

February 2006 Broadcast Notes

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Title: **The Seven Seals**
Seals 5,6,7

Speaker: Larry Wilson

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Begin Text:

Today, we will examine the meaning and the timing of the last three seals.

Let's begin by looking at a diagram of the seven seals and I want you to specifically notice how the breaking of each seal produces a **brighter** revelation of all that Jesus really is.

See Chart "The Revelation of Jesus"

You may wonder, "Why is the revelation of Jesus necessary? Why is this such an important matter to the Father?" Here's why:

An Almighty God humbled Himself to the lowest point. He came to Earth as the child of very poor parents. He came to a nation whose leaders were arrogant and ignorant of Truth. He was willing to live among sinners as one of us. He was willing to obey imperfect human parents as well as His Father in Heaven. He was willing to be tempted by Lucifer and tested with extreme suffering. He was willing to cease to exist for the redemption of sinners. He was also willing to die so that the Father's government could be exonerated from Lucifer's lies...

Jesus willingly did all these things (and much more), and He successfully fulfilled the Father's will in these matters, therefore, the Father has determined that the whole universe should know who Jesus really is - that Jesus is identical to the Father in every way. Jesus is not a lesser God or a subordinate God, even though He does not sit on the throne or dwell in unapproachable light. The Father wants the whole universe to fully know that Jesus is an eternal God that has every attribute and every power that He has.

This disclosure of Jesus proves that the Father is just as humble as Jesus. The Father is not worried about losing His preeminent position once the universe knows that Jesus is just as powerful and glorious as He is. The Father is not worried now that Jesus, since 1798, has Sovereign power and rules over the universe. By giving Jesus full control of everything, the Father has demonstrated that Jesus is equal to Himself.

Actually, by revealing all that Jesus is to the universe, the Father is proving that He only sits upon the throne of the universe because Jesus and the Holy Spirit surrendered their divine prerogatives to Him.

What loving Gods! What humble Gods!

So, when the seventh and final seal is broken, the revelation of Jesus will be complete. This event will occur at the end of the 1,000 years! I'll demonstrate this later on.

One more thing: From an earthly point of view, Jesus is the "most hated" of all Gods because He claims to be the Son of God and He claims that all other testimonies about God are lies. In other words, Jesus says that His testimony is true and all others are false. (John 14:6)

When you realize that 75% of the world is not Christian, the revealing of all that Jesus really is -- that He is the only [Savior](#) of mankind -- this revealing will not be easy to swallow. But, the Father has determined that the final generation will hear and consider the gospel of Jesus Christ because the testimony of Jesus contains the truth about the will and ways of God the Father.

Quick overview of the seven seals....

[Seal 1](#) -- The first seal was broken in 1798 and a new revelation of Jesus began in spiritual darkness: The Christian church had taught for more than a thousand years that salvation comes through the church. Not so says the Holy Spirit! Salvation comes through faith in Jesus alone!

"Sola Jesus"
"Sola Scriptura"

[Seal 2](#) -- The second seal was broken in 1800 and a greater revelation of Jesus began. The teachings of Jesus became known through the [translation and distribution of the Bible](#). This process has produced a variety of Christian denominations. Since 1800, there has been a fracturing of Protestantism as each church group found something new about Jesus.

In God's sight, the fracturing of Protestantism is both valuable and necessary because the fracturing allows new ideas about Jesus to continue to occur. When it comes to doctrine, religious systems hate the word "new." Fracturing also explains how the Earth helped the woman in Revelation 12. God set apart a new nation offering religious freedom because religious freedom permits religious discovery to occur!

[Seal 3](#) -- The third seal was broken in 1844 and a greater revelation of Jesus occurred. Christians discovered that Jesus began cleansing Heaven's temple that year. Because Jesus lived on Earth as one of us, Jesus has been appointed the judge of mankind (John 5:22) and at the present time, He is conducting a pre-Advent judgment by reviewing the books of record and judging the dead. The judgment of the living will commence with the breaking of the next seal.

[Seal 4](#) -- A powerful and authoritative revelation of Jesus Christ is about to occur. When Jesus releases His wrath against this world, people are going to hear from the 144,000 that Jesus rules in Heaven as Sovereign God. At the present time, the world does not know this truth. In fact, only a few Christians know!

