

THE BOOK OF REVELATION

FROM EDEN TO ETERNITY

From Eden to Eternity - Part 7

Pastor Christopher Miller - October 25, 2020

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At the first of September, we began a series entitled, “From Eden to Eternity” during which we discussed the Creation of the Earth and the Chaotic Earth, and then the subsequent Restored Earth. The 7 days of creation, Lucifer’s fall and the Antediluvian Age as well as the Giants of Genesis chapter 6. Noah’s flood, the Post Diluvian and the Patriarchal Dispensations.

After the Patriarchal Dispensation came the Legal Dispensation which began with Moses and ended with the first Advent of Christ. Then came the Ecclesiastical Dispensation leading up to the Rapture of the Church which marks the beginning of the Tribulation period. We then dove into what is happening in the Earth during the 7 years of Tribulation leading up to the Millennial Reign of Christ. Today we will cover Revelation 17-22 which will complete this series.

- In Revelation 17, John records about The Great Prostitute and the Beast
 - In this chapter, the Great Prostitute is a symbol of a religious system that utilizes the beast system to keep itself viable and functional during the tribulation period; and there are a few very interesting points about the Great Prostitute noted in this chapter. Let's pick up in verse 1
 - Revelation 17:1-2 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great prostitute who is seated on many waters, ²with whom the kings of the earth have committed sexual immorality, and with the wine of whose sexual immorality the dwellers on earth have become drunk."

- Note: First off, the great prostitute that is seated on many waters has been intimate with the kings of the earth and from this union, the nations are intoxicated with the wine that has come from this union. This indicates the fact that the great prostitute, or apostate religious system, is seated on many waters which means that this religious system is global. This apostate church has unioned itself with the kings of the earth to solidify its place of preeminence and from intimacy or rather the unholy unions of religion and government has manifested an outcome of the nations being intoxicated due to this alliance. Let's pick up in verse 3

○ ³ And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness, and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns. ⁴ The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and jewels and pearls, holding in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the impurities of her sexual immorality. ⁵ And on her forehead was written a name of mystery: "Babylon the great, mother of prostitutes and of earth's abominations."⁶ And I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of the martyrs of Jesus.^[a] When I saw her, I marveled greatly. ⁷ But the angel said to me, "Why do you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman, and of the beast

with seven heads and ten horns that carries her. ⁸The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to rise from the bottomless pit and go to destruction. And the dwellers on earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world will marvel to see the beast, because it was and is not and is to come. ⁹This calls for a mind with wisdom: the seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman is seated; ¹⁰they are also seven kings, five of whom have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come, and when he does come he must remain only a little while. ¹¹As for the beast that was and is not, it is an eighth but it belongs to the seven, and it goes to destruction. ¹²And the ten horns that you saw are ten kings who have not yet received royal power, but they are to receive authority as kings for one hour, together with the beast. ¹³These are of one mind, and they hand over their power and authority to the beast.

- Note: This section of verses seems to be complicated but allow me to simplify it: the woman is an apostate religious system that has unioned itself with a global government system which is under the control of the Beast. There is a rising of Nations and Kingdoms during this time who all decide to union themselves together to create a coalition of sorts with the Beast System. It is from this union that comes a war; notice in verse 14.

○ ¹⁴They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful.” ¹⁵ And the angel^[d] said to me, “The waters that you saw, where the prostitute is seated, are peoples and multitudes and nations and languages. ¹⁶ And the ten horns that you saw, they and the beast will hate the prostitute. They will make her desolate and naked, and devour her flesh and burn her up with fire, ¹⁷ for God has put it into their hearts to carry out his purpose by being of one mind and handing over their royal power to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled. ¹⁸ And the woman that you saw is the great city that has dominion over the kings of the earth.”

- Note: This union of global entities and nations along with the backing of the Apostate Church will seek to wage war against the Lamb but the Lamb will conquer them; the Lamb being Jesus. This conflict is not associated with Revelation 19 with the armies of heaven coming to the earth to wage war against the Antichrist. This conflict in Revelation 17 is a separate time during which Christ will fight with the Beast thus destroying them all. Regarding the great prostitute, Revelation 17 gives a very interesting insight regarding this apostate religious system.

