A close-up photograph of a hand holding a scroll. The scroll is made of light-colored parchment and is sealed with several red wax seals. The hand is positioned at the top left, with fingers gripping the edge of the scroll. The background is dark, making the scroll and the hand stand out.

*Now I saw when the Lamb opened
one of the seals; and I heard one of
the four living creatures saying with
a voice like thunder, "Come and see."*

Revelation 6:1

**Sh'ma Yisrael, Adonai Eloheinu
Adonai Echad
Baruch Shem k'vod malchutto,
l'olam va'ed**

Hear, O Israel: the LORD is our God.
The LORD is One.
Blessed be the name of His glorious kingdom
for ever and ever.





Revelation 6

Judgment Begins...

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

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

³ When He opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come and see." ⁴ Another horse, fiery red, went out. And it was granted to the one who sat on it to take peace from the earth, and that people should kill one another; and there was given to him a great sword.

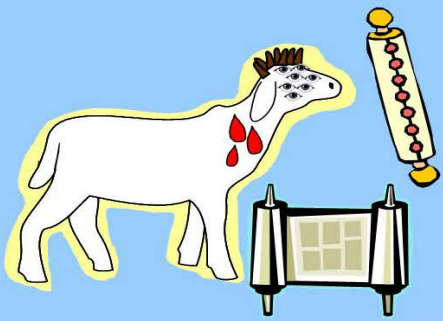
REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

⁵ When He opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come and see." So 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 a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not harm the oil and the wine."

⁷ When He opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come and see."

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

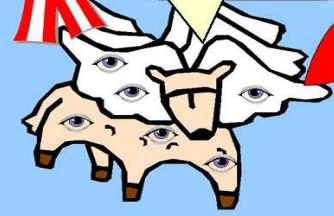
⁸ So I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth.



"Come and see. (GO!)"



"Come and see. (GO!)"



"Come and see. (GO!)"



"Come and see. (GO!)"



"Rest a little while longer..."



"How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood...?!"

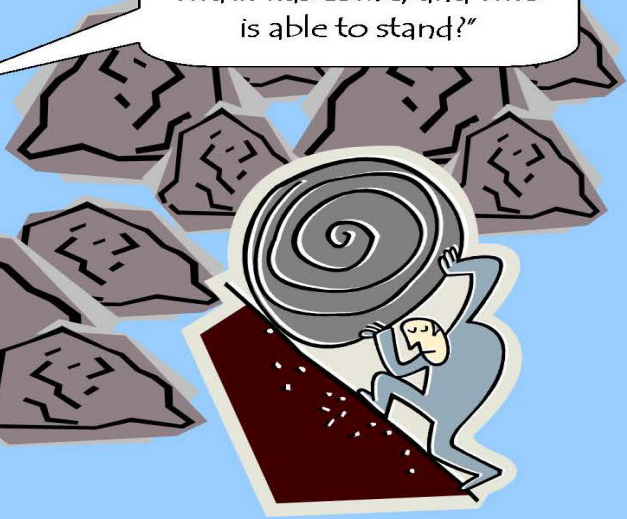
Revelation 6



"Fall on us..."



"For the great day of his wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"



REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

Chapters 1-3 Church Age

Chapters 4/5 View into Throne Room

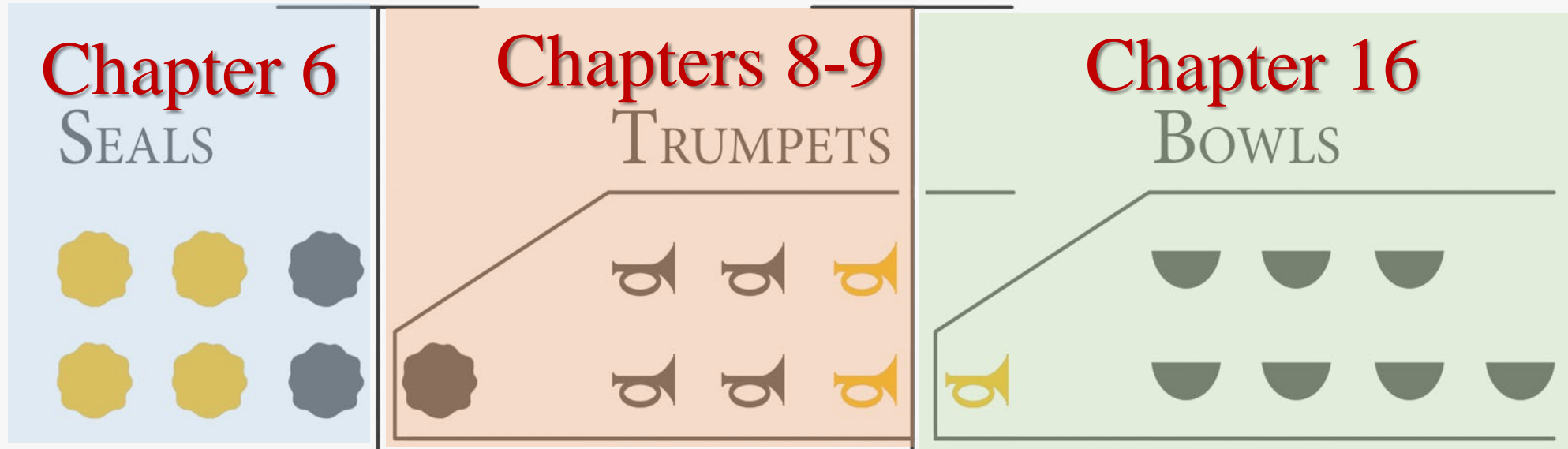
Chapters 17/18
Final Disposition of Judgment
(Babylon destroyed)

1st
Interlude

Chapter 7

2nd
Interlude

Chapters
10-15



Chapters
19-22
The Return
Millennium
Great
White
Throne
Judgment
Eternity
Emmanuel

4 + 3
Horsemen

3 Judgment Cycles (nested), advance timeline

4 + 3
Woes



Judgment Begins! First Set (**Seals**) of Judgments is Opened

- Ch 4 + 5 throne room, praise/worship, **preparation for revealing “time of Jacob’s trouble.”**
- Reveals **God is justified** in His judgment.
- Chapter 6 **opens first set of judgments (seals)**

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

As we begin the “difficult” part of Revelation, chapters 6 through 18 (the Tribulation)

WE KEEP OUR EYES FOCUSED ON CHAPTERS 4 AND 5 AND ALL THAT IS HAPPENING THERE.

We go to the Throne Room of our Sovereign God and keep our eyes on Him! *We will join Him soon...*

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

- Judgments continue through chapter 18, part of 19
- Many see ch 6 as “**overview**” of final outcome of judgment, but also individual judgments.
- Important: judgments are **“cumulative”**
- **“Church” not mentioned again until chapter 19.** *Does not seem present* during period of judgment.
- Church, the Bride of Messiah, a **separate entity** from others in scripture, and others in Revelation.

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

- **4 groups of people:**

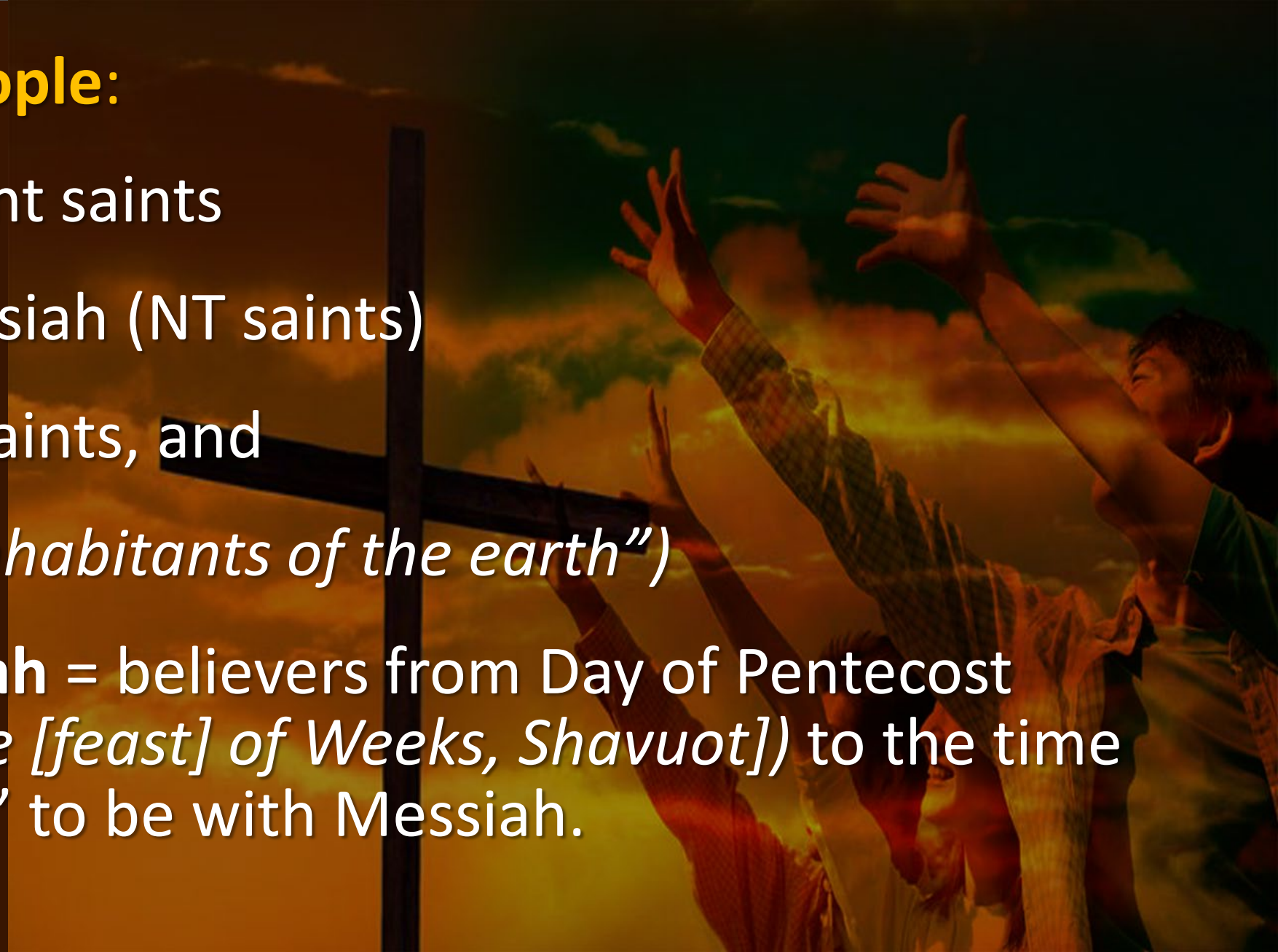
- 1) Old Testament saints

- 2) Bride of Messiah (NT saints)

- 3) Tribulation Saints, and

- 4) the LOST (*“inhabitants of the earth”*)

- **Bride of Messiah** = believers from Day of Pentecost (*appointed time [feast] of Weeks, Shavuot*) to the time it is “caught up” to be with Messiah.



REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

- Believers are present in Revelation, but are called “**Tribulation Saints**” and many will be martyred. This true of both Jews and Gentiles. (*not “Bride”*)

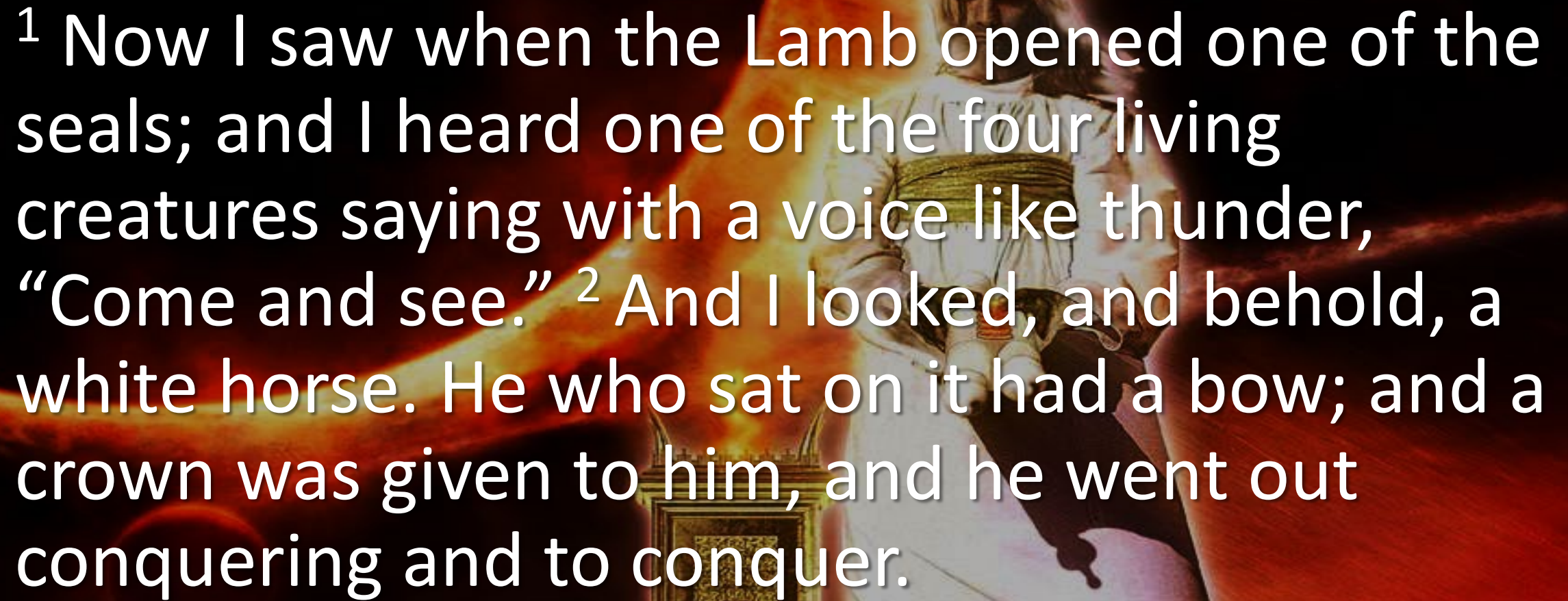
Yes, people will be saved in this time.

Greatest “**soul harvest**” of all time
during Tribulation!

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1



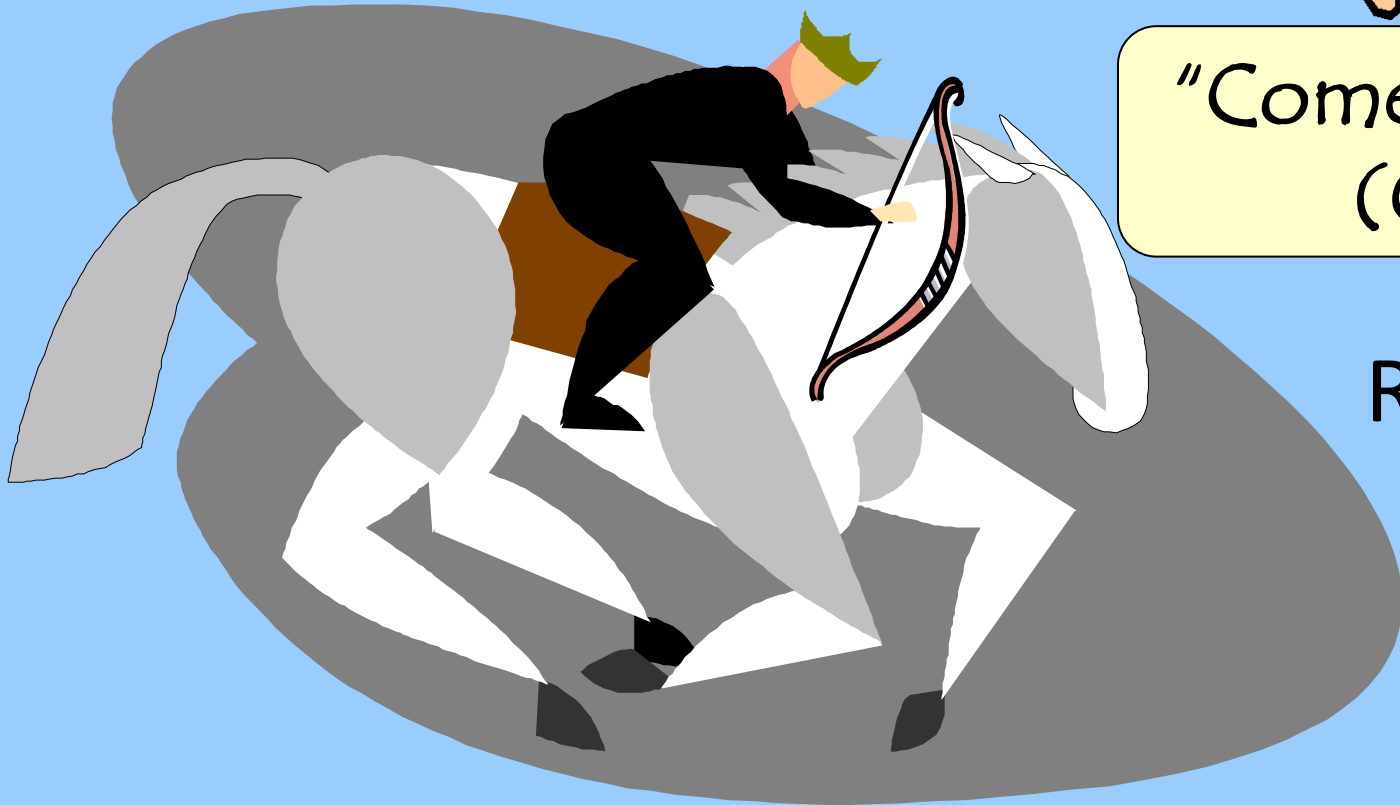
“Four
Horsemen
of the
Apocalypse”
common
phrase to
describe first
4 seals



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



"Come and see."
(GO!)



Revelation 6:1-2

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1



1st SEAL Judgment

This first seal begins the perfectly complete sets of judgments God has planned for the earth in these last days.



Revelation 6:1

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REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

1st SEAL Judgment



This seal is about
a conqueror and
conquest





1st SEAL Judgment

- When heaven discussed, *elders* speak. When earth discussed, *four living creatures* speak.
- **“Come and see”** can also mean **“Go!”** To John, “perceive” or “see” – May also be command to the horseman (*some manuscripts omit “see”*)
- White horse customary symbol for a victor





