The Sustainer of Abominations – What’s in the Golden Cup?

**An Examination of Revelation 17:4, 5**

Carol Daul, BSN, RN, BC-NC

Abstract

The woman of Revelation 17, MYSTERY, BABLYON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH (Revelation 17:5), holds a golden cup in her hand filled with a mixture causing drunkenness. This wine, possessed, owned, and served to all the inhabitants of the earth through the seductions of this most elegant and splendidly dressed maître d'hôtel will be rejected by those who keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus. One of the ingredients listed in this wine are abominations. The abominations are what God has pronounced as abominable to Him and they are all revealed in His Holy Word. Furthermore, God has warned that entrance to His holy city will be barred against those who are found practicing these abominations (Revelation 21:27). Discovery and examination are forthcoming how this Mother of Harlots and Abominations of the Earth is the sustainer, conservator, and progenitor – under Satan’s direction – of these abominations and who she is.

Keywords: Mystery, Babylon, Mother of Harlots, Abominations of Earth, Golden Cup, Drunken

“The prophecy as given to John is a revelation of Jesus Christ, and is the history of God’s dealings with the church which bears the name, Christian. …The Revelation is ecclesiastical history, and into it, nations are introduced only when they affect the growth of the church.”18 A divine blessing is pronounced upon God’s servants who read, hear, and keep—observe, “those things which are written therein, for the time is at hand (Revelation 1:3).” What is the time at hand? “The time is at hand when the case of every soul will soon be decided.”53 “Solemn events before us are yet to transpire. Trumpet after trumpet is to be sounded; vial after vial poured out one after another upon the inhabitants of the earth. Scenes of stupendous interest are right upon us and these things will be sure indications of the presence of Him who has directed in every aggressive movement, who has accompanied the march of His cause through all the ages, and who has graciously pledged Himself to be with His people in all their conflicts to the end of the world. He will vindicate His truth. He will cause it to triumph. He is ready to supply His faithful ones with motives and power of purpose, inspiring them with hope and courage and valor in increased activity as the time is at hand.”56

In the book of the Revelation of Jesus Christ, chapter seventeen, verses four and five, a woman clothed in dazzling attire emerges from the wilderness, riding upon a scarlet colored beast. This woman’s name is, “MYSTERY, BABLYON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH” (Revelation 17:5). She holds a golden cup in her hand filled with a mixture causing drunkenness. Looking back at verse two of Revelation, chapter seventeen, it is seen that this woman has committed fornication with the kings of the earth and, “the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.” (Revelation 17:2). This wine of abominations and fornication affects all the inhabitants of the earth with drunkenness except for the called, chosen, and faithful who are with the Lamb and refuse to drink of the wine (Revelation 17:14).

To discover exactly who the woman of Revelation 17:4, 5 is, what she holds in her golden cup, and what her purpose is, a word by word, phrase by phrase, deep dive into these verses follows.

“*And the woman*…” Revelation 17:4. Seventh-day Adventists have historically preserved, from the Protestant Reformation, the doctrinal interpretation that a woman, in Bible prophecy, symbolizes a religious system, a church, a group of people upholding a set of doctrines, claiming Christ as her head .18, 43, 45 In the book of Revelation there are two women depicted – a pure woman, (Revelation 12:1, 2; 19:7-9) and an impure woman (harlot, Revelation 17:1-5). The pure woman is a church, a body of believers, espousing the pure doctrines of God’s Holy Word, and yielding not one inch to the idolatrous practices, customs, and fashions of the world around her.48 She carries the cross of Jesus Christ fearlessly. The harlot, is an apostate church, a religio-political power – as symbolized by her riding upon the back of the beast—claiming Jesus Christ as her leader. She aligns herself, sits on top of the political powers of earth, assuming authority and leadership to enforce her religion upon the dwellers of earth, all nations, kindred, tongues, and people through the use of deceptive means.24

This woman, “…*was arrayed*…” Revelation 17:4. According to Strong’s Hebrew and Greek Lexicon, the phrase, “*was arrayed,*” is *peribállō*, in the Greek language, meaning, to throw all around, i.e. invest (with a palisade or with clothing): array, cast about, clothe(-d me), put on (See Luke 23:11, Acts 12:21, Revelation 7:13, and 19:8). Mystery, Babylon, the Mother of Harlots clothed herself by her own power, doing it her way, in garments to display her dazzling boldness while hiding her shame and guilt. She refused to accept the pure white garment of righteousness that Jesus Christ would place upon her.

Mystery, Babylon the Great, the Mother of Harlots chose to cloak herself in garments that were made of, “…*purple and scarlet colour*…” Revelation 17:4. Purple and scarlet are colors first mentioned in the book of Exodus. God communed with Moses atop Mount Sainai, giving him very detailed instructions to, “make Me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. According to all that I shew thee, *after* the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make *it*.” Exodus 25:8, 9. The colors of the curtains, vails, and the priest’s garments were to be of fine twined linen, blue, purple, and scarlet with gold threads intertwined upon some of the pieces (See Exodus chapters 26-28, 35-39). The symbology of these specific colors in their order holds very significant meaning.