But, a "rider named Death" will change all this. As Almighty God, Jesus will [justifiably](#) send death and destruction to deal with global degeneracy and decadence. Jesus will use wrath to get the attention of the whole world - thus, the [rulership](#) and [authority](#) of Jesus will be revealed when the fourth seal is broken.

If you really want to understand how hardheaded the human race is when it comes to religion, consider this: A global Tribulation is the only way to get mankind to thoughtfully consider the truth about God. How can I say this? The Bible tells us that a loving God is purposeful and deliberate in all His actions. And, the book of Revelation tells us what an infinitely wise God has to do in order to put His truth before mankind. The drama told in Revelation's story tells us how arrogant and ignorant we really are!

Seal 5 - When the fifth seal is broken, millions of people will die as martyrs for Christ. Why does God permit so many of His people to die as martyrs? The blood of martyrs can speak more clearly than words. In other words, during the time of the fifth seal, most everyone will have taken a position on whom they will worship: The Lamb (Jesus) or the lamb-like beast (Lucifer). A few people will be in the valley of decision. In order to get these few people to consider the importance of worshipping Jesus, Jesus will sacrifice millions of His children. The blood of martyrs is a testimony that cannot be silenced. This drama that will unfold during the Great Tribulation...

Listen carefully: A martyr's faith **will be given** when a martyr's faith is needed. The bottom line in the fifth seal is that the love of Jesus will be powerfully demonstrated through the **faithfulness of His saints**.

Seal 6 -- The sixth revelation of Jesus occurs at the Second Coming. When Jesus appears with the Father at the Second Coming, the whole universe will behold the awesome glory of Jesus that has been hidden from view since the dawn of time. Words cannot describe the amazing glory that will attend Jesus on that day.

Mat 26:63 "But Jesus remained silent. The high priest said to him, 'I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.'

Mat 26:64 "Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied. 'But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man **sitting at the right hand** of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.'"

The Father will come with the Son at the Second Coming and the Holy Spirit will be here too, sealed within the hearts and minds of the saints!

Seal 7 -- The seventh revelation of Jesus occurs at the end of the 1,000 years. At that time, everyone who has ever lived on Earth will be alive and summoned to appear before a great white throne to behold the full and complete divinity of Jesus -- that Jesus is fully God and that Jesus was willing to cease to exist so that every sinner might have access to eternal life.

Everyone will behold that Jesus is from everlasting to everlasting, the Alpha and the Omega. The universe will behold the love, the character and faithful work of Jesus --- how He **rescued** repentant sinners from the penalty of sin and how He **exonerated** the Father's government from Lucifer's lies.

After showing the world the story of sin and salvation on a giant panoramic screen in the sky, all of God's children will kneel before Jesus confessing that He is fully God -- equal in every way with the Most High Father -- and that the ways of the Godhead are eternal, righteous and true.

After watching the Plan of Salvation story, everyone will marvel at the love of the Godhead. They will bow before a Jesus who willingly submitted His divine "rights" to the Father for the sake of having a large family. (**We examined the Trinity and their subjugation of powers to each other in the August 05 study.**) The point here is that at the end of sin's drama the whole story cannot be summed up! The love and heart of the Godhead is just too big!

The best the angels and the redeemed can do is to sing endless praises to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

OK, the breaking of each seal chronologically moves everyone in the universe toward a brighter and bigger understanding of who Jesus really is. Now you know **why** the last book in the Bible is called "The Revelation of Jesus Christ!"

Here's a thought that I want you to carefully consider: Most people think the book of Revelation is scary and foreboding

--- they have heard about the beast that has seven heads and the mark of the beast

--- they have heard about persecution and Armageddon

--- they have heard about Babylon and the great harlot

--- but what they haven't heard about is the revelation of Jesus Christ!

Here's why: The intended meaning of Revelation cannot be determined without the four rules that come from the book of Daniel -- and the book of Daniel was sealed up until the appointed time of the end. This means the intended meaning of Daniel and Revelation could not be known until the appointed time of the end!

After addressing the seven churches and problems that confront all Christians, the apocalyptic portion of the book of Revelation begins with the seven seals because the seven seals are **the first thing** a person needs to understand about the end-time story! The seven seals explain the revelation of Jesus!

If the seven seals are not properly understood, there is no revelation of Jesus! If the revealing of Jesus (all that He is) isn't **first** understood, the rest of Revelation's story becomes scary and foreboding -- a depressing and scary scenario about the end-times.

