

I think as we come to this chapter there are things that we need to remember from the other five as we enter into the chapter. We need to remember that the Church of Jesus Christ, and when I say the Church of Jesus Christ, I mean all the believers from every denomination on the face of this planet. I mean all the believers and whatever denominational flag you carry doesn't matter just at that moment.

The whole Church, every believer, has been taken away from us. The Lord Himself has descended and He has called and the saints on earth have risen to meet the Lord in the air. And so the Church has gone from us.

And I think we need to remember this, that not only has the Church gone, but the Holy Ghost has gone. One of these nights the Savior will come again and all the saints will rise to meet Him in the air and the Church in its completeness will go and the Holy Ghost will go. But there will be crowds of unsaved Gentiles and unsaved Jews left behind.

I want you to get this into your mind as we get into this. Because we have already noted, we have seen the Church in heaven under the figure of the 24 elders. And we know that the rewards have been given out for they had received their crowns and cast them at Jesus' feet.

And not only will there be unsaved Gentiles and Jews left behind on this planet, but the Antichrist will be revealed. He'll be taking over down here. And we've already noted in these first five chapters, and especially in chapters four and five, that our Lord Jesus in heaven as the Lamb and as the Lion of the tribe of Judah, that He has become the executor of God's will for this planet.

Because everything that God is going to do with this planet is written in a book. And there's only one example. And it's very important to see that as we start.

You know, for you young preachers, here's something you should think about. When the Lord Jesus walked on this planet in the days of His flesh, He was the example to all the servants of God who would follow after. We can say tonight, He has left us an example that we should follow in His steps.

When He hung on Calvary, it was not so much an example, you know. He was the exchanging Christ on Calvary. He who knew no sin was made sin for us, that we might believe the righteousness of God in Him.

He took our sin and gave us the righteousness of God. If you're a believer tonight, this is what you must believe. That on Calvary, He took your sin in its totality for eternity and gave you the righteousness of God.

You can't get anything better than this. There's nothing bigger, there's nothing holier, there's nothing grander. You are found in the righteousness of God on earth.

You see, He was the example. He was the exchanging Christ. And in the book of Revelation, the first three chapters, He's the examining Christ.

He examined the church. He looked at every piece of work. He weighed every work.

He measured every motion. Well, the one who was the example and the exchanging Christ, the one who examined the church will become the executor of God's will. God means to clear this planet up, you know.

He first of all takes His church out. And then, He allows the Lamb to take the book. And the book has all the details of things that must come to pass hereafter.

And the only executor is the Lamb of God. And that's where we're coming to tonight. The church is home, the Holy Ghost has gone, the Antichrist has appeared on this planet.

And the Lord Jesus is taking the book that contains all the details of the mind of God for this planet. He's taken it out of the hand of God in heaven. Now, the scene that we're going to look at tonight, I think we must be very clear about this, that part of the scene is in heaven.

I think you must be absolutely clear that the Lamb is in heaven. He has taken the book out of the hand of God. And He's about to open the seals, and He will open them one by one.

And as He opens them, the things that are in the mind of God for this planet, as He readjusts it, will take place on this earth. So get it clear in your mind that the Lamb is opening the seals in heaven. And as He does so, certain things happen on earth.

You see, as these four seals are opened this evening of this book, four horsemen appear, sometimes called the four horsemen of the Apocalypse, four horsemen of the Revelation. There's a picture, I think, a great film made, about these four horsemen. You'll find that the Lamb in heaven is opening the seals, that certain things take place on earth.

Let's get the two scenes in. Because unless you do, you're going to make mistakes in the interpretation. You see, it seems easy to see that the first horseman is on earth.

He's going forth conquering unto conquer. There will be no conquering or to conquer in heaven. Whatever he's conquering must be down here.

There's nobody going forth to conquer in heaven. Of course, you who have been coming to the class, you know that the Lamb is in heaven, and you know that the four beasts that are around are drawn in heaven. So get the scene properly, it's most important.

Part of it is in heaven, part of it on earth. The seals in heaven, the sorrows on earth. Now with all that as an introduction, let's really get down to the business of expanding these eight verses.

Verse one. And I saw, that is, John saw. And of course, we learn from chapter four that John had been translated to heaven.

