

**Passage:** Revelation 17:1-18

**Title:** The One World Religion

**Summary:** In the last days, as seen in the Book of Revelation, there will be a unified one world religion. The Last Days world will not be without religion, but without Christ. We see the shades of the attempt of that today before our eyes. Join this study and see how this one-world religion will grow and come together in the Last Days, and then how it will be brought down in a moment by our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Revelation 17:1–18 (NKJV)** <sup>1</sup> 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, <sup>2</sup> with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication." <sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> 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. <sup>8</sup> 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. <sup>9</sup> "Here is the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits. <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> The beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition. <sup>12</sup> "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. <sup>13</sup> These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast. <sup>14</sup> 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." <sup>15</sup> Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues. <sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth."

### **Blessing / John on Patmos**

The only book that comes with a promised blessing for those who read it:

*(Revelation 1:3 NKJV) Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.*

### **John on Patmos / John wrote 5 Books / Believe – Eternal Life – Be Ready**

John on the Island of Patmos receives this revelation of Jesus Christ. The Apostle John wrote 4 other books to the church. The Gospel of John, and 1,2,3 John, and this fifth book, Revelation. In the Gospel of John he wrote that we might believe, he uses the word believe some 60 times:

*(John 20:31 NKJV) but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.*

He wrote us in 1,2,3 John so that we might know that we have eternal life:

*(1 John 5:13 NKJV) These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.*

So he wrote that we might believe, then that we might know, and now he writes Revelation so that we might be ready:

*(Revelation 2:7 NKJV) "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."*

### **Before Glorified Christ / Write these Things / All Things Coming Before Throne**

John is now before the glorified Christ, and Jesus says John now write these things so that they might be ready, for this book is all about man coming before the Holy God, the flow of all humanity is flowing to the throne of God whether man realizes it or not, John writes so that all of man might be ready:

*(Ephesians 1:10 NKJV) that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth; in Him.*

### **Book of Revelation Outline**

- The Things Which You Have Seen - (Chapter 1).
- The Things Which Are - (Chapters 2-3).

- The Things Which Will Take Place After This - (Chapters 4-22).

*(Revelation 1:19 NKJV) "Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this.*

### Recap Outline

- Chapter 1 is the revelation of the glorified Christ.
- Chapters 2-3 are the 7 churches, the current church period, this period known as the dispensation of grace. The church period ends with the Rapture as God takes us, His Bride, out of here for a 7 year honeymoon with Him. We can see from the signs around us that the rapture is very soon.
- Chapters 4-5 are the scene around the throne of God, before the dispensation of grace ends, and God pours His wrath out on a Christ rejecting world.
- Chapters 6-19, known as the 7 year Tribulation Period.
- Chapter 20, at the end of the Tribulation Period Satan is cast into the bottomless pit, and the saints will rule and reign with Christ for 1,000 yrs (Millennial Kingdom) over those that survived the Tribulation. Then at the end of the thousand years Satan will be loosed, believe it or not, people will chose to follow him, then Jesus will say enough and cast Satan all those who follow him into the Lake of Fire.
- Chapter 21-22, then will come the new heaven, and the new earth, and we shall live happily ever after – but there will be no end as we will spend all of eternity beholding Him, and fellowship with each other.

### Recap / Seals & Trumpets

#### 7 Seals

Seal 1 – White Horse – the Anti-christ is Revealed. (6:1-2)

Seal 2 – Red Horse – War on the Earth. (6:3-4)

Seal 3 – Black Horse – Famine upon the Earth (days wage for loaf of bread). (6:5-6)

Seal 4 – Pale Horse – Pestilence and Death (1/4 world dies). (6:7-8)

Seal 5 – The Martyred Saints of the Tribulation. (6:9-11)

Seal 6 – Earthquakes & Upheavals upon the Earth. (6:12-17)

#### Seal 7 – The 7 Trumpets of God

Trumpet 1 – 1/3 of Trees and Grass burned up. (8:7)

Trumpet 2 – 1/3 of Sea turned to blood. (8:8-9)

Trumpet 3 – 1/3 of Water becomes undrinkable. (8:10-11)

Trumpet 4 – 1/3 of the Sun is blocked out. (8:12)

