

## The Journal of a VERY Confused Person

My journey began in Revelation 6.

Somebody mentioned seals. I was very excited. They seem to be nice little animals. I wanted to know MORE about seals. However, seems I was wrong. It wasn't THAT kind of seals.

When the Lamb opened a seal, I heard one of 4 living creatures say, "*Come and see.*" What did I see? A white horse. The guy riding it had a bow. Then he was given a \_\_\_\_\_. He went out conquering and to conquer.

When He (that would be the Lamb) opened the second seal, the second living creature (do you remember these 4 living creatures.....they had 6 wings, eyes front and back, didn't ever rest rest), anyway, Living Creature #2 (could also be called Calf Living Creature, I guess), said, "*Come and see.*" So another horse, but this one's fiery \_\_\_\_\_. The rider of this horse was to take peace from the earth, so that people should KILL one another. He (the rider) was given a great sword.

So He (again the Lamb) opened the third seal, the third living creature (I guess that would be Face Like a Man Living Creature?) said, "*Come and see.*" No surprise for me - another horse, this one is black. The rider of this horse had a pair of scales in his hand. A voice came from the midst of the 4 living creatures saying something about a quart of wheat for a denarius, three quarts of barley for a denarius, but do not harm the \_\_\_\_\_ and wine. (What does this mean? Will food be scarce?)

I wasn't even a little surprised when He (the Lamb) opened the fourth seal and the fourth living creature (flying eagle living creature?) said, "*Come and see.*" Also wasn't surprised to see another \_\_\_\_\_. But it was a PALE horse. Also the rider was named Death. And Hades followed. Spooky! Then what do you know, power

was given to them over  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the earth, to kill with sword, hunger, death, and by beast.

When that 5<sup>th</sup> seal got opened, I was expecting another horse. That was NOT what I saw. I saw UNDER the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held. They cried, "*How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?*" Then they got \_\_\_\_\_ robes and they were told to rest a little while longer until more of their fellow servants and brethren were killed. Strange, that's what I thought.

I had no idea what to expect when He (the Lamb) opened the sixth seal. Next thing I know, there's a great earthquake. The sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the \_\_\_\_\_ became like blood. Also, the stars of the heaven fell to earth like a fig tree drops figs when shaken by a mighty wind. I thought that was bad enough. Then the sky receded as a scroll when it's rolled up. Every mountain and island was moved out of its place. All these people - kings, great men, rich men, commanders, mighty men, slave, free men - they hid themselves in \_\_\_\_\_ and in rocks of the mountains. They said to the mountains and rock (last I checked, mountains and rocks had no ears), but they said "*Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?*"

So when I got to **Revelation 7**, I was ready for seal number 7 to be opened. I had no idea what it might reveal, but that's what I was expecting. Wrong again!

I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth holding the four winds of the earth that the wind should NOT blow on the earth, on the sea or any tree.

Then I saw another angel (ascending from the east). He had the seal (again, not the little animal I initially expected)...he had the seal of the living God. The angel with the seal who came from the \_\_\_\_\_ cried with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea (I'm guessing it's the same angels standing at the four corners but I might be wrong), anyway, the angel with the seal said "*Do not harm the earth, the sea, or the trees till we have sealed the servants of God on their foreheads.*" The number of those sealed was 144,000 of all the tribes of the children of Israel. 12,000 each from Judah, Reuben, Gad, Asher, Naphtali, Manasseh, Simeon, Levi, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, and Benjamin were sealed.

What was THAT all about, I wondered.

Next, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues were standing before the throne and before the Lamb (the same with 7 eyes and horns, looking like He had been slain from chapter 5). This multitude was clothed with white robes and had \_\_\_\_\_ branches in their hands. They cried out with a loud voice saying, "*Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne and to the Lamb!*"

All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures. They fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, "*Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might, be to our God forever and ever. Amen.*"

One of the elders said to John, "*Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?*"

John said, "*Sir, you know.*"

So he (one of the elders) said, " *These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to a living fountain of waters. And God will wipe away every \_\_\_\_\_ from their eyes.*"

That's when I arrived at **Revelation 8**.

Finally - that 7<sup>th</sup> seal. When He (the Lamb) opened it, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.

Seven angels who stood before God were given 7 trumpets. Another angel with a golden censer came and stood at the \_\_\_\_\_. He was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. The smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand. Next the angel took that censer, filled it with fire from the altar and threw it to the earth. And there were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake. So the 7 angels who had 7 trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

Oh, no. 7 more odd things, I'm thinking. Will we have more horses, more seals?

The first angel sounded. Hail and fire followed, mingled with blood (yikes), and they were thrown to the earth. And a third of the trees were burned up, and all green \_\_\_\_\_ was burned up.

The second angel sounded (that means blew his trumpet I think). Something like a great mountain burning with fire was thrown into the sea, and a third of the sea became blood. A third of the living creatures in the sea died, and a third of the \_\_\_\_\_ were destroyed.

Up pops angel #3. He sounded. This time a great \_\_\_\_\_ fell from heaven, burning like a torch, and it fell on a third of the rivers and on the springs of water. The name of the star is Wormwood. A third of the waters became wormwood, and many men died from the water, because it was made bitter.

Here's angel #4. He sounded. A third of the sun was struck, a third of the moon, and a third of the stars, so that a third of them were darkened. A third of the day did not shine, likewise the \_\_\_\_\_.

I'm looking for angel #5 with his trumpet but what do you know, there's an angel flying through the midst of heaven saying with a loud voice, "*Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth, because of the remaining blasts of the trumpet of the three angels who are about to sound!*"

So I'm thinking.....WHAT! It's going to get worse. Oh, no....

I am NOT looking forward to **Revelation 9**. That's all I can say.

Angel 5 sounds. I saw a star fallen from heaven to the earth (it wasn't Wormwood, don't know its name, pretty sure it didn't even have a name!). To him (the star?) was given the key to the bottomless pit. He opened it I'm thinking, no, no.....don't do it. Smoke arose out of the pit like the smoke of a great furnace. I'm thinking, whew, it's not too bad, but I relaxed

too soon. The sun and the air were darkened because of the smoke of the pit. That's still not too bad. But then, out of the smoke, \_\_\_\_\_ came upon the earth. And to them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. They WERE commanded to keep off the grass. Well, actually, they were commanded NOT to harm the grass of the earth, or any green thing or any tree, but ONLY those men who do not have the seal of God on their foreheads (I bet that would be those people from chapter 7). They were NOT given authority to kill them, but to torment them for \_\_\_\_\_ months. Their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it strikes a man. I'm thinking I don't like getting stung by a bee, HOW would it feel to be stung by a locust with scorpion power???? Well, what I saw next was men seeking death and not finding it, desiring to die, but death fleeing from them.

More about those locusts. Their shape was like horses prepared for battle. On their heads were crowns of something like gold, and their faces were like the faces of men. They had hair like women's hair, and their \_\_\_\_\_ were like lions' teeth. Also they had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings was like the sound of chariots with many horses running into battle. They had tails like scorpions, and there were \_\_\_\_\_ in their tails. Their power was to hurt men five months. And they had as king over them the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon, but in Greek he has the name Apollyon.

One woe is past. Two more are coming. Oh, no ☹️

So angel 6 sounded. I heard a voice from the four \_\_\_\_\_ of the golden altar which is before God, saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "*Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates.*"

I'm thinking, no, don't do it.....remember what happened when that bottomless pit got opened?????

Did they listen to me? NO

4 angels who had been prepared for the hour and \_\_\_\_\_ and month and year were released to kill a third of mankind! The number of the army of the horsemen was 200 million. I heard that number (obviously I didn't count that high by myself, I would still be counting!)

I saw the horses in the vision. The riders had breastplates of fiery \_\_\_\_\_, hyacinth \_\_\_\_\_, and sulfur \_\_\_\_\_; and the heads of the horses were like the heads of lions and out of their mouths came fire, smoke, and brimstone. By these 3 plagues a third of mankind was killed - by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone which came out of their mouths. For their power is in their mouth and in their tails; for their tails are like serpents, having heads, and with them they do harm.

But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did NOT repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk. And they did NOT repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.

As I approached **Revelation 10**, I'm thinking, I want to see some normal animals, with regular heads and tails. But I don't think that's going to happen.

It didn't start off too bad. There was a mighty angel coming down from heaven, clothed with a cloud. A rainbow was on his head, his face was like the sun, and his feet were like pillars of fire. He had a little book open in his hand. He put his right foot on

the sea and his \_\_\_\_\_ foot on the land. He cried with a loud voice (I'm thinking loud like a trumpet, maybe loud like thunder, but NO) His voice was as when a lion roars. When he cried out, 7 thunders uttered their voices. (I'm thinking, wait, we haven't finished the 7 trumpets. We have at least one more woe left! Are we starting 7 thunders????) I noticed John start to write when the 7 thunders uttered their voices. A voice from heaven said, "*Seal up the things which the 7 thunders uttered, and do \_\_\_\_\_ write them.*"

Whew, that's what I thought. Don't have to figure out 7 thunders along with 7 seals and 7 trumpets. Somebody told me 7 bowls pop up in chapter 15 and 16. I'm thinking I hope my trip doesn't include stops there! Anyway.....

Next thing, that angel with his right foot on the sea and his left foot on the land, raised his hand to heaven. He swore by Him who lives forever and ever, who created heaven and the things that are in it, the earth and the things that are in it, and the sea and the things that are in it, that there should be delay no longer, but in the days of the sounding of the 7<sup>th</sup> angel, when he is about to sound, the mystery of God would be finished, as He declared to His servants the prophets.

That voice from heaven spoke again. It spoke to John and said, "*Go, take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the earth.*"

John went to the angel and said, "*Give me the little book.*" The angel said, "*Take and eat it; and it will make your stomach bitter, but it will be as sweet as \_\_\_\_\_ in your mouth.*"

John did it. He took the little book out of the angel's hand and ate it. It was sweet as honey in his mouth. But when he ate it, his stomach became bitter. The angel then said "*You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings.*"

## Revelation 11

So John was given a \_\_\_\_\_ like a measuring rod. The angel stood, saying, *"Rise and measure the temple of God, the altar, and those who worship there. But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. And they will tread the holy city underfoot for 42 months. And I will give power to my 2 witnesses, and they will prophesy 1260 days, clothed in \_\_\_\_\_."*

There are 2 olive trees and 2 lampstands standing before the God of the earth. And if anyone wants to harm them, \_\_\_\_\_ proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner. These have power to shut heaven so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

Am I confused now? Olive trees and lampstands with power over waters? Olive trees and lampstands that anyone wants to harm???? I think maybe this is about those witnesses!

When they (witnesses) finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them. And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. Then those from the peoples, tribes, tongues, and nations will see their dead bodies 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  days, and NOT allow their dead bodies to be put into graves. And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them, make merry, and send gifts to one another, because these 2 prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth.

I'm really really confused.....

After 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  days, the breath of life from God entered them. They stood on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them. (Not a surprise to me. If I saw dead bodies for 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  days, then they stood up, I would be TERRIFIED!) Next a loud voice from heaven said, "Come up here." They went.....in a \_\_\_\_\_, and their enemies SAW them. At that same hour, there was a great earthquake (another earthquake, I seem to remember one from Revelation 6). In this earthquake a tenth of the city fell. 7,000 people were killed and the rest were afraid and gave glory to the God of heaven.

And that was the end of the second woe. But the third woe is coming quickly.

The 7<sup>th</sup> angel sounded. There were loud voices in heaven saying, "*The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ and He shall reign forever and ever!*" And the 24 elders (we first met them in Revelation 4) who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God, saying:

*"We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty,  
The One who is and who was and who is to come,  
Because You have taken Your great power and reigned.  
The \_\_\_\_\_ were angry, and Your wrath has come,  
And the time of the dead, that they should be judged,  
And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints,  
And those who fear Your name, small and great,  
And should destroy those who destroy the earth."*

Then the temple of God was opened in heaven and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.

And that's the end of Revelation 11 and my journey from chapter 6!