

# **UNVEILED!**

**The Ancient Secrets of Daniel &  
The Revelation of Jesus Christ**

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## *Unveiled!*

### *The Ancient Secrets of Daniel & The Revelation of Jesus Christ*

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Underscores in the Biblical texts are added for emphasis.

Brackets are added outside the text for clarification.

# The Revelation of Jesus Christ

## CHAPTER 17

**17** And there came one of the seven messengers, who were having the seven vials, and he spake with me, saying to me, 'Come, I will shew to thee the judgment of the great whore, who is sitting upon the many waters,<sup>2</sup> with whom the kings of the earth did commit whoredom; and made drunk from the wine of her whoredom were those inhabiting the earth;' <sup>3</sup> and he carried me away to a wilderness in the Spirit, and I saw a woman sitting upon a scarlet-coloured beast full of names of evil-speaking, having seven heads and ten horns,<sup>4</sup> and the woman was arrayed with purple and scarlet-colour, and gilded with gold, and precious stone, and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and uncleanness of her whoredom,<sup>5</sup> and upon her forehead was a name written: 'Secret, Babylon the Great, the Mother of the Whores, and the Abominations of the earth.'

<sup>6</sup> And I saw the woman drunken from the blood of the saints, and from the blood of the witnesses of Jesus, and I did wonder -- having seen her -- with great wonder; <sup>7</sup> and the messenger said to me, 'Wherefore didst thou wonder? I -- I will tell thee the secret of the woman and of the beast that [is] carrying her, which hath the seven heads and the ten horns.

<sup>8</sup> 'The beast that thou didst see: it was, and it is not; and it is about to come up out of the abyss, and to go away to destruction, and wonder shall those dwelling upon the earth, whose names have not been written upon the scroll of the life from the foundation of the world, beholding the beast that was, and is not, although it is.

<sup>9</sup> 'Here [is] the mind that is having wisdom; the seven heads are seven mountains, upon which the woman doth sit,<sup>10</sup> and there are seven kings, the five did fall, and the one is, the other did not yet come, and when he may come, it behoveth him to remain a little time;<sup>11</sup> and the beast that was, and is not, he also is eighth, and out of the seven he is, and to destruction he doth go away.

<sup>12</sup> 'And the ten horns that thou sawest, are ten kings, who a kingdom did not yet receive, but authority as kings the same hour do receive with the beast,<sup>13</sup> these have

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one mind, and their own power and authority to the beast they shall give over;<sup>14</sup> these with the Lamb shall make war, and the Lamb shall overcome them, because Lord of lords he is, and King of kings, and those with him are called, and choice, and stedfast.'

<sup>15</sup> And he saith to me, 'The waters that thou didst see, where the whore doth sit, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues;' <sup>16</sup> and the ten horns that thou didst see upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and shall burn her in fire,<sup>17</sup> for God did give into their hearts to do its mind, and to make one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast till the sayings of God may be complete,<sup>18</sup> and the woman that thou didst see is the great city that is having reign over the kings of the land.' [I.e., of the earth] (Revelation 17:1-18 YLT) [Gr.: *ghay* is land, region, or earth. Its messengers are angels whose *vials* are seven bowls.]

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2 The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup> It shall come to pass in the latter days  
that the mountain of the house of the LORD  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be lifted up above the hills;

and all the nations shall flow to it,  
<sup>3</sup> and many peoples shall come, and say:  
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob,  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth the law,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.  
(Is. 2:1-3 ESV; cf. Jer. 51:25-26)

Israel is a little nation. Her size roughly equals the fourth smallest state in America, New Jersey.<sup>169</sup> After Solomon's death she was divided as Judah and Israel; of the two, the smaller was Judah. Isaiah wrote of Jerusalem, the city of the God of Jacob.

**48** Great *is* the LORD, and greatly to be praised  
In the city of our God,

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In His holy mountain.