But.... when the revealing of Jesus is properly understood in the seven seals, the rest of Revelation's story becomes a powerful drama revealing how wonderful Jesus is and how horrible sin really is.

Man's greatest problem is sin.
God's greatest problem is sin.
And only Jesus can resolve both problems!

Revelation's story was written in advance because God wants the final generation to understand how Jesus is going to bring an end to the sin problem! The Father predetermined long ago that at the end of sin's drama, during the judgment of the living, Jesus would bring about a certain sequence of events that will cause every honest person on Earth to consider the curse of sin and his need of a Savior.

This is a truth which the world will soon experience.

God has embedded many purposes in the Great Tribulation, but the really good news is that sinners have a wonderful Savior in Jesus Christ!

The book of Revelation explains the revelation of Jesus because mankind desperately needs a Savior -- but most of the world's population does not understand their need of a Savior! And, to make matters worse, you can't convince most people of their need of a Savior because of arrogance and ignorance.

So, Jesus will impose His wrath on mankind (when He breaks the fourth seal) and His 144,000 servants will inform the world of this truth. And, one of the most interesting developments in Revelation's story is that Jesus will use the opposing efforts and forces of evil men and Lucifer to press home man's need of a Savior! This explains why the behavior of the wicked is given so much attention in the book of Revelation.

Let me say this again: Jesus will use the behavior of wicked men and angels to bring about such desperate circumstances that every honest person will realize His need of Jesus as His Savior!

The point here is that Jesus will deliberately impose His wrath on the whole Earth to get a global response from the leaders of the world. The 144,000 will be empowered at this point in time to present the everlasting gospel and the opposing efforts and forces of wicked people and Lucifer will put honest hearted people in a situation where they will be able to realize their need of a Savior! How clever!

Good news! A numberless multitude will discover their need for Jesus, and they will accept His generous terms and conditions for salvation, and they will rejoice to know and receive Jesus as their Savior -- persecution notwithstanding.

Fifth Seal

Now that we have completed our overview of the seven seals, let's examine the fifth seal....

Rev 6:9 When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God and the testimony they had maintained.

Rev 6:10 They 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?"

Rev 6:11 Then each of them was given a white robe, and they were told to wait a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and brothers who were to be killed as they had been was completed.

What is the fifth seal all about?

1. When the fourth seal is broken, the Great Tribulation begins. About three years later, the fifth seal will be broken open and there will be a great slaughter of the saints. This slaughter coincides with the sixth trumpet.

"....I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God [that is, they were faithful in obeying the Word of God] and the testimony they had maintained [that is, they would not surrender nor capitulate]."

What does this language mean --- "souls under the altar that had been slain?"

Some people use this text to demonstrate that when martyrs die for Jesus, they go to Heaven and live under the altar. They say, "John heard them speaking, so these martyrs must be alive." If this text was the only text on the topic of what happens after death, that might be true. But, look at this text:

Gen 4:9 Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" "I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's keeper?"

Gen 4:10 The Lord said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground."

Did Abel's blood audibly speak? No. The Lord used personification in the first chapters of the Bible to describe the justice that Abel's innocent blood demanded and the same is true in the last chapters of the Bible. The innocent blood of martyrs cries out for justice -- from beneath the altar of burnt offering in Heaven.

Personification is a literary device. It is used to speak forcibly with few words. When an inanimate object is given the properties of a human being this is person-ification. Personification enables an inanimate object to identify with human feeling. In this particular case, the blood of martyrs cry out for justice!

"How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the wicked actions of the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?"

Since the souls of the martyrs were seen under the altar, let's examine 4 texts that concern the Altar of Burnt Offering.

Many people say the Altar of Burnt offering is not seen in Heaven's temple. This is not true. In fact, the Altar of Burnt Offering is the altar where these souls are crying out! How do we know this? Look at these Old Testament references and notice where the blood of sacrifices was put:

Lev 8:15 Moses slaughtered the bull and took some of the blood, and with his finger he put it on all the horns of the altar to purify the altar. He poured out the rest of the blood at the base of the altar. So he consecrated it to make atonement for it."

Exo 29:12 "Take some of the bull's blood and put it on the horns of the altar with your finger, and pour out the rest of it at the base of the altar."

Lev 4:18 "He is to put some of the blood on the horns of the altar that is before the Lord in the Tent of Meeting. The rest of the blood he shall pour out at the base of the altar of burnt offering at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting."

Lev 9:9 "His sons brought the blood to him, and he dipped his finger into the blood and put it on the horns of the altar; the rest of the blood he poured out at the base of the altar."

In the wilderness temple, the blood of animal sacrifices was poured into a container that was kept at the base of the Altar of Burnt Offering. (Animals were not sacrificed nor was blood poured out at the base of the Altar of Incense.) When the container at the base of the altar became full, the blood was removed and buried in the ground.

The language, "I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God and the testimony they had maintained." indicates three things:

1. These martyrs are sacrifices -- this is the reason their souls are represented as being under the altar (of Burnt Offering) because that is the only place where the blood of sacrifices was stored.

2. These martyrs die after the fourth seal is broken. In other words, this passage in Revelation is not concerned with martyrs who died through the centuries. These saints have not yet died. They will be martyred when the fifth seal is broken because they will take a bold and defiant stand against the demands of Babylon at that time. They would rather die than to disobey God and this is why they are killed: "...Because of the word of God and the testimony [of Jesus] they had maintained."

3. Those who die under the fifth seal **will be given** the grace and faith necessary to take such a bold stand. This uncommon courage, this holy boldness will come **as an enabling gift** from Jesus. **Jesus grants a martyrs faith when a martyrs faith is needed.** What a Savior!

Sixth Trumpet Timing

The fifth seal will be broken when the sixth trumpet sounds. In brief, when the sixth trumpet sounds, the devil will be allowed to kill a third of mankind. He will do this eliminate opposition to the establishment of his theocratic government. Many non-religious wicked people who remain in opposition to the devil's power grab and a large number of saints will perish.

Rev 9:13 The sixth angel sounded his trumpet, and I heard a voice coming from the horns of the golden altar that is before God.

Rev 9:14 It said to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates."

Rev 9:15 And the four angels who had been kept ready for this very hour and day and month and year were released to kill a third of mankind.

During the sixth trumpet, the **final call** for salvation will be given:

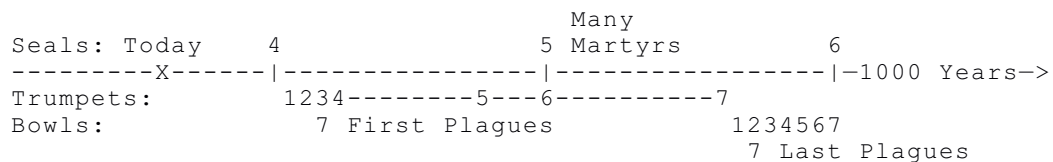
Rev 18:4 Then I heard another voice from heaven say: "Come out of her **[the harlot]**, my people, so that you will not share in her sins, so that you will not receive any of her plagues;

Rev 18:5 for her sins are piled up to heaven, and God has remembered her crimes.

Rev 18:6 Give back to her **[the torture]** as she has given; pay her back double **[200%]** for what she has done. Mix her a double portion from her own cup."

At this time, John heard another voice from heaven say:

Rev 14:13 "Then I heard a voice from heaven say, "Write: Blessed are the dead who **die** in the Lord **from now on.**" "Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them."



Martyrdom will bring **rest** to the weary saints from the suffering and travail of the Great Tribulation and those who die a martyr's death under the fifth seal will be specifically **blessed**. These martyrs will sleep through the seven last plagues and they will be resurrected shortly before Jesus appears in a **special resurrection to see Jesus appear!**

Every martyr will be resurrected shortly before the Second Coming to behold the victory of Jesus over His enemies.

Look at these two texts:

Dan 12:12 "**Blessed** is the one who waits for and reaches the end of the 1,335 days."

Revelation 14:13 says, "**....blessed** are those who die in the Lord from now on."

So what is this promised blessing?

Rev 20:4 "... And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years."

One of the greatest blessings human beings can receive is to behold the victorious appearing of Jesus in clouds of glory. This display of Jesus' victory and glory will never happen again for never again will God have a planet in rebellion. Those who are resurrected at the Second Coming will see a revelation of Jesus Christ that has never occurred! (Sixth seal)

The martyrs will be resurrected just before the Second Coming to see "the Paul Harvey" - [the rest of the story](#) and they will behold with their own eyes the destruction of God's enemies! What a reward for remaining faithful!

