

We know God and His plans only to the extent that they are revealed to us, But we shall see everything face to face when they actually come to pass before us. Every generation of God's kids have had tribulations and troubles and often felt evil and the wicked seem to get away with everything...

As Job felt: *NLT Job 21:7* “*Why do the **wicked prosper**, growing old and powerful?*”

But we Christians must know now that Christ will come as king and judge (Mt. 24:62). He will come at a time when we do not expect Him. This is why we must always be on guard, awake, and vigilant as sons and daughters of the light and of the day

John sees the glory of Jesus and is given the History of the Future... Revealing the return of Christ in power and great glory to punish the wicked and establish his Kingdom on this earth and onto eternity. This book of the bible is called Revelation Given to John the Apostle through Jesus himself, angels and visions...

As we begin our study of chapter 17 and 18 ...timeline wise ...We are now in the second half of the great Tribulation the seven years before the coming of Christ....the judgment of God against the false prophet the second in charge of the false one world religion and the commercial head of the world...lets review the back story quickly: **Revelation 13 presents two Beasts who will rule the world in tandem...the first beast , also know as the Anti-Christ, is the political Dictator and military leader of the world. The second Beast, is a religious, commercial head. Also known as the false prophet...all empowered by Satan they make up the Unholy Trinity of the Tribulation**

Tim put this up...

- These three make up the unholy Trinity of the end times...
1. Satan is the False Father (the anti-father) the power behind the other two
 2. The first Beast is the (Anti-Christ) the political and military Dictator.
 3. The Second Beast or False Prophet is the counterfeit Spirit and the religious and commercial head

as revealed in chapter 13

THE ANTICHRIST called the Beast ...leader of a one world government

ESV REV 13:1 And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, with ten diadems on its horns and blasphemous names on its heads. 2 And to it the dragon gave his power and his throne and great authority.

- Beast rising out of the sea of humanity
- The word Anti-Christ is not mentioned in Revelation again...only Beast... in fact it is not mentioned in the NT. Except John – 4x in 1 John and 2x in 2 Joh

And this is what he is going to do

ESV Rev 13:5 And the beast was given a mouth uttering haughty and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months. 6 It opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven.

- in Daniel chapter 11 tells us how he will blaspheme...
- *NLT Daniel 11:36 “The king will do as he pleases, exalting himself and claiming to be greater than every god, even blaspheming the God of gods. He will succeed, but only until the time of wrath is completed. For what has been determined will surely take place.*

The Second Beast or the false prophet...one world religious and commercial leader... the two will work together

ESV Rev 13:11 Then I saw another beast rising out of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb and it spoke like a dragon.

- **Rising out of the earth**...A system out of the earth not Heaven
- **Two horns**...two the number of testimony...like a lamb but not a lamb... he has religious testimony...but he speaks like a dragon...with powerful deception...lies
- **Comes across religious, high and holy ...but powered and controlled by Satan..he is a mouthpiece for Satan**

*ESV Rev 13:12 It exercises all the authority of the first beast in its presence, and **makes** the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose mortal wound was healed. 13 It performs great signs, even making fire come down from heaven to earth in front of people, 14 and by the signs that it is allowed to work in the presence of the beast it deceives those who dwell on earth, telling them to make an image for the beast that was wounded by the sword and yet lived.*

- **He emerges as a world religious leader leading to a one world religion... he makes people worship the first beast...**
- **leader of the one world government ,Anti-Christ/ first Beast.**
- **The purpose draw attention and worship away from God and onto the Anti-Christ...both worship**
- **miracoulous: fire from heaven scares the people into thinking he has godlike power ...and shows he is a great religious person**
- *all this during First half of tribulation*

The second beast plan is economic.....

Rev 13: 16 Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be marked on the right hand or the

forehead, 17 so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name. **if you want to buy food or be part of the economy you must bear the sign...**

- **Those believers who refuse to align themselves in worship of the Beast by bearing a sign.....will pay a great price...starve or go broke...**

As we see when judgment happens in chapter seventeen against the own world religion....it collapses...and is rejected by the Beast as he sets himself up to be God in the temple...

*****This takes us to chapters 17 and 18 where the false prophet is judged ...first in 17 for her blasphemy...then in 18 for her commerce...lets look at it**

- we are coming to the conclusion of the Great Tribulation and prpsring to enter into the Day of the Lord or His Physical Return to set up the Kingdom of God on earth....

- **This is how God's judgment goes down...first the One world religion...**

NLT REV 17:1 One of the seven angels who had poured out the seven bowls came over and spoke to me. "Come with me," he said, "and I will show you the judgment that is going to come on the great prostitute, who rules over many waters. ² The kings of the world have committed adultery with her, and the people who belong to this world have been made drunk by the wine of her immorality." ...

