Revelation 6-7 • The Seals

1. The pattern of Revelation 4-19 is not entirely **new**. Previous biblical examples demonstrate that to a point, **everyone** experiences what is taking place until God exempts and then **rescues** His people going forward. This is the point where “**judgment**” turns to “wrath”.
2. (v.1-8) The Seals are **earthly** activities which God has repeatedly used to both mete out **punishment** and to **induce** mankind to repent and return to Him, but which will have an ultimate, final **fulfillment** unlike anything which came before them.
3. (v.9-11) In both the Olivet Discourse and the sequence of the Seals, a time of **tribulation** comes for the Church when we will be **witnesses** for Christ and the Gospel.
4. (v.12-16) What comes for the rest of the world is not a time of **tribulation** in the character of what was experienced by the Church, but “the day of the Lord” when all that is left is to experience God’s **wrath**. Both are recognized as authored by and pending from **God** for each respectively.
5. (7:1-8) The time comes when God returns to primarily working through **Israel** to complete all as yet unfulfilled promises made to and through them.
6. (v.9-12) The **Harpazo** of the Church takes place between the 6th and 7th Seals.
7. (v.13-17) Nowhere in Scripture is either a 7 or 3-1/2 year period imposed on either the terms “tribulation” or “great tribulation”, nor are they periods directed at the **whole earth**. Rather, they are escalating periods of spiritual testing exclusively aimed at the **Church** which each occur for a brief successive time in the course of the 70th Week of Daniel. In reality they are **phases** rather than 3-1/2 year halves of the final 7 years.