

Revelation 17

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If we were following chronologically, the narrative really jumps from Revelation 16:21 over to chapter 19. Chapters 17 and 18 take us back to describe for us not the judgment of God itself, but what is being destroyed by that judgment, namely the Antichrist's final World Empire.

John has been told previously that Babylon is doomed and will be destroyed.... in 14:8 and 16:19. Now he sees details as to what Babylon is and how it is to be destroyed.

Last time, we saw the grand finale of God's judgment poured out on the unbelieving world, on the kingdom of the Antichrist, Satan's earthly kingdom. Remember in 16:19, it said, 'Then the seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, "***It is done!***"

With the 7th bowl, God finishes pouring out His wrath and plagues on the World of Men who have despised Him and His Son for the last 6000 years... His last plague being the storm of 100 lb. hailstones.

Then, if this were following in chronological order, the next verse would be 19:6... the Bride has made herself ready to be joined in marriage to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, whereupon they, along with all the Saints, and God's Angels, accompany the Lord Jesus Christ to Earth for the Battle of Armageddon when He will finally destroy all His enemies and set up His Kingdom on Earth to rule from Jerusalem over all creation with us, His Bride, reigning at His side.

Here in chapters 17 and 18, He steps back and describes for us just what it is He will destroy... the kingdom of the Antichrist, the Earthly kingdom of Lucifer... his government and his religion.

Chapter 17: Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and talked with me, saying to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters, ² with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication."

This final kingdom has 3 main components... it is political, it is physical and it is spiritual... it is governmental, it is commercial and it is religious. In this chapter we see primarily the spiritual, the religious and in the next chapter we will see primarily the physical.

This is the worldwide religious system of the Antichrist...first, a one world religion, a conglomeration of all the World's religions under one leader, the false prophet... which will later, after the Antichrist is assassinated and brought back to life, possessed of a demon, become the religion of all the world, worshipping the Antichrist and Satan, the dragon.

It is called a great harlot because it is a false bride, a false wife as opposed to the true Bride of the true Messiah, the Church... and the true wife of God, Israel.

This is a whore, a harlot, a filthy and despicable pretender.

Verse 3: So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast *which was* full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. ⁴ The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication. ⁵ And on her forehead a name was written:

MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

⁶ I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.

This great worldwide religious system is called MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT. It's called Mystery because it is far deeper than human understanding... it is deep, dark, hidden, demonic, Satanic. It is Babylon the Great because it was birthed in first in Babel and then Babylon, the wellspring of all false, man-made, demonically inspired religion from the past 5000 years.

Shortly after the flood, man had settled in the plains of Shinar, less than 1000 miles from Mt. Ararat where Noah's Ark came to rest. Their king was Nimrod, the first antichrist. He rejected the God of his great-grandfather Noah and formed the first false religious system based on man's effort to reach Heaven, in the Tower of Babel.

Gen 10, 'Cush begat Nimrod; he began to be a mighty one on the earth. ⁹He was a mighty hunter before the LORD; therefore it is said, "Like Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD." ¹⁰And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel... in the land of Shinar... Shinar, where they built the Tower of Babel.'

They probably worshipped as gods, the offspring of fallen angels and human women. We read about those in Gen 6, before the flood, but it says that it also happened **after that**:

'Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth (before the flood), and daughters were born to them, that the sons of God (angels) saw the daughters of men, that they *were* beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose... 'There were giants on the earth in those days, **and also afterward**, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore *children* to them. Those *were* the mighty men who *were* of old, men of renown.'

These ones, **afterward**, were also the giants which inhabited the land of Israel which so frightened 10 of the 12 spies sent into Canaan after the Israelites left Egypt.

Until the time of Nimrod and Babel, there was one language on Earth. At Babel God confused their languages and scattered them over the face of the Earth. From Babel every different people group, now with their own language, took with them the same false demonically inspired religion... each one a harlot, a false worship of false gods... but the heart of each false religion was the same... is the same... worshipping demons, false gods and establishing human righteousness through human effort and sacrifice.

When God scattered them and multiplied their languages, their false religion was scattered all over the Earth but each false religion has as its foundation, the false religion of Babel... Mystery Babylon. Each one is a harlot of false religion and the mother of all of them is Babylon... MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

Mystery Babylon has been the heart of false religion world-wide, throughout history... it began shortly after the flood. Mystery Babylon is different from the Kingdom of Babylon which conquered Israel in Daniel's time.

We see Mystery Babylon at the heart of every world religion beginning with Egyptian worship of RA, the sun god, we see it in Hinduism and Buddhism, in Islam and Roman Catholicism, Mormonism, Jehovah's Witnesses and every other false religious system since time began.

And make no mistake... Roman Catholicism is very much part of Mystery Babylon. From its beginning with Constantine it was formed in order to cement the Roman Empire... to draw together all the different Pagan beliefs under the umbrella of *Official Christianity*.

The worship of Mary and her child were meant to copy the various pagan goddesses with child... see the attached sheets of photos of different goddesses and Mary. These photos are to show that the image of the

goddess with her child was common throughout the World and these are only a few... there are so many more!

Mary, as a goddess with her child, incorporated into 'Christian' worship, was just one of the many aspects of Catholicism which were '*invented*' as '*church tradition*,' wholly apart from any scriptural basis, in order to draw in pagans. It was evident in Europe, in Africa, in Asia, in Central and South America... everywhere Catholicism has spread. This is why Catholicism will be such an important part of Mystery Babylon... it is more than willing to incorporate any and all pagan belief to achieve its own purpose.

The vast amount of paganism in Catholicism is far too much for this study, but it is intimately related to every pagan religion throughout history... and each one is founded on what Paul calls 'Doctrines of Demons,' Demonic deception.

When John saw this, he was amazed, but the angel explained it to him and to us...

Verse 7: 'But the angel said to me, "Why did you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns. ⁸ The beast that you saw **was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition.** And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, **whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world**, when they see **the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.**

What have we learned of this beast, the Antichrist? We first saw him in chapter 6 with the opening of the first Seal... he was astride a white horse with a bow in his hand but no arrows... going out conquering and to conquer... we actually first saw him much earlier in Daniel's visions.

Soon after the Rapture, he comes to power and builds his expanding kingdom, not through force, but through peace, deception and intrigue. He is an amazing statesman, politician. The world is amazed by his genius leadership. The False Prophet accompanies him as head of the growing, world-wide religion... a conglomeration of all the world's religions.

The Beast, the Antichrist, carries and supports the religious system, the harlot, Mystery Babylon... he allows it and encourages it... he needs it to cement his empire, just like Constantine did at Rome.

Satan knows the only way to unite the World is through religion... religion based on demonic deception, held together by sorcery, fueled by drug use... sorcery... interaction with demons.

The foundation for this coming world-wide religion is partly being laid now through increased legalization of marijuana and relaxing of other drug laws... and we saw with the demonic locusts from the Abyss and the 200,000,000 demonic horsemen, as well as the loosing of the demons held at the Euphrates... huge numbers of demons will be unleashed upon the World during the Tribulation... demonic deception like never before.

Then we saw, at the midpoint of the Tribulation, it will seem that the Antichrist has been assassinated and he will come back to life indwelt by a powerful demon, perhaps Lucifer himself.

That's the explanation of...'the beast **that was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition.**'

He was alive... then he was dead **and was not** and then he **will ascend out of the bottomless pit** to be reanimated ... made alive again... and then, as we will see, after the Battle of Armageddon, he will be cast into the Lake of Fire... **he will go to perdition.**

Now it gets a little more complicated... but God gives us wisdom...

Verse 9: 'Here *is* the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits. ¹⁰ There are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, *and* the other has not yet come. And when he

comes, he must continue a short time. ¹¹ The beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition.'

The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits... Rome is the City on Seven Hills. Rome will be very important to the Antichrist's rule... it will probably begin with the European Union and the United Nations and the World religion will probably begin with strong support of Roman Catholicism which began as a melding of Christianity with Paganism under the leadership of Caesar Constantine.

I am not saying that Roman Catholicism is Mystery Babylon or that the Pope is the False Prophet. I am saying that Roman Catholicism is an integral part of Mystery Babylon and the Pope may or may not turn out to be the False Prophet.

Roman Catholicism is a false religion based on man's righteousness through his own works... in reality, it is even more of a harlot than many false religions because it, like Mormonism and Jehovah's Witnesses, pretends to be and convinces its adherents that it is, in fact, true Christianity... the only true Christianity.