- **I will show you the judgment of the great prostitute: Her judgment is assured at the outset. There is never any doubt regarding the fate — and ultimate failure — of Babylon and its king.**

- Who sits on many waters; that is, she rules over many nations She has a universal, international character, the unification of all false, idolatrous religion into one world religion
- **So John is taken in the spirit...to see the judgment of Satan and his false religion both its religious practice and then its economic power**

*NLT Rev 17:3 So the angel took me in the Spirit into the wilderness. There I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that had seven heads and ten horns, and blasphemies against God were written all over it. ⁴ The woman wore purple and scarlet clothing and beautiful jewelry made of gold and precious gems and pearls. In her hand she held a gold goblet full of obscenities and the impurities of her immorality. ⁵ A mysterious name was written on her forehead: “**Babylon the Great, Mother of All Prostitutes and Obscenities in the World.**” ⁶ I could see that she was drunk—drunk with the blood of God’s holy people who were witnesses for Jesus. I stared at her in complete amazement.*

- **The second beast sits on the first beast...**
- **He carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness: the desolate nature of the wilderness is an appropriate setting for a vision of judgment.**
- **Her position, that of riding the beast, indicates on the one hand that she is supported by the political power of the beast, and on the other that she is in a dominant role and at least outwardly controls and directs the beast.” Anti-Christ**
- **She is full of blasphemy from God’s perspective**

- But to the people of the earth she will look quite religious, and have the “faith” everybody wants.
- Purple and scarlet, fabric dyes which were rare and costly, emblems of luxury (and gold and precious stones) and power
- Yet she offers idolatry (abominations) and impurities/contamination in this luxurious setting.
- On her forehead a name was written: *Babylon the Great, Mother of All Prostitutes* ...Roman prostitutes frequently wore a headband with their name engraved upon it.

- “In spite of all her glamour she is nothing but a prostitute.”

(representing idolatrous, false religion).

- She embodies Satan’s one world Religion hate of all that is godly and good..

- And she is Drunk with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: she also rejoices in her persecution of the godly as a drunk revels in wine. intoxicates nations and peoples it appears appear as attractive and spiritual

- John is amazed at corrupt and idolatrous religious system, the idolatry, its complete immorality and wickedness

NLT Rev 71:7: “Why are you so amazed?” the angel asked. “I will tell you the mystery of this woman and of the beast with seven heads and ten horns on which she sits.

- God will give the world just what it wants: godless religion and godless rulers.

ESV Rev 17:9 This calls for a mind with wisdom: the seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman is seated; 10 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

¹⁰ *Five kings have already fallen, the sixth now reigns, and the seventh is yet to come, but his reign will be brief.*

¹¹ *“The scarlet beast that was, but is no longer, is the eighth king. He is like the other seven, and he, too, is headed for destruction.*

- *Seven mountains... seven kings represent 7 kingdoms seven kingdoms ruled by Gentiles... parallels Dan 7:17 and 23*
- *Five have fallen world ruling Kingdoms Egypt, Babylon, Persia, Assyria and Greece*
- *The sixth Roman ...ruling at the time of John’s vision...*
- *seventh is the Anti-Christ or Beast whose reign will be short...near fatal wound healed...is also the eight and reign again like a revived roman empire*
- *Ten kings or kingdoms to come, ally with the Antichrist.and give their power to him...ten groups of nations unite to give their power and allegiance to the scarlet beast*

NLT REV 17: 12 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. 13 These are of one mind, and they hand over their power and authority to the beast. 14 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.

- **John tells us the world will be divided into ten geographical territories each having it’s own King or ruler.**
- **How? maybe economically... maybe a health requirement, think of Covid ...where practically the whole world was under one set of protocols simply because the governments got together and said so.... somethings will drive the nations to federation...scripture simply says there will come a time where the will be a ten nation confederation**

But it wont succeed....the lamb accompanied by his servants...will conquer

Once this power is consolidated...the beast turns on the false prophet...

ESV Rev 17:15 And the angel said to me, “The waters that you saw, where the prostitute is seated, are peoples and multitudes and nations and languages. 16 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,

- **In the beginning of this world religion...there is still allowed some religious freedom...it allowed allowed the Jews to still come into the temple...practice faith...**

Once his power has been consolidated, the Antichrist no longer needs the help of religious Babylon. He will then work to dismantle and destroy her and her one-world religion.

- i. This has always been the goal of tyrants — and most politicians — to use religion for their purposes, then discard it.
- *The scarlet beast will think it thought of this ...But* God has put it into their hearts: God directed the judgment against religious Babylon.

Verse 18 And the woman that you saw is the great city that has dominion over the kings of the earth.”

- But Babylon the great city — in the sense of the world system which defies God... — has always been that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth.

Will face destruction...by their own ...the religious over the political...will be reversed...by God...

- *NLT 2 Thess 2:3 Don't be fooled by what they say. For that day will not come until there is a great rebellion against God and the man of lawlessness is revealed—the one who brings destruction. 4 He will exalt himself and defy everything that people call god and*

every object of worship. He will even sit in the temple of God, claiming that he himself is God.

The religious System has been judged...next the commercial system she ruled comes under judgment in 18