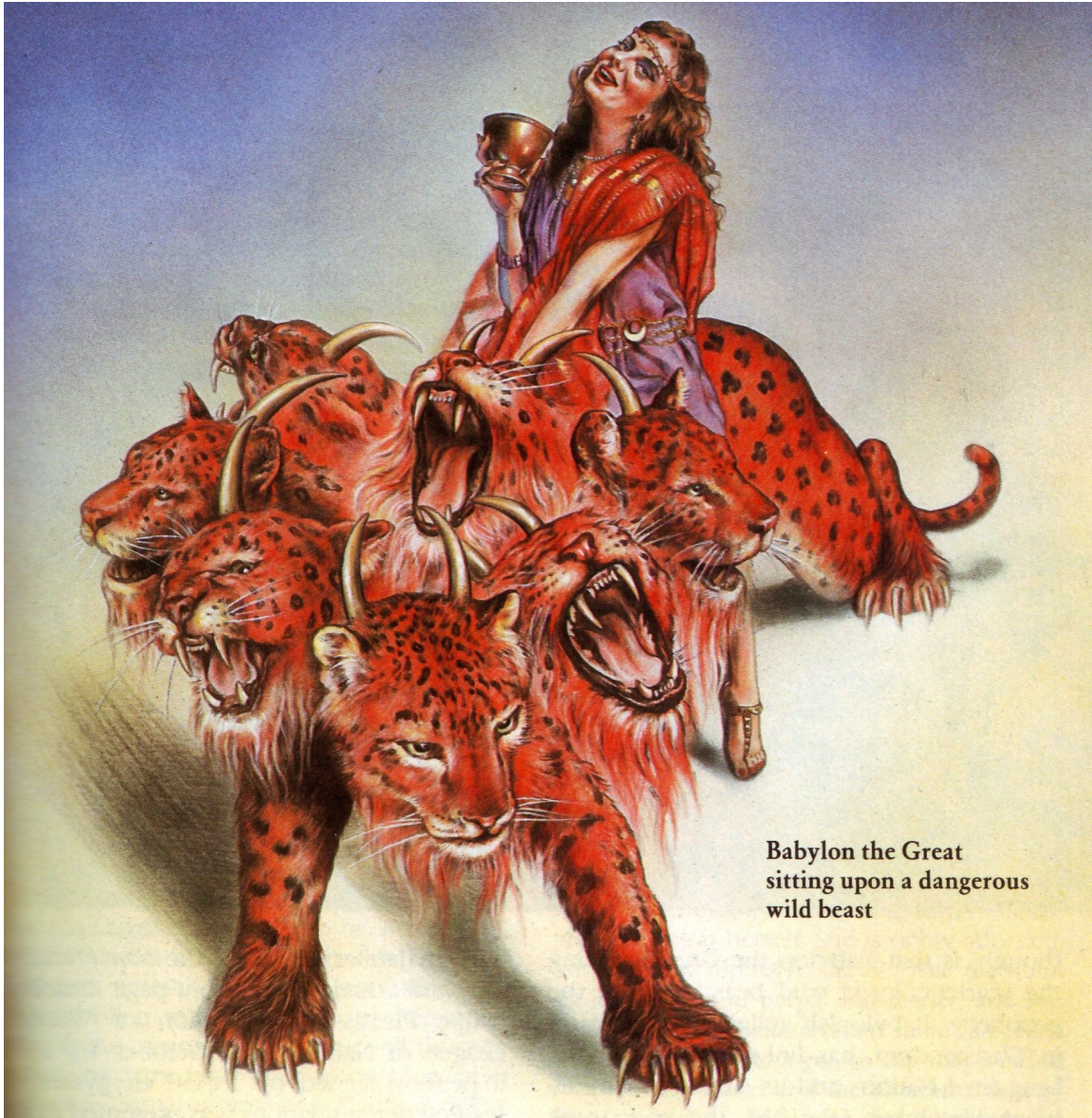


# **Revelation Judgment**

**6-3-18**

Revelation 17:3 (ESV)

And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness, and **I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns.**



**This is a picture of the world system, moral, religious, and economic from God's point of view!**

With the conclusion of C.16, we truly have the end of God's wrath and Jesus' return! C.17-18 provides an overview of the worldwide judgment from earth's point of view. **This is an addendum of God's view of the world without Christ!** From this view, God has described HIS destruction of the world and the world system. **This is the world on which God pours out HIS wrath; the seals, trumpets, and bowls!**

### **Look at The Great Prostitute:**

Revelation 17:1 (ESV)

The judgment of the great prostitute who is seated on many waters.

Revelation 17:15 (ESV)

And the angel said to me, "The waters that you saw, where the prostitute is seated, are **peoples** and **multitudes** and **nations** and **languages**."

Revelation 17:3 (ESV)

I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns.

Revelation 17:5 (ESV)

And on her forehead was written a name of mystery: "Babylon the great, **mother of prostitutes** and of earth's abominations."

The specific part of the title that is a divine mystery is that this prostitute is the *mother* of all earth's prostitutes. She is the fountainhead, the reservoir, the womb that bears all the individual cases of historical resistance to God's will on earth; she is the unholy antithesis to the woman who weds the Lamb (19:7–8) and to the New Jerusalem (21:2–3). Therefore, she cannot be merely ancient Babylon, Rome, or Jerusalem, because **these are only her children—she is the mother of them all.**

Babylon cannot be confined to any one historical manifestation, past or future. Babylon has multiple equivalents.

**Babylon is found wherever there is satanic deception.** The ancient Babylon is better understood here as the archetypal head of all entrenched worldly resistance to God. Babylon is a transhistorical reality. Babylon is an eschatological symbol of satanic deception and power; it is a divine mystery that can never be wholly reducible to empirical earthly institutions. It may be said that Babylon represents the total culture of the world apart from God, while the divine system is depicted by the New Jerusalem. Rome is simply one manifestation of the total system. This city is the mother of all these historical prostitutes, the archetypal source of every idolatrous manifestation in time and space.



Amazingly, all the harlot-city societies mentioned in Scripture have certain common characteristics that are also reflected in John's description of the great Babylon, in which he merges the descriptions of ancient Babylon and Jerusalem into one great composite. Royal dignity and splendor combined with prosperity, overabundance, and luxury; self-trust or boastfulness power and violence, especially against God's people; oppression and injustice and idolatry are all here. Wherever and whenever these characteristics have been manifested historically, *there is the appearance of Babylon.*

Revelation 17:6 (ESV)

And I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of the martyrs of Jesus.

**Do not take lightly all the anti-Christian attacks you hear over the news. It is a preview of the prostitute riding the beast!!**

Revelation 17:18 (ESV)

And the woman that you saw is the great city that has dominion over the kings of the earth.

**The "woman" and "the great city" are one. Yet this city is not just a historical one; *it is the great city, the mother city*, the mother of every evil system opposed to God in history.**

Her kingdom holds sway over the powers of the earth. John's concept of the city in Revelation entails much more than a specific historical city even in its political and sociological aspects. The cities in Revelation are communities; they are twofold: the city of God, the New Jerusalem, and the city of Satan, Babylon the Great. The meaning cannot be confined to Sodom or Egypt or Jerusalem or Rome or any future city. Instead, John describes the real trans-historical system of satanic evil that infuses them all.

### **Look at The Beast:**

Revelation 17:3 (ESV)

I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns.

**This beast is the Beast in chapter 13, which is also inseparable from the dragon of chapter 12.**

Revelation 17:8 (ESV)

The beast that you saw **was, and is not, and is about to rise** from the bottomless pit and go to destruction. And the dwellers on earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world will marvel to see the beast, because **it was and is not and is to come.**

John is told that the beast “once was, now is not, and will come up out of the Abyss.” **This seems clearly to be a paraphrase of chapter 13 of the mortally wounded beast who was healed (13:3, 14);** the language is similar, the astonishment of the world’s inhabitants identical, and the threefold emphasis on this spectacular feature is repeated in both contexts.

Revelation 17:11 (ESV)

As for the beast **that was and is not**, it is an eighth but it belongs to the seven, and it goes to destruction.

**We know this person is the Anti-Christ, the Beast, by significant previously stated facts;** he suffers a Mortal wound and is healed, he proclaims himself God, he reigns 42 months, he is anti-Christian, and Jesus personally kills him. With the certainty verse 11, I am far less certain of the previous verses 9 and 10. I lean to the succession of world powers, but I am not totally convinced. I leave this your own study and to review my notes which are on the web.

Revelation 17:9-10 (ESV)

<sup>9</sup> This calls for a mind with wisdom: the seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman is seated; <sup>10</sup> they are also seven kings, five of whom have fallen, one is, **the other has not yet come, and when he does come he must remain only a little while.**

Various opinions abound about verses 9 and 10; succession of world powers; succession of Roman emperors; succession evil initiated by Satan. Each has significant difficulties in its application and I, personally, do not have a solid opinion. However, as a note nowhere in the NT is Rome described as the enemy of the church. Also by his use of seven, he indicates completeness or wholeness. Therefore, the seven heads of the beast symbolize fullness of blasphemy and evil. Each of the series of sevens in the book, except for the seven churches, follows a pattern of the seventh in the series becoming the first of a new series; thus seven to eight equals one. Therefore these 7 heads are leading to the ultimate conclusion of the one and final world leader, the Anti-Christ. As verse 9 says, "This calls for a mind with wisdom."

