

Session 5: Sixth Seal: The Turning Point in the Great Tribulation

THE SIXTH SEAL: THE TURNING POINT IN THE GREAT TRIBULATION

Last week, we introduced the sixth seal. We focused mostly on the fifth seal and introduced a little of the sixth. The sixth seal has so many layers of understanding and implications to it. I certainly do not claim to understand them, but I am challenged more by this one—the sixth seal. I would say the other one that challenges me the most is the sixth bowl.

Those two of the twenty-one just have layers of implications to them seemingly beyond the others. I just want to stir up your mind to be alert that there is more than what meets the eye when you read this in a casual, fast way. Let's read it. Revelation 6:12: "When He"—Jesus—"opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake." Again, it just needs to be said: Jesus is the One releasing this.

FIFTH SEAL JUDGMENT AGAINST THE ANTICHRIST: THE INCREASE OF ANOINTED INTERCESSION FOR JUSTICE

He is releasing these different activities directly related to the prayer movement on the earth. He is not releasing these in a vacuum. He is releasing them in answer to prayer. The release of His judgment is against the Antichrist. Or you could call it the manifestation of justice, because the fifth seal is the cry for justice night and day.

The Luke 18 cry for justice is the fifth seal. This is the manifestation of justice in a very dramatic way being released, or the way is being paved. "He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood. And the stars of heaven fell to the earth" (Rev. 6:12–13).

The stars of heaven fell to the earth. We know those are meteorites, not stars as we think of them, because the Greek word for "star" is any debris in the atmosphere that is traveling and moving. That is the word. It is coming to the earth "like a fig tree dropping its late figs when shaken by a mighty wind" (Rev. 6:13, paraphrased).

Verse 14—very important—"the sky receded," or it opened up. There is a global open heaven that takes place for a short period of time. This is the beginning of the time when all the nations will see the glory of the Lord together. The glory will terrify one part of the nations. It will totally exhilarate another part of the nations, the saints, and probably perplex those in between in a great way. "The sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved" (Rev. 6:14).

THE KINGS OF THE EARTH WILL HIDE FROM GOD'S PRESENCE

Verse 15. Now we look at the reaction of seven categories of society. "The kings of the earth"—the 238 kings or prime ministers or presidents of the earth. "The great men"—powerful ones.

“The rich men”—the financial leaders. The military leaders, or “the commanders.” “The mighty men, every slave and every free man hid themselves” (Rev. 6:15).

There is a lot to this. They hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains. They said to the mountains and to the rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of the Father, and hide us from the wrath, the destructive activity of the Lamb that is judging us!” (Rev. 6:16, paraphrased). So hide us from the Father’s face, the glory, number one, and hide us from the judgments that the Lamb is releasing upon us, number two. Of course those judgments are described in verses 12–13.

Jesus is commanding the creation to move at the sound of His voice and the earth is shaking. The sun is black. The moon is like blood. The stars are falling. There are these meteorite showers that are literally pummeling the Antichrist empire. They understand it is the wrath of Jesus that is striking them. Then they say, verse 17, “For the great day of His wrath has come.” This is unbelievers who grasp this.

Unbelievers grasp this—the day of God’s wrath. The worshipers of the Antichrist understand it is the wrath of Jesus coming against them. They believe they can defeat Jesus. You say, “That seems crazy.” Well, they think (in the future) that the saints are delusional, because we believe we can defeat the Antichrist. By the same logic, they think that Jesus is supernatural and real, but they think He is defeatable. He is the impostor. That is what they will understand. That is why they go to war with Him. We cannot grasp it, but they cannot grasp that we can beat their guy. We know we can. There is not a question in our mind about it.

FIFTH SEAL JUDGMENT AGAINST ANTICHRIST

Paragraph A. The fifth seal, just as a review, is a judgment against the Antichrist’s kingdom through the releasing of anointed prayer and intercession—it is fueled by the martyred saints in heaven.

The fifth seal—we do not see the earthly side; that is, the implication that if the heavenly side is increasing in prayer, then we know the Holy Spirit is focusing on it. We know the Holy Spirit is highlighting it. We know the earthly side, from Luke 18, is increasing greatly as well, because Luke 18 is the earthly picture of the fifth seal.

ACCELERATION OF PRAYER MOVEMENT BRINGS A GREATER SEVERITY IN JUDGMENT ON THE ANTICHRIST

Paragraph B. The acceleration of the prayer movement brings a greater judgment on the Antichrist. The fifth seal—when the martyrs have increased the bloodshed and prayer increases, the glory of God will increase as well.

