

BEWARE OF THE GRAY HORSE RIDER!

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We are happy to see everyone who is here this morning. I would like to begin if we can go to the book of Revelation. The title is Beware of the Gray Horse Rider.

Revelation 6:7

And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see.

We know that the fourth beast is the *flying eagle*. [Revelation 4:7] It's very important that we understand that the eagle is flying. When it mentions the other beasts it doesn't really give an action, rather it's the characteristics of the animal that are looked at, and in the case of the man as well. Here also it's looking at the characteristics of the eagle, but it's important for us to see that the eagle is *flying*. It's not just sitting on a branch perched somewhere.

We can also note it says *the voice of the fourth beast*. Amen. *The voice*: we know in this day that there was a voice that sounded. I'm not going into the details this morning but I believe we have an understanding that this applies to the Laodicean age.

In first place God used Brother Branham. He was the voice of the seventh messenger that sounded. [Revelation 10:7] Amen. Even though God took Brother Branham, the voice still sounds today. Praise the Lord. God still has men to carry on that voice. [Isaiah 52:8] Praise the Lord.

Now the voice said:

Revelation 6:7

Come and see.

Revelation 6:8

And I looked, and behold a pale horse:

In English it says a *pale* horse but in Spanish it says a *yellow* horse. And I'm saying beware of the *gray* horse. Amen. We will explain this in a minute.

Revelation 6:8

and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him.

Just reading that part I hope we can see why I say *beware!* Amen.

Revelation 6:8

And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with the sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.

Now that second half of the verse, as it says *what followed* actually goes into the 70th week of Daniel. That's really not going to be my focus this morning.

My focus will be the first part which applies to *our day*. It says *I looked and behold a pale horse*. The fourth beast has announced this. I skipped over the first, second, and third beasts. They also each presented a horse. For the first beast it was a white horse. The second was a red horse. The third was a black horse, and now the fourth one. We will talk about the colours in a moment.

To give a very quick review, the first horse being *white* is what really shows that it's an imitator, a *deceiver*. It says that the rider *had a bow and he went forth conquering and to conquer* but it makes no mention of arrows. [Revelation 6:2] We see it's a bluff.

We know that when Jesus Christ will return, he will be riding on a white horse, a true white horse. [Revelation 19:11] Praise the Lord. The first one was a presentation *as though* it was Christianity. It was how the spirit of Satan began to move through the tare element to bring false teaching to the church. He portrayed it as though it was from the Lord himself.

The second horse was *red*. [Revelation 6:4] That shows how after a certain time the devil changed his tactic. Instead of deception, he was just killing the Christians by inspiring peoples and governments to come against Christianity. He tried to eliminate Christianity by killing with the sword, but that didn't work.

Then we come to the *black* horse. [Revelation 6:5] We know black is the absence of light, right? The enemy began to use deception again. He pushed harder than ever before to bring darkness to the church. He was so subtle: it got to the point that what was officially the Christian church became what we know today as the Catholic Church. It really is the furthest thing from the true church.

When I say that, please don't think I'm talking about or pointing the finger at someone who is Catholic. I am not criticizing an individual who is Catholic. I will say they need the Lord to pull them out of that system. That Catholic religion, it is a dead religion. It is a dark religion. It is lacking the light of the Word of God.

Christianity and the world were thrust into what we call the Dark Ages. That spirit was so strong, not only did it dim the light among the true believers but even in the natural world the light of knowledge was put out. Natural progress was snuffed out under that *black* horse. The Catholic Church was born under the manifestation of it.

Now we get to the *pale* horse. [Revelation 6:8] This verse is looking specifically at the end, from about 1963 or 1965 to the end of the Laodicean age. You may say: Brother, it says nothing about time, how can you be specific like that? Well we have to see what it's referring to. Once we see that, then we can see where it applies according to history.

