20210918 - THE FOUR HORSEMEN

Sunday AM - Revelation 6:1-8

I. THE WHITE HORSE

- A. The First Seal is Opened
 - 1. The seven seals are opened by the Lamb one-by-one
 - a. Remember how John wept REV. 5:4
 - b. No one else was found worth to open the book REV. 5:8
 - c. HE ALONE is worthy! To receive worship!
 - i. If the four Beasts and 24 Elders worship Him
 - ii. Then we should too!
 - 2. There are many misconceptions about "worship"
 - a. Some today say it's all about "music" and "praise bands"
 - b. They like to dance and sway their hips to the beat!
 - i. They get into a weird emotional state of "openness"
 - ii. First, we aren't told to empty our minds, but FILL them!
 - iii. Second, show me how it's different from paganism
 - iv. Third, I was recently "backstage" at a megachurch...
 - c. They call it all worship because they do NOT understand it!
 - 3. Think about what the Bible calls worship Abraham and Isaac
 - a. God tested Abraham's faith by telling him to offer Isaac a sacrifice
 - b. We know the story well take thy son, thy ONLY son, Isaac!
 - i. They travel to the place God tells them ON THE 3RD DAY
 - ii. Isaac "I see the fire and the wood, but where's the lamb?"
 - iii. Abraham answered in faith "God will PROVIDE HIMSELF"
 - iv. God stops Abraham "For now I KNOW that thou fearest..."
 - v. He looks over and there's a ram caught in the thicket...
 - c. What did Abraham CALL all of this even before it happened?
 - d. GEN. 22:5 "And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and WORSHIP, and come again to you."
- B. The White Horse Appears
 - 1. He has a bow but notably no arrows
 - a. Many say that this indicates that he comes "in peace"
 - i. But many times, in Scripture the word "bow" is used
 - ii. Jonathan gave David his bow without mention of arrows
 - iii. "A man shot a bow at a venture..." and killed Jehoshaphat
 - b. However, we do know that arrows represent children
 - i. PSA. 127:4 "As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth."
 - ii. So it could be that this rider is "childless"
 - c. I think it likely this indicates that OTHERS will do his dirty work
 - i. He will use guile and subterfuge and WIN "arrows"

- ii. He will MAKE for himself children STEAL arrows
- iii. Right now, the devil wants to steal YOUR children
- iv. He's doing it in the world today
- 2. This rider will show up and a ready-made army awaits
 - a. He looks nice, dressed in white
 - b. Says all the politically correct things the world wants to hear
 - c. This world is PRIMED for him to arrive LOOK AROUND
- 3. The majority of high schoolers today believe:
 - a. That the U.S. is SYSTEMATICALLY racist
 - b. That men can become women!
 - c. That SPEECH is violence!
- C. This rider is the Anti-Christ NOT JESUS REV. 6:2
 - 1. He is a ruler but not God A crown was given (not earned, not worthy)
 - a. The Beasts and the 24 Elders and all of Heavens Hosts are SILENT
 - b. They DO NOT WORSHIP the horse and this rider!
 - c. Be careful of commentaries (Matthew Henry says this is Jesus)
 - 2. The rider's aim is to CONQUER, not bring peace
 - a. Each horse introduced by a beast
 - b. This one represented by the First Beast "like a lion"
 - c. Lions DEVOUR, tear, and rend The Devil is a ROARING LION
 - 3. <u>1 THESS. 5:3</u> "For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape."
 - 4. This white horse and its rider is NOT the Lord Jesus Christ

II. THE RED HORSE

- A. A picture of danger and bloodshed the color RED is very meaningful
 - 1. That "great man" welcomed by the world to solve all their problems
 - 2. When the devil takes over there can only be destruction and death
 - 3. It is very appropriate to that the communists picked THAT color
 - 4. Introduced by the Second Beast "like a calf" Blood will flow
- B. Power is given to this horseman REV. 6:4
 - 1. He was given a SWORD a picture of military might
 - 2. The longer the sword the more it can reach "GREAT SWORD"
 - 3. This is a picture of the anti-Christ taking over the world systems
- C. Peace is taken from the Earth
 - 1. That's what the devil wants to kill and destroy
 - 2. This is the opposite of Jesus
 - a. Announced with Peace and He BRINGS Peace
 - b. <u>LUKE 2:14</u> "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