1st SEAL

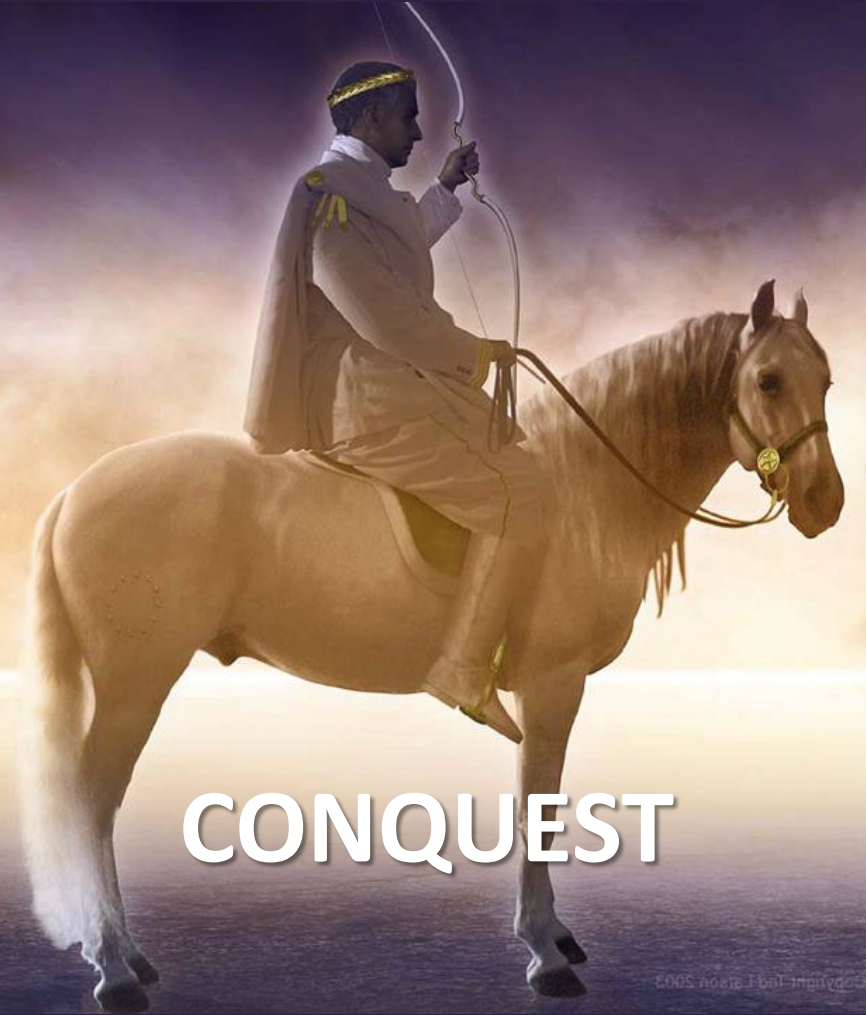
Judgment

- ***This rider (conqueror) “Had a bow...”*** Bow sign of (military/war) power. Notice no arrows! *May imply conquering through diplomacy, not actual war.*
- First half of Tribulation may be *somewhat peaceful* during initial acquisition of power. ***(2nd half NOT!)***
- **Crown** sign of authority/power, victor’s crown (“*stephanos*”) not *diadema* (king’s crown, Yeshua wears *diadema!*)





1st SEAL Judgment



CONQUEST

- **Who is on the horse? Don't make mistake here. **NOT JESUS!****
- **Living creatures do not command our King!**
- **Keeps very bad company (*war, famine, economic woes, death*)**
- **Goes out to conquer = final world ruler, we call "Antichrist"**



1st SEAL
Judgment

- “Antichrist” NOT used in Revelation
- May be seen as “messiah” initially – *not later!*



1 John 2:18

“Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour.”

antichrist : definition...

1 John 2:22

*“Who is a liar but **he who denies that Jesus is the Christ?** He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son.”*

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1



1st SEAL

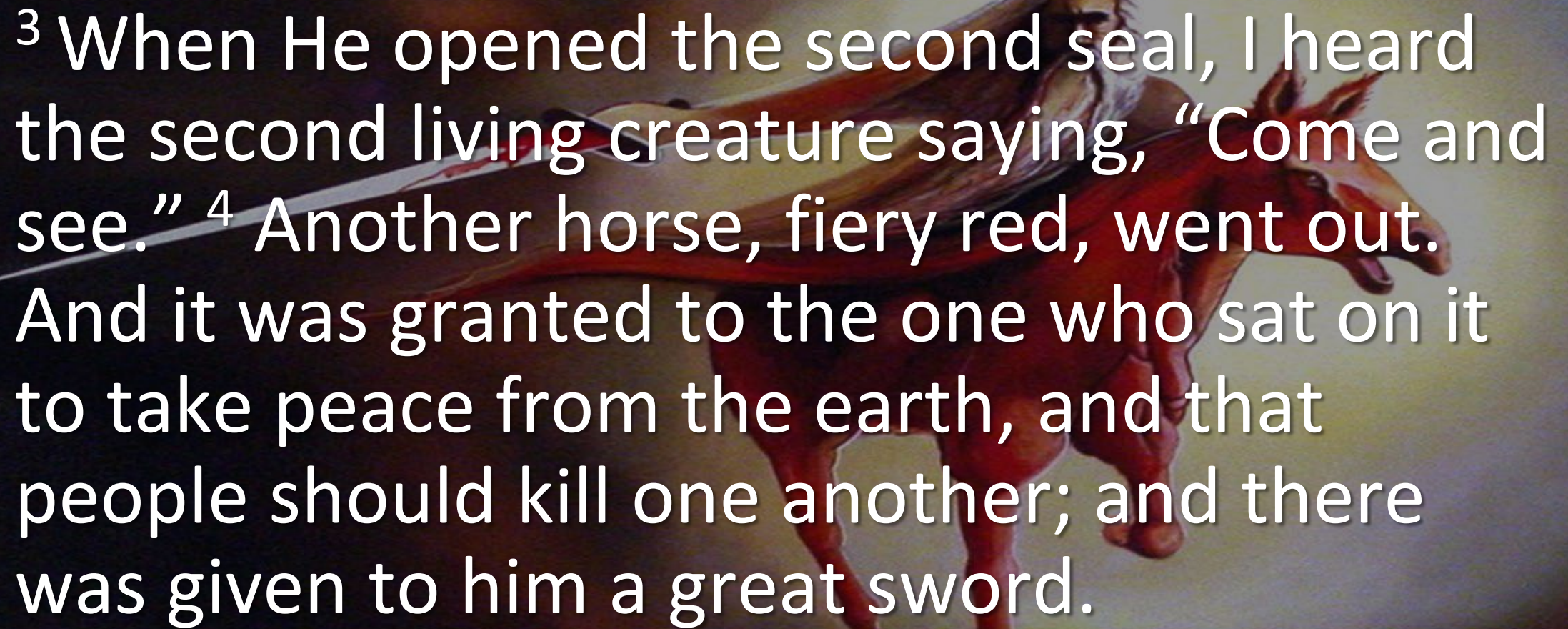
Judgment

1 John 4:3

“...and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.”

2 John 1:7

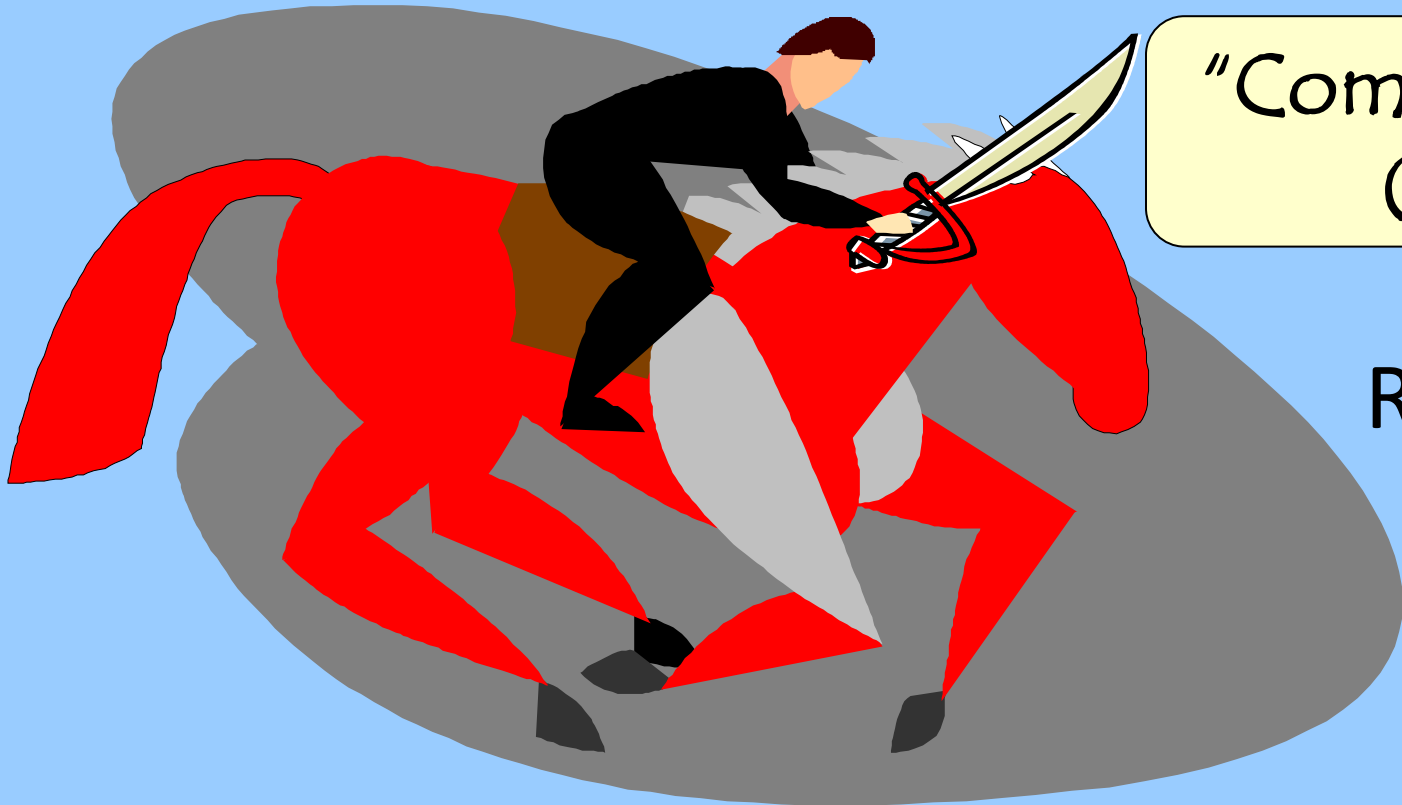
“For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is **a deceiver and an antichrist**.”



³ When He opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come and see." ⁴ Another horse, fiery red, went out. And it was granted to the one who sat on it to take peace from the earth, and that people should kill one another; and there was given to him a great sword.



"Come and see."
(GO!)

