

EP57 Revelation 6 verses 7-8

Seal 4 is Opened

Revelation 6:7-8

When He had broke the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature now saying, "You are commanded to choose to now come {or appear}." I looked, and behold, an ashen horse; and he who is choosing to now be sitting on it had the name Death; and Hades followed with him. Authority had been given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with death and with the wild beasts of the earth.

Merging of the Spiritual and Physical

With this horse, we are draw into cross-over descriptions that principally have a spiritual dynamic, but which also explain certain physical dynamics here on earth. Reading this passage, it seems straight forward, Death and Hades kill with awfully specific implements. But do not be fooled. Is anything ever that straight forward?

The Number 4

Given that according to the **Code** the number 4 is associated with "creation" covering the four corners of the earth (north, south, east, and west), we should expect to find that the events of this horse and rider (and his travel companion) in one-way-shape-or-form address God's creative works.

Come Now

Revelation 6:7

When He broke the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature now saying, "You are commanded to choose to now come {or appear}."

This passage starts like the last few. When He, the Lamb, broke the seal (*past tense*), John heard (*past tense*), a voice from the Four (from the fourth of the Four) **now** saying (*present tense*), "*You are commanded to choose to now come {or appear}*."¹

The Ashen Horse

¹ "say" is rendered in the *present active participle*, and "Come" is rendered in the *present middle imperative*

Revelation 6:8

I looked, and behold, an ashen horse; and he who is choosing to now be sitting on it had the name Death; and Hades followed with him.

The color of this horse is translated as ashen or pale, but in the Greek, this horse is literally a greenish color. It is the word from which we get chlorophyll. Imagine an ashen green, decomposing, moldy, rotting, type look. It is not very appealing, but it is fitting for Death.

And because this rider is even **NOW** sitting on this horse, we know this is a picture that stretches across time, from whenever he was first called to ride all the way through to our present.² The point being that the activities of this horse and rider are not contained to the **End Times** but have been experienced throughout time. This horse and rider are just called to come or appear so that John can see what it is that causes demise across all humanity.

Death and Hades

With Death and Hades hanging around, we know this cannot be good. In fact, this is the first time that we are drawn to the specific identity of the rider (Death) and not solely his purpose, and in this case, it includes the identity of his travel companion, Hades. However, the identity of these riders seems to encompass their purpose, as does the color of the horse, and so their personhood and their color are statements on their intention and their activity.

Death and Hades are personified as spiritual creatures, part of the angelic, and not just as words describing the absence of life or the place of the dead, but active sentient beings purposed on a mission. Although Death is not depicted with a black hooded cloak and a sickle, the image is still gripping. These 2 angelic creatures work together as a team. Death and Hades will kill and in effect swallow up the dead.

Death

The Greek word “*thanatos*” is used in the **Codex** to describe both a literal and a spiritual death. Literally, it applies to the separation of the soul from the body, with the body literally deteriorating into dust.³ Spiritually, it applies to the separation of the soul from God because of our imperfection and His perfection.⁴ Apparently, this angel named Death oversees death at both a physical and a spiritual level.

Hades

The idea of hades comes from the **four** times this word was used by Jesus (Coincidence? I think not).⁵ It also derives from a reference in **Acts** to **Psalm 16:10**, where it is equated with the Old Testament notion of Sheol.⁶

We receive our most comprehensive understanding of Hades from the story Jesus told about Lazarus and a nameless rich man. Lazarus was destitute and extremely sick (he was covered with boils and sores).

² “sat” is rendered in the *present active participle*

³ **John 11:13; Matthew 10:21, 20:18, 26:66; Luke 2:26; John 11:4; Hebrews 7:23, 9:15**

⁴ **Matthew 4:16, 16:28; John 5:24, 8:51-52, Romans 5:14, 17, 21, 6:3-9, 7:24; 8:2, 6**

⁵ **Matthew 11:23, 16:18; Luke 10:15, 16:23**

⁶ **Acts 2:27, 31**

Daily he was ignored by a rich man who had both opportunity and means to care for Lazarus and show him just a little bit of mercy. But this nameless rich man completely ignored Lazarus' plight.