The fifth seal is the turning point in the judgments in the book of Revelation. God begins—after this great prayer surge that takes place in heaven and earth—He begins to answer with a new order of supernatural judgments. Up until this time, it was men against men in the first four seals. Now it is the heavenly arsenal striking the Antichrist from heaven. This is the realm that Moses

was touching against Pharaoh. When Moses went into Egypt, he did not just set the Egyptians against the Egyptians, but the heavenly arsenal was coming from heaven at the voice—at the prayers—of Moses.

REVELATION 6: MULTIFACETED PROPHECY BRINGING SEVERAL PROPHECIES TOGETHER

Paragraph C. Revelation 6 is multifaceted. There are many prophecies in the background of this. Jesus brings—I am thinking of six or seven major prophecies and some other ones as well—He is bringing them all together, to a crescendo at the sixth seal. We will not be able to cover them in any kind of depth, but I want to mention them. Again, it is being released through the prayer movement.

For us to have insight on this is very important. It stirs up our holy imagination, it stirs up our faith, and it gives us understanding of the nature of what God is planning to do through the Church. We will look at these six or seven prophecies that are behind the sixth seal. There are others besides the ones I have listed here.

THE WICKED WILL HIDE FROM GOD’S PRESENCE IN THE END TIMES (ISAIAH 2, MICAH 7)

Roman numeral II. The wicked are going to hide from God’s presence. This is the main feature of the sixth seal. There are two main features: the sky splits, and they see the glory of God, which they interpret as the face of Him who sits upon the throne. They do not actually see His face. They see His glory. In verse 14, there is a global open heaven. I do not know what that will look like, but it is enough that all the nations see the glory of God, and it terrifies those who have lined up with the Antichrist.

The second thing that is happening is that the wrath of the Lamb is being released in a systematic way from heaven in terms of this heavenly arsenal, the stars, moon, earthquake, etc. Isaiah 2:10–11 is the first passage that develops this idea of the terrifying presence of God being loosed on the earth in the end times. The terrifying presence of God is revealed and released to the nations in the end times.

Isaiah 2:10–11: Isaiah is prophesying about a time. He tells the wicked leaders of the earth, “Enter into the rock, and hide in the dust” (v. 10). Now he develops clearly here. What are they hiding from? “The terror of the Lord and the glory of His majesty” (v. 11). They are hiding from the manifestation of glory and terror that they are aware of.

This is what the sixth seal is all about—one of the main points of it. Verse 12: Isaiah says, “For the day of the Lord shall come upon everything proud”—globally. “The day of the Lord shall come upon everything proud and lofty, upon everything that is lifted up in pride” (v. 12, paraphrased).

Verse 12 lets us know it is the day of the Lord that Isaiah is talking about. The wicked leaders are running to hide in caves, in holes, in the earth, in mountains. The key word is they are hiding.

In verse 19, they go into the caves of the earth and from the terror of the Lord. They are fleeing from the glory of the majesty of God that is being displayed to them openly. When is this going to happen? Isaiah makes it clear in verse 19—this happens when God arises to shake the earth mightily. Of course the great end-time shaking is in the final three and a half years, as we know.

ISAIAH AND MICAH PROPHESED OF MEN HIDING FROM GOD’S PRESENCE

Isaiah 2 has more to it, but I am just laying it out there just to identify in your mind that one of the most significant things that happens in the end times is the glory and the terror of the Father openly manifested so unbelievers—they recognize it and they run from it.

They try to escape it, and they go into caves and into holes in the ground to avoid it. Micah, who is prophesying at the same time Isaiah is—they were contemporaries in Israel at the same time, in the eighth century BC—Micah gives his version of this phenomenon that begins at the sixth seal. “The nations shall see” (Mic. 7:16)—that is an interesting word. The nations shall see. See what, Micah? He does not say what, but they are going to see. There is going to be a new dynamic of seeing that is distinct. When they see, they will be ashamed of their military might.

When they see this, they will not have confidence in their armies like they had before they saw this. They will lose confidence. They get their confidence back, because they go to war later on with Jesus at the time of the seventh bowl. They actually go to war against Jesus. Not just against Israel, but Jesus Himself. Pride taken to an extreme that we cannot even comprehend—that they think they can go to war.