The fined twined linen – white in color – is none other than the righteousness of Jesus Christ (See Revelation 19:8; Job 29:14; Psalms 11:7; Philippians 1:11, 3:9; 1 Peter 2:24; 2 Peter 1:1; Genesis 15:6; Deuteronomy 6:24, 25). The blue is God’s law, the very transcript of His character, the foundation upon which His throne is established (See Numbers 15:38-40; Exodus 24:10, 12; 31:18; chapter 34; Deuteronomy 10:1-4; Ezekiel 1:26; 10:1). Purple is the color of royalty (See Judges 8:26; Esther 8:15; Mark 15:17; Luke 16:19; John 19:2, 5). Garments of purple belong to the Ruler of the universe, the Creator of heaven and earth. He alone confers royal honors upon those He adopts as His children, those who pattern their lives according to His standard of character, His divine law of life, liberty, and happiness (See 1 Peter 10:7-10; James 2:5-13). Scarlet is the color of blood. It is symbolic for Jesus’ blood, “that maketh an atonement for the soul (Leviticus 17:11),” and was necessary for sanctification, cleansing, and provision of life to the inhabitants of earth because of transgressing God’s everlasting covenant (See Revelation 1:5; 1 John 1:7-9; Hebrews 13:12; John 6:53). It is the blood of Jesus alone that makes it possible to walk in the light of truth, to be sanctified through His righteousness, reconciled to God after the transgression of His law, and finally conferred with the title: *Children of Royalty.*

The Mother of Harlots cloaks herself in robes the color of royalty and claims authority over God’s plan of salvation.34 Intoxicating wine is served in a golden challis during her religious services by the priests dressed in scarlet or purple robes – they are never to wear blue, except upon two occasions, if special permission is granted.31 To increase her deceptive power, she tampers with and changes the order, wording, and time stamp found in the midst of God’s law (Daniel 7:25), claiming God granted her the sole authority to do so.10 Lifting the golden challis to her lips, she is a law unto herself, and ratifies her law through drinking the blood of saints and martyrs of our Lord Jesus Christ (Revelation 1:9; 17:6), and the blood of Jesus, claiming it to be His actual blood created through transubstantiation.46

“…*And decked with gold and precious stones and pearls*…” Revelation 17:4. We look once again to the sanctuary that God told Moses to build after the pattern of things in the heavens for the significance in God’s Word of gold, precious stones, and pearls. The articles of furniture found within the holy and most holy places were made of a special hard wood overlaid with pure gold (Exodus 25). The mercy seat found on top of the ark of the covenant and the cherubim overlooking the mercy seat, along with the candlestick with its branches, were made of pure gold. The high priest wore a special breast plate with its various parts made of pure gold upon which were placed twelve precious stones with each of the names of the twelve tribes of Israel engraved upon them. He also wore a golden plate across his forehead engraved with the words, “Holiness to the Lord,” and tied on with a ribbon of blue (Exodus 39:30).

“The gold tried in the fire (Job 23:10; Proverbs 17:3; Isaiah 13:12; Lamentations 4:2; Zechariah 13:9; 1 Peter 1:7; Revelation 3:18) is faith that works by love. Only this can bring us into harmony with God. We may be active, we may do much work; but without love, such love as dwelt in the heart of Christ, we can never be numbered with the family of heaven.”50 The gold belongs to God alone and is His only to portion out (Haggai 2:8).

When Jesus walked the earth, He spoke of seeking for the pearl of great price. “Christ Himself is the pearl of great price. In Him is gathered all the glory of the Father, the fullness of the Godhead. He is the brightness of the Father's glory and the express image of His person. The glory of the attributes of God is expressed in His character. Every page of the Holy Scriptures shines with His light. The righteousness of Christ, as a pure, white pearl, has no defect, no stain. No work of man can improve the great and precious gift of God. It is without a flaw.”51 “The parable of the merchantman seeking goodly pearls has a double significance: it applies not only to men as seeking the kingdom of heaven, but to Christ as seeking His lost inheritance. Christ, the heavenly merchantman seeking goodly pearls, saw in lost humanity the pearl of price. In man, defiled and ruined by sin, He saw the possibilities of redemption. Hearts that have been the battleground of the conflict with Satan, and that have been rescued by the power of love, are more precious to the Redeemer than are those who have never fallen. God looked upon humanity, not as vile and worthless; He looked upon it in Christ, saw it as it might become through redeeming love. He collected all the riches of the universe, and laid them down in order to buy the pearl. And Jesus, having found it, resets it in His own diadem. ‘For they shall be as the stones of a crown, lifted up as an ensign upon His land.’ Zechariah 9:16. ‘They shall be Mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up My jewels.’”51

Turning our focus back to this harlot woman of bible prophecy we see her decking herself with gold, precious stones, and pearls. These beautiful ornaments, only belonging to God our Creator, she claims for herself. She claims the pearls of lost humanity, for herself. She claims Christ, His righteousness and goodness for herself. God’s standard of character, His law, faith, righteousness, and His goodness are not found upon her or within her walls. She wears these false jewels only to exalt herself.34 This is discerned through the eye of faith by those who have bought and submitted to the application of the heavenly eye-salve (Revelation 3:18).

