

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE:	The Wrath of the Lamb and the Coming Tribulation
SERMON REFERENCE:	Revelation 6
LWF SERMON NUMBER:	#2342

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) In the book of the Revelation, we look into the future.
 - i) Only God can prophesy; only God knows the future.
 - (1) We do not know the future.
 - (2) Satan does not know the future.
 - ii) All we know about the future is what God has revealed.
 - (1) One of the things that God has revealed is that this world is on a collision course with judgment.
- b) There is coming a time that the Bible calls “the great tribulation” or “the wrath of the Lamb.”
 - i) Revelation 6:15-16
- c) When Jesus walked on the Earth, He warned about the great tribulation.
 - i) Matthew 24:21
 - (1) There is coming a time upon this Earth unlike any other time in history.
- d) Jesus said that the church is salt and light.
 - i) When the church is raptured, the salt and light will be removed from this Earth.
 - (1) When the salt is taken out, putrefaction begins.
 - (2) When the light is taken out, darkness ensues.
 - ii) When the church is taken out, we move into a time known as the great tribulation, or the wrath of the Lamb.
- e) In the book of the Revelation, the Lord Jesus Christ receives a scroll from the hand of God the Father.
 - i) The scroll contains seven seals.
 - ii) As the seven seals are opened, we see the great tribulation as it begins.
- f) Revelation 6 deals with six of these seals that introduce us to a time on Earth that will be unlike any other time.

2) THE FIRST SEAL: MILITANT CONQUEST (Revelation 6:1-2)

- a) When we hear thunder, we know a storm is coming.
- b) The four beasts in this passage are not beasts in a horrendous sense.
 - i) The word for “beasts” used in this passage is the word we get our word “zoo” from.
 - (1) It means four living ones.
 - ii) The four beasts have special characteristics.
 - (1) Revelation 4:7
 - (a) This scripture says that the beasts are like (not are) a lion, calf, man and eagle.
 - (b) These descriptions are symbolic.
 - (c) These living ones may be cherubim, the highest class of angels.
 - (i) They deal with the grace, glory and government of God around His throne.
 - (2) The first beast has a face like a lion.

- (a) This speaks of the majesty of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - (3) The second beast has a face like an ox or calf.
 - (a) When we think of an ox, we think of servitude and sacrifice.
 - (b) This speaks of the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - (4) The third beast has a face like a man.
 - (a) This speaks of the humanity of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - (5) The fourth beast has a face like an eagle.
 - (a) This speaks of the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - c) Revelation 6:2
 - i) The rider on the white horse is the antichrist, the man of sin.
 - (1) A white horse is a symbol of a conqueror.
 - (2) The bow in his hand symbolizes power.
 - (3) The crown on his head symbolizes dominion.
 - ii) As the seals begin to open, the rider comes in pomp and circumstance and power, and he is ruling.
 - iii) This rider cannot be the Lord Jesus; He is shown in Revelation 19 as coming on a white horse to rule and reign.
 - (1) The rider in Revelation 6 is the antichrist, the one who imitates the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - (a) The prefix “anti” has two meanings:
 - (i) Against
 - (ii) Instead of
 - d) The antichrist will be the devil’s false messiah.
 - i) Jesus prophesied of this false messiah whom the world would wonder after.
 - (1) John 5:43
 - e) The antichrist will come in like a hero.
 - i) The Old Testament prophesies of the antichrist.
 - (1) Daniel 8:25
 - (2) He will seemingly bring about world peace, and the world will follow him.
 - (3) But he will be Satan’s superman and will be all of the Caesars, Napoleons, Hitlers, Stalins, Sadaam Husseins all rolled into one.
 - ii) John 5:43
- 3) THE SECOND SEAL: MURDEROUS CONFLICTS (Revelation 6:3-4)
- a) When a devil-inspired leader appears on the world stage with ideas of world conquest, war and destruction will follow.
 - i) This is the reason for the red horse in this passage.
 - (1) The color red symbolizes blood.
 - b) The Lord Jesus warned that in the last days there will be wars and rumors of wars.
 - i) Matthew 24:6

- c) The Bible does not prophesy that the world will get better, but instead, will get worse and worse.
 - d) When the antichrist comes, hatred will inflame men's hearts.
 - i) Brother will kill brother, and fathers will slay their sons.
 - ii) Without the Prince of Peace and the salt and light of the church, hatred will be unrestrained.
 - iii) Not only will there be wars between nations, but there will also be class wars, race wars and religious wars.
 - e) Ezekiel 38:21
- 4) THE THIRD SEAL: MEAGER CROPS (Revelation 6:5-6)
- a) The black horse in this passage speaks of famine.
 - i) Famine follows war.
 - ii) The rider of this horse has scales in his hands (old fashioned balances), which speaks of rationing.
 - (1) Food will be rationed out.
 - (a) This scripture states that a measure of wheat will be sold for a penny.
 - (i) The word for "penny" is the Greek word meaning a day's labor.
 - (ii) A measure of wheat is about one quart.
 - (iii) A whole day's labor will be just enough for a meal for one person.
 - b) This will be a time of limited productivity and economic deprivation.
 - i) During war time, transportation that gets food to the need will be immobilized.
 - ii) Starvation will stalk the world.
 - (1) Matthew 24:19
- 5) THE FOURTH SEAL: MANIFOLD CARNAGE (Revelation 6:7-8)
- a) The Greek word for pale refers to a pale, greenish yellow color.
 - i) This is the color of death.
 - b) One-fourth of the world's population will die once this seal is opened.
 - c) We see a chain reaction occurring:
 - i) Sin causes hatred.
 - ii) Hatred causes war and bloodshed.
 - iii) War brings famine.
 - iv) Famine produces death, and after death comes hell and judgment.
 - d) The aftermath of war can bring more death than war itself.
 - i) Famine
 - ii) Epidemics
 - e) Revelation 6:8
 - i) The word "death" in this passage has the idea of plagues.
 - ii) The beasts spoken of here may include rats.
 - (1) Rats accompany famine and plagues.

(2) Rats are a menace to human health and food supplies and are carriers of disease.

- 6) THE FIFTH SEAL: MARTYRED CHRISTIANS (Revelation 6:9-11)
- a) The fifth seal reveals martyred Christians who died during the tribulation.
 - i) These are not the saints who have been raptured and taken to Heaven.
 - b) There will be souls saved during the great tribulation.
 - i) These people will pay a great price when they turn to God during the great tribulation.
 - ii) When they refuse to take the mark of the beast, they will become the objects of Satan's hatred and wrath.
 - iii) Matthew 24:9
 - c) It will be a time of great persecution for the saints in the tribulation.
 - i) The chief weapon that Satan will use during the tribulation will be decapitation.
 - (1) Revelation 20:4
 - d) Satan may destroy their bodies, but he cannot destroy their souls.
 - i) Matthew 10:28
 - e) Anyone living in the church age who thinks they can put off salvation until after the rapture will not be saved during the great tribulation.
 - i) 2 Thessalonians 2:11
 - ii) Anyone who has heard the truth and turned from the truth will believe a lie.
- 7) THE SIXTH SEAL: MASSIVE CATAclysms (Revelation 6:12-14)
- a) There will be severe disorders on Earth and in space, and the forces of nature will be let loose upon the ungodly.
 - i) Those left on Earth during the great tribulation will be those who have spurned and refused the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - ii) By the Lord Jesus Christ, all things consist.
 - (1) Jesus Christ holds all things together.
 - (2) What would happen if the Lord Jesus relaxes His grip on nature even just a little bit?
 - b) There will be a great earthquake that will be felt around the world.
 - c) The light of the sun will be shut out.
 - d) The word "star" in this passage has the idea of a heavenly body.
 - i) Stars will fall to the Earth.
 - ii) Asteroids will hit the Earth.
 - e) Revelation 6:14
 - i) This passage speaks of the heavens departing like a scroll.
 - (1) A nuclear blast in the atmosphere can push the air out and cause a vacuum. When the air rushes back in to that vacuum, the heavens then roll upon themselves.
 - f) Revelation 6:15-16

- i) They reject the Rock of Ages and pray to the rocks.
- ii) They will pray to the forces of nature rather than praying to the Creator.

8) CONCLUSION

- a) The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.
 - i) Proverbs 9:10
- b) The great tribulation is coming, but there is a way out; His name is Jesus.
 - i) 1 Thessalonians 5:9
- c) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- d) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16