



The Four Horsemen
The Black Horse Destroyer--Part Three
Revelation 6:1-8

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Objective Sentence: You and I should be serious and watchful in our faith because of four judgments of the Apocalypse Horsemen.

Introduction; Pastor Dan: Quote **Romans 13:11-14** The Seven Seal Judgments are the first of 21 judgments that will take place on this planet during a seven year period known as the Great Tribulation. Fourteen of the judgments will take place in the first 42 months, 1260 days or in 3 and ½ years. Divide fourteen into 42 and you get 3. So there is a possibility of a judgment occurring every three months. So the first seven judgments will transpire in approximately 21 months and in that period of time one fourth of the world's population will die. There are about 7 billion people living on the earth today. ¼ of 7 billion is 1,750,000,000. These people will die as a result of the chaos the Antichrist creates on the earth.

Read—Rev. 6:1-10

- I. **Destroyer on a Black Horse** (*Rev. 6:5-6* When the Lamb broke the third seal, I heard the third living being say, "Come!" I looked up and saw a black horse, and its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand. ⁶And I heard a voice from among the four living beings say, "A loaf of **wheat bread or three loaves of barley will cost a day's pay** (a penny). And don't waste the olive oil and wine.)
 - A. **Matt. 20:1-16** (NKJV) *a penny was an average days wage among laborers. A measure (nearly a quart) was a worker's daily ration. Ordinarily, one could buy eight measures of wheat or twenty-four measures of barley for a penny. This places the rise of inflation to about eight hundred percent.*
 1. **800 % Inflation** (*Ez. 4:10-17* Your food which you eat shall be by weight ... from time to time you shall eat. You shall also drink water by measure ... from time to time you shall drink. I [the Lord God] will cut off the supply of bread in Jerusalem; they shall eat bread by weight and with anxiety, and shall drink water by measure and with dread.)

- a. *Pastor Dan*: The balances that the Black Hosed Rider carries symbolizes a worldwide financial catastrophe. The purpose of the scales is to measure food. War produces shortages, shortages result in inflation, and the outcome of this inflation is suffering and hardship. One of the things the Lawless One, the Great Destroyer, will do is consume and use the world's resources to support the vast needs of his army.
- b. *J. A. Seiss*: People do not generally suppose that God has much to do with price-lists. They go up and down, and millions haggle over them every day, but no one thinks of anything Divine connected with them. Whether people realize it or not, price-lists are made in heaven. John hears the rates of corn and bread announced by the same heavenly powers by which these mystic horses are called into action. Whatever the weather, the crops, the quantities of money in the country, the extent of speculation in the market, or other subordinate causes may have to do with it, the prime and all controlling cause is the decree of the throne. It is God from whom we have our daily bread. Take away peace from the earth, and inaugurate universal wars, civil strife, and bloody feuds and terrible scarcity of the means of subsistence must follow."

2. **Curses Of Disobedience** (*Deut. 28:58-59, 62* *If you refuse to obey all the words of instruction that are written in this book, and if you do not fear the ... name of the LORD your God,* ⁵⁹ *then He ... will overwhelm you and your children with indescribable plagues. These plagues will be intense and without relief, making you miserable and unbearably sick.* ⁶² *Though you become as numerous as the stars in the sky, few of you will be left because you would not listen to the LORD your God)*

- a. *Pastor Dan*: History has shown that when people become desperate in dire circumstances they will resort to almost anything in order to survive.
- b. *Deut. 28:53-57* The siege and terrible distress of the enemy's attack will be so severe that you will eat the flesh of your own sons and daughters, whom the LORD your God has given you. ⁵⁴ The most tenderhearted man among you will have no compassion for his own brother, his beloved wife, and his surviving children. ⁵⁵ He will refuse to share with them the flesh he is devouring—the flesh of one of his own children—because he has nothing else to eat during the siege and terrible distress that your enemy will inflict on all your towns. ⁵⁶ The most tender and delicate woman among you—so delicate she would not so much as touch the ground with her foot—will be selfish toward the husband she loves and toward her own son or daughter. ⁵⁷ She will hide from them the afterbirth and the new baby she has borne, so that she herself can secretly eat them. She will have nothing else to eat during the siege and terrible distress that your enemy will inflict on all your towns
- c. *2 Kings 6:24-29* King Ben-hadad of Aram mustered his entire army and besieged Samaria. ²⁵ As a result, there was a great famine in the city. The siege lasted so long that a donkey's head sold for eighty pieces of silver, and a cup of dove's dung sold for five pieces of silver. ²⁶ One day as the king of Israel was walking along the wall of the city, a woman called to him, "Please help me, my lord the king!" ²⁷ He answered, "If the LORD doesn't help you, what can I do? ... I have nothing ... to give you." ²⁸ ... The king asked, "What is the matter?" She replied,

“This woman said to me: ‘Come on, let’s eat your son today, then we will eat my son tomorrow.’²⁹ So we cooked my son and ate him. Then the next day I said to her, ‘Kill your son so we can eat him,’ but she has hidden her son.”

- d. **Rev. 6:9-11 + 2 Ki. 6:30-31** The reason for the persecution against the followers of Christ under the Fifth Seal will be because the Antichrist will cast blame on the church for the chaos in the world. Just like King Ahab refused to accept responsibility for his sin and blamed Elijah the prophet for the problems the people were facing. And just like Nero blamed the Christians for burning Rome and viciously persecuted them, so the people of the world will blame the followers of Christ for the death of one billion seven hundred and fifty million people who die in the Seal Judgments. Antichrist will launch a campaign of death against the church.³¹ “May God strike me and even kill me if I don’t separate Elisha’s head from his shoulders this very day,” the king vowed

3. **Death By Starvation** (*Matt. 24:7-8 Jesus answered and said to them ...⁷ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.⁸ All these are the beginning of sorrows*)

- A. **Pastor Dan:** *The Black Hosed Rider of Revelation 6:5 will be responsible for famines--severe shortage of food resulting in starvation and increased mortality. The major causes of famines are extreme population growth, crop failure, extreme weather conditions, and bad government policies. History has shown that food shortages and famines lead to civil unrest, crime and revolts. Starving people who have no food will band together and take by force from those who have food. Extreme hunger causes people to go insane. In the 20th century alone, it was estimated that around 70 million people died from famines around the world.*

Ten Famines

What you are about to read will be nothing when compared to the atrocities brought to earth as a result of the Black Hosed Rider.

- a. **Jiabianguo** is a former labor camp located in the northwestern desert region of Gansu Province, China. The concentration camp was used between 1957-1961 to reeducate people, and held approximately 3,000 political prisoners. Starting in the fall of 1960, the camp experienced a massive famine which forced people to eat leaves, tree bark, worms, insects, rats and animal waste to survive. By 1961, 2,500 of the 3,000 prisoners had died. The 500 people that survived were forced to cannibalize the dead. People were forced to chew on body parts and eat fecal seconds. Most of the time, the dead bodies were so skeletal that they were hard to eat.
- b. **Jamestown Virginia** was the [first permanent English settlement](#) in the Americas. It was established on May 24, 1607, by the Virginia Company of London. Jamestown was located within the Tsenacommacah, which was populated with around 14,000 native inhabitants of the Powhatan Confederacy. The colonists were forced to rely on trade with the Indians for food. However, after a series of conflicts with the Powhatans, the trade ended. In 1609, the supply ships from England experienced a disaster after the Sea Venture, the ship with the largest amount of food supplies for Jamestown and the

settlement was left with no food for the winter. During this time, it was reported that Captain Samuel Argall returned to England and warned officials of the plight. In the winter of 1609, without supplies from the Sea Venture, Jamestown experienced a massive famine that became known as the Starving Time. Hundreds of colonists experienced a horrible death and only 60 people of the original 500 remained alive into 1610. The scientific evidence gathered from Jamestown has indicated that some **turned to cannibalism** during the famine. Human bones have been unearthed with cuts that are consistent with butchering for meat. One woman's skull was found with chops to the forehead, to the back of the head, and to the left side of the temple that showed signs that someone tried to remove her brain.

- c. **Great Famine of 1315-1317.** Famines were common in Europe during the Middle Ages. They usually spread due to bad harvests, overpopulation, and diseases like the Black Plague. During this time in history, Britain experienced approximately **95 famines**. In 1310-1330, northern Europe saw extremely bad and unpredictable weather. By 1315, food prices exploded, which caused a large famine to spread. In some places the price of food reached a 320% markup and people were forced to grow plants, roots, grasses, nuts, and bark to eat. By 1317, thousands of people died each week and the famine killed millions over a three-year span. During the famine, the rules of society crumbled and a large percentage of children were abandoned by their families. During the hunger, some parents **murdered their children** for food. It is reported that prisoners were forced to **eat the dead bodies of inmates**, and people were caught stealing bodies from graves
- d. **Seige of Leningrad** In June of 1941, Nazi Germany attacked the Soviet Union and started Operation Barbarossa, which is the largest military invasion in history. The goal of the attack was to control "Leningrad first, Donetsk Basin second, and Moscow third." Initially, Hitler targeted Leningrad (Saint Petersburg) because of its military importance, industrial power, and symbolic past. With the help of the Finnish Army, the Nazis surrounded the city and took siege to Leningrad for 872 days. The Germans enacted a policy of starvation and **attempted to cut off** all supplies to the city. The Soviet population was forced to live with no utilities, water, energy, or food supplies, and the siege has been called the largest destruction of life to any city in modern history ... of the original 3 to 3.5 million people who lived in Leningrad, only 700,000 survived the war. Soon after the siege started, all of the restaurants in the city closed and food rationing was the only way to stay alive. As you would expect, the value of money was limited and criminal gangs were organized to steal food. People tried to eat a wide variety of products, including paste, leather, fur, lipstick, spices, and medicine, but the famine worsened. Due to the disorganization, the rules of society fell apart and **reports of cannibalism** spread. During the siege, the problem with cannibalism was so bad, the **police** were forced to organize a special unit that was used to combat the predators. Families were forced to endure the threat of being stalked and eaten.
- e. **The Great Hunger In Ireland** was a period of mass starvation that occurred in Ireland between 1845 and 1852. It is also referred to as the Irish Potato Famine because the potato blight was the proximate cause of the food shortage. Like most famines, the direct problem was more than just a lack of food, but came about from poor government

decisions, which caused some historians to label the famine as genocide ... approximately one million people starved to death. During the famine, a large majority of people in Ireland became malnourished, infections spread, and people got sick. Some of the most deadly diseases were measles, tuberculosis, respiratory infections, whooping cough, and cholera. John Connolly from the west of Ireland, ate the flesh from the body of his dead son. Another case was published on May 23, 1849, and described a starving man that “extracted the heart and liver of a shipwrecked human body” found on the shore. In some instances, extreme hunger caused people to eat family members.

- f. In 757 the Battle of Suiyang (Si Yang)** was waged between the rebel Yan army and the loyalist forces of the Chinese Tang army. During the fight, the Yan were attempting to besiege the area of Suiyang The Yan heavily outnumbered the Tang, but had to bypass a series of strong walls to defeat the enemy. The Tang put General Zhang Xun in charge of defending the city. Zhang Xun had 7,000 soldiers to protect Suiyang, while the Yan had 150,000. Despite daily sieges, the Tang managed to hold off the Yan for many months. However, by August of 757, all of the animals, insects, and vegetation in the area had been eaten ... people started to starve to death and tried to convince Zhang Xun to surrender, but he refused. According to the *Old Book of Tang*, after the food in Suiyang had run out, “people traded their children to eat and cooked bodies of the dead.” Zhang Xun recognized the dire situation, so he murdered his aide and offered her body up for food. At first the soldiers refused, but they soon consumed the flesh and started to eat every woman in the city. After all the women were consumed, the soldiers started to prey on old and young males. In total, the Book of Tang estimates that 20,000 to 30,000 people were cannibalized. Suiyang became overrun with cannibals and by the time the Yan took the city, [only 400 people](#) were left.
- g. The March of Suffering (the Aduous March):** In the late 1980’s, the Soviet Union demanded payment from North Korea for all its past and current aid. In 1991, when the USSR collapsed, trade between the two countries stopped and the North Korean economy failed. In response, North Korea couldn’t produce enough food, and they experienced a massive famine between 1993 and 2000 that killed between 500,000 and 600,000. The food shortage was extremely hard for [women and small children](#). During the disaster, meat was difficult to find and some people [turned to cannibalism](#). People became suspicious of food vendors and children were warned not to enter the streets at night. Similar to other famines, it was said that “people went insane with hunger and even killed and ate their own infants.” People robbed graves and consumed dead bodies. Parents became concerned that their children might get kidnapped, murdered, and sold for food.
- h. Holodomor:** In the early 1930’s, the Soviet Union became convinced that its government would benefit from replacing all the individual peasant farms with collective ones. The policy was an attempt to increase the food supply, but instead helped cause one of the [biggest famines](#) in history. The collectivization of land meant that the farmers were forced to sell most of their harvest at a cheap price. The workers were also forbidden from eating their own crops. In 1932, the Soviet Union failed to produce enough grain and the country experienced a massive famine that killed millions. The most impacted areas included Ukraine, Northern Caucasus, Kazakhstan, the South Urals, and West

Siberia. The famine was extremely bad in Ukraine, and became known as Holodomor or “hungry mass-death.” It caused [between 3 and 5 million deaths](#) and, according to the Kyiv Appellation Court, the famine was responsible for 10 million deaths, with 3.9 million victims and a 6.1 million birth deficit. Many historians feel that Holodomor was [actually genocide](#), carried out by [Joseph Stalin](#) and comparable to the Holocaust. During Holodomor, cannibalism was widespread in the Ukraine. People formed gangs, murdered family members, and even consumed dead children. The prevalence of cannibalism caused Soviet officials to [release posters](#) saying: “To eat your own children is a barbarian act.” In one case, a man named Myron Yemets and his wife were caught cooking their kids and given a sentence of 10 years in jail. It is estimated that 2500 people were arrested for cannibalism during Holodomor, with a large majority of them being mentally ill due to mass starvation.

- i. Povolzhye Famine:** In 1917, toward the end of World War I, the Russian [Civil War](#) was started between the Bolshevik Red Army and the White Army. During this time, the political chaos, extreme violence, and economic isolation in Russia caused widespread disease and food shortages in many areas. By 1921, people in Bolshevik Russia had limited food supplies and a drought sparked a massive famine that threatened over 25 million people in the Volga and Ural River region. By the end of 1922, the famine killed an estimated [5 to 10 million people](#). The United States and other countries responded by sending relief workers to the area, and fed nearly 11 million Soviet citizens a day in 1921. During the famine, thousands of Soviet citizens abandoned their homes in search of food. People had to consume clumps of grass, dirt, insects, cats, dogs, clay, horse harnesses, carrion, animal hides, and even [turn to cannibalism](#). A large number of people consumed family members and hunted human meat. One woman was caught with boiled human flesh and “jellied minced flesh.” She later admitted to killing her daughter for food. It has been reported that police were forced to protect cemeteries, so that they weren’t raided by hungry mobs. People started to sell human organs on the black market, and cannibalism became a problem in prisons. Unlike most historical cases of cannibalism, photographs have surfaced that depict cannibals. Some examples can be found in Bertrand Patenaude’s book *The Big Show in Bololand*, which shows starving people sitting next to cut-up human bodies. There is also evidence that people murdered abandoned children in order to consume their flesh.
- j. Great Chinese Famine:** China experienced a massive famine between the years 1958-1961. The shortage was caused by drought, poor weather, and the Great Leap Forward, which was a series of laws enacted by the Chinese government. According to official statistics, around 15 million people died. However, historian Frank Dikötter has suggested that at least [45 million people](#) perished. Like any great hunger, malnutrition was widespread and the birth rate was greatly impacted. In China, the phrase “Three Bitter Years” is used to describe the famine. As the hunger got worse, the Chinese leader Mao Zedong committed atrocities toward the people, which included stealing food and leaving millions of peasants to starve. Doctors were prohibited from listing “starvation” as the cause of death. Yu Dehong remembered, “I went to one village and saw 100 corpses, then another village and another 100 corpses. No one paid attention to them. People said that [dogs](#) were eating the bodies. Not true, I said. The dogs had long ago been

eaten by the people.” A large number of citizens were **driven insane** by hunger, and violence exploded during the famine. People lost moral strength, and often scavenged for human meat. Some ate their children, while others swapped kids so they wouldn’t feel bad eating their own. A percentage of the food in China became contaminated with human meat, and certain parts of the country were populated with cannibals.

Closing and Invitation: Statisticians have calculated ... that 1 out of every 113 people in the world died in (2013). Of course these numbers are based on inductive generalizations and therefore are not infallible. The following calculations are a comparison of the current death rate as compared to the death rate during the first 42 months or 3 ½ years of the Tribulation Period which is vividly describes in the Apocalypse (Revelation chapters 6-19).

Death Rate (2013) compared to Tribulation Death Rate

1.78 die a second	34 a second
107 die a minute	2064 a minute
6,390 die an hour	30,240 die an hour
153,000 die a day	2,976,190 die a day
1,071,000 die a week	20,833,330 die a week
4,590,000 die a month	89,285,714 die a month
55,080,000 die a year	1,071,428,568 die a year
192,780,000 die in 42 months	3,750,000,000 die in 42 months