

Revelation 6:1-8

Now begins what most people want to know from the book of Revelation – What is the future of this world? How will things end? Is there an end? How can I survive the end times? So far, the book of Revelation has revealed the things John saw (Rev. 1), the things that are (Rev. 2-3), and the events in heaven that are precursors to what happens on earth – things which shall be (Rev. 4-5). All this follows the outline stated in Rev. 1:19.

Now Satan's dominion of our world will be wrestled from him bit by bit. Rev. 6-19 gives extensive details of this seven year period predicted in Daniel 9:20-27. Dominion then passes to a Man as it was always designed to do.

The opening of the first four seals corresponds closely with events described by Jesus in Matthew 24.

Matthew 24:1-3 – The context of Matthew 24.

Matthew 24:4-14 – The beginnings of sorrows.

Matthew 24:15-28 – The clear sign the end is near.

Revelation 6:1-2

The first four seals correspond to “the beginning of sorrows” described by Jesus in Matthew 24:4-14. It begins with a conqueror. Notice the bow, but no arrows. Does that mean he conquers by “treaty”?

Revelation 6:3-4

The second seal results in the “peace” established at the beginning of this period being shattered by “wars and rumors of war.”

Revelation 6:5-6

The third seal unleashes famine and pestilence – which also corresponds to Jesus' description in Matthew 24 of the “beginnings of sorrows.”

Revelation 6:7-8

The fourth seal seems to combine all these catastrophes (war, famine, and plagues) into one result – ¼ of the world's population could violently and prematurely die.