Jesus explains that both men died, and Lazarus was cared for in what is called the Bosom of Abraham, a gathering place for the dead who did not receive mercy from man but receive mercy from God. Whereas the rich man found himself in Hades, in agony in the flame. This is the gathering place for the dead who do not receive mercy from God. There was a fixed chasm between the two sections so that no one could cross over from Hades to the Bosom of Abraham.⁷

From a Hebrew perspective, **Sheol**, the place of the dead, has 2 sections. One part is a place of torment and is known as hades, the other part is a place of comfort and mercy and is known as the Bosom of Abraham. For instance, we are told that the Father did not abandon Jesus to hades when He descended to the lower parts of the earth, which, by the way, is where the Spirit indicated that Sheol was located.⁸ So, technically, people literally do go down to hell.

The angel Hades likely oversees this realm of the dead. However, technically Hades does not **follow** Death in terms of literally riding behind him in the physical sense of following. He just follows death in purpose. First comes death and then comes Hades.

The underlying Greek word communicates that they are joined on the same road, they accompany each other. It is the same word used for a disciple that travels the path of his master.

The word however is **NOT** rendered as a *participle*, so "following" would be the wrong presentation of this verb, even though that is how it is presented in most translations. It is rendered in the technical *past* tense and as a statement of fact (the *imperfect active indicative*); hence, this is not addressing the order of things (who goes first and who is following). Rather, the *imperfect* reveals that sometime in the past this relationship was formally joined, and since that time they have been on the "same road" as travel companions, so-to-speak.

Authority to Kill

Revelation 6:8

... Authority had been given to them over a **fourth** of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with death and with the wild beasts of the earth.

This part of the passage is rendered entirely in the *aorist* tense. Thus, we are not drawn to a specific time that they are killing. In other words, this is not a prediction pertaining specifically to the **End Times**, as the *future* tense is not utilized. Killing is just what they do ever since they were joined as companions, from times-past-through-times-present. It is their "way of life" so-to-speak.

⁷ **Luke 16:19-31.** Note: Jesus told this as an actual story and not as a parable. There is no "like" or "as" language used in the introduction to this story, which would be typical for a parable or some sort of metaphorical illustration.

⁸ **Ephesians 4:9-10; Deuteronomy 32:22; 1 Samuel 28:11-15; Job 26:5; Psalm 86:13; Ezekiel 31:14-16, 18**

Fourth of the Earth

Death and Hades have been **given** authority, privilege, or power over a **fourth** part of the earth (in the Greek, it refers to the literal soil, or the solid part of the globe). This imagery is consistent with the use of “four” and “fourth,” as 4 is **Code** for God’s created works.

To Kill

The phrase “to kill” is rendered in the *aorist active infinitive*. Therefore, we are to understand that this power over a fourth of the earth **to kill** is **NOT** about a one-time event of slaughter, but more of a comprehensive statement on their overall assignment as they have been traveling together throughout time. Again, killing is just what they do; It is their “way of life,” and it explains the fundamental purpose for their existence.

Thus, when their journey has come to an end, they will have exercised authority over a fourth of the earth—over the created beings who dwell on the earth.

Did you wonder why there is no specific mention of humanity much less animals, though people clearly are the target of their authority? The reason is that “earth” is **Code**.

Those Who Live on the Earth vs Those Who Dwell on the Earth

This phrasing about their having authority over a fourth of the earth is intended to cause us to dig deeper for our understanding of the dualistic nature of this passage. Throughout **Revelation**, there is a constant distinction made between those who **live** on the earth and those who **dwell** on the earth. One is a physical reference, and the other is a spiritual reference.

Those who dwell on the earth speaks of a **spiritual identity**—those whose identity, purpose, meaning, security, and personhood are defined by this world and the values of its system. Hence, all who dwell on the earth will worship the Beast, everyone whose names have not been written in the Lamb’s book of life.⁹

In contrast, the Chosen of God have been purchased **from** the earth, but still live on earth as temporary residents—as aliens and strangers to this world’s system.¹⁰ They have made their permanent abode in heaven, for that is where they dwell and from where their identity, purpose, and personhood are derived.¹¹ To the Beast they will not bow the knee.