<sup>2</sup> Beautiful in elevation,

The joy of the whole earth,

Is Mount Zion on the sides of the north,

The city of the great King. (Ps. 48:1-2 NKJV)

The psalmist sang its **key**: God will reign from His city, the highest of all mountains (in Is. 2:2). Mt. Zion, David's Jerusalem, isn't the highest mountain on earth. In 17 heads are mountains as capitals of kingdoms, each ostensibly with its own king. (17:10)

Isaiah has a **key** too: *the head of Syria is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is Rezin* (in Is. 7:8). Therefore, heads can be capitals [thrones] or their kings, depending on the context.

The head of Syria is its capital, and the head of Israel is its capital, Jerusalem, *the highest mountain* of all. The heads on the scarlet beast are mountains in 17:9; therefore, they are capital cities of kingdoms of which five kings had fallen. In John's day, the king of Rome *is* sixth: *five did fall, and one is* (in 17:10).

In 12 all seven heads had crowns as kings over kingdoms; in 17 five had fallen, and the sixth was present. What about horns? In 12 the horns lacked crowns; in 17 the horns are kings with *no kingdom yet*. So 12 is before 17 since in 17 they still have none.

<sup>9</sup> And here *is* the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.

<sup>10a</sup> And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; (Rev. 17:9-10a)

### The Seven Mountains

Standing on a hill in the Decapolis ruins, we were informed that a city beneath our feet would be excavated. On top of buried piles, we were struck by the stillness. Its once busy streets were silent like the mystery of the mountains and their kings:

**1. Egypt:**<sup>170</sup> Jacob's sons threw their brother Joseph into a pit and pulled him out to sell him as a slave to Egypt where he was exalted at Pharaoh's right hand. When famine came, his brothers went to him for food but would be enslaved four hundred years till God chose Moses to deliver them. Egypt's capital is Cairo.

**2. Assyria:**<sup>171</sup> Israel turned to idols, so God sent idolaters, Assyrians, to ravage and scatter their tribes to the nations. Only a

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remnant stayed in Samaria where Assyrians were sent to intermarry the survivors. The next time Jews were threatened, the Samaritans denied being Jews. As a result, Judeans hated them for denying their race, but today the tribes are making *aliyah* to Israel.<sup>172</sup> (See Ezk. 37:15-23) Assyria's capital was Nineveh.

**3. Babylon:**<sup>173</sup> Earlier its land was Chaldea, out of which Abram came. A hundred thirty-five years after Israel fell to Assyria, for Judah's violence, God sent the Babylonian armies to overtake them. As it turned out, Babylon took the Jews captive, treating them so harshly that God cursed the city. Alexander the Great hoped to revive it but died young. Saddam Hussein began to restore it, but then he and his sons were killed in Iraq's War.<sup>174</sup> Babylon is still uninhabited. Baghdad is Iraq's capital.

<sup>20</sup> It shall never be inhabited, neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation: neither shall the Arabian pitch tent there; neither shall the shepherds make their fold there. (Is. 13:20)

**4. Medo-Persia:**<sup>175</sup> In the 6<sup>th</sup> century BC, Cyrus II of Persia gained Media, merging it with Persia to join two kingdoms as one. Babylon's king Belshezzar was killed, and Darius the Mede was made its king. After him, Cyrus of Persia favored the Jews by the *Edict of Cyrus*, supporting their return and sending costly materials to rebuild both the temple and Jerusalem. (Ezk. 1:2-4)

Jews who stayed in Persia under Xerxes faced Haman whose scheme to kill them backfired when he was hanged on gallows he'd built for Mordecai, cousin to Esther, the king's Jewish wife and heroine of Purim, its feast. In 1935 Persia was renamed Iran.<sup>176</sup> In a coup d'état in 1979, the Ayatollah Khomeini ousted its Shah and took the nation for Islam.<sup>177</sup> Tehran is its capital.