At this point in time, they see Him and are ashamed of their military strength. Verse 17: here is what they do. Notice: they “crawl from their holes like snakes of the earth because they are afraid of the Lord” (Mic. 7:17, paraphrased). They go into the holes of the earth in terror, and then when this phenomenon lifts, Micah is describing them as crawling out of holes—all these leaders across the earth. Isaiah said it. Micah said it. John shows us this in Revelation 6. They are crying to the mountains.

THE TERRIFYING PRESENCE OF THE LORD

Paragraph B. We are going to develop the idea for another moment about the terrifying presence of the Lord. This is an idea we are all a little familiar with. None of us are really familiar with it; just a little bit. It is a very important concept in the Bible, but particularly it will be manifest in the generation the Lord returns.

This principle of the terrifying manifest presence—we think of His manifest presence as healing, and renewing and restoring. It does that, but it is terrifying in the end times when the Lord releases it.

Exodus 24. When the glory rested on Mt. Sinai, the children of Israel saw the glory like fire, consuming fire (v. 17). This gives us insight into what these wicked kings are going to see. When the glory of the Lord appears on the mountains, it is like consuming fire when it appears. These

kings are not seeing the Father's face, because no man can see His face and live, but they are seeing His glory.

Exodus 19:16. The children of Israel again are going to see the glory of the Lord on the mountain. It is the same theme. "There was thundering, lightening, and a thick cloud (shekinah glory) on the mountain. All the people in the camp trembled" (Ex. 19:16, paraphrased). They look up; they see the glory cloud on the mountain. There is thunder and lightening breaking out as well. Revelation 6 does not tell us about the noise—the sound. It only gives us the visual, not the audio. We know from this passage that when the glory manifests, there is lightening, thunder, and there is a loud trumpet that is in the verse if you read the whole thing.

Verse 17: "Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God." They saw the fire descending. When the sky recedes—when the sky opens up—they run to hide from the face of Him who is on the throne.

DANIEL'S FRIENDS FLED IN GREAT TERROR FROM GOD'S PRESENCE

They see some manifestation of the glory, the fire, the lightening, and the thunder that is heard. We do not know what the details are, but these are the details of the glory that the Scripture reveals to us. Daniel 10:7–8: when Daniel is having an open vision, his friends do not see the vision. They are next to him. They are praying down by the river. Daniel has an open vision. He says in verse 7, "The men who were with me did not see the vision." The guys in the prayer room—they are having a prayer meeting, "but a great terror fell on them" (v. 7).

They do not even see the vision, but the manifestation of terror falls on them. These are godly men. They fled to hide. They fled. They took off running to hide, because when the manifest presence is revealed, Israel trembled. Daniel's friends fled to hide, as Isaiah said that men would do.

PAUL AND HIS FRIENDS SAW THE LIGHT

Paragraph D. When Paul was visited by Jesus, the Lord appears to him like a bright shining light. Jesus stands right in front of him and calls him to be an apostle. He said, "A great light from heaven shone. I fell, and those who were with me were afraid" (Acts 26:13–14, paraphrased). They did not hear anything Jesus said. They saw the light, the Scripture said. They did not hear the voice. Paul is having a conversation. They are trembling and Acts 26 tells us, verse 14, they fell to the ground too. They are trembling, afraid, and falling to the ground.

These are godly examples: Daniel, Paul, and their associates. This is how they are responding to the one who loves them. Of course one of the premier examples is John himself, right there in Revelation 1:17. Here he is on the island of Patmos with the man he loves the most (Jesus)—he falls like a dead man when Jesus unveils His glory. This is the realm that the ungodly leaders of the earth are going to see around the world. I mean this sixth seal is massive in its implications. The prayer movement—we will be so encouraged by this. We do not even have a grid (a framework of thought) for it, even as we study what happened at Mt. Sinai with the verse I read of Israel seeing it on the mountain.

As believers today, we read this and say, “Wow.” Imagine this on a global scale.

“Huh,” somebody thinks, “how do you think the Church is going to become victorious, spotless, without blame?”

I say, “It is going to be an outpouring of the Spirit, as well as a resistance in persecution like no time in history.”

There is going to be the greatest outpouring you can imagine. The sixth seal is giving us a view of that outpouring—on its negative impact on the evil men of the earth. There is a positive side to this as well. The side—as we study it, we think, “Lord, we want this terrorizing presence to be released, but we want it to strengthen the Church as well, and to terrify the Church in the fear of the Lord (in the right sense).”

JESUS OPENS THE SIXTH SEAL IN ANSWER TO THE MARTYRS’ PRAYERS

Paragraph F. Peter makes a principle clear. He said this: “if you are reproached,” or persecuted (1 Pt. 4:14). There is a principle that when persecution increases, the spirit of glory increases.