Therefore, this reference to a fourth of the earth drives a distinction, a **spiritual** separation, between those who **live** on the earth and those who **dwell** on the earth. And we will see this dualistic separation between the spiritual and the physical all throughout this passage.

Power to Kill

The power they have been given is to kill, to slay outright. And since “*given*” is rendered in the *passive* voice, we know these riders did not in-and-of themselves hold this power to kill, it came from God—the source of all things.¹² And both Death and Hades have been granted this power. Yes, Hades is not there

⁹ See **Revelation 13:8, 12, 14; 17:2, 8**

¹⁰ **Colossians 3:1; 1 Peter 1:1, 2:11; Hebrews 11:13-16**

¹¹ **Revelation 13:6; 14:3, 6, 19:1-6**

¹² See **Romans 11:36**

just to collect the dead, but he also kills.

In movies, we have all heard the phrase, “I’m gonna off him.” Lo and behold, it comes from this Greek word translated as “to kill.” It literally means “to off” away something or to kill outright. And given that “to kill” is rendered in the *aorist active infinitive*, this describes what they do. Again, it does not tie their activity down to a specific point-in-time, but to the very purpose of their existence. Again, this is not an activity tied to the **End Times**. They received their power in the past, as well as their implements of death, and now “offing” things of the earth is what they do.

The Killing Implements

Four Evils.

There are **four** killing implements given to this **fourth** horse and its rider (Death) and his traveling companion (Hades). They exercise their authority over a **fourth** of the earth. Therefore, this speaks of a **perfect “offing” of created things**, as there are 3 uses of “four,” with 3 being the number of perfection and 4 relating to God’s creative works.

These angels are given the power to kill with sword and with famine and with death {translated in most translations as “pestilence” but the Greek word “*thanatos*” is used, so it should be translated as “death”} and with the wild beasts of the earth.

Diving deep into the **Codex**, there is only one instance where similar implements of “offing” things are listed together. And this probably explains why most translators utilize “pestilence” instead of “death” in our passage. With that said, let us remember that if the Holy Spirit wanted us to understand this as “pestilence” He would have used the Greek word “*loimos*” (pestilence) and not “*thanatos*” (death).

In the book of **Ezekiel**, we find **Yahweh** talking to Ezekiel about a devastating judgment which He will bring upon the “*house of Israel*” and Jerusalem. He speaks of sending His 4-evils (judgments) and then lists the sword, famine, wild beasts, and pestilence (or literally, plague).¹³

Perhaps the translators were using this passage in **Ezekiel** to frame their translation of **Revelation 6:8**. But more on that later as it is an important detail that we do not want to miss.

In addressing the “*house of Israel*” and Jerusalem, **Yahweh** explained He would bring these 4-evils because of their abominations and the idols they had set up in their hearts. This judgment was dualistic in nature and had both a literal and a spiritual purpose.

Literally, He would cut off **both man and beast** from Jerusalem. This gives us a literal understanding of “to kill” (as the historical record proves this out). Spiritually, He would “cut off” or “kill” all those who put a stumbling block of idolatry right before their own face.

But what is extremely odd is that **Yahweh** links together the “*house of Israel*,” Jerusalem, and this judgment of 4-evils. Keep in mind, the prophet Ezekiel was writing while in captivity in Babylon, long after Israel ceased to exist as a nation.¹⁴

Israel was taken captive by Assyria 167 years earlier. As a result, the Israelites had all but lost their

¹³ **Ezekiel 14:6-8, 21**. See also **Ezekiel 5:13-17**. Note: Jeremiah lists death by sword, famine, and pestilence (but not wild beasts). See **Jeremiah 14:21, 24:10, 29:17**

¹⁴ Judah’s exile to Babylon occurred in 598 BC

national identity and were largely assimilated into the culture of their captives. At the time of Ezekiel, there was no nation of Israel, nor a “house of Israel,” though there was likely a scattering of Israelites who escaped to Judah and were living amongst them. But they were identified collectively as Judeans.

Yet, instead of addressing the immorality and idolatry that led Judah to be captured by Babylon (and subsequently Jerusalem), He makes a point about the “house of Israel”.

