

# *Lesson 7 The Seven Sealed Judgments, Part 1- Revelation 6 - 7*

## *Days 1-2* **The First of the Four Horseman of Revelation**

The following quote is from Billy Graham's, Approaching Hoofbeats: the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, pp.11-12. Reverend Graham is reminiscing about those people who he has seen during his lifetime who have embraced Christ and how they may have been influenced by Dr. Graham's words. He also looks at John the Apostle, the writer of the Revelation of Jesus Christ, and how the first century Believers began their lives in Christ, and how they must have been influenced by John's words.

Dr. Graham writes, "It is easy to picture how those first-century Christians began their life in Christ. I have preached in more than sixty nations of the world. I have seen thousands of people listening to the Good News of Jesus' life, death and resurrection. I have watched many literally run to accept Christ as Savior and Lord of their lives. I have witnessed their enthusiasm and been thrilled by their early and rapid growth. Then, with John, I have watched first love die, I have seen men and women eagerly embrace their faith, and then watched them slowly abandon it, giving in again to immorality, idolatry and self-destruction. And I have witnessed others who accepted Christ and remained faithful to the end- but found terrible suffering and sacrifice along the way.

"I look back on my many years as an evangelist, and I wonder, have I made the Christian faith look too easy? Even before I heard the expression, I constantly borne in mind what Bonhoeffer called 'cheap grace.' Of course, it is 'by grace you have been saved, through faith . . . not by works, so that no one can boast' (Ephesians 2:8,9). Of course, our salvation was a result of what Christ has done for us in His life and death and resurrection, not what we must do for ourselves. Of course, we can trust Him to complete in us what He has begun. But in my eagerness to give away God's great gift, have I been honest about the price He paid in His war with evil? And have I adequately explained the price we must pay in our own war against the evil at work in and around our lives?"

I identify with Dr. Graham's thoughts that he has expressed here. Although, I have spoken to only a select few in my 51 years of being a Christian and in my 30 years of teaching, I have wrestled with what do I say to others and what does it means to be completely surrendered to Christ. Is my brand of Christianity "cheap grace" or does a Believer have to suffer hardship and persecution to be completely surrendered to Him? Am I just fooling myself into believing that I have taken ahold of Christ just as firmly as He has taken ahold of me? Whether or not we are caught up together to be in God's presence ahead of the Tribulation, we all have to be wondering what am I going to have to endure as a Christian until I am with Him? What will I have to overcome? Praise God, that our salvation is firmly rooted in Jesus' sacrifice on the cross and not on our

wondering. Our overcoming persecution, hardship, even death, for the cause of Christ also has to be tied to our focus on Him and our relationship with Him, and not on us. Praise God again, the relationship we have with Him is also firmly rooted in His sacrifice on the cross. He knows we are but dust. He knows our frailties, our humanness. God says to Paul in 2 Corinthians 12:9, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.” We must learn, as Paul learned, that Christ’s power will dwell in us and in those times of weakness on our part, He remains strong. We also, must be aware of the tremendous power that we have been tapped into by being “in Christ.”

“Lord Jesus, keep us focused on you alone in our study of the judgments You will bring upon this earth and its’ earth dwellers. May those still destined to be yours, hear the hoof beats of what’s coming to and on the earth and quickly and completely give their lives to you knowing that you endured and overcame for them. We cannot help but be uneasy Lord, when we see the judgments that are coming on the earth. Help us to remember that You hold everything together and Your nature is love even in the midst of these judgments. In remembering Your character and Your nature, we have hope.”

Well, here we are. Jesus is the only One who is Holy, the only One who is worthy to open the book and its seven seals that will begin the unleashing of God’s wrath upon the earth and the earth-dwellers. Each of these seal judgments seem to be preparatory for the more severe trumpet and bowl judgments that are coming and that will culminate in the end of time as we know it.

### **Seal 1, the First Horseman, the anti-Christ, and the Rider who deceives**

Just as a reminder: remember to whom John addressed this letter, the seven churches of Revelation. He was Pastor of one of those churches (Ephesus) and had a pastor’s heart for all of them. John was concerned for those in the Body of Christ. He cared for them as a shepherd would care for His sheep, as Jesus cared for His sheep. He wanted to prepare them as best as he could for that which they would face for the sake of Christ on this earth. This is Jesus’ love letter to the Church as a whole, to His bondservants who bear His Name as LORD.

When does John receive this vision? Read Revelation 1:10.

Do you remember Smyrna from Revelation 2:8-11? What was specific to the church of Smyrna?

Smyrna was the suffering church, the church to which God had no admonition. He knew of their poverty and their tribulation and their suffering. He told them not to fear what they were about to suffer. He told them to be faithful unto death and He would give them the crown of life. The Romans gave the church of Smyrna the freedom to worship whomever they desired as long as they worshipped the emperor of Rome first by offering

a smidge of incense in the fire and muttering, “Caesar is Lord.” Could they do this? Honor Caesar as Lord? Did they honor Caesar as Lord? Remember, you can only serve one master. Did those who did not honor Caesar as Lord first before worshipping Christ continue to live or did they die for their faith?

Originally, around the time of Christ walking on this earth, the Romans wanted peace amongst the countries and the territories that they conquered and so they tolerated a lot of other religions. But as time went on, there was much dissention and political unrest, so much so, that honoring Caesar as Lord first before one’s own god became a loyalty issue punishable by death if you did not honor Caesar in this manner. Billy Graham goes on to say in his book, Approaching Hoofbeats, the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, p. 21, “...Every Christian in every nation – totalitarian, democratic or somewhere in between – decides daily to be loyal to Christ and the world He is building or to give in to this age and its values. No wonder John was anxious. The believers then had (and now have) a constant and confounding choice...would they keep the faith? Would they stand firm or would they give up under the pressure and the pain of following Jesus? Every day today – as then – the Christian will face many decisions. Will he give in to the materialism, the selfish pleasures, the dishonest practices, of these decisions? Is your steadfast desire to do God’s will, or do you give in to the steady pressures of those around you?”

Why am I telling you all of this information at the onset of the first horseman of the apocalypse? Because it will be in a time like first century Christianity and their dealings with Rome when the anti-Christ will come to power. He will come as the peacemaker between Israel and all the other nations. This peace will quickly change from tolerance of each other’s religion and land rights to a matter of loyalty to the anti-Christ. People who will not bow their knee to him and who will not take the mark of the beast will be killed outright. We must be able to discern what is going on. We must not be fooled. We must stand for our faith even if it means death for us. We must remain as separate from the rest of the world.

Please read Revelation 6:1-2.

Whether you look for the news of current events on the Internet or watch the television news each day or listen to the radio, you have to be somewhat terrified and wonder if there is anybody who is in control of all this chaos going on. I am here to tell you, “YHWH Shammah is here and He is still in control.” Ha-Satan is coming as the counterfeit savior, to bring about counterfeit peace among men, and to offer his counterfeit version of the deed to this earth, but he will not stand and the deed will not stand. He will be found out and soon. The only One who is worthy and also able to take the genuine title deed to this earth and unroll it is the LORD Jesus Christ. Revelation 5:9 tells us why: “For You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.” Paul called Christ the Last Adam. Christ has warned the collective church (His Beloved) in the seven letters of Revelation 2 and 3

of this coming time for which they must be prepared. Those who turn to Him during the time period of the Tribulation will face all the turmoil, troubles, sufferings, and death seen in the letters to the seven churches. Some of us have already studied the seven letters to the seven churches. For you that have already studied, go back to Part 1 of this study and just read through the notes. For those of you who have not studied the seven churches, return to Revelation 2 and 3 and note what is in store for each of the seven churches and how best to prepare for the future.