“…*Having a golden cup in her hand*.” “Babylon hath been a golden cup in the LORD'S hand, that made all the earth drunken: the nations have drunken of her wine; therefore the nations are mad.” Jeremiah 51:7. Babylon holds the golden cup in her hand, claiming love, good works and faith, yet full of self-sufficiency, and destitute of that love that requires nothing in return. The pen of inspiration tells us, “…The gold tried in the fire represents love and faith. Many are nearly destitute of love. Self-sufficiency blinds their eyes to their great need. There is a positive necessity for a daily conversion to God, a new, deep, and daily experience in the religious life.”54

“…*Full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication.*” This harlot mixes the philosophies, sophistries, superstitions, doctrines of devils, and all that God has pronounced abomination with the pure Word of Truth and joins herself with the heads of state collaborating, consulting, and leading them to legislate religious dogma, church and state uniting, against the pure untarnished truth found only in God’s Word.5 In defiance, with an air of gentleness and goodwill about her, Babylon, serves her intoxicating mixture to all living upon the earth with most glorious style. (Isaiah 54:5, 6; Jeremiah 6:2; Ephesians 5:25-27; Ezekiel 6:2, 15; Ezekiel 16:30-32; Revelation 2:20-22; Revelation 17:18). The inhabitants of earth, those who have occupied a place of obscurity from the corruption of society and believed the truth for years, become corrupted, they become enticed through the beauty and gentleness of the swooning princess, queen of heaven, Babylon, the Mother of Harlots. They drink sips of the intoxicating mixture held to their lips. The smell is overwhelmingly sweet, the effects are exhilarating. Sweet words such as these tingle the ears, “This is the blood of Jesus. Your sins are all forgiven - past, present and future. Have more,” she says, “Drink to your fill! God understands your weaknesses! He wants you to be strong, confident, accepted, enjoy life, and be fashionable in society!” “You don’t want to look or believe so differently or hold yourself aloof from all the healthy entertainments, and little pleasures! Look at all those drinking this beneficial deliciousness. They are happy, gaining popularity and enjoying influential positions.”

Yes, this mixture is made specifically to war against the kingdom of God and His law of true love, life, and liberty. Satan is the power beneath her whose ultimate purpose is to deceive the very elect into drinking this wine. Satan knows if he can deceive the very elect into drinking, even so much as a sip of this wine occasionally, there will be very little success in the proclamation of the last message of warning to this world, the last invitation of mercy and truth. The three angels’ messages will be made of none effect. The great arch deceiver uses this religious system to try and depose God, enthroned in the hearts of His children, by deceiving them into partaking of what He has declared to be an abomination (detestable) to Him. Remember, dear reader, there is no mean between what God loves and what He abhors!

What are the abominations this harlot holds within her cup? God has declared each of them in His Word with unmistakable clarity. The following numbered points will provide a partial understanding what these abominations are.

1. “…they shall not be eaten, they are an abomination…And every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth shall be an abomination; it shall not be eaten…them ye shall not eat; for they are an abomination...For I am the LORD your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I Am holy.” Leviticus 11:10-13 and verses 20-45 (See Leviticus 11 for the complete list of unclean animals pronounced an abomination).

The great religio-political power of the papacy, to whom all the leaders of religions and nations seek unto, teaches it is of no consequence to eat what one desires for it has all been blessed of God since the days of Moses.15 Biblical counsel and wisdom regarding the blessing of God upon the food eaten is brushed aside. She has taken the prerogative of God to pronounce good to eat the blood (Genesis 9:4; Leviticus 17:12), fat (Leviticus 3:17; 7:23) and flesh of any kind of creature when it has been clearly pronounced an abomination.

Mr. Tom Nash of *Catholic Answers* writes, “Eating pork is not an intrinsic evil as is, say, adultery. Eating pork becomes a sin for a Catholic when he deliberately eats it on a Lenten Friday which is also not a solemnity, given that he’s violating a Church precept to abstain from meat on such days. (A solemnity trumps the normally prescribed abstinence.) Violating this Church precept is an offense against God, because Jesus gave Peter and his papal successors the power to bind and loose (Matt. 16:18-19) and by extension to those bishops/apostolic successors in union with the pope (cf. Matt. 18:15-18).”35 “The Catechism of the Catholic Church (Â§ 582) states: ‘Jesus perfects the dietary law, so important in Jewish daily life, by revealing its pedagogical meaning through a divine interpretation,’ essentially abrogating the restrictions, or, perhaps better, deepening their meaning as inconsequential in the light of the Gospel which deals not with matters of the stomach, but with matters of the heart.”15

1. “Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.” Leviticus 18:22. “If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination…” Leviticus 20:13.