He said, “if you are reproached.” He means persecuted, not someone giving a mean word. It is more intense than that. “Blessed are you” (Mt. 5:11). Yes, it is difficult, but you are blessed, because there is a realm of the spirit of glory that begins to rest on you—that did not rest on you in that measure before.

God will come and rest on you. Well, what is happening in the sixth seal—in the fifth seal was an unprecedented amount of persecution. It is the martyrs. Of course the trouble to the Antichrist from the martyrs is that they turned it into prayer.

I do not have this verse noted, but in Acts 7:54–60—most of you know it—the first martyr, Stephen. When he is martyr—what happens with the first martyr of the new covenant Church is that there is an open heaven. It was an open heaven to one man. At the end of the age, when the last martyrs are killed, there is going to be another open heaven. It is going to be a global one, because the spirit of glory will be released.

That is how Peter calls it—the spirit of glory. Isaiah said, “The glory of God and the terror of the Lord” (Isa. 2:19, paraphrased)—the two together. It will be the glory of the Lord that will terrorize the human frame. I believe the believers, like John, will fall like dead men. Even the ones who love Him will say, “Oh, Jesus, I had no comprehension. Father, we did not grasp the glory.”

As the Church age opened up with a martyr and an open heaven, so this age ends with an unprecedented outpouring of persecution. An open heaven and a spirit of glory is on the Church at the same time.

HIDING FROM THE TERROR OF GOD AND THE WRATH OF THE LAMB

Roman numeral III. Let's read it again, "The stars . . . fell" (verse 13). Verse 14: "The sky receded," or opened up. Verse 15 (paraphrased): "The kings of the earth, they hid themselves in the caves, in the mountains," like Isaiah 2:10 said they would do.

They "said to the mountains and rocks, 'Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him'" (v. 16), again, from the glory that is manifest. The common way to read this, which I do not think is the right way, is that they are fleeing to the mountains to die. I do not think they are praying to die. I do not think that is—what is going on is that they come back to fight another day.

They are asking the mountains to enclose them. These are the most powerful men of the earth; they want to be enclosed in the mountains. Of course it is bad theology to hide themselves from the terrorizing presence. They actually want to escape the trouble. They are not giving up. They are escaping the trouble because the meteorites are coming from heaven, stoning the Antichrist on a global level.

The terrorizing presence—and they are saying, "We have to get away from this debris coming down from the sky, and we have to protect ourselves. We have to hide." That is what Isaiah said as well. They are hiding. They are protecting themselves from the threatening presence of the manifest glory of the Lord. If they are hiding to protect themselves, which I believe they are doing according to Isaiah, then they are not giving up and saying, "I want to die right now." That is not at all what they are saying. They come back and rally all the kings of the earth to actually go to war at the time of the seventh bowl. They actually war against Jesus as the greater David.

SKY

Paragraph A. The sky will recede. It will split. It will move back. I am saying, "Lord, give me insight into that. Give me experiences of that before then. If I happen to be on the earth when this happens, I want to understand it." As a forerunner, I want to grasp the magnitude of what this means. The sky is going to recede like a scroll! Have you ever wrestled with that and asked the Holy Spirit to be your teacher?

Some commentators say it is the atomic bomb, because of the mushroom cloud. That is not what is going on. It did not say that they hid from an atomic bomb. They are hiding from the terrifying presence of God that Isaiah 2:10 laid out. Jesus is building on what He told Isaiah back in 700 years BC.

FACE

Paragraph B. They are hiding from the face. They want protection from the terrifying presence. The martyrs cry, "Avenge us" (Rev. 6:10, paraphrased). The wicked cry, "Hide us" (v. 16). And the saints say, "Show us. We want to see Your face." The thing they are running from is the thing we are running to. Or so we think. Yes, we are running to it, but we have had so little experience that we do not exactly know what we are running to; at least that is my story.

STARS

Paragraph C. The stars. This is one of the key concepts which I have mentioned already. They are asteroids, meteorites. The Greek word for “star” is the word “aster,” from which we get the word “asteroids.” An aster in the Greek—I am not a Greek scholar. I studied a little bit. Just a little bit to be really dangerous. I studied it enough to know if you do not really study it, you will get confused by your seemingly strong conclusions.

