

## REVELATION 17:7-18:2

Remember, Revelation 17 is sort of a **review** and helps to interpret for us about several events. This woman, Babylon's **false religion**, is **sitting** upon the Antichrist's **political system**. She is working to have the world to look to the Antichrist, and finally Satan.

It is through the False Prophet that the **Baal** religious system is re-introduced. It influences the world to worship the Antichrist and his **lie** program.

A. Revelation 17:7 - And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns.

1. This God-sent angel will **in**terpret for John (us) about the beast, the seven heads, ten horns and the woman. Remember when we studied Chapter 13, we came here for interpretation.
2. So here in verse 7, we have the promise [I will tell thee] to interpret; and in verses 8-18, we have the performance of carrying out the angel's **pro**mise to interpret.
  - \* | John is told that a true explanation was coming and this angel will help to clear everything up and
  - \* | make it **under**standable.

B. Revelation 17:8 - 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.

1. The beast is first described by a formula: [that was, and is not, and yet is].

Note: Revelation 1:18 - *I am* he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

The Antichrist is the great counterfeiter. The false Christ shown here takes what applies to Jesus Christ and applies it to **him**self.

2. Revelation 13:3 - And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.

This beast lives [was] and is **kill**ed - assassinated [is not]. His body becomes indwelt by the spirit of perdition and rises to life giving the appearance of a **super**natural resurrection [and yet is].

Revelation 13:14 - And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by *the means of* those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

\*With worldwide media watching, he arises, resulting in the world worshipping him. He does (**seem**ingly) what Jesus Christ did. He then proclaims He is **God**.

Revelation 13:4-6 - Who *is* like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? Rev. 13:5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty *and* two months. Rev. 13:6 And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.

3. You not only have a counterfeit DBR, but also a counterfeit Pentecostal experience of signs and wonders through the **false** prophet (Jews!!)

Revelation 13:11-14 - And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. Rev 13:12 And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. Rev 13:13 And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, Rev 13:14 And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by *the means of* those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

- C. Revelation 17:9 - And here *is* the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.

\*The 7 heads are 7 mountains. Often in the Bible, a mountain is used for a **kingdom**.

Jeremiah 51:24-25 - And I will render unto Babylon and to all the inhabitants of Chaldea all their evil that they have done in Zion in your sight, saith the LORD. Jer. 51:25 Behold, I *am* against thee, O destroying mountain, saith the LORD, which destroyest all the earth: and I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, and roll thee down from the rocks, and will make thee a burnt mountain.

Daniel 2:35 - Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.

Isaiah 2:2 - And it shall come to pass in the last days, *that* the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it.

- D. Revelation 17:10 - And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, *and* the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.

This shows there are 7 Kings and 7 Kingdoms that rule the world during the "Times of the Gentiles."

1st - Egypt; 2nd - Syria; 3rd - Babylon; 4th - Medo-Persia; 5th - Greece [five are fallen].

6th - Rome [and one is]

\*There is now a **gap** of time waiting for the Tribulation.

7th - Antichrist [the other is not yet cometh] - the **final** Gentile Kingdom.

- E. Revelation 17:11 - And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.

1. The beast: [was] - 7th  
                   [is not] -  
                   [yet is] - 8th
- >
- [is of the seven]  
 It is the **same** Kingdom. The Antichrist is the 7th (man of sin), but now the 8th [son of perdition]

2. The 7th Kingdom is divided into two parts.

3 1/2 years (man of sin) 7th <b>dies</b>	3 1/2 years (son of perdition) 8th <b>lives</b> again
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F. Revelation 17:12 - And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

1. There are 10 kings, but they have no kingdom yet. They will rise in the Middle East, and that area will be divided into 10 **political** units of 10 Kingdoms. This will take place **before** the rise of the Antichrist and the beginning of the Tribulation.

2. Remember:

Daniel 7:8, 24-25 - I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn *were* eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things. Dan. 7:24 And the ten horns out of this kingdom *are* ten kings *that* shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings. Dan. 7:25 And he shall speak *great* words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

Revelation 17:17 - For God hath put in their hearts to fulfill his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.

a. \*The Antichrist begins with **3** Kings, and by the middle of the Tribulation he has the other **7** Kings under his authority. They all will capitulate to the reign of the Antichrist and even **worship** him.

b. The Antichrist will then have **one** confederate Kingdom with 10 areas and 10 Kings. The Antichrist will be their **supreme** leader.

3. [but receive power as kings one hour with the beast]

a. The best I could come up with is Revelation 14:7, where it says [for the hour of His judgment is come]. This is the great Tribulation for the **final** 3 1/2 years.

b. The Antichrist, gaining control of the remaining 7 Kings and their Kingdoms, has come back to **life**. These Kings and most of the world will believe and follow the **lie**. These 10 Kings will share the **Great** Tribulation with the beast while being over 10 political units the Antichrist sets up.

G. Revelation 17:13 - These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.

These kings are in unity in giving the Antichrist authority over them. Whatever he wants them to do, they all **willingly** submit, and especially in regard to God's **people** and land.

H. Revelation 17:14 - These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him *are* called, and chosen, and faithful.

Here God inserts, like the end of the Book, in order to remind everyone He will win in the **end**. He does not

want the Jewish people to lose heart or **hope**. Even though it was getting darker, the Lamb will prevail. But since He prevails, those believers who follow and love Him will **also** prevail!

I. Revelation 17:15-17 - And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues. Rev. 17:16 And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire. Rev. 17:17 For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.

1. Here is the shocker. In verses 15-17, the Antichrist **no** longer wants to share the limelight or glory with the woman harlot. After **using** Baal worship for expedience sake, **he turns on the woman** by using the 10 kings to destroy her! The Antichrist **betrays** her!
2. This religious woman has had worldwide influence. But in verses 16-17, it is **God** who actually puts into the Antichrist and his kings to **hate** her. The Antichrist's political system attacks and destroys the religious whore from off the earth.

\*God, at times, even uses his enemies to accomplish - fulfill His purpose and plan (Pharaoh - **Cross**).

Colossians 2:15 - *And* having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Acts 4:26-28 - The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against his Christ. Acts 4:27 For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together, Acts 4:28 For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done.

J. Revelation 17:18 - And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.

1. Here we see this woman is that city that has religiously influenced the world. If John were writing from that perspective of his day, then **Rome**, the conqueror would have been this city. \*But John has been transported into the prophetic **future** in the Tribulation period. So this future religious system of Baal (queen of heaven) is called Babylon in this **context** of Chapters 17-18.
2. The reason people want this to be Rome is they want the Antichrist to be the **Pope**. But the scarlet woman and her religious system sit upon the Antichrist, whose headquarters is Babylon. The **leader of the religious system** is not the Antichrist, but the **False** Prophet!
3. Though the Antichrist wants worship, he remains a separate entity and leader of the political system. He uses the religious system as a **means** to have more control over the nations and masses of people.
4. **Note:** Babylon is **40** miles south of Baghdad. Babylon is in Assyria, on the Euphrates River, with the Antichrist being called the Assyrian. Is it really **hard** to understand his desire to make a city in his **own** nation the headquarters of his Kingdom's power?

His nationality:

- a. His oppression of Jews way back in **Egypt**

Isaiah 52:4 - For thus saith the Lord GOD, My people went down aforetime into Egypt to sojourn there; and the Assyrian oppressed them without cause.

b. God's use of him to burden Israel in the Tribulation

Isaiah 10:5-6, 10 - O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation. Isa. 10:6 I will send him against an hypocritical nation, and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge, to take the spoil, and to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets. Isa. 10:10 As my hand hath found the kingdoms of the idols, and whose graven images did excel them of Jerusalem and of Samaria;

c. He is at **Armageddon**.

Isaiah 30:30-31 - And the LORD shall cause his glorious voice to be heard, and shall shew the lighting down of his arm, with the indignation of *his* anger, and *with* the flame of a devouring fire, *with* scattering, and tempest, and hailstones. Isa. 30:31 For through the voice of the LORD shall the Assyrian be beaten down, *which* smote with a rod.

d. At Christ's **return** to earth

Micah 5:5-6 - And this *man* shall be the peace, when the Assyrian shall come into our land: and when he shall tread in our palaces, then shall we raise against him seven shepherds, and eight principal men. Micah 5:6 And they shall waste the land of Assyria with the sword, and the land of Nimrod in the entrances thereof: thus shall he deliver *us* from the Assyrian, when he cometh into our land, and when he treadeth within our borders.

e. The Assyrian's **defeat**

Isaiah 14:25 - That I will break the Assyrian in my land, and upon my mountains tread him under foot: then shall his yoke depart from off them, and his burden depart from off their shoulders.

K. Revelation 18:1 - And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory.

1. With the military machine of the Antichrist **mar**ching toward Israel and Armageddon, God remembers Babylon to judge her to fall in **one** day.

**\*\*Babylon is remembered for her **hell**-sending Baal worship; her idea of promoting the **lie**; her leading Israel into **idol**atry (two-thirds); and her **kill**ing and persecuting of Israel's Jewish remnant. God says now is the time to fulfill the prophecies of the prophets to destroy Babylon completely.**

2. This angel has great authority and the earth is **ill**uminated with his brightness. He lights the darkness from:

Revelation 16:10 - And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain,

**\*This angel is seen by most and heard by all in Babylon of its impending **doom**.**

3. Evidently, as Jerusalem, only Babylon had **not** fallen from the great earthquake as the rest of the cities, mountains and islands had. Babylon had been divided into **three** parts until God's final judgment on her in Chapter 18.

Revelation 16:19-20 - And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath. Rev. 16:20 And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.

L. Revelation 18:2 - And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

1. Babylon "is fallen" (**religious** system) "is fallen" (**political-commercial** system).
2. All that is left are **unclean** birds and **demons**. It is as if God gathers all the foul spirits into one place before He disposes of them.

\*The bodies demons possessed will burn up and the spirits cast into hell. If any bodies are left, the birds will **feed** on the carcasses. It will be an **awful** scene!

Revelation 18:9, 11, 15, 18-19 - And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning, Rev. 18:11 And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more: Rev. 18:15 The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing, Rev. 18:18 And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What *city is* like unto this great city! Rev. 18:19 And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas, that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate.