

“Saints’ Souls, Celestial Signs, & Scared Sinners”
Revelation 6:9-17

Intro: When the Lamb opens the first four seals in Revelation 5, four progressive judgments are released: impersonal war, interpersonal killing, individual poverty and starvation, and indiscriminate death.

With the opening of the 5th and 6th seals we find two distinct groups of people: Christian martyrs in heaven and condemned sinners on earth.

I. The 5th Seal: Saints Slain for their Testimony

- a. The Greek word *martyr* means *testimony/witness*
- b. Souls under the altar in heaven
- c. “How long...until you avenge our blood?”

II. The 6th Seal: Chaos in the Cosmos

- a. A great earthquake
- b. Sun, moon, and stars darken and fall
- c. The heavens recede like a scroll

III. The 6th Seal: Sinners Facing the Wrath of the Lamb

- a. How the mighty—and everyone—have fallen
- b. The Fall leads to hiding in fear
- c. “Who can withstand the wrath of the Lamb?”

Close: Jesus received the Father’s wrath against sin on the cross. He paid for *our* sins in *our* place as the Lamb of God.

Whoever believes in Jesus is not condemned. Whoever dies because of their testimony to Jesus is given a special place in heaven.

Whoever does *not* believe in Jesus remains condemned due to their sins (John 3:18). The only place to find shelter *from* the wrath of the Lamb is *in* the Lamb who was slain...on the cross.