

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

chapters 6 and 7

Lesson 11

Revelation 6 begins a stark contrast from the worship described in Revelation 4,5. God is just and His “justness” involves both worship and judgment. It seems strange to us that worship and judgment should go together, but this is because we do not fully understand either the holiness of God or the sinfulness of man. Nor do we grasp the total picture of what God wants to accomplish and how the forces of evil have opposed Him. God is longsuffering, but eventually He must judge sin and vindicate His servants. As we enter this time of studying God’s wrath, may you experience an even greater appreciation of His vindication of all who believe.

OBSERVATION: Read Revelation 6

1. Read through this week’s verses using both your Observation Worksheet (the last page of this homework) and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they are about?
2. Key words help us to better understand the verses. We have listed below key words. Mark each one in a distinctive way (either with a symbol, highlighting, or some form of boxing, circling, or underlining). Mark each of the key words each time they are used in the text. You may find it difficult to identify whether a word is speaking of the *Father* or *Jesus*. For the purposes of this study, mark the words both ways. Remember to mark any personal pronouns.

Key Words: *God/Father* (the One on the throne), *Jesus* (the Lamb), and *four living creatures*

3. Six *seals* are opened in Revelation 6. Circle the number of each *seal* with a different color and underline what occurs after the *seal* is opened (in that same color).
4. Using the text of Revelation 6, draw (on a separate sheet of paper) what you think John *saw*.
 - a. What did you observe by drawing the descriptions in chapter 6 that you had not noticed before drawing the chapter?

Read Revelation 6:1-8

1. In Revelation 6, *the Lamb* began to open the *seals* of the scroll. What did John hear when the first *seal* was opened? Revelation 6:1b
2. Write a short description of what John saw as each seal was *opened*:
 - a. First Seal – Revelation 6:2
 - b. Second Seal – Revelation 6:3-4
 - c. Third Seal – Revelation 6:5-6
 - 1.) A *denarius* was a full-day's wage and a *quart of wheat* would have been enough for only a loaf of bread. With that in mind, what is being conveyed here?
 - d. Fourth Seal – Revelation 6:7-8
3. According to Romans 1:18-32, why are God's judgments just?
4. Note the terrible atrocities that followed each *seal*. Which one was the most disconcerting to you?
 - a. Why?
5. As you consider the fierceness of God's judgment, how is your appreciation deepened for the worthiness of Jesus to open the *seals*?

Read Revelation 6:9-17

1. According to Revelation 6:9, what did John see when *the fifth seal* was *opened*?
 - a. Matthew 23:34-35 and Hebrews 11:37-39a identify the testimony of martyrs. Read these verses and note your observations.

2. What did these *souls* cry out? Revelation 6:10
 - a. Using Romans 12:19 state the reason this would be a proper cry for vengeance.
 - b. How did these martyrs exemplify the way believers should deal with injustice?

3. What *was given* to these *souls*? Revelation 6:11a
 - a. What does this symbolize? See Revelation 3:5.
 - b. What *was said to them*? Revelation 6:11b
 - 1.) What had to be *completed*?
 - 2.) Why do you suppose it was necessary to wait for every martyr?

4. List the catastrophic events that took place when *the sixth seal was opened*. Revelation 6:12-14
 - a. Link this description with one of the following Scriptures and note any parallels you see:
Isaiah 13:9-10, Isaiah 34:4, Joel 2:31, or Matthew 24:29

5. According to Revelation 6:15, who *hid themselves* when all these calamities took place?
 - a. What did they say *to the mountains and rocks*? Revelation 6:16-17
 - b. Notice the impenitence of these men by their cry at the conclusion of the sixth seal judgment. Comment on this.
 - 1.) How do you suppose their hearts became so hardened against God? See also 1 Timothy 4:1-2 and Hebrews 3:13.

OBSERVATION: Read Revelation 7

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet (the last page of this homework) and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they are about?
2. Key words help us to better understand the verses. We have listed below key words. Mark each one in a distinctive way (either with a symbol, highlighting, or some form of boxing, circling, or underlining). Mark each of the key words each time they are used in the text. You may find it difficult to identify whether a word is speaking of the *Father* or *Jesus*. For the purposes of this study, mark the words both ways. Remember to mark any personal pronouns.
Key Words: *God/Father, Jesus (the Lamb), four living creatures, and elders*
3. Revelation 7 focuses on the *sealing of the 144,000*. Make a list of what the chapter reveals about them.
4. Using the text of Revelation 7, draw (on a separate sheet of paper) what you think John *saw*.
 - a. What did you observe by drawing the descriptions in chapter 7 that you had not noticed before drawing the chapter?