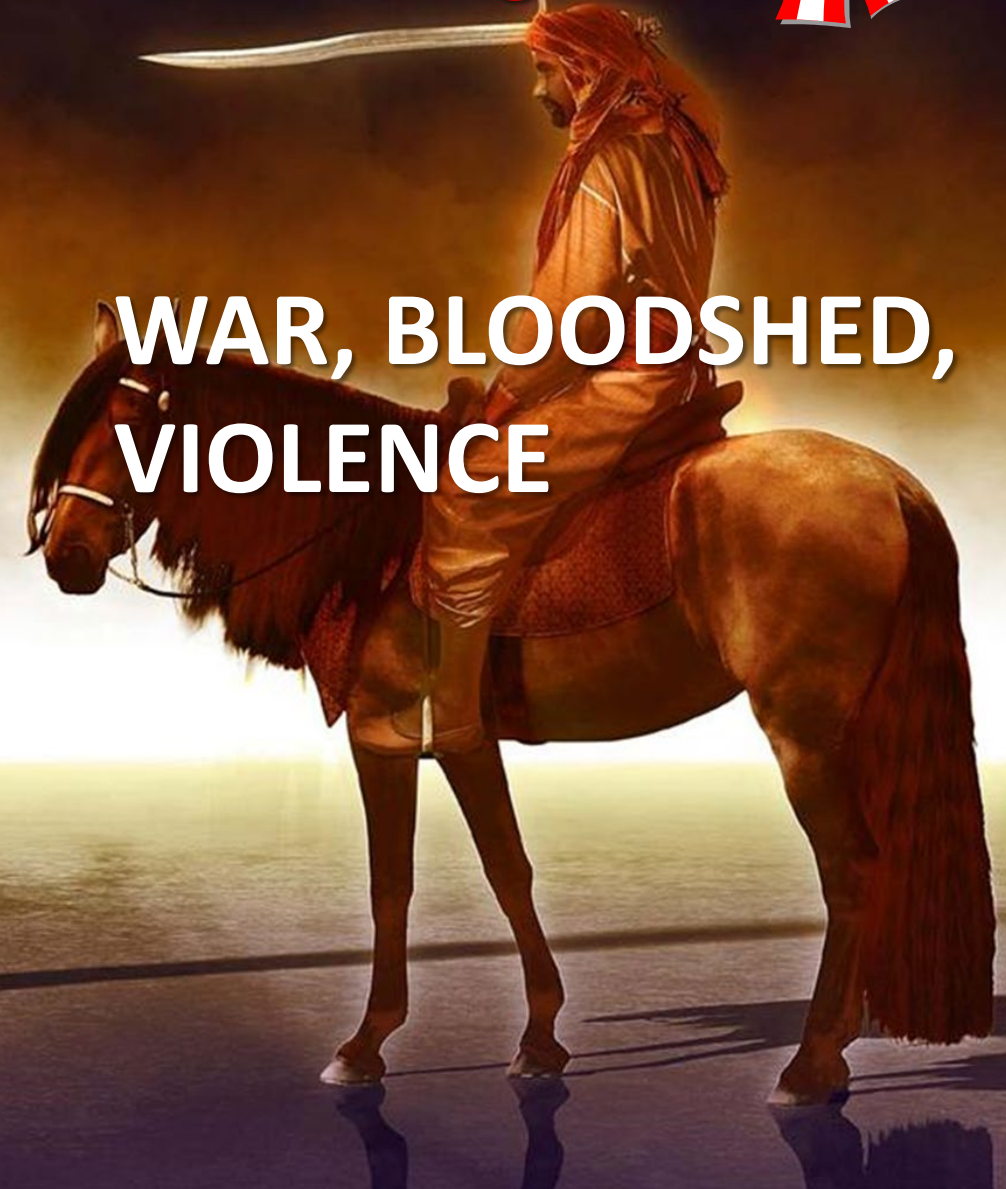


Revelation 6:3-4



- Horse **“fiery red”** = literally *“flame colored, like fire.”*
Red = symbol for war and violence.
- **“take peace from the earth”** –global, not merely territorial. Entire earth will be at war.
- **2nd seal = war, bloodshed, violence.** More than local, more than mere war. A warring spirit.
- People will be killing one another. Hard to imagine but it will get even worse than it is now.

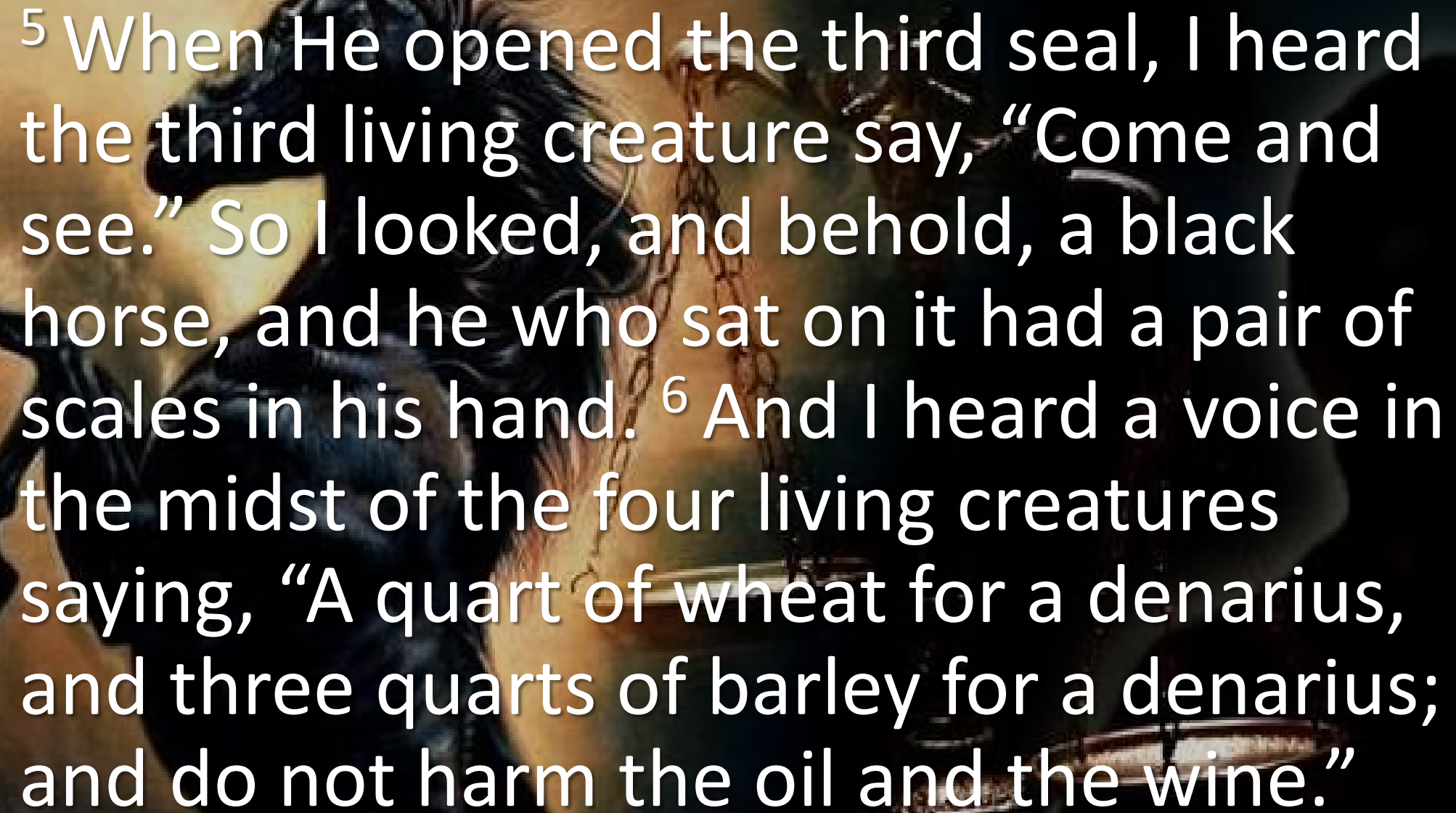
- “a great sword” symbol of warfare and bloodshed.
- Involves *much more than mere war among nations*.
- About a warring spirit in hearts of all mankind against one another.
- Warfare everywhere may be result of first rider’s actions.
War often accompanies political conquest.



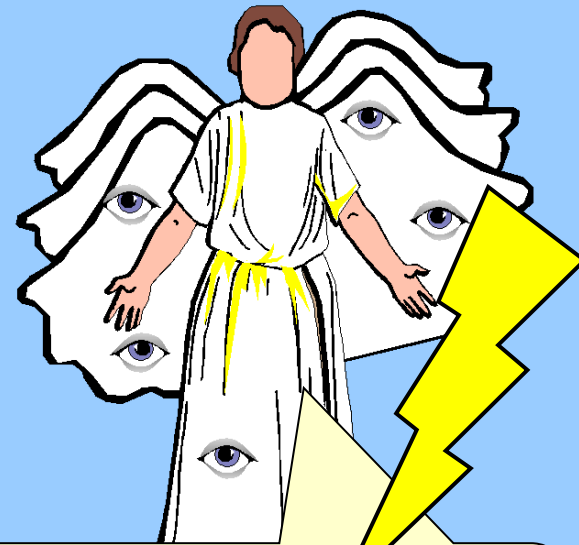
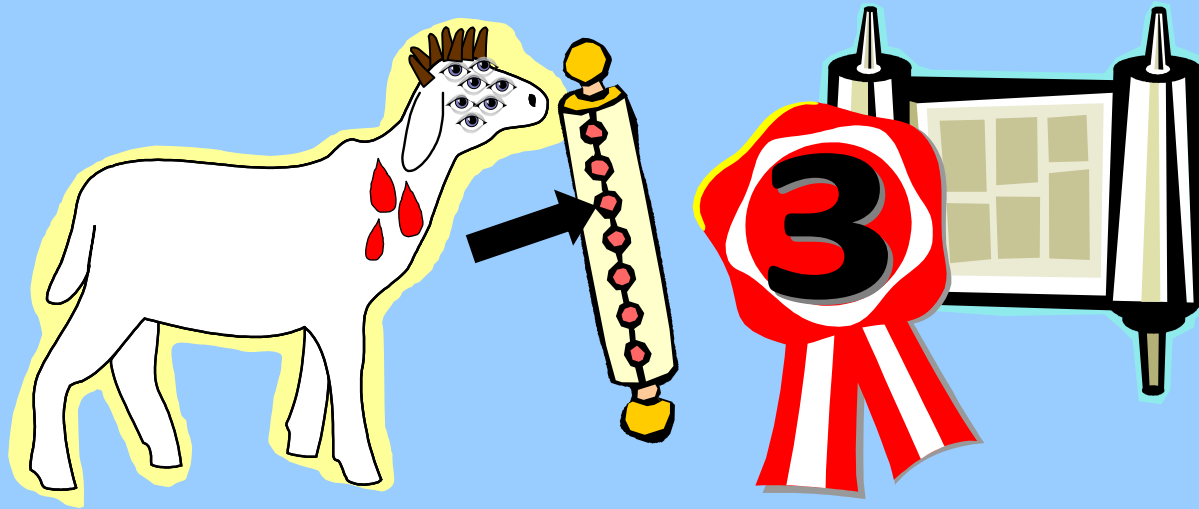
2nd SEAL Judgment



- Final world ruler will not bring real peace.
- Many will think he is a peaceful man, *but all a sham.*
- Keep in mind, **all judgments are cumulative.** One does not go away when another is sent.

A black horse with a rider, likely representing the third living creature from the Book of Revelation. The horse is dark and has a rider on its back. The background is a warm, golden-brown color.

⁵ When He opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, “Come and see.” So 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 a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, “A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not harm the oil and the wine.”



"Come and see."
(GO!)



Revelation 6:5-6

3rd SEAL Judgment

- 3rd seal about scarcity, famine, economic collapse (*but also great wealth*)
- **Black** often symbol of darkness, dark times, famine.
- “**Pair of scales**” symbol of economy, here = scarcity, difficult times.
- Denarius = a day’s wage.
- About daily sustenance. Work all day merely to eat and survive from day to day.





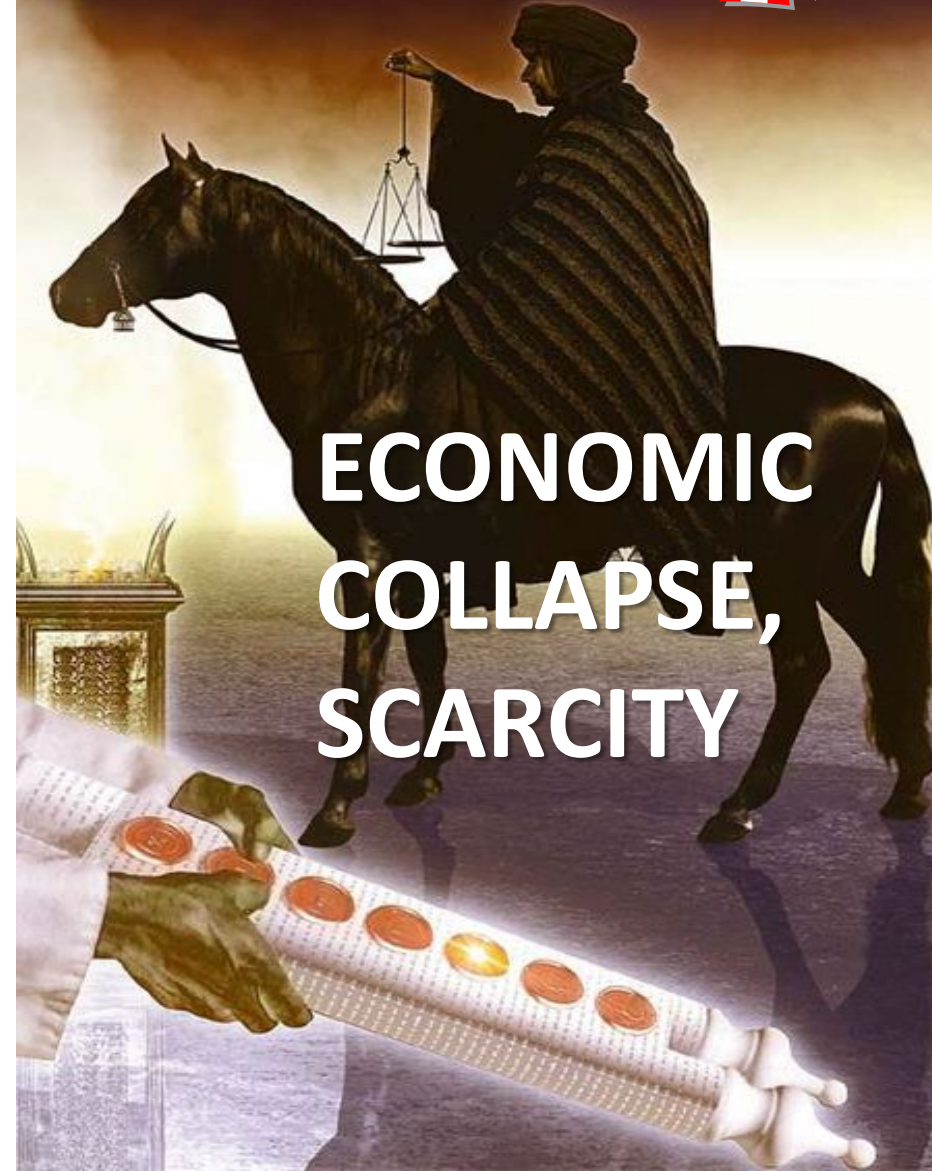
- Oil and wine = **symbols for luxuries**. Only rich could afford.
- Now famine, but rich will still get their luxuries, and get richer.
- May indicate a great **“polarization” of wealth and position.** So-called “middle class” will disappear. People will scrape to survive, rich can still afford “niceties” (*oil and wine*).



