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| **Grant Street Baptist Church** | **Sermon Notes** |
| **Jeremy Beck** | **June 16, 2021** |

Title: *“The Four Horsemen”*

Scripture: Revelation 6:1-17

 Intro: Chapter 6 gives a vivid description of the horrible seven year Tribulation Period that begins immediately after the rapture

Message: **1.** **The White Horse** *(vs’ 1-2)*

1 I watched as the Lamb (Jesus) opened the first of the seven seals (as the seals are broken the events of the Tribulation are revealed). Then I heard one of the four living creatures say in a voice like thunder (God’s judgment begins), “Come (Greek means Proceed)!” 2I looked, and there before me was a white horse (horse was the animal of war in biblical days…white horse was ridden by the king…this is NOT Jesus Christ, but the Antichrist; an imposter that comes to power after the rapture…he is Satan’s masterpiece)! Its rider held a bow (sign of military power…Antichrist will be a great military leader), and he was given a crown (empowered by Satan and will conquer the world), and he rode out as a conqueror bent on conquest (will go forth conquering until the whole world is under his domain).

 **2. The Red Horse** *(vs’3-4)*

3When the Lamb opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, “Come (Greek means Proceed)!” 4Then another horse came out, a fiery red one (represents massive bloodshed). Its rider was given power (power derives from Satan) to take peace from the earth (peace will be totally absent from this planet and war will be rampant) and to make people kill each other (kill = slaughter violently; through war, violence and bloodshed…total chaos). To him was given a large sword (the Greeks translate this as a small dagger or knife easily concealed…Antichrist will come on a platform of peace, but has concealed “a great sword”, the master at deception).

 **3. The Black Horse** *(vs’5-6)*

5When the Lamb opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, “Come!” I looked, and there before me was a black horse (represents famine; black was used in OT as a symbol of mourning and famine)! Its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand (food will be weighed indicating a time of great scarcity of food brought on by the violent bloodshed of war). 6Then I heard what sounded like a voice among the four living creatures, saying, “Two pounds of wheat for a day’s wages (the amount of food necessary to keep 1 person alive for a day; a person will work all day just to earn enough money to buy food for himself), and six pounds of barley for a day’s wages (food of the poor; a person with a family will be forced to eat whatever he can get in order to feed his family on what he earns), and do not damage the oil and the wine (will still be available to the wealthy)!”

**4. The Pale Horse** *(vs’ 7-8)*

7When the Lamb opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, “Come!” 8I looked, and there before me was a pale horse (represents disease and death)! Its rider was named Death (the only horse where the rider is named), and Hades was following close behind him (represents that death is no relief to these suffering souls, after death they face the judgment of God in Hell). They were given power (destructive power was given by Satan) over a fourth of the earth (Satan is limited by what he can do so is only able to give power over a fourth of the earth) to kill (1/4 of the world will die during the Tribulation) by sword (war), famine (hunger) and plague (disease), and by the wild beasts of the earth (wild animals will be forced to prey on human flesh tracking them down and killing them).

**5. The Fifth Seal** *(vs’ 9-11)*

9When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar (John sees an altar in Heaven, an altar of sacrifice) the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God and the testimony they had maintained (a multitude will be saved during the Tribulation, but will be slain “violently murdered” by the Antichrist as they confess Jesus Christ). 10They called out in a loud voice, “How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?” (these martyrs are crying out for justice and vengeance) 11Then each of them was given a white robe, and they were told to wait a little longer (God will bring judgment and vengeance in His own time; the suffering of the saints is so short compared to the great eternity of God), until the full number of their fellow servants, their brothers and sisters, were killed just as they had been (a certain number of people will be martyred during the Tribulation that God knows the exact number; at that time His vengeance will be unleashed…God’s message to the martyr’s in vs. 10 is “sit back and rest, I know what I am doing”).

**6. The Sixth Seal** *(vs’ 12-17)*

12I watched as he opened the sixth seal (God’s vengeance begins). There was a great earthquake (first act of vengeance; creates fear in the heart of humanity on earth). The sun turned black (second act of vengeance; darkness not more light) like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole moon turned blood red (third act of vengeance; creates total chaos among nature), 13and the stars in the sky fell to earth (forth act of vengeance; no longer order in the heavens), as figs drop from a fig tree when shaken by a strong wind. 14The heavens receded like a scroll being rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place (fifth act of vengeance; mountains crumble, islands wash away). 15Then the kings of the earth, the princes, the generals, the rich, the mighty (strong men), and everyone else, both slave and free, hid in caves and among the rocks of the mountains (no one will be exempt from the judgment of God; all will be filled with terror; all will try to hide from God). 16They called to the mountains and the rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! 17For the great day of their wrath has come, and who can withstand it?” (They foolishly think that death will be an escape from the terrible judgment of this now angry God; no one can escape it)

Application:

* The Four Horsemen
* There will no longer be an easy way out…those that become believers after the rapture will face a violent murderous death
* Those that reject God to the end will eventually become filled with terror and face a very angry God that no one can escape
* When’s the last time you prayed for the lost?
* How much must you hate someone to not tell them about Jesus to prevent them from the Tribulation?