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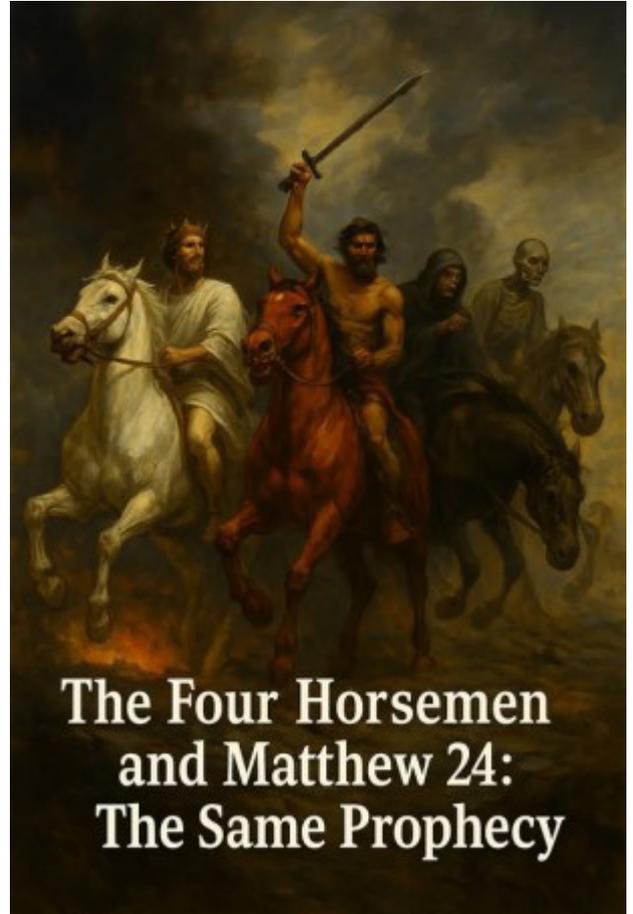
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Matthew 24 - The Four Horsemen and Matthew 24: The Same Prophecy



By Dan Maines

The Four Horsemen and Matthew 24: The Same Prophecy

I want to talk today about something that gets overlooked by a lot of futurists. The Four Horsemen in Revelation 6 are not some future threat, they're the same events Jesus described in Matthew 24. Revelation isn't inventing new prophecy, it's confirming what Jesus already warned would come on that generation leading up to AD 70. As a Preterist, I believe Revelation and Matthew 24 are two views of the same judgment: the end of the Old Covenant world.

Let's break down the Four Horsemen and match them directly to Jesus' words.

White horse - Revelation 6:2 "I looked, and behold, a white horse, and the one who sat on it had a bow, and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer." Matthew 24:4-5 - "And Jesus answered and said to them, 'See to it that no one misleads you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and they will mislead many.'" This horse represents deception and false messiahs. Josephus records several who claimed to be the deliverer in that generation. Jesus said it would happen, and it did.

Red horse - Revelation 6:4 "And another, a red horse, went out; and to him who sat on it, it was granted to take peace from the earth, and that people would kill one another, and a large sword was given to him." Matthew 24:6-7 - "You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for those things must take place, but that is not yet the end. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom..." The red horse symbolizes the chaos and civil unrest of the time. The Jewish-Roman War and infighting in Jerusalem proved this fulfilled right on schedule.

Black horse - Revelation 6:5-6 "I looked, and behold, a black horse, and the one who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand. And I heard something like a voice in the center of the four living creatures saying, 'A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not damage the oil and the wine.'" Matthew 24:7 - "...and in various places there will be famines..." During the Roman siege, famine overtook Jerusalem. Food was so scarce that it drove people to horrible extremes. The scales and inflation in Revelation reflect this exactly.

Pale horse - Revelation 6:8 "I looked, and behold, a pale horse, and the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades was

following with him. Authority was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, and famine, and plague, and by the wild animals of the earth." Matthew 24:7-8 - "...and earthquakes. But all these things are merely the beginning of birth pains." This fourth horse combines it all - war, famine, pestilence, and death. These weren't signs of the end of the physical world, but of the end of the covenantal world of Israel.

Don't go looking for horses in Matthew 24 Some might ask, "Wait, where are the horses in Matthew 24?" The answer is simple: there aren't any. Jesus doesn't mention horses. Matthew 24 is a direct, plain-language prophecy about coming judgment. Revelation 6 uses symbolic language, John sees the same realities but through dramatic imagery. It's not different content, it's different delivery. The events align perfectly, just like two witnesses describing the same thing from different angles. Jesus said it, John saw it. The meaning is consistent.

The events described match the symbols of the horsemen:

False Christs (white horse)

Wars and rumors of wars (red horse)

Famines (black horse)

Death and pestilence (pale horse) Revelation 6 uses symbolic imagery to express what Jesus spoke clearly about. It's the same judgment, told from a heavenly perspective.

Jesus said it would be that generation Matthew 24:34 - "Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place." That generation saw it all. The Four Horsemen are symbolic pictures of what unfolded in real time leading up to the fall of Jerusalem in AD 70.

The new kingdom is here Hebrews 12:28 - "Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let's show gratitude..." We are not waiting for the kingdom. We're in it. Christ reigns now. The old world passed, the New Covenant remains.

So the next time someone says the Four Horsemen are coming soon, remind them - they already came. That's good news. Judgment fell, prophecy was fulfilled, and the unshakable kingdom has been established.

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