Trumpet 5 – Key to Bottomless Pit – Demons Released. (9:1-12)

Trumpets 6 – 200 million man Army – 1/3 Earth Killed (total now 1/2). (9:13-19)

#### Trumpet 7 – The 7 Bowls of God's Wrath

Bowl 1 – Loathsome Sores (16:2)

Bowl 2 – The Seas turn to Blood (16:3)

Bowl 3 – The Fresh waters turn to Blood (16:4)

Bowl 4 – The Sun Scorches the Earth (16:8-9)

Bowl 5 – Darkness Upon the Earth (16:10-11)

Bowl 6 – The River Euphrates is Dried Up (16:12-16)

Bowl 7 – The Great Earthquake (16:17-21)

### Not a Religious Person / Religion Binds – Jesus sets Free / Re-linking

I am not a religious person, but that is what people say of us don't they, oh he is a religious person, no I am not. The very word means to bind up. That is what religion does, it binds people up. Some are bound by rules and regulations, others say I am free, my religion isn't legalism with rules and regulations, I can do as I please and my god accepts me as I am (they too are bound up for they become slaves to their lusts and desires). Every time the word religion is used in the Scriptures it is used in the negative sense, except once, that is James 1:27 which speaks of pure and undefiled religion is this, to take care of the orphans and widows, and keep oneself unspotted from the world. Religion binds, religion is impure, religion is defiled and Jesus came to set people free (John 8:32) and that is why He was always at odds against the religious people. Jesus did not fit into their idea of religion, and still does it today. The word

religion in Latin is “re – liagre” and it means to re-link. Man wants to be linked to God, but there is only one way, and that is through His Son Jesus, anything else is a dead religion, for it is dead because it leads to death. Men come up with all ways to re-link to God, but they refuse the One way. Here in our text today we see the subject of religion addressed very clearly, particularly the False One-World Religious System of the Tribulation, and we see the foreshadow of it today, we see it shaping and molding before our very eyes today..

*Revelation 4:11 (NKJV)* <sup>11</sup> “You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created.”

*(James 1:27 NKJV)* Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

*(John 8:31 NKJV)* Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.

*(John 8:32 NKJV)* “And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

*(John 8:36 NKJV)* “Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

### **Recap / Filler Information – Not in Chronological Order / Span whole 7 Year Period**

Chapters 17 and 18 is filler information of what is going on during the 7 year Tribulation period. These 2 chapters and not in chronological order of the book, rather they give commentary on things that are happening over the whole span of the 7 year period.

### **Babylon – Political/Economic & Spiritual / Should read Together**

These 2 chapters deal with Babylon. There is a political and economic Babylon, and a spiritual Babylon spoken of here in Revelation 17 and 18. We will look at the spiritual Babylon today here in chapter 17, and economic Babylon next week in chapter 18. Really these 2 chapters should be read and studied together because they are so overlapping, but we will do just a chapter a week.

### **Additional Study**

For more study (on this place called Babylon) you should read Isaiah 13-14, Jeremiah 51-52, and Revelation 17-18 all in one sitting. In Isaiah and Jeremiah it speaks of the total destruction of Babylon which is an event yet future, and the evil behind all false religions (Satan).

### **Can be rather Confusing / False Religions are Confusing / Can’t Nail them Down**

This can be a rather confusing chapter. It is confusing because this chapter we talk about the One-World Religious system, which is a false religious system. Of course it is confusion; try to study any of the false religions, and you will become confused, because there is no absolutes in them. Try to nail a cultist down on what they believe, and you can’t, because their beliefs continually contradicts themselves, and so do they, and so you can never get to bottom, bottom line with them. I always leave confused on what exactly is that they believe. I find myself now, that when I talk about God outside the church circle, I need to say Jesus Christ instead of God so the person knows exactly who I consider God.

### **Start with Answers – then Questions / 2 False Religions / Half – Half of Tribulation**

So let’s start with the answers and see what the questions were. We will look at 2 false world religious systems in this passage. A world ecumenical system that last for the first half of the tribulation period, and then the last half will be a united worship of the Anti-christ after he commits the abomination of desolation in the Temple:

*(Matthew 24:15 NKJV)* “Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place” (whoever reads, let him understand),

### **Terms of Definition**

As we read, know that the woman (the harlot) is this One-World religious system, and that the Beast is the Anti-christ.

