

REV 17:1-6

KJV The Scarlet Woman and the Scarlet Beast

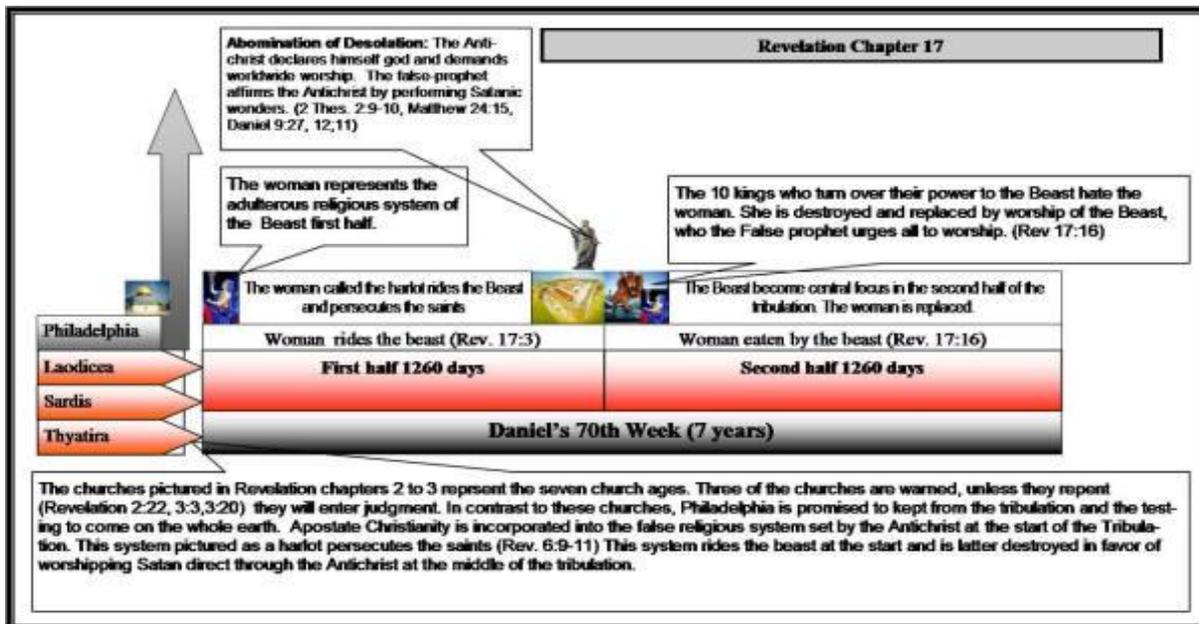


1 And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, come hither; I will show unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: 2 With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. 3 So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet-covered beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. 4 And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet color, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: 5 and upon her forehead was a name written MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH 6 and I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.

Chapter 17 reveals details of Satan’s work from Noah’s flood until the end of this age. The methods used by Satan are tried and true throughout the ages. In this chapter, we see Satan’s method to subdue and seduce the kings of the earth. We also see how God plans to destroy these satanic institutions. Chapters 17 and 18 of Revelation deal with the “New Babylon”. Chapter 17 deals with the religious system and 18 with the political system. Chapter 17 requires spiritual understanding as we let scripture interpret scripture.

The timing of the 17th chapter is parenthetical and actually takes place at the beginning of the second half of the tribulation period. The Antichrist at the start of the tribulation period comes to power in the guise of peace. One method of his peace is the establishment of a religious system. The system will unify a world at war. The Beast and the false prophet will unify kingdoms of the world under a religious and economic system. Islam and apostate Christianity, along with other religions will be united. The world will look for answers, and they will be ripe for spiritual deception.

During the Midpoint, changes in the spiritual realms will cause changes to the “Religious system”, the Beast and his Image will become the focus of worship. Satan who will inhabit the body of the Antichrist will want direct worship from the world. The False Prophet who helped unify the earth into a one world religion will now turn the world to worship the Beast and his image. With worship of the Beast and his Image as the focus, there will no longer be a need for a unified world religion. The Beast will now be the focus; the kings in the Beast’s kingdom will now turn on the religious system and destroy it. By destroying the system, they will accomplish God’s will.



Revelation 17:1-2

One of the seven angels... One of the angels who had poured the bowl of God’s wrath now is telling John a preview of what he will see. Chapter 17 of Revelation deals with religious Babylon and chapter 18 deals with political Babylon. John is now about to receive insight into religious Babylon.

Come I will show you... John is to be taken to view what the angel is about to describe in an actual sense, not in a metaphorical sense.

The judgment of the great harlot... (Gr. *porneō* ...a woman who sells her body for sexual uses) a prostitute, a harlot, one who yields herself to defilement for the sake of gain). Who is the great harlot who sits on many waters? To understand the vision John is about to see we need to understand the use of women in biblical symbolism. Throughout the Bible, the picture of the women portrays spiritual purity or defilement. Proverbs has two distinct female profiles of the adulterous wife (**Proverbs 5**) and the faithful wife (**Proverbs 31**).