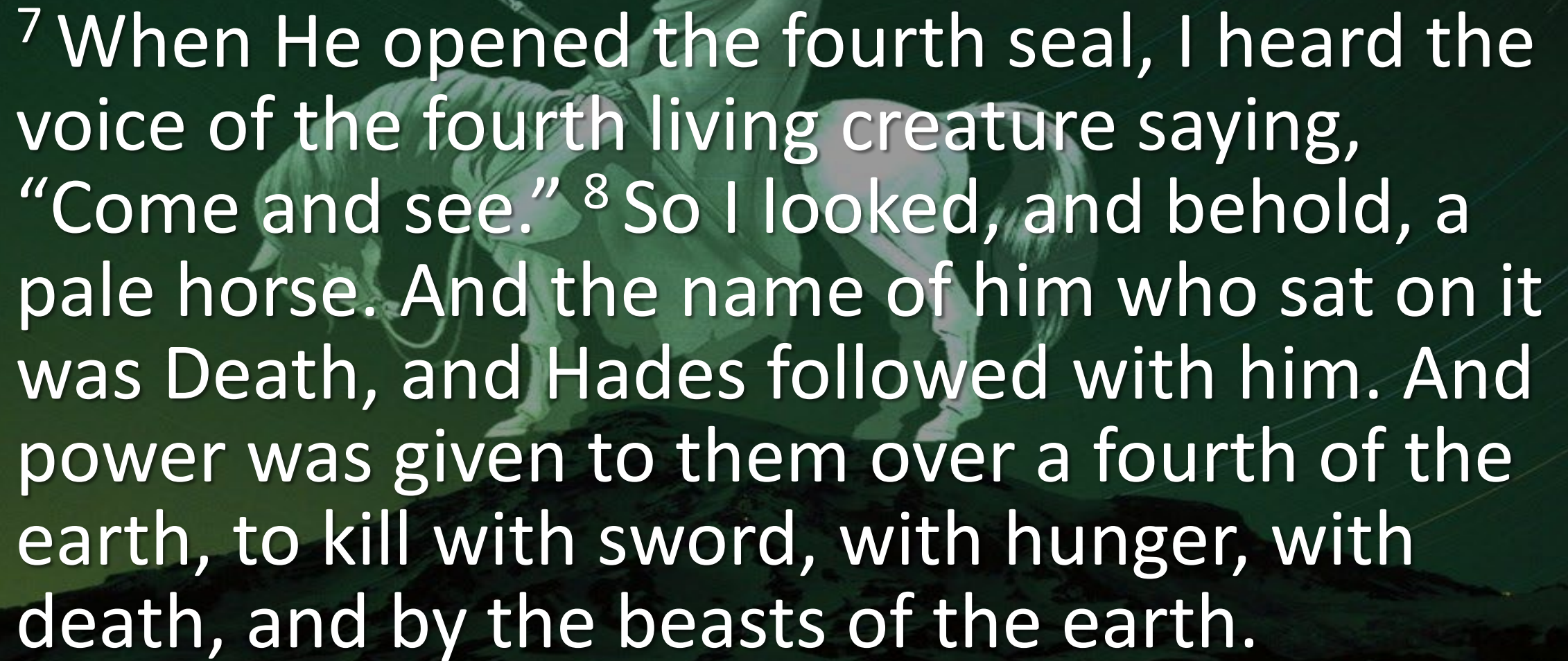


3rd SEAL Judgment

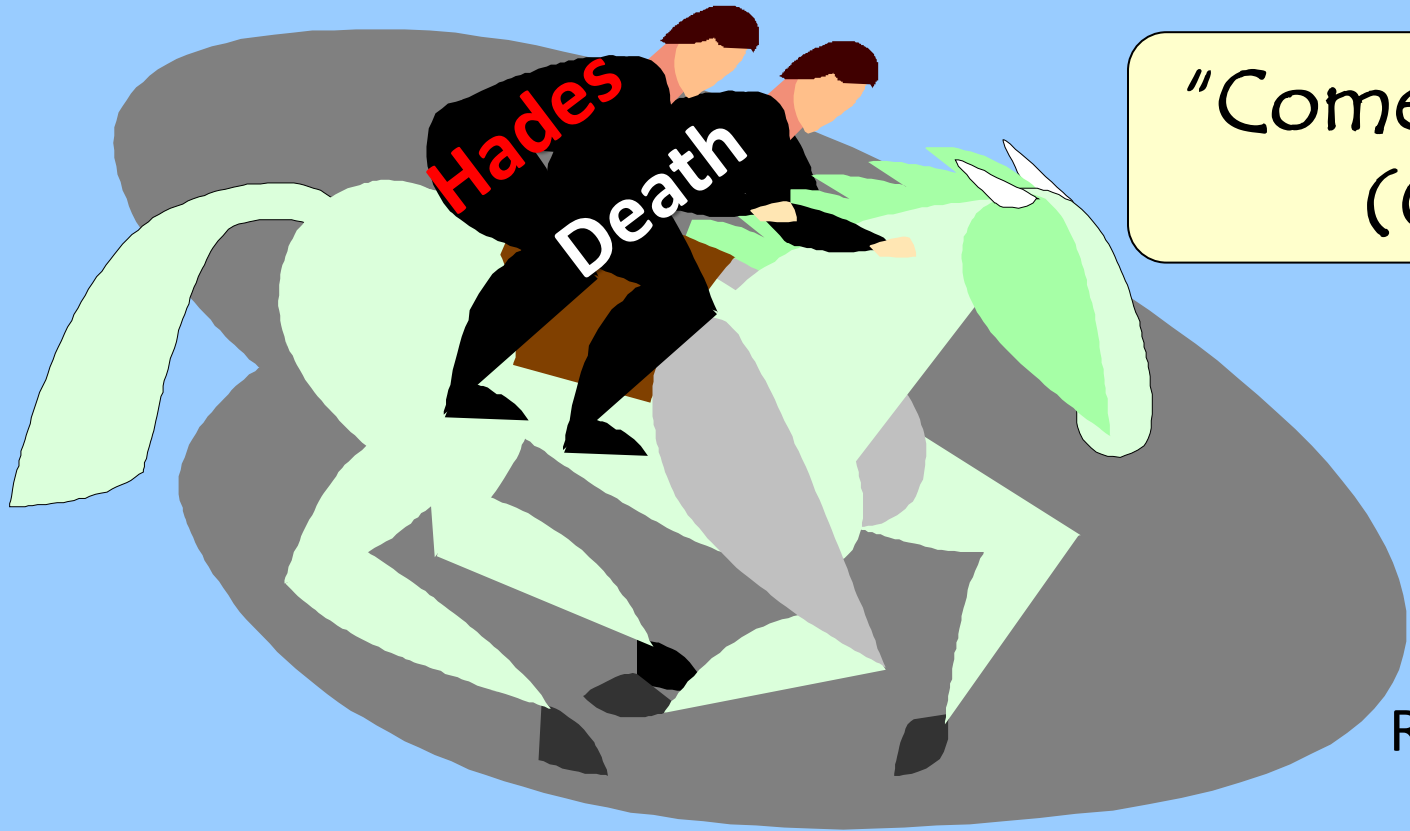
- During/following war, **economic collapse and/or depression can result.**
- Seems progression here. White rider goes out to conquer, warfare breaks out then economic collapse.
- Already **earth in big trouble**. Lives will drastically change. **Remember, this is global.**



**ECONOMIC
COLLAPSE,
SCARCITY**



⁷ When He opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, “Come and see.” ⁸ So I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth.



"Come and see."
(GO!)

Revelation 6:7-8



- 4th seal about physical and spiritual **death, pestilence, plagues**, etc.
- “pale” = *chloros*, **sickly pale green color of death**.
- In Leviticus 13 = **color associated with leprosy** (*death of body in bits and pieces*)
- Rider has a name....**Death**. Greek = *thanatos*, = either literal or figurative death.



- Also has **co-rider...Hades**. Hades following Death. Two “personages” (*but, one is a place*). Personified.
- Death and Hades **frequently linked** in Revelation.
- Greek **Hades** = Hebrew **Sheol** (*refer to notes for chapter 1 regarding hell, Sheol, Hades, Lake of Fire, etc.*)
- Rider has power “**over a fourth of the earth...**” (to kill). Population currently almost 8 BILLION. $\frac{1}{4} = 2,000,000,000$ **people!**

- Could be geographic area, or literal # of deaths.
- Killed people by...
 - 1) **sword** (*any kind of violence, including from inside the body*)
 - 2) **famine**
 - 3) **plague**
 - 4) **wild beasts** (*could include microscopic “beasts” such as found during plagues*)

4th SEAL Judgment

ANTHRAX

MAN-MADE OR
NATURALLY
OCCURRING DISEASES
AND UNTESTED
VACCINES





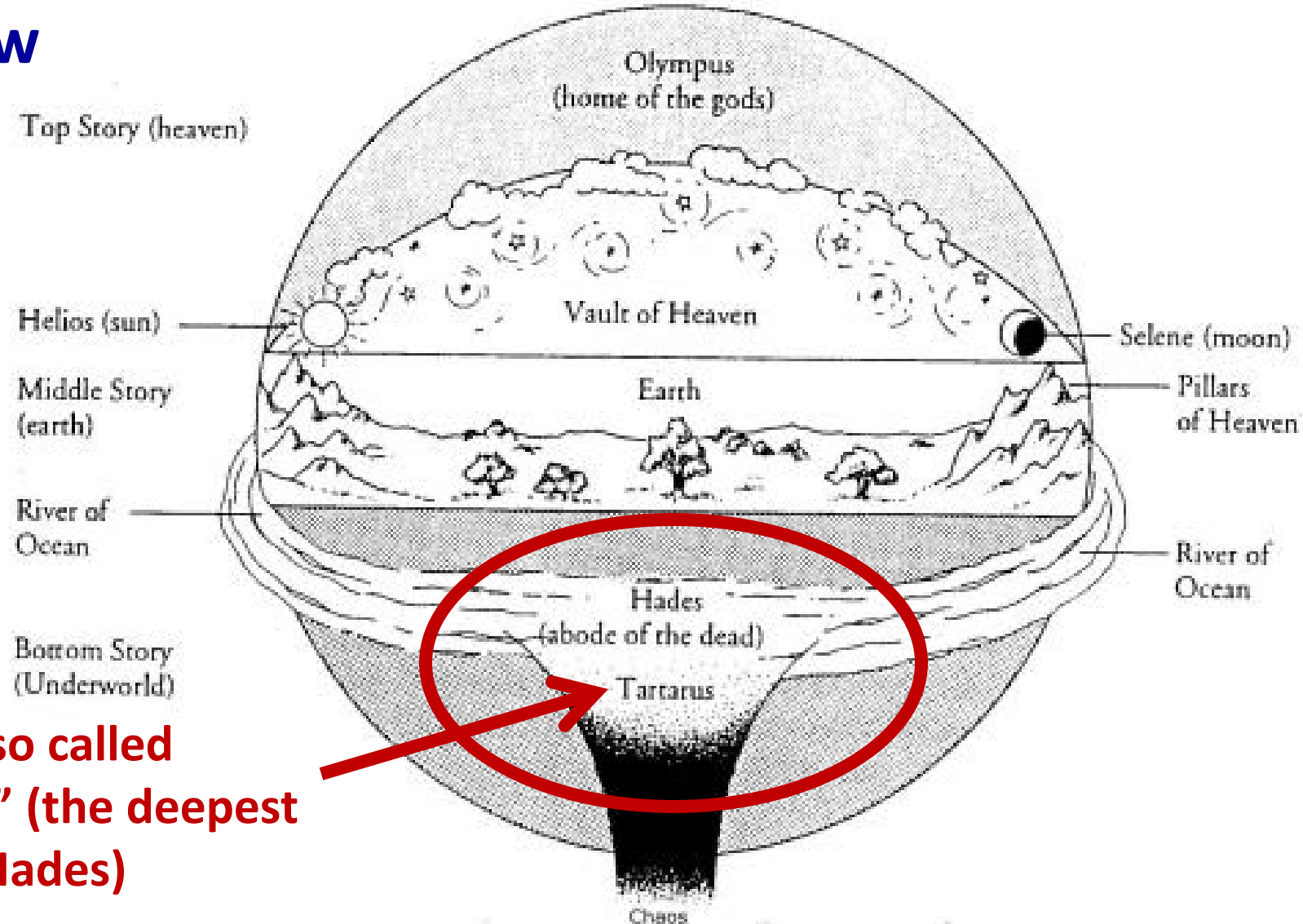
- Same “killing forces” also mentioned in Ezekiel: *“For thus says the Lord God: “How much more it shall be when I send My four severe judgments on Jerusalem—the sword and famine and wild beasts and pestilence—to cut off man and beast from it?””* (14:21)
Amazing how Revelation ties everything together!
- **Reminder:** our God controls all forces of nature, entire universe. All things are created by Him, and **He has authority and commands all things.**

QUESTION: What, Who or Where is Hades?

- “Hades” = Greek name for god of underworld. Came to mean place of the dead. “Hades” also considered “god” of the dead.
- English translations, often translated as “hell.” We use that *term very loosely* without understanding meaning.
- Hades = “Sheol” in OT (Hebrew). Sheol place of the dead – ALL those who had died..*at one time*.
- ***But then....***