Read Revelation 7:1-8

1. What did John see *after these things*? Revelation 7:1a
 - a. What were they doing? Revelation 7:1b
2. Summarize what took place in Revelation 7:2.
 - a. What did the *angel* say to *the four angels*? Revelation 7:3
 - b. Compare this command with the events in Ezekiel 9:3-6. What do you see?
3. According to Revelation 7:4, *who were sealed*? How many?
4. Use Revelation 7:5-8 to list the *tribes* from which this remnant was *sealed*.
5. What do God's actions on behalf of the *one hundred and forty-four thousand* convey concerning His character?
 - a. Add to this your understanding of God's character using Psalm 4:3 and 2 Peter 2:9.

6. These *children of Israel* received a seal from God to mark His ownership and protection. You also have been *sealed*. Using Ephesians 1:13,14 share how you were sealed.
 - a. How does this reality minister to you?

Revelation 7:9-17

1. Describe the *multitude* that John saw in Revelation 7:9a.
 - a. How does this demonstrate the fulfillment of Jesus' command in Matthew 28:19-20?
 - b. Describe how this *multitude* was arrayed and what they had. Revelation 7:9b
2. From Revelation 7:10, print the cry of the *multitude*.
 - a. How did the *angels, elders, and four living creatures* respond to this declaration? Revelation 7:11
 - b. Using Revelation 7:11 and Luke 15:10, comment on the reaction of heaven to the salvation of men.
 - c. Take a moment to ponder the glory of your salvation. Share your thoughts.
3. From Revelation 7:12, record what the *angels, elders, and living creatures* said.
 - a. With what word did they begin and end their praise?
 - 1.) How does this affirm what they were declaring?
4. What did *one of the elders* ask John? Revelation 7:13
 - a. What was the answer to his question? Revelation 7:14
 - b. What happened to these people? Revelation 7:14c
 - 1.) How were their *robes* made *white*? See Isaiah 1:18 and Revelation 1:5b

5. Describe what was taking place *before the throne of God*. Revelation 7:15
 - a. Compare this scene with Psalm 27:4 and Psalm 84:10 and note your observations.
 - b. How does this heavenly scene inspire you?
6. Bask in the promises of Revelation 7:16–17. What are they?
 - a. How do these promises minister to you personally?
 - b. What heavenly realities are you excited about?

REVIEW: Read Revelation 6,7

1. These chapters reveal some of the terrible judgments that will occur on the earth. Why do you think God has prolonged the initiation of these judgments?
2. The atrocities taking place on earth in Revelation 6 stand in stark contrast to the joyous heavenly scene in Revelation 7. How do these differing realities affect your perspective concerning the unsaved world?
3. What are some thoughts or questions that this lesson has provoked?

*but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst.
But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water
springing up into everlasting life.*

- John 4:14

Observation Worksheet

Revelation 6

¹ Now I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals; and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, "Come and see." ² And I looked, and behold, a white horse. He who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer. ³ When He opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come and see." ⁴ Another horse, fiery red, went out. And it was granted to the one who sat on it to take peace from the earth, and that *people* should kill one another; and there was given to him a great sword. ⁵ When He opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come and see." So I looked, and behold, a black horse, and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand. ⁶ And I heard a voice in the midst of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not harm the oil and the wine." ⁷ When He opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come and see." ⁸ So I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth. ⁹ 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 testimony which they held. ¹⁰ And they cried with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" ¹¹ Then a white robe was given to each of them; and it was said to them that they should rest a little while longer, until both *the number of* their fellow servants and their brethren, who would be killed as they *were*, was completed. ¹² I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood. ¹³ And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. ¹⁴ Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place. ¹⁵ And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, ¹⁶ and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! ¹⁷ For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

Revelation 7

¹ After these things I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, on the sea, or on any tree. ² Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God. And he cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, ³ saying, "Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads." ⁴ And I heard the number of those who were sealed. One hundred *and* forty-four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel *were* sealed: ⁵ of the tribe of Judah twelve thousand *were* sealed; of the tribe of Reuben twelve thousand *were* sealed; of the tribe of Gad twelve thousand *were* sealed; ⁶ of the tribe of Asher twelve thousand *were* sealed; of the tribe of Naphtali twelve thousand *were* sealed; of the tribe of Manasseh twelve thousand *were* sealed; ⁷ of the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand *were* sealed; of the tribe of Levi twelve thousand *were* sealed; of the tribe of Issachar twelve thousand *were* sealed; ⁸ of the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand *were* sealed; of the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand *were* sealed; of the tribe of Benjamin twelve thousand *were* sealed. ⁹ After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation *belongs* to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹ All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor and power and might, *be* to our God forever and ever. Amen." ¹³ Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?" ¹⁴ And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. ¹⁶ They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; ¹⁷ for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."