The Advocate, claiming to be the world’s leading source of LGBTQ+ news and information, features an article documenting prominent leaders within the Catholic religion, to include popes, who were known to live a same-sex lifestyle.37 In The Conversation, Lisa McClain, Professor of History and Gender Studies, Boise State University, writes, “While the church’s (Catholic) official stance prohibiting sexual relations between people of the same sex has [remained constant](https://books.google.com/books?id=hKxLDwAAQBAJ&dq=Catholic+Homosexuality&source=gbs_navlinks_s), the importance the church ascribes to the ‘sin’ has varied. Additionally, over centuries, the church only sporadically chose to investigate or enforce its prohibitions.”30

“The late Pope Frances declared, ‘We are all children of God, and God loves us as we are and for the strength that each of us fights for our dignity. Being homosexual is not a crime. It is not a crime. This is to speak of ‘the matter’ of sin, but we know well that Catholic morality not only takes into consideration the matter, but also evaluates freedom and intention; and this, for every kind of sin. And I would tell whoever wants to criminalize homosexuality that they are wrong,’ the pope wrote.

“Then, he voiced an objection to that statement, followed by how he would respond to that objection, saying, ‘Yes, but it is a sin. Fine, but first let us distinguish between a sin and a crime. It’s also a sin to lack charity with one another,’ he added.”14

1. “The graven images of their gods shall ye burn with fire: thou shalt not desire the silver or gold that is on them, nor take it unto thee, lest thou be snared therein: for it is an abomination to the LORD thy God. Neither shalt thou bring an abomination into thine house, lest thou be a cursed thing like it: but thou shalt utterly detest it, and thou shalt utterly abhor it; for it is a cursed thing.” Deuteronomy 7:25, 26 (See also Deuteronomy 7:26; 12:31; 27:15).

God has declared the silver and gold of an icon fashioned or created to represent a god and used for the purpose of worship, veneration, or adoration is an abomination to Him. Historical accounts reveal icons of saints carved of wood or stone were first introduced to Christianity as early as the third century by those who crept in unawares among God’s faithful people, “turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness.” Jude 1:4.

Gradually, as apostasy from the pure faith of Jesus Christ developed, reverential worship, veneration of paintings and carved images of Christ and saints was demonstrated and encouraged to be practiced among all worshipers by theologians, clerics, bishops, and priests, especially during the 7th and 8th centuries.12 The church of Rome declared, during the 7th session of Nicaea II, “the figure of the cross and images made of various materials will be placed in churches, houses, or roadsides representing Jesus, Mary, angels and saints.”12 People looking upon them may be induced to give respect and worshipful honor but not adoration due only to the Divine Nature. It is claimed that honor paid to these images passes on to the prototype.12, 21

The commandments of God are made of none effect by Catholic contemporary teaching; His pronouncement of image worship and the gold and silver adorning them as an abomination is rejected with the explanation that, “images do not mean the same thing to us as they did and do for pagans who really consider them to be gods. We do not adore images, and we know perfectly well that they are only representations, whether of Christ or of his saints.”21

1. “Thou shalt not sacrifice unto the LORD thy God any bullock, or sheep, wherein is blemish, or any evilfavouredness: for that is an abomination unto the LORD thy God.” Deuteronomy 17:1 (See also verse 4; and 18:12; Ephesians 5:25-27; 1 Peter 1:16).

Biblical teaching clearly presents the truth that God does not dwell with those who are violating His law—those who retain a blemish in their characters. As the centuries have passed into eternity, little by little changes crept into the Christian communion to provide a way for the sinner to be accepted by God whilst remaining in sin. Catholicism, that woman riding on the back of the beast (Revelation 17:4, 5), teaches that God dwells within the sinner. It is explained that, “Although all sin is evil, not all sin is equally evil.”20 There are 2 types of sin: mortal sin and venial sin. Venial sin may exist within a person’s soul causing damage and weakness but God’s grace and charity may still dwell there, but not perfect charity.16 Venial sins can be forgiven through contrition, the sacrament of Confession—not necessary, the Mass, or praying the Repentance Rosary.16, 20  In the *Catholic Gentleman* it is written, “Repeated sin can be painful, and in the midst of our humiliation, we may wonder if we will ever find victory. According to St. Maximilian, you will in God’s good time—if you are teachable and docile, that is.”17

The truth is, “God expressly directed that every offering presented for the service of the sanctuary should be ‘without blemish.’ Exodus 12:5. The priests were to examine all animals brought as a sacrifice, and were to reject every one in which a defect was discovered. Only an offering ‘without blemish’ could be a symbol of His perfect purity who was to offer Himself as ‘a lamb without blemish and without spot.’ 1 Peter 1:19. The apostle Paul points to these sacrifices as an illustration of what the followers of Christ are to become. He says, ‘I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.’ Romans 12:1. We are to give ourselves to the service of God, and we should seek to make the offering as nearly perfect as possible. God will not be pleased with anything less than the best we can offer. Those who love Him with all the heart, will desire to give Him the best service of the life, and they will be constantly seeking to bring every power of their being into harmony with the laws that will promote their ability to do His will.55

“In *Living Temple* the assertion is made that God is in the flower, in the leaf, in the sinner. But God does not live in the sinner. The Word declares that He abides only in the hearts of those who love Him and do righteousness. God does not abide in the heart of the sinner; it is the enemy who abides there.”57

1. “The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the LORD thy God.” Deuteronomy 22:5