**5. Greece:**<sup>178</sup> Macedon was a province in northwest Greece, birthplace to Alexander the Great whose father, Phillip II, was a nobleman whose son was well educated; as a military man, he unified the Greek city-states. At his death, Alexander fulfilled his father's dream to gain Persia, merging the Babylonian and Greek cultures and advancing the Greek language from Anatolia and Egypt to Persia. He died at thirty-three with no legal heir.<sup>179</sup> Four generals divided Alexander's kingdom. The largest part went to Seleucus Nicator I, from the Mediterranean to India.<sup>180</sup>

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Enraged by a defeat in Egypt, its eighth king, Antiochus IV, desecrated the temple in Judea in 167 BC.<sup>181</sup> He set up an image of Zeus, his “god of gods,” the *abomination of desolation*, in the temple where he demanded worship. He crucified, mutilated, and slew multitudes of Jews. Afterward, the Maccabees, a family of priests, purified and rededicated the temple. When he returned, the Maccabees slew his army.<sup>182</sup> *Hanukkah* marks the day of the miracle.<sup>183</sup> Jesus was in Jerusalem during its feast (in Jn. 10:22).

Ptolemy’s portion was Alexander’s Egypt. When he overcame Jerusalem, Israel adopted Greek as its second language, as most of the known world had.<sup>184</sup> Its common language spread the gospel across the earth. Athens is the capital of Greece.

**6. Rome:**<sup>185</sup> By 30 BC Rome conquered Greece but was split in two. Its western side fell twice: in 410 and 476. Babylon had pervaded Rome’s empire and affected the church. In 800 her pope formed a new Roman empire. In 962 a pope crowned its first German king as its emperor and eventually, it was called the “Holy” Roman Empire of the German Nation, the (H)REGN.

In 1453 Muslims invaded Constantinople, the capital of the Eastern Roman Empire, aka the Byzantine Empire. Renaming its capital “Istanbul,” Ottoman Turks converted most but not all of its churches. Its Romanized city was held by the Ottomans for four hundred sixty-four years.<sup>186</sup> She was the second foot of the idol in the king’s dream. Ankara is Turkey’s capital today.

**7. France:**<sup>187</sup> December 25, 1804: Napoleon crowned himself First Consul of France.<sup>188</sup> He soon defeated the (H)REGN. By him the seventh king took Rome. Predestined to win, he ruled fewer than ten years but dramatically affected the world. (1804–1814) ... *the one is, the other did not yet come, and when he may come, it behoveth him to remain a little time.* (Rev. 17:10) His empire was cut short in 1814–16. Paris is the French capital.

**Germany:** At Rome’s fall, Attila’s Huns settled in Germania and in Austria. 962–1806: Rome ruled as the (H)REGN. 1871: Berlin became Germany’s first capital, set to regain the empire. 1920: ten kings received crowns. 1932: of seven, the eighth king ruled as Hitler till he died in 1945. ... *and the beast that was, and is not, he also is eighth, and out of the seven he is, and to destruction he doth go away.* (Rev. 17:11 YLT) Berlin is its capital.

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### To Begin with, ...

<sup>3</sup> And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. (Rev. 12:3 NKJV)

Scarlet is a bright, *fiery red*. The scarlet beast *was* the *fiery red dragon* from chapter 12, known by its **bright red color** and its **keys to history**: seven heads, seven kings, and ten horns.

Mystery Babylon was the dragon's whore whose sensualities and false religions she spread to the great empires, which gloried in their shame because of her. Today she seduces the world by her sins, the reasons for the seven bowls of wrath.

The woman isn't a nation, but a city (in 17:18). She rides the scarlet beast that carries her and has power over the kings of the earth. The mystery of Babylon: seated on the heads, she has power over seven cities that seduce and destroy the earth. Proud, godless, carnal—all her ways lead to death or destruction. Kings, emperors, and ambassadors have known her well.

In 17:10 (p. 189) there are no crowns on the heads or on the horns. Though seven empires had seven kings, five had fallen; *and one is* means Rome is the sixth in John's lifetime. *The other is not yet come*—the seventh, the king of France. (1804–1816)

In the spell of Babylon, the Persian and Greek civilizations had famously been Babylonian. When Rome consumed her, her culture entered Rome. Now Satan was *about to come up out of the abyss*. After Jesus Christ ascended, the scarlet beast lost its war and was banished from heaven. Cast down to earth [ending chapter 12], he was about to come up near the time of the Huns who rose in the late third century. The dragon came out of the abyss, surely returning to his throne in Pergamon (in Rev. 2:13) at Pergamon's earthquake in 262.<sup>189</sup> Soon after its city was shaken, led by the dragon, the Huns appeared and invaded Eurasia.