### **Tale of 2 Cities / Babylon birthplace of all False Religions**

Babylon is mentioned 300 times in the Bible, its mentioning is second only to Jerusalem. Spiritually, this Bible is a tale of a cities. You can break the spiritual into 2 cities, the city of man (Babylon), and the city of God (Jerusalem). Babylon, the birth place of all false religions, going back to Nimrod and the tower of the

Babel. And then there is the center of the true religion, there in Jerusalem where the Lord laid His life down.

### **Chapter 12 Comparison**

Chapter 12 we saw a woman, and here in chapter 17 we see another woman. They are both representative of their appropriate city, of what they stand for, the true worship of God, and then the false worship of God:

#### **Chapter 12 – City of Jerusalem**

John taken to Heaven  
Woman is mother of the Son of God  
Woman clothed with the Sun  
Influences Sun, Moon, and Stars  
Dragon is the Enemy  
Woman is Pure  
Hated by Powers of the Earth  
Sustained by the wings of Heaven  
Final location is New Jerusalem

#### **Chapter 17 – City of Babylon**

John taken into the Wilderness  
Woman is mother of Harlots  
Woman clothed in Scarlet  
Influences the Kings of the East  
Enemy is the 10 Kings  
Woman is a Harlot  
Caressed by the Powers of the Earth  
Sustained by the Dragon  
Final habitation is with the Demons

### **Rev 17 Deals with judgment of False System / Global – Leaders Bought In**

Revelation 17 is the dealing with, the judgment of the false religious system. This false religious system is global and far reaching as we see in 17:15 that it has reached across all the nations, and in verse 2, we see the leaders of the world have bought into it also.

*(Revelation 17:15 NKJV) Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.*

*(Revelation 17:2 NKJV) "with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication."*

### **Never One Gov't until Religions United / Anti-christ Major Role – Charisma / How Not Deceived**

There will never be a one world government or economical system apart from a united religious system. Religion cause division, so the world leaders must unite the worlds religions into it 1 in order to unite the world politically and economically. The Anti-christ will play the major role in making this happen, and thus we can see how charismatic he will be, for we today cannot imagine all the worlds religions coming together in peace. This Anti-christ is going to be something. He will bring peace to the Mid-East (Daniel 9) and unite the world religions. That is power, that is charisma, and if you don't know Jesus today I have no idea how you are not going to be wooed by this man, deceived to follow him, I would not sleep until I made peace with Jesus Christ ----- today! If you are fooled by what the world has to offer you today, just wait until this time in history, Tribulation upon the world, and a man so convincing as the Anti-christ (remind you, he will come in peace, which will be his cloak of deception, he won't come initially as evil, but later will turn evil).

**(Revelation 17:1 NKJV) 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,**

**(Revelation 17:2 NKJV) "with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication."**

"Come" – John is first called to "come" in Rev. 4:1 and will be called again in Rev. 21:9.

- "judgment of the great harlot" – This is the theme of this chapter. (Rev. 17:16-17)

- "harlot" – (Greek "porne") Lit. "fornicator." This word does not only refer to women who sell their bodies, but to any who commit fornication.

- "the great harlot" – Also called "the woman" (v. 4), "Babylon the great" (v. 5), "the mother of all harlots" (v. 5), and "that great city" (v. 18).

17:2 – "drunk with the wine of her fornication" – Throughout the Bible, religious systems that oppose the true and living God are called adulterous and intoxicating. (Rev. 14:8)

- “fornication” – Biblically, idolatry is adultery against God.

*An adulterer is someone who makes a vow of faithfulness, but lives a life of unfaithfulness.*

*Fornication is two people uncommitted to one another, and using the other for self*

### **Church in Heaven – Religious Structure Remains**

At this point in the Book of Revelation, although the church is in heaven, the structures, systems, and stuff of religion—referred to here as the great harlot—remain intact on earth.

### **Universal Power – Political Powers**

Note the *universal power* of the false religious system as the harlot consorts with the political leaders of “many waters,” or many nations.

**(Revelation 17:3 NKJV) 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.**

The Spirit reveals the deep things to a person.

### **Unique Position – Anti-christ Endorses**

Note the *unique position* of the false religious system as the harlot is seen riding the Beast, or Antichrist. The Anti-christ is endorsing this religious system. At this point, all true believers —are in heaven. This leaves only the trappings of religion atop the Beast.

### **Important to See / Woman rides – Then turned On / Anti Demands Worship**

Important to catch this, right now the woman is on the Beast, but latter the beast will turn on her. The Beast, who is the Anti-christ (we learned that in Chapter 13) will exult and promote this One-World religion, but then later will turn on it, and claim himself to be the heart and soul of the religion, and will demand all men everywhere to worship him:

*(Revelation 17:16 NKJV) “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.*

*(Revelation 13:6 NKJV) Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven.*

*(Revelation 13:7 NKJV) It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation.*

*(Revelation 13:8 NKJV) All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.*

**(Revelation 17:4 NKJV) 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.**

### **Unlimited Prosperity - Wealthy / Outwardly Attractive – Easy Believism – No Repentance**

Note the *unlimited prosperity* of the false religious system as seen in the purple robes and precious jewels with which the harlot is attired. This religious system outwardly is very attractive, but inwardly it seeks to devour, people will be attracted to this religious system because it will appeal to their flesh. Easy believism is what I see it being, no mentioning of repentance, no rules, just right. Jesus is the only way, is just too narrow minded, they will say we are glad those Christians are gone.

### **Unholy Passion / Spiritual Fornication / Vow of Faithfulness – Lives Contrary**

Note the *unholy passion* of the false religious system as seen in the golden cup in the hand of the harlot, full of the fruits of her fornication. The context is spiritual adultery and fornication. The cup is not for God’s service, but for abominations and filthiness. An adulterer is someone who makes a vow of faithfulness, but lives a life of unfaithfulness.

**(Revelation 17:5 NKJV) And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE**

## **GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.**

A mystery, is something that is not obvious, and must be solved. A mystery, is solved by digging into the facts and evidence, to draw a conclusion

### **All False Religions / Nimrod means Rebel / Founder of Mystery Babylon**

This religious system is the mother of all false religious. Genesis 10 tells us of the founder of this false religion, it is Nimrod. We are told he was a mighty hunter against the Lord. The word Nimrod means "rebel." The mighty hunter, before the LORD is not in a good sense. It is in a rebellious sense, against the LORD. Nimrod hunted the souls of men, he was wicked and evil. Nimrod is the founder of the Babylonian Religious System and he became a dictator of the civilization that he established.

*Genesis 10:8-12 (NKJV)<sup>8</sup> Cush begot Nimrod; he began to be a mighty one on the earth. <sup>9</sup> He was a mighty hunter before the LORD; therefore it is said, "Like Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD." <sup>10</sup> And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, Erech, Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. <sup>11</sup> From that land he went to Assyria and built Nineveh, Rehoboth Ir, Calah, <sup>12</sup> and Resen between Nineveh and Calah (that is the principal city).*

### **Babel – Gate to God / Defies what Established Noah – the Innocent Sacrifice**

Babel is a compound word, "Ba" which means gate, and "bel" which means God, So we have man trying to build a gate to God. The word later became synonymous with confusion. Any religion apart from the true religion will always cause confusion. So Nimrod is leading man into this false gate as it flies directly in the face to what was establish when Noah left the ark. Noah knew that man approach, his gate, was through the shed blood of the innocent upon the altar, Through the transfer of guilt to the innocent as a substitute, all a foreshadow of Christ.

*Genesis 11:1-4 (NKJV)<sup>1</sup> Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. <sup>2</sup> And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. <sup>3</sup> Then they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar. <sup>4</sup> And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth."*

*(Genesis 8:20 NKJV) Then Noah built an altar to the LORD, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.*

### **Deeper Study – Our Study on Pergamos & Thyatira**

For a deeper study on this mystery Babylon go back to our study in Genesis chapter 10, and go back to our study on the Church of Pergamos (Revelation 2:12-17), and Thyatira (Revelation 2:18-29) which was very in-depth.

