

WHO SHALL BE ABLE TO STAND?

REV. 6:12-17

[Sixth Seal]

Introduction:

- A. These verses tell us something of the time of these events, v17
 - 1. This is the "great day of His wrath."
 - 2. A time appointed in God's calendar.

- B. Mankind has defied God and denied God but He will have "His day!"
 - 1. Mercy has been mistaken for weakness.
 - 2. Longsuffering for forgetfulness.

I. THE OPENING OF THE SIXTH SEAL. V12-14

- A. "And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and lo, there was a great earthquake."
 - 1. great = megas.
 - 2. earthquake = seismos = motion, shocking, shock, to move to and fro with shock.
 - 3. Haggai 2:6, "Thus saith the Lord of Hosts, yet once, and it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land"
 - 4. Hebrews 12:25-29.

- B. "and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood."
 - 1. The sun darkened.
 - a. Israel in Egypt, "There was a thick darkness upon the land for 3 days." Ex. 10:22.
 - b. Jesus on the cross, "There was darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. And the sun was darkened." Luke 23:44-45.
 - c. Isaiah 33:9,10, "Behold, the day of the Lord cometh, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the earth desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners out of it. The sun shall be darkened in his going forth."

- [824 B.C.] d. Joel 3:9, 17, "the sun and the moon shall be darkened."
e. Jesus, Matt. 24:29-30, "shall the sun be darkened."
2. "The moon turned into blood."
a. blood = haima - blood.
b. moon = whole moon.
[824 B.C.] c. Joel 2:28-32, "the moon turned into blood."
d. Acts 2:14.

- C. "And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind."
1. The entire universe is seen as a great fig tree that is shaken with a mighty wind with the consequences being the falling of immature fruit to the ground.
2. casteth = ballo = to fall, to tumble.
3. untimely fig = a fig which grows under the leaves and does not ripen at proper season but hangs upon the leaves during the winter.
4. shaken = seio = to move to and fro with a shock or concussion.
D. "and the heaven departed as a scroll when it rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their place."
1. departed = apochorizo - to tear apart, a roll is torn into, each portion curls upon its roll.
2. moved = kineo = to set in motion, to move.
3. This is a time when men cannot depend on anything.

II. HOW THE PEOPLE ON THE EARTH REACT. V15

- A. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains."

1. kings = basileus - He who rules over people.
2. great men = megistanes = magnates, chief, nobles, princes.
3. rich men = plousios = having riches.
4. chief captains = chiliarchos == the commander of a thousand men.
5. mighty men = hischuroi - strong men.
6. bondman = doulous = slave, the lowest word in the scale of servitude.
7. free man = eleutheros - an emancipated slave, a freedman.

B. The actions of these people.

1. hid = krupto - to hide, to cover.
2. dens = spelaion == a cave, a cavern.
3. rocks = petra = a projecting rock, cliff.

C. The cry of these men.

1. "And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb."
2. fall = pipto - to fall.
3. hide = krupto - to conceal.
4. Hide us from God's face.
5. Hide us from the wrath of the Lamb.
6. Did not pray to God but mountains!

III. THE REASON FOR THEIR PLEAS. V17

A. "For the great day of His wrath is come."

1. great = megas.
2. wrath = horge = anger together with the desire for revenge, an abiding, settled mind.

B. "and who shall be able to stand?"

1. able = dunatos = capable of being done.
2. stand = histemi = to hold one's ground.

IV. PRAY NOW OR PRAY LATER!

- A. Call on the Lord now!