In Hosea Israel is pictured as the wife of Jehovah. Hosea's relationship with his adulterous wife Gomer models God's relationship with adulterous Israel who seeks after other gods.

Hosea 3:1-5 (NKJV) *1Then the LORD said to me, "Go again, love a woman who is loved by a lover and is committing adultery, just like the love of the LORD for the children of Israel, who look to other gods and flagons of wine (love the raisin cakes of the pagans). 2So I bought her for myself for fifteen shekels of silver, and one and one-half homers of barley. 3And I said to her, "You shall stay with me many days; you shall not play the harlot, nor shall you have a man—so, too, will I be toward you. 4For the children of Israel shall abide many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred pillar, without ephod or teraphim. 5Afterward the children of Israel shall return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They shall fear the LORD and His goodness in the latter days.*

In this picture, Israel is the wife of the Lord, but she is an adulterous wife who must remain apart from her husband. However, in the end God restores Israel as Hosea restored Gomer in the "Latter days". Hosea must purchase his wife, Gomer, from her lovers for 15 shekels, she must stay apart for an extended period. Gomer, as a woman, represents Israel's relationship with God. Israel will be without a Temple or sacrifice, but in the end, Israel will be restored and again seek the Lord. Jerusalem, the city, is also portrayed as an adulterous wife who sought other lovers and abandoned her husband the Lord, in favor of other gods.

Ezekiel 16:30-32 *30 How weak is thine heart, saith the Lord God, seeing thou doest all these things, the work of an imperious whorish woman; 31 In that thou buildest thine eminent place in the head of every way, and makest thine high place in every street; and hast not been as a harlot, in that thou scornest hire 32 But as a wife that committeth adultery, which taketh strangers instead of her husband!*

Harlotry is equated with spiritual adultery or idol worship in the scriptures. The church pictured as the bride of Christ. (**Eph 5:25-28, 2 Cor. 11:2, Revelation 19:7**) The church must remain pure and free from friendship with the world (**James 4:4**).

James equates this with adultery or idol worship. This picture of the harlot is associated with spiritual unfaithfulness. The statement that the harlot sits on many waters portrays the large territory she occupies.

With whom the kings of the earth... The work of this great harlot is worldwide, to the point where the rulers of the earth have had intimate relations with her.

Inhabitants of the earth... The great harlot intimacy with the "Kings of the earth" results in the inhabitants of the earth becoming intoxicated with the wine, from this adulterous relationship between the great harlot (Mega Pornee) and the kings of earth. This is John's angelic preview of what he is about to see in this vision.

The Woman on the Beast

Revelation 17:3-4: *3 So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet-covered beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. 4 And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet color, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication:*

He carried me away... John was before the throne witnessing the wrath being poured out of bowls onto the earth. Now one of the angels with one of the bowls came over to John and spoke with him, the angel is about to take John away from the throne.

In the Spirit into the wilderness.... (Gr. ereômosdesert, desolate, solitary, wilderness.) John is carried in his spirit man, this experience is similar to Ezekiel's when he was taken "In the spirit" into a valley of dry bones (Ezk. 37:1). Paul was also taken up into the third heaven and was given a thorn in his side to keep him humble (2 Cor. 12:1-7). Being in the spirit John sees a vision in the spiritual wilderness.

Woman sitting on a scarlet beast.... The identity of the woman sitting on the beast is the great harlot mentioned in verse 1. The beast she is sitting on links her identity. Who is the beast? This is the same beast seen in Daniel and Revelation. The beast has distinct characteristics having 10 horns, seven heads and blasphemous names. The meaning of the 10 horns and 7 heads is revealed in Daniel and Revelation.

Rev 12:3-4 *"3And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. 4 and his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born."*

Rev 13:1-4 *"1And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a best rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. 2 and the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. 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. 4 and they worshiped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshiped the beast, saying who is like unto the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"*

Daniel 7:7-8 “*After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns. I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.*”

From our previous study we know the identity of this beast as being the living embodiment of Satan who was cast out of heaven and to the Earth, who at the midpoint inhabits the body of Antichrist. In **Revelation chapter 12**, we see the dragon being active in the Earth before his fall as he stood before the women to devour her child as soon as it was born. His activity did not begin at this point but was continual throughout history. As Satan was active from history, we will see the harlot has and is an active force throughout history.

Woman was arrayed... The woman is riding on the Beast which reveals she is distinct but acting in concert with the Beast. Her appearance is appealing in the eyes of the world; her clothing is made of purple and scarlet.