Let's review the fifth seal:

Rev 6:9 When he opened the fifth seal, I saw [under the altar](#) the souls of those who had been slain because of [the word of God](#) and [the testimony \[of Jesus\]](#) they had maintained.

Rev 6:10 They called out in a loud voice, "How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the [\[wicked actions of the\]](#) inhabitants of the earth and avenge our [\[innocent\]](#) blood?"

Rev 6:11 Then each of them was given a white robe, and they were told [to wait](#) a little longer, [until the number](#) of their fellow [servants](#) and [brothers](#) who were to be killed as they had been [was completed](#).

Did you notice: ".... until the number to be killed ... was completed."

This phrase tells us that God has already determined the number of saints that He will allow to be sacrificed. If the Father was willing to sacrifice Jesus for the salvation of one person [\[and we but faintly appreciate all that Jesus really is\]](#), how many human beings do you think God would be willing to sacrifice for the salvation of one more person? In God's economy, the martyrdom of 10,000 people for the salvation of one person is a reasonable exchange -- because God has the power of life.

God doesn't have control over our will. The power of choice is ours! So, He is prepared to make a great sacrifice so that, if possible, we will make the right choice. This is one reason why He sacrifices a large number of saints.

Also, did you notice that both [prophets](#) and [saints](#) will be killed during the fifth seal?

"...they were told to wait a little longer until the number of [their fellow servants](#) and [brothers](#) who were to be killed as they had been [was completed](#)."

The servants mentioned here are the 144,000.

Rev 7:3 "Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of [the servants](#) of our God."

Rev 7:4 Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel."

Rev 10:7 But in the days when the seventh angel is about to sound his trumpet, the mystery of God will be accomplished, just as he announced [to his](#)

servants the prophets."

The apostle John keeps a careful distinction between **servants** and **non-servants** throughout the book of Revelation. Notice this text:

Rev 16:4 The **third** angel poured out his **bowl** on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood.

Rev 16:5 Then I heard the angel in charge of the waters say: "You are just in these judgments, you who are and who were, the Holy One, because you have so judged;

Rev 16:6 for **they have shed** the blood of your **saints** and **prophets**, and you have given them blood to drink as they deserve."

Look also at this text:

Rev 18:24 "In her [**the great whore**] was found the blood of **prophets** and of the **saints**, and of all who have been killed on the earth."

The point here is twofold. First, a **Great Injustice** is coming upon the saints and the 144,000 but God will use this injustice to His glory! Second, most, if not all of the 144,000 will be killed because of the Word of the God and the testimony they maintain.

The maddening wine [**the intoxicating doctrines**] of false religion will cause the leaders of the world to act irrationally after the fourth seal is broken.

Insanity will rule the day. A spirit of confusion and anxiety will overtake the world. When religious and political leaders behold the sudden destruction of 25% of mankind, they will go bezerk in their efforts to appease God because they do not know God nor His plans.

In their misguided efforts to appease God, the 144,000 and the saints will become **objects** of hatred because they will refuse to obey the decrees and laws of Babylon. Religious and political leaders will arrogantly and ignorantly interpret this defiance as behavior offensive to God.

The defiance of the 144,000 and the saints will perplex world leaders because they ignorantly think that God's wrath will return unless **everyone** obeys the laws of Babylon. Therefore, they will persecute the people of God and think they are doing God a service! How twisted is this?

Jesus said:

John 16:1 "All this I have told you so that you will not go astray.

John 16:2 They will put you out of the synagogue; in fact, a time is coming when anyone who kills you will think he is offering a service to God.

John 16:3 They will do such things because they have not known the Father or me."

Remember this, God has already determined **the number** of souls that He will permit to die as **sacrifices** for the gospel of Jesus.

Rev 13:10 If anyone is to go into captivity, into captivity **he will go**. If anyone is to be killed with the sword, with the sword **he will be killed**. This calls for **patient endurance** and **faithfulness** on the part of the saints."

Finally, what are the primary purposes for human sacrifices during the fifth seal? I can think of two:

1. The death of a martyr is a matter of choice -- the martyr chooses to die rather than to submit. This defiance the most powerful testimony that a person can offer.

Jesus will enable a large number of His people to die as martyrs because their humble but powerful testimony will influence the hearts and minds of those few people who haven't made up their minds.