John's in heaven. It is a night when the Lamb opened one of the seals. It's this book with the seven seals, and he's opening one of the seals.

And I heard of it were the noise of thunder, and one of the four beasts said, come and see. So that whole scene is in heaven. The Lamb, the book, the noise, the beast.

Now as our Lord Jesus opened this seal in heaven, this is what John saw happening on earth. Let's get that quite clear. And I saw, and behold, a white horse.

And he that sat on him had a bow, and a crown was given unto him, and he went forth conquering unto conquer. And we must be very careful with this white horse. Just have a good look at it now, as if you were seeing this on a screen.

You can see the white horse alright, and there's no problem there. You can see a person sitting on him, you're not too sure who he is. But he has a bow, it's an instrument of war.

This man is ready for war. You notice there's a crown given unto him, I think he's wearing it. And you'll notice this, he went forth conquering unto conquer.

Now we must be very careful about this. Someone somewhere expanded this symbolism that's here, or this figure of the white horse, of the gospel going forth on earth. And I don't think that you could honestly do that.

You know, when God talks about the gospel going forth, it says, After all went forth to sin. It's quite a different picture, and quite a different figure altogether. You see, when we go preaching the gospel each Sunday evening, we know quite well that it's through the foolishness of preaching that God saves them that believe.

But no conquering warlike demonstration about it. It's just a man standing up and telling the story of the cross. How Christ died for our sins, how he was buried, how he rose again the third day.

And I think to try to take a figure of going forth to conquer and to conquer and make it the gospel must be the greatest lot of baloney that was ever preached. I don't think it's got anything to do with the gospel. And then I noticed that quite a lot of the commentators, they say, This is a picture of Christ.

And I don't know how they get muddled like that at all. Because you can see that this is on earth. Well, if they'd only looked for a second.

The Lamb is opening the fields at that moment in heaven. I don't know how they get it mixed up at times, but they do. And you'll find out the rest of the fields are open, that is, still in heaven.

You see, some people just get a glimmer of truth and they mix it up too easily. When you come to the book of the Revelation, let's go right over to chapter 19 just for a moment. Revelation 19, verse 11.

And I saw heaven opened, John seeing heaven opened, and a world of white loss. And he that sat upon them was called Faithful and True, capital F, capital T. It's one of the double titles of Christ. And in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns. It's a different word. Were many diadems, the word you see.

And I think that some of the commentators, knowing that this is in Revelation 19, they immediately say that this is the Lord on this white loss. But I think that when we have done with the other three horses, I think that you'll find out very clearly and unmistakably that it cannot be Christ. You'll find that the other three have to do with desolation and starvation and destruction.

And I think the four stand together. You see, it's someone on earth very like Christ or pretending to be Christ. I'm sure it's the Antichrist.

I'm sure that this is part of the delusion. You see, when God takes his church out of this earth, he's going to send certain things down here. Oh, I know the common market will be there, and the Antichrist will be there, and there'll be a lot of things there that God is going to throw a spanner or two in the workshop.

The first thing that God's going to send to this earth when he takes the church out is strong delusions for the down people. You know, there's a lot of people who don't believe that. Well, you'll believe it from this night forward.

Let's go back to 2 Thessalonians. 2 Thessalonians, and we're at the second chapter. 2 Thessalonians chapter 2. God writes into these tapes here, and he says this, Now we beseech you, he's pleading with them, We beseech you, brethren.

Which lets you know he's talking to believers. And he's beseeching them by these two texts. By the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him.

That's the basis of the whole play. He says, you know, he's going to come and he's going to take us home. We're going to gather unto him.

And I beseech you by these two texts that you be not soon taken in mind, or be troubled. Neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letters from us. You see, somebody had written a letter and put Paul's name to it.

And they were saying things that were not true, and they were troubling these young believers. And he's saying to them, now I beseech you by the coming of our Lord Jesus, and by our gathering together unto him. Don't you let anybody upset you.

That comes first. That's where we stand tonight. We're waiting on the Lord coming, and our gathering together unto him.

Now when that takes place, we'll be home in heaven like Revelation 4 and 5. Now, down on this earth, verse 8 comes in there. And then, and not till then, shall that wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming. That is, when he comes at the end of the tribulation period to take up the kingdom and rule for a thousand years.

Now, it's this wicked one we want to get into focus just now. Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan, with all power and strides and lying wonders. And I think there's a lot of lying wonders going on in this world at this moment.

And I'm not just altogether sure if Nixon is not joking. But I'll not go into that just now. And with all deceivableness upon righteousness, and then they perish.

There's a crowd going to be left behind here. They're going to perish. Because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

Some places in this whole world that I should go preaching, and I would know right well that the people there don't love the truth. You just get one meeting there and you'll never be back again. They don't love the truth.

Now, just because there's a crowd down here on this planet who received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. They don't like the truth. Verse 11.

For this cause God shall send them strong delusions. Now, you never thought God would do that, did you? You know, God so loved the world that he gave, that he sent. He's only begotten some now, that's all right.

And delivered them up to the death for us all to. And perish not. The people who don't love that truth, it's all they think they're getting sprinkled in your name on the church roll, that's everything.

And if you dare to say it to them, they'll hardly let me say it in here. If you dare to, they don't love the truth. That's their trouble.

If you don't love the truth, what do you know? What's the answer? Well, God will see you'll get it, you know. If you just work at it long enough, God will give you the lie all right. You see, God is going to send strong delusions of this old world.

So these very people, watch this, verse 11. For this God, God shall send them strong delusion that they should believe and the word should be the lie. And it should be capital C and capital L. Because it's the anti-Christ we're talking about.

He's the lie. He's not the Christ. Oh, I know he'll pretend to be.

And I know a whole lot of them will accept him. Why some of us are supposed to be born again, it's possible to believe that it's the Christ when it's the anti-Christ. Yes, and watch what this means.

For this God, God shall send them strong delusion that they should believe the lie. That they all might be damned. Oh, I know that God would all want to see a book.

Oh, I know he'll go all out to damn you. Oh, I'm fiddling about with you. You're all saved in this place.

Do you think you're spitting God's faith forever? Not on your life, you're not. God takes the church away tonight and shuts the door and you're facing damn you. That you all might be damned.

So if you're dealing with this old world, you know, I'll tell you he'll kill one of them. It's delusion he's going to send. And I'm sure this first cross, this symbolism, this figure, that for a moment looks almost like Christ.

That this is the symbolic figure of the delusion that God's going to send to this earth. Now, let's go on with the rest of the horses. We're back at Revelation 6, verse 3. And John says, when he had opened the second seal, I had the second beast.

Because these beasts have something to do. They've got a job from God. Something to do with the cleansing of this planet and with the cleansing of the Jewish nation.

Do you remember when Ezekiel's great prophecy began? We saw the four beasts, we looked at them the other night. Now the moment that the second seal is opened in heaven, John sees again, and there went out another horse. And the very fact that another is there shows that they were related.

Another horse that was red. And power was given to him that sat there on. See the horse, see the rider.

Power was given to him that sat there on to take things from the earth. Not just from Austria, you know. Not just from Britain, even.

Let's get it as it is, from the earth. You know, as we look around this whole planet of ours now, and gaze at the news on the TV, why we know that north and south and east and west, there are troubles and wars and terrorists abroad here and there and yonder. But there's a great lot of this planet where they have peace of a kind even now.

But if God takes the church of Jesus Christ out one of these nights, and leaves behind these unsaved Gentiles and unsaved Jews, and the Antichrist appears, and blots the crowd that he's the Christ, then he'll

take peace from this earth. And I mean from the earth. Now, what's exactly what it says? Because every word's very important in this book.

God's going to allow him, you know, to take peace from the earth. Now, here's the phrase I want you to get the hold of. And that they should kill one another.

Did you get that? Because that's not war, mind you. And that is not the terrorists abroad either. That's civil war.

When you start to kill one another, that's civil war. And I think as we have gazed at the brutalities that have been accomplished in Vietnam, I think we can see the horrors of war. War's a terrible thing.

And I think that terrorism is worse than war. Because when you're at war, you know you're at war. And you can't be sure of even certain in this meeting.

And you wouldn't know the warnings when it would come in the terrorism. Let me say this very carefully, that while war is terrible, and terrorism is more terrible, then I can tell you that civil war is worse of all. And we've been on the edge of civil war in this very little land of ours.

