CHAPTER XI

THE GREAT SYSTEM: FALSE RELIGION

We have before us in this chapter the new religion of the world that will rise up after the fall of Catholicism. The nations of the world and the Devil who is the unseen head of it all, holds in his hands the "Man of Sin", whom he will use as a medium for his ever-wicked deeds. At this point we will notice three descriptions. The one of the Devil *(Revelation 12:3-9 [see appendix])* tell us that the Great Red Dragon is that old serpent called the Devil and Satan, which deceives the whole world. Our next description is the two-horned Beast of Revelation 13:11-18 *[see appendix]*. This is the U.S.A. in prophecy who, under the "Man of Sin" shall speak as the dragon, which is the Devil, against the saints of God. And the description of Revelation 17th chapter *[see appendix]* is the satanic system of false religion headed by the "Man of Sin".

Your attention is now called to the first verse of the chapter (17). We read: "AND THERE CAME ONE OF THE SEVEN ANGELS WHICH HAD THE SEVEN VIALS, AND TALKED WITH ME, SAYING UNTO ME, COME HITHER; I WILL SHEW UNTO THEE THE JUDGMENT OF THE GREAT WHORE THAT SITTETH UPON MANY WATERS:" The waters here mean nations and people (verse 15). And the great whore is the world's church. Verse two shows that she deals with the nations and the whole world is made drunk from her deception. In verse three the scarlet colored Beast mentioned here is the dragon of Revelation 12, whose color is red. The seven heads is the sevenfold power of wickedness of the Devil and the ten horns are the nations through whom he will use his power against the saints. Verse four tells us of the riches and decorations of the church under the "Man of Sin"; and the abomination in the cup in her hands is the doctrine of the world church. Verse six, again tells us of the great persecution and slaughtering of the saints by the ten nations by orders of the church under the "Man of Sin" – which is yet to come.

Now let us notice verse eight closely. We read: "THE BEAST THAT THOU SAWEST WAS, AND IS NOT; AND SHALL ASCEND OUT OF THE BOTTOMLESS PIT AND GO INTO PERDITION: AND THEY THAT DWELL ON THE EARTH SHALL WONDER, WHOSE NAMES WERE NOT WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF LIFE FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD, WHEN THEY BEHOLD THE BEASTTHAT WAS, AND IS NOT, AND YET IS." Coming up out of the bottomless pit is symbolic of the power that worketh from beneath, which is of the Devil. And all the world shall worship the Beast through its system; all those who were not saved from the foundation of the world. This means that the Devil has not been able to take a single soul from Christ. All the saved are mentioned from the foundation, therefore, they whom Christ holds in his hand, the Devil nor man can pluck them out. The Devil has not scored a single victory against Christ in the plans of salvation of man.

That we may know the truth of the "was, and is not, and yet is" in regards to this persecution system, which is to come, again history tells us of the ten persecutors of Pagan Rome, beginning from Nero. It also tells us of the bloody history of the Catholic Church of the "Dark Ages". This is the "was" and "is not" ... meaning the time in which we now live in today when no religious persecution by a church is practiced. Through the government, the power to persecute by the Catholic Church was taken from her in the 17th Century, and since then the world has had religious peace: and it shall last up until the "Man of Sin" sets up the new world religion. Again, they shall persecute and slaughter the saints in the near future; then the Beast is "yet is". The "yet is" means the return of religious persecution. This said, notice verse nine; we

read: "AND HERE IS THE MIND WHICH HATH WISDOM. THE SEVEN HEADS ARE SEVEN MOUNTAINS, ON WHICH THE WOMAN SITTETH."

So, that we may make it clear, let us first notice who the <u>true church</u> sits on. Christ spoke to Peter saying, "UPON THIS ROCK I BUILD MY CHURCH." Christ is the same rock Isaiah spoke of saying, "AND A ROCK IN THE WEARY LAND TO ISRAEL." Inasmuch as the "true church" is built upon Christ, the false church is built upon the Devil. In Revelation 12 [see appendix], John saw the great red dragon, having seven heads in the heavens, which of course is the space. Thus, the seven heads show the sevenfold powers of the Devil in all of his wickedness to the fullest. Therefore, the word "seven" here means fullness; complete. So, the woman, the false church set up on seven mountains of satanic powers, is the full power of the Devil. The church's top leader shall work all kinds of miracles and do all kinds of great wonders of the Devil and shall be able to read the minds of the deceived. Like the true church set upon Christ, the false church set upon seven mountains of satanic powers.