

# STUDIES IN REVELATION

With

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**&**

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**H**ARVEST  
BAPTIST TABERNACLE

# The Seven Seals

## Revelation 7:1- 7:17

### Part II

#### The Seven Seal Judgments

#### Seal 5 and 6

Remember after chapter 4:1, the church is seen no more upon the earth in the present ministry. The church is forever in the presence of God. (*1 Thess. 4:16-17*)

As we have seen Chapter Five introduces us to God having dealt with the world in love and in grace, will now speak to them in righteous wrath and supernatural judgments revealed in the opening of the seven sealed scroll or book. It is the day of reckoning for the nations of the earth.

At the opening of this fifth seal the location shifts from the devastation on earth to heaven and the event taking place there.

**The Fifth Seal: Christians martyred VSS 9-11.** Religious Persecution of Martyrs, the souls of the Martyred.

The first four seals are very separate in nature from the final three in this group of Seven. In these final three seals the scene darkens even further than even the previous scenes John has witnessed already.

Verse 11 shows us that this is only the beginning of the persecutions, this fifth seal is **religious persecution**.

*Leviticus 4:7; 11.* The blood mentioned here is significant. "The life, or soul is in the blood."

**Who** are these martyred souls found under the heavenly sacrifice altar?

— Not those martyred during the church age, they have already been taken up in the rapture. These martyrs killed after the

The rapture takes place.

— These are the people who were saved after the rapture, and who paid for that testimony with their lives.

— These who were murdered will be "sacrificed" for having placed their faith in God.

— They are those who in the first of the tribulation period that refused the Antichrist and his form of religion.

**Where** are these souls found?

— under the heavenly altar, further proof that they were offered as a sacrifice, that is they were Martyrs and that they were not martyrs of the church age, but rather those martyred during the first half of the tribulation.

— the plea is from heaven to be accomplished in judgment on those still on earth.

**Why** were they martyred? “For the word of God, and for the testimony which they held”.

— They starved or were killed outright for their Faith. John’s own exile was “for the word of God, and for his testimony of Jesus Christ”. (*Rev. 1:9*)

— These are true martyrs, why? Because, of the reason for which they died. Many have died in the first four seals yet these die and are sealed with their own blood for their testimony.

— even during this terrible time there will be a testimony pointing to Christ and the redemption that is revealed in the opening of the scroll.

**What** are they saying?

—Pleading that their blood might be avenged (no longer under the dispensation of grace they are calling for judgment.)

—“How Long” *Psalm 74:9-10; Psalm 94:3-4*. (Imprecatory Psalm) not doubting he would avenge but how long would it be

delayed. Asking God for vindication for them.

“Avenge”= means to do justice; to execute judgment or punishment.

**When** shall this come to pass? A “little season”. Or a “short time” About three and a half years. This is fulfilled in *Revelation 20:4-6*

— fellow servants and their brethren = that is until the persecution is passed through and the number of martyrs fulfilled,

then their oppressors and persecutors might be punished. Why does God allow this to go on? These are hard questions

For us to understand. We must trust God and his sovereignty.  
(*Gen. 18:25*) (*Deut. 32: 3,4*) Moses

(*Rev. 7:14*) “These are they.”

**The Sixth Seal: Catastrophic Events VSS 12-17** — The Day of Divine

Wrath VSS. 12:17

The Removal of Mercy from the Earth

There is now an alarming increase in the intensity and tempo of the judgments that are falling upon the earth.

These events precede the end of the tribulation.

Combining of celestial phenomena — sun, moon, stars. These warning match those of the Lord Jesus Christ in the Gospels

— Mathew 24:29. Sun and moon darkened, stars fall from heaven. Heavens shake.

— Mark 13:24-26. The Son of man coming in Glory.

— Luke 21:25-26

— Mathew 24-7

— Romans 8:22-23

**In the breaking of this sixth seal John sees 6 catastrophic things take place on the earth.**

1. The earth struck by great earthquake (*Rev. 6:12-14*)
2. The Sun becomes “Black as sackcloth hair”. (*Rev. 6:12*)
3. The moon becomes like “blood” in color. (*Rev. 6:12*)
4. The stars fall to earth, like a fig tree dropping its unripe fruit in a great wind. (*Rev. 6:13*)  
(Meteor shower with great devastation)
5. The sky is torn asunder, “like a scroll when it is rolled up.” (*Rev. 6:14*)
6. Every mountain and island will be moved to some extent. (*Rev. 6:14*)

The Seventh seal ushers in the next series of Seven judgments. There is a parenthesis here in the Bible that presents to us the 144,000 witnesses. This will be presented as a separate study. (A portion of this staff study)

The trumpets will be introduced as a separate study. (A portion of this staff study)