



*THE RIDER ON THE
WHITE HORSE*

A final warning against the wrath of God
and the Lamb

Who is that rider? What is his duty? Why
does he leave first? Will God tolerate
human pride forever?

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"And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures say with a voice of thunder, "Come! And I saw, and behold, a white horse; and he that sat on it had a bow, and a wreath was given to him; and he went forth conquering, and that he might conquer." Revelation 6:1,2;

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Who is the rider on the white horse and what is his mission?

The rider on the white horse is the first horseman of the apocalypse. Apocalyptic horsemen are commonly seen as messengers of war, famine, death, a great calamity that will befall corrupt mankind at the end of the age. And part of the eighth verse of the sixth chapter, at least at first sight, gives this widespread view the truth.

"They were given power over a quarter of the earth, to kill with the sword, with famine, with death, and with the beasts of the earth."

This description of the action of horsemen applies mainly to the remaining three horsemen. They really have the power to take away peace on earth with the sword, to cause famine and pestilence. Note, however, that these riders only have the power to threaten a quarter of the land. Have you ever wondered which quarter of the country it is? The sword, famine, pestilence and wild beasts are mentioned in the Bible as God's punishments for the wrongdoing of God's first people, the Mosaic covenant. However, Christians are not under the law. It might seem like it doesn't concern them. We mean that it does not apply to Christian nations. But it is not certain. Why?

*God's punishments are not limited to his people. In certain situations, God wanted to give a chance to other nations, who let themselves be warned, from doing evil, to save them from His wrath. Let us remember Nineveh, which was threatened with destruction. However, God warned them through Jonah and they repented. Everyone, starting with the king. And please don't forget this experience. **God often warns of His wrath**¹. He also warned King Nebuchadnezzar of the consequences of his own pride, and he carried out the threat he had given him in advance. The Old Testament prophets also write about the punishments that will befall other nations for their crimes against his people. He also warned his people every time before he let his punishments fall on them.*

Therefore, the mission of the rider on the white horse does not have to be devastating. The color white is the color of purity, holiness, righteousness (Isaiah 1:18, Revelation 7:14). There is one more place in Revelation where there is a rider on a white horse (Revelation 19:11-16) He who rides

¹There are cases where God did not directly warn of punishment. For example, Sodom and Gomorrah. Jesus, when the miracles he performed in front of them did not help, he also left the Jews to not understand and not be saved. Isaiah and Jesus explained why (Matt. 11:23; Is. 6:10;).

on a white horse is the Lord of Lords and King of Kings, the Word of God, Faithful and True.

“And I saw heaven open, and behold a white horse, and he who sat on it was called Faithful and True; he judges and fights justly. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on his head were many diadems; he has a written name that no one but himself knows. He is clothed in a cloak stained with blood, and his name is the Word of God. And the armies that are in heaven followed him on white horses, clothed in pure white linen.”

Whoever the apocalyptic rider on the white horse is, he represents God's holiness, purity, justice and God's word. The bow in his hand testifies that he will strike the hearts of the people with God's word, as God's adversary sends fiery missiles of evil words.

"Hide me from the stings of evildoers, from the curse of the workers of iniquity, who sharpen their tongues like swords, sharpen their arrows with poisonous words," Psalm 64:3,4;

In the case of the rider on the white horse, it is the word of God, righteous and pure, that will succeed. This is evidenced by the victory wreath on the rider's head. Part of his message will be a warning against the wrath of God and the Lamb.

Important!

The rider on the white horse and the other three horsemen ride out only after the recognition of the holiness of the reign of God, the one who sits on the throne and the recognition of Jesus Christ, our Lord, that he is worthy to receive the scroll (book) sealed with seven seals. Both events take place in heaven and are described in the 4th and 5th chapters of the book of Revelation. We cannot watch them because they take place in heaven. We will recognize that they took place later by the events caused by the riders on the horses. The rider on the white horse can therefore serve as an important sign, announcing the beginning of the period of the seven seals and the definitive transition to the last period of the Babylonian epoch.

Who does the white horse represent?

*In Daniel's prophecies, beasts are symbols of great power. For example, in chapter 7, a lion, a bear, a leopard and a fourth beast come out of the sea (mankind). In chapter 8, Daniel saw in a vision a two-horned ram and a goat. The ram represented the kingdom of the Medes and Persians, the goat represented the King of Greece. Horses and horse teams (to Zechariah) also represent the human organized community that serves and obeys the rider. **The white horse***

therefore represents the servants of God and Jesus who work together with the rider to fulfill his mission.