The church was deceived by her desire to escape violence at any cost. After his Huns forced the fall of Rome, the dragon enticed the fearful church to claim her empire by a hoax; thus he gained the church and an empire for over a thousand years.

Pergamon was like Hollywood with Babylon's attractive idols drawing Israel to Baal and the church to pagan images. [See p. 143, Council Letter] Romans sent Christians to the lions. They crucified, beheaded, burned alive, tortured, and maimed them as



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crowds in the Coliseum cheered.<sup>190</sup> Constantine reformed the attitude of the empire toward the churches, which responded by favoring pagans over Jews. Forsaking our Jewish heritage, her bishops changed the church, turning from God by rejecting the Hebrew Scriptures, which were foundational to the faith.

### The Beast that Was

In chapter 1 Daniel was dreaming in Babylon when he saw four beasts rise from the Great Sea. In 17 John was exiled to an island on that sea when he saw the woman on the dragon *in the wilderness*, not in Rome. There she was—*drunk from the blood of saints and from the blood of the witnesses of Jesus (in 17:6)!* John refers to the Jews as saints, set apart for God’s glory; their blood was why Babylon was cursed. *The witnesses of Jesus* were new covenant believers, *the people of the saints* (in Dan. 7:27). Most of the saints in Hebrews 11 were Semites, and we are their *fellow-citizens* in Eph. 2:19. Her cities are guilty of the blood of the saints and of witnesses of Jesus to this day. As heirs with the Lord, we suffer with Him to be glorified with Him. (Rom. 8:17)

John saw the scarlet beast carrying her mystery when *it was*, though in John’s time, the beast *is not*. The prophecy looks back to when the dragon first carried Babylon, cursed for her cruelty: *It shall never be inhabited, neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation. (Is. 13:20a)* A wilderness, uninhabited, is no place for a city unless that city was Babylon after her curse.

He *was* a serpent in Eden; he *was* an enemy to Job; he *was* king of Babel; he *was* Haman a Jew-hater outwitted by Esther. At Jesus’ birth, he *was* Herod; in the desert he *was* the tempter; he *was* a usurper in Peter, testing Jesus before his disciples; he *was* Judas the betrayer—*he was the beast that was*:

<sup>8</sup> 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 beast that was, and is not, and yet is.** (Rev. 17:8; cf. Is. 14:16)

<sup>3</sup> It shall come to pass in the day that the LORD shall give thee rest from thy sorrow, and from thy fear and from the hard bondage wherein thou wast made to serve,<sup>4</sup> that

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thou shalt take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say, How hath the oppressor ceased! the golden city ceased! <sup>5</sup> The LORD hath broken the staff of the wicked, and the scepter of the rulers. ... <sup>12</sup> How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! <sup>13</sup> For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: <sup>14</sup> I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. <sup>15</sup> Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

<sup>16</sup> They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, **Is this the man** that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms; <sup>17</sup> That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners? <sup>18</sup> All the kings of the nations, even all of them, lie in glory, every one in his own house. <sup>19</sup> But thou art cast out of thy grave like an abominable branch, and as the raiment of those that are slain, thrust through with a sword, that go down to the stones of the pit; as a carcase trodden under feet. <sup>20</sup> Thou shalt not be joined with them in burial, because thou hast destroyed thy land, and slain thy people: the seed of evildoers shall never be renowned. (Is. 14:4-5, 12-20)

*Those whose names were not in the scroll of life beheld the beast that was.* In hell they saw *the man ... who opened not the house of his prisoners.* His throne was in Berlin, NW of Israel, to the sides of the north, an irony. (Is. 14:13; cf. Ps. 48:2) Hitler's body was burned; its ashes were buried in an unmarked grave.

We watch him through history's window as Adolf Hitler, but in hell they perceived the man as Lucifer. The ten kings return to the scarlet beast [the EU]. Driven by hatred in the days of God's bowls of wrath, they destroy Babylon. (See 16:19; 17:16-17).