An aster is a shining mass in the sky. Again, I just got this from others, not from my own knowledge. It includes stars, comets, meteoroids or asteroids, or any flaming debris that comes from the sky. This flaming debris is coming down. Now the diameter of the earth is 8,000 miles (about). The diameter of the sun, not exactly, is about 800,000 miles, or about 100 times larger.

The sun is a small star. If what John meant was a star like the sun, it would be like a bowling ball hitting a piece of rice. It says they are coming down like the figs falling off of a fig tree when a wind blows, multitudes of them. It is not multitudes of bowling balls hitting one piece of rice. These are not stars in the way you might automatically think. One star hitting the earth would destroy it completely in a moment’s time. It is this flaming debris coming down, or meteorites, or the asteroids.

HIDE

Paragraph E. Now I’m just reminding you again what Isaiah said: “They entered the rock to hide” (Isa. 2:19, paraphrased). They enter the rock not because they are giving up and want to die. They are entering the rock because they want to escape the peril.

METEOROIDS

Paragraph F. A meteoroid can actually be dust. It can be so fine—just a few grams. Or it can be very large. I give some of the dimensions here in paragraph F. So you get the idea of the diversity of the size of this debris that is coming down in that time.

Currently today, there are up to fifty meteorites that hit the earth every single day. That is quite a small number. My point is that it is a part of the natural cycle. They are small, but it happens every single day. I am imagining millions of them (or who knows the number)—as many as the fig—being blown by a strong wind and the figs falling to the ground. That is the analogy the Lord gave John. They are going to bombard the earth.

Paragraph H. These meteorites are just the first down payment. Because of the sixth seal, they are now starting to hit the earth. Again, the seals before that, it was men acting against men. Now there is a heavenly arsenal in God’s plan and in the equation, so to speak. As time goes on, the Lord increases it from these asters that are coming down to touch the earth to 100-pound hailstones. That is where it goes to 100-pound hailstones instead of these meteorites that might just weigh a pound or two, or less, or even a few ounces at this point and time—at the sixth seal.

The Lord is going to bring up the intensity. The sixth seal—then we are going to go through the trumpets and bowls. The seventh bowl: each of them are 100 pounds approximately, or a talent,

which is a hundred pounds. That is an increase in the intensity of the judgment. Again, the reason you care about this is because these judgments that are going to be released by the praying Church against the Antichrist are released when we come into agreement, which is faith.

WILL I REALLY FIND FAITH ON THE EARTH?

What the Lord said in Luke 18:8, when they pray night and day, is the question of the hour: “Will I really find faith on the earth? Will there really be people who have agreement with Me with clarity? Will there be anybody who understands what I am doing and comes into agreement and releases it through prayer?” (paraphrased). That is the question in Luke 18:8, when He said (paraphrased), “Night and day prayer is for justice. The great injustice will be the presence of the Antichrist. There is injustice in the earth right now, but it is going to get far more severe. The question I have is: will I have people who have understanding? Will they then go further, act on it, and come into agreement with Me?”

THE END-TIME PRAYER MANUAL AND THE END-TIME BOOK OF ACTS

As we read the book of Revelation, which I call the end-time prayer manual—or the end-time book of Acts, and our end-time canonized prayer guide—it is the prayer guide the whole Church is going to use to come against the end-time pharaoh.

Our mind, when we are unfamiliar with this book, which most believers are (I count myself in this)—there is a fog on our minds, just because of our unfamiliarity with the text. As we begin to get familiar, then we begin to get living understanding. The Lord is giving the Church a season so that we can proclaim these things, and also so that our spirit receives revelation of them. So we are ready, and full of faith, and full of understanding in that hour. That hour could be some decades from now.

I believe the reason the book of Revelation was given to us for 2000 years is so that the Church will be ready in that hour. As they read this, most of their natural response would be, “I do not get this.” It bounces off. There is a fog on their mind. I am saying that is normal and that is understandable.

You do not want to be content with that. You want to say, “Lord, I want to get hold of this. I am going to fast, pray, and talk to the Holy Spirit about all twenty-one of these judgments that we are going to release by the Praying Church. I am not going to just pray them. I am going to proclaim them. I am going to have living understanding and authority of these twenty-one judgments, these seven times three.”

Seven seals, seven trumpets, seven bowls—we want the fog to lift off our minds so we have clarity when we are preparing ourselves, or our children, and their children in the decades to come.

SAID TO THE MOUNTAINS

It is written in paragraph I: they “said to the mountains and rocks, ‘Fall on us’” (Rev. 6:16). This is a theory—because I like to tell you when it is Bible doctrine, when it is clearly biblical

revelation. Then, I like to distinguish when it is an informed opinion, meaning there are Bible verses to back it up. The third category is a personal theory, just an idea. You cannot preach it with any confidence that it is right.

This is just a theory: they are speaking to the mountains. These are Antichrist worshipers. This is the most powerful occult worshiper in the earth—in history actually. It is the leaders closest to the Antichrist and his money, his government, and his military who are crying out to the mountains. The great occult centers of the earth are the high places in the mountains. My theory is there is occult activity involved in this cry. They are not saying, “Kill us.” They are saying, “Enclose us to protect us from this One whose presence is touching us.”

They are praying for protection. They are not giving up. They are praying to be enclosed in the mountains because of the powerful pervasive terror of the manifest presence of the Lord, and because of the meteorites coming down in a way that has never happened in history. It will increase dynamically by the time of the seventh bowl. It will go from a few ounces, or a pound or two, to 100-pound hailstones at the end.

My opinion is that they are crying out to the mountains because, again, the mountains are where the occult centers are, the high places. My theory is that there is occult activity going on here. They are not conceding. They are actually trying to escape. They are hiding from the presence. I believe they are actually hiding. The fact that it is occult—I cannot say with any kind of certainty that it is right. That is my opinion, and I think that to be true.

GOD WILL GUIDE THE METEOROIDS

Paragraph J. As God guided David’s stone to hit Goliath with the slingshot, so Jesus is guiding these stones that are hitting the eschatological Goliath. The end-time giant is the Antichrist and his people. The Scripture says that God will stone the idolaters.

This is a little bit of what is beginning to happen. The 100-pound hailstones—He is actually stoning an entire generation giving themselves over to idol worship through the Antichrist worship. That is how God’s judgments in this age end: He actually stones the false idols and the worshipers.

OTHER FACETS OF JESUS’ WRATH IN THE SIXTH SEAL

Roman numeral IV. The other facets of Jesus’ wrath. They are fleeing from the Father’s presence. That is a terrifying glory. Again, they do not see the Father’s face. According to Isaiah 2:19, they feel the terror, and they see the presence. They see the glory. I missed this verse when we were going through it. The verse that says, “The glory of the Lord shall be revealed”—in Isaiah 40:5—“and all flesh shall see it together.”

Believers and unbelievers alike will see the glory together across the nations. We read that, and we love it. We think, “Hallelujah.” This is a terrifying glory. When all flesh sees the glory together, I think the whole earth will be all but slain in the spirit, plus some. I mean, for real

(truthfully). I believe the houses of prayer across the earth will have an Acts 2 experience, above and beyond. I believe that the kings of the earth will run into caves.

The earth will shake and tremble. It will be the Isaiah 6 trembling of the temple. This time will be the whole earth shaking by His presence. It is only building in intensity until the Lord Himself comes in the permanent sense, when He comes in the sky to the earth to stay forever.

SUN

There is a time when all the nations will see the glory of the Lord together. That is ultimately at the second coming. It begins at the sixth seal. The sun is black. It is wearing the garments of mourning.

MOON

The moon is wearing the garments of blood. So the black is the third seal. The blood is the second seal. It is the bloodshed and the famine and the mourning and the call to repentance and judgment. The actual signs in the heavens will have these prophetic messages. The colors are not incidental. They, in themselves, have a message.

THE RESPONSE OF UNBELIEVERS AT THE SIXTH SEAL

Roman numeral V. It says “The kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves . . . from the face . . . and from the wrath” (Revelation 6:15–16). Then they proclaim, verse 17, the day of the Lord. The day of the Lord has come, “the great day of His wrath” (v. 17), the day of the Lord.

SHAKING THE HEAVENS IN THE SIXTH SEAL

Paragraph A. John describes those affected in seven different categories. The amazing thing is that the unbelievers, paragraph B, they understand it is the day of the Lord.

They worship the Antichrist. They do not believe Jesus is God. They are proclaiming—I am sure they have an interpretation of it that is different than ours. They understand it is the day of His wrath—again, as we also will understand that the Antichrist will have rage against the Church.

We will proclaim it. We will not be awestruck. We will not be intimidated by him, but we will proclaim it. They are proclaiming it, but they are terrified. My question is, “How do they know this?” How do they know that the terrifying presence and the meteorites that are coming down, the sun and the moon being affected—how do they know Jesus of Nazareth is responsible for this?

UNBELIEVERS KNOW THAT JESUS IS ORCHESTRATING THE DAY OF THE LORD

If there was a judgment of God in the atmosphere today, and some guy got on some worldwide TV program and said, “Jesus of Nazareth did it,” they would lock him up.

