

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Revelation 17

Revelation 17: Scarlet Woman of Filthy Sheen

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Last week we moved into the worst of times: the Bowl Judgments of God. Remember that these events will take place during the Second Half of Daniel's Seventieth Week: Great Tribulation.

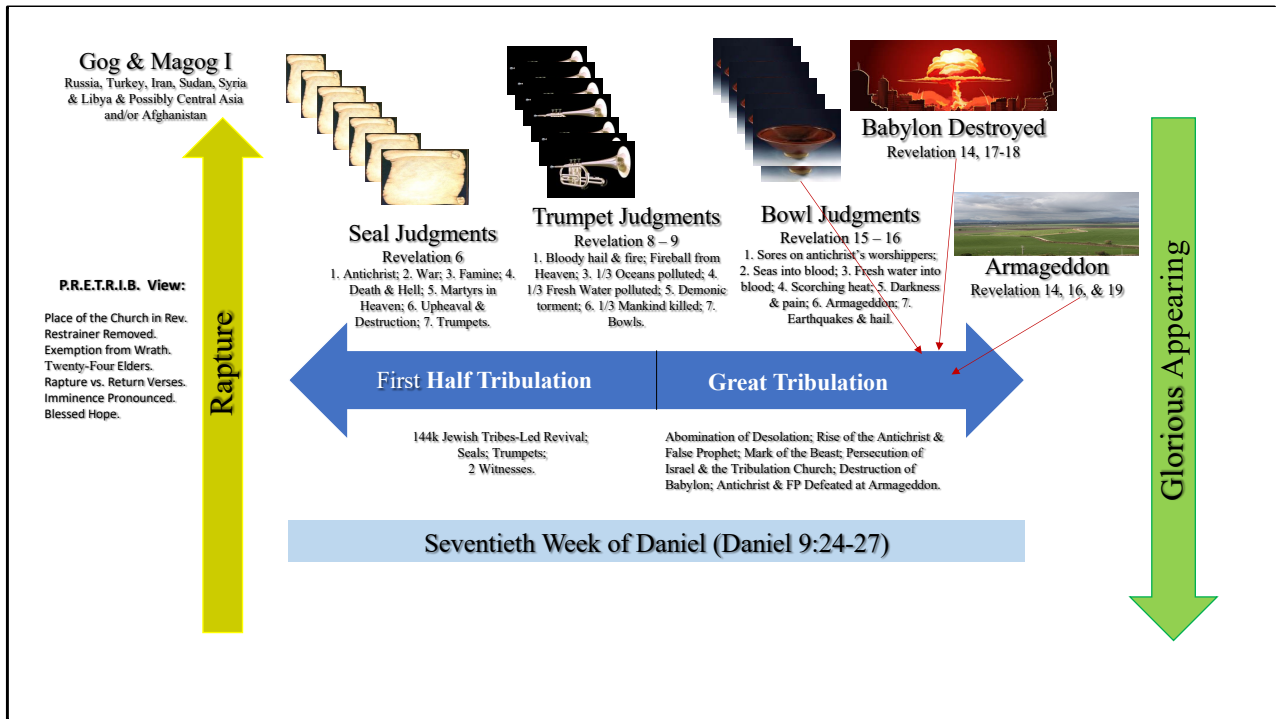
Now we will see the contrast of two cities over the next four chapters: Babylon and Jerusalem.

In chapter 17, we will again see significant Old Testament imagery. This reminds us of God's promises to Israel and the correlating adoption of His Church in and of Christ.

Revelation Rhymes

- Revelation Chapter 1: A Picture of the Eternal Son
- Revelation Chapter 2: Work of the Church to Do
- Revelation Chapter 3: Where Should Our Church Be?
- Revelation Chapter 4: God Worshiped By 24 and More
- Revelation Chapter 5: Jesus the Lamb Alive
- Revelation Chapter 6: Judgment and Seals Mix
- Revelation Chapter 7: Two Great Multitudes (One in Heaven)
- Revelation Chapter 8: Silence, Prayer, and Trumpets Great
- Revelation Chapter 9: Woe, Woe, Woe: Men Seek to Die
- Revelation Chapter 10: The Little Book Consumed Within
- Revelation Chapter 11: Two Witnesses Ascend to Heaven
- Revelation Chapter 12: Israel Into the Wilderness to Dwell
- Revelation Chapter 13: Antichrist the Great Unclean
- Revelation Chapter 14: 144,000 in a Heavenly Scene
- Revelation Chapter 15: Praise to the Lamb the Victors Sing
- Revelation Chapter 16: Bowls of Judgment to Be Gleaned
- Revelation Chapter 17: Scarlet Woman of Filthy Sheen





These events will almost assuredly occur during the last months of the Great Tribulation.

The Woman and the Scarlet Beast

17 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me: "Come, I will show you the judgment of the notorious prostitute who is seated on many waters. ² The kings of the earth committed sexual immorality with her, and those who live on the earth became drunk on the wine of her sexual immorality." ³ Then he carried me away in the Spirit to a wilderness.

I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was covered with blasphemous names and had seven heads and ten horns. ⁴ The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, adorned with gold, jewels, and pearls. She had a golden cup in her hand filled with everything detestable and with the impurities of her prostitution. ⁵ On her forehead was written a name, a mystery: BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES AND OF THE DETESTABLE THINGS OF THE EARTH. ⁶ Then I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the witnesses to Jesus. When I saw her, I was greatly astonished.

³² And what more can I say? Time is too short for me to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets, ³³ who by faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the raging of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, gained strength in weakness, became mighty in battle, and put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵ Women received their dead, raised to life again. Other people were tortured, not accepting release, so that they might gain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Others experienced mockings and scourgings, as well as bonds and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned, they were sawed in two, they died by the sword, they wandered about in sheepskins, in goatskins, destitute, afflicted, and mistreated. ³⁸ The world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and on mountains, hiding in caves and holes in the ground (Hebrews 11:32-38).



Verse 2: The sexuality here includes over-indulgence of power, pride, false worship, and material possessions. Throughout the Old Testament, when God's people went astray, it was commonly referred to as adultery, e.g., Leviticus 17:7; Isaiah 1:21; Jeremiah 3:1-14; Ezekiel 16 & 23; Hosea 4:15.

Verse 3: The seven heads and ten horns indicates the alliance between the nations and the antichrist.

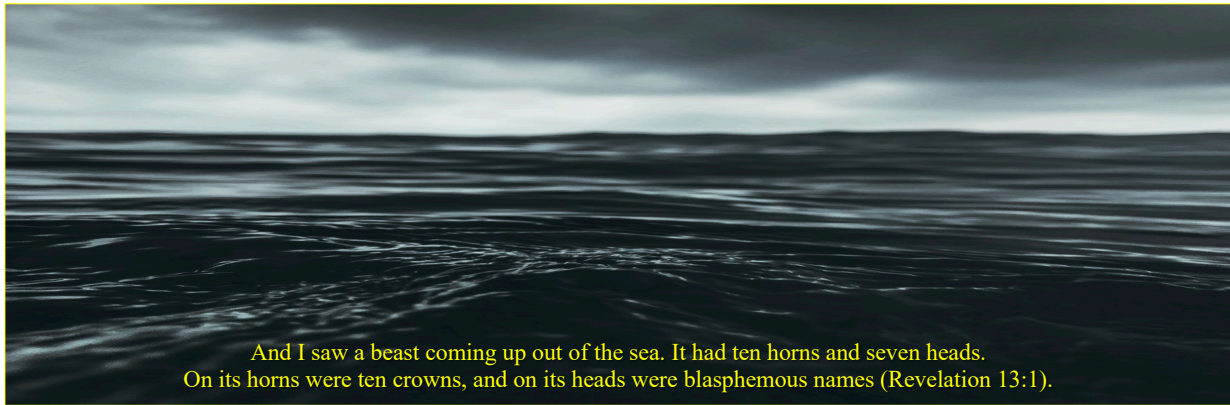
Verse 4: Sin often *looks* attractive.

Verse 5: Genesis 11 is apparently indicated here, a reminder of the Tower of Babel.

Verse 6: As we have seen throughout the Revelation of Jesus Christ, the blood of His saints does not go unnoticed (see Hebrews 11:32-38).

The Meaning of the Woman and of the Beast

⁷Then the angel said to me, "Why are you astonished? I will explain to you the mystery of the woman and of the beast, with the seven heads and the ten horns, that carries her. ⁸The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to come up from the abyss and go to destruction. Those who live on the earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world will be astonished when they see the beast that was, and is not, and is to come. ⁹This calls for a mind that has wisdom.



Verses 7-8: This is the same beast of 13:1, i.e., the antichrist indwelt and empowered by the Great Dragon, Satan. We see the purported death and revived life of the antichrist. The enemy has long attempted to emulate God, but he is not and cannot *be* God.

“The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman is seated. They are also seven kings: ¹⁰ Five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come, and when he comes, he must remain for only a little while. ¹¹ The beast that was and is not, is itself an eighth king, but it belongs to the seven and is going to destruction. ¹² The ten horns you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they will receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour. ¹³ These have one purpose, and they give their power and authority to the beast. ¹⁴ These will make war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will conquer them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings. Those with him are called, chosen, and faithful.”

⁷“After this, while I was watching in the night visions, suddenly a fourth beast appeared, frightening and dreadful, and incredibly strong, with large iron teeth. It devoured and crushed, and it trampled with its feet whatever was left. It was different from all the beasts before it, and it had ten horns...”

²⁰ I also wanted to know about the ten horns on its head and about the other horn that came up, before which three fell—the horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spoke arrogantly, and that looked bigger than the others.

²⁴ The ten horns are ten kings who will rise from this kingdom. Another king, different from the previous ones, will rise after them and subdue three kings (Daniel 7:7, 20, 24).



Verse 9b-11: The woman is the prostitute, the representative of the false religious system of the end times.

There is much debate regarding the location of the Seven Mountains: This is indicative of Rome, but also is possibly indicative of the former major city of Babylon. Some posit New York because of its financial might.

The Ten Kings will be over ten regions, and they will rule under the authority of the antichrist. They will eventually make a short war against Jesus himself at Armageddon but will lose because Jesus is the Lord of lords and the King of kings! We who accompany Him will be called, chosen, and faithful!

There are three phases during this time regarding the ten kings:

First, the ten kings will appear (see Daniel 2 & 7).

Second, the ten kings will unite with the antichrist. Three will rebel and be killed (Daniel 7:8, 24). They will be subsequently be replaced and submit to the antichrist (Revelation 17:12-13).

Third, this empire will stretch across the entire Earth, making the antichrist the ruler of those who refuse the grace of Jesus Christ and the message of His witnesses.

¹⁵ He also said to me, “The waters you saw, where the prostitute was seated, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and languages. ¹⁶ The ten horns you saw, and the beast, will hate the prostitute. They will make her desolate and naked, devour her flesh, and burn her up with fire. ¹⁷ For God has put it into their hearts to carry out his plan by having one purpose and to give their kingdom to the beast until the words of God are fulfilled. ¹⁸ And the woman you saw is the great city that has royal power over the kings of the earth.”



Those who align together will turn on each other (we see this even in American politics, where members of the same party turn against each other. Sadly, we also see this in the Church).

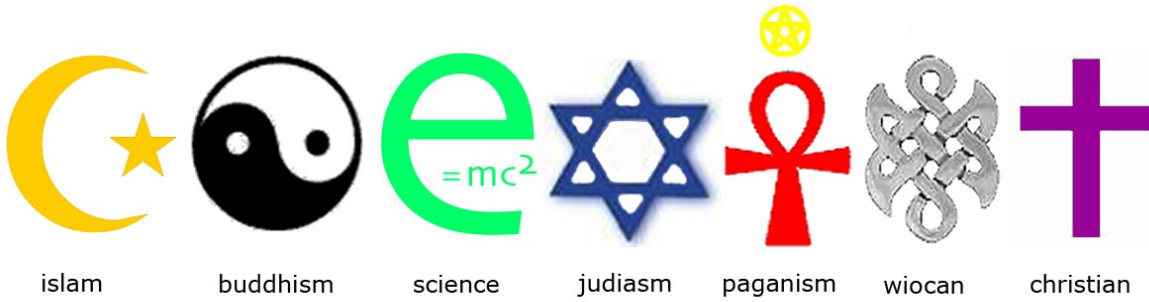
Here the enemy of God will divide against itself as willed by God (see Exodus 7:3-5; Jeremiah 51:11, 29, 52:3; Joel 2:11; Matthew 12:25; Romans 1:28-32).

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| <p style="text-align: center;">The Woman</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Great Prostitute • Sits on Many Waters • Commits Adultery with Kings • People Enamored by Her • Sits on the Beast • Dressed in Purple & Scarlet • Glitters with Gold, Stones & Pearls • Golden Cup • Mark on Her Forehead • Drunk with the Blood of the Saints & Those Who Love Jesus | <p>This is a world system. "She" is often used biblically to symbolize a system, nation, or the church.</p> | <p>While this been since the early days of rebellion, it will be especially so during the time of a one-world religion.</p> | <p>R E V E L A T I O N 1 7</p> |
| <p>That she is referred to as a "whore" is significant. Greek "<i>Pornes</i>" is where we get English word "Pornography." She is opposite of godliness.</p> | <p>The ten horns represent nations, kingdoms, etc. These are those astray from God.</p> | | |
| <p>This world system is a depiction of religions which are the opposite of God's. She has played the spiritual harlot.</p> | <p>"Seven heads" are seven mountains...some believe Rome, some believe New York, and still others believe a rebuilt Babylon in Iraq.</p> | | |
| <p>Now I will expose her shame in the sight of her lovers, and no one will rescue her from my power (Hosea 2:10).</p> | | | |

Summary of Chapter 17

The False Message of Religious Babylon Tomorrow's Prophecy Today

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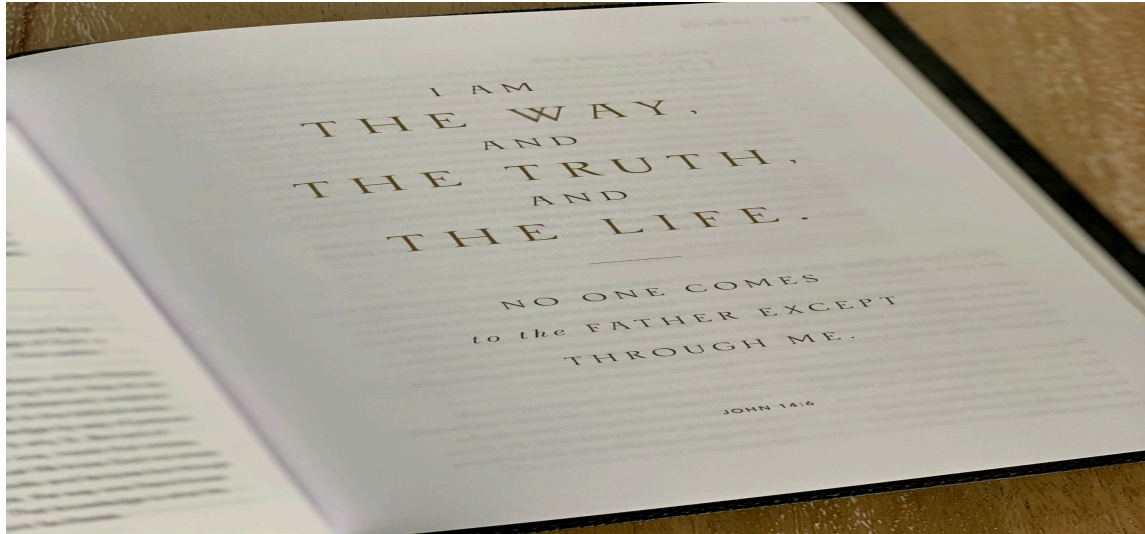


"Genesis 1:1 succinctly proclaims, 'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth' (Christian Standard Bible).' There is seemingly no hesitation from the biblical writer but an emphatic statement of what he deems to be true. Causal relationship subsists from the initial words of the bible, with nature ensuing as the result of God's creative work. God is first and previously exists. Nature secondarily occurs at God's behest. Genesis 1;1 is a statement of preeminence, of One who weaved the fabric of all existence" (Mark A. Langner: *Creation Costs: Hermeneutical and Scientific Repercussions Through the Lens of the Day Age and Young Earth Views*).

Science, at its core, is simply the observation and study of matter which was created by the spoken word of the Lord Jesus Christ, at the will of the Father, and under the divine influence of the Holy Spirit (John 1:1-3; Genesis 1:1-3).

There is only One Way - and it is not through any means other than the Lord Jesus Christ!

The Real Message



People who fall for the deceit of Babylon do not recognize the truth of John 14:6: that it is only through Christ that we find life.

They also do not know the absolute truth of Psalm 84:10-12: "Better is one day in your courts, than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked. For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he without from those whose walk is blameless. LORD Almighty, blessed is the one who trusts in you" (NIV).

Question of the Week: How do we keep from falling to the things and goals of Babylon?