Without a capital, the eighth king of the Huns, Attila, forced Rome's fall by chasing other tribes into the city. (pp. 47-50) In the mid-eighth century, the institutional church was in fear when her popes founded a Roman empire for protection from invading jihadists. An 8<sup>th</sup> century pope convinced a French king to win central Italy for the church under the pretense that Constantine

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willed his empire to the church, but no one knew it for centuries! Afterward popes called for kings to conquer central Italy as the white horse went out with its rider wearing a crown and holding a bow. (Rev. 6:2) But our weapons are not worldly. (2 Cor. 10:4)

Few stopped to think: the Roman Empire hadn't belonged to Constantine; he was just one of its many emperors. His so-called "Donation" relied on the people's ignorance to succeed; by it the Lateran Treaty of 1929 was signed into law by Benito Mussolini and the Vatican's "secretary of state." And by it Rome became the capital of Italy, and the Vatican, an independent state.<sup>191</sup>

Deceivers fool people who are unaware of the truth. Since ancient days the spirit of Babylon has seduced the world through deceit. The mother of harlots beguiles them, keeping her people in spiritual darkness. (Prologue, p. 55) Babylon persuades nations against Israel to their own destruction. She may delude the elect.

In 17:1 the angel began describing the judgment of Babylon but first revealed the city. Staring at her emptiness, John learned the dragon *is not* the sixth king that ruled Rome's emperors, but was a rogue king as the scarlet beast that would rise from the abyss to fell Rome. Later he'd rise again in an unexpected way:

<sup>10</sup> and there are seven kings, the five did fall, and the one is, the other did not yet come, and when he may come, it behoveth him to remain a little time;<sup>11</sup> and the beast that was, and is not, he also is eighth, and out of the seven he is, and to destruction he doth go away.  
(Rev. 17:10-11 YLT)

John was filled with the Spirit, and God set him apart on Patmos Isle to see Babylon on a scarlet beast. *The beast that was*, he was told, *is not, and yet is*. This means *the beast that was* had been present, but *is not [present in John's time]*—and yet *is*, because he still exists though he isn't on earth. (See 17:8)

Chapter 12 ends with the dragon seeking retribution and is *[literally] about to come up out of the abyss*. Its fiery red dragon is absent as the one who is the scarlet beast that *was and is not*. Having lost the war in heaven, he was *cast down* to the earth with his army of fallen angels (in 12:7-9). On the timeline, he'd soon rise out of the abyss (in 17:8), but the prophecies reveal momentous events with lifetimes between them. When he rose the dragon deceived the church; then, forced the fall of Rome.

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Jesus warned us of wolves disguised as sheep. Despite His words, bishops adopted a pagan culture from Constantine whose aspiration was a united Roman Empire. Later the church claimed Rome for her empire, and her false gospel deceived the whole church until those who were true believers were persecuted. God calls us to repent but only responds to us with ears to hear.

After the seventh king overcame the church empire in 1806, the dragon moved his capital from Rome to Berlin in 1871. The city imported the Altar of Satan (2:13) from Pergamon in 1889.<sup>192</sup> The dragon was clearly there when the wall of Babylon became its entryway in 1930.

### The Iron Kingdom

After five kings, Rome's was sixth. The dragon had ruled its unholy Roman Empire of the German Nation by German kings hitched to Rome, the sixth capital city. Since the king of Paris was seventh, the beast that was *about to come up from the abyss* would be the *eighth of the seven* (in 17:8, 11); thus the dragon that had deceived the church would speak as a little horn in Berlin.

When popes sought out the brutal German kings as emperors in 962, they conquered central Europa, blanketing hundreds of towns, cities, fiefs, and hamlets, breaking them into pieces and weakening their defenses (in Dan. 7:7, 19).

The fiery red dragon is the terrible beast in Daniel 7 and the scarlet one in 17, depictions of Satan (in 20:2), carrying his harlot city from place to place. In the Roman Empire of the German Nation, Rome was a nominal capital of her protectors. Germania shared her fame for its throne.

Of the "Holy Roman Empire," her blasphemous name, the French philosopher Voltaire famously wrote, "Its agglomeration ... was neither holy, nor Roman, nor an empire."<sup>193</sup> He may not have seen its spirit but was keenly aware of its fakery.