In English it mentions a *pale* horse. First of all, that word *pale*: I remember when I was in elementary school, middle school and high school, if there was one word I could not understand it was the word *pale*. People would say oh they look pale. And I thought what do you mean by *pale*? The best I could understand it is that they looked *whiter*. So I would ask, do you mean they look white? They would say no they look *pale*. That was a struggle for me. I had looked up the definition and it said: lacking colour. Well, what colour is it then?

I think I understand it better now. My wife helped me a little bit to understand it and also I looked at some more definitions. The word *pale* is described as tending toward a lighter colour or lacking chroma or saturation. That would be like mixing white with a colour that would make it lighter.

When we talk about the colour of a horse, we know it's not really the colour of their skin we are looking at. I actually read on horse colours and best I can remember there are basically only three colours: there is white, there is a red which might be more of a red-brown, and there is black.

It's interesting we read here in Revelation: the first horse was white, the second horse was red, and the third horse was black. If you were to pick a hair off of a horse, it would either be white, red or black. When I say red, I mean red-brown.

Then there are all these different colour mixtures. There are horses that have a lot of white but a little black. There are horses that have a lot of black but a little white. There are all kinds of mixtures. There are horses when you look at them they appear to be like a cream colour.

I'm telling you what I know but I don't know a lot about horses. What I know I learned from the internet. But there was someone who did know horses: it was Brother Jackson. He loved horses. That was his hobby. He had explained that there is no such thing as a pale horse but that there are different tints. We can have a gray horse that under a certain light would have a whitish look to it. But if we really got close and checked, we would see that there are black hairs mixed in with the white. So it's a mixture.

Brother Branham also referred to it as a mixture. If we were absent on the day they thought about colours, when we mix white and black together it makes gray. Amen. That's why we are calling this the *gray* horse.

Brother Branham had explained how that was going to be a mixture. Then Brother Jackson brought that out even more directly. He said the primary focus of the gray horse in our age would be how the Protestants and the Catholics would mix here at the end time to have one body, one church.

Maybe from the standpoint of today, we think so what? But if we could go back 60 or 70 years and we could have seen the state of the Protestant church then, we would have said there is no way they would have mixed.

The whole point of being Protestant, the meaning of the word *Protestant* comes from the word *protest*. And what were they protesting? They were protesting the Catholic Church. That's the truth. That's what identified Protestantism: it was *against* Catholicism.

How was the enemy even able to come in and do something like that? He used a *spirit*. That spirit or that movement was called the *ecumenical movement*.

I have a lot of different extracts from Contenders here. Brother Jackson said:

- What was the first and primary motivation of this gray horse? It was a combination of Catholicism and Protestantism,

Again, if we had lived 60 or 70 years ago, we would have said that's impossible. There is one thing we are going to find out: if our heart is not sincere with the Lord, there is nothing that's impossible as to where the enemy might pull us or deceive us. The things we thought people would never accept, with time they welcomed them with open arms. Brother Jackson said:

- united under ecumenicalism. That thing began to manifest itself all over this globe.

Again this is from about 1963 ~ 1965 onward. The Catholic Church itself began a great push. They said the Protestants were no longer to be looked at as lost. Now they were to be looked at as separated brethren.

That was just the beginning of so much that was done. They also said: yes maybe we did make some mistakes back then. That's about as good of an apology as it got. They began to work to draw in the Protestants.

What does *ecumenicalism* mean? It comes from the word *ecumenical*.

The first definition here doesn't really give us the core of it but the second part will.

- of, relating to, or representing *the whole* of a body of churches

Let us never forget: Jesus Christ is returning for *one* church. Amen? He has *one* church. When the requirements of the ministry were mentioned, it was a requirement that the man be the husband of *one* wife. [1Timothy 3:2] In the sense of *typing* that Christ is the husband of *one* wife. Amen. He's not coming back for brides. He's coming back for *his* bride.

Now part *B*:

- promoting or tending toward worldwide Christian unity or cooperation

Yes there will be a true unified church but there is that *counterfeit*. It speaks here of worldwide Christian unity. There is no way you could get all the churches to have some kind of a meeting where they would come to believe the same thing. I'm speaking of the church world. How would this be accomplished?

