

Guide & Record of your thoughts

2/21/2010 Week 13 - Revelation 6:9-17

Following the Message:

1. This time, about which we are learning, in which He finally brings a conclusion to man's rebellious existence upon planet earth... should not/can not lead you to the conclusion that God is taking delight in bring about retribution upon the earth.
2. (6:9) The fifth seal reveals martyrs; those who have been:
 - slain on the earth
 - killed because they refused to worship the image of the beast.These have all been part of the persecution of believers led by Satan/demons/Antichrist.
3. (6:10) The cry of those martyred to bring vengeance on those guilty was an appeal based on God's attributes. Because God is **holy**, He must judge sin, and because God is **true**, He must be faithful to His word. God's **justice** will be considered unjust if He does not punish sin.
4. (6:11) The martyrs received brilliant white robes – a reward of grace, God's gift of eternal righteousness, dignity, and honor.
5. (6:12-14) The sixth seal unleashes earthly and heavenly physical upheaval. There will be:
 - a great earthquake
 - storms affecting the sun and moon
 - Stars falling, and
 - Every mountain and island... moved out of their places.
6. (6:15, 16) Hiding from God usually indicates some kind of rebellion or rebellious action or unbelief on the part of those who are hiding.
7. (6:15, 16) God, who would gladly receive those who are hiding, finds them deceived by Satan, even at this moment of earthly and heavenly physical upheaval. If they would but turn and recognize Him, He would give them salvation.

8. (6:17) John makes a declarative statement after seeing all these incredible insights. He cries out on behalf of all of us and says, "Who can stand in the presence of the Almighty?"

Hebrew and Greek words used today:

Restrain - **katecho**, kat-ekh'-o (Greek): - hold (fast), possess, retain, seize on, withhold (violent criminal in handcuffs)

Strive - '**adown**, aw-done (Hebrew): (to rule); sovereign, controller (Adoni) by implication to judge (as umpire); strive as at law: - contend.

Slain - **sphazo**, sfad'-zo (Greek): to butcher (especially in sacrifice) to slaughter, or (special) to maim (violently): - kill, slay, wound

Cried – **krazo**, krad'zo (Greek): a primary verb; to call aloud (shriek), exclaim: - cry out.

Stand – **histemi**, his'-tay-mee (Greek): to stand: - abide, continue, present, set (up).

Reflecting on the Text

Overview of the first six seals

1. false peace
2. world-wide war
3. famine
4. death of ¼ world population by pestilence /plague
5. revelation of martyrs
6. earth and sky physical upheaval

Whether or not you are "able to stand" against the trials of this world depends on who stands with you. If the events we have studied so far in Revelation were to begin today would you be prepared?

God is patient and gracious... but there will come a time when He will no longer withhold His judgment on those who reject Him... there will come a day when grace will end and judgment will fall on everyone. How does this TRUTH impact you?

Even though great judgments will take place in the future, let us reflect and give thanks for the AWESOME patience of God.