

THE JUDGMENT CONTINUES REVELATION 6:6-17

Last week we saw the terrible judgments that begin to fall upon the earth during the Great Tribulation as the four horsemen of the Apocalypse appear on the horizon. Tonight we see that things only get worse as those who trust Jesus Christ are executed and the judgment of God continues to fall upon sinful man.

I. THE FIFTH SEAL: TRIBULATION MARTYRS. 6:9-11.

A. Their Identity. 6:9.

1. The Christians were raptured in Revelation 4. Cp. 1 Thess. 4:13-18.
2. These are tribulation saints. See Rev. 7.

B. Their Death. 6:9.

1. Slain as a sacrifice. Cp. Rev. 5:6.
 - a. Perhaps this is why their souls are seen under the altar. Lev. 4:7.
 - b. Apparently slain by being beheaded. See Rev. 20:4.
2. Slain because of their testimony. Matt. 24:9; Rev. 13:15.

C. Their Condition. 6:10,11.

1. They retain their identity. Cp. 2 Sam. 12:23.
2. They are conscious and active.
3. They communicate with the Lord.
4. They know events on earth.
5. They have a form on which they wear robes.

D. Their Consolation. 6:11.

1. God knows the affliction of his people.
2. God will bring that to an end at the appointed time. Rom. 12:19.

II. THE SIXTH SEAL: THE WRATH OF THE LAMB. 6:12-17.

A. The Strangeness of the Phrase.

1. Wrath is not usually associated with a lamb. John 1:29; Isa. 53:7.
2. There is a limit to the patience of God with man's sin. Gen. 6:3; Pro. 29:1.
3. Our God of love is also a consuming fire. Heb. 12:29; Rom. 11:22.

B. The Severity of the Wrath. 6:12-14.

1. The great earthquake.
 - a. This is the first of three great earthquakes in Revelation. See 11:13; 16:18,19.
 - b. The earthquakes were foretold by Jesus. Matt. 24:7.
2. Changes in the sun and moon. Cp. Matt. 24:29. See also Ex. 7-12.
3. Stars falling from the heavens.

* Imagine the people's fear as there is no way to protect themselves from this plague. *

4. The sky rolled up as a scroll.
* The picture is of a great scroll ripping apart in the middle. *
5. The mountains and islands shaken.

C. The Stubbornness of Man. 6:15-17.

1. The overwhelming fear. 6:15,16.
2. The inclusiveness of the judgment. (rich and poor; king and slave). 6:15.
3. The recognition of God's wrath. 6:16,17.
4. The unwillingness to repent. Cp. Rev. 9:20-21; 16:9,11,21.

You do not want to be here during that time. You do not want your friends and loved ones to be here during that dreadful day.