What does that word “pertain” mean? According to the Merriam Webster’s dictionary, “pertain” means that which is prepared for, belongs to, or has reference to. This verse is clearly speaking of garments and it is God who has said all who wear garments pertaining to the opposite gender are abomination to Him. In 1890, Seventh-day Adventists were given instructions by God how His people were to dress. Deuteronomy 22:5 was specifically quoted twice in reference to the “American Costume” of which women were adopting as a new style of freedom from the constraints of wearing the long dresses that swept the ground. This style consisted of trousers, possibly gathered at the ankles or left wide, of varying lengths, with sometimes a blouse, pared with a masculine style coat or a dress whose length reached somewhere between the thigh and the knee. Tall boots and a cap completed the style. It was an abomination to the Lord because it was declared to be dress that closely resembled the dress of men.47 If it was an abomination at that time, does God’s mind change over the course of 100 years? The answer is a resounding “No.”

Now, what does Catholicism have to do with this fashion? Could it really be an abomination mixed in her golden cup? In AD 866, Pope Nicholas I wrote in response to the Bulgars question concerning their women wearing pants, “We consider what you asked about pants (*femoralia*) to be irrelevant; for we do not wish the exterior style of your clothing to be changed, but rather the behavior of the inner man within you, nor do we desire to know what you are wearing except Christ—for however many of you have been baptized in Christ, have put on Christ [Gal. 3:27]—but rather how you are progressing in faith and good works.” He goes on to explain how they should follow the custom of Christians, referring to Ephesians 4:22-24 and Colossians 3:9-10, then adds, “but really do what you please. For whether you or your women wear or do not wear pants (*femoralia*) neither impedes your salvation nor leads to any increase of your virtue.”36

Since the inception of gaining popularity among women to wear men’s-wear styles of clothing, beginning in the 1920’s, societal custom and fashionable presentation has taken the lead in determining what to wear and what not to wear among the followers of Jesus Christ. There is no longer a cross to bear. It was said of the famous French fashion designer, Coco Chanel—who was raised inside a convent in Italy—introduced freedom from the patriarchal constraints that had been placed upon women for thousands of years. She designed a very attractive and comfortable pant suit for women, using the wide legged marine’s pants as a prototype. Women could now enjoy independence from the family fireside seeking her own professional “calling”.11

Satan is very sly. He is the one who introduced fashion into the wine of Babylon that the effectiveness of the gospel of Jesus Christ in billions of hearts would be diminished or made of none effect. The broken down morals of society, confusion (gender), and a great increase of crime has been the result of adopting the “American Costume.”47

1. “There shall be no whore of the daughters of Israel, nor a sodomite of the sons of Israel. Thou shalt not bring the hire of a whore, or the price of a dog, into the house of the LORD thy God for any vow: for even both these *are* abomination unto the LORD thy God.” Deuteronomy 23:17, 18.

Money gained through prostitution, whether of male or female, and then given to the church as a token of full surrender and partnership with divinity is pronounced an abomination. The body and all of its members have been consecrated to God and are to remain in complete purity, virtue, and chastity in His site. Then only will offerings be accepted, blessed, and utilized to fulfill what is needful in ministry of the Word.

What does the Mother of Harlots say regarding sex work? In theory, Catholicism is against it, declaring, “The practice of prostitution should be shunned, and it is the duty of the agencies of the Church, of civil society and of the State to do all they can to liberate those involved from this practice.”4 However, in 2024, it was reported that Pope Frances, “welcomed nearly 100 trans-identifying women, some of whom are sex workers, to sacred spaces within the Vatican.”8 He regularly invited current or former sex workers to meet him at the Vatican and showered them with his blessing.9

Could Pope Frances have been subtly announcing to the world what has been secretly practiced globally in secret chambers for centuries? Yes, it is well documented that her drunken priests, bishops, and cardinals force her innocent young men and maidens, entombed in cloistered convents and monasteries, into harlotry, exploiting their financial and spiritual authority.1, 25 The day following their abominable actions, these same revered church leaders appear before their unsuspecting parish congregants in their “holy” vestments, waiving incense, performing the ritualistic ceremonies, holding in their filthy hands a golden challis, offering prayers of renunciation, peace, and goodwill.1, 25 This offering is pronounced an abomination. The Lord will declare to them, “I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all *ye* workers of iniquity.” Luke 13:27.

1. “Her former husband, which sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after that she is defiled; for that *is* abomination before the LORD.” Deuteronomy 24:4. “They say, If a man put away his wife, and she go from him, and become another man’s, shall he return unto her again? shall not that land be greatly polluted? but thou hast played the harlot with many lovers; yet return again to Me, saith the LORD.” Jeremiah 3:1.

Originally, marriage was intended to be a lifelong intimate relationship between two committed people. Due to sin and the hardness of heart, God gave provision for a marriage to be dissolved (Matthew 19:7-9). He gave further instructions to preserve the sanctity of marriage by making it clear, when a marriage had been dissolved, they were never to return to each other if they had entered into marriage with another person for this was an abomination to Him. God’s people were to maintain high morals and standards of living, in contrast with the heathen nations surrounding them.

What does Catholicism say about marriage and divorce? Is it acceptable within the Roman church to return to your original spouse yet again after a divorce and remarriage to another person? Can you have an absolution granted? Does an annulment cover this scenario? Is it really an abomination to the LORD in this day and age?

“When a couple marries, the Catholic Church believes that they have entered into a covenantal union not just between themselves, but also with God.”7 Therefore, if there are marital issues that arise and the couple sees no way of staying together, there will be a period of investigation for nullifying the marriage. A judgement is made that the marriage never took place which will render the parties single and free to marry accordingly within the church. Without an annulment, a person is considered to be committing adultery or living within a polygamous relationship if they marry another.7 According to this teaching, yes, there is room to engage in what God has pronounced an abomination, divorcing and remarrying the same person after a subsequent remarriage, and still be saved in Christ’s kingdom.

1. “A false balance *is* abomination to the LORD: but a just weight *is* his delight.” Proverbs 11:1; 20:10, 23; Deuteronomy 25:16; Ezekiel 18:10-13.

Those who do unrighteously by taking advantage of others through deceitful means are pronounced abomination. Recorded against the Mother of Harlots are countless instances of deceit and fraudulent activities to gain an advantage over the innocent. Lies and misleading information is provided to parents as to the complete nature of their sons’ and daughters’ service in convents and monasteries in order gain lifelong servitude and a full inheritance upon their parents’ death. Falsehoods are told to the parishioners by prelates as a means of enriching the hierarchy and building lofty cathedrals and defrauding those who have little of this world’s goods.25 One such doctrine is that of purgatory after death. “The doctrine of purgatory entails that we can assist our loved ones in purgatory by offering the Mass, prayers, indulgences, almsgiving, and other works of love for them.”6

“Does offering thirty Gregorian Masses always rescue a soul from purgatory? Although the practice is approved by the Church there is no official guarantee. Still it is a custom that points to the power and efficacy of the Holy Mass and there are souls in purgatory who are in desperate need of our Masses.

“… The customary offering for the uninterrupted series of 30 Masses celebrated on consecutive days is $300.”39

“Satan's skill is exercised in devising plans and methods without number to accomplish his purposes. He works to restrict religious liberty and to bring into the religious world a species of slavery. Organizations, institutions, unless kept by the power of God, will work under Satan's dictation to bring men under the control of men; and fraud and guile will bear the semblance of zeal for truth and for the advancement of the kingdom of God. Whatever in our practice is not as open as the day belongs to the methods of the prince of evil.

“God will not vindicate any device whereby man shall in the slightest degree rule or oppress his fellow man. As soon as a man begins to make an iron rule for other men, he dishonors God and imperils his own soul and the souls of his brethren.”52

1. “For the froward [those who depart, turn aside, go a crooked way, become devious – Strongs H3868] *is* abomination to the LORD.” Proverbs 3:32. “These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.” Proverbs 6:16-19 (See also Proverbs 11:20; 12:22; 15:8, 9, 26; 16:5).

“The crooked ways, the perverse doings of those around us, are not to dim the luster of our piety, or to lead us to conform our habits to, and assimilate our customs and practices with, the world’s. Let the prayer go forth from the lips of those who claim to be the sons and daughters of God, ‘Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.’ [[Psalm 139:23, 24](https://m.egwwritings.org/en/book/1965.33163#33163).]”49

Within the Roman Catholic communion much of these sins pronounced by God as abominations are declared to be only venial in nature and of less consequence than mortal sins. It is said that a person continues a life time struggle with venial sins. The doctrine of purgatory allows for a person to continue in a crooked way—a heart full of pride, lying, acts of unkindness, thoughtlessness, carelessness, wicked imaginations and still be covered by the grace of God. If the proper ritual for those sins has not been performed before or at the time of death, he/she will be transported to a place called purgatory, a place of suffering in the fire, where cleansing from these venial sins will finally fit that person for heaven.29 “Springing undeniably from Platonic pagan philosophy origins, then permeating Alexandrian Jewish channels, the doctrine of Purgatory established itself in the great Latin apostasy—the maturing Roman Church.”13 The Mother of Harlots does indeed hold these abominations in her golden cup, yes, even that of shedding innocent blood!5, 25

According to the Word of God, we know there is no life after one goes to sleep in death (See Psalms 115:17; 146:4; Ecclesiastes 9:5, 5, 10). A person has only their probationary time on earth to prove, through divine power, his or her loyalty to God. When the trumpet of the Lord sounds and those who went to sleep, and are lying in the grave, will rise. At that time the reward will be given to each person who ever lived upon the earth. No one who has unrepentantly practiced abominations will receive the reward of the righteous.

1. “He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both *are* abomination to the LORD.” Proverbs 17:15. “Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!” Isaiah 5:20. “Ye have wearied the LORD with your words. Yet ye say, Wherein have we wearied *Him*? When ye say, Every one that doeth evil *is* good in the sight of the LORD, and He delighteth in them…” Malachi 2:17.