These are unbelievers, reprobate men; they understand that Jesus of Nazareth, whom they think they can ultimately defeat—they believe He is responsible for this. It terrifies them now, but it enrages them as time goes on. By the time He appears in the seventh trumpet in Revelation 11:15–18, it says, “The nations are red-hot in anger against Him” (v. 18, paraphrased). They are so angry at Him by the seventh trumpet. They are terrorized, but that is not all they are. They are antagonized at the highest level you can imagine at this man releasing His presence upon the earth through the Praying Church.

THE WICKED CRY OUT FOR DEATH AND BARRENNESS IN JUDGMENT (HOSEA 9-10)

Paragraph A. Now the sixth seal—the signs in the heaven are not only the signs of the wrath of Jesus. I mean, the unbelievers get that. These are signs of His wrath. They get that. They are saying it everywhere. They are proclaiming it. Jesus of Nazareth is angry, and He has supernatural power.

He is causing this trouble. He is causing the havoc in the nations. They are actually blaming Him, not worshipping Him in that proclamation, by the way. They are not saying, “Wow, is He not awesome?” They are saying, “We declare war, and we will not take no for an answer. We are not backing off.” We cannot fathom that kind of mindset.

Then they cannot fathom that we think we will defeat the Antichrist. They will think he is God and the real thing. They will think Jesus is the impostor. Especially when the Antichrist proclaims his head wound, then has a head wound, seemingly dies, and is seemingly raised from the dead.

They will say Jesus never did that with any eye witnesses, that no one can verify Jesus’ claims. Things will go to a whole different level. They have power to call fire down from heaven, he and the false prophet. There will be tremendous conflict going on, but the glory of the Lord will be manifest as well. One of the things we cannot grasp about Satan is the inconceivable magnitude of pride that he has.

My guess is that when Satan comes out of prison after the millennial kingdom—my guess is, he is so diluted in pride when he gathers the nations to try and attack Jesus again that he actually thinks he can win. I think that his pride is so extreme that in heaven, he thought he could win. Then he got cast to the earth. He still thinks he can win. I think still at the Millennium he thinks he will win.

DECEPTION OF SATAN’S PRIDE

That is how deceptive pride is. The reason I am pointing that out is because the Antichrist empire will be emboldened with a confidence that we cannot fathom—because it is just inconceivable they can believe that. That is what they will think about us. The signs in the heavens not only reveal the wrath of Jesus—the signs in the heavens bring in the great harvest.

They are related to the great harvest. Look at the sixth seal. That is where He shakes. He gives signs in the sky and in the earth beneath. It begins at the sixth seal at a whole different level. Undoubtedly, some of these are happening right now at a very introductory level. They are not having major impact, because they are just whispers right now.

From the sixth seal on, they are really overt and really obvious. Look here at Haggai 2:6: the Lord says, “I will shake heaven and earth.” When God says He will shake the heavens, that is the sky. He is talking about the atmosphere above. He is not talking about the New Jerusalem. He is talking about shaking the atmosphere, which is the sixth seal.

Look what happens in verse seven: “when I do this, I will shake all the nations” (Hag. 2:7, paraphrased). The nations are being shaken at the sixth seal. The earthquake, the asteroids, meteorites, His terrifying presence; all the leaders of the earth buried in caves, crying out to be enclosed in them, to be protected—that is the nations being shaken. Look what happens. Not all the people in the nations will buy this lie. We are believing God for a billion souls saved. Of course we do not know the number exactly, but it is a massive number.

They shall come to the Desire of all nations. The “Desire of all nations” is one of my favorite titles of the Messiah Jesus. When the skies are shaken, the nations will desire Him like never before. The great harvest is related to what happens, beginning at the sixth seal. That is not where it ends; that is where it begins in a supernatural way.

JOEL 2 OUTPOURING OF THE SPIRIT BEFORE JESUS RETURNS

Paragraph B. Joel 2 is not just the great harvest. The outpouring of the Spirit and the prophetic anointing on the Church is at an unprecedented level. It says in verse 28, “I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters will prophesy . . . The sun shall be turned into darkness” (Joel 2:28, 31).

This is going to happen before the second coming. This is the sixth seal. What happens related to the sixth seal? The greatest outpouring in history on all flesh—this is all believers. We know all flesh is going to see the glory. Some will tremble in a negative way. Some will tremble in a positive way. All of the Body of Christ are servants of God, because it goes on in Joel to say those who are servants of the Lord.

