

## Revelation Chapter Six – Part 3

Open your Bible to Revelation chapter six. Today we are reading verses nine through seventeen.

Before I look at these verses, I need to press upon you the urgency of receiving Christ as your Savior. I am warning you today. If you don't get right with God, you will perish.

Ezekiel chapter three speaks of warning the wicked. Who are the wicked? Those who refuse to repent of sin and trust Christ as Savior are the wicked.

Ezekiel 33:7 says, *“So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me.”*

The apostle Paul says in Acts 20:31, *“Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.”* Likewise, I warn you today. Most people around us neglect the Lord. Most people around us love this world. The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life dominate most people.

In addition, the cares of life are choking the Word in the lives of many. They refuse to seek first the kingdom of God. They serve self and pursue everything else but the Lord. The concept of putting the Lord first in one's life is missing from their heart. Such people are lost even if they attend church from time to time. Having a form of our religion, but denying the power thereof exposes many in the visible church today.

What about you? Are you of serious mind? Do you serve the Lord, or do you offer him meaningless lip service? I warn you today. Only the repentant, who turn

in their heart from sin, and who humble themselves before Christ will be saved. Are you saved today? It is time to get right with God.

Now look with me at Revelation 6:9-17:

*9And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:*

*10And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?*

*11And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.*

*12And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;*

*13And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.*

*14And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.*

*15And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;*

*16And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:*

*17For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?*

Let me begin by reminding you it is the Lord Jesus in heaven who is opening these seals. Also, please keep in mind these seals are opened during the coming

period of world history which we refer to as the Tribulation period. These seals are not being opened today. Also, once opened, some of the effects of these seals play out during the remainder of the seven-year tribulation.

Now, as we return to verse nine, John sees an interesting thing when the fifth seal is opened. He sees under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held.

Clearly, in as much as this fifth seal is opened during the coming tribulation period, many people will die because they embrace the Word of God and refuse to embrace the rising kingdom of antichrist. The persecution of those who accept the witness of the true God and his Son during this coming global upheaval reaches an unprecedented level. There is persecution today, but it is nowhere close to the intensity of the persecution described in this coming period of world history.

Notice John saw these martyrs “under the altar.” May I remind you that the altar is the place of sacrifice where blood was shed for the remission of sin. Ultimately, our Lord appeared in heaven for us (Heb. 9:24) and I believe as do many Bible teachers that the blood of Christ shed for our salvation was placed on the altar in heaven. These martyrs were under the altar, or we might say, they were under the blood of Christ.

This is a reminder that the only way into God’s heaven is to be under the blood. It is the blood of Christ which secures our salvation. No one can enter God’s heaven unless they are under the blood of Christ! That precious blood cleanses us. That precious blood covers all our sin and guilt in the sight of a holy God. That precious blood redeems us. We are saved by the blood of the crucified one! Thank God all who believe upon the Lord Jesus Christ are under the blood!

Now notice the question found in verse 10. These martyred saints say, “*How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that*

*dwell on the earth?” May I say, “The wicked plotteth against the just, and gnasheth upon him with his teeth. The Lord shall laugh at him: for he seeth that his day is coming.”*

Today the wicked of this world oppress the righteous and in the coming tribulation period it will be much worse than it is today. However, the Lord will hear the prayers of his people for he sees that the day is coming in which he will avenge the blood shed by wicked hands.

My friend, you need to humble yourself before God and change crowds! If you go with the wicked and mock God’s people, then your day is coming. Your calamity will come suddenly; the Scripture warns that suddenly you will be broken without remedy. How sad!

Now look at verse 11 and note that the severe persecution will persist throughout the tribulation period. The Lord tells these saints to rest for a little season, until their fellow-servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.

My friends, are you ready for what is soon to come upon the world, or do you mock saying, “Where is the promise of his coming—He is never coming back.” I’m sure the foolish in Noah’s day thought it would never rain until the flood came and took them all away. Will you one day perish in unbelief? It is time to get right with God.

Now I want to conclude with another reading of the opening of the sixth seal:

*12And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;*

*13And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.*

*14And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.*

*15And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;*

*16And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:*

*17For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?*

Where will you be when the day of his wrath unfolds? It is time to call on the Lord if you are unsaved. Do it today.