Two years after his coronation, in 1806 a seventh king overcame the empire, forcing its fall.<sup>194</sup> As written, *it behoveth him to continue a little time* (in 17:10 YLT). Napoleon was defeated and exiled twice by 1816. The Treaty of Vienna merged its lands as thirty-nine nations to bolster them from invasions.

*[The ten horns] ... have one mind, and their own power and authority to the beast they shall give over* (in 17:12-13 YLT). At first they had no kingdom but weakened the iron feet of Rome (in

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Dan. 2). They waited millennia to *receive* crowns but surrendered them to **the eighth king**, the dragon in Hitler. All ten horns had *one mind with him*, appearing on the beast's head (in Dan. 7:20).

In 17:7 the beast *carries* Babylon. [Gr.: *bastazo*, "lift, bear, or carry"] When something is carried it's transported. The spirit of Babel spread when they scattered on the earth with her culture and false gods, but the dragon himself transported her throne, which he relinquished to the beast that's now stuck with it. (13:2)

Invisible powers are at war, inciting their nations to envy and bloodlust. We're also at war but must not concede; Satan has run out of time. *Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.* (1 Tim. 6:12; Eph. 6:10-20)

To regain Europe the dragon returned as the *eighth of the seven* (in 17:11) out of the (H)REGN into the man who murdered millions. Putting it together, it's easier to see its picture:

<sup>10</sup> and there are seven kings, the five did fall, and the one is, the other did not yet come, and when he may come, it behoveth him to remain a little time; <sup>11</sup> and the beast that was, and is not, he also is eighth, and out of the seven he is, and to destruction he doth go away.<sup>12</sup> And the ten horns that thou sawest, are ten kings, who a kingdom did not yet receive, but authority as kings the same hour do receive with the beast, <sup>13</sup> these have one mind, and their own power and authority to the beast they shall give over;<sup>14</sup> these with the Lamb shall make war, and the Lamb shall overcome them, because Lord of lords he is, and King of kings, and those with him are called, and choice, and stedfast.' (Rev. 17:10-14 YLT)

*The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.* (Ex. 14:14) Unseen kings empower armies. Ten gave their power and authority to Hitler, at one mind with him (in 17:13-14) until he lost it all in Dan. 7:13 when the Lamb was given a Kingdom.

Heroes of Hebrews 11, *called, chosen, and faithful* warriors, lent their speed, strength, and skill for the Allies to win (in 17:14). Like a club, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics struck the dragon's head, but the leopard was given dominion (in Dan. 7:6).

O the Assyrian, the rod of my anger,  
in whose hand is the club of my wrath! (Is. 10:5 NIV) [In Isaiah 10, God explains how He uses nations as weapons.]

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The dragon led Berlin till *the beast was slain* (in Dan. 7:11), a portent of another eighth king: *I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.* (Gen. 3:15) The serpent's seed mingles with the seed of men (in Dan. 2:43).

Before the ten kings received their kingdoms, they were iron kings who mixed their iron with the seed of men like mixing clay with iron, dividing the seed (in chapter 2, p. 47). Afterward, God put enmity between the serpent's seed, Hitler, and the woman's seed, the Lamb, whose heel was bruised on the cross but who bruised the dragon's head by the club of His wrath in Berlin, and the beast was slain. When the dragon gave his throne to a beast that healed its wounded head (13:3), *diverse from the first*, he'd rise as another beast to acquire a fourth kingdom. (Dan. 7:23-24)

<sup>16</sup>and the ten horns that thou didst see upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and shall burn her in fire,<sup>17</sup> for God did give into their hearts to do its mind, and to make one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast till the sayings of God may be complete.

(Rev. 17:16-17 YLT) [This beast is the scarlet dragon of 17.]