The **color purple** represents *priesthood, royalty, and wealth* (**Judges 8:26, Dan. 5:7, Esther 8:15, Luke 16:19**). The **color scarlet** is also associated with *the priesthood, sacrifice and wealth*. (**Exodus 38:18, Lev. 14:4, Josh. 2:18, 2 Sam: 1:24, Prov. 31:21, Isaiah 1:18, Matt. 27:28**).

Another defining characteristic of the woman is her gold, precious stones, and pearls. Gold and precious stones are also associated with priesthood and royalty. The woman received or was adorned with these items to the point where she seemed golden as the Greek word implies.

In her hand a golden cup... She is further pictured as having a golden cup. Gold cups were used by royalty and priests. Her cup on the outside is appealing, but inside it's filled with the detestable. Abominations and fornication are both words associated with idol worship in the scripture. The word for abomination, (Gr...bdelugma) is only used five other times outside of the book of Revelation. One reference is to the “Abomination of desolation” (**Matthew 24:15, and Mark 13:14**) The other is to the Pharisees who loved money. **Luke 16:15**: “*15And He said to them, “You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is highly esteemed among men is an abomination in the sight of God”.*”

The harlot uses a combination of outward beauty and majesty with a religion to subdue and seduce the kings and inhabitants of the earth. Contrast the harlot to the “Two witnesses” who are God’s representatives who come to the Earth dressed in sackcloth.

The name of the Woman

Revelation 17:5: *And upon her forehead was a name written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.*

On her forehead... The identity of this woman is further manifested in her name. One way a prostitute would advertise her services was by having her name emblazoned on her forehead. This was popular in the time of Jeremiah as well as in the time of John.

Jeremiah 3:3 *Therefore the showers have been withheld, and there has been no latter rain. You have had a harlot's forehead; You refuse to be ashamed.*

Mystery... (Gr...musteôrion ...From a derivative of muoô (to *shut* the mouth); a *secret* or "mystery" (through the idea of *silence* imposed by *initiation* into religious rites):—mystery. The mystery religions with secret rites and orders started with the wife of Nimrod, the first king of the Earth after the flood. (**Gen 10:8-10**)

Babylon.... The city built by Nimrod from which mankind was scattered throughout the Earth. (**Gen 11:1-9**). According to scripture Babylon as a capital city will be rebuilt. The rebuilt city will be the "Religious" and "Economic" capital of the world in the last days. This very day several significant events are taking place. One is the world working in unison to rebuild and reconstruct the nation of Iraq. Baghdad is located 60 miles to the north of the ancient city of Babylon and could become the New Babylon as the countries of the Earth begin reconstruction of the land where man first assembled after the flood. (**Gen 10**) Babylon was the first nation city-state, from which the kingdom of the earth was first headquartered, and Babylon will be the last city-state from which the kingdom of the Earth will be headquartered. In **Isaiah 14:4** Lucifer is called the King of Babylon. In **Zechariah 5:5-11**, the woman, called "Wickedness" is flown to the valley of Shinar (Babylon) where a base will be built for her. When it is built, she will be seated there.

Zechariah 5:5-11 *5 Then the angel who talked with me went forth, and said to me, 'Lift up now thine eyes and see what is this that goeth forth.' 6 And I said, 'What is it?' And he said 'This is an ephah that goeth forth'. He said moreover, 'This is their resemblance through all the earth.' 7 And behold, there was lifted up a talent of lead: and this is a woman that sitteth in the midst of the ephah.' 8 And he said, 'This is wickedness.' And he cast it into the midst of the ephah; and he cast the weight of lead upon the mouth thereof. 9 Then lifted I up mine eyes, and looked, and behold, there came out two women and the wind was in their wings; for they had wings like the wings of a stork: and they lifted up the ephah between the earth and the heaven. 10 Then said I to the angel that talked with me, 'whither do these bear the ephah?' 11 And he said unto me, 'To build it a house in the land of Shinar: and it shall be established, and set there upon her own base.' "*

Babylon was never destroyed but gradually faded from history as a major city after the fall of Babylon in 539. In the book of Jeremiah and Isaiah we view the eternal destruction of the city. The defeat of Babylon in 539 was a foreshadowing of the future eternal destruction of Babylon.

Isaiah 13:19-20 *19 And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldeans' pride, will be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah. 20 It will never be inhabited, nor will it be settled from generation to generation; Nor will the Arabian pitch tents there, Nor will the shepherds make their sheepfolds there.*

The religious system was set in motion in Babylon and has continued to this very day in one form or another throughout the world. After the building of the tower of Babel, when man tried to build a tower out of rebellion, and the Lord scattered humanity by families, through the earth, these tribes took with them, the religious system established in Babylon. The various religions of the earth have similarities because they have a similar origin, Babylon.

The woman drunk with the blood of martyrs

Revelation 17:6 *6 And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.*

I saw the woman... The religious system first established in Babylon has continued throughout history and is one of the reasons why God will judge Judah. The propagation of this "Babylonian" religion is not limited to Israel but has made its way to nations throughout the world.

Jeremiah 44:17-19 *17 But we will certainly do whatever has gone out of our own mouth, to burn incense to the queen of heaven and pour out drink offerings to her, as we have done, we and our fathers, our kings, and our princes, in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem. For then we had plenty of food, were well-off, and saw no trouble. 18 But since we stopped burning incense to the queen of heaven and pouring out drink offerings to her, we have lacked everything and have been consumed by the sword and by famine." 19 The women also said, "And when we burned incense to the queen of heaven and poured out drink offerings to her, did we make cakes for her, to worship her, and pour out drink offerings to her without our husbands' permission?"*

Ezekiel 8:12-14 *12 Then He said to me, "Son of man, have you seen what the elders of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man in the room of his idols? For they say, 'The LORD does not see us, the LORD has forsaken the land.'" 13 And He said to me, "Turn again, and you will see greater abominations that they are doing." 14 So He brought me to the door of the north gate of the LORD'S house; and to my dismay, women were sitting there weeping for Tammuz.*

Some Jews who escaped Babylonian captivity fled to Egypt. In Egypt they refused to give up their worship of the “Queen of Heaven” and her son, “Tammuz”. Jeremiah was taken captive by this group to the land of Egypt. This same Babylonian religion has elements that have been transferred to today’s cultural Christianity. For example, the word Easter is of pagan origin, along with eggs, white dresses, and bunny rabbits these practices have been traced back to Babylonian fertility rites. The assault is not just on cultural Christianity, but on the faith directly. Catholicism today is incorporating many of the errors Israel made during the time of Jeremiah. The following is from the official Catholic Catechism ratified by the Second Vatican Council, section 996.

966 "Finally the Immaculate Virgin, preserved free from all stain of original sin, when the course of her earthly life was finished, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, and exalted by the Lord as Queen over all things, so that she might be the more fully conformed to her Son, the Lord of lords and conqueror of sin and death." [506] The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin is a singular participation in her Son's Resurrection and an anticipation of the resurrection of other Christians: In giving birth you kept your virginity; in your Dormition you did not leave the world, O Mother of God, but were joined to the source of Life. You conceived the living God and, by your prayers, will deliver our souls from death. [507] (Catechism of the Catholic Church, Libreria Editrice Vaticana, Liguori Publications, 1994, Pg.252)"

Today there is a move within the Catholic church to give Mary the title Co-Redemptrix, meaning that she plays a part in redemption. This is contrary to scripture which clearly teaches there is one-Mediator. **I Tim 2:5** *5For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,*

Pope Leo XIII: *"The recourse we have to Mary in prayer follows upon the office she continuously fills by the side of the throne of God as Mediatrix of Divine grace; being by worthiness and by merit most acceptable to Him, and, therefore, surpassing in power all the angels and saints in Heaven. Now, this merciful office of hers, perhaps, appears in no other form of prayer so manifestly as it does in the Rosary. For in the Rosary all the part that Mary took as our co-Redemptrix comes to us."* **lucunda Semper Expectatione, n. 2),** <http://www.catholicplanet.com/CMA/>

The blood of the saints.... The work of Satan, through this religious system has been active since the building of Babylon. (Gr. hagios (saints) *sacred* (physically *pure*, morally *blameless*, or *religious*, ceremonially *consecrated*): —(most) holy (one, thing), saint. The two categories are saints, *those killed before Jesus* (**Dan 8:13**). And the martyrs of Jesus, *those killed for their witness of Messiah*. Both groups are killed by this satanic religion that operates in opposition to God’s word. There is a well-documented history of those who have been killed in Europe and throughout the world for the sake of the gospel.

I wondered with great admiration... John wondered in amazement because he did not understand the extent of the work of the woman who was riding the Beast. How active she has been in the prior centuries and how active she will be till the end of days.



Revelation 17:7-18 *“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. 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. ⁹ And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth. 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. ¹¹ And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition. 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. ¹³ These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. 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. ¹⁵ and he saith unto me, the waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues. 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. 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. ¹⁸ and the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.

Origin of the Woman

“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.

Angel said.... The angel slightly rebukes John for marveling at the Woman riding the Beast.

I will tell thee the mystery of the woman... Now the angel will explain the meaning, so there is no misunderstanding about the Woman or the Beast.

The beast that carrieth her.... From the context of the other verses the beast is the future kingdom that will be unified under Satan’s power in the final kingdom on the Earth. The seven heads and ten horns are referred to three times outside of the book of Revelation.

Do not take my word for it - the angel himself will clearly explain to John and to us the mystery of the woman, and the satanic Beast that she rides.

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. 9 And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth. 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. 11 And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.”

