

**INTRODUCTION**

1. Literary structure: 7 parallel cycles - presently in 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle.
2. See 4 hrsmn in rln to heaven [chpt 5 & 7]. Reality of battle: enmity but Jesus has overcome & reigns
3. In Rv 6, we are still in heavenly throne-room: as Jesus is worshiped, He unseals scroll - Rv 6:1-8
4. Seal broken then a living creature summons hrsmn: 6:1b; v3; v5a; v7 - *Come* = "Go!" Imperative passive: be sent forth - by whom? King Jesus.

**1st: The First Horseman - v1-2**

1. Different inters of 1st hrsmn due to 19:11. Is 1st hrsmn Jesus? *white; conquering*
2. Hrsmn in Zech 1&6 were united in mission. All 4 hrsmn unleash evil of tribulation: *Come! & it was given to him* => same mission for all 4
3. 1st hrsmn looks like Jesus but he does Satan's work: deceive & accuse
  - i. *conquer/overcome* - church is overcome in 11:7 & 13:7
  - ii. *bow* - Eph 6:16
  - iii. *Crown* = authority. Rv 9:7
  - iv. *White* = deception: [2C11:13-15]. A demonic counterfeit of Jesus.

**2nd: The Second Horseman - v3-4**

1. Hrsmn overlap in what they effect. *Red* => bloodshed: war - *take peace from the earth - men slay one another*. Mt 24:6
- 2.
3. *sword* = war & persecution [ Rm8:35]: *slaughter/slay* [Rv5:6,9,12 Lamb]. Rv 6:9; 13:8; 18:24 & uses in NT - suffering persecution.

**3rd: The Third Horseman - v5-6**

1. *Black* => famine. *Scales* weigh & measure wheat & barley - but the oil & wine are unaffected. Economic affliction & injustice. Prices in v6 are inflated 8-16x normal costs - food out of price range for common man
  - i. *quart* = a day's food supply for 1 adult costs a day's wage
  - ii. Pressure of guilds - Rv 2:9; Lk 6:21,25; Rv 7:16-17
2. Economic hardship falls on all men but occasions temptation for Xns

**4th: The Fourth Horseman - v7-8**

1. *Ashen* [greyish-green] = *Death & Hades*. Death covers 1/4 of earth = limited impact [will enlarge later]. #4 [hrsmn & "1/4"]: global issues.
2. Death from *sword, famine, pestilence, wild beasts*. v8 repeats previous hrsmn - Ezek 14:13-23 = Rv 6:8. Dt 32:21-24 cov curses for idolatry.
3. Hrsmn as Satanic attacks on church & punishm of unbelievers [idolaters].
4. Effects of hrsmn span history & will continue to end of this age.

**Applic #1: We Have Insight Into the Problem of Evil: Theodicy**

1. We know of sin, Fall, Satan. We know Jesus is sovereign - Rv 6:2; v4; v8. Martin Luther - Satan is God's devil.
2. There is divine purpose [inscrutable]: for Xns; false believers; unbelievers.
3. Recall Job: not suffer b/c he sinned, but he sinned in midst of suffering - remember outcome: persevere!

**Applic #2: We Have Encouragement to Persevere**

1. We see effects of hrsmn!
  - i. Rv 1:9 Jn - fellow partaker in trib & kingdom & perseverance in Jesus
  - ii. Eph & Thatira - 2:2-3; 19; Philadelphia 3:10 - Rv 14:12
2. Do not forget where Jesus is & your union with Jesus!
3. See 4 hrsmn in rln to heaven - Col 3:1-4. Let the fear of God overcome all lesser fears. Stay faithful.