The main push behind this is really a false love. It's a spirit that says: let's put aside what we disagree on about the Word. The more important thing is that we have fellowship and that we love one another.

Now I will say yes love has to be there. Amen. But the truth also has to be there. We have to stand for truth. That's the truth.

- Since that time that gray horse rider

Now what really is that *gray horse rider*? First of all it said he had a name: it was *Death*. [Revelation 6:8] We also see from the beginning it's that spirit of *antichrist* or we could say the spirit of Satan as he *works against Christ*.

- that gray horse rider has ridden all over this planet. Catholicism and Protestantism has already come together,

Brother Jackson preached this well before he passed off the scene. It has been more than twenty years. Look at what they have done now: Billy Graham and the Pope, it seemed like they were best friends, and others also.

- they have hugged and kissed and all are flowing together.

What did he mean when he said they have hugged and kissed? They have proclaimed: we love each other. Amen? Let's love one another.

I have preached and I continue to preach; Brother Victor preached on Thursday and it's correct: we have to love everybody. The worst sinner out in the world we must love them. The Catholic, the Baptist, anyone who has stood against what we believe, yes we love them.

The love is not really the problem. It's the *false love* that says: what we believe as far as doctrine, as far as revelation, we look at that a little differently so let's just put that aside. Let's not talk too much about that because that might divide us, and we *don't* want to be divided. So let's just love one another. Let's make sure we don't break any fellowship, especially over what we believe. And you know time will take care. Well time hasn't taken care of things yet. Amen.

- They have drank wine together, they washed feet together, and many other things.

That's what we have seen out in the church world. We can say that's out there but let's remember: this was written to the messenger of the church of Laodicea. It begins: *I know that you're not cold or hot* [Revelation 3:15] but you're lukewarm. [Revelation 3:16] What is that looking at? That's looking at the church, or at least the *professing* church.

He said *but you are poor, blind, miserable, naked*. [Revelation 3:17] He said *you've got some work to do: you need to buy gold, you need to anoint your eyes with eyesalve*. [Revelation 3:18] Let's not think oh that's all out there. That could never touch what we perceive as the body of Christ.

I'm saying this morning to what I perceive to be the body of Christ: *beware of the gray horse rider!* I'll say it again: *Beware!*

When we get to a point: oh let's just all get back together and have fellowship, have a wonderful time, praise God. Let's not touch this subject or that subject too hard because we don't want to jeopardize our unity. We have to love one another. I have to say: *Beware!* That spirit is coming in! *Watch out!* Amen. Oh Brother I can't believe you would say something so hard. *I say it in love.*

We would've never thought the Catholics and the Protestants would come together. But don't think that's the only thing that it's doing. Brother Jackson said that was the primary, amen, but that spirit will affect anyone who will open their mind to it.

- Now Catholics themselves do not care whether the horse is black, white or gray.

That is true.

- But those poor blind Protestants say it looks white, this must be Jesus. Surely it is the will of God for us all to be one.

Amen.

- Sure the Bible says that,

It does for the true church. [John 17:21]

- but Jesus was speaking of all those that the Father had given Him, so I am terribly afraid there are a lot of people using that scripture, that were not even in the mind of Jesus, when he spoke those words.

Now that can sound hard. What is he saying? He's saying they weren't even in his mind. They are not a part of that. But they are using that scripture. So it's a *false unity*.

- In 1963 where was that eagle? He was high up where he could see the storms coming. He was looking beyond the natural horizon, beyond where our natural vision reaches,

What was Brother Jackson talking about here? He was speaking of that prophetic Spirit on Brother Branham, where in the natural in Brother Branham's day, we would not have seen this coming. But he was high up, he could see it ahead.

- And when he told us to beware of that gray horse, that was God's way of warning His true people to stay free from all of that ecumenical compromising.

