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**Revelation in the Garden of Eden: The Millennial White Stallion in the Paintings of the First Garden**

Sinan Akilli

**Abstract:** The first ever and the most well-known garden in the Judeo-Christian cultural history is the Garden of Eden. As the setting of the beginnings of history, the creation of mankind, and the original sin, as well as being the home of the Tree of Life and the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, the garden “God planted ... in Eden away to the east” has been the subject of numerous paintings by European artists in the early modern period. Even though the Serpent is “the only representative of the animal realm that makes an appearance in the Garden Story . . . symboliz[ing] the animal kingdom and/or the ‘animal’ side of the human being” as Dmitri M. Slivniak puts it, the artistic representations of the Garden of Eden are replete with images of various animals. Some of these animals are domesticated ones familiar to Europeans for centuries and some others are “exotic” and “wild” animals with which the Europeans met for the first time during the exploration age. However, a survey of these early modern paintings reveals the centrality and/or recurrence of a white stallion, which was alternatively depicted as a dapple grey horse as well. Notwithstanding an easier explanation of such centrality of the white stallion in these paintings due to the place of the horse in early modern European society and culture, in this paper I will argue, with reference to Revelation 19:11-16 which explicitly refers to Jesus Christ mounted on “a white horse” to start a “paradise” on Earth for a thousand years, that the deliberate depiction of a white horse in the Garden of Eden may as well be an expression of the Christian Millennialist belief.