The Spirit was speaking in **Code**. The “house of Israel” is euphemistically used to speak of the idolatrous people of God. *By the way, this distinction becomes very important when we get to **Revelation 7** and examine a very odd list of the tribes of Israel.* In fact, Ezekiel’s commission was to the “house of Israel” or the “goyim” – literally the heathen of Israel and not to the “goy” – the nation. Moreover, his focus was primarily on the abominations in the temple in Jerusalem, which was in Judea, not in the “house of Israel”.¹⁵

According to the **Code**, Jerusalem provides a picture of the spiritual life of the nation, the place where man and animals were joined in worship of **Yahweh**. Therefore, in speaking of judging Jerusalem when talking about judging the “house of Israel,” it was a picture of His sending these 4-evils on their spiritual life as well as their physical life.

They would literally face the sword, the wild animals, the famine, and plague (again, the historical record is clear on this fact). But these 4-evils would also be a judgement on the idolatry in their soul, and they would face the sword (the conviction of the Spirit of truth), the wild animals (demonic spirits), the famine (the absence of the word of truth in their lives—specifically the prophetic word),¹⁶ and pestilence, plague, or death (the sickness and disease that rots the soul of the person assigned to death in the spirit).

This is consistent with **Yahweh’s** purpose, to literally **cut off both man** (worshippers) **and beast** (sacrifice) from Jerusalem. In other words, He would destroy them spiritually and assign them to spiritual death. **Yahweh** would put a temporary stop to their spiritual system of worship.

And to make the point to Ezekiel that this judgment of 4-evils was necessary, He said that there would be a few survivors from Judea exported off to Babylon, and that when they arrived, the other exiles who were previously exported will understand why God did what He had to do. In other words, they would see and come to understand the depth of their moral sickness and spiritual depravity.

Thus, with this part of the **Codex** we get a very **literal** application of “to kill” with 4-evils and a very **spiritual** application of “to kill” or to cut off with 4-evils.

By the way, this also connects to the whole idea of the fourth of the “**earth**.” I will draw this all together as we study the killing implements, but keep in mind that the context from which this passage is drawn is dealing with **apostasy**, a turning away of the people of God, their becoming “heathens,” idolaters who exchanged the living word of truth for demonic lies. This is **NOT** a judgment that is dealing with the heathen nations, but the so-called “people of God” – the “goyim” – literally the heathen of the “house of Israel”—those within the household of God who never chose to bet their lives on His name **Yahweh** but chose to find their identity and personhood in the earth or in this world’s system.

¹⁵ See **Ezekiel 7:20-27; 8:1-18**

¹⁶ Note: in **Ezekiel 14:9-11**, **Yahweh** said He was also judging the prophetic word, and anyone who prophesied would be judged as falsely speaking deceptive words—lies. Thus, they would be without the prophetic word of truth.

The picture is becoming clear. **The Codex leads us to understand that these killing implements of Death and Hades will be targeted toward those in the household of God who are not now believing and not now overcoming—the Called of God.**

As we have learned, the Called are those who have been converted by God but never choose to dig down deep in their soul and make the decision to live like a little child, dependent upon God for all things all the time. The Called of God are those who through their incessant unbelief have joined in with those who **dwell on the earth**. Though in the household of God, they abide in **apostasy** and therefore have been cut off from Christ and have fallen from grace.¹⁷

To Kill with Sword

The Greek word translated as sword (*romphaia*) is different than what was given the red horse or what is used throughout the entire New Testament, with a few notable exceptions which all serve as **Code**. The red horse had an implement that is more like a long knife or a small sword (in the Greek, a “*machaira*”—where we get our modern word “machete”), indicating that people would slay each other in a very up-close-and-personal way. Except for the “notable metaphorical exceptions,” *machaira* is used all throughout the New Testament whenever there is a reference to a sword, from the sword Peter used to chop off the ear of the slave of the High Priest to the sword of the Spirit.¹⁸ Again, the idea is up-close-and-personal.

But the sword used by Death and Hades is a “*romphaia*”—more of a battle sword used for both thrusting (like a spear) and slicing (like a typical sword). It is longer than a *machaira* and has a longer handle and a slightly curved blade with one sharp edge (much like a long samurai sword).

