Mercy ends & judgment begins—Ch 5 Lamb slain standing, taking title deed of earth, purchased w/ His blood from the hand of the one who sits on throne and prepares to break the seal judgments--beginnings the wrath of God poured out on Christ rejecting world.

He already redeemed but before possessing comes purging—

Prior to claiming there must be a cleansing. New car loaned, stolen, recovered impounded, original owner pays fees to redeem but first clean stench & detail so new.

Church in heaven-next mentioned 22:16 coming w/ Lord after purge wicked

1 And I saw when the Lamb broke one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures saying as with a voice of thunder, "Come." 2 And I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him; and he went out conquering, and to conquer.

There are those who wrongly identify this one being Jesus. That's improbable. *Bow*-no arrows-Jesus w/ 2-edged sword 1:16 Comes w/ sharp sword to smite the nations and rule 19:15 Jesus judges the wicked first afterward He reigns & rules w/ a rod of iron.

Note what follows *white horse*—death, war, famine. Jesus comes at the end of the tribulation not the beginning. Lamb breaks the seals in heaven not riding a horse on earth. Rider wearing *crown stephanos* (victors) a supposed great liberator. Jesus wears many *diadems* (rulers crowns) 19:12

He comes *nike conquering*—Jesus said *'I hate the deed of the nike Nicolaitans 2:6; 2:15* those who conquer over others. Servant is greatest in His kingdom

This begins the fulfillment of *Dan 9:27 He will confirm a covenant with many for* one 'seven.' In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And at the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him."

Antichrist who makes 7 yr covenant w/ Jews solving mid-E & world tensions—comes on peace platform, he's environmentally friendly, false messiah *Jn 5:43 "I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another shall come in his own name, you will receive him.*

Voice of thunder indicates storm clouds coming, not a calm. When the church is gone (Rapture) Lawless one, Antichrist is reveled 2 Thes 2:7-12

3 And when He broke the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, "Come." 4 And another, a red horse, went out; and to him who sat on it, it was granted to take peace from the earth, and that men should slay one another; and a great sword was given to him.

Red - blood--killing-war-carnage on earth—*red* dragon 12:3; *red* beast 17:3 And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus. And when I saw her, I wondered greatly. 17:6 --Matt 24:22 "And unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days shall be cut short.

5 And when He broke the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying, "Come." And I looked, and behold, a black horse; and he who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand. 6 And I heard as it were a voice in the center of the four living creatures saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not harm the oil and the wine."

Black – famine follows war – food shortages drive up prices 12x's plus

currency devaluation. *Qt wheat*-dry measure—bread by weight is Jewish

idiom for *scarcity of food*. Days wage was a denarius—for loaf bread--feed

one soldier--buying power reduced 80%

Oil & wine – luxury items untouched-wealthy 1% - Oligarchs (a very rich

business leader with a great deal of political influence.) not affected— 'Don't waste

a crisis" Antichrist controls world economy—buy/sell 13:17

7 And when He broke the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come." 8 And I looked, and behold, an ashen horse; and he who sat on it had the name Death; and Hades was following with him. And authority was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by the wild beasts of the earth

Pale – death & Hades follow after war and famine. Jesus has keys of death and Hades 1:18 both will be cast into Lake of Fire 20:14. Death takes the body – and hell/hades takes the soul, eternal state apart for Jesus Christ.

Kill w/ sword, famine, pestilence, wild beasts—the exact description of the ravages of war. Seen when local tyrants rule (ethnic cleansing, Mex cartel)

9 And when He broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained; 10 and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, wilt Thou refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" 11 And there was given to each of them a white robe; and they were told that they should rest for a little while longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brethren who were to be killed even as they had been, should be completed also.

Underneath the altar—OT blood of sacrifice poured out at base of altar, 'life is in the blood...w/o shedding...'. These tribulation saints gave their lives in sacrifice for the word of God & testimony of Christ. Martyred for their faith rejected false narrative of world system (fake news) that was given over to antichrist and they believed truth of bible and Jesus savior.

Antichrist seeks to suppress truth in order to continue to deceive the masses w/ his lies. So he murders those opposed to his agenda. *Mat* 13:23 *'you will be hated by all on account of My name*.

The early tribulation saints are representative of all those martyred during this period as 24 elders represent OT and NT believes prior to antichrist.

They *cry* for justice. We see them alive w/ Jesus--spirit and soul while waiting for resurrection of their bodies. 20:4-6.