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

Greek-Roman Concept of the heavens, earth, and below



**Hades, also called
“Tartarus” (the deepest
abyss of Hades)**

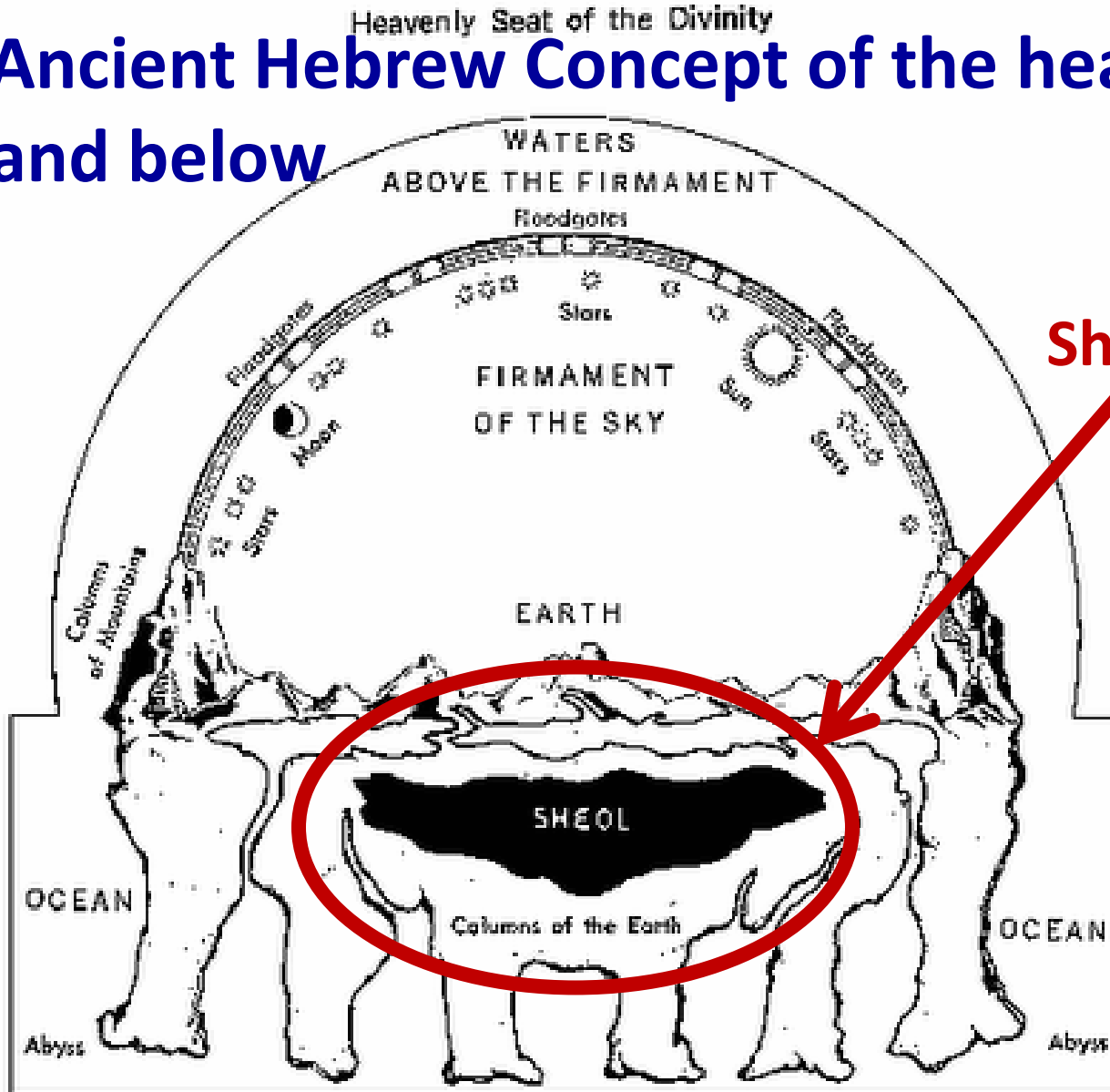
REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

TARTARUS: Concept understood at time of Jesus...

- Word very common in Greek mythology. Place of eternal torment for wicked and evil.
- In NT, noun *Tartarus* does not occur but *tartaroō* (ταρταρόω, "throw to Tartarus") is in 2 Peter 2:4 – *"For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell [tartaroo] and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment..."*
- (Strong's defines this word: Tartaroōs (the deepest abyss of Hades); to incarcerate in eternal torment.

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

Ancient Hebrew Concept of the heavens, earth, and below



Sheol



REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

- **Sheol** in scripture = place of the dead, but apparently had “two chamber” design.
- One area = place of **comfort** (*righteous, waiting for complete redemption, resurrection*)
- Other = place of **torment** (*unrighteous, waiting for final judgment and condemnation to eternal lake of fire*).
- Jesus referenced the “**Great gulf**” between the two in story about the rich man and Lazarus. “***between us and you there is a great gulf fixed,...***” (Luke 16:19-31) No passage between the two areas.

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

SHEOL (Hebrew) 18X OT

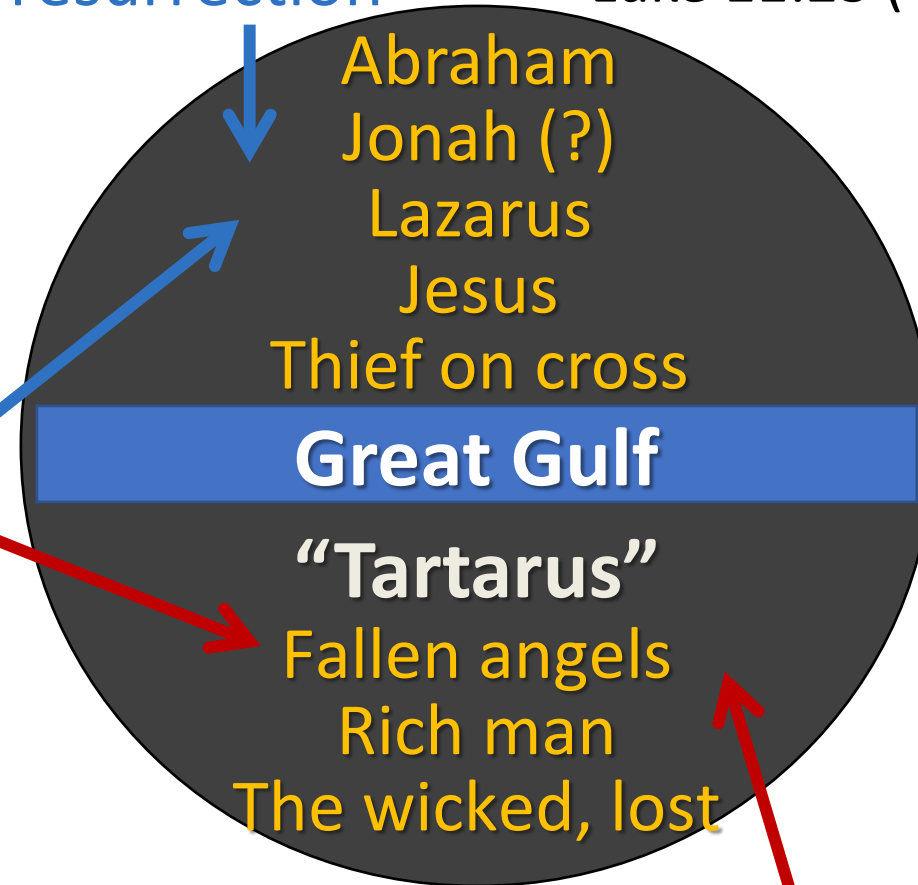
HADES (Greek) 11X NT

Place of comfort, awaiting
resurrection

Jonah 2
Luke 11:23 (“sign of Jonah”)
Luke 16, 23

Body dies,
goes into ground
Spirit goes...

*“Then the dust will return to
the earth as it was,
And the spirit will return to
God who gave it.”*
(Ecclesiastes 12:7)

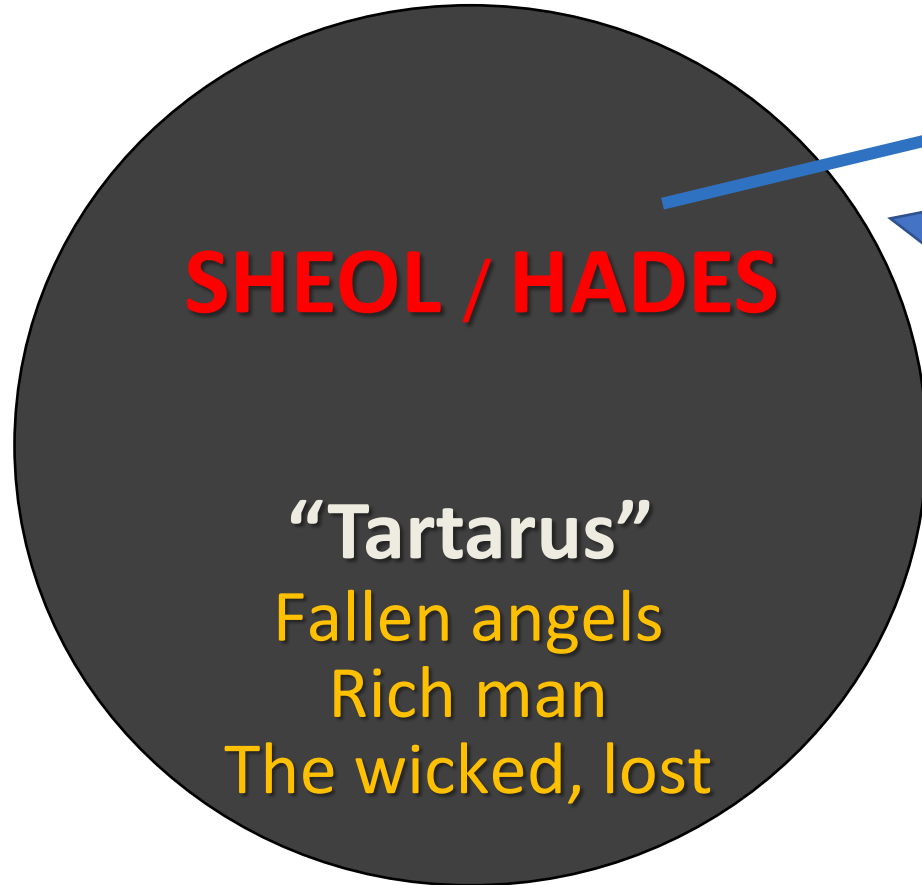


The “Underworld”
Place of the Dead

Place of torment, awaiting
final judgment
Abyss...bottomless pit

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

After Messiah's Resurrection...



“Paradise”
Abraham, Jonah
Lazarus, Jesus, Thief on
cross, All OT saints
(but still awaiting
resurrection)

After His death, Jesus visited Sheol/Hades and released the “captives.” They were escorted to Paradise after the resurrection. **Lost remained in Sheol/Hades, awaiting final judgment.**

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

SHEOL (Hebrew)

HADES (Greek)

“Tartarus”

Fallen angels

Rich man

The wicked, lost

**All the unsaved
dead from ancient
days to end**

**Lake of
Fire**

TODAY, Since His Resurrection

- No more “captives” in Sheol/Hades
- Except unsaved lost awaiting resurrection and judgment at the Great White Throne.
- Will ultimately end up in the Lake of Fire.

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

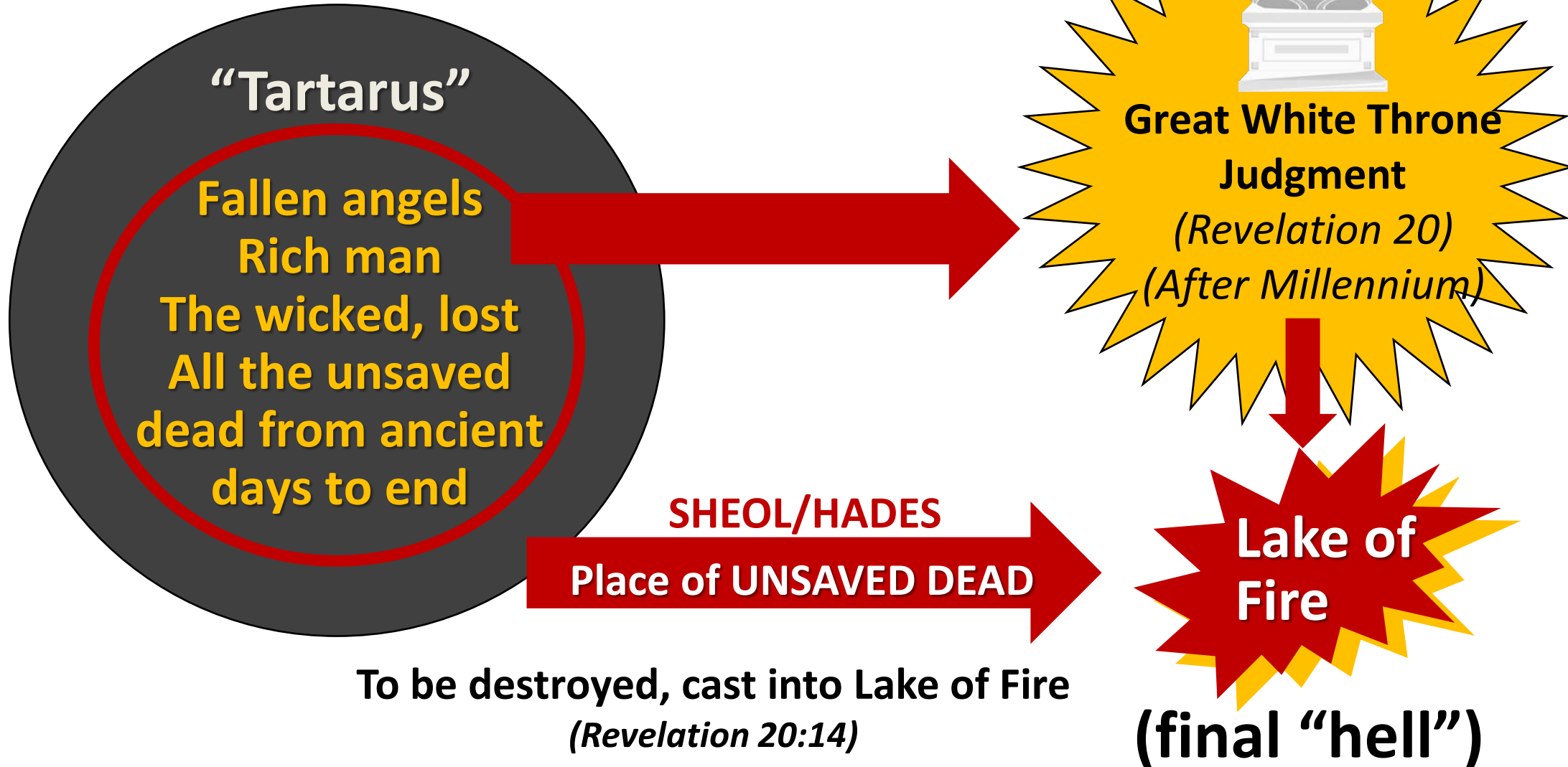
⁸ Therefore He says: “When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men.” ⁹ (Now this, “He ascended”—what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) (Ephesians 4:8-10)

“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, Because the Lord has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound; (Isaiah 61:1)

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

SHEOL (Hebrew), **HADES** (Greek)

AFTER Yeshua's Resurrection



REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

- **Sheol/Hades still exists**, but “saints” (*names in the Book of Life, and Lamb’s Book of Life*) not there.
- They are in “Paradise” with Yeshua, awaiting resurrection, and “**judgment seat of Christ.**” (*about rewards, not salvation*). **Believers not subject to the Great White Throne Judgment** (Revelation 20)
- Only “inhabitants” of Sheol/Hades since Messiah’s resurrection are unsaved.
- Sheol/Hades will be cast into the Lake of Fire ultimately – the final “hell.”

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

Lake of Fire...ultimate final/eternal destination of lost. This is truly "hell."

Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. (Revelation 19:20)

The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. (20:10)

Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. (20:14)

And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire. (20:15)

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

NT references a place translated as “hell”...

- Geenna, gehinnom, gehinnam, *valley of* (the son of) *Hinnom*;
- ***gehenna*** (or *Ge-Hinnom*), a valley of Jerusalem, name for place (or state) of everlasting punishment. Word always translated as “hell” in English.
- Where followers of Ba’al, other Caananite gods (*including Molech*) sacrificed their children by fire. Later cursed.
- **NOT Sheol**. Sheol = “holding” place of dead. Gehenna = final destination of wicked, equivalent to lake of fire.

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

Appropriate **Gehenna** (“hell”) =
lake of fire in Revelation

In Jesus’ time place used as “dump”
of the city. All refuse/waste ended
up here, including corpses of poor
who could not afford burial. Was
burning waste 24/7. A place of
horror and stench, and eternal fire.
**It was the earth’s equivalent of the
ultimate lake of fire.**



REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

IN HEAVEN



ON THE EARTH

UNDER THE EARTH

Sheol...May be what John referenced in chapter 5...?

“And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it.” (5:3)



4th SEAL Judgment

- “Four Horsemen,” first 4 judgments, now unleashed. **Massive change in earthly conditions** (*global, not just regional –no place free of these*):
 - **Political conquests** (*sovereign countries no longer exist – move toward one world government*)
 - **Wars**
 - **Economic disaster, famines**
 - **Widespread violence, death**
- These alone make survival difficult. ***But it gets much, much worse.***

- Remember, judgments **cumulative**. They, and consequences, remain even when moving onto next one.
- Earth will become more and more “**unlivable.**”

4th SEAL Judgment



PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL
DEATH, PESTILENCE,
PLAGUES

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

- First four seals most likely beginnings of “birthpangs.”
(or “*beginning of sorrows*”)
- **Great Tribulation** hasn’t even started. Last 3½ years of 7-year Tribulation considered “**Great Tribulation.**”
(*Jesus, Matthew 24*)
- Revelation never mentions 7-year period of time. Only 3½ years (42 months).
- **Assume 7 years** = Daniel’s “70th week,” a “week” or set of 7 years.

4th SEAL Judgment



- Chronology of ch 6, and how it fits into entire revelation difficult.
- Seal judgments begin entire set of judgments (*seals, trumpets, bowls*), so logical these come first.
- But 5th and 6th seals somewhat different.
- Why many believe is “**overview,**” to preview conditions on earth throughout this time.

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

- Many try **strict timeline assignment of judgments**. *Not completely possible*. Lots of speculation, different ideas.
- As chapter 6 ends with the sky rolling up like a scroll, seems unlikely earth continues at this point.
- Overview seems reasonable. **Conditions (conquest, war, economic collapse, death, persecution/death of believers catastrophic earthly events)**, etc. will be present throughout Tribulation, likely introduced in first half (“The beginning of sorrows” [birth pains]).

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

THE SEVEN SEALS OF REVELATION

FIRST SEAL	SECOND SEAL	THIRD SEAL	FOURTH SEAL	FIFTH SEAL	SIXTH SEAL	SEVENTH SEAL
WHITE HORSE	RED HORSE	BLACK HORSE	PALE HORSE	MARTYRS CRY OUT	CELESTIAL SIGNS	RAPTURE
						
Rev 6: 2 Had a Bow Given a Crown Went out Conquering	Rev 6:4 Peace Removed Violence breaks out Has Sword	Rev 6:5-6 Balance Scales Huge Inflation Oil & Wine Spared	Rev 6:8 Death has Hades with him 1/4th earth Killed with sword, famine, death & beasts	Rev 6:9-11 Martyrs cry out How long? Not until number of brethren to be killed is complete	Rev 6:12-17 Earth quakes Sun darkens moon turns red Stars fall Sky Recedes like a scroll	Rev 8:1 Heaven silent about half hour Rev 11:12 Come up Here!

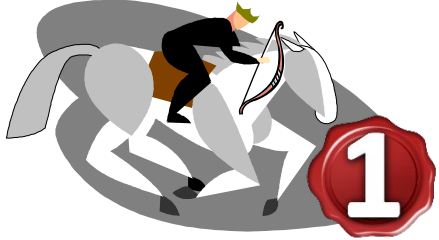
REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1

Seals 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Trumpets 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

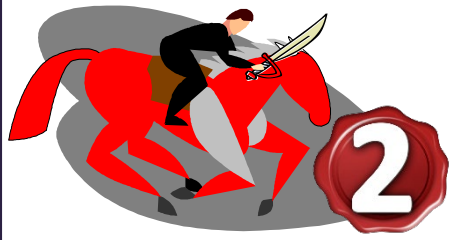
Bowls 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

REVELATION Chapter 6, Part 1



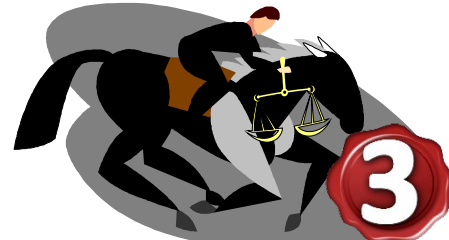
1

CONQUEST
antichrist



2

WAR
No Peace



3

**ECONOMIC
COLLAPSE**



4

DEATH/HADES
¼ Earth Die

8:2
**TRUMPET
JUDGMENTS
BEGIN**



7

8:1
**SILENCE IN
HEAVEN
FOR ½ HOUR**

**CHAPTER 7: 144,000
SEALED; TRIBULATION
SAINTS PRAISE IN HEAVEN**



6

EARTH DISASTERS
Wrath of Lamb



5

MARTYRS
Believers



Revelation 6: Part 1 - The First Four Seals
Next: Part 2 - Seals 5 and 6

Yevarekh-kha Adonai veyishmerekha

May the LORD bless you and keep you

*Ya'er Adonai panav elekha
vihunneka*

May the LORD make His face shine upon you
and be gracious to you

*Yissa Adonai panav elekha viyase
lekha shalom.*

May the LORD lift up His countenance upon you
and give you peace.