Why does the rider on the white horse come out first?

Before we answer the question, let's recall the process of how the order to bring out the rider on the white horse got to the addressee. "And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seven seals," the Lamb opens ONE of the seven seals. The Greek term (εἷς, μία, ἓν, [hejs, mia, hen]) is sometimes translated as one, one, etc. Other times it is translated first. However, the order of the riders is not random, because we have already shown that God only rarely warns of his punishment.

Everything has to do with God's attributes, which the Bible informs us about. The Bible describes its four basic characteristics. They are love, wisdom, justice and power. The four living beings described in the 4th chapter of Revelation, who examine the holiness (authority) of God to rule over free-willed beings (Rev. 4:11), actually clear the name of God, from the adversary's (Satan's) slanders and accusations caused by the so-called disputed questions (that is the meaning of the first verse of the well-known Lord's prayer ("Our Father, who are in heaven, hallowed be your name")). Each creature has a different face. The difference of

*the four living beings can mean four different focuses on the investigation of the holiness of God's reign. It is very likely that beings examine God's holiness precisely in terms of the attributes that God exercises in His rule. On our website www.jvh.cz you can find more details in the study "**Basic God's Attributes**", which you can find in context studies.*

"...and I heard one of the four living creatures say with a voice of thunder, 'Come!'

Which of the four beings commands the first rider on the white horse "Come" can be recognized by the white color of the horse and the rider with the symbols on it. The Lamb, who has the all-important scroll with the seals, determines the order of the opening of the seals and thus the entire course of events on earth. As the first seal, the Lamb (Jesus Christ in heavenly form and glory) chose the seal that initiates activity on earth based on purity, justice, holiness and the word of God (Revelation 19:13).

Why is the rider on the white horse first? Neither God nor the Lamb is sneaky, devious. He nurtures his people as good parents nurture their children. Good parents do not punish their children without warning. Children must always know what the punishment will come for (Amos 3:7). But who is it? As already stated, the actions of the remaining three horsemen are reminiscent of God's punishments that God determined in the Mosaic Law. So, logically, it should be the

Jews, the people of the Mosaic covenant. But the Revelation of John is intended for those who keep the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. This points to Christ's covenant people (Revelation 1:1-6). These are Christian nations whose ancestors accepted a binding faith in salvation through Jesus Christ and also accepted a covenant with Christ (by accepting the symbols of bread and especially the cup of wine). Although the majority of their inhabitants, in the last hundred years, have given up faith in God and Christ, their rulers must respect God and his Anointed One, because God allowed them (before Christ) in the dream of the Babylonian (pagan) king to create a worldwide government according to own ideas, but under one condition that is binding on all rulers without distinction and is described in the book of Daniel in the 2nd and 4th chapters in the story of the Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar. In a dream he was told that God gives people the right to rule over the whole earth and then in another dream he warned the king against pride and told him that God rules over man. The king nevertheless rebelled, and God deprived him of power for seven years and made him eat and sleep with animals, until he knew that God rules and gives power to whom He wants. The king recognized God's authority. In Daniel 4:30-34;

"At that moment, the word about Nebuchadnezzar was fulfilled. He was banished from the people, he grazed the vegetation like cattle, and his body became wet with the

dew of heaven, until his hair grew like eagle's feathers and his nails were like bird's claws. But at the expiration of that time I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted up my eyes to heaven, and my knowledge was restored to me. I blessed the Most High and praised and glorified the Ever-Living, for his reign is an everlasting reign, and his kingdom endures from generation to generation. All the inhabitants of the earth are counted for nothing, for as he pleases, he deals with the host of heaven and with the inhabitants of the earth. There is no one who can put his hand over him and say to him: What did he do?! At that time, he restored to me my knowledge, also the honor of my kingship and my majesty, even restored to me my appearance, and there my counselors and great men sought me out. I was reinstated in my kingdom and extraordinary greatness was added to me.

Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, worship and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, whose all actions are truth, whose paths are right, and who is able to humble the proud.”

King Nebuchadnezzar lived and ruled more than two and a half thousand years ago. His experience with God was still honored by the Persian kings Darius and King Cyrus II the Great. Many Christian feudal kings and princes respected God and Christ for a long time. This changed, and after the demise of feudalism, which was effectively completed after the First World War, the modern rulers and politicians of the

new social regimes stopped respecting God and his Anointed one completely. Instead, they are thinking of how to downplay the need to submit to his authority.