- c. <u>PHIL. 4:7</u> "And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."
- d. ROM. 5:1 "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:"
- 3. This red horse and its rider is NOT the Lord Jesus Christ

III. THE BLACK HORSE

- A. A picture of dark days, hunger, and famine REV. 6:6
 - 1. The disciples asked about His coming and the end of the world
 - MATT 24:7 "For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places."
 - 3. Jesus told them that "All these are the BEGINNING of sorrows."
- B. Food will be in short supply
 - 1. Have you ever seen anything like the shelves of stores today?
 - a. Once in a while, for short periods, hurricanes, blizzards, etc.
 - b. But now great big GAPS on the shelves
 - c. Partly because stores can't get employees
 - d. But there's a lot of talk about food supply now
 - 2. A "measure" of wheat for a penny
 - a. I don't know that anyone can precisely describe a "measure"
 - b. Perhaps enough to make a single "cake" or small bread (Naan)
 - c. Not enough for a small meal for a boy (FIVE loaves and two fishes)
 - 3. We DO know what a penny is a DAY'S WAGE
 - a. So, work all day to earn not enough to feed oneself
 - b. Or one's family
 - c. GREAT famine
- C. We know that there will be NO buying or selling without the mark of the beast
 - 1. Witness the proceedings:
 - a. Running after the world's ways and sin in the White Horse
 - b. Creates complete control of the world's systems in the Red Horse
 - c. Which brings complete chaos and want in the Black Horse
 - 2. Notice the introduction by the third beast "face like a man"
 - a. Sow to the wind and reap the whirlwind
 - b. The NATURAL result of the sin of mankind EARNED WAGES
 - c. JAMES 1:14-15 "But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. (15) Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."
 - 3. This black horse and its rider is NOT the Lord Jesus Christ

IV. THE PALE HORSE

- A. The color of a corpse REV. 6:7-8
 - 1. After giving Satan complete control, the blood begins to flow
 - 2. He drains everything of all life, and what is left is just a husk
 - 3. Remember that DEATH and HELL follows this horse
 - a. Power was given to THEM (not just the rider) REV. 6:8
 - b. People say something was like "hell on earth."
 - c. This LITERALLY is Hell on Earth
- B. What does the Pale Rider Bring? Death.
 - 1. Power to KILL the FOURTH part of the Earth
 - 2. One in Four will die (man, beasts, plants, ALL)
 - a. Some will die with by the hand of man (sword)
 - b. Some will die by hunger and famine
 - c. Some will die by the beasts of the earth
 - i. God gave man dominion over the beasts
 - ii. But now all of nature has gone crazy
 - d. Some will die simply by the power of death unleashed
 - i. Disease, murders, accidents, earthquakes, etc.
 - ii. People think COVID-19 is frightening?
 - iii. This will be TRUE pandemic
 - iv. And probably not just ONE!
- C. This horse and its rider are introduced by the fourth beast (like an eagle)
 - 1. Eagles are the sovereigns of the air and no wonder there
 - 2. EPH. 2:2 "Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the PRINCE OF THE POWER OF THE AIR, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:"
- D. This pale horse is NOT the Lord Jesus Christ!

V. THE TRUE WHITE HORSE

- A. We've seen all the FAKES
 - 1. The Heaven opened and we see the true WHITE HORSE REV. 19:11-16
 - 2. That is REAL LORD and Savior Jesus Christ
 - 3. He's coming in POWER, and none can stand before His Word
- B. What about you? Who's side are you on?
 - 1. We know what the devil's side brings death, destruction, loss
 - 2. There is only one way to be on the Lord's side the winning side
 - 3. Turn to Him, accept His FREE GIFT of Salvation
 - a. Purchased by His own blood, the debt of sin paid in full!
 - b. And He offers it to you if you'll only receive it
 - c. But TODAY is the day of Salvation the Bible Says
 - d. Don't wait for that first white horse...
- C. That is be Saved today!