What about the whole world on it? We're not talking about civil war in Austria now. We're talking about civil war. And if you're not safe, you'll not only be in hell hereafter, you're going to leave some of your sons and daughters behind for this island.

You couldn't squeeze some of you old dead Baptists out for the damn meeting, you know. And if the Lord comes and takes you home, your big fella or your big girl might be left in the midst of us. If you're that dead and dumb that nobody can talk to you, maybe these visions will wake you up a wee bit.

Because if you're fooling around with the salvation when the prayer meeting is all that's needed, God help your children. This is going to happen, you know. Because God's determined to cleanse this earth.

And it says here, and there went out another horse that was red, and power was given to him that sat there on the six peaks from the earth, that they should kill one another. And there was given unto him a great sword. You know, God will give him power and allow him authority.

And what a scene it will be. You see, God's going to cleanse this earth. He's got it all written in the book, and Christ takes the book, and he's the executor of the will of God, and here's the things happening.

Delusion will come. And desolation will come. Look at those files.

And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld a more black horse, and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. I just want you to get that, because balances indicate here a scarcity of food.

You'll see that when we go on. I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny. And he said, What not the oil and the wine? Because there's going to come a famine in the agricultural world of the wheat and the barley.

And there's going to come a failure in the orchards when we talk about the oil, the olives, and the grapevines and the wine. But I think there's something else there, you know. It's usually thought that the oil and the wine is something that's a luxury for the rich.

And we think of the oil in the Far East, we think of them anointing themselves, and we've got a whole lot of toilet requisites now that we use and all the rest of it, and the wine. Think about the luxury for the rich, that the ordinary barley and wheat, you know, may be for the poor. For God's determined to deal with the bushcrops.

You know, when I was a young fellow, I went to work for Dixon at Dixon Nursery, Hallmark. And you should have seen old Dixon. White trousers, white coat, white robe, he had pulled down by the trunks.

He thought he was out of the jungle. And that's where I think he came from, really. But in those days, well dare you talk to him with your cap on.

Take your cap off, hold it at your side, you know. Well dare you. Nobody would have dared to go up and talk to him with a cap on.

And I'll tell you that you punch the clock at seven in the morning. And you punch it up six at night, it's a ten hour day, you know. And it's six days per week.

And I got eight and fourpence. But thank God, but eightpence are for stamp. Eight and fourpence.

And you know, my mother needed this eight and fourpence so much that she would drum it into me not to squeak. I was a sort of rebel all my days. I was ready to kill an old Dixon sometimes.

But you know, these old Victorians ruled the rest. And there was me creatures there working with not a boot in my foot. And they died, some of them, in early age, you know.

Because of starvation, everything else. And when Dixon died, he left six hundred thousand to his sons. No wonder I was nearly a communist.

There were times, you know, when I would see the socialist side all right. And these boys asked for all they got. But the trouble we're in tonight is that the pendulum has changed and it is swung over now.

It's the boss comes with a cap in the hand now. And he doesn't keep out of it and he does it again. I remember when this was changing around, we had the character.

And the workman, or the poor as you like, or labor as you like, was beginning to get the better of capitalism. And they knew that when they combined and stood together they could fix them. And I can tell Heath that they can fix them yet.

And I remember once a little fellow coming up in the morning, he was late. Half seven it was, he should be there at seven. Old Dixon was getting cooled down and was walking up and down outside.

He said, lift again this morning Harvey. And he walked on and he said, so am I sir. Things were beginning to change then, weren't they? Well you know the trouble has been that the capitalists were wrong for a long time and tried to rob the poor man and the government.

And the pendulum has swung over. And it's maybe worth too much. Because the poor man is not prepared to do an honest day's work now.

For an honest day's pay. And he knows he has a good time. And that's not right either.

No wonder we have labor and conservatives and liberals. And there are times I'm on each side. But I can tell you this.

That while they twist and work in wickedness and crookedness with one another, that God's going to tame the level. Because God is neither socialist nor going to tame the whole lot of them. And he takes the tricks out of you.

And he sends illusion. And he sends desperation when they kill one another. And he sends starvation.

Some of the wise men almost foresee this now. They talk day by day of what is coming upon this earth. Because that the earth will not be able to bear for the population.

