

# THE SEALS OF REVELATION 6

## Conditions After Breaking Covenant

### SEAL

*Rv.6:5-6*

#### Beast Control Over Economy

- This seal involves famine caused by the strict economic control by the Beast.
- Seal 3 represents some kind of economic control. Because the Beast takes control of resources, he has the ability to restrict who can buy and sell based on whether or not they have the Mark of the Beast.
- The use of “scales” represents control over the money system.
- The “penny” is the Roman denarius which was one days work wage. To buy one measure of wheat is to eat one meal for that day. To buy the cheaper grain, barley, is to eat three meals a day.
- There appears to be massive food shortages for anyone not working within the Beast system.
- For those working under the Beast system things may appear to function “normally” (**Rv.13:17**). That is, they will be able to buy and sell the oil and wine.
- The Beast will offer “peace” and safety to those who accept Beast worship and take the mark of the beast. This time of safety is short lived as it will be cut short as the Day of the Lord arrives, and shall catch them as a thief surprise (**1Th.5:1-3**)



### SEAL

*Rv.6:8*

#### Much Death Everywhere

- There will be much death coming from multiple sources.
  1. Death from the sword. The Beast will try to kill anyone who will not take the mark.
  2. Death from famine. Since the Beast controls resources, he can allow shortages for those outside his domain.
  3. Death from disease. The natural result of massive food shortages (famine) is death from starvation and disease.
  4. Death from animals. Hungry wild animals will encroach civilized areas seeking food for their survival.
- The killings appear to be the result of the Beast's attempt to control the world.
- One quarter (1/4) of earth's land area will be subject to physical death (**Rv.6:8**). This is not 1/4 of the earth's population. This suggests that the Beast's authority extends to 3/4 of the earth.



### SEAL

*Rv.6:9-11*

#### Martyrs in Heaven

- This seal recognizes all believers who have been killed for their faith. Many will die as martyrs.
- These martyrs are already in Heaven. Thus, it is not next in a chronological sense.
- This is a representative group for all martyrs throughout history. This is a symbolic image for the vision.
- These are not simply recent martyrs who are hanging out underneath the altar waiting (**Rv.6:9**) for justice to be poured out on the world.
- When we die we are brought face to face with our Lord. They are experiencing peace and joy in Christ's presence.
- These martyrs are called “souls” (**6:9**). That is, they do not yet have bodies. After the sixth seal these martyrs are in heaven wearing “white robes” (**7:9**) because they have already been resurrected (raptured). The martyrs do not consider their martyrdom to be God's wrath upon them (**Rv.6:10**). They do believe the wrath is still future (v.10).