Remember in this vision the woman is not the beast that John saw. Because the woman was sitting (riding) on the beast. The angel explains that this Beast is an entity that ascends out of the bottomless pit and that eventually goes to eternal damnation. We have already studied that when Satan is cast out of heaven, he will inhabit the Beast that comes out of the bottomless pit. The bottomless pit is probably the center of the earth where the demons and enemies of God are being held for this time of judgment. In a sense, the bottomless pit is another dimension that we know little about. As we previously studied, *the Beast is both a man and a world empire.*

The people on the earth will wonder after the Beast when they behold him. They will think that he is God. All who do not know the true God will be truly astonished by the Beast. Those who God chose before the foundations of the world will not be deceived but all the rest in the world will be deceived. Anyone who thinks that the Antichrist is a plain man with a few magic tricks simply is not reading the script. Satan will come in the body of a man with supernatural powers and he will come with all his angels. He will claim to be God and the world will believe him because of the power he demonstrates.

“The Beast that was and is not and yet is” is talking about the resurrection of a man who had died and probably also about a kingdom that had a deadly wound. One thought is that a contemporary world leader will be killed and rise from the dead by the power that God permits Satan to have to perform this deception. The deception is for all those who have rejected the truth given by the two prophets. It will be for those that wish to believe a lie. This passage both talks about a world leader and also talks about his kingdom, as do some other prophecies in scripture. The same wicked spiritual forces control both. The kingdom of the Beast that was and is not and yet is, can only be a revival of the Roman Empire that later becomes Satan’s counterfeit kingdom of God.

As we studied previously, the book of Daniel chapter two makes it clear that there would only be four Gentile world empires from the time of Daniel to the time when Jesus sets up His kingdom over the world. These four empires were the Babylonian, the Medo-Persian, the Greek, and the Roman Empire. The Roman Empire will rise again in these last days to fulfill the prophecy of the feet with ten toes on the statue of Nebuchadnezzar (Dan 2:42). This statue represents all the remaining Gentile world governments until God sets up His own kingdom. The world governments are sequential from the head to the toes. The two legs of iron described by Daniel represented the eastern and western division of the Roman Empire. The final Gentile government is represented by the feet with ten toes of iron and clay. They represent strong and weak entities that will come together in the same area as the two legs to form this revived Roman Empire.

The resurrection of the Roman Empire is underway today. It started with the EEC and EU experiments and will soon morph into the area of the recently proposed Mediterranean Union. The Roman Empire was the seventh world empire on earth but the fourth from Daniel because there were also three Gentile world governments prior to the time of Daniel's prophecy. The Beast Government that comes when Satan is cast out of heaven onto the earth will be the eighth world government. It is the eighth because the Beast that comes out of the pit will take control of this revived Roman Empire, move the world government and religious capitol to Babylon, and rename it the "Kingdom of God".

It will be called "Babylon the Great" by God. The Beast man that controls the eighth world government is the eighth king but is of the seven because the man that ruled the end time revived Roman Empire will be resurrected to control this Babylon the Great Beast Kingdom. Let me clarify this a little - this seventh world leader will die and rise again by the power given to Satan and become the leader of the eighth world empire. Nevertheless, he was the leader of the seventh empire as well before he was killed.

The prophecy about the "empire" identified as the Beast is similar. It originally will evolve out of the area of the old Roman Empire. This new revived Roman Empire will receive a deadly head wound in an internal revolution and three regions and its rulers will no longer exist. The "empire" with the deadly head wound will rise again as the end time Beast when the Beast man rises from the dead, claims to be God incarnate, moves the headquarters from Europe to Babylon and then takes the authority of his Beast kingdom worldwide.

There are only seven Gentile world empires on earth until Jesus comes but there are eight, because the eighth is just phase two of the seventh when the leader becomes supernatural, moves the capitol, and expands his kingdom to the borders of the Old Roman Empire and His power worldwide.

Now that the angel explained who the Beast is, he tells us about the mystery of the “woman who rides the Beast”. The angel tells John that the woman that rides the Beast will sit on seven mountains (mountains, mounts, or hills). Rome sits on seven hills. The harlot woman that becomes the World Church will rule from the Vatican.



These are photos showing Pope John Paul II entering a mosque and kissing the Koran. One of Pope John Paul's closest friends was the Dalai Lama who was the world leader of eastern and “new age” paganism.



Pope Francis embraces Sheikh Ahmad el-Tayeb, grand imam of al-Azhar University, at a conference on international peace in Cairo April 28. The pope was making a two-day visit to Egypt. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

Pope Francis has also entered into covenant with the Muslims. Here is a quote from The American Magazine September 11, 2019

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- On a day remembered for the terrorist attacks against the United States, Pope Francis met with members of a committee of Muslim leaders and Vatican officials promoting a new era of dialogue and world peace.