It is notable, however, that the only times “*romphaia*” is used in the **Codex** is as a metaphor, and **NEVER** as a literal sword. Thus, the activity of Death and Hades can be confusing for those who do not understand its metaphorical message.

According to the **Codex** (in the description of the risen Son of Man in the first chapter of **Revelation**), “*romphaia*” is the type of sword that is used of the sword coming forth from Jesus’ mouth. This is the same sword which Jesus will use to strike down the nations and all those who will try to conquer Him at the battle of Armageddon.¹⁹ Again, this sword is imaged as coming forth from His mouth. Clearly, this is not a literal sword of metal, but a spiritual sword of truth—His prophetic word. His spoken word of truth (which has all the power of **creation**) will in effect cut through His enemies (all the demonic spirits and their human subjects), and in judgment defeat them.

The only other place “*romphaia*” is used is when Mary is told that a **sword** will pierce {literally “traverse”} even her soul—to the end that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.²⁰ This is also a metaphor, a picture of a judgment through the word of truth.

In effect, Mary is used as a picture of all humanity. Jesus, the living word, would penetrate her soul and reveal her pain, doubts, worries, her desire to control outcomes, and so on, such that her thoughts would reveal the thoughts from many hearts—the hearts of humanity.

¹⁷ See **Galatians 5:4; Hebrews 3 and 4, 6:4-8, 10:26-31**

¹⁸ See **Matthew 26:51-52; Ephesians 6:17**

¹⁹ See **Revelation 1:16, 2:12, 16, 19:15, 21**

²⁰ **Luke 2:35**

Mary did not know how to handle all that Jesus said and did, and His word (all that He said and did) pierced her soul and revealed her **wrong belief** and **unbelief**. After all, for a time, Mary (along with her other children) thought that Jesus was crazy—literally, out of His mind. They tried to take Him away and keep him from pursuing His assignment.²¹

Can you imagine? This is after Mary experienced the impossible—a visit from an angel promising that she would give birth to the Messiah and her resulting spiritual impregnation. Still, in fear she doubted.

The Spirit used her soul as a picture of the thoughts of many hearts. One, He put her humanity on display to keep us from venerating her as some have idolatrously done. She was no different than you or me, and she similarly struggled with wrong belief and unbelief.

Two, the Spirit wanted us to remember that like Mary, we also become afraid not knowing what Jesus is doing with our lives. Moreover, trusting **Yahweh** is not natural—it is something the Holy Spirit must teach us throughout our lives. And until He does, we tend to wonder around in wrong belief and unbelief foolishly trying to control the outcomes of our lives.

In those instances, His sword (*“romphaia”*) of truth is necessary to pierce our hearts, just like Mary, and expose in judgment our wrong belief and unbelief. What we do with it from there determines if we will abide in death or life—or whether we will choose to abide in this world or merely live in the world, passing through as an alien and stranger.

A Spiritual View

Therefore, because the Spirit chose to use the word for sword that is metaphorically used in the **Codex** (not literally used) and deliberately chose not to use the word for sword (*machaira*) which is used quite literally and liberally in the **Codex**, the **Code** would tell us that we are to principally understand this work of the angel of Death and Hades from the perspective of the spiritual into the physical.

In their authority over a fourth of the earth, it seems that Death uses the *“romphaia”* to expose all the wrong belief and unbelief in those who should abide in life but have chosen to abide in spiritual Death, such that they remain in spiritual Death, which gives Hades all the evidence he needs to do his job.

To Kill with Famine

This word is straight forward, for it uses the literal Greek word for famine, *“limos,”* from the idea of scarcity and destitution. Thus, Death and Hades are authorized to kill by restricting resources to a fourth of the earth. This is likely a dualistic reality. There is likely a literal application of this evil throughout time, as many nations and peoples have suffered from severe famines and have struggled in destitution. However, since we are to understand things first from the perspective of the spiritual into the physical, a fourth of the earth (specifically, the Called, the people in the household of God who have made the choice to find their abode in the earth), will suffer a famine from the very word that could feed their impoverished souls. Just as Jesus said:

Matthew 13:11-13

To you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not

²¹ **Mark 3:21**

been granted. For whoever now has, to him more shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but whoever does not now have, **even what he has shall be taken away from him**. Therefore, I speak to them in parables; because while seeing they do not see, and while hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.

In this light, going back to **Ezekiel**, in addition to the 4 implements of death, we discovered that God also cut off the prophetic word from His people.²² Likewise, in the book of **Amos**, prior to the time Israel was captured by Assyria, God promised that He would send a famine, not of bread but of the words of **Yahweh**.

Amos 8:11-14

Behold, days are coming,” declares **Yahweh** God, “When I will send a famine on the land, not a famine for bread or a thirst for water, but rather for hearing the words of **Yahweh**. People will stagger from sea to sea and from the north even to the east; they will go to and fro to seek the word of **Yahweh**, but they will not find it. In that day, the beautiful virgins and the young men will faint from thirst. As for those who swear by the guilt of **Samaria**, who say, ‘As your god lives, O **Dan**,’ and, ‘as the way of Beersheba lives,’ they will fall and not rise again.”

This passage deals with the apostasy of both Israel and Judah. The mention of Samaria and **Dan** are specifically tied to the golden cows that Israel set up for its people to worship instead of worshiping **Yahweh** in Jerusalem. One cow was in Samaria, and one was in **Dan** (the tribe of which provides us a picture of apostasy and direct attachment to the demonic).

This statement from Dan to Beersheba covers the entire land of Israel, both the nation of Israel and the nation of Judah, including Jerusalem. The “*guilt of Samaria*” refers to “*Ashima*,” a Canaanite mother goddess. The point is that they had apostatized and were steeped in idolatry.

The thrust of this passage is that the people of God will fall away, apostatize, and they will not rise again because they will not be able to hear the word of God (*literally* understand to the point of obedience). The problem will not be the absence of the word of God, but this specific evil of famine will cause people to not be able to bet their lives on the word of God. **They will not now have ears to hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches**. They will know the words, they will sing the words, they will preach the words, they will even think they believe the words, **but they will be destitute and without**.

This typology is patterned for us in the religion of Christianity, in the lives of the Called, those who know the word of **Yahweh**, but do not know Him by name, for they have not trusted in the word of **Yahweh**. They may have been converted by God and brought into His household, but they have not chosen to live like a little child dependent upon **Yahweh** for everything, all the time.²³ Rather, they turn to all manner of religious licentiousness, *instinctual religious wisdom*, as they strive to be good for God

²² **Ezekiel 14:9-11**

²³ **Matthew 18:3**

and constantly search for new ways to serve Him and to please Him and to be obedient to Him.

Accordingly, they will succumb to spiritual Death and will not be able to rise again, but they will be assigned a place with Hades. As it says in **Hebrews**, it will be impossible to renew them to repentance, for they shrink back to **destruction** (they literally shrink back to the Beast whose name in Hebrew is “Destruction” and in Greek, “Destroyer”).²⁴ Thus, they will abide in Death.²⁵

Do you remember, the curse of **Dan** in our discussion of the Four? Dan was depicted as a viper that bit the rider’s heel such that the rider came tumbling down from his horse. That is exactly what is pictured here. The sin of idolatry bit the riders such that they fall from their strength, and they do not rise again, but will remain fallen and the word of God will be of no effect to them because they will not have ears to hear what the Spirit says to the churches. **They will literally starve to death; yes, even what they have will be taken away.**

Moreover, Amos tells us that people will know they cannot hear and will be searching here and there to find truth. *“People will stagger from sea to sea and from the north even to the east; they will go to and fro to seek the word of the Lord.”* But the problem is they can no longer hear because for far too long they sought answers in spiritual and religious lies and have followed licentiousness and all manner of *instinctual religious wisdom*. Thus, they have turned their ears from the truth.

2 Timothy 4:1-4

I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. **For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.**

Tragically, believers will literally dig down deep in their soul and choose to **NOT** endure sound doctrine,²⁶ but will, after their own lusts (or *religious licentiousness*), heap upon themselves false teachers to now and continually have their ears tickled.²⁷ Accordingly, they will turn their ears away from the truth being unable to hear the Word that could bring them life. Hence, the famine!