*“Why do nations riot, why do people ponder empty things? The kings of the world take counsel together, and the mighty take counsel against the Lord and against his anointed. Let us break their bonds, cast away their cords.”
Psalm 2:1-3;*

Today it manifests itself in many ways. It can be seen most in the efforts to erase God's law, which people have written in their hearts from the beginning. It is the conscience that praises us for the right things and rebukes us for the wrong things. Public morality and morals, based on biblical, Christian values, are also questioned and relativized. Christian public morality has changed also because churches representing God and Christ before people are hardly heard. Churches are mostly closed in churches, pulpits, parishes and other places where the faithful gather for services and there rather hide from the world, which on the other hand needs to hear emphatically that pride precedes a fall and God will not suffer human pride and growing willfulness indefinitely.

The rider on the white horse will correct the inaction of the churches and remind the Christian nations, and probably all other nations, of the message of the Gospel and at the same

time warn everyone against the wrath of God and the Lamb. The latter is described in the sixth seal.

*“And when he opened the sixth seal, I saw that there was a great earthquake, and the sun became black as a sack of sackcloth, and the moon was completely bled. And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree tossed by the wind drops its late figs; it disappeared from the sky like a scroll being rolled up, and every mountain and every island was moved from its place. **The kings of the earth and the nobles and the generals, the rich and the mighty, every slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, and said to those mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of Lamb! For the great day of their wrath has come; who will be able to stand?"**” Revelation 6:12-17;*

How will the powerful and the common people come to understand that the disaster of the sixth seal is a manifestation of the wrath of God and the Lamb? If they only talked about God, any religious leader could lead them to do so. Like the Dalai Lama. But if there is talk of the wrath of God and of the Lamb, that information must come from a Christian source. The state of the churches today is so bleak, and their importance in the eyes of society so small, and the public speaking of the churches so weak and

timid (with some exceptions), that it is almost certain that the addressed horseman with the bow and the conqueror's crown of victory on the white horse will be addressed directly from above (one of the four living beings said in a thundering voice: "Come!") and the horse will be the servants of God and Christ, who will spread the gospel and warning to all mankind under his leadership.

That is why the rider on the white horse leaves first, so that people learn everything important for their further decision-making in time. This is God's righteousness, expressed in Amos 3:7;

"For the Sovereign Lord will do nothing unless He reveals His secret message to His servants the prophets." And in Psalm 2:10-12; "Well, kings, act sensibly! Judges of the land, take counsel! Serve the Lord with fear and rejoice with trembling! Kiss the Son so he doesn't get angry. Otherwise, you will perish on the way if his anger is kindled even a little. Blessed be all who take refuge in him."

Summary

The events of recent years have affected almost the entire world and especially Christian civilization. People's thinking is changing quickly. Until recently, the efforts of the adversary's ministers were focused more on publicly recognized values and moral standards to alienate people as much as possible from God, but now they are joined by the curtailment of civil rights and liberties, the growing danger of war conflict, and the rapidly widening gap between the impoverished majority and get rich quick by a handful of very rich people. Christians have information in God's Word that indicates that a dramatic and difficult period is ahead of us, after which there will be a worldwide catastrophe coming probably from outer space (sixth seal). But before all that comes, we will first be warned by a rider on a white horse. Rather, the current events are caused by dark forces and their servants who want to thwart God's purpose, establish God's rule on earth and complete judgment on the wicked. We should therefore also keep in mind the prophetic words of the prophet Isaiah in 8:12; "Call not a conspiracy what these people call a conspiracy; what he is afraid of, don't be afraid and don't be frightened."

*Jesus also warns us with the words: "You will hear of wars and you will hear rumors of wars. **Be careful, don't panic.** All this must happen, but it is not the end. For nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom, and there*

will be famines and earthquakes in various places. But all this will be the beginning of labor pains.'

*Although we cannot completely avoid pain and tribulation, **those who remain faithful to God and Christ to the end will be under God's protection** (Revelation 7:13-17). Let's remember that.*

If we see that someone or somewhere is quickly, successfully and very loudly reminding and spreading the message of the Gospel and the warning against the wrath of God and the Lamb, with an up-to-date interpretation of the Word of God, it will probably be a Christian-oriented community whose leader will be commissioned by Jesus Christ, but he will not publicly protect himself with it, like false messiahs and Christs. When we see this happening, we will know that the sanctification of God's name has been completed in heaven and Jesus Christ (the Lamb) is recognized as worthy to receive the scroll with the seven seals. Therefore, let us be vigilant. Let us not overlook this very important sign.