I said a few months back, it seemed like over the past, pretty much since Brother Jackson died, and even before he died, we heard over and over: stand for truth, stand for truth, stand for truth. But over the past year, year and a half, that voice, that sound has grown very quiet. I don't hear stand for the truth like I used to. It's not the truth's fault. The truth is still important today.

The thing we are finding out: when we stand for the truth, we may not have as many friends as we had before. So maybe we are a little quieter on that because we don't want to lose our friends. Well I don't either.

I had a dream a few years back about the rapture. And I thought I was determined I was going to be in the rapture before that dream. But when I woke up, I said I'm not going to let anything keep me from that. It was so beautiful. I asked Brother Victor, what should the church be preparing for? He said getting ready for the rapture.

Our Brother Marvin sings a song *We're Getting Ready for the Rapture*. Amen. If we believe that we are going to be part of that rapture, but we have not embraced and are not living according to the truth of God's Word, we are *deceived!*

We still have to stand for truth today. It may mean a loss of fellowship. I hope and pray it doesn't, but if it does that's in the Lord's hands. We have to walk in the light of truth. We have to stand for truth. Amen?

- Just do not allow yourselves to become relaxed and careless

What does he mean by relaxed and careless? We stop paying our bills? Does he mean don't be late to work? Does he mean keep your eyes on the road? I will say the spiritual road: yes. He's speaking about how we look at this Word and what God is doing in our day.

How many times did Paul say over and over *be sober?* [1Thessalonians 5:6] There are churches the world over, Sunday morning they sing *I Love Him* but they are *asleep spiritually*.

- for that gray horse rider is still riding full speed and will not give up his relentless efforts to mislead or destroy the church of the living God, until she is lifted up from this old earth in the rapture.

Do we know what that means? We don't say oh that gray horse rider is just out there working on the church world. He said it will not stop trying to mislead or destroy the church of the living God until she is lifted up from this old earth in the rapture. Amen.

We can't come to a point in time and say that only applied until Brother Jackson passed, or the devil was only doing that until Covid hit. He said *until the rapture*, amen, the enemy would try to do that.

Now you might say: well what hope? I guess he'll just destroy the church. Remember what Jesus said: *the gates of hell shall not prevail against it*. [Matthew 16:18]

At the end of the day, if someone is deceived by this and doesn't wake up and come back, we have to understand this really was a test to prove the *true* church. The way we look at it, oh here is the church and throughout time: oh my goodness, the devil has deceived this group or there was a condition that has pulled these ones in a different direction. The way we look at it the church is getting smaller.

The way God looks at it: He knew who the church was all along. He said there are all these others mixed in. So He allows the enemy to come in and bring situations, conditions and teachings that pull certain ones away.

- until she is lifted up from this old earth in the rapture. Let us just be thankful in our hearts, that we had spiritual ears to hear that eagle scream.

Praise the Lord. Amen.

- I am glad to know that all four [horses] have already been manifested and to know that the gray horse rider is still galloping over the horizon of religious world today spreading his charismatic message.

Now what is that *charismatic message*? The charismatic message is a message that focuses on outstanding manifestations of the Spirit: manifestations of gifts, the move of the Spirit, tongues, and healings. There is nothing wrong with the move of the Spirit, don't misunderstand me. I would love to see a greater move of the Spirit among us. I just finished a series on Divine Healing. But I will say this: I'm not trying to be another Benny Hinn. How many can understand what I'm saying?

I don't believe the church today is looking for and just needing another day where we see a great move of the power of God: everybody speaking in tongues, healings happening, and dancing in the Spirit. As if that anointing is what we are looking for and waiting for in the church.

When God decides to let it rain, I have to say praise God. I have nothing against it and I look forward to it. Amen. But the focus of the true church is *not* charismatic. The focus of the true church is *what does He want*? Yes there will be gifts in the church, there will be manifestations of the Spirit, but first and foremost the focus has to be the *revelation of this Word*. That's what's first. Praise the Lord.