What did Jesus have against the Ephesians? What did Jesus have against the Laodiceans?

How could they be more prepared for the life that they would have to endure in the future or even right then? At the same time, ask yourself how you can be more prepared for the life you will have to endure if we are not out of here via the Rapture prior to the start of the tribulation.

What is the very first thing that the Ephesians and the Laodiceans must do?

Think back. What were the works of your “first love” for God when you were first saved? Please use the space below for your thoughts.

How would you summarize all these works of your first love? What do these works all have in common with each other? How are you to prepare for the future, whether or not we are raptured before the tribulation or if we go through some part or all of the first three and ½ years of Daniel’s 70<sup>th</sup> week?

Imagine, the Lamb is about to open the scroll. The four creatures around the throne, continually saying, “Holy, Holy, Holy,” go silent. The 24 elders tremble in anticipation of the first seal to be broken. The first of the four horsemen awaits the Sovereign Lord of the Universe to leap off the scroll and into the world arena. The Lamb opens the first seal. One of the four living creatures, bellows out to the first horseman, “Come!” The word reverberates all through the heavens. A white horse comes forth carrying one who carries a bow, but not an arrow. A stephanos (a kind of crown not for a king, but for a conqueror) is on the one who carries a bow, but no arrow. The man with a bow, but no arrow, goes out and is given authority to conquer.

Conquer what?

Who gives the authority here for the first horseman to come out?

With the opening of each of the first four seals, one of the four living creatures around the throne of God, gives the command for the horsemen to come out.

What is the significance of carrying a bow and no arrow?

Who is this horseman?

What color is the horse he is riding?

Why is the horse white?<sup>20</sup>

Taking the viewpoint that the one riding the white horse is a “false Christ” and knowing this is going to happen in the future, is there anything we can do now to change God’s mind as to the certainty of this event?

Are we to sit back and do nothing today to fight this evil coming in the future?

Could our actions today delay this judgment of God in the future?

How will the Christians present on this earth at this time know that the anti-Christ is present? See **2 Thessalonians 2:2-4**. Also read **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**.

When will the identity of the anti-Christ, the man of perdition, the false Messiah, be made known to the Jewish people? What event will happen to alert the Jews this man on the white horse is not their Messiah? Please see **Matthew 24** and **Daniel 9:24-27**.

The Rider of the White Horse – the Deceiver

---

<sup>20</sup> Some scholars identify the white horse and its rider as Christ and the victory that is given to the rider of the white horse is the gospel message given out to the world. The color white has been viewed in Scripture as purity and righteousness. There is also no “woe” mentioned here as in the other three horseman, and Jesus declared in the Olivet Discourse that the Gospel message would go into all the world as one of the signs of the end. Other scholars believe that the “white” color of the horse depicts the rider is one of the “false christs” or the anti-Christ.

Where have we seen the presence of this rider of the white horse before in human history? Read the following verses and write down the events at which the rider of the white horse was present. Yes, we already looked at this in the lesson on the Rise and Fall of the anti-Christ, but I feel it is appropriate to mention some of them again. Yes, it is the spirit of the rider of the white horse who is at each one of the events below. And, yes, the temptation of the flesh and the world are as active as the temptation that comes from the devil.

**Genesis 3:3-20**

**Genesis 4:1-8**

**Exodus 32:1-6**

**2 Samuel 11:3-12:14**

**Luke 22:3-6**

**1 John 4:1-3** tells us that the spirit of the anti-Christ, the rider on the white horse is now presently among us.

**1 Peter 5:8-9** warns us that our enemy, the devil, the father of the rider on the white horse, prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. We are to resist him and stand firm.

### *Day 3* **The Rider of the White Horse - the Deceiver from Outside the Church - False Religion**

Jesus warns of false prophets coming who will be able to perform great signs and miracles and who will try to deceive the inhabitants of earth with false Religion. He also warns the first century Christians via the seven letters to the seven churches and alerts them to the cults of their day.

Let's look at these cults/the occult of first century Christianity days. You will need to do the research on these. We did look at them in part 1 of this study last fall. Those of you who did part 1 can go back and look at your notes. As you are researching this

information, ask yourself the question, how is Jesus preparing the early church for their future “in Christ?” And how does this translate to preparation for our future “in Christ” whether or not we are raptured before or after the Tribulation begins.

### **Church of Ephesus**

**Revelation 2:2:** evil men who call themselves apostles and they are not

**Revelation 2:6:** the Nicolaitans

### **Church of Smyrna**

**Revelation 2:9:** blasphemers who say they are Jews and they are not; they are of the synagogue of Satan

### **Church of Pergamum**

**Revelation 2:14:** teaching of Baalam; Baalam kept teaching Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel to eat things sacrificed to idols and to commit acts of immorality.

Teaching of the Nicolaitans (see above)

### **Church of Thyatira**

**Revelation 2:20:** toleration of the woman Jezebel who calls herself a prophetess, and teaches and leads “My bond-servants” astray so that they commit acts of immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols. He will throw those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of her deeds.

**Revelation 2:24:** The deep things of Satan

### **Church of Philadelphia**

**Revelation 3:7:** those of the synagogue of Satan who say they are Jews and are not

### **Church of Laodicea**

This is what Jesus says to the last church, the Laodicean church in **Revelation 3:19:** “Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore, be zealous and REPENT.”

Let’s name a few of the cults of our day and how they attack the body of Christ from the outside just like the first century Christians. You must do the research again.

**Satanism:** an obvious deception

**Mormonism/Latter-day Saints:** What do they believe about the Trinity? Who do they believe are gods and can become gods just like Jesus became a god? Who is Lucifer and what relationship does he have with Jesus according to their doctrine?

**Christian Science:** This cult may very well be 20<sup>th</sup> century Gnosticism. Is this cult thriving today? What do you suppose has decreased their membership? This cult believes you can ward off all disease and sickness with the power of thinking yourself to health. They also do not believe men are sinful.

**Jehovah Witness:** Does this cult acknowledge Jesus is God from everlasting to everlasting? What have they done to change the Scripture around to their own bent?

**Buddhism:** This Eastern religion is on the rise in our country. What appeals to those in the US from this false religion?

**Hinduism:** There are many Indian Indians in the US. Even though Christianity has made great strides into India, many who come here are Hindu. We have a Hindu temple in Castle Rock. Have you seen it? There is another in Boonville, Indiana. I've taken note of the latter when visiting my sister who lives in Boonville.

**Islam:** Everything in Islam can be seen as a counterfeit to Christianity. I know that this is a bold statement. They have an end time's prophecy scenario; they have books written on their end times like we have. They have a Messiah, who they call the Last Imam or the Mahdi. Supposedly, the Mahdi is alive in this generation. They believe that Jesus was a prophet, but only a prophet. They also believe that no "man" can die for another and there is no atonement for sin in Jesus' blood.

These are the questions you should ask if you are approached by a religion/ a cult/ the occult/ even other so-called Christian churches.<sup>21</sup>

1. Is Christ worshiped as LORD and Savior? Is He God?
2. Is the Bible central as the one true guide to faith and practice? Or are there other writings from other authors that are seen as being on equal standing with God's written Word, or even a greater standing than the Bible?
3. Is participation in a local Christian fellowship encouraged and practiced?

## *Days 4* **The Rider of the White Horse – the Deceiver from within the Church**

Please read the following Scriptures:

**2 Thessalonians 2:9** Paul talks about the coming of the anti-Christ in the last days. He will come with "all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs and wonders."

**2 Corinthians 11:14-15** Ha-Satan will disguise himself before men as an "angel of light?"

**Genesis 3:13** The woman (Eve) said in the Garden of Eden, "The serpent *deceived* me, and I ate."

**2 Timothy 3:13** Paul tells Timothy evil men and imposters will only get worse; they will deceive and be deceived.

---

<sup>21</sup> Billy Graham, *Approaching Hoofbeats: the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse*, pp. 90-91.

**Ephesians 5:6** Paul warned the church to be on the alert for imposters. Because of these, God's wrath will come upon those who are disobedient.

**Ephesians 4:14** Paul warned the church to grow up and become aware that not every doctrine or kind of teaching was to be followed. There were those who would come into the church scheming to deceive those within the Body.

**2 Peter 2:1-3** There will be more false teachers and false prophets as we get closer to the Day of the Lord. How will you know whether or not you are listening to their lies?

**1 Timothy 4:1-2** In the latter days, there will be some that abandon the faith and will follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.

**1 John 4:1** Don't believe every spirit or teacher, but test the spirits to see whether or not they are from God. How can you "test the spirits?"

Why is there so much false teaching today? Why are so many so willing to embrace the error rather than the Truth? If we are honest, the church is partly to blame. We are sinners and we falter. Sometimes, we are not good witnesses. We have not been the good Samaritans we are supposed to be. We have not been the good examples of Christ's love as we should have been. We fight amongst ourselves, are unkind to one another, and the world sees it. Now, this is not all the time that we behave badly, but unfortunately, the times that we do behave badly, just so happen to coincide with the times that the world views us and make their judgment of all Christians. This is precisely the reason that Believers need to hold every thought and action captive to Christ

What are some other reasons that unbelievers are willing to pursue error over pursuing Truth?

### **Deception in the Church through Half-truths, easy answers, and lies**

Do you know those in the Christian sector called the "name it and claim it'?" They actually tell others that if they will become Christians, then they can become healthy, wealthy and prosperous. Yes, if they become Christians, they will be wealthy in spiritual things, but not necessarily material things. What these "name it and claim it's" are saying is a half-truth. They hide the more common truth, that to follow Christ, one may suffer persecution, beatings, imprisonments, having nothing, rioting, sleepless nights, and hunger. Not a very good recruiting tool, is it? However, I doubt that Paul really understood this when he was first converted either. See **2 Corinthians 6: 4, 5, 8-10, 2 Corinthians 11:25-30.**

Paul, the Apostle endured all kinds of bad things happening to Him for the cause of Christ. I like what Dr. Graham says about the truth of being a Christian from the Four Horse men of the Apocalypse, p. 97, "We cannot understand why some people appear to glide effortlessly through life while others seem constantly to be in the throes of pain and

sorrow. We cannot explain why some withered bodies are healed while others suffer and die. We cannot know why some prayers seem so wonderfully answered and others seemingly go unheard. We cannot pretend that life in Christ always means victory, miracle and success in this life. When we tell only the stories of victory, we tell only a part of the truth. When we recount only the answered prayers, we oversimplify. When we imply the Christian faith involves no yoke, we lie.” Do you see how this horseman can use us in the Church to promote his deception?

In your journey, where have you seen deception in the church from half-truths, easy answers and lies? Really think on this and record your thoughts below.

### **Deception in the Church through Double Standards – what we say isn’t what we practice**

Please read **Romans 7:15**. Even Paul understood that his actions were tied to his words and he wasn’t always successful in living a life without deception.

I know a church I have been in, where the music pastor ran off with the church secretary, leaving his wife and three children behind. In this same church the rider who deceives rode right into one of the small groups breaking up marriages and encouraging spousal swaps. This was all done under the guise of fellowship in Christ. Who would want to become a Christian if that’s what Christianity is about? I have known some who confess Christ loudly and yet the world around them sees how they mistreat others. I just wish these people would not remark to the world that they are Christians.

In your journey, where have you seen deception in the Church through double standards? Really think on this and record your thoughts below.

### **Deception in the Church by Discriminating against some sins while ignoring others**

This is a hard one. The rider on the white horse has again deceived some of us and some who observe us as tolerating some sins, but condemning others. One of my young co-workers is in her second marriage, but even though she worked at the first marriage, the first married spouse did not. He divorced her. What was she supposed to do? Well, she is remarried now and the Catholic Church of course would only grant her an annulment of the first marriage if she paid all the indulgences necessary. For a while she was shunned. As far as I am concerned, this gal was an innocent, but for that time she was shunned, she felt like a dirty rag thrown to the street. I’ve another friend, a Catholic woman who attended a Bible study I taught to a Latter Day Saints’ group in Colorado Springs. While still in the Catholic Church, her husband divorced her and remarried. My friend was not

allowed to continue to work on the Stephens' Ministry team in her church because she was a divorcee. She remarried the next time to an LDS man. Case in point. My friend threw herself into the LDS church where she received approval and encouragement from those around her, instead of condemnation for a sin that was not hers.

I know that dealing with others who practice deviant sexuality can be risky and dangerous. Most of us, if we are honest with ourselves, would rather the problem would just go away. Even those in the churches who try to deal in a Biblical way with those who practice these ways, are so ostracized by the outside LBGQT culture that they give up working with them to get them back to normalcy...or worse they get sucked in to their deviant sexual vortex. You will remember this happened in Colorado Springs in the last decade.

Why do we condemn some sins and not others? A former co-worker of mine has a boyfriend whose parents were two mothers. In her mind, those condemning homosexuality are the sinners because "all born again Christians" have two coats and they don't give their extra coat to someone in need. First off, I have a problem with "all born again Christians," and secondly, she has no idea whether or not Christians have given that second coat away to someone in need or not. I can't even pretend to understand her mind or her thinking, but does she have a point? She cites **Luke 3:11** as her basis of understanding. Why do we condemn some sins and let the lesser sins slide? Maybe this is the basis of menial and venial sins in the Catholic Church. I don't know.

In your journey, where have you seen deception in the Church by discriminating against some sins and not others? Really think on this and record your thoughts below.

### **Deception in the Church by Inadequate Teaching after Coming to Christ**

I have a very good friend with whom I have those deep conversations from time to time. One of our ongoing conversations has to do with the reality of true conversion to Christianity. Is Christianity that one time decision to follow Christ and receive forgiveness for sins or is it a lifetime journey? The answer we have both concluded is "yes" and "yes." It is both that one-time commitment to Christ and also a lifetime journey.

There is one place we all enter into the Christian life. It is at conversion. It is that initial step we take to agree with God that we are sinners and in need of His salvation, His forgiveness, in order to have a relationship with Him. We invite His Son to come into our being and we accept the salvation that He provided for us on the cross. The next step in the Christian life begins the journey we will take of a lifelong pilgrimage of spiritual growth and maturity in Christ. Here are a few of the ways to remain in Him to make sure we continue to grow in Him:

1. The study of God's Word - the Bible- Ephs.6:13,17
2. The act of prayer – both corporate and individual – 1 Thess 5:17
3. The wide reading of Christian books and articles
4. The memorization of Scripture, hymns – Psalm 119:11, Lk 4:8
5. The gathering together into Christian community – like our small groups' fellowship
6. The participating together in small groups with others who are like minded – like our community groups in which people share a common interest but also are Christians
7. Christian friendships
8. Being filled with the Holy Spirit
9. Sharing the Gospel with others

Sometimes the responsibility of the individual to seek out and participate in all of these ways falls on that individual, and sometimes the responsibility to provide opportunities for growth is on the church and its leadership. Cult leaders can walk right into a baby Christian's life if there is no one in the church alerted to their need for nourishment and attending to them. That cult can offer them a spiritual discipline that we may not have offered them. Cults do not assume their new members know anything and they build from scratch into the new member everything he or she needs to feel a part of this new undertaking. This is enablement by the church for ha-Satan to deceive the new Believer through cults. We must be on the alert for that new Believer and immediately act to train them up in righteousness and keep them from being deceived by the great deceiver. We also need to be alerted for ourselves as well. This can happen to us if we are not alert and we do not get ourselves involved in the Church.

