



1. [about 2 minutes] What do you know about old wax seals, used to secure letters or certify documents? What are modern equivalents?
 2. [about 8 minutes] Read Revelation Chapters 6 and 7. A different person could read about each seal: 6:1-2, 6:3-4, 6:5-6, 6:7-8, 6:9-11, 6:12-17. In Chapter 7, one person might read 7:1-8 and another person the rest, with everyone joining in unison for the three songs in 7:10, 7:12 and 7:15-17.

Revelation 6-7

the seven padlocks

Week 4 • Sunday 28 August 2016

Revelation 6 — Judgement

[spend about 20 minutes on this]

- The first four seals** (6:1-2; 6:3-4; 6:5-6; 6:7-8)
 The first four seals are related. What aspects do they have in common? In what aspects do they differ? How does development or progression occur in the sequence one to four? If you were to sum up each seal in a single word, what would those four words be?
- The next two seals** (6:9-11, 6:12-17)
 These two seals are related. The fifth seal deals with faithful believers, the sixth seal deals with the enemies of God. What similarities do the descriptions of the two groups have? What differences?
- 'Gospel Apocalypses'**
 What connection do you see between these seals and the teaching Jesus gave in the Gospels? Choose either Matthew 24, Mark 13 or Luke 21 to compare with Revelation 6.



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Looking ahead: Next week is Revelation Chapters 8, 9 and 10. The focus will be on 10:1-11.
 (PS: how many items in this list?)
 Amen!
 be to our God for ever and ever.
 and power and strength
 and wisdom and thanks and honour
 Praise and glory
 'Amen!
Worth remembering (from Revelation 7:12)
 2. What parts of the songs 7:10, 7:12 and 7:15-17 resonate with you?
 struck you most?
 1. Revelation 6 and 7 are starkly different pictures: one portraying judgement, the other salvation. What parts of the contrast

From there to here [spend about 10 minutes on this page]

fold away here first

Revelation 7 — Salvation

[spend about 20 minutes on this]

- The 144,000 sealed** (7:1-8)
 In the first two verses, the number 4 is used repeatedly. It also occurs in 5:8, 9:15 14:3, 19:4. It is usually taken to mean universal or cosmic completeness. Can you think of other expressions where 4 is used this way? In verses 5-8, the number 12,000 is used 12 times. The number 12 can stand for God's people (12:1; 21:12, 14, 21; 22:2). The number 10 may stand for completion (2:10, 12:3, 13:1). Cubing it to make 1000 may represent complete, complete, completion. Then 12,000 would represent a complete tribe (not necessarily exactly 12,000 people). Following this line of thought, what does 144,000 represent?
- The great multitude in white robes** (7:9-17)
 What four origins do they have (7:9)? Who are they (7:14)? Apart from those wearing white robes, who else is in the frame? What are they doing?