Closely connected to the Anti-Christ we encounter 10 Kings. These ten kings relate directly to Dan.7:20-21, 24, 9:27! Truly Daniel is the foundation for understanding Revelation!

Revelation 17:12-13 (ESV)

<sup>12</sup> And the **ten horns** that you saw are **ten kings** who have not yet received royal power, but they are to receive authority as kings **for one hour, together with the beast.** <sup>13</sup> These are of one mind, and they hand over their power and authority to the beast.



**The 10 Kings “one hour” of rule is certainly the 42 months of the Anti-Christ’s anti-Christian rule.**

Revelation 17:14 (ESV)

They will make war on the Lamb, and **the Lamb will conquer them**, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful.

**Here we jump to the final battle of Armageddon and the Return of Christ**, because up to this point the Anti-Christ has made war on the saints and conquered them.

Revelation 17:16 (ESV)

They and the beast will hate the prostitute.

Inspired by Satan, the 10 kings and the Beast will hate the prostitute. Throughout history you have seen leaders and government turn on the people they were ruling. Satan hates all mankind and his purpose is to kill and destroy. **“The ravaging of the whore by the monster and its horns is John’s most vivid symbol for the self-destructing power of evil.”** The references to the prostitute being hated by her former lovers, stripped naked, and burned with fire are reminiscent of the OT prophets’ descriptions of the divine judgment falling on the harlot cities of Jerusalem and Tyre especially graphic in Ezekiel 16:39-40; 23:25-27; 28:18.

**Now let us read through this worldwide destruction of the world system, moral and religious, during the time of the seals, trumpets, and bowls of wrath.**

Revelation 17:1–18 (ESV)

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, “Come, I will show you **the judgment of the great prostitute who is seated on many waters,** <sup>2</sup> with **whom the kings of the earth have committed sexual immorality, and with the wine of whose sexual immorality the dwellers on earth have become drunk.**” <sup>3</sup> And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness, and **I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns.** <sup>4</sup> The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and jewels and pearls, holding in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the impurities of her sexual immorality. <sup>5</sup> **And on her forehead was written a name of mystery:** “Babylon the great, mother of prostitutes and of earth’s abominations.” <sup>6</sup> And I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of the martyrs of Jesus.

When I saw her, I marveled greatly. <sup>7</sup> But the angel said to me, “Why do you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman, and of the beast with seven heads and ten horns that carries her. <sup>8</sup> **The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to rise from the bottomless pit and go to destruction. And the dwellers on earth whose names have not been**

**written in the book of life from the foundation of the world will marvel to see the beast, because it was and is not and is to come.** <sup>9</sup> This calls for a mind with wisdom: the seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman is seated; <sup>10</sup> they are also seven kings, five of whom have fallen, one is, **the other has not yet come, and when he does come he must remain only a little while.** <sup>11</sup> **As for the beast that was and is not, it is an eighth but it belongs to the seven, and it goes to destruction.** <sup>12</sup> **And the ten horns that you saw are ten kings who have not yet received royal power, but they are to receive authority as kings for one hour, together with the beast.** <sup>13</sup> **These are of one mind, and they hand over their power and authority to the beast.** <sup>14</sup> **They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful."**

<sup>15</sup> **And the angel said to me, "The waters that you saw, where the prostitute is seated, are peoples and multitudes and nations and languages.** <sup>16</sup> **And the ten horns that you saw, they and the beast will hate the prostitute.** They will make her desolate and naked, and devour her flesh and burn her up with fire, <sup>17</sup> **for God has put it into their hearts to carry out his purpose by being of one mind and handing over their royal power to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled.** <sup>18</sup> **And the woman that you saw is the great city that has dominion over the kings of the earth."**

**C.18, with evil world system destroyed, we look specifically at the economic system by which the world system operated.**

**He is not writing a literal description, even in poetic or figurative language, of the fall of an earthly city, such as Rome or Jerusalem; but in portraying the destruction of a city, he describes God's judgment on the great satanic system of evil that has corrupted the earth's history. Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! She has become a dwelling place for demons!**

**Before we read this section, a few quick notes on the collapse of this world wide economic system.**

**The collapse is Quick and complete:**

Revelation 18:2 (ESV)

**Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great!**

Revelation 18:8 (ESV)

**Her plagues will come in a single day.**

Revelation 18:10 (ESV)

**In a single hour your judgment has come.**

Revelation 18:17 (ESV)

**In a single hour all this wealth has been laid waste.**

Revelation 18:19 (ESV)

**In a single hour she has been laid waste.**

Revelation 18:21 (ESV)

**Babylon the great city be thrown down with violence, and will be found no more.**



**Unlike with the Prostitute, the kings of the world  
Mourn over the collapse of the economic system:**

Revelation 18:9 (ESV)

The kings of the earth will **weep and wail** over her.