### **Nimrod's Wife / Semiramis - Queen of Heaven / Tammuz / Christmas & Easter**

Let me just give you the 30,000 foot level of this Mystery Babylon, false religious system. Nimrod had a wife whose name was Semiramis and she became known as "The Queen of Heaven." She had a son, which she claimed to be virgin born (which a can't figure out if she was already married) and she named him Tammuz. He was being groomed to be the center of worship by the people. One day while hunting, a wild boar gored him; he lay dead for three days and when he was found he revived. They celebrated his birth on the 25th of December. They would burn a Yule log on the fire until it was completely consumed, but in the morning a tree would appear, brightly decorated in the home (the parents would bring it in after the children fall asleep). It was an evergreen tree, which was a symbol of perpetuated life. To celebrate his resurrection from being gored by the boar, they began to decorate eggs and to have a celebration in the springtime, which later became known as Ashtar, the Greek for Semiramis. The egg, again, is a symbol of continued life. Does all this sound familiar? These are the true roots of these holidays, and they were thousands of years before Christ.

### **How Could This Be / Before Foundations of the World**

How could Satan so perfectly counterfeit the story of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, because as we know, Satan has access to the thrown God, He was worship leader in heaven before He rebelled, and here is the most important piece to see, the gospel was laid out before the foundation of the world, Satan knew the story of the gospel before the worlds were even fashioned. So to make a counterfeit was no problem:

*(Revelation 13:8 NIV) All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast--all whose names have not been written in the book of life belonging to the Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world.*

### **Catholic Church – Much Bigger / Multi-Faith Merging – Not Argue over Name**

Is this the Catholic Church, many liken this to the Catholic Church because of its wealth, the Queen of Heaven relationship, and historically how the Catholic Church has brought in some many of the influences of this Mystery Babylon such as rituals and Pontiffs (again see study on Pergamos). I believe it is much broader than that. This religious system will include all churches of the people that missed the rapture. We see this ecumenical movement already today. We see Jews worshipping with Christian denominations. We see Muslim worshipping with Jews. Notice there in verse 5, she is the mother of harlots (plural), this will be a multi-faith religion, that brings all faiths together. They will not argue if God's name is Jesus, Allah, Krishna, Buddha, Self, or "the God with in", they will all come in agreement that their god is the same god.

### **US – State Religion / Not What Said – Can't be Said / Jesus on TV / Kentucky BCE**

By the way, we are seeing a growing strength of a State Religion just here in the USA; it is not on what is said, but what can't be said. The Christian voice is being silenced, God is being forced out, written out of our Laws and Moral standards. It isn't what is being said, but what can't be said. Speak of perversion on television, but don't use the name of Jesus or people are offended. Not what is said, but what can't be said, and it bears the same effect.

**(Revelation 17:6 NKJV) 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.**

### **Unsettling Persecution**

Note the *unsettling persecution* perpetrated by the false religious system. Bear in mind that John wrote the Book of Revelation in the midst of ten waves of persecution that would ultimately claim the lives of six million believers.

### **John in Awe / Devouring Saints in Name of God / Dark Ages**

John is in awe because he is trying to reconcile how a religious system, in the name Of God, could devour Saints. This isn't anything new, as we have studied the Dark Ages and the millions of people killed in the name of God and Church. Remember she is an adulterer and a fornicator. An adulterer is someone who makes a vow of faithfulness, but lives a life of unfaithfulness.

**(Revelation 17:7 NKJV) 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.**

### **Initially Woman rides Beast / Beast Carries Her / Beast uses Her for his Agenda**

Initially, we saw the woman riding the Beast (verse 3). Here, we see the Beast carrying the woman—a small, but important change of terminology as Antichrist employs the false religious system to serve his own agenda.

**(Revelation 17:8 NKJV) "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.**

**(Revelation 17:9 NKJV) "Here is the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits.**

**(Revelation 17:10 NKJV) "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.**

**(Revelation 17:11 NKJV) "And the beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition.**

**(Revelation 17:12 NKJV) "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.**

**(Revelation 17:13 NKJV) "These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast.**

## **You Look Confused – Let me Clear Up / Thanks Alot**

The angel says John you look confused, let me clear things up for you. After you read 7-13, you say thanks that really cleared things up. Let me do my best to help clarify. Verses 8-12 are going to give us specific insight about the Anti-christ, the powerful world leader of the Last Days, the one who will carry and promote the one world government, economy, and religion. As I had mentioned chapter 17 and 18 are filler information, and they really should be studied in one sitting.