- That is why I say knowing the truth guards against being deceived by a lot of sweet talk.

The true ministry is not always just going to be a ministry with a bunch of sweet talk. That's the truth. I will say they will have a sweet Spirit, but because of things they minister, they may be accused of just the opposite: oh did you hear how hard that was? Again it's out of love, *true* love. Amen.

Here Brother Jackson is speaking of Faith Assembly Church:

- We want the whole world to know what we believe, and why we believe it;

That should still be the desire of the true church today.

- and that we have no intention of compromising on what we believe in order to drift along with the crowd.

That's pretty clear.

- True Christianity has always suffered persecution; and there is no reason for anyone to believe it should be any different in this age;
- Jesus Himself said to his disciples **“ye shall be hated of all men for my name’s sake;”** and the apostle Paul wrote to Timothy, **“All that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution;”** and two thousand years has not changed that one bit.
- The same devil that hated truth then still hates truth today, and will persecute those that stand for it every chance he gets.

There it is.

Now this last excerpt is from Brother Branham:

- On the pale horse, riding on it, with a “Death” tacked, or, with a name tacked on him, “Death,” the antichrist! Listen. Antichrist, first denomination (that can’t be disputed); with his Jezebel, a prostitute to the Word; with her daughters, with her, Protestants; gathering themselves together now in unity!
63 0321 - The Fourth Seal
Rev. William Branham

You say well Brother aren’t we supposed to have unity? Yes *unity of the faith*. [Ephesians 4:13] You say well I see it says *unity of the Spirit*. [Ephesians 4:3] Yes the *same* Spirit: the *Spirit of Truth* is the Spirit that Paul was speaking of.

The *unity of the Spirit* is not going to contradict the *unity of the faith*. Amen. There is unity but it has to be around the *divine revelation of God’s Word*. Praise the Lord.

When we get to a point: we believe it a little differently than this group, and they believe it a little differently than that group, but we think the important thing is that we all get together and have a good time, I have to say: that gray horse is getting in!

Watch out! Get out of that while there is still time!

Do we not remember why we followed Brother Jackson? Well he was a good man. That's *not* why we followed him. Well he had some really nice characteristics. Yes he did. He was a wonderful example. But the thing that stood out and was the attraction to the Bride of Christ was the *revelation* that God gave him of this Word. Praise the Lord.

The true Bride will still *follow this Word*. It may cost her. She may suffer loss of some fellowship, but she is going to have the jewels of the Word of God. You may say I don't think we'll ever get back to being friends with Catholicism. Well I don't either but that spirit doesn't just put you back to Catholicism. It is an *antichrist spirit*.

I never thought I would hear it preached among those with whom we have walked that the identifying characteristic of the garment of the Bride of Christ is not divine revelation. But I heard that last year. Not only did I hear that preached it seemed like others went right along with it. So you can hear some things and think: I never thought I would hear that. I have to say: *watch out* while there is still time! The identifying characteristic of the garment of the Bride of Christ *absolutely is* divine revelation.

We see there is a spirit oh the whole world wants to water everything down. Even the Christians songs composed today, it seems like if we didn't have a Bible to read we wouldn't even know there is such a thing as sin. The songs we hear today are all about blessings, love, and God is wonderful.

I have nothing against any particular song. There are beautiful songs about blessings and love and how great God is. Amen. We sing them ourselves about how He loves us, beautiful songs, so don't misunderstand me.

But the Christian music industry, it seems the only things they want to write about now are blessings, how much God loves us, and how wonderful God is. There is nothing about being a sinner saved by grace. The old songs like *Would you be free from your burden of sin* and *Amazing Grace that saved a wretch like me*, we don't hear that in the lyrics of today. They wouldn't sell ten thousand copies. Amen.

I've said my piece. I believe this is serious. It's time for us to beware. The gray horse rider is not just out there in the church world. We are tested by it today. Let's pray.