

Discussion Questions January 28, 2018

Soundtrack to the End of The World Revelation 6

(How was the Good News preached to you? Did it feel like good news? A gift? A threat? A warning? Something else?)

Read Revelation 6.

- How does it strike you? What emotions arise in you?
- If God is a loving God who desires to reconcile all things to Himself, why would He allow such heartache, chaos & pain? What is this passage all about?

Adam & Eve wanted the knowledge of Good and evil. And now, in this world, we are coming to know evil . . . Perhaps we'll also come to know or be known, by the Good. "The Light shines in the darkness," wrote John. We look for the Way when we realize that we're lost. We long for the Truth when we've been assaulted by lies. We learn to love the Life when we discover that we're good as dead...We look to the Light in the darkness. We come to know the Savior when we know we need saving. —Peter Hiatt

In the above quote, Peter explains his ideas about why God allows everything in Revelation 6 to happen.

- What do you think? Do you agree, disagree? And why?

In Rev. 6:12 during the sixth seal, at the death of Jesus, everyone runs from the Lamb.

- Why do you think they run . . . from a *lamb*?
- Is there anything about Jesus on the cross that makes you want to run and hide? If so, what? And why?

The riders in Rev. 6 seem to bring a lot of painful stuff: lack of peace, chaos, famine (a refusal to share), death, deception, warfare, and poverty. Are these things the Judgment of God? Ask yourself, "*Is God's Judgment chaos or Logos?*" "*Is God's Judgment Truth or Lies?*" "*Is selfishness God's Judgment or is Love?*"

Jesus releases these "things," but He is *not* these things. During the sixth seal, the martyrs cry out, "How long before you will judge...and avenge?" So, He hasn't yet judged. This means all these bad things are not the Judgment. The word for Greek word for avenge is *ekdikeo*. It means How long until you bring out righteousness? *Ek* means "out" and *dikaio* means "make right." *Ekdikeo* means something like "bring our righteousness." —Peter Hiatt

- Think back to the times when God has "brought out righteousness" in you.
- How does God bring out what is right in you?

Jesus did not save us *from* God's Judgment. Jesus *is* God's Judgment that saves us from our own judgment—what the Bible calls "sin".

- When you understand God's Judgment as good and loving—for you and not against you—how does that affect you? What is your response?

In this sermon, Peter talks about how hearing the theme song in a movie is a clue that victory is right around the corner. Hearing a theme song can bring us hope even in the darkest of times.

- Who or what in your life has helped you "hear the theme song" (God's Judgment is love and there is hope) in your darkest moments?
- Who might need you to remind them that God's Judgment is love and there is hope?

"You were born into this fallen world to see the Judgment of God, learn to trust the Judgment of God, fall in love with the Judgment of God, and become the very Body of the Judgment of God, such that His Judgment and your Judgment would be the very same Judgment . . . not because they have to be, but because you want them to be."—Peter Hiatt

- Can you think of any ways God has extended an invitation personally to you this week, inviting you to fall in love with His Judgment?
- Can you think of any ways He has recently extended an invitation to you to become the very Body of the Judgment of God to others?

**The questions were created by Kimberly Weynen*