Revelation 6:

1. Who opens the seals?

2. V 1-2 (1st Seal)

- a. What did John see when the 1st Seal was opened?
- b. The rider on the white horse had a bow and a crown was given to him. Who do you think is the rider on the white horse?
- c. What do you think does it mean when the rider went "forth conquering, and to conquer"?
- d. Jesus is also seen on a white horse in Rev 19:11-16.
 What are the differences between the rider on the white horse of the 1st Seal in Rev 6:1-2 and Jesus on a white horse in Rev 19:11-16?

3. V 3-4 (2nd Seal)

- a. What did John see when the 2nd Seal was opened?
- b. What do you think does it mean when "peace is taken from the earth" and "they should kill one another"? Do you agree this could be worldwide war?
- c. Read Matt 24:6-7. Is there a possible similarity between what Jesus said in Matt 24:6-7 and the 2nd seal in Rev 6:4?

4. V 5-6 (3rd Seal)

- a. What did John see when the 3rd Seal was opened?
- b. In v6, a voice says that a "measure of wheat" & "three measures of barley" each cost a penny. Read Matt 20:1-2. How much was a penny in those days?
 Do you agree therefore that wheat and barley in this context is very expensive?
 Why could this be?
- c. What do you think could it mean "not to hurt the oil and the wine"?
- d. Read Matt 24:7 again. Is there a possible similarity between what Jesus said in Matt 24:7 and the 3rd seal in Rev 6:6?

5. V 7-8 (4th Seal)

- a. What did John see when the 4th seal was opened?
- b. What do you think is the implication of: "to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth"?
- c. Why do you think is Hell following Death?
- d. "Power was given unto them (Death & Hell) over fourth part of the earth, to kill". Can we therefore conclude that a ¼ of the earth will or could die?
- e. Who is responsible for this disaster (death of the ¼ part of the earth)? God or man?
- f. Read Matt 24:7 again. Jesus says there will be wars, famines, pestilences and earthquakes.

Can we conclude that the result of all these things happening will cause much death on this earth?

Do you therefore agree that there is a possible similarity between what Jesus said in Matt 24:7 and the 4^{th} seal in Rev 6:8?

6. V 9-11 (5th Seal)

- a. What did John see when the 5th seal was opened?
- b. John saw souls under the altar. Why are they there? What is the reason for their earthly death?
- c. What are they saying?Why should those on the earth be "judged and avenged for their blood"? (Matt 24:9-12, Matt 5:10-11) Does this mean God has not started judging the earth yet?
- d. Each soul gets a white robe and they are told to wait for a little season. Why do they have to wait?
- e. Who are their brethren and how will they be killed?
- f. Read Matt 24:9. Do you agree that there is a similarity between what Jesus said in Matt 24:9 and the 5th seal in Rev 6:9-10?

- g. If there are souls in heaven does this confirm Paul's words in 2 Cor 5:8 "..... to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord"? (John 11:25-26, John 8:51 & 52b, John 5:24, John 14:1-3, Matt 10:28, Phil 1:21-23)
- h. Those that have been martyred seem to have a special place in heaven. Where are they? Where do you think are the other souls?

7. V 12-17 (6th Seal)

- a. What did John see when the 6th seal was opened?
- b. Read Matt 24:29-32. Is there a similarity between what Jesus said in Matt 24:29-30 and the 6th seal in Rev 6:12-16?
- c. The description of the cosmic events in the 6th seal is worded slightly differently than Matt 24:29-30 as follows:

Rev 6:12-16		Matt 24:29-30
Great earthquake		
Sun became black as sackcloth of hair	<->	The sun shall be darkened
Moon became as blood	<->	Moon shall not give her light
Stars of heaven fell unto the earth	<->	Stars shall fall from heaven
Heaven departed as a scroll, rolled together	<->	Powers of the heavens shall be shaken
Every mountain and island moved out of their places		
Men hid themselves, said rocks fall on them and hide from One who sat on throne	<->	Tribes of earth mourn

Can we conclude that the 6th seal matches the signs of Jesus' 2nd coming in the clouds and the gathering of the elect/the rapture?

- d. The fig tree is mentioned both in Matt 24:32 and the 6th seal in Rev 6:13. Do you think there is some significance in this?
- e. Who wants to hide in dens and in the rocks of the mountains?

 From whom do they want to hide and why?

 Does this relate to all the tribes of the earth mourning in Matt 24:30?
- f. "The great day of His wrath is come". What day is this? (Is 13:6-13) Does this mean everything up to know was not God's wrath?
- g. Who will experience the wrath of God? (2 Pet 2:9, 2 Pet 3:7, Col 3:5-6, Acts 17:31)

- h. Why will the saved not experience God's wrath? (1 Thess 5:9, 1 Thess 1:10, Rom 5:9)
- 8. Going back to the 1st Seal and keeping in mind what we have learnt from the similarities of seals 2 to 6 and Matt 24:
 - a. Can you think of a possible similarity between what Jesus said in Matt 24:5 and the 1^{st} seal in Rev 6:2?
 - b. Does John's words in 1 John 2:18 agree with what Jesus said in Matt 24:5?
 - c. Who is an antichrist? (1 John 2:22-23, 1 John 4:2-3)
- Read Rev 7:9-10 and Rev 7:13-14.
 In Rev 7 there is a multitude in heaven that came out of the great tribulation.
 Rev 7:1 starts with "And after these things" and Rev 7:9 starts with "After this".

Can these verses therefore possibly confirm that the 2nd coming of Jesus and the rapture occurred in Revelation 6?