

Revelation 17:1-7

Rootwork

The Great Harlot

(Everyday) Before you begin your study time - spend time in prayer, preparing your heart and surrendering your will to the Spirit of God! Allow Him to have full access by not withholding anything He wants to do in and then do through you!!

(Everyday) Remember, the enemy is going to try to keep you from being in the Word, he hates when we worship our God- Worship breaks his bondages over believers, so resist him and he will flee!!

(Everyday) Spend time in adoration and worship daily after you have cleansed your heart and before you dive into the scriptures!! Proclaiming who God is and adoring Him lifts our eyes up and keeps our focus on what really matters...putting God in His rightful place and putting us in ours!

BONUS- (If you have not done this already) if you were at the "Digging Deeper" conference and you would like to structure these scriptures, Copy and paste Revelation 17 into a word/pages document or write it out verse by verse, following the structuring handouts you received!

Review Rev. 16:19-21 from the last Bible study and refresh your memory on where we are in scripture and where we are on the timeline of events! Jot down anything you want to take note of that was significant to you during this study!

Read the whole of chapter 17 to get an overview and to observe the scripture in context! Focus mostly on the verses 1-7 - we will dig into the next set of verses next time. Then go back and look up any words in your blue letter Bible app! Just select the verse, select interlinear concordance and select the word! So much insight is given looking up these words! Let me know if you have any questions!

Read verse 1, what does John see or hear? Who is speaking?

Look up the words “judgement”, “harlot”, and. “Immorality” -what can you gather from these three definitions about this harlot?

Read Rev.17:15, what are the waters mentioned here in this verse?

Why is the specific indictment is immorality? Why does this matter so much? Look up the following verses and then do a search and see if you can find everything God’s Word says on sexual immorality

1 Cor. 6:18

1 Thess. 4:3-5

Ephesians 5:3

Galatians 5:19

Have you ever struggled with sexual immorality? How has it affected you spiritually? Your relationship with God? When your turned and repented, what was the process of healing that you had to go through? Spend some time writing this out and really thinking why this is so important to God- what is His overall plan for marriage, the bride of Christ, the beauty of the picture He has given! Then praise Him for His grace and love!! He is the God of restoration and He restores the years the locust have eaten! That is who He is!! (Record in your “who is God” Journal)

Look at verse 2, who is she with, who does she keep company with? Who do they represent?

What do you think, “made drunk with the wine of her immorality” means? What happens when someone is drunk? What does it do?

Based on this description, what do you think John actually saw?

What two women are mentioned in the book of Revelation? Is there any significance in the relationship between the two?

What light does Revelation. 14:8 shed on these verses?

Now in setting the stage for Babylon, what does Babylon mean?

Knowing this, what does this tell you about Babylon just by it's meaning?

We see that Babylon is mentioned 287 times- more than any other city besides where? Why?

When we talked about the origin of Babylon, what three "Firsts" did we talk about and how do they all relate?

Isn't it strange how precise and full the Scriptures are? Rebellion leads to idolatry which leads to sin taking over our lives! Have you ever experienced that in your own life? How well do you "know" this type of battle? How did God get you attention? How did you turn to Him and change you mind?

Spend some time going through Genesis 10-14, take time here- maybe a couple days looking at the details of the origin of Babylon, what happened? What do you find? What lead to this end? What effects did the Tower of Babel have on the people after them? Compare it with the Babylon here in Revelation and it's descriptions and record! Then write any attributes you discover about God in your "who is God" journal!

Take the next few days and Read the book of Daniel slowly, and take note of all the characteristics of Babylon. What do you find? Compare to Revelation 17? What do you learn? Don't forget to keep your "who is God" journal handy and record all of the attributes you find!

Spend some time in worship specifically over what you learned the past few days about who God is!

We discussed Nimrod and what happened with the Tower of Babel, record what you learned and compare and contrast that with the

how Jesus entered the world and how the enemy tried to mimic and counterfeit the true Messiah! How crazy is this?

Look up Ezekiel 8 and Jeremiah 7 and read them both and what they have to say about Tammuz!

Read Jeremiah 44, record what you learn about these women and what they were doing! Remember we talked about they were caught up in the emotions experiences and circumstantial ease! How have you fallen into the same pattern where you “experiences” have trumped what the Bible actually teaches? How is this so dangerous?

If you have time, dig a little more and see if you can find any more about this origin of false religion! Especially since you now know that Baal or Molech was the Canaanite name for the Babylonian Tammuz!! And the “queen of heaven” is also referred to Ashtoreth or Ishtar! There is soo much to dig through, and so much to learn! Just remember to keep the main thing the main thing and not to get lost in the weeds! :) I know it is hard!!

We discussed the 5 most common viewpoints as to who Babylon is here in Revelation 17, what are those 5? From what you learned record the reasoning behind each!

If you have time and want to, do some research on where the Catholic Church gets all of their traditions and what they mean? Try to look at all of it very anecdotally and record facts! There is SOOO MUCH out there on the subject of the Catholic Church being the harlot of Revelation so remember, keep the main thing the main thing! We know who is behind it, and we know his goal! This is for us to see how that Babylonian religion has influenced this church and the Vatican! Spend time looking at what the Catholic Church is doing today and how they are linking arms with other false religions! Record your findings!!

Record John 2:5 and Luke 11:27 of what Mary’s last recorded words were - which is super cool even though it was about the water

being turned to wine but it was the last thing she said in scripture and Jesus as someone tried to give Mary too much credit!

We talked about how it boils down to 2 religious systems- what are they and why?

Read John 8:44! We see there are only two choices: life or death, light or darkness, free or bondage, peace or confusion, loyalty or idolatry, Jerusalem or Babylon! It really is simple, we make it so complicating! Record your thoughts on this! How have you personally made it complicating when it really is simple? Why do you think we do this? Why does our flesh want to negotiate and justify? Oh how we need Jesus!!

Read Revelation 17:3, and compare this description of what John saw with Revelation 12:3 and 13:1. What do you find!

Write out all the “pseudo’s” we have covered in Revelation so far! Why do you think Satan tries to mimic everything God does? He knows his time is short but he is relentless until he is cast away!!

Read verse 4, what is this woman clothed in? What do these colors mean biblically and what false religions do you see adorned the same way?

Read Isaiah 1:18 and compare here with what the woman is wearing! What does scarlet represent here? Coincidence? Isn't it crazy how God's Word works!!

What does the cup represent and what is in her cup? Can you imagine? Compare with the cup that Jesus chose to drink for us!! Thank Him for what He did for us!!

Read Prov. 5:3-5 and record the dangers of an adulterous woman and compare it with this woman in Revelation 17!

Satan's goal is to steal, kill and destroy, and he will use anyone or anything to accomplish it but he will never have what God has nor be who God is no matter how hard he tries!! Wow! Can you just imagine in your mind what you have been saved from?! Undeserved, unfair grace we have been given!! We live for a different kingdom, we are not of this world because we have been adopted into the kingdom of God! How blessed we are- spend some time writing out prayer or gratitude to the Lord for adopting you!!

Read verse 5, what is the significance of marking on the forehead! Do a search of everywhere in scripture where someone was marked on their forehead and the context of each! What do you learn?

What is a "mystery" biblically? Look up all verses you can find where "mystery" is mentioned. What is each one referring to?

"The Mother of Harlots" is an intense title and an intense indictment, what does it mean?

Read verse 6, what does this verse tell you about this woman? And why do you think John "wondered greatly"?

How do you think you would respond seeing what he saw?

Read verse 7, what did the angel tell John?

I discussed in Bible study two profound truths- "False religion is always the worst enemy to true religion" and "Having the appearance of truth is the worst hinderance to truth" how are these true- what are your thoughts on this?

Read James 1:26- 27 and record what James says about religion? What is religion according to scripture?

So we have learned that Two women- Israel and Babylon, Two cities- Jerusalem and Babylon , Two rulers - God and Satan, Two

messages - One-salvation, redemption and forgiveness -the other blasphemy, immorality and idolatry , Two endings- if is finished on the cross where wrath of God was poured out on the Son of God- the other- it is finished where the wrath of God will be poured out on a christ rejecting- unrepentant world ruled by satan and his crew and Two destinations - eternity in heaven with God or the other eternity in hell separated from God! It is incredible how looking at Revelation that God has made things so simple and clear! How incredible is this that we can see, HE DID EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO REDEEM MANKIND TO HIMSELF AND RESCUE US OUT OF THE GRIP OF THE ENEMY!! WHAT AN AWESOME GOD WE SERVE!!

We are told to have no other God's before our God and yet we have to check the throne of our hearts daily! We are not going be here when Rev. 17 takes place however, this Babylon system is ever present in our history, world, community and in our hearts if we are not careful and it comes in the form of idolatry- We need to see why God is so relentless with idolatry - having anything or anyone in the place of God in our hearts- HE does not mess with it and He warns us over and over!

Read and write out Isaiah 44:6-8 - the ultimate mic drop moment!! Who is our God!?? Write this in your journal!!

Idolatrykeeps us from coming to God , Keeps us from being surrendered to God ,Keeps us from being used by God, Keeps us from walking in freedom of God, Keeps us from being washed by God's Word Keeps us in bondage and sin trapped in our own captivity - so how are you doing with idolatry right now? How have you dealt with it in the past? What "idol" do you find yourself consistently wrestling with? Spend some time removing this from that seat up on the throne of your heart and replacing it with the one true God!! Many years ago I wrote a "steps of surrender" guide to walk through the process of surrendering idols- it is not a formula but it a tool! If you would like that please email me and let me know! I will try to bring some for root work night at well! This

is vital to walking worthy of the calling to which you have been called!

Lastly read James 4:4-10 on his guide of not being yoked to the world and really how to make sure self is not rising it's ugly head and getting in the way of God's glory! Record your thoughts!!

Here are the quotes I read at the end of the teaching if you wanted them! I pray your heart is even more softened and in love with God as you learn and grow in Him! This was a lot to unpack and there is a lot of information! Take your time and be a good Stuart of God's Word and you will be sooo BLESSED by His presence!!! Thank you for joining this journey with me!!

“THERE IS NO GREATER EVIL THAN FOR A HEART TO BE HAPPY IN IDOLATRY.” Spurgeon

“To bow in worship before a so-called 'altar, or a cross, or an image or picture of a saint, or before a real or supposed 'holy relic, or anything of the kind, is nothing but sheer idolatry!” Spurgeon

“If you love anything better than God you are idolaters: if there is anything you would not give up for God it is your idol: if there is anything that you seek with greater fervor than you seek the glory of God, that is your idol, and conversion means a turning from every idol.” Spurgeon

“Our idols are not golden calves or carved statues. Idolatry is not tied to any specific idol; it exists whenever we look to someone or something in the world around us to save and satisfy us.” Ed Stetzer

“The essence of idolatry is the entertainment of thoughts about God that are unworthy of Him. The heaviest obligation lying upon the Christian Church today is to purify and elevate her concept of God until it is once more worthy of Him.” Aiden Wilson Tozer

“If we don't get out of worry, we risk getting into idolatry. Idols are anything we need to check with before we say yes to God. When money is something people are checking with and

worrying about, this only reveals we are trusting it instead of Him." Seth Dahl

"The more objects you set your heart upon, the more thorns there are to tear your peace of mind to shreds" Spurgeon

"What thing, if it were absent, might take away your very desire to live? That is your idol. Because anything, were it removed, that would take away your very desire to want to even go on with life, that is your deity." 'Timothy Kellar