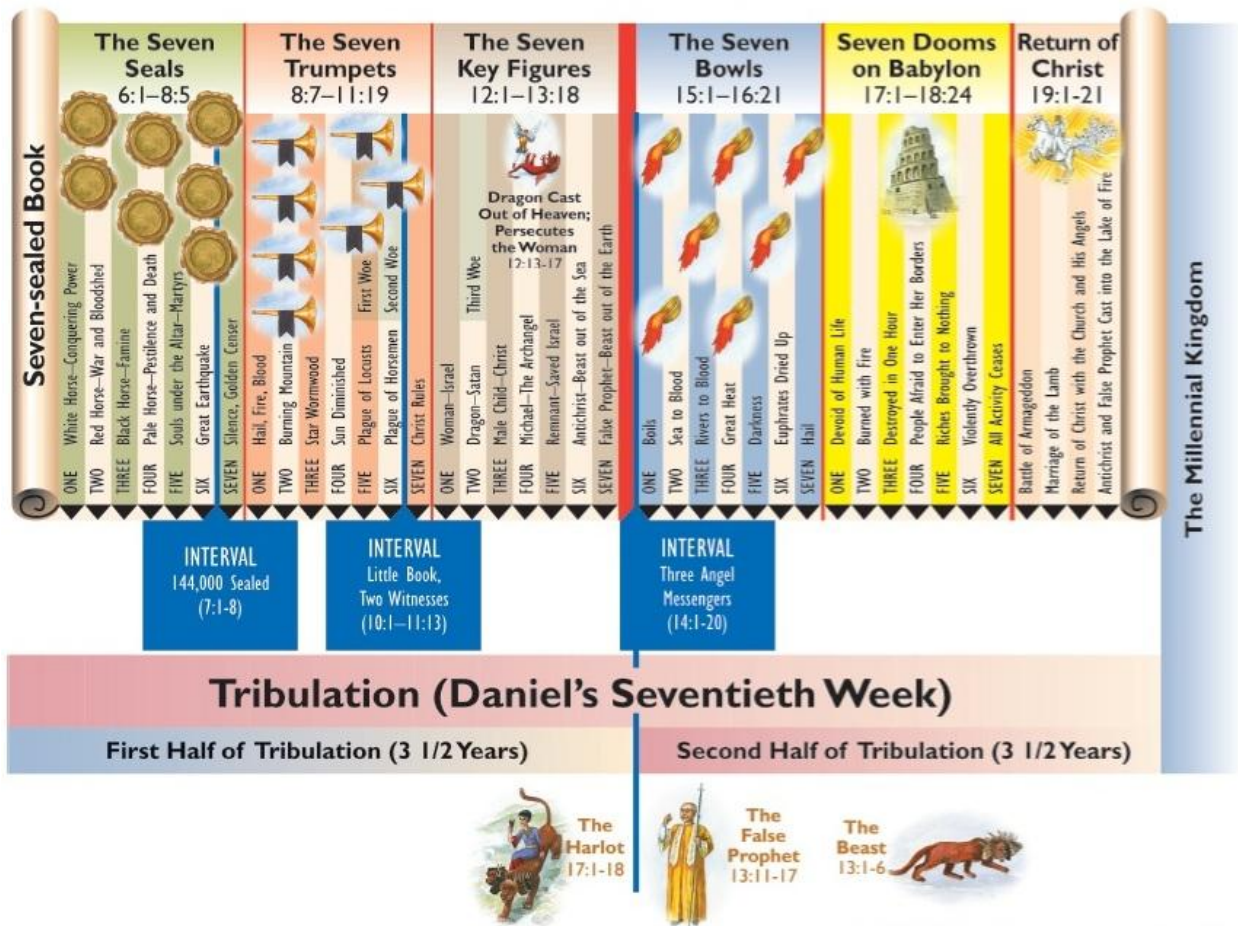


Revelation Chapter Six

- Chapters 6-19 describe for us the future Tribulation of Israel (70th week of Daniel/Jacob's trouble).
 - Chapters 6-10 describe the breaking of the seven seals and the first six trumpets.
 - Chapters 11-19 describe the seventh trumpet and the seven bowls – the destruction of Satan's forces of evil in the Tribulation.
- The Lord Jesus Christ unleashes all of these events by personally breaking the seven seals, six of them being broken here in chapter 6.

The Tribulation



- The First Seal – Rider on a White Horse [6:1-2].
 - One of the four living creatures responds to the breaking of the seal by saying, “Come” [6:1].
 - The horse is white giving the appearance of holiness [6:2], but make no mistake this is the prince who is to come [Dan 9:26] – i.e. Antichrist, arriving under a veil of deception [2 Cor 11:14; 2 Thess 2:10].
 - The rider has a bow, but no arrows [6:2] indicating a peaceful conquest which is quickly followed by destruction [1 Thess 5:3; Jer 6:14; Dan 11:40-44].
- The Second Seal – Rider on a Red Horse [6:3-4].
 - A second of the four living creatures responds to the breaking of the seal by saying, “Come” [6:3].
 - The superficial, Satanic peace comes to an end [6:4].
 - This individual is given a “great sword” [6:4] rather than a bow without arrows indicating intense military action to take place in the Tribulation.
 - This military action is likely fairly short-lived because two more horsemen follow (could this be the Gog and Magog warfare of Ezekiel 38-39?).
- The Third Seal – Rider on a Black Horse [6:5-6].
 - A third of the four living creatures responds to the breaking of the seal by saying, “Come” [6:5].
 - This individual is carrying scales, indicating his control over the world economy [6:5].
 - The world-wide food shortage is brought about by governmental interference, not by drought, etc.
 - A denarius (about one day’s wages) will buy enough food for one large meal or three small ones [6:6] – in John’s day a denarius would buy ~ 15 times this amount.
- The Fourth Seal – Rider on a Pale Horse [6:7-8].
 - A fourth of the four living creatures responds to the breaking of the seal by saying, “Come” [6:7].
 - This individual, named Death, & Hades who follows will slaughter ¼ of the world’s population [6:8].
 - The tools these individuals will use include war (the sword), famine, pestilence and wild beasts [6:8].
 - Today’s population of 7,052,908,348 would mean that 1,763,227,087 people would die at the hands of these two Tribulational murderers.
- The Fifth Seal – Tribulational Martyrs [6:9-11].
 - These “souls” were killed because they maintained their testimony under persecution [6:9].
 - They cry out to the Lord asking for vengeance upon the “earth dwellers” who killed them [6:10].

- They are given white robes to wear and are told to wait (rest) for a little while because vengeance will come when their number is complete [6:11].
- Because spirits cannot wear robes, this passage is used to argue for “interim” bodies for believers.
- The Sixth Seal – Worldwide Terror [6:12-17].
 - A great (worldwide) earthquake occurs [6:12] massively affecting the landscape [6:14].
 - More earthquakes will follow [8:5; 11:13-19; 16:18].
 - The heavens undergo a dramatic “quake” of their own [6:12-14]...
 - The sun becomes black [6:12].
 - The moon becomes like blood [6:12].
 - The stars fall from the sky [6:13].
 - The sky appears like a scroll being rolled up [6:14].
 - People all over the world are afraid and desire to hide from the Father and the Lamb [6:15-17].
 - They recognize that God (the Father and the Lamb) is the source of the wrath [6:16-17].
 - However, they are unrepentant and would rather be crushed by falling rocks than face the wrath [6:16].
 - The events of the 6th seal mark the unfolding of long-ago promised worldwide judgment [Isa 13:10; 34:4; Joel 2:10, 31; Matt 24:29].

Parallels Between the Olivet Discourse and the Seal Judgments of Revelation

Event	Revelation 6	Matthew 24	Mark 13	Luke 21
False messiahs, false prophets.	Rev. 6:2	Mtt. 24:5, 11	Mark 13:6	Luke 21:8
Wars.	Rev. 6:2-4	Mtt. 24:6-7	Mark 13:7	Luke 21:9
International discord.	Rev. 6:3-4	Mtt. 24:7	Mark 13:8	Luke 21:10
Famines.	Rev. 6:5-8	Mtt. 24:7	Mark 13:8	Luke 21:11
Pestilences.	Rev. 6:8	-	-	Luke 21:11
Persecution, martyrdom.	Rev. 6:9-11	Mtt. 24:9	Mark 13:9-13	Luke 21:12-17
Earthquakes.	Rev. 6:12	Mtt. 24:7	Mark 13:8	Luke 21:11
Cosmic phenomena.	Rev. 6:12-14	[Mtt. 24:29] ⁶⁷	[Mark 13:24-25]	Luke 21:11