## The Invisible War

At the sixth seal (in 6:12-17), martyrs of the first resurrection ascend with the elect to the Lord in the air (in Mat. 24:29-31, p. 92). They're in heaven in 14 and 15 before the bowls of wrath go out. At the seventh bowl, Babylon is erased from the earth as His indignation ends. Then Yeshua returns to destroy the armies gathered to Armageddon. (16:17-21; 17:16-18; Mat. 24:23-28)

God entrusted His oracles to the Hebrews, but the dragon has attempted to destroy the sons of the light carriers since then. As a beautiful angel, he'd carried the torch in heaven but fell into pride, envy, and darkness. He loathes the words of the prophets and apostles that enlighten us and expose him as the evil one. As for us, we can't fathom the value of suffering that prepares us for the height of our calling in Jesus Christ. We are seated with Him at the Father's right hand in heaven. If we only knew ... !

When a nation trains its troops, the officers put them through rigorous trials to test their endurance for combat. They develop strength of character, not forgotten in battle. Why volunteer for

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that? Isn't it for the greater cause? We are promised a seat with God in Christ, but we must be willing to die for its victory.

The beast is given authority over the world and overcomes the saints, but we who endure and keep the faith till death will win the crown of life. We'll trust in God to keep our souls for the prize set before us as members of His holy family forever:

3 See how great a love the Father has given us, that we would be called children of God; and *in fact* we are. For this reason the world does not know us: because it did not know Him. <sup>2</sup> Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. <sup>3</sup> And everyone who has this hope set on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

(1 John 3:1-3 NASB)

Lucifer attracts human nature but opposes righteousness and conscience. His false Elijah fools men by his signs, wonders, and miracles, ordering the world to worship *the first beast that was slain by the sword but lived* (cf. Dan. 7:11, 24). The dragon speaks by a two-horned beast, a living image in the temple (in 13:11, 15).

His power in WW2 was in his ten kings. He stirs nations to war by their reunion with him. Though iron mixed with clay, ten unseen kings have the dragon's mind, and their single-mindedness empowers them like the leopard in WW2, the United States, which was given dominion.

### The Prize

During the war, Arabs fought the Allies and lost the land they'd occupied; after forcing Jews from its Old City, they lost Jerusalem. Melchizedek, King of Righteousness, handed Abram bread and wine in a field near the walls of the city that recalls the blessing.<sup>195</sup> (Ps. 2:6; 48:2; Gen. 14:18-20) Melchizedek disappeared. Resolved to give all He had, He bought that field for its treasure:

<sup>44</sup> "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.  
(Mat. 13:44 NKJV)

The dragon carried his harlot for several thousand years, and now she seduces the world. She controls seven capitals, some of

## The Revelation

the greatest on earth, whose cultures she'd formed. Since the days of Babel, she has reveled in her lifestyle. She spreads her idolatries and seduces nations with her sensualities. The mother of whores fills the earth with false religions. She is perverse and cruel, slaughtering infants and subjecting children to her sexual sins. For murdering the prophets and the saints, she is doomed.

Rome is a figure of Babylon but with seven hills. An eighth is across the Tiber River, Janiculum Hill, outside ancient Rome's walls like the eighth king out of seven.<sup>196</sup> But her hills are not mountains, and she was the sixth. Her church empire fell short of the Roman Empire in size, but in infamy was arguably its equal.

Babylon isn't just a city, but is a powerful principality, a spiritual stronghold; yet one *with horns like a lamb that speaks as a dragon* will attack the city by its ten kings (in 17:16-18), and she will plunge into darkness. By then she will have taken the land whose power goes out at the fifth bowl of wrath, leaving them in the dark, in their sweat, in their blood, and in their sores.

Till his head was healed, the first beast could not return, but in 16:13 at the sixth bowl of wrath, the dragon, the beast, and the prophet are together. We were asleep when the dragon returned.

Disasters alter earth's topography: Damascus is razed; cities are fields that flocks graze; towers are fallen; islands disappear; mountains are leveled; armies are gone; weapons are destroyed; nations are judged. Israel is exalted, and Jerusalem is the highest mountain. Yeshua is King. It seems surreal, yet it's at hand: it's in the Book:

<sup>9</sup> In that day their strong cities will be like the deserted places of the wooded heights and the hilltops, which they deserted because of the children of Israel, and there will be desolation.

<sup>10</sup> For you have forgotten the God of your salvation  
and have not remembered the Rock of your refuge;  
therefore, though you plant pleasant plants

and sow the vine-branch of a stranger  
<sup>11</sup> though you make them grow on the day  
that you plant them,  
and make them blossom in the morning  
that you sow,  
yet the harvest will flee away  
in a day of grief and incurable pain.