- Notice verse 9 **“This calls for a mind with wisdom: the seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman is seated”**
 Seven Mountains upon which the woman is seated. There is an ancient city that still exists today that sits upon seven hills and is the only one of the ancient world to have been noted as such.
- The hills’ names are Capitoline, Palatine, Aventine, Viminal, Quirinal, Esquiline and Caelian and these seven hills make up the seven hills of Rome which is the very heart of the Roman Empire. Now what religious system established itself as the preeminent authority is Christendom from the 3rd Century to now? The Roman Catholic Church.
- Now I want to be clear that I am not saying that the Roman Catholic Church is THE Apostate Church; however, I firmly believe it to be a possibility, that after the rapture of the church, that the Beast System will utilize the identity of the Roman Catholic Church and an apostate religious system will use its influence to corrupt the nations.
- And on the note of nations, the great prostitute is seated upon many waters and the waters noted here refers to its influence over multitudes of people. But inevitably the Apostate Church will be turned upon by the Beast and the Coalition of Nations that are backing the Beast System therefore leading to its

destruction. In the end, the Apostate Church will be destroyed by the very system that it helped to create.

- In Revelation 18, John records about The Fall of Babylon The Great

- A few points regarding the fall of Babylon the Great:

- First off, Babylon the Great is a massive empire that rises up as preeminent amongst the nations in the last times leading up to the Tribulation Period; Babylon the Great does not rise to power during the tribulation period, it was already a world super power and had been for some time.
- Secondly, notice that the destruction of Babylon the Great has caused not only great calamity amongst its citizenry but also note the spiritual warfare that is birthed due to its destruction; notice verses 2 and 3 of Revelation chapter 18, “. ² And he called out with a mighty voice, “Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! She has become a dwelling place for demons, a haunt for every unclean spirit, a haunt for every unclean bird, a haunt for every unclean and detestable beast. ³ For all nations have drunk the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have grown rich from the power of her luxurious living.”

- Verses 2 and 3 notes that after its destruction, that she has become a dwelling place for demons and a haunt for every unclean spirit.
- In verse 4 we discover that not all of the citizenry are evil people but rather the Lord the Lord says in verses 4 and 5, **“Then I heard another voice from heaven saying, “Come out of her, my people, lest you take part in her sins, lest you share in her plagues; ⁵ for her sins are heaped high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities.**
- The destruction of Babylon the Great manifests in a single day per verse 8, **“⁸ For this reason her plagues will come in a single day, death and mourning and famine, and she will be burned up with fire; for mighty is the Lord God who has judged her.”** But in verse 10 it notes that its destruction shall be in one hour, **“¹⁰ They will stand far off, in fear of her torment, and say, “Alas! Alas! You great city, you mighty city, Babylon! For in a single hour your judgment has come.”**
- Pause, What weapon that is in existence that we know of that has the power to destroy at this level of impact? Nuclear Weapons.

- Verse 11 notes, **“¹¹ And the merchants of the earth weep and mourn for her, since no one buys their cargo anymore, – this denotes that fact of global commerce and global markets.**
- Verse 17 and 18 gives us insight that this nation has many ports and seas giving access to shipping and receiving, **“¹⁷ For in a single hour all this wealth has been laid waste.” And all shipmasters and seafaring men, sailors and all whose trade is on the sea, stood far off ¹⁸ and cried out as they saw the smoke of her burning, “What city was like the great city?”**
- Some try and say that this passage of Scripture is in reference to Iraq but there’s a problem with that notion; Iraq doesn’t have many shores in regards to its access to water, it has a port and that’s it. Babylon the Great is not Iraq; could it be America? America is the largest importer in the world, we operate as the head of global economy and trade, our stock markets govern the world’s commerce, and we are surrounded by oceans that allow for shipping and receiving. I’m not saying America is Babylon the Great, I am only submitting a thought.
- Notice that in verses 21-24 Babylon the Great is so utterly destroyed that no music, no manufacturing of products, no food production, no oil production, nor marital unions will be

found in the aftermath of the fall of Babylon the Great. It will be utter destruction.