Every single believer will operate in a prophetic anointing at this time. You do not wait until then. We operate in it now. The sixth seal—the time when the judgments become supernatural in character.

In other words, the heavenly arsenal, the great harvest of the nations, are flocking in record numbers to Jesus, to the Desire of all nations. The spirit of prophecy goes to a whole different level. This happens before the second coming.

Paragraph C. Summary of the sixth seal: the sixth seal describes God's glory related in the context of martyrdom, because the spirit of glory is released, resulting in the shaking of nations, the outpouring of the Spirit, and the great harvest.

THE WICKED CRY OUT FOR DEATH AND BARRENNESS IN JUDGMENT

All of these are included and connected to the sixth seal. There are two prophecies in Hosea 9–10—two prophecies in Hosea related to the sixth seal. It is the prophecy that in that day, at the time of judgment, people will long for death.

There will be a spirit of despair across the nations. Many will have despair and many will actually—I do not know how to exactly say this, because I do not have the language for it. I will say it how Jesus said it: “Blessed is the barren woman in those final hours, because of all the anguish that newborn children would be subject to in those final three and a half years” (Lk. 23:29, paraphrased). It is only talking about the final three and a half years. It is not saying, “Blessed are you if you do not have children between now and then.” In the final three and a half years when the Antichrist commits the abomination of desolation, the Bible makes it clear: we have three and a half years to go.

He is telling the Body of Christ, “Okay, you understand to have babies from this time forward will be a difficulty beyond what you are imagining” (Lk. 23:29). I have had some read that, and they have said, “Well, we are in the end times.” Well, we could be some decades away from these events. We do not know. Even then, those words are spoken for the final three and a half years.

Anyway, Hosea talks about these two things, and then in Luke 23:29–30, Jesus prophesies them straight from Hosea. He takes those two themes from Hosea about blessed are the barren (Hos. 9:14), and about crying out to the mountains (Hos. 10:8). Some will cry out to the mountains to hide according to Isaiah. Others will cry out to the mountains in despair according to Hosea.

ISRAEL CRIES OUT FOR A QUICK DEATH TO END THE ANGUISH

So Isaiah 2:10 says they cried out to the mountains—to hide in the mountains and escape. Hosea 10 says they cry out to the mountains in despair, because what is coming is so much more severe that they would just rather have a quick death. I described these two prophecies from Hosea 9–10. Jesus quotes both of them and applies them to the final three and a half years, particularly to the sixth seal.

That is for those who say, “You know, I want to take this at another level here.” I just want to point that out to you just to stir you up. We are not going to go into the details of it. There is a lot more in the Scripture of what the sixth seal is than what I am trying to say. Having said this, I am not saying this in any false humility. I say you want to take it to the next level. I am talking about from first grade to second grade.

Those who are deepest in understanding are in about first or second grade. That is really true. There is so much revelation that the Holy Spirit wants to give the Church as we approach that day.

Amen.



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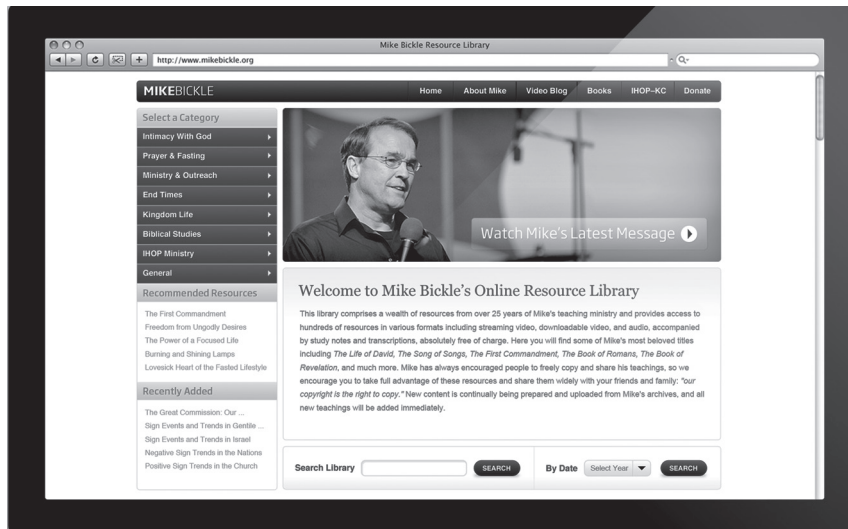
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