The Romish Church, Mother of Harlots, claims the prerogative to pronounce righteous that which God has pronounced unrighteous and to pass condemnation upon anyone who are deemed unrighteous. Though a person is blameless and speaking truth, according to God’s Word, because of the supposed authority Jesus gave to the apostle Peter and his successors, the power to bind and loose in heaven and upon earth, they are pronounced heretics and anathema. “This power can define doctrine and establish discipline: for individuals, local communities, of various kinds, and for absolutely everyone in Catholicity here below.”2 She claims that belief and a faithful practice of her infallible doctrines are a guarantee to an eventual habitation to a mansion in the sky.26 There is an abundance of documented evidence of the falsehoods millions are led to believe as truth.

It is taught that the Sabbath day was changed from Saturday to Sunday by the infallible declaration of Pope Sylvester in 325 A.D., though there is no evidence of any such authority granted by God.40 All who keep Saturday as the Sabbath are declared Judaisers.32, 42

Another example of how the Roman Catholic Church is the progenitor of this abomination, pronouncing as righteous those who are wicked, is by claiming the authority to absolve sins and assign penitential acts to purge sin completely. The current Code of Canon Law, Title IV, The Sacrament of Penance (959-957) states, “The faithful who confess their sins to a legitimate minister, are sorry for them, and intend to reform themselves obtain from God through the absolution imparted by the same minister forgiveness for the sins they have committed after baptism and, at the same time are reconciled with the Church which they have wounded by sinning.”22 The legitimate minister imposes, “salutary and suitable penances in accord with the quality and number of sins, taking into account the condition of the penitent. The penitent is obliged to fulfill these personally.”22

What does the Bible say? “Jesus saith unto him, I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me.” John 14:6. “For it is written, *As* I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.” Romans 14:11, 12. “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9. “Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.” Isaiah 1:18. “Now ye are clean through the Word which I have spoken unto you.” John 15:3. “He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh *them* shall have mercy.” Proverbs 28:13.

1. “He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer *shall be* abomination.” Proverbs 28:9. What law is this verse talking about? “My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.” Proverbs 3:1, 2.

On May 22, 1934 a man by the name of J.L. Day sent a letter of inquiry to Pope Pius XI, “Dear Sir: Is the accusation true, that Protestants accuse you of: They say you changed the Seventh Day Sabbath to the, so-called, Christian Sunday: identical with the First-Day of the Week. If so when did you make the change, and by what authority.” He received a reply by the editor of the Catholic Extension Magazine at the time, Peter R. Tramer, Under the blessing of Pope Pius the XI, stating, “We Catholics do not accept the Bible as the only rule of faith. Besides the Bible, we have the living church, the authority of the church to guide us…We frankly say, ‘Yes the church made this change, made this law, as she made many other laws, for instance, the Friday Abstinence, the unmarried priesthood, the laws concerning mixed marriages, the regulation of Catholic marriages, and a thousand other laws.”10 The Roman Catholic church, to this day, has turned away her ear from hearing the law of God; her prayers are an abomination before the LORD. She has made laws for her adherents to follow which, in essence, cover her apostasy, fornication, and uncleanness.

1. “Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto Me…” Isaiah 1:13. An oblation is anything offered or presented in worship or sacred service; an offering; a sacrifice. A vain oblation is an empty, worthless offering. When there is no intention of keeping God’s holy, just, and good law concurrent with a full heart surrender, yet worship, offered up with incense and captivating rituals, and song stands as an abomination to the LORD. Intoxicated, gluttonous priests stand before multitudes waving incense, chanting prayers for the dead during the Catholic mass.

The question was asked, “Why do Catholics use incense and candles?”

The answer was, “Anything you may find used in worship in the New Testament, especially in the book of Revelation, is used in Catholic worship: vestments, lights, incense, chants, processions, and so on.”3 “The Catholic faith is a liturgical faith. It makes use of all five of our senses: sight, sound, smell, taste, and touch. This is certainly by design as each sense aids us in availing ourselves of the salvific grace flowing from the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.”19 All this external pageantry is pronounced a vain offering and abomination and finds no delight with the Creator of the universe. He calls His people instead to, “Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil’ Learn to do well’ seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.” Isaiah 1:16, 17.

1. “And one hath committed abomination with his neighbour's wife…” Ezekiel 22:11; 33:26, 29. “…An abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah hath profaned the holiness of the LORD which he loved, and hath married the daughter of a strange god.” Malachi 2:11.

Sexual immorality is held within the golden cup of the Mother of Harlots. It is well documented that, now for centuries, even to this day, many men and women who enter monasteries and convents with very noble intentions become robbed of their virginity after being deceived into signing the perpetual vow of obedience and of “marriage to Christ.”27 Fornication is practiced within the confessional booths. Priests and Nuns prey upon the young girls and boys they teach in Catholic schools or who assist in Catholic services.23 The late Pope Frances raised his voice in acknowledgment of the problem and, in 2021, even made extensive revisions in the Catholic church law to protect minors and vulnerable adults against such abuses.28 Rectification of these atrocities has made little impact even in recent years. On December 30, 2024, an article was published in Bishop Accountability.org stating, “As a consequence of the attempts of Catholic leaders to downplay its scope, the sexual abuse crisis continues with little or no expectation of change.”44

Centuries ago, the Christian church of Rome married the daughter of a strange god. She became the Mother of Harlots, unrepentant of her crimes. Her doctrines display a mix of heathen rites and ceremonies with the sacred text of Holy Scripture containing the teachings of Jesus Christ.5

1. “…Ye are they which justify yourselves before men, but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.” Luke 16:15.

