

GOD ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS

“And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the Word of God, and for the testimony which they held.” Revelation 6: 9.

This seal covers the Reformation period up to the catastrophic event which marked the opening of the next seal (AD 1517-1755).

8. What urgent question did the martyrs ask of God?

“And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, does Thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?” Revelation 6:10.

9. How long were they bidden to wait, and what did they receive in anticipation of their final reward?

“And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.” Revelation 6:11.

10. By what would divine intervention on behalf of the church be heralded?

“And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, Lo, there was a great earthquake.” Revelation 6: 12.

“The Lisbon earthquake which occurred on November 1, 1755, is the most notable earthquake of history.” (Nelson’s Encyclopedia.) Four million square miles of the earth’s surface shuddered under the shock, and ninety thousand lives were lost in the catastrophe.

11. What signs would quickly succeed the great earthquake?

“And the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood.” Revelation 6:12.

“May 19, 1780, is distinguished as the Dark Day. The sun rose clear but soon assumed a brassy hue. About 10 o’clock AM it became unusually dark. The darkness continued to increase till about 1 o’clock. During this time, candles were necessary, the birds disappeared and were silent, fowls went to their roost, the cocks crew as at day break, and everything bore the appearance and gloom of night. The alarm produced by the unusual aspect of the heavens was great, and tradition has preserved many anecdotes of terror.”-Edwin M. Stone in “The History of Beverly.”

12. What other remarkable heavenly phenomenon would follow?

“And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casts her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.” Revelation 6:13. (See also Isaiah 13:10; Amos 8:9; Ezekiel 32:7; Joel 2:10,30,31; 3:15; Mark 13:24, 25.)

“The attention of astronomers was particularly directed to the extraordinary shower of meteors which occurred on the morning of November 13, 1833. I had the good fortune to witness these grand celestial fireworks. Probably no celestial phenomenon has ever occurred in this country since its settlement, which was viewed with such admiration and delight by one class of spectators, or with so much astonishment and fear by another class. Many others thought the last great day had come.”-Denison Olmsted in “Letters on Astronomy,” pages 346-348.

“In the shower of November 12-13, 1833, stars fell like flakes of snow, more than 240,000, it was estimated, in nine hours, some mere points of light, others as large as the moon’s diameter. All seemed to come from the region of the constellation Leo. Hence the name Leonids has been applied to them. Astronomers predicted a repetition of the star shower, November 13, 1866, and it occurred on time. In 1899 only a few meteors were observed. This year [1932] the watchers of the north-eastern sky were again unrewarded, except for four or five scattered meteors per hour.” -The Christian Advocate.

13. By what further convulsions will the advent of Christ be accompanied?

“And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.” Revelation 6:14. (See also verses 15-17.)

14. What silence will fall upon the courts of heaven in history’s last hour?

“And when He had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour.” Revelation 8: 1.

Dissolving Empires

1. BY what martial symbols are the political upheavals of the Christian era portrayed?

“And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets.” Revelation 8: 2.

2. Why are trumpets chosen for this vision?