### **Verse 8 – Mortal Wound**

Verse 8 - *The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition* - Appears to be speaking of the Anti-Christ after receiving the mortal wound, but coming back to life, or appearing to die and come back to life. (Revelation 13:12)

*(Revelation 13:12 NKJV) And he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.*

### **Verse 9 – City of Rome**

Verse 9 - *The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits.*- The city Rome is known as the city upon 7 hills throughout history (please reference encyclopedia Encarta). So the headquarters is going to be in Rome (most likely)

However - - "seven mountains" – Rome is the "city of seven hills." - "Mountain" and "hill" are different Greek words. Biblically, mountains represent kingdoms.

The word "mountains" in prophesy refers to "governments," so these "seven mountains" refer to "seven kingdoms" (Dan 2:25, 44 et al.). Satan's (the red dragon) seven super-kingdoms are known as Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Persia, Greece, ancient Rome and the (phase II) Rome which is to come (ten horns).

### **Verse 10 – History of 5 Empires**

Verse 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.* – In world history 5 empires have fallen (the 5 mayor empires in history to this day. Egypt, Assyria, Babylonian, Medo-Persian, and Grecian. The one during the day of this writing was Rome (which had yet to fall, and is still yet to come, the Revived Roman Empire.

### **Another Way – 5 Emperors / Speculate Reincarnation**

Another way of looking at this, and you still end at the same point, the Roman Empire. At the time John wrote this, there had been seven Roman emperors: Julius Caesar, Caesar Augustus, Tiberias, Caligula, Claudius, Nero, and Domitian. Some speculate that the Anti-christ will be a spiritual reincarnation (the same demonic spirit that energized them will be the one who energizes the Anti-christ) of one of these Roman Emperors (like Nero or Domitian), could be, I see it as the Anti-christ will be an evil man for we have studied in the past how they slaughtered the Christians.

### **Verse 12 – Daniel 7**

Verse 12 - (Revelation 17:12 NKJV) *"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.* – Daniel 7 (speaking of the 4 Beasts tells us that the ten horns of the beast signify the ten nations of the revived Roman Empire.

### **Daniels Vision / Kingdoms – Babylonian – Medes – Grecian / 4<sup>th</sup> Roman empire**

Daniel tells us that the vision that he saw or the Lord told Daniel that these beasts that he saw rising out of the sea are kingdoms that shall arise to rule over the earth. The first was the Babylonian kingdom, the first world empire. But it was to be replaced by the Medo-Persian Empire. In the visions of Daniel, the first was like a lion. The second was like a bear, the Medo-Persian Empire, that would destroy the Babylonian or conquer the Babylonian Empire. The third would be the Grecian Empire, the leopard that would conquer the Medo-Persian Empire. The fourth, of course, was the Roman Empire that would conquer over the Grecian Empire.

*(Daniel 7:3 NKJV) "And four great beasts came up from the sea, each different from the other.*

*(Daniel 7:4 NKJV) "The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings. I watched till its wings were plucked off; and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand on two feet like a man, and a man's heart was given to it.*



*(Daniel 7:5 NKJV) "And suddenly another beast, a second, like a bear. It was raised up on one side, and had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. And they said thus to it: 'Arise, devour much flesh!'"*

*(Daniel 7:6 NKJV) "After this I looked, and there was another, like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird. The beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it.*

*(Daniel 7:7 NKJV) "After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns.*

*(Daniel 7:8 NKJV) "I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.*

**Daniel 2:40–43 (NKJV)**<sup>40</sup> *And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others.* <sup>41</sup> *Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay.* <sup>42</sup> *And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile.* <sup>43</sup> *As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.*

### **Revived Roman Empire – EU Superstate / 25 States / Could be 10 Regions**

The revived Roman Empire is what we see developing as the modern day European Union (that is the land area that the Roman Empire encompassed). Right now today there are 25 members with 5 in consideration, with another 15 who have not made a decision one way or another. Now when everything is said and done, there will either be 10 major states of this new European Union, they merge together (say Ireland and Great Britain), or this could be speaking of 10 regions, and so they divide themselves into regions, not individual states. The bottom line, the number is going to be 10 in the end.

