

## The Book of Revelation

**Class 9**

**Revelation 17:1 – 19:10**

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### **Babylon The Prostitute**

Now we witness the fifth major cycle of judgments and conflict between the forces of God and those serving Satan. Babylon the prostitute appears, representing the seductions of the world. Babylon represents all worldly power opposed to Christ. This is not a literal city or place as much as the entire system of humanistic government, economics, luxury, pleasure-seeking and false worship that allures people into its deceptive web of false security. All this will be thrown down for destruction and Christ will at last make his dramatic appearance as Warrior/Judge on a white horse, to bring in the climatic END.

### **What can we say about the chronology of chapters 17-20?**

“It is best to see these three destructive, judgmental episodes as being thematically parallel rather than occurring in strict chronological succession.” (Poythress p. 159)

### **I. Babylon – Mother of Prostitutes and Abominations (chapter 17)**

**17:1-6** A woman on a scarlet beast

A name on her forehead

Drunk with blood of the saints

**17:7-8** The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to rise.....

**17:9-14** Seven hills....

Seven kings....

Ten kings....

**17:18** The great city that rules over kings of the earth

## **II. The Fall of Babylon Announced and Lamented (chapter 18)**

**18:1-3** The great fall announced by an angel

**18:4-8** A call for God's people to separate themselves from Babylon

**18:9-20** A three-fold lament for the defeat of this world's ugly realm

18:9 Woe from kings....

18:11 Woe from merchants....

18:17 Woe from sailors at sea....

18:20 Believers alone can rejoice!

**18:21-24** The worldly system will become like a great millstone tossed in the sea!

## **III. Hallelujahs Ring Out from Heaven (19:1-10)**

**19:1-4** First round of hallelujahs

**19:5** A second cry

**19:6-8** A third chorus

**19:9-10** An angel's shout of invitation and John's mistaken worship