Prayer for wrath? Jesus said *forgive*, Stephen said *forgive Acts* 7 'do not hold this sin against them'. It is the love of God that draws to repentance. But now that time has ended Jer 8:20 "Harvest is past, summer is ended, And we are not saved."

In divine judgment there is not the element of revenge but of bringing, what is the outcome of God's judicial laws--which from eternity past has already been set in motion to the conclusion..*the soul that sins shall surely die..wages*

Now is the period of wrath & judgment not mercy & grace. *Ps* 78:34 'When *He killed them then they sought Him & returned and searched diligently for God*'

Their prayer is not <u>retaliation</u> but <u>vindication</u> of God; His glory & His justice on earth as He prepares to establish His Kingdom—<u>purge</u> to <u>purify</u>

Who were to be killed-others to be martyred before Christ return *11:7 the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them.* 12:11; 14:13; 20:4-5

Night is darkest before the dawn, it will appear that the tribulation saints are

losing but WE know the end of the story. 'Rest a little while longer'

encouraging words to those being persecuted and martyred for their faith.

12 And I looked when He broke the sixth seal, and there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth made of hair, and the whole moon became like blood; 13 and the stars of the sky fell to the earth, as a fig tree casts its unripe figs when shaken by a great wind. 14 And the sky was split apart like a scroll when it is rolled up; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. 15 And the kings of the earth and the great men and the commanders and the rich and the strong and every slave and free man, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains; 16 and they said to the mountains and to the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the presence of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb; 17 for the great day of their wrath has come; and who is able to stand?"

World-wide cataclysm—Cosmic calamity—God gives ungodly what asking for *climate change*—not man-made but God caused. *Joel 2:30-31 "And I will display wonders in the sky and on the earth, Blood, fire, and columns of smoke. 31 "The sun will be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. 3:15 The sun and moon grow dark, And the stars lose their brightness.*

Is 13:9-13 Behold, the day of the LORD is coming, Cruel, with fury and burning anger, To make the land a desolation; And He will exterminate its sinners from it. 10 For the stars of heaven and their constellations Will not flash forth their light; The sun will be dark when it rises, And the moon will not shed its light. 11 Thus I will punish the world for its evil, And the wicked for their iniquity; I will also put an end to the arrogance of the proud, And abase the haughtiness of the ruthless. 12 I will make mortal man scarcer than pure gold, And mankind than the gold of Ophir. 13 Therefore I shall make the heavens tremble, And the earth will be shaken from its place At the fury of the LORD of hosts In the day of His burning anger.

Sun & moon *video* – Between 1946-58 When the hydrogen bomb was detonated at Bikini Atoll the sun was darkened by a pillar of smoke which rose twenty thousand feet. For several nights the moon was obscured by the pall of smoke, but appeared to be blood red disk. The billowing clouds of smoke gave the heavens the appearance of being rolled apart like a scroll.

Mt St Helens (earthquake) video :1.19-2:14 w/ cc

Polar Axis shift -

Wrath of the Lamb—oxymoron Jesus meek & gentle Also stern & severe in dealing w/ penalty of unrepentant sin. To believers He is kind and loving but to the unrepentant proud sinner He has holy hatred **Ps 139:22 I hate them** *with perfect hatred; I count them my enemies.*

The wicked would rather hide than repent, unwilling to face fact of their sin. Wrath does not change their monstrous desire to commit sin *Pr* 27:22 '*Tho you pound a fool in a mortar w/ a pestle along w/ crushed grain yet his folly will not depart from him'.*

As God continues to pour out wrath on earth, they continue in their sin & blaspheme God accusing & condemning Him. Then go after & persecuting those who follow Him. Ch 7 persecute and kill as God seals the 144,000

Note the parallels between Jesus warning Matt 24 Olivet discourse & Rev 6

6:1,2-White horse rider-antichrist.....24:4,5-False Christs

6:3,4-Red horse of war.....24:6-wars & rumors of wars

6:5,6-Black horse of famine.....24:7-famines

6:7,8-Pale horse of death.....24:22-no life left (7a)

6:9-11-Martyrs under altar.....24: will be killed

6:12-17-Enviornmental chaos.....24:29 heavenly calamity

Stop action between 6th and 7th seal—take a break think about, digest what's coming upon the earth and unrepentant sinful man

Also tells of those converted during the period of *tribulation*. *Matt* 24:14 *This gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in the whole world for a witness to all the nations and then the end will come*"

Two groups in Ch 7 144,000 sealed Jews (not JW's) and Martyred Gentiles, conclusion is the sealing is for salvation.