

10. Notice in their prayer (v. 10) that they don't tell God what to do, but they ask Him a **question**. How does their heavenly understanding of the Lord (despot) as **holy and true** motivate them to ask when He will judge and avenge?
11. Why didn't they pray like Jesus did on the cross (**Lk. 23:34**) or like Stephen when he was martyred (**Acts 7:60**)? How is this prayer in keeping with what Jesus taught to pray, "Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven"?
12. In Rev. 6:11, what is the significance of the **white robe** and being told to **rest** for a little while longer?
13. How does God answer their question at the end of verse 11? What surprises you in His answer? What are they learning about the extent of God's sovereignty?
14. How **sovereign** do you believe God is in your life? Is He in control of all things at all times? What purposes might He have for the difficult things you are facing? How should understanding His sovereignty impact your thoughts, attitudes, words, and actions when life appears to be impossible (even if you are facing death)?
15. God will **answer their prayers** and bring judgment and vengeance upon those who killed them (see Rev. 8:3-5). Some commentators have said that the Sovereign God who ordained the end (His decreed will to bring all of His elect to saving faith and to judge those who reject Him) has also decreed the means (testimony and prayers of the saints). How does this impact your understanding of the importance of prayer in the outworking of God's eternal plan?
16. Make a **prayer list of 5-10 people** you know who don't yet know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Pray for them daily. Ask the Lord to prepare their hearts to hear the Gospel and prepare your heart to boldly & graciously share the Gospel with them. Build a friendship with them and tell them the great things the Lord has done for you. Explain who Jesus is and what He has done for us. Continue to pray for them and witness to them and leave the results in God's sovereign hands.

May 18, 2025

The Bridge Bible Fellowship

Pastor Paul S. Brown

Rev. 6:9ff

"The Things Which Will Take Place" – Part 6

"Prayers for Divine Vengeance"

- I. The Things Which You Have Seen (chapter 1)
- II. The Things Which Are (chapters 2-3)
- III. **The Things Which Will Take Place After These Things (chapters 4-22)**
 - A. Vision of Heaven (chapters 4-5)
 - B. Opening of the Seven Seals (6:1-8:1)**
 1. Seal 1: Peaceful Conquest (6:1-2)
 2. Seal 2: Warfare and Bloodshed (6:3-4)
 3. Seal 3: Widespread Famine (6:5-6)
 4. Seal 4: Death to a Fourth of Earth's Inhabitants (6:7-8)

5. Seal 5: Prayers for Divine Vengeance (6:9-11)

⁹ When the Lamb broke the fifth seal,

I saw underneath the altar

the souls of those who had been slain

because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained;

¹⁰ and they cried out with a loud voice,

saying, “How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?”

¹¹ And there was given to each of them a white robe;

and they were told that they should rest for a little while longer,

until *the number of* their fellow servants and their brethren who were to be killed even as they had been, would be completed also.

So What?

Discussion Questions & Application:

1. After studying the first four seal judgments in Rev. 6:1-8, how has your **attitude** toward the world, material things, and people changed? If we truly believed these things were about to happen to people we know, how would it impact our relationships with them? What specifically would we do for them?
2. Some commentators believe the 5th Seal (Rev. 6:9-11) is about persecution of believers during the Tribulation. What do you think? If that isn't the point of the seal, what is it?
3. What does it mean that God is **sovereign**? How sovereign is He? Use Scripture to support your answers.
4. How would you **describe your current habit (consistent pattern) of prayer**? How does understanding God's sovereignty motivate you or demotivate you to pray? If God is sovereign, do your prayers make any difference?
5. Outside of today's passage in Rev. 6:9-11, what passages of Scripture would you use to support the idea that your **prayers do play a part in the outworking of God's sovereign plan**?
6. Who are the “**souls under the altar**”? Where did they come from? See Rev. 7:9-17. Why are they described as souls? What is the significance of being under the altar?
7. What does this passage tell you about people who have died and gone to heaven? Compare **Luke 16:19-31**.
8. Why were they **slain** (slaughtered)? Compare with Rev. 1:2, 9. Note the word “**maintained**” in the description of why they were slain.
9. How consistent is your testimony of absolute belief in the Word of God and undying belief in the Gospel of Jesus Christ? What steps could you take to improve that testimony this week? To whom will you be accountable to more faithfully tell family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers about Jesus?