

The Rider On The White Horse

The White Horse of The Revelation

The Book of Revelation refers to four horsemen who will ride on the scene during the tribulation period. The horses are symbolic of the *philosophies*, the *policies*, the *prosperity*, and the *pestilences* during the tribulation period. The first horse gives us a picture of a rider on a white horse.

Revelation 6:1,2 - *“And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see. And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.”*

He Rides A White Horse.

This is commonly used in scripture to identify a conqueror.

A Crown Is Given To Him.

He does not ride in with a crown, but rather he is given this position of a leader.

He Carries A Bow Without An Arrow.

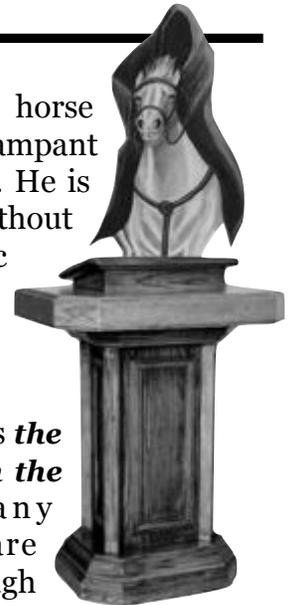
He will control his followers through his influence without firing a shot.

This rider represent the anti-christ who will deceive Israel into believing he is their long awaited Messiah.

He will present himself as Christ. *“Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.”* (Second Thessalonians 2:9)

The rider on the white horse *“...went forth conquering, and to conquer.”* (Revelation 6:2)

The shadow of the white horse rider is already running rampant through our churches today. He is destroying our churches without firing a shot. He is symbolic of the philosophies that are now accepted in what were once fundamental churches.



Our philosophy of ministry is ***the system of values by which the church operates***. Many fundamental churches are being conquered today through values that are contrary to the Word of God.

Colossians 2:8 says, *“Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.”*

“Beware” *“...observing accurately, to be constantly looking as in danger.”*

“Lest any man” Matthew 7:15 warns us that men will *“...come to you”* disguised as sheep. *“Beware of false prophets, which **come to you** in sheep's clothing...”*

“Spoil” To spoil a church is to diminish the value or quality of the church.

“Through philosophy...” A philosophy that is arrived at by logical reasoning rather than truth is referred to here as *“...vain deceit.”*

Peter warned of those who would be *“...sporting themselves with their own deceivings **while they feast with you.**”* (Second Peter 2:13)

Jude warned, *“These are spots in your feasts of charity, **when they feast with you.**”* (Jude 1:12)

“Vain deceit” A philosophy of vain deceit is a philosophy void of Bible truth.

It is "...after the traditions of men." The word "...rudiments" refers to a principle of learning. Our churches are being flooded with a philosophies that are "...not after Christ."

Matthew 16:6 warns...

"Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees."

Second Peter 3:17 warns...

"...seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked fall from your steadfastness."

Ephesians 6:16 warns...

"Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked."

As pastors, we will answer for the system of values by which God's local church has operated while under our direction.

As pastors, we would do well to read the seven letters written in the Book of the Revelation that were all addressed to the pastor.

* **It was to the pastor God said**, "...I know thy works." (Revelation 2:2)

* **It was to the pastor God said**, "I have somewhat against thee." (Revelation 2:2)

* **It was to the pastor God said**, "Repent and do the first works or else..." (Revelation 2:5)

* **It was to the pastor God said**, "I have a few things against thee." (Revelation 2:14)

* **It was to the pastor God said**, "Repent or else..." (Revelation 2:16)

* **It was to the pastor God said**, "I have a few things against thee..." (Revelation 2:20)

* **It was to the pastor God said**, "Be watchful and strengthen the things which remain..." (Revelation 3:2)

* **It was to the pastor God said**, "I have not found thy works perfect before God..." (Revelation 3:2)

* **It was to the pastor God said**, "I know thy works that thou art neither hot nor cold..." (Revelation 3:15)

What was the root problem? The root problem was their philosophy of ministry.

The pastor at Ephesus had a philosophy that caused him to forget his first love. He had forgotten he was there to take care of the people, not to manage a program.

The pastor at Pergamos had allowed the doctrine of Balaam to cast "...a stumbling block before the people." Balaam talked like a fundamentalist, but he was not. The issue had to do with separation.

Moses said, "Behold, these caused the children of Israel, through the counsel of Balaam, to commit trespass against the LORD ..." (Numbers 31:16)

* **Nehemiah said**, Balaam was, "...hired against them..." (Nehemiah 13:2)

* **Joshua understood** that Balaam was a "...soothsayer." (Joshua 13:22)

* **Peter knew** that "Balaam...loved the wages of unrighteousness..." (Second Peter 2:15)

For a complete outline concerning Balaam read our article at:

http://web.mac.com/lcm7/Site/Articles_New_files/BALAAM%20Article%20Format%20pdf.pdf

The pastor at Thyatira allowed "...that woman" to teach and seduce the people in the church. It has been said "The Hand That Rocks The Cradle Rules The World." This was written praising motherhood as the major force for change in the world. Women can be a dynamic influence for good in the local church or they can destroy a church with their influence. The pastor at Thyatira

allowed a woman to influence contrary to the Word of God and the church suffered, and God was angry.