Now let's go on a step further. Verse seven. And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see.

And I looked and behold a pale horse. And his name that sat on him was Death. Death is being personalized here.

And hell followed with him. You know, death and hell are rising abroad here. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth.

To kill with a sword, with hunger, with death, the beasts of the earth. I want you to get the figure here right into your mind. It's the fourth part.

You know, in this old town of ours, we have shooting night after night. Sometimes it's a soldier that's shot in the streets and we're so sorry. Some of these young lads who hardly know where they are or what they're doing.

And it's somebody's fault. Then sometimes it's a Roman Catholic that's attacked and shot. And we're very sorry.

I don't agree with it at any time. Whether it's Protestant or Catholic, it's murder and it's shedding blood. It's wrong to never be right.

Sometimes we have a Sunday like bloody Sunday. And sometimes we have a Friday like the Apricot. And it's bloody Friday, isn't it? You know, we might have a dozen killed or maybe sixteen.

And the whole country bows in sorrow. You haven't seen anything yet. There's coming a day when the fourth part of this town... Supposing for the sake of making it easy for me, we say there's 32,000 in the town tonight.

Or there's one morning that 8,000 of them will be dead. And it's not only going to happen in Logan. But at the same time, in Banbridge, in Portadown, in Lisbon, in Belfast, and all over the world.

God's going to tame this world. God's going to tame the world. These four horsemen are just symbolic figures of God sending delusion.

And sending desolation in civil war. And sending starvation to rich and poor. And sending destruction to every town and village.

We're only beginning to see the thing. You know, as we go on with the other three fields and then go on into the field. We're going to be frightened before this is over.

But one thing that I want to impress upon the meeting each evening. That seeing, you know, these things. Seeing, you know, the Christ coming.

Seeing it, you know, the church won't go to night. Seeing that, you know, what your sons and daughters might have went to. Who are on stage.

Oh, your old father or your old mother. Isn't it time we woke up? Wonder what we do for Christ. Oh, I know that the whole lot of you come on Sunday, every Sunday morning.

We can't get tapes. Bless you. And I know about the giving of this church.

Last year this church gave to our own missionaries. Five thousand pounds. One hundred pounds per week.

Well, that's great giving. I know all about that. But I can say this tonight.

There's a whole bunch of you. And you've never brought a sinner in your life to a meeting. You're just warm a seat at times.

And your next door neighbor's on her way to hell. And you talk over the place. But it doesn't matter.

Time that we've begun to think about our New World, our Catholic or Protestant world. It doesn't matter. We'll be in hell and on stage for eternity if we don't get a move on.

Have a look at these four horses. Have a look at the vision that God's given to you just now of what is coming upon this planet. So Lord, I led a wee man called John Carson to the Lord once upon a time.

He was a private detective to the Prime Minister. He was a little short man. He was only about five feet.

You would never have taken him for a detective. And I can remember the night that this little man knelt with me. And I can feel his body trembling, yes.

But he came to know Christ. A few weeks later he said to me, Pastor, you know, I've found out I can't sing. And I've come to the prayer meeting and I can't pray and I'll never be able to pray.

I can pray at home, but I can't pray here. But Pastor, see one of these seats in this church that holds seven people. I'm bringing six every Sunday night.

And he did. It was never a Sunday he missed. But the nobility of Lansing.

Lord, sweet God. What are you doing for the Lord? Disturbing people, put God help you. You can paint the walls and let your foot go to hell, you know.

It's time we began to work for the Lord and not for prodders and ghosts. They must work for Christ. And perish it.

Let it be your old mother's. God give us a vision in these days. That will bring revival to us.

That we'll never be the same again. Next Tuesday, God willing. We have a few more things to do on the wisdom of the soul.

We're going to sing together. Seven hundred and seventy-two. Just the first and the last verses.

Seven hundred and seventy-two. Throughout the lifeline. Across the dark waves.

There is a brother whom someone should save. Somebody's brother or her. Then will dare to throw out the lifeline if periled to share.

First and last verses. Seven hundred and seventy-two. Lord, help us to be more concerned about the eternal whereabouts of men and women than we've ever been before.

Part us now in thy fear. And with thy blessing take us to our homes of safety. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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