Why are we looking at all of this?

We are looking at all of this that goes before us in **Revelation 6**, so that we might be best prepared for what is coming to pass (if by God's timetable for us, we are not out of here via the Rapture, until after the tribulation period begins). We will need the attention to His Word. We will need to be in continual prayer. We will need to hide His Word within our hearts through memorization of the Scripture so that the Holy Spirit can bring it back to our attention when we need it. We will need to be in fellowship with other Christians.

It is way too easy for us in this culture to go to church on Saturday evening or Sunday morning, put our offering into the collection bucket, and walk away from church for the rest of the week. If we think this is all that God wants of us, then the deceiver has done his job on us. We must be actively pursuing the faith with others of like interest in growing. Some successful churches, in their pursuit to involve every member of their congregation and move them along to maturity, require everyone to be actively working in a ministry. Whether it is an outreach for evangelism, rebuilding houses, feeding the poor, visiting widows, teaching children in Sunday School, hosting a small group, or teaching a Bible study, getting people involved in a ministry is extremely helpful to "grow them up in Christ" and to protect them from offerings of the devil.

As a final warning concerning the deceiver from within the church: be absolutely forthright in looking at the real Jesus Christ. Examine Him from all directions. If you study the original and spend time with the original, then you will know better the counterfeit when you see or hear it.

### *Day 5* **The Spirit of Truth vs. the spirit of deception**

How can you recognize the One True Christ? Please read Matthew 24:5, 11, 23-27.

How can you recognize the Spirit of God? 1 John 4:2

How can you recognize the spirit of the anti-Christ? 1 John 4:3

Are we as Christians vulnerable to deception? 1 Corinthians 10:12

Read the following verses and write down God's promises.

**Luke 12:32**

**2 Corinthians 12:9**

**1 John 2:13**

Read the following verses and write down what we must also remember concerning God's warnings in addition to God's promises mentioned above.

**Mark 13:22**

**Colossians 2:8**

**Luke 21:8**

How do we know that this is the "last hour?" **1 John 2:18**

Can you name any of the "anti-Christ figures" that have appeared in your lifetime?

Can you name any of those “anti-Christ figures” from history? We are not talking about the “anti-Christ” but the “spirit of the anti-Christ.” Remember that “anti-Christ” means “in place of Christ.”

Who is the liar? **1 John 2:22**

Who is the anti-Christ? **1 John 2:23**

Who is the liar’s father? **John 8:44**

Who is the Spirit of Truth? **John 14:16-17**

Who produces the fruit of the Spirit in us? And how is the fruit of the Spirit manifested in us? **Galatians 5:22**

What is our part in displaying the Holy Spirit in our persons? **Galatians 5:24-26**

What are the deeds of the flesh? **Galatians 5:19-21**

Can you be deceived by the deeds of the flesh? How?

Can you be deceived by the world around you? How are you deceived by the world around you?

Can you deceive yourself in to thinking you are more important than you really are?

How has this lesson helped you to be better prepared for what is coming? How will you guard yourself against the deception of the evil one during this last hour?

We have covered a lot of territory this week in looking at just the first rider of the four horsemen of the Apocalypse, the Deceiver, the one riding on a white horse and carrying a bow, but no arrow. Next week we will try to make it through to the 4<sup>th</sup> seal judgment that will complete our study of the four horsemen of the apocalypse. Put your ear to the ground. Take a look at all that is around you. Can you hear it? Can you see it? “Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near; so, you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near; right at the door.” Matthew 24:32-33

Updated October 19, 2025