Revelation 18:11 (ESV)

The merchants of the earth **weep and mourn** for her.

Revelation 18:15 (ESV)

The merchants who gained wealth from her **weeping and mourning aloud.**

Revelation 18:19 (ESV)

They threw dust on their heads as **they wept and mourned.**

**Now let us read through this worldwide destruction  
of the economic system during the time of the seals,  
trumpets, and bowls of wrath.**

Revelation 18:1-24 (ESV)

After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was made bright with his glory. <sup>2</sup> And he called out with a mighty voice,

**“Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great!**

**She has become a dwelling place for demons,**

**a haunt for every unclean spirit,**

**a haunt for every unclean bird,**

**a haunt for every unclean and detestable beast.**

<sup>3</sup> For all nations have drunk

the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality,

and the kings of the earth have committed  
immorality with her,  
and the merchants of the earth have grown rich  
from the power of her luxurious living.”

<sup>4</sup> Then I heard another voice from heaven saying,

**“Come out of her, my people,  
lest you take part in her sins,  
lest you share in her plagues;**

<sup>5</sup> for her sins are heaped high as heaven,  
and God has remembered her iniquities.

<sup>9</sup> And the kings of the earth, who committed sexual  
immorality and lived in luxury with her, will weep and  
wail over her when they see the smoke of her burning.  
... .. **For in a single hour your judgment has come.”**

<sup>11</sup> And the merchants of the earth weep and mourn for  
her, since no one buys their cargo anymore, ... ..

<sup>15</sup> The merchants, who gained wealth from her, will  
stand far off, in fear of her torment, weeping and  
mourning aloud ... ..

<sup>17</sup> **For in a single hour all this wealth has been laid  
waste.”**

<sup>20</sup> Rejoice over her, O heaven,  
and you saints and apostles and prophets,  
for God has given judgment for you against her!”

<sup>21</sup> Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great  
millstone and threw it into the sea, saying,

**“So will Babylon the great city be thrown down with violence, and will be found no more; ... ..**

**for your merchants were the great ones of the earth, and all nations were deceived by your sorcery.**

**<sup>24</sup> And in her was found the blood of prophets and of saints, and of all who have been slain on earth.”**

**The End Time economic system will prove to be Anti-Christian necessitated by worshipping the beast and receiving his mark, 666! Thus the culmination of evil and the collapse of the world system, economic system, the eradication of evil will be catastrophic, worldwide impacting every single human being!**

**A timeless lesson for all Christians!**

**Revelation 18:4 (ESV) O/H**

**Then I heard another voice from heaven saying,**

**“Come out of her, my people,  
lest you take part in her sins,  
lest you share in her plagues.”**

**This is definitely a cry to Tribulation saints during the Great Tribulation. However this is a call to all God’s people throughout the ages to separate themselves from the evil system. Christians are to separate themselves ideologically and, if necessary, physically from all the forms of Babylon. If they refuse to separate themselves,**

they will “share in her sins” and also in the divine judgments. **This is addressed to professing Christians who were being seduced by Satan through the wiles of the queen prostitute to abandon their loyalty to Jesus.**

“Come out of her, my people” forms the cry of Jeremiah concerning Babylon even restated in the NT (Jer 50:8; 51:6–9; cf. Isa 48:20; 52:11; 2 Cor 6:17). Even in its OT setting, this was no mere warning to leave the actual city of Babylon, much less here in Revelation. John is burdened to exhort the churches to shun the charms and ensnarements of the queen prostitute as her qualities are manifest in the world they live in. Wherever there are idolatry, prostitution, self-glorification, self-sufficiency, pride, complacency, reliance on luxury and wealth, avoidance of suffering, violence against life (v. 24), there is Babylon.

**Therefore our message is clear! Turn from the prostitute and become the true Bride of Christ.**

Revelation 22:17 (ESV) O/H

The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.”

**Prophetic Team**

***Hear from the Holy Spirit to change the current situation or impact the future***