The pastor at Laodicea was in such a poor state that he was responsible for Christ being outside knocking at the door of His church. The problem was that the pastor was “...neither hot nor cold.” He had a big crowd. He was “...increased with goods;” however, God said “I will spew thee out of my mouth.” Remember, God is not talking to the congregation, He is talking to the pastor.

For seven articles concerning the seven pastors - click here: http://web.mac.com/lcm7/Site/Seven_Pastors_New.html

Beware of Pragmatism

Pragmatism is a philosophy that determines truth by what appears to be successful rather than by the Word of God.

Our definition of success is determined by what our goals are.

If our goal is to have a large group of people in church, we will feel successful if we have a large group.

If our goal is to glorify God, we will not compromise the Word of God in order to have a large group of people in a building to preach to.

If our goal is to glorify God, we must preach the whole council of God straight and plain so that none will misunderstand.

In Acts chapter twenty, Paul met with some preachers that he knew he would never see again this side of Heaven. He said, “I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.” Paul was not interested in a building program or adding a gym to entice people to come. He simply preached “...all the counsel of God.”

Paul did not leave instructions telling them how to operate a church business meeting, a building program, a teachers’ and officers’ meeting, a youth conference, a funeral, or the invitation time at the end of a message. Paul’s church manual is First and Second Timothy. For a complete outline on these Books, click here: http://web.mac.com/lcm7/Site/Church_Man_2.html

Paul warned those pastors to... “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.” (v.28)

Preaching “...all the counsel of God” did not get them into big buildings it got them into trouble. The truth is, their churches were so small that God refers to them meeting in their houses. They were organized, they had pastors and deacons. This was not a few disgruntled people who could not get in line with authority; however, they were small in number. Preaching “...all the counsel of God,” no doubt played a part in their being small.

Acts 8:3 - “As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every **house**, and haling men and women committed them to prison.”

Romans 16:5 - “...greet the church that is in their **house**.”

First Corinthians 16:19 - “...the church that is in their **house**.”

Colossians 4:15 - “...the church which is in his **house**.”

Philemon 1:2 - “...to the church in thy **house**.”

God does have a few large churches in the land today that have a not compromised the Word to get there; however, they are very few. About 99% of the churches that meet each week have far less than 100 people in attendance. If they are preaching “...all the counsel of God,” they are not failures. **The Bible says**, “Better is little with the fear of the LORD...” (Proverbs 15:16)

The Hebrew word “...better” has been translated “...best” eight times. The Psalmist said, “*I am small and despised: yet do not I forget thy precepts.*” (Psalm 119:141) Precepts are rules God has given us that are intended to regulate our behavior. Simply put, our behaviour should include preaching “...all the counsel of God.”

We need to be more concerned about preaching the Word, all of the Word, than about having a big crowd. We need to be more concerned about preaching “...all the counsel of God,” than we are about the offering. We need to trust God to give “...the increase.” (First Corinthians 3:7)

We must also keep in mind that the first word in the great commission is “Go!”

Matthew 28:19,20 commands us to “*Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*”

It says “...go,” and we are to go “...even unto the end of the world.” The world has still not ended, so we are under directions to “Go”! However; let us not focus only on the first part of the command. We must be just as diligent to be “*Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you.*”

How Did Paul Preach To Christians?

Paul’s focus was on the truth, not on pampering Christians. He said, “*I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal.*” (First Corinthians 3:1) Paul was not concerned about losing some carnal church members. In fact, he made a big issue about them not being members at all.

When Christian women dressed immodestly he preached “...that women

adorn themselves in modest apparel.” (First Timothy 2:9) He wasn’t concerned about losing women from the congregation who were dressing immodestly. It was better that they left the church than have them influence the teenage girls to follow them in their immodest dress.

To the immature Christians at Ephesus, Paul told them to “...grow up.” (Ephesians 4:15) Over a dozen times Paul warned Christians about their “...lusts.” He warned them about being “...lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God,” (Second Timothy 3:2-5) Paul could honestly say, “*I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you...*” (Acts 20:20) **Can you honestly say that or do you shun to do that because you might lose some tithing members?** Paul said, “*I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.*” (Acts 20:27) **Can you honestly say that?**

The white horse rider with his worldly philosophies has been galloping through our churches in recent days. That rider with his philosophies of compromise are destroying what were once fundamental churches. “...the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God.” (First Peter 4:17).

Apostasy prevails in fundamental churches when pastors are more focused on building the church numerically than they are on preaching “...all the counsel of God.”

Let Us Listen To The Warning of God.

“Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God.”

(Revelation 3:2)

