**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **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
   1. In the book of the Revelation, we look into the future.
      1. Only God can prophesy; only God knows the future.
         1. We do not know the future.
         2. Satan does not know the future.
      2. 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.
   2. There is coming a time that the Bible calls “the great tribulation” or “the wrath of the Lamb.”
      1. Revelation 6:15-16
   3. When Jesus walked on the Earth, He warned about the great tribulation.
      1. Matthew 24:21
         1. There is coming a time upon this Earth unlike any other time in history.
   4. Jesus said that the church is salt and light.
      1. 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.
      2. When the church is taken out, we move into a time known as the great tribulation, or the wrath of the Lamb.
   5. In the book of the Revelation, the Lord Jesus Christ receives a scroll from the hand of God the Father.
      1. The scroll contains seven seals.
      2. As the seven seals are opened, we see the great tribulation as it begins.
   6. 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)
   1. When we hear thunder, we know a storm is coming.
   2. The four beasts in this passage are not beasts in a horrendous sense.
      1. The word for “beasts” used in this passage is the word we get our word “zoo” from.
         1. It means four living ones.
      2. The four beasts have special characteristics.
         1. Revelation 4:7
            1. This scripture says that the beasts are like (not are) a lion, calf, man and eagle.
            2. These descriptions are symbolic.
            3. These living ones may be cherubim, the highest class of angels.

They deal with the grace, glory and government of God around His throne.

* + - 1. The first beast has a face like a lion.
         1. This speaks of the majesty of the Lord Jesus Christ.
      2. The second beast has a face like an ox or calf.
         1. When we think of an ox, we think of servitude and sacrifice.
         2. This speaks of the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ.
      3. The third beast has a face like a man.
         1. This speaks of the humanity of the Lord Jesus Christ.
      4. The fourth beast has a face like an eagle.
         1. This speaks of the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ.
  1. Revelation 6:2
     1. 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.
     2. As the seals begin to open, the rider comes in pomp and circumstance and power, and he is ruling.
     3. 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.
           1. The prefix “anti” has two meanings:

Against

Instead of

* 1. The antichrist will be the devil’s false messiah.
     1. Jesus prophesied of this false messiah whom the world would wonder after.
        1. John 5:43
  2. The antichrist will come in like a hero.
     1. 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.
     2. John 5:43

1. THE SECOND SEAL: MURDEROUS CONFLICTS (Revelation 6:3-4)
   1. When a devil-inspired leader appears on the world stage with ideas of world conquest, war and destruction will follow.
      1. This is the reason for the red horse in this passage.
         1. The color red symbolizes blood.
   2. The Lord Jesus warned that in the last days there will be wars and rumors of wars.
      1. Matthew 24:6
   3. The Bible does not prophesy that the world will get better, but instead, will get worse and worse.
   4. When the antichrist comes, hatred will inflame men’s hearts.
      1. Brother will kill brother, and fathers will slay their sons.
      2. Without the Prince of Peace and the salt and light of the church, hatred will be unrestrained.
      3. Not only will there be wars between nations, but there will also be class wars, race wars and religious wars.
   5. Ezekiel 38:21
2. THE THIRD SEAL: MEAGER CROPS (Revelation 6:5-6)
   1. The black horse in this passage speaks of famine.
      1. Famine follows war.
      2. The rider of this horse has scales in his hands (old fashioned balances), which speaks of rationing.
         1. Food will be rationed out.
            1. This scripture states that a measure of wheat will be sold for a penny.

The word for “penny” is the Greek word meaning a day’s labor.

A measure of wheat is about one quart.

A whole day’s labor will be just enough for a meal for one person.

* 1. This will be a time of limited productivity and economic deprivation.
     1. During war time, transportation that gets food to the need will be immobilized.
     2. Starvation will stalk the world.
        1. Matthew 24:19

1. THE FOURTH SEAL: MANIFOLD CARNAGE (Revelation 6:7-8)
   1. The Greek word for pale refers to a pale, greenish yellow color.
      1. This is the color of death.
   2. One-fourth of the world’s population will die once this seal is opened.
   3. We see a chain reaction occurring:
      1. Sin causes hatred.
      2. Hatred causes war and bloodshed.
      3. War brings famine.
      4. Famine produces death, and after death comes hell and judgment.
   4. The aftermath of war can bring more death than war itself.
      1. Famine
      2. Epidemics
   5. Revelation 6:8
      1. The word “death” in this passage has the idea of plagues.
      2. 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.
2. THE FIFTH SEAL: MARTYRED CHRISTIANS (Revelation 6:9-11)
   1. The fifth seal reveals martyred Christians who died during the tribulation.
      1. These are not the saints who have been raptured and taken to Heaven.
   2. There will be souls saved during the great tribulation.
      1. These people will pay a great price when they turn to God during the great tribulation.
      2. When they refuse to take the mark of the beast, they will become the objects of Satan’s hatred and wrath.
      3. Matthew 24:9
   3. It will be a time of great persecution for the saints in the tribulation.
      1. The chief weapon that Satan will use during the tribulation will be decapitation.
         1. Revelation 20:4
   4. Satan may destroy their bodies, but he cannot destroy their souls.
      1. Matthew 10:28
   5. 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.
      1. 2 Thessalonians 2:11
      2. Anyone who has heard the truth and turned from the truth will believe a lie.
3. THE SIXTH SEAL: MASSIVE CATACLYSMS (Revelation 6:12-14)
   1. There will be severe disorders on Earth and in space, and the forces of nature will be let loose upon the ungodly.
      1. Those left on Earth during the great tribulation will be those who have spurned and refused the Lord Jesus Christ.
      2. 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?
   2. There will be a great earthquake that will be felt around the world.
   3. The light of the sun will be shut out.
   4. The word “star” in this passage has the idea of a heavenly body.
      1. Stars will fall to the Earth.
      2. Asteroids will hit the Earth.
   5. Revelation 6:14
      1. 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.
   6. Revelation 6:15-16
      1. They reject the Rock of Ages and pray to the rocks.
      2. They will pray to the forces of nature rather than praying to the Creator.
4. CONCLUSION
   1. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.
      1. Proverbs 9:10
   2. The great tribulation is coming, but there is a way out; His name is Jesus.
      1. 1 Thessalonians 5:9
   3. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   4. 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.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. Acts 16:31
      5. John 3:16