It is an abomination in the sight of the LORD to acquire riches by oppression, by deception, by overreaching, by fraud, or in any other dishonest manner. Catholicism, holding this abomination within her golden cup, teaches as applicable to certain orders of priests and nuns, “As a matter of canon law, whatever a religious man or woman acquires by reason of individual labor or by reason of being a member of the institute belongs to the institute (canon 668).”38 Abuses have occurred as a result of this law. Rich families have been taken advantage as a means of acquiring property and funds for the church.25 Information is withheld, false doctrines concerning the afterlife, and a whole system of false religion is held up before the people using such compelling terms that people are willing to give of their wealth.25 A mass must be purchased to rescue a person, who has died, from the flames of purgatory and special candles to celebrate certain sacraments, prayers, and ceremonies.33, 41

As has been demonstrated, the abominations of the earth are clearly identified and recorded for several thousand years in God’s Holy Word. “For I am the LORD, I change not…” Malachi 3:6. “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.” Hebrews 13:8. Revelation 21:27 says, “And there shall in no wise enter into it (the New Jerusalem) any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.” All who practice the abominations God has pronounced as such are found outside God’s holy city after it has descended to its place upon the earth, just prior to the earth’s final cleansing and recreation. However, the most magnificent intelligence and good news has been precisely provided also within the pages of the Holy Scriptures so that none need find themselves in that place (Ezekiel 18:31). “Say unto them, *As* I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel [O house of Christians]?” Ezekiel 33:11.

“*And upon her forehead was a name written*…” Revelation 17:5. Upon the space between her eyes was a name written. Directly behind the space between the eyes the lies the prefrontal cortex of the brain. It is the decision making center. The prefrontal cortex is responsible for a variety of critical functions, including executive functioning – managing thoughts and actions in accordance with internal goals and social norms, decision-making, emotional regulation, and personality expression. The woman of Revelation 17 knows what she is doing. She is cognitively aware of her craftiness in leading the whole world to drink the intoxicating mixture from her cup that she may be adored and worshipped.

“*MYSTERY*...” Revelation 17:5. This woman’s name is Mystery. Much of her activities are clouded in mystery and secrecy. The Vatican is a country unto itself. The only religious organization recognized as political. She has ambassadors representing the Vatican in all countries. The Jesuit order within the Catholic church is clothed in secrecy. Jesuit priests have infiltrated governments worldwide obtaining positions as businessmen, political figures, clergy, leaders of other faith groups, administrators, teachers, and professors of universities and schools. Their purpose is to spread Catholicism globally. Today, nearly the whole world, nearly every faith group from Protestant origins has, with wide open arms embraced her.

“*BABYLON, THE GREAT*…” Revelation 17:5. Why the name Babylon the Great? The root word of Babylon, Babel בָּבֶל—Strong's H894, is defined as confusion, referring to the tower of Babel when God confused the language and many languages were established. The people dispersed over the whole earth, Genesis 11:5-9. In the prophecies found in the Biblical books of Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel and Revelation, Babylon is the name allegorically referring to that of Rome, being the most corrupt seat of idolatry and the enemy of true biblical Christianity. Historically, Pagan Rome aligned itself with an apostatized Christianity taking on the name Catholic. Catholicism then was given political power to rule over the Roman empire, calling herself the Holy Roman Empire. For twelve hundred and sixty years she persecuted those who rejected her doctrine.5

“*MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH*…” Revelation 17:5. Babylon, Roman Catholicism, the Mother of Harlots, causes all nations to drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. The fornication of her harlotry exists as a result of her close ties with the political governments of earth.5 The only religiopolitical power on the earth today.

In Conclusion, The woman sitting upon the scarlet-colored beast, having a golden cup in her hand, full of the wine of abominations and filthiness of her fornication, can be none other than Roman Catholicism. Her popes, cardinals, bishops and priests all wear scarlet and purple, embellished with gold and pearls, claiming the prerogatives of God, whom He has given to no man. She is Mystery. She is Babylon the Great. She is the Mother of Harlots. She, the elegant, splendidly dressed, maître d'hôtel, sustainer, conservator, and progenitor of the abominations of the earth, causes all nations to drink of her intoxicating mixture by reason of her craftiness and deceitfulness which enters into every facet of life—culture, business, beliefs, food, drink, dress, entertainments, and intimacies of relationships. Satan remains the powerful force underneath her. His main purpose is to reduce the powerful proclamation of the three angels’ messages. Therefore, he clouds his devices in secrecy and works to keep humanity in darkness, particularly those who profess to believe in and preach the three angels’ messages of Revelation 14:6-11 combined with the angel of Revelation 18:1-8.

Now, let all God’s called, chosen, and faithful people, imbued with power from God’s Holy Spirit, purge and cleanse themselves from all intoxicating practices, and abominations through Jesus blood and righteousness! Let them move forward, raising their voices louder and with power, proclaiming the last messages of warning with all purity, godliness, and holiness!

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