## Insights: Chapter 17

- <sup>12</sup> Ah, the thunder of many peoples;  
they thunder like the thundering of the sea!  
Ah, the roar of nations;  
they roar like the roaring of mighty waters!
- <sup>13</sup> The nations roar like the roaring of many waters,  
but he will rebuke them, and they will flee far away,  
chased like chaff on the mountains before the wind  
and whirling dust before the storm.
- <sup>14</sup> At evening time, behold, terror!  
Before morning, they are no more!  
This is the portion of those who loot us,  
and the lot of those who plunder us. (Is. 17:9-14 ESV)

The Bible names Israel as a people, a nation, or its northern tribes {2,543 x}; Judah, Judea {861 x}; and Jerusalem {814 x}. No other people has its history but Jacob's whom God called Israel. {55 x} The total = 4,273 mentions. (See Gen. 32:28).<sup>197</sup>

The war between two cities holds men in its throes: a city of darkness and a city of light, and we must decide between them:

- <sup>14</sup> In righteousness you will be established;  
You will be far from oppression, for you will not fear;  
And from terror, for it will not come near you.  
(Is. 54:14 NASB) [The King of kings to His servants.]

Fear of the enemy has no place in the righteous. If we love God, we serve Him faithfully. It may cost our lives, families, and wealth, but Christ surpasses them all. We own no one, and time's pain is temporal. We who endure till death enter the Kingdom of God. We praise Him in all things because *greater is he that is in us than he that is in the world.* (1 Jn. 4:4b)

In its fear the world is in lockdown and poverty; yet the light of the truth exposes its darkness. A strong man is bound by his weaknesses: the fear of death and the love of convenience. By renewing our minds, we'll never see things the old way again.

For a thousand years in thy sight *are but* as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night. (Ps. 90:4)

Babylon will be destroyed never to rise again. She appeared in chapter 17 but existed long before then. In 17 only two kings remained, but the heads that were mountains wore no crowns at all. As chapter 17 begins, the fall of the seven kings is foreseen; the eighth is predicted.

## The Revelation

The time is short; the ten kings are with the beast for just one hour (in 17:12). Though all ten gave their power and authority to the dragon (in 17:13), the Lamb overpowered them. The dragon and its kings lost the world war (in Dan. 7:11; Rev. 17:14). Then the Lamb ascended to God for the Victor's crown (in Dan. 7:13).

After seeing the Lamb defeat Hitler, John said, <sup>15</sup> *And he saith to me, 'The waters that thou didst see, where the whore doth sit, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues;'* (Rev. 17:15 YLT) He saw the red dragon carrying her after all seven fell. After World War Two, the eighth king was slain, but today his whore covers *the peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues*, and now her end is near.

She has slain prophets and saints through the ages and has spoken evil of us who believe in the God of Israel who makes the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit One. As with Israel, the remnant of the church will endure the great tribulation when a nefarious, lawless imposter reigns over the world. (2 Thes. 2:1-12)

Fearless warriors, we're equipped with all the armor of God: the helmet of salvation, its breastplate of righteousness, the belt of truth, the shield of faith to snuff out the enemy's fiery darts, and shoes fitted by the gospel of peace; above all, we hold the ready sword unsheathed, the Word of God. (See Eph. 6:10-18)

He divides believers from unbelievers for our faith to prove itself true while all who believe the lie are condemned for not loving the truth. (Jn. 3:18-21; 2 Thes. 2:10-12) At last the Messiah, Yeshua, returns to rule over the earth from His holy mountain. Higher than all other mountains and hills, His law goes forth from Jerusalem like the waters that cover the seas. (Is. 11:9)

<sup>11</sup> I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles for to provoke them to jealousy. <sup>12</sup> Now if the fall of them be the riches of the world, and the diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles; how much more their fullness? (Rom. 11:11-12)

We've seen mountains and metaphors, kingdoms and kings, principalities and powers, and heads and horns. One thing leads to another till history catches up to us. Now let's find the harlot: