heavens and new earth and life will begin anew without sin

The above list is a short list but an important one. Other things like how the seals, trumpets and bowl judgments are released (quick succession? long intervals between? all at once?), in what form the seals, trumpets and judgments will actually appear to humanity, and numerous other things as revealed in Scripture (**Daniel, Ezekiel, Revelation**, etc.), allow for wiggle room because not one other person saw what John saw in **Revelation**. We have a record of it because John was privileged to see things, but we do not know for certain exactly what he saw (imagery that represented something? actual events/things as they will be released?), nor can we be thoroughly dogmatic on numerous things.

As I've said, I have always thought that the seals in **Revelation 6** occur inside the coming Tribulation. I also believed (and still do), that the Tribulation will not start until the fulfillment of **Daniel 9:24-27**,

where the coming man of sin will *confirm* a covenant (already in existence), with the many (Jewish leaders of Israel), for one 'week' (seven *years* based on **Daniel 9**'s context).

So if the starting point of the Tribulation is when the Antichrist *confirms* the covenant, then we can also assume that the first seal (the rider on the white horse), of **Revelation 6:1-2**, simply *brings* the Antichrist onto the world's stage, but he does not immediately rise to *power* as ruler of the world. That will take some time.

I watched as the Lamb opened the first of the seven seals. Then I heard one of the four living creatures say in a voice like thunder, 'Come!' 2 I looked, and there before me was a white horse! Its rider held a bow, and he was given a crown, and he rode out as a conqueror bent on conquest.

So in the above verses, we learn that some guy will be coming on the scene. He rides a white horse and appears to be a conqueror and in fact, is "bent on conquest." (This is imagery. The only one who will ultimately ride any horse is Jesus at the end of the Tribulation.) This "rider" will be an adult male who may well be alive now and who came into this world by birth, not riding a white horse (or any horse).

Most conservative scholars believe this conqueror is the Antichrist. I find no reason to disagree with it, though I'm aware that some firmly believe this to be Jesus. In my mind that notion doesn't hold up. Just saying.

So Mr. Antichrist *begins the process of conquering* once he is able to take his pre-appointed position as conqueror-in-training. I'm guessing this would take a while because the fact that he has no arrows in his quiver (he has a bow), tends to point to the fact that he will not be going to war with anyone he considers an adversary (until a bit later when he takes out 3 adversaries). In essence, he will be using political intrigue to gain his ascent to his satanic throne.

If I look around the landscape today, I could name a number of people who might fit the bill of ultimately being the Antichrist. I'm not going to name them because it doesn't matter since I cannot prove anything. I recall in the 1970's, books were printed naming specific people as the Antichrist. They were all wrong. I have no clue who the Antichrist will turn out to be, but I have some ideas of who might possibly fill those shoes.

I will say that if the Tribulation starts, oh, let's say soon or just before or sometime in 2030, then the Antichrist has to be alive now. He also must be already deeply involved in the political arena already, worming his way through this group and that one, edging closer to his goal of absolute dictator. Now, if this is the case, then to make this happen, this Antichrist might not even be aware that he is *the* Antichrist. He could simply be a guy who is exceedingly narcissistic, politically minded and well placed in political circles. He may have already held a very powerful position over a nation and is seen as very charismatic (not in the religious sense), and able to get people to come alongside him in unity and solidarity. He is someone that white people, blacks, Hispanics and other cultures might be impressed with and when he gives a speech, he has the ability to wow the audience, not in the way Hitler did, but in a milder, more familial way that endears him to people.

On the other hand, the coming Antichrist, who I believe is already here, may be very aware of his calling, bides his time behind the scenes as he works to gain more power and draws more people to him. He may or may not be indwelt and empowered by his spiritual father at this time, but certainly will be and I believe this occurs at the midpoint of the Tribulation. Paul speaks about this in **2 Thessalonians 2**. The result of that infilling will be blasphemy against God to the fullest extent possible, when Antichrist waltzes into the rebuilt Jewish Temple and sits down at the Holy of Holies, declaring himself to be God.

My point is that it will take some time for Antichrist to gain traction and conquer enough people and even national heads through political intrigue (as Antiochus Epiphanes IV was able to do), before he will have enough power to confirm any covenant that will wind up being put in place between "the many" (Jewish people or Israel's leaders), and Arabs who hate Jews. This won't happen overnight. It will take time.

Is Antichrist here now? I believe so. Who is he? Not sure. What is he doing? Working hard to gain the upper hand. Over who? The world's elect/elite/globalists who believe they will one day rule this world.

So if this all occurs with the opening of the first seal, then it may have opened awhile ago, in my opinion, unless of course the Tribulation is many decades away. Would you agree? If it opened a while ago, then is it possible the other three, four and even five seals could have been opened or are *beginning* to open?

As with the way the first seal transpires over a period of time (years really), is it possible that the other seals also occur over a period of time (months or years), and could happen in quick succession? I think it is very possible. Let's look.

When the Lamb opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, "Come!" 4 Then another horse came out, a fiery red one. Its rider was given power to take peace from the earth and to make people kill each other. To him was given a large sword.

The above text from **Revelation 6:3-4** highlights the second seal; essentially war throughout the earth resulting in massive death. We had COVID and that ended apparently, maybe too quickly for the globalists' liking. What happened on the heels of COVID? Threats of World War III using puppet Zelensky and Ukraine as a proxy against Putin and Russia.

Almost immediately, the world's leaders along with most news bureaus and talking heads (including celebs), began talking of supporting Ukraine against bad Russia. This is in spite of the fact that Nazis are the major portion of Ukrainian war machine. In this case though, *those* Nazis appear to be "okay," but any other Nazis (especially those considered Nazis in the USA), are terrible and need to be snuffed out.

So the world quickly came together in near solidarity with Ukraine and lionized Zelensky, their president. He can do no wrong apparently (just as Trump could do nothing right). Overnight, people's social network pages went from CV to Ukraine because people in general are so easily manipulated and want to be part of the "in" crowd.

The talk of continued war and even the threat of nuclear weaponry is something that is highlighted often now. Where it will end, we do not know, but nations are choosing sides. In essence, peace on

earth does not now exist, having been removed by unscrupulous people who need diversions (whether a pandemic, war or something else), and to gain more money through arms sales, etc. It doesn't matter to those people if thousands or millions die in this burgeoning conflict. For them, that's actually a side benefit.

So if Seals 1 and 2 have possibly opened, we did *not* see an actual individual on a white or red horse, did we (that's probably in the spiritual realm)? Instead, we are seeing the *results* of those riders in this physical realm. The objective for Seal 1 is for Antichrist to eventually and ultimately take his position of power, which will take time. The objective of Seal 2 is remove peace and take the lives of millions. Is that happening now?

We will continue with this in another article because there's much more to cover.