- Notice verses 21-24 with me for a moment, “²¹ Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, “So will Babylon the great city be thrown down with violence, and will be found no more; ²² and the sound of harpists and musicians, of flute players and trumpeters, will be heard in you no more, and a craftsman of any craft will be found in you no more, and the sound of the mill will be heard in you no more, ²³ and the light of a lamp will shine in you no more, and the voice of bridegroom and bride will be heard in you no more, for your merchants were the great ones of the earth, and all nations were deceived by your sorcery. ²⁴ And in her was found the blood of prophets and of saints, and of all who have been slain on earth.””

- In Revelation 19, John records about The Rejoicing in Heaven, the Marriage Supper of the Lamb, and the Rider on a White Horse.

- In this chapter, John records about three events that happen in the order of their transcription. There is a worship service, a great feast of celebration and then Jesus and his armies leave the Third

Heaven to come into the Earth to wage war on the Antichrist and his hordes!

- Rejoicing in Heaven - 19 After this I heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, crying out, “Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, ²for his judgments are true and just; for he has judged the great prostitute who corrupted the earth with her immorality, and has avenged on her the blood of his servants.” ³ Once more they cried out, “Hallelujah! The smoke from her goes up forever and ever.” ⁴ And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who was seated on the throne, saying, “Amen. Hallelujah!” ⁵ And from the throne came a voice saying, “Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, small and great.”

- It would seem that Revelation 19 opens with a Worship Service in light of the verbiage that is used in this text.

- The Marriage Supper of the Lamb - ⁶Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, “Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. ⁷ Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride

has made herself ready; ⁸ it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure” – for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. ⁹ And the angel said^[a] to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.” And he said to me, “These are the true words of God.”¹⁰ Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God.” For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

- If you will take a moment to think back to our time of study several weeks ago, I taught you all that The Marriage Supper of the Lamb is the third stage of what happens to the Church after the Rapture of the Church in Revelation 4. Remember it in this order: Rapture, Judgment Seat of Christ, Marriage Supper of the Lamb. It is after the Marriage Supper of the Lamb that Christ returns to the Earth with His Saints to destroy the armies of the Antichrist and establish the Millennial Reign.

- The Rider on a White Horse - ¹¹ Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and

makes war. ¹² His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. ¹³ He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. ¹⁴ And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. ¹⁵ From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. ¹⁶ On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁷ Then I saw an angel standing in the sun, and with a loud voice he called to all the birds that fly directly overhead, "Come, gather for the great supper of God, ¹⁸ to eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all men, both free and slave, ^[d] both small and great." ¹⁹ And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth with their armies gathered to make war against him who was sitting on the horse and against his army. ²⁰ And the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet who in its presence had done the signs by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image. These two were

thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur. ²¹ And the rest were slain by the sword that came from the mouth of him who was sitting on the horse, and all the birds were gorged with their flesh.

- This is a very intense section of Scripture but the end game is clear; Jesus will destroy all who are comrades to the Beast and the False Prophet, strike down the nations for their rebellion and partnership with the beast system and establish himself as the authority over all the earth.

- In Revelation 20, John records about The Millennial Reign of Christ, The Defeat of Satan, and Judgment Before the Great White Throne.

- In this chapter, just as in Revelation 19, there are three major points and each will happen in the order in which they are prescribed. Let's look at verse 1 of Revelation 20 together.
- The Thousand Years - 20 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. ² And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years, ³ and threw him into the pit, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he might not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were ended. After that he must be released for a little while. ⁴ Then I

saw thrones, and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed. Also I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ⁵The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the first resurrection. ⁶Blessed and holy is the one who shares in the first resurrection! Over such the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years.

- Let's take a moment and tie some points together. Several weeks ago I taught you that The Scroll that Jesus took hold of and began breaking the seals upon in Revelation chapter 5 is vitally important because the Scroll is the Title Deed to the Earth that Adam lost in the Garden of Eden in Genesis 3; Jesus, by taking the Scroll and breaking the seals begins the process of reclaiming the Earth for Himself as the Second Adam.

- The Millennial Reign is the reestablishment of King David's throne in the Earth and as the Second Adam, He who broke the seals on the scroll; only He reserves the right to sit upon the throne because as the Second Adam.
- He has taken His rightful position of authority in the Earth as the Head of all things because He is of the Seed of His Father David in the flesh but He is also the Second Adam, the only begotten son of the Father! Now let's pick up in verse 7...

○ The Defeat of Satan - ⁷ And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸ and will come out to deceive the nations that are at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle; their number is like the sand of the sea. ⁹ And they marched up over the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, but fire came down from heaven ¹⁰ and consumed them, ¹⁰ and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

- This is the final purging of humanity and it is vitally important to understand why. During the millennial reign of Christ, there is no sickness nor death nor is there war or any pestilence.

- So humanity has been procreating for 1,000 years without any one dying but also the devil and his demons has been bound during this time as well thus these nations that are being born have never been tempted to rebel against Christ and His authority.
- Christ allows for Satan to be released from his prison for a season to temp the nations and purge them of their sins of rebellion because for 1,000 years they have not been tempted to sin. Everyone in this room knows what it is to be tempted of sin but these people will not know that so it is only fair that humanity be purged of anyone whose heart is not for Christ. Ultimately the evil is purged from the nations and Satan is cast into the lake of fire. Let's pick up in verse 11...

○ Judgment Before the Great White Throne - ¹¹Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them. ¹²And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. ¹³And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what

they had done.¹⁴ Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.¹⁵ And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

- This is the final judgment of all of humanity and the final purge before God renovates the cosmos with fire and rebirths the heavens, the earth, and establishes the New Jerusalem. Notice with me in Revelation 21...

- In Revelation 21, John records about The New Heaven, the New Earth, and The New Jerusalem

- Revelation 21:1-8 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place^[a] of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people,^[b] and God himself will be with them as their God.^[c] ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”⁵ And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.”

Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶ And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. ⁷ The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son. ⁸ But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death."

- Remember God's promise in Genesis to never destroy the earth by water and flood again? Well in Revelation 21, He makes good on that promise because this renovation is done by fire. If you will notice that the last few chapters have been focused on purging humanity of its sins and enforcing a righteous standard of life and godliness. How you live and how you act in this life has a direct impact on the life to come; and if you don't believe me then please review verses 7-8 of this chapter. Notice with me beginning in verse 9...
- The New Jerusalem - ⁹ Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, "Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb." ¹⁰ And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high

mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God...”

- In this section of verses spanning from Revelation 21:9-27 outlines the New Jerusalem, its size, and from materials it is built out of. But notice with me the last verse of this chapter, “²⁷ But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.” My question for all of you today is simple, “Is your name written in His Book?”

Pastor Brad will you come...

- In Revelation 22, John records about The River of Life and the closing Admonishment to Prepare for Christ to Return
 - Let's begin with verse 1 of Chapter 22...
 - The River of Life - 22 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. ³ No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. ⁴ They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And night will be no more. They will need no light

of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

- There is a very important point that I must make based upon verses 1-5; the river of the water of life that will flow from the Throne of Christ with the Tree of Life budding with 12 kinds of fruit growing upon it is tremendously necessary for the survival of humanity upon the earth. And the leaves of the tree itself are for the healing of the nations.
- It is very important for everyone to understand what I am about to say so please listen closely. Contrary to popular belief, the entire world doesn't die during the Tribulation period. There will be people who survive the Tribulation Period who do not have their glorified bodies because they were never born again before the rapture of the church and the resurrection of the dead in Christ.
- These are the people who will go on to procreate and repopulate the world during Christ's millennial reign upon the Earth and even after the purging of Satan's temptation of the nations after the thousand year reign. These people have mortal bodies that can get sick, diseased, and need to live thus they will need the water of life and the tree life to do so.

- Notice the end game yet? God’s goal is to get us back to a Genesis chapter 2 state of existence. But notice John’s closing of his letter beginning in verse 6...

○ Jesus Is Coming - ⁶And he said to me, “These words are trustworthy and true. And the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place.”

⁷“And behold, I am coming soon. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book.” ⁸I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed them to me, ⁹but he said to me, “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers the prophets, and with those who keep the words of this book. Worship God.” ¹⁰And he said to me, “Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. ¹¹Let the evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy.” ¹²“Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. ¹³I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.” ¹⁴Blessed are those who wash their robes,^[c] so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates. ¹⁵Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and the sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters

and everyone who loves and practices falsehood. ¹⁶“I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.” ¹⁷The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price. ¹⁸I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, ¹⁹and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book. ²⁰He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! ²¹The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.

Please stand to your feet and let us pray...