To Kill with Death: THYATIRA

I mentioned previously that the text literally says that they are given the power to kill with death, but the translators chose to go with pestilence or plague, likely making the association with the passage in **Ezekiel**. However, the Spirit used the same Greek word as is used for the angel of death, “*Thanatos*”. The Greek word for pestilence is “*loimos*,” and that is not used in this passage. Death and Hades kill with

²⁴ See **Revelation 9:11**, the name of the Beast in Hebrew is Abaddon (Destruction) and in Greek, Apollyon (Destroyer)

²⁵ **Hebrews 6:1-8, 10:26-39, especially, 10:26-27, 30, 35, 39.**

²⁶ “endure” is rendered in the *future middle indicative*

²⁷ “tickled” is rendered in the *present passive participle*

death!

To kill with death is an extremely violent phrase and seems a bit redundant. However, it does not speak to the means of their demise but to the fundamental purpose of their demise. The Spirit is speaking in **Code**, with a layered meaning addressing both their physical and spiritual demise. Yes, they will be killed, but they will also be killed with death, the **Second Death** in the lake of fire.

There is coming a day of judgment where all who are **NOT** bondservants of Jesus Christ (the “Called, Chosen, and Faithful bride of Christ”), will appear before God’s great white throne of judgment. There they will be judged from the things which were written in books, according to their deeds. And if any one’s name is not found written in the Lamb’s book of life, he or she is thrown in the Lake of Fire. The lake of fire is the **Second Death**.²⁸

Jesus promised those in Thyatira that He would kill with death the children of Jezebel, those believers who followed in Jezebel’s idolatrous ways and refused to repent.²⁹ Yes, He will kill them with death. This is a judgment on those who apostatized from their faith and were not now believing or now overcoming. And they will be subject to the terrifying **Second Death** because their names are not written in the Book of Life.³⁰

By the way, the Lake of Fire is a place for the cowardly and **unbelieving** and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and **idolaters** and all liars. Their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the **Second Death**.³¹

To Kill with Beasts

The fourth of the evils is a judgment of wild beasts of the earth. However, given the fact that the **Codex** demanded a spiritual understanding of “sword,” “famine,” and “death,” we need to see if there is anything equivalent for “wild beasts.”

After Jesus was baptized, immediately the Spirit impelled Him to go out into the wilderness to be tempted by Satan. According to Jewish folklore, the wilderness was a place haunted by the demonic—a place of danger, death, rebellion, and temptation, which is why it was a natural place for Satan to approach Jesus.³²

In referring to Jesus, Mark says that “*He was in the wilderness forty days being tempted by Satan; and He was with the wild beasts, and the angels were ministering to Him.*”³³ The implication is that the wild beasts were demonic spirits that were tormenting Jesus, aiding Satan in his work of temptation, while the “good” angels were ministering to Jesus.

Then in **Revelation 13**, we are specifically told about two beasts, one which arises from the sea (a

²⁸ **Revelation 20:11-15**

²⁹ **Revelation 2:23**

³⁰ **Revelation 20:15**

³¹ **Revelation 21:8**

³² The scapegoat carrying the sins of the nation was released into the wilderness to join the demons, specifically Azazel (**Leviticus 16, specifically 16:16**) and it was believed Satyrs (half goat like creatures) lived there (**Leviticus 17:7; 2 Chronicles 11:15; Isaiah 13:21, 34:14**). Note, according to the book of Enoch, Azazel was a fallen angel, a leader of the rebellious “Watchers” before the flood.

³³ **Mark 1:12-13**

symbol for the nations) and a second beast which arises from out of the earth. These are both demonic spirits. The first being the “Beast” the demonic spirit that is released from the Abyss and is the central player in the entire **End Times** narrative. He is the spirit that possesses the man we call the Antichrist. The second beast is known as the False Prophet who serves the first Beast which comes out of the Abyss.³⁴

It is therefore likely that this judgment on a fourth of those who dwell on the earth, those believers who have made their abode in this world and have apostatized from the truth that they are to live by grace through faith, will involve demonization. These wild beasts are allowed to “seal-the-deal,” so-to-speak, and kill these so-called “believers” with all manner of demonic activity.

As a result, these “believers” might even be seduced by the temptations of the beast of the earth to follow the beast of the sea, believing him (the “Beast who comes out of the Abyss”) to be the Christ, the Messiah, the savior of the world.

Regardless of the means or the methods, the whole imagery of active demonization is simply terrifying.

The Number 4 Revisited

Given that according to the **Code**, the number 4 is associated with “creation” covering the four corners of the earth (north, south, east, and west), this judgment of 4-Evils comes to a fourth of the earth—upon those who have made their permanent abode in this earth and who find their identity, purpose, personhood, and so on, from this world’s system.

This judgment of Death and Hades is primarily the judgment of the “Called”—a sealing of their spiritual fate. This judgment falls upon those who entered the Kingdom of God, but never chose to live like a child of God. When they were converted, or born-again, they were given the right and the power to become a child of God, but they did not choose to live now and continually with abject neediness for Jesus in everything, all the time.³⁵

As such, their hearts will be pierced with conviction by the sword, but they will not be able to hear or receive the truth of the word of God that could save them, in part because their hearts are being killed by their apostasy, and because of the famine of the Word of God—again, even what they have will be taken away. And since they will be demonized throughout their life, terrorized by demonic spirits, they are likely to follow the seductions of the beast of the earth (the False Prophet) to worship the Beast (the demonic spirit who possesses the man we call the Antichrist). And when it is all said and done, they will face the **Second Death**, along with all those from all the nations who follow the Beast.

THEY WILL ALL BE KILLED WITH DEATH!

³⁴ See **Revelation 17:8. 9:1-11**

³⁵ See **John 1:12**, they were given the right at any point in time to dig down deep in their soul and choose to become a child of God (become is rendered in the *aorist middle infinitive*), but it would require that they now and continually believe on His name, i.e., bet their lives that He is **Yahweh**, their **I AM** (in all things all the time).

4 Horseman of the Apocalypse

The 4 Horseman of the Apocalypse, as they are often named, are infamous. Sadly, the fictions about them abound from pulpits, to books, to movies, and even in the imaginations of our own minds. But through a thorough analysis, sticking to the **Code** and the **Codex**, we get a vastly different understanding. Their storyline is not one that is bound by the **End Times** period of 3.5 years + 3.5 years. Rather, ever since they were unleashed, they have been terribly busy.

The **White Horse** went out conquering with righteousness and purity. The **Red Horse** went out and removed peace from the earth such that division, hate, prejudice, anger, violence, and vengeance has marked his ride throughout the years. The **Black Horse** has valued and weighed both the Jew and the Christian such that the darkness, the system with the absence of light, considers them to be worth not much more than a day's wage, with the Jew being valued even less than the Christian. Yet, this rider is specifically instructed to not harm or misjudge the oil and the wine, the born-again believers from both the Jews and the Gentiles. Finally, the **Greenish (Ashen) Horse** brings a series of judgment, 4-Evils, on the Called of God—those who were brought into His household but never chose to let **Yahweh** be their **I AM**, and who instead chose to find their permanent home and identity in the world of darkness. For them, their hearts are hardened to the word of God, and being ravished by demons, they will be killed with death.

The End Times—NOT!

It should be clear that, according to the **Code**, the 4 Horseman of the Apocalypse (of the unveiling or the revelation) are not specifically tied to the events of the **End Times**. Their actions will overlap, but the time of the "Tribulation" did not start with the release of the **white horse**. This has been a huge **FICTION** that has led far too many astray and have kept them from hearing the **WARNINGS** of the Holy Spirit or kept their hearts from being pierced by the sword of truth.

In addition, the fact that there are **4**-horsemen, speaks to the global impact of these angelic creatures—their reach will be across all of creation. Remember, according to the **Code**, the number 4 is associated with "creation" covering the four corners of the earth (north, south, east, and west). Yet, the focus of their purpose or their mission is to create separation or division between those who have chosen to make their abode in this world and those who have chosen to make their abode in the heavenlies, where Christ is even now choosing to be sitting on the throne.