The Antichrist's kingdom is the continuation and culmination of every world kingdom and every world religion that has preceded it... each one having been Satan's kingdom led by Satan's man of the hour.

Daniel saw the vision of four world kingdoms... the great statue in Nebuchadnezzar's dream... in Daniel 2: the head of Gold... **Babylon**

the chest and arms of Silver... the **Medes and Persians**

the belly and thighs of Bronze... **Greece**

the legs of Iron... **Rome**

then its feet and toes of Iron mixed with Clay... **Rome revived in the European Union.**

and there were 2 great Empires before these four, before Nebuchadnezzar... **Egypt and Assyria.**

that makes 6 total by the time of John.

In John's time... 5 had fallen... and one '**is**'... Rome

One had not yet come... the Antichrist's kingdom... and he would continue for a short time... and he, the **Antichrist, the beast that was, and is not...** is himself **also the eighth**... when he comes back to life after his assassination... and **he is of the seven... he is the eighth and he is of the seven.** Read 9-11 again.

Nebuchadnezzar's dream statue is a vision of Lucifer's world kingdom and also of Mystery Babylon, Lucifer's world religion... but look at the end of the vision... Daniel says to Nebuchadnezzar...

³¹ "You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor *was* excellent, stood before you; and its form *was* awesome. ³² This image's head *was* of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs^[a] of bronze, ³³ its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.^[a] ³⁴ **You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. ³⁵ Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.**

That stone, cut without hands, which completely destroys all the World's kingdoms and religions, is the Lord Jesus Christ and His Kingdom which will last and expand forever.

His Kingdom will actually expand throughout eternity? We won't be stuck in some little corner of Heaven or of the New Earth... His Kingdom will not only last forever... it will expand forever... and we will be ruling over it with Him as His Eternal Bride... forever!

Isaiah 9:6... For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given;

And the government will be upon His shoulder.

And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end,

Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom,⁰¹

To order it and establish it with judgment and justice

From that time forward, even forever.

Verse 12: "The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast. ¹³ These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast. ¹⁴ These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those *who are* with Him ***are called, chosen, and faithful.***"

The Antichrist will appoint 10 'under-kings' ruling by his authority. In Daniel we saw that 7 willingly submit to Antichrist's rule and that 3 will be forcibly brought under submission.

Remember... we saw that the United Nations has long ago divided up the World into 10 separate economic zones in order to more easily rule the World when the time comes. Antichrist will place a king over each one.

These 10 kings as well as all the armies of the Earth will be drawn to the great final Battle of Armageddon on the plains of Megiddo in Israel where they will all be destroyed by the returned Lord Jesus Christ... and we will be with Him... the called, the chosen, the faithful.

Verse 15: Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.

Mystery Babylon will rule religiously over all the peoples of the Earth... but then...

Verse 16: And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire.

Until the midpoint of the Tribulation, until his assassination, the Antichrist will allow the 10 kings a certain autonomy... he will accept the world-wide religion to simply be a conglomeration of all the World's religions, led by the False Prophet... but after his assassination and 'resurrection' he will enter the Temple in Jerusalem and declare himself God. He and the 10 will completely destroy Mystery Babylon... confiscate all her vast wealth, usurp all her power, leave her as nothing but a burned out hulk...

He will demand to be worshipped as god almighty... remember Mystery Babylon has in her hand a cup full of abominations... these are some of those abominations... that the Antichrist will be called god almighty, the prince of peace, the messiah, lord of lords and king of kings etc. Remember... the 'Abomination of Desolation' was when he sat in the Temple of God and declared himself to be god.

The False Prophet will force everyone to receive the Mark of the Beast and to worship his image... all Christians and Jews will be hunted, marked out for death... Mystery Babylon will have been destroyed leaving only the open worship of Satan and his Antichrist.

¹⁷ For ***God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose***, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled. ¹⁸ And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth."

Everything we read in Revelation is happening according to God's will... everything we see around us in the World today is happening according to God's will... everything from the beginning of time... God is in complete control, He has always been in complete control... and everything has been according to His plan to glorify Himself.

Mary, queen of heaven with God absent!



Isis and Horus of Egypt



Parvati/Durga... of India

Guan Yin... goddess of mercy... buddhism



goddess of Ancient Greece

Shing Moo of ancient Japan



Mary, Queen of Heaven... Roman Catholicism.. with helpless baby Jesus, always dependant on her.