The first meeting of the committee working to fulfill the goals of the "Document on Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together" was held Sept. 11 in the Vatican residence where the pope lives. "The date was chosen as a sign of the will to build life and fraternity where others sowed death and destruction," said a communique by the Vatican press office Sept. 11. The Document on Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together -- which rejects violence and terrorism and promotes identity, dialogue, and harmony -- was signed in the United Arab Emirates Feb. 4 by Pope Francis and Egyptian Sheikh Ahmad el-Tayeb, grand imam of al-Azhar, a leading authority for many Sunni Muslims. The seven-person committee is made up of representatives for the Vatican, al-Azhar University and the United Arab Emirates.

The pope greeted each member and gave them a special copy of the document, issued by the Vatican Library. Calling them "artisans of fraternity," the pope thanked them and encouraged them to be the source of a new form of politics of "not only of outstretched hands, but of open hearts," the communique said.

All this contact with unbelievers was ongoing at the very same time that the Vatican attacked fundamental true Christianity in South America, the United States and elsewhere. This is typical of the thinking in much of the leadership of the Roman Catholic Church even now. There also is quite a parallel to the idol worship of statues by “some Catholics” and the idol worship by Buddhists and Hindus.

All religion is pretty much the same at its core. Religions are methodologies for man to evolve to become like God, to appease God and earn brownie points by one’s own good works, or to manipulate God or some “higher power force” into doing one’s own will.

There is always an inner circle of elite that set themselves up as being on a higher spiritual plane and more like God or closer to God than the common membership. Those who believe they are on this higher plane then make rules and rituals to enslave the masses to enforce what they believe are God’s requirements for man.

Religion other than “true Christianity” (which really is not a religion but is being born into a new creation through faith and trust in God), is always a salvation by man’s own works theology and always denies that salvation can be acquired from trusting in the work of Jesus alone.

Jesus had little good to say about the religious leadership over Israel and He will have little good to say about the religious leadership over Gentile religions in these last days. This includes most of the leadership that identifies with Christianity.

The scriptures say there is but one way to God through His Son Jesus Christ and that He paid the price for all mankind at the cross. To be saved one has to trust that God loved mankind enough to have prepared a plan of salvation and that He actually has the power to carry it out. This plan for redeeming man is what the Bible is all about.

The great difference between the bride of Christ and the whore is that the bride knows she is made pure by the blood of Jesus but the whore believes she must become acceptable to God by her own self effort. She is forever trying to find ways to appease and please God. Since she rejects the true nature of God, she fornicates with every filthy spirit in a self-effort to become like the God she believes exists but the God she thinks exists is actually her father the Devil. *Those who say they worship God and who do not worship or accept His Son are deceived or liars because Jesus is the express image of God.*

Heb 1:3 *Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.*

Verse 11 of Revelation 17 tells us the end time Beast that the woman rides will go into utter perdition (destruction). The destruction of the Beast kingdom is described in the next chapter.

HERE IS A CHART SHOWING THE BEAST THAT WAS, AND IS NOT AND YET IS

	REVELATION 17	REVELATION 13	REVELATION 12	DANIEL 7
1. Was	Babylon as a world kingdom united under one man did exist			
2. And Is not	Babylon is not now a world kingdom			
3. And will ascend out of the bottomless Pit	When the Antichrist dies Satan will inhabit his body at the midpoint			
4. Go to perdition	Satan and the Antichrist will go into eternal destruction			
5. Yet is: Ten horns and seven heads	V3 So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet-colored beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns	1. And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and I saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.	3. and there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.	7b And it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns
6. Blasphemous names	I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet-colored beast, full of names of blasphemy	1b. and upon his heads the name of blasphemy		25 And he shall speak great words against the most high

Those who dwell.... The inhabitants of the Earth will be in awe of the Kingdom of the Beast, and the source of its power and the power behind the Beast, Satan.

Whose names are not written... Those who are not going to be part of the Lamb’s eternal kingdom will fall for the Beast and his religious system. The “Book of Life is mentioned seven times in the book of Revelation (Revelation 3:5,13:8, 17:8, 20:12,15, 21:27, 22:19).

Seven mountains.... First the seven heads represent 7 mountains. A mountain is symbolic with a seat of power. In Daniel 2:35 the rock became a mountain which filled the earth. This refers to the kingdom of Messiah. We are told the woman sits on these 7 mountains, meaning she dominates 7 kingdoms. What kingdoms does she sit on?

Also seven kings... Second, the seven heads represent seven kings. We know from the context of **Daniel 7:17** that there are 4 kingdoms from Daniel's time till then end of days.