If Paul's heart was touched by Stephen's martyrdom, we don't know. However, we do know that Paul was converted on the road to Damascus. He later wrote:

1 Tim 1:13 "Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief."

The point here is that many will persecute God's people out of ignorance and unbelief. But, participating in the death of a good and honest person will be a point of torment through which the Holy Spirit can do some work.

We haven't studied the Two Witnesses at this point, but I just want to say that the Holy Spirit will be tormenting people to receive Jesus as their Savior!

Rev 14:11 "....There is no rest day or night for those who worship the beast and his image, or for anyone who receives the mark of his name."

Eventually, the Holy Spirit will conclude His work. Every decision will have been made.

Rev 11:10 "The inhabitants of the earth will gloat over them [the death of the Two Witnesses] and will celebrate by sending each other gifts, because these two prophets had tormented those who live on the earth."

The Holy Spirit is going to torment everyone with "a whole lot of trouble" until they either accept Jesus or the Two Witnesses are killed. Jesus can read our hearts and minds and He knows how to judge. This is how Jesus could pray for those who crucified Him: "Father forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing...."

When the Great Tribulation begins and religious and political leaders set up a crisis government to appease God, the persecution of the saints will begin. Later on, the persecution will become deadly. A time is coming when millions of innocent saints will be killed in the name of God because they defied the laws of Babylon. In other words, wicked people will kill innocent people just like Cain killed Abel and they will think that they are doing God a service!

The ultimate deception occurs when right becomes wrong and wrong becomes right.

Sixth Seal

The sixth seal is the Second Coming. When this seal is broken, a glorious revelation of Jesus breaks out over the whole Earth! Let's examine the Second Coming from three points of view:

1. Rev 6: 6th Seal -- The glory of Jesus revealed
2. Rev 19: 144,000 -- Victory over the enemies of love and truth
3. Rev 16: 7th Bowl -- Restitution extracted from the wicked

1. The Glory of Jesus Revealed

Rev 6:12 I watched as he opened the sixth seal. There was a great earthquake. The sun turned black like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole moon turned blood red,

Rev 6:13 and the stars in the sky [meteorites] fell to earth, as late figs drop from a fig tree when shaken by a strong wind.

Rev 6:14 The sky receded like a scroll, rolling up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place.

Rev 6:15 Then the kings of the earth, the princes, the generals, the rich, the mighty, and every slave and every free man hid in caves and among the rocks of the mountains.

Rev 6:16 They 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 [who sits beside Him]!"

Rev 6:17 For the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?"

Now that we have this descriptive scene in mind, let's look at the same scene from another point of view! This is a good example of repetition and enlargement.

2. The victory of Jesus over the enemies of love and truth

Rev 19:11 I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war.

Rev 19:12 His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself.

Rev 19:13 He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God.

Rev 19:14 The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean.

Rev 19:15 Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty.

Rev 19:16 On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Rev 19:17 And I saw an angel standing in the sun, who cried in a loud voice to all the birds flying in midair, "Come, gather together for the great supper of God,

Rev 19:18 so that you may eat the flesh of kings, generals, and mighty men, of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, small and great."

Rev 19:19 Then I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to make war against the rider on the horse and his army.

Rev 19:20 But the [composite] beast was captured, and with him the false prophet [the lamb-like beast] who had performed the miraculous signs on his behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped his image. The two of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur.

Rev 19:21 The rest of them [the wicked] were killed with the sword that came out of the mouth of the rider on the horse, and all the birds gorged themselves on their flesh.

Not a soul will be left standing. Now that we have this scene in mind,

there's one more point of view that we need to examine. Repetition and enlargement produces a dimension that would be otherwise impossible!

3. Restitution Extracted from the Wicked

Rev 16:17 The seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and out of the temple came a loud voice from the throne, saying, "It is done!"

Rev 16:18 Then there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder and a severe earthquake. No earthquake like it has ever occurred since man has been on earth, so tremendous was the quake.

Rev 16:19 The great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations collapsed. God remembered Babylon the Great and gave her the cup filled with the wine of the fury of his wrath.

Rev 16:20 Every island fled away and the mountains could not be found.

Rev 16:21 From the sky huge hailstones of about a hundred pounds each fell upon men. And they cursed God on account of the plague of hail, because the plague was so terrible.

Earth will be left desolate of life when Jesus gets through with His enemies.

Again, notice how the sixth seal aligns with Rev 19 and Rev 16.

1. Rev 6: 6th Seal -- The glory of Jesus revealed
2. Rev 19: 144,000 -- Victory over the enemies of love and truth
3. Rev 16: 7th Bowl -- Restitution extracted from the wicked

The Seventh Seal

We now come to the last seal. After this seal is broken open, then the contents of the book can be presented to the universe.

Rev 8:1 When he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.

Do you remember Rule One which says that each apocalyptic prophecy has a beginning point in time and an ending point in time and the elements within the prophecy must occur in the order given?

OK, here's a problem for some people. The sixth seal is located in Rev 6, but the seventh seal is located in Rev 8:1. The problem is that Rev 7 is between Rev 6 and 8. What does one do about this? The first eight verses in Rev 7 concern the 144,000. Are they sealed AFTER the Second Coming?

No! Actually, a new apocalyptic prophecy begins because the chronological order established in Rev 6 is broken. The 144,000 are NOT selected and sealed after the Second Coming, they are selected and sealed prior to the breaking of the 4th seal.

So, according to Rule 1, Rev 7:1-8:1 is another apocalyptic prophecy. There are three prophetic elements in this prophecy. Consider their location in time and their alignment with other prophetic elements in the chart below:

Rule One Produces This Chart:

	Today Seal	Martyrdom	Second Coming	
Rev 6:1-17	--X--4-----	-----5-----	-----6--	1000 Years--
Rev 7:1-8:1	A-----		-----B-----	-----7
Rev 8:2-9:21		*1234-----	-----5--6-----	-----7

A=The selection and empower of the 144,000
 B=A numberless group of saints gathered around the Throne after Second Coming
 7=The breaking of the seventh seal
 *1234=The seven trumpets

OK, Look at the second line above and find the letter A. The letter A represents the selection and sealing of the 144,000. This process is described in Rev 7:1-8 and it happens before the 4th seal is broken. Now, look again at the second line and find the letter B. The letter B represents a glorious gathering of those who went through the Great Tribulation. As we will see, this numberless multitude gathers around Jesus AFTER the Second Coming. Now, look again at the second line above and find the number 7 at the end of the line. The "7" represents the breaking of the seventh seal which occurs at the end of the 1,000 years.

Now that you have seen where these elements belong with respect to each other and timing, let's read Rev 7:9 and onward to prove that "B" occurs AFTER the Second Coming. Once we do this, we can then prove that Rev 8:1, the 7th seal, has to happen AFTER the Second Coming because chronological order is not broken!

Rev 7:9 After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. . . .

Rev 7:13 Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes--who are they, and where did they come from?"

Rev 7:14 I answered, "Sir, you know." And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. . . .

Rev 7:15 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 spread his tent over them. . . .

Rev 7:16 Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat. . . .

Rev 7:17 For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Rev 8:1 When he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.

Since the sixth seal is the Second Coming, the seventh seal has to occur AFTER the Second Coming, in fact, it has to occur AFTER the numberless multitude assemble around the throne. The only place in the Bible where the Book of Life is opened up is found in Rev 20:12. This verse occurs at the end of the 1,000 years:

Rev 20:12 And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne,

and books [plural] were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books [of records].

At this point in time, everyone that has ever lived on Earth will be alive. Jesus will break open the seventh seal and the Book of Life will be opened. What is the result?

1. Everyone will see that the Father has perfect foreknowledge. (Books of records, recorded in real time will prove to be identical to Book of Life which was written and sealed up before any life was created.)
2. Everyone will clearly see that the Father foreknew the rise and cost of sin, but He will not, under any circumstances, use His perfect foreknowledge to manipulate the power of choice given to His subjects. Everyone will behold and admit that the power of choice was theirs to exercise as they deemed best.
3. Everyone will realize that because we have been given the power of choice, we are responsible for our actions and our eternal destiny.
4. Everyone will admit that the Father has been more than fair, more than generous and perfectly righteous in dealing with the sin problem. The whole universe will be overwhelmed with all that Jesus did to resolve the problem of sin once it sees and understand the big picture.
5. Everyone will behold that Lucifer was nothing more than a self-seeking liar and he justly deserves the penalty that is about to be executed upon him.
6. The wicked will acknowledge that Christ's judgment of them is righteous and true.
7. Every knee will bow admitting that there is no more excuse for sin. Never. Thus, the primary purposes of the seven seals will be served. Everyone will know who Jesus really is -- throughout the rest of eternity!

Everyone will acknowledge that sin's penalty: immediate death by execution is reasonable. Everyone will know that even though God knows the future, He will not under any circumstances interfere with our power of choice. And at last, everyone will know that God limits the use of His awesome powers to ensure that the laws of love will eternally govern the universe.

Because everyone will have the knowledge of good and evil, and because the seven seals have been broken, eternity is set for endless joy. All who exalt the laws of love and truth will **live happily ever after**.

Additional notes as time permits:

Please consider what happens at the end of the 1,000 years.

At the end of the 1,000 years, the Holy City will descend. Then, the wicked will then be resurrected to face Jesus, their Creator and Judge, and they will stand silently before Almighty Jesus at the White Throne judgment. There are three things that Jesus wants the wicked to see and understand:

1. Jesus will open the book of records and He will carefully take each sinner through his complete life history (through the ministry of the Holy Spirit, Jesus does this with all sinners simultaneously). Jesus does this to show each sinner why He could not save them. With surgical thoroughness and unvarnished clarity, Jesus goes through the life history of each sinner to show the sinner his thoughts, his actions and his rebellion against the Holy Spirit and even the sinner's own understanding of right and wrong. This review may take a month or possibly a year, I don't know. What I do know is

this review will be as thorough and vivid as the judgment process that has been taking place in Heaven since 1844. At the end of this incredible review covering every deed:

(a) every condemned sinner will know why Jesus could not grant him eternal life

(b) every condemned sinner will know that Jesus judge the sinner fairly, He even took into account the sinner's knowledge of right and wrong and other factors that shape his perceptions of right and wrong

(c) every sinner will admit by this presentation of the facts (which are beyond dispute) that as the Judge of all mankind, Jesus was fair, generous and impartial in making His eternal decision.

But wait, there's more!

2. After Jesus completes this review and disclosure to the wicked who are still standing before His Great White Throne, Jesus will take the Book of Life and break open the seventh seal. When this occurs, the sky becomes a great screen and everyone watches a panoramic movie that presents the drama of sin's presence in the universe. The plan of salvation is told with scenes that faithfully reproduce the events. Everyone sees and understand Lucifer's rebellion and God's response, they see Lucifer in the tree and the fall of Adam and Eve, they see the behavior of the antediluvians and the flood in Noah's day, they see the life of Jesus and His death on the cross and other dramatic elements that make up the story of sin's presence because the Father wants everyone inside the Holy City (the saints) and everyone outside the Holy City (those condemned) to see what HE foreknew before any life was created.

In other words, the Father wrote this all down before any life was created and sealed up the book. The Father has waited for this moment, after the wicked have been informed on their destiny, to prove that even though He foreknew everything that would come to pass, and everyone who would be saved and lost, He did nothing to prevent any of it. He freely gave everyone, angels included, the power of choice. The opening of this book (and the exposed contents which everyone just watched) proves that God Himself is obedient to the law of love which prevents Him from manipulating anyone or any outcome. Thus, every creature is fully responsible for his own choices.

At the end of this half hour movie, every knee bows before Jesus and the Father confessing there is no one like them in all the universe. Their love and righteousness is beyond reproach or suspicion. Thus, God and His government and His handling of the sin problem are totally exonerated by ALL of His creatures.

3. After this, Jesus will call for the wicked to stand to receive their sentence. Every wicked person is sentenced to eternal death because of rebellion. Further, every wicked person has been sentenced according to their actions. During the thousand years, the saints determined the amount of restitution which the wicked must "pay back." This restitution will be extracted from the wicked through suffering. The wicked will suffer in the fires of hell in proportion to the amount of suffering they imposed on others. Thus, life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, etc. will be repaid.

When each wicked person learns what his duration in hell will be, he trembles. There is no escape, no hope, no grace. As the devil and his demons considers their lengthy suffering in the fires of hell, they rush through the vast crowd exciting condemned felons to stampede the Holy City. The need is obvious, "Quick!" Get inside to save yourself! As the throng

rushes the City, fire falls from God and restitution or "pay back" begins. According to the golden rule, the wicked have to suffer as they did unto others. When the wicked are finally reduced to ashes, a new Heaven and a new Earth will be created. The drama of sin will close with a magnificent manifestation of perfect justice (restitution made for all wrongs) and perfect mercy (the sins of those submissive to God's authority all paid for).

End Text: