

Studying the book of Revelation (13)

Concord Community Church

Chapters 6&7 (15/06/2025)

Title: *The Lamb, the Seals, and the Sealed: Hope in the Midst of Judgment*

Purpose: To awaken believers to the seriousness of God's judgment while offering assurance of His protection and ultimate victory.

Introduction: Today we continue our journey through the Book of Revelation, a book that both sobers and strengthens. In chapters 6 and 7, we come face to face with two powerful realities: the righteous judgment of God and the glorious security of His people.

Revelation 6 opens the first major section of judgment—the breaking of the seven seals by the Lamb, Jesus Christ. But before we are overwhelmed by the coming chaos, chapter 7 reminds us that God always knows and seals His people. There is judgment, yes—but there is also mercy. There is wrath—but also worship. Let's walk through these two chapters under three headings:

1. **The Breaking of the Seals (Rev 6)**
2. **The Pause of Protection (Rev 7:1–8)**
3. **The Vision of Victory (Rev 7:9–17)**

1. The Breaking of the Seals (Revelation 6)

Jesus, the Lamb, begins to open the scroll, the very scroll that holds the destiny of the world. With each seal, judgment is released upon the earth. These are not random disasters; they are divinely ordained steps in God's plan to bring history to its proper conclusion.

a. The Four Horsemen (vv. 1–8)

- **White Horse** – Conquest (possibly false peace or the spirit of antichrist)
- **Red Horse** – War and bloodshed
- **Black Horse** – Famine and economic hardship
- **Pale Horse** – Death and Hades follow, with authority to kill a fourth of the earth

Application: These horsemen remind us that what happens on earth is not outside of God's control. These are not just natural events—they are judgments allowed

by God. Let us not be lulled into thinking the world is getting better on its own. There is a divine hand behind history.

b. The Cry of the Martyrs (vv. 9–11)

- Under the altar are souls of those slain for the Word and their testimony.
- They cry, “How long, O Lord?”
- God gives them white robes and tells them to rest a little longer.

Application: God sees your suffering. Martyrs are not forgotten. Justice may seem delayed, but it is never denied. Heaven is not indifferent to earth’s pain.

c. The Sixth Seal – Cosmic Disturbance (vv. 12–17)

- A great earthquake, the sun turns black, the moon red, stars fall, and the sky rolls up.
- The mighty and the weak all hide, terrified.
- They cry out: “Hide us from the wrath of the Lamb!”

Key Question in v. 17: “For the great day of His wrath has come, and **who is able to stand?**” We are meant to feel the weight of this question. Who can stand in the day of God's judgment?

2. The Pause of Protection (Revelation 7:1–8)

Before the seventh seal is opened (which comes in chapter 8), chapter 7 gives us an interlude—a vision that answers the question: *Who can stand?*

a. The Sealing of the 144,000

- 144,000 from the twelve tribes of Israel are sealed.
- The seal symbolizes ownership, protection, and purpose.

This vision reminds us: **God knows His people individually.** No one is forgotten. No one is lost in the crowd.

There’s much debate on whether this refers to literal Israelites or symbolically to the full number of God’s redeemed people. Either way, the principle is clear: before judgment continues, **God marks His people as His own.**

Application: If you belong to Christ, you are sealed—not with ink or oil, but with the Spirit of the Living God (Ephesians 1:13). Judgment may fall, but you are covered.

3. The Vision of Victory (Revelation 7:9–17)

Now John sees a second group—a **great multitude no one could number.**

a. Who are they?

- From **every nation, tribe, people, and language**.
- Clothed in white robes, with palm branches—symbols of victory.
- They cry out, “Salvation belongs to our God... and to the Lamb!”

These are believers—redeemed by the blood of Jesus—standing not in fear but in worship.

b. What does Heaven say about them?

- They are before the throne, serving God, day and night.
- No more hunger, no more thirst, no more scorching heat.
- The **Lamb becomes their Shepherd**, leading them to living waters.

Application: This is your future, Church! No matter what happens now—wars, famine, persecution—**the end is victory**. The One who judges is also the One who saves.

Conclusion: Which Side Are You On?

Chapter 6 ends with terror—people hiding from God’s wrath.

Chapter 7 ends with triumph—people worshiping around God’s throne.

Which crowd will you be in?

- If you do not know Christ, the message is clear: *Run to the Lamb today*. Don’t wait until He comes as Judge.
- If you are suffering, hold on—your tears are not wasted.
- If you are weary, look up—your place is already prepared.

Final Charge: Live Sealed, Not Shaken, In Christ, be secure.

As Psalm 125:1 says:

"Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever."