

The Revelation Chronologically Arranged

The First Half of the Week — Six Seals — Chapter 6

Arthur C. Brown

The First Half of the Week — Six Seals

In chapter 6 we have the opening of the six seals during the first three and one half years, called "the beginning of sorrows" in Matt. 24:8.

First Seal. It now appears that Papal Rome, with all her surpassing diplomatic proficiency, will politically subjugate, unite, "sit" (17:3) and control the ten powers for the first half of the week, (chap. 17:3,7,18). "White" suits her pretensions to Christ-like motives for peace. A "bow" gives power to her aim. The "crown" is her reward (Greek 'stephanos' and not 'diadem' for kingly royalty.) The absence of "I saw" in the next seal and the term "another" indicate that the first two seals are connected. This is further shown by peace being taken from the earth. The crown being not a royal diadem eliminates the thought of describing the Roman Beast or the Antichrist.

Second Seal. Civil warfare provoked by the Roman Beast (Matt. 24:6).

Third Seal. Famine follows.

Fourth Seal. Sword, hunger, death and beasts ravage.

Fifth Seal. Martyrs that have been slain by Babylon the Great (17:6; 18:24; 19:2), during these first three and one half years, must wait until others are slain for not worshipping the beast in the last three and one half years, (13:15, agreeing with 20:4 N.T.).

Sixth Seal. The political chaos and collapse of civilization cause utter despair as described also in Luke 21:25,26, "Distress of nations with perplexity. ...Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth."