

**Revelation Chapter 17**

**Mystery Babylon**

Presented by Clifford Phipps – 5/17/2022

Revelation Chapter 17

Definition of False Religion

A false religion is any system of worship that does not center around the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Revelation Chapter 17

1 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters,

(Rev. 17:15)

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1 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters,

 2 with whom the kings of the earth committed acts of immorality, and those who dwell on the earth were made drunk with the wine of her immorality."

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3 And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness; and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast, full of blasphemous names, having seven heads and ten horns.

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4 The woman was clothed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a gold cup full of abominations and of the unclean things of her immorality,

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5 and on her forehead a name was written, a mystery, "BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH."

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(Rom. 10:9-10, Luke 19:42-44)

6 And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus. When I saw her, I wondered greatly.

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7 And the angel said to me, "Why do you wonder? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns.

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7 heads.

If we go back in history, we see that the Antichrist is the seventh world empire ruler. What are the previous world empires?

1. Egypt
2. Assyria
3. Babylon
4. Medo-Persia
5. Greece
6. Rome
7. Antichrist

10 horns

Daniel told us that the Antichrist would arise from 10 kings. The Antichrist was described as a little horn that would arise from out of these 10 horns or these 10 kings.

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8 "The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to come up out of the abyss and go to destruction. And those who dwell on the earth, whose name has not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, will wonder when they see the beast, that he was and is not and will come”.

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(Rev 20:1-3)

9 "Here is the mind which has wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits,

10 and they are seven kings; five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come; and when he comes, he must remain a little while.

11 "The beast which was and is not, is himself also an eighth and is one of the seven, and he goes to destruction.

The 7 heads are the 7 kings. Five have fallen, one is, and the other has not yet come. When he does come, he must remain a little while.

Who are the five that have fallen?

1. Egypt
2. Assyria
3. Babylon
4. Medo-Persia
5. Greece.

What is the ruling empire at the time that John is writing this letter in 95 A.D?

1. Rome

That’s the kingdom that is.

In 95 A.D. the other king that has not yet come is the Antichrist.

1. Antichrist

Now what happens to the Antichrist? He is killed and resurrected. So when he returns after his resurrection he becomes the 8th king

1. Antichrist (following his resurrection)

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12 "The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they 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.

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14 "These will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, because He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those who are with Him are the called and chosen and faithful."

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15 And he said to me, "The waters which you saw where the harlot sits, are peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues.

16 "And the ten horns which you saw, and the beast, these will hate the harlot and will make her desolate and naked, and will eat her flesh and will burn her up with fire.

17 "For God has put it in their hearts to execute His purpose by having a common purpose, and by giving their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God will be fulfilled.

18 "The woman whom you saw is the great city, which reigns over the kings of the earth."

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(Rom. 11:33)

(Gen. 9:1-3, Gen. 10:1, Gen. 10:6, Gen. 10:8-11, Gen. 11:1-4, Gen. 11:5-9, Jer. 10:1-4, Ezek. 8:13-14, Jer. 7:18, Ezek. 8:15-17)

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**Perspectives from Revelation Chapter 17**

Rev 17:1

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters,

NASU

Rev 17:15

And he said to me, "The waters which you saw where the harlot sits, are peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues.

She’s got the entire world under her influence. She’s influenced the kings of the world and all of the people in every nation and tongue.

False religion has been more effective at sending people to hell than anything else in the history of the world.

What is her goal?

Her goal is to keep people from ever coming to a true understanding of the Gospel of Jesus Christ by using false religion as a substitute for a true relationship with God.

What are the combined spiritual efforts to interrupt a person’s relationship with God?

**During the Old Covenant**

Woman and Satan

* Deceive the Nation of Israel into believing that righteousness could be obtained by following the Law instead of believing
* Kill the prophets of God

Purpose

* To keep the Israelites form being saved and maintaining a true relationship with God.
* To keep the Nation of Israel from recognizing Jesus as their Messiah when He came to them on the 10th of Nisan in 32 AD.

**During the Church Era**

Woman

* False religion keeps the nations unsaved

Satan

* Deceives the nations – governments establish laws opposing God’s Word
* Deceives non-believers to keep them from getting saved
* Deceives believers – to turn them away from being saved
* Kill the Israelites – keep them from Matt 23:39

Purpose

* Decrease the number of the Gentiles added to the Church to prevent the Rapture
* Eliminate Jews from being able to say “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

**1st half of the Tribulation Period**

Woman

* False religion results in the death of the Saints and the Witnesses of Jesus (Rev. 17:6)

Satan / AC

* Deceives the nations
* Kills the Saints and Witnesses of Jesus
* Deceives the Israelis into believing the AC is the Messiah

Purpose

* Keep the saints from influencing the Israelis
* Keep the Jews from recognizing Jesus as the Messiah.

**2nd half of the Tribulation Period**

Woman

* Destroyed

Satan / AC

* Kills believers who do not take the Mark of the Beast (Jews and Gentiles)
* Deceives the nations into believing that they can attack and eliminate the Israelis and defeat God (Armageddon)

Look at how complete Satan’s strategy is to keep people from a true relationship with God.

When you understand the spiritual forces at work to keep a person from being saved it is no wonder that heaven rejoices when one person gets saved.

(Luke 15:7)