### **Will be of One Mind with Anti-christ**

Since the Rapture has happened at this point, Antichrist and this ten-nation federation will be of one mind.

**(Revelation 17:14 NKJV) "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."**

### **Kingdoms Destroyed by Jesus**

These kingdoms will be destroyed by the Lamb. The Battle of Armageddon, when Jesus returns they will try to destroy Jesus but He will destroy them (Rev 19). The end of the story is Jesus wins.

### **Preach – You should Live Accordingly / For me – Just Read I am Chosen / Heart will Respond**

Verse 14 - *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 continually puts a word of comfort and encouragement in these passages of darkness, he does it for John and the Christians who would read this during intense persecution, and He does it for us today. This would be the place where I would say to myself, say to you, we are the chosen, we are the faithful, therefore we must live accordingly, are you? But no, this is a verse that all I must do is read it, and say Lord this is what you think of me, this is how you regard me, chosen and faithful! My heart becomes stirred to think that that is how He thinks of me. I am lifted into the heavenlies, I'm blown away, I am proud, I am with Him. No need to preach to me, just remind me of who I am and I will live accordingly.

**(Revelation 17:15 NKJV) Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.**

**(Revelation 17:16 NKJV) "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.**

### **Anti-christ Uses False System / Then Turns on It**

After using the false religious systems to unify the world kingdoms and gain control of all, the Anti-Christ, with the help of his 10 sub-rulers will turn against this one-world religious system, plunder and destroy it, and seize all power and worship for himself. This will happen at the Mid-Tribulation point (3 ½ years) when the Anti-christ goes into the rebuilt temple there in Jerusalem and demand to be worshipped, just as the Scriptures prophesied.

*(Revelation 13:8 NIV) All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast--all whose names have not been written in the book of life*

*belonging to the Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world.*

*(Daniel 9:27 NKJV) Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, Even until the consummation, which is determined, Is poured out on the desolate."*

### **Sin will Disgrace Us / Looks Good – Arrayed in Pearls – Purple Robe of Confidence / Rom 3:23**

So, too, we will be disgraced, denuded, and devoured by any sin we attempt to control rather than confess. Oh, perhaps, like the harlot, we can ride the sin for a season, arrayed in the pearls, precious stones, and purple robes of confidence—but eventually, like the harlot, we will be burned and eaten up by the very sin we thought we controlled. I believe the language in this verse is purposely horrific because, truly, the wages of sin is death (Romans 3:23).

*Romans 6:23 (NKJV)<sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

**(Revelation 17:17 NKJV) "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.**

### **God uses Beast to Destroy False Religious System**

According to His own will, God will use the Beast to destroy the false religious system.

**(Revelation 17:18 NKJV) "And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth."**

The great city is Babylon (maybe Rome); the religious center of this one world religion.

### **Religion Binds – Jesus sets Free**

All false religions will come back bite and devour. Religion binds, Jesus sets you free. Let me tell you what true religion is, true freedom:

*(1 Corinthians 15:3 NKJV) For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,*

*(1 Corinthians 15:4 NKJV) and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,*

### **Jesus Came that we Have Life**

Jesus came that man may have life, for He is the Author of Life. 2000 years ago He left His throne in heaven, that man may have a way to enter into life with Him. Chapter 17 is the Religion of Death, a life apart from Him, binding and defiled. But oh, we who have chosen, the Author of Life, has set His throne not in Babylon, but in our hearts. He has called us chosen, and faithful and the Author of Life is continuing to write His story about the Bride He loves so much, that He laid His life down for her.

### **Prayer**

The Word of God is Living and Powerful, and is ready, and will do a mighty work in our lives.

*Hebrews 4:12 (NKJV)<sup>12</sup> For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

### **In Every Study**

- Who Is God? (How Great is He?)
- What Does He Think of Me? (How Wonderful Are His Thoughts Towards Me?)
- What Does He Want Me to Do?
- What Can I Boldly Request of Him?
- What Do I Need to Be on Guard of When I Leave Here Today?

Boldly come to the throne of grace, ask God to reveal Himself in a mighty way to you, and to do I might work in you, and through you.

*Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV)<sup>16</sup> Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need*