

**Sunday, May 5, 2024**

*1 Timothy 4:13, "Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching."*

**Title:** Instruction, "Come" Part 2

**Series:** Revelation ... 11

**Text:** Revelation 6:1 - 17

**Purpose:** I want to INFORM my congregation of the significance and the application of the six seals that the Lord Jesus Christ opens in Revelation chapter 6.

### **Introduction:**

Last week we began a devotional consideration of Revelation 6; we briefly looked at the opening of the first four seals: 1. Come and Observe the First Seal; 2. Come and Observe Seals 2, 3, and 4

~ Main views of understanding Revelation: 1) Premillennial Pretribulational View; 2) Premillennial Posttribulational View; 3) Premillennial Midtribulational View; 4) Premillennial Pretribulational Partial Rapture View; 5) Premillennial Prewrath Rapture View; 6) Evangelical Postmillennial View; 7) St. Augustine's Amillennial View; 8) A Second Amillennial View (B. B. Warfield)

Source: Spirit Filled Life Bible, NKJV, Thomas Nelson Publishers Copyright 1991

~ One of the key things to note is in chapters 4 and 5 the throne is the focus and the response is WORSHIP; here in chapter 6 the focus is the opening of the seals and the response is MISSION! The speaking of the four living creatures to John is an address to the Church, the Bride of Christ!

~ "The Lamb is at the beginning of His crusade to touch the world. The bow reminds us of God being like a Father who takes His children as arrows in a quiver. To Father God, His children are like arrows that He sends on missions. And Jesus comes with a bow to take His own, commission them, and send them, like arrows, to various places of ministry. That can be touching people in your neighborhood or touching people in the farthest corner of the earth. Jesus comes with a single crown because it is the beginning—the crown He has received through His triumph of the Cross. He will gain crown upon crown upon crown as triumph follows triumph follows triumph. He goes forth on a white horse that is representative of the righteous leadership of our Savior conquering and to conquer. His kingdom is beginning to spread—the glorious growth and expansion of His kingdom rule."

Jack Hayford, E QUAKE, Thomas Nelson Publishers,  
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John 20:21; Matthew 28:18 – 20; Acts 1:8;  
2 Corinthians 5:20; Ephesians 2:8 – 10

### **1. Reading of Matthew 24:1 – 40**

~ vs. 4 – 5, "*See that no one leads you astray...will lead many astray.*"

~ vs. 6 – 8, "*wars and rumors of wars...end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation...All these are but the beginning of the birth pains.*"

~ vs. 9 – 10, "*deliver you up to tribulation*" (persecution)

~ vs. 12, "*lawlessness will be increased*"

~ vs. 14, "*And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.*"

~ vs. 29 – 31, does this not sound like the sixth seal?

~ vs. 39 – 40, When? "*For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.*"

### **2. Reading of Luke 21:5 – 38:**

~ vs. 11, "*famines and pestilences.*"

~ vs. 12, "*persecute you*"

~ vs. 13, "*This will be your opportunity to bear witness.*"

~ vs. 24, "*until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.*"

~ vs. 36, "*But stay awake at all times*"

### **3. Reading of Revelation 6:9 – 11:**

~ vs. 9 – 11, "*When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne. (10) They cried out with a loud voice, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" (11) Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their servants and their brothers should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been.*"

~ Fox's Book of Martyrs

~ Open Doors Ministry estimates 5,621 killed in 2023 for faith-based reasons compared to 5,898 in 2022 and 4,761 in 2021. 14,766 churches and Christian properties were attacked.

~ Persecution of the church may have begun in Acts 7:54 – 60 with the stoning of Stephen.

### **Conclusion:**

Until the church is removed we are to look to the throne of God and WORSHIP and look at the world knowing we have a divine MISSION.

2 Peter 3:11 – 12, "*Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, (12) waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn.*"

### **Communion**