

# The First American Pope and the Fall of Mystery Babylon

T.W. Tramm (05/14/25)

THE Bible teaches that God raises up rulers, and that He assigns names and other particulars to reflect a person's special identity or role. With this in mind, it is interesting to consider the particulars around the first American pope, dubbed "Leo XIV."

For starters, since Leo is the Latin word for lion, and the symbol of America is an eagle, the Pope's name and birthplace evoke the symbol of ancient Babylon, "a lion with eagle's wings" (Dan. 7:4).



***Winged lion from the Gate of Babylon***

This is fascinating because in prophecy circles, end-times "Mystery Babylon" is thought to represent either America or the Roman Catholic Church, the birthplace and religious affiliation of Pope Leo. Due to her spiritual corruption, Mystery Babylon will be swiftly and utterly judged: "In one day her plagues will overtake her ... she will be consumed by fire, for mighty is the Lord God who judges her" (Rev. 18:8).

Adding to the judgment theme:

- Pope Leo takes office during the first concurrent Catholic and biblical Jubilee, which is also the 70<sup>th</sup> Jubilee. This is significant because the Jubilee is a time of judgment, and ancient Babylon was judged after 70 years (Isa. 63:4; Jer. 25:12). Based on these types, Mystery Babylon could see judgment after 70 Jubilees.

- Since Babylon and possibly Mystery Babylon are judged after 70 years, it is striking that the 69-year-old Pope Leo turns 70 just ahead of the Feast of Trumpets, the festival associated with the final judgment at the 70<sup>th</sup> week (Dan. 9:24–27).
- The Roman numeral assigned to Pope Leo is XIV, or 14. This is significant because the number 14 denotes a double measure of spiritual perfection (7 x 2), and a new biblical era connected to Babylon: “There were fourteen generations from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile in Babylon to the Messiah (Matt. 1:17).

In summary, the first American pope, dubbed Leo:

- Has a name and birthplace that evoke the symbol of Babylon.
- Is affiliated with the nation and religion thought to represent Mystery Babylon.
- Takes office during the first Catholic and biblical Jubilee, which is also the 70<sup>th</sup> Jubilee.
- Turns 70 just ahead of the Feast of Trumpets, the festival associated with the final judgment at the 70<sup>th</sup> week.
- Is assigned the number 14, denoting a double measure of spiritual perfection, and a new era connected to Babylon.

The Bible teaches that God raises up rulers, and that He assigns names and other particulars to reflect a person’s special role. The particulars around Leo XIV suggest that his role is to be the final pope.

. . . . .

#### NOTES:

1. God raises up rulers, and assigns names and other particulars: Dan. 2:21; Gen. 17:5, 15; Hos. 1:4–11; Est. 4:14.
2. The view that Mystery Babylon refers to the Roman Catholic Church stems from its historical influence, symbolism, persecution of saints, and the fact that Rome was famously built on seven hills (Rev. 17:9). However, critics of this view point out that the Roman Catholic Church does not encompass all aspects of the Mystery Babylon described in Revelation.

3. The view that Mystery Babylon refers to America, or specifically its financial headquarters in New York City, is based on factors such as global influence, cultural dominance, economic power, materialism, moral decline, and involvement in international conflicts. See "Is New York City the Bible's Mystery Babylon?" by T.W. Tramm:

<https://tinyurl.com/2n7vxsdj>

#### 4. Catholic Jubilees since 1300:

1300: Boniface VIII

1350: Clement VI

1400: Boniface IX

1450: Nicholas V\*

1475: Sixtus IV

1500: Alexander VI

1525: Clement VII

1550: Julius III

1575: Gregory XIII

1600: Clement VIII

1625: Urban VIII

1650: Innocent X

1675: Clement X

1700: Innocent XII and Clement XI

1725: Benedict XIII

1750: Benedict XIV

1775: Pius VI

1825: Leo XII

1875: Pius IX

1900: Leo XIII

1925: Pius XI

1950: Pius XII

1975: Paul VI

2000: John Paul II

2025: Francis

\*Starting in 1450, the popes began declaring Jubilees every 25 years.

#### 5. Biblical Jubilees since 1300, based on a presumed 2025 Jubilee:

1339

1388

1437

1486

1535

1584

1633  
1682  
1731  
1780  
1829  
1878  
1927  
1976  
2025

6. In Leviticus 25, God instructs the Israelites to start counting Sabbatical and Jubilee years when they enter the Promised land. Most chronologists date the entry into the Land to spring 1406 BC:  $1406 \text{ BC} + 70 \text{ Jubilees (3,430 years)} = 2025$ .

7. Pope Leo will turn 70 on September 14, 2025—10 days ahead of the Feast of Trumpets.