Daniel 7:16-17 *16 I came near unto one of them that stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So, he told me, and made me know the interpretation of the things. 17 These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth.*

Those four kingdoms are:

- Babylon (625-539 BC)
- Persia (539-333 BC)
- Greece (333 BC- 55BC)
- Rome (55 BC-132 AD)

2 Kingdoms that dominated Israel were Egypt and Assyria both before Daniel's time. These would make up the six till John's day, where we are told, "One is", which would be Rome. The other has not yet come would be the seventh of the coming Antichrist who will make an agreement with Israel in the first half of the 7-year tribulation. The Beast, Satan, who incarnates the Antichrist in the "Eighth," who will be of the 7 yet distinct because he will be indwelling the 7th. All these kingdoms had a direct connection with Israel, not that there were no other kingdoms more powerful than these but it's through Israel, that God is going to operate.

7 KINGDOMS THAT TRIED TO DESTROY ISRAEL

	KINGDOM	ATTACK AGAINST THE WOMAN (ISRAEL) REVELATION 12
1	EGYPT	Tried to assimilate Israel
2	ASSYRIA	Exiled 10 tribes of Israel; tried to exile Judah
3	BABYLON	Destroyed Jerusalem; slaughtered Israel
4	PERSIA	Attempted to destroy all Jews in the time of Esther
5	GREECE	Antiochus Epiphanes – the Abomination of Desolation 164 B.C.
6	ROME	Destroyed Jerusalem over 1.5 million Jews died the rest were expelled during John's day
7	REVIVED ROME	Future Kingdom during the reign of antichrist 10 Kingdoms united under Satanic power

Ten horns of the beast

Revelation 17:12-14, *“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. ¹³ These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. 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.*

The ten horns... The ten horns represent 10 future kings who at the Midpoint of the tribulation will turn over their power of their kingdom to the Antichrist.

Daniel 7:24-25 *24 The ten horns are ten kings Who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them; He shall be different from the first ones, And shall subdue three kings. 25 He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time.*

Rev. 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.”*

The ten horns are the ten world leaders that will receive a kingdom with the Beast. Whether they will be leaders of ten nations on the earth, or 10 zones in the area of the Old Roman Empire, or ten zones of the world is open to speculation. Both ten regional zones in the area of the old Roman Empire and ten world regional zones have been suggested by global think tanks like the “Club of Rome”. Both zone scenarios might be true. It might start with ten zones in the area of the old Roman Empire and then the revived Roman Empire becomes the head of ten world regional zones.

With the lockdown from Covid19, and the world wanting to have digital currency, we are getting pretty close to having ten regional economic unions around the globe. Right now in many places you cannot buy anything with cash unless it is the exact amount, and in some cases they will not accept cash at all. We are very close to a cashless society. The world is ripe for the beast system to come together. In any case, the ten leaders give their power to the Beast. We are also told that three of the world leaders will be eliminated after the Beast/Antichrist comes to power.

Revelation 17:13 *“These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.”* The ten rulers will think alike. All their power and strength will be used to carry out the wishes of the Beast Antichrist. It is pretty safe to assume by this statement that these ten leaders will be demonically possessed.

Revelation 17:14 *“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.”* The Beast and the ten world leaders will make war against Jesus. What complete deception has to take place for the kings and people of the nations to think that they can war against the same person who created them!

Revelation 17:15 *“And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.”* The angel explains what I said previously, that the waters where the whore sits actually represent the people she has influenced that come from many nations and languages. Only religion fills that role.

Revelation 17:16: *“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.”* When the Satanic man appears, the world will believe he is God and his government will not tolerate any worship other than worshipping him. They will claim that the Beast is God and declare the “Kingdom of God” is now on earth. They will take all the possessions and all authority away from all world religious organizations that will not worship him. Many in the Harlot religious system will not accept the Beast as being “Almighty God” or be deceived into believing that the Beast Kingdom is the “Kingdom of God” and many will see the errors of their ways.

In the end, it will cost most of those who will not worship the Beast their physical lives. However, by gaining the belief that Jesus is the real Savior their souls will be saved. The ten world political leaders will use their power to destroy all that worship any entity other than the Beast.

Verse 16 describes how and why the woman who rides the beast will be judged. She will be eaten by the Beast she rides, and her buildings will be burned. She will have the same fate as Jezebel in the Old Testament whose bones were eaten by dogs.

Revelation 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.”*

God made Pharaoh yet hardened his heart to bring about the judgment of Egypt. These ten kings’ hearts are hardened by God to war against Jesus and to give their kingdoms to the Beast until this prophecy is fulfilled.

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

This is a key passage that tells us the identity of the “woman that rides the beast”. “Mystery Babylon” is the great city that is ruling over the earth. Rome was ruling over the earth in the time of John and fits the bill, but Mystery Babylon could not be the city of Rome or the Roman Empire. “The woman rides the beast”, so the woman could not at the same time “be the beast”.

The woman could not be the church at Rome at the time of John because the church was not ruling over the earth at that time. The religious system reigning over the earth in the time John wrote this was Babylonian paganism with Caesar worship.

The city in this passage is a city that reigns over the earth. At the time of John, that city was Rome. The city may also be a city that reigns over the earth at the end time judgment of the “woman”. That also is likely to be fulfilled by Rome. For these reasons, the woman in this prophecy can only be identified as a world religion that has also been infiltrated by Babylonian paganism and that is located at Rome.

So that we can be sure of the true identity of the woman we will examine this a little closer. We are told the woman sits on a seven hilled city (Rome) and is drunk with the blood of the martyred saints and from that we can determine that “Mystery Babylon” is a religious system that claims to worship God but has incorporated Babylonian religious practices (that is why she is described as a harlot).

She has to be at a physical location that not only had Babylonian practices in the time of John but the religious system “must martyr all the saints” (*verse 6*). The Roman Empire did kill saints, but all the blood of the saints and martyrs cannot be placed at the hands of the political and religious powers of the old Roman Empire.

The harlot was obviously born before Rome (in Babylon) and she also did not die in Rome in 312 AD when the Church joined with the political system of the Roman Empire. After the Jewish and then the Roman Empire persecutions ended, only the religion that identified with Christianity could be blamed for true Christians being martyred (e.g. the inquisitions). That remained true until Islam took over the leadership role of the slaughter of true Christians.

There is only one location and religious entity on earth that makes sense of this prophecy and its greater fulfillment in the last days. The harlot woman of the last days has to be an organized religion that at the fulfillment of this prophecy will be head quartered in Rome. It should be obvious that I am not saying the present Roman Catholic Church can be named as the denomination that fulfills the end time role of the woman. All Babylonian-influenced world religion makes up this woman on the Beast. The world religion that will become head quartered at the Vatican may take on an entirely different name from Roman Catholicism in the last days. However, there is little doubt in my mind that this woman who rides the Antichrist Beast will be

a pagan Babylonian infiltrated harlot head quartered at the location that is now called the Vatican in Rome.

If more clarification of the woman is still necessary, let me further explain. The Babylonian harlot was born in the time of Nimrod in Babylon and eventually corrupted Judaism. The pagan Babylonian religious practices actually moved from Babylon to Pergamos. (where Satan's throne is -- [Rev 2:13](#)). After the church merged with the state in 312 AD, the harlot took residence in the top ranks of the Christian church. At this point, the Babylon priest system had already joined with the Roman system. By approximately 600 AD, the Christian institutional church became what we know today as the Roman Catholic Church.

During this period of Christianity mingled with pagan practices the inquisitions took place and killed many more true Christians than did any prior persecution of God's people. After the inquisitions, the woman can be seen within the Protestant churches who had their own persecutions and witch-hunts in which many took part in their own holocausts against God's people. Today the woman's attributes are seen in Islam as the primary murderer of God's people. In the end time, the woman will ride a one world religious system. The woman actually never leaves Judaism, Catholicism, Protestantism, or Islam because the woman is in fact all harlot religion of all eras. However, the woman rides the Beast as the religion that has the most influence on the governmental empire that happens to control the earth.

I want to make one thing clear here: By mentioning the Vatican as the future headquarters of the world harlot, I am not Catholic bashing. There are many practices in the Catholic Church that I believe are heresies but there are just as many or more heresies in most mainline Protestant churches today. For a thousand years, there was only one church government on earth and that was the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church is still the largest Christian denomination in the world by far. Therefore, if there is going to be harlotry throughout history since Babylon and the harlotry is among those who claim to know the God of creation, it has to be among the only organized Christian Church that exists during this period.

The harlot woman was among this organized body called Catholics, but so were true Christians as wheat among the tares. Today Islam has taken over the role of the chief harlot religion that persecutes the saints. Islam is founded on paganism and in our time has actively martyred millions of Christians. The end time harlot religious system that John is seeing is headed in Rome in the last days and it was founded in Babylon, but all major organized world religions in the last days that reject true Christianity are part of the harlot. Even Islam in the end will join with this world religion leadership in Rome although it may take demonic deceptions or a great religious war first.

The church that identifies with Christianity, like ancient Israel, has true believers and phonies. That is why Paul said that not all Israel is true Israel, and that is why not all named Christians are true Christians. The new covenant promise to Israel and the Church is to believers but a large

part of the Church like Israel is in unbelief. In the eyes of God, she has committed harlotry with the world of paganism.

The woman who rides the Beast has actually existed since the days of Babylon, but she will play her major role in the last days. She in the end will be eaten by the Beast she rides because he will claim to be God and will not tolerate the worship of anyone or anything other than himself. Many who were in harlotry will come to understand the truth in those days through the teaching and the judgments that take place in this time of trial for the whole world. These who come out of Babylon will not worship the Beast and these along with a remnant in Israel will return to the true God of heaven, but it will cost many of them their mortal lives. In those days all who seek to save their lives by worshiping the Beast will lose their soul and those who lose their life for Jesus' sake will gain eternal life.

Mat 16:25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.