

As we continue our study of Revelation we recognize the book of Revelation is complex there are bowl judgments , seal judgments, trumpet judgments and in chapter 17 and 18 there is Babylon a great prostitute and a beast...symbolic words and imagery that can be quite hard to understand...sometimes making us think it is not practical or relevant to our lives today... but god wants us to take these words into our lives in such a way that we live with understanding one of our great privilege to be part of the Kingdom of God and the coming establishment of the Kingdom of God on earth. And to understand evil will not prevail....and will face judgement...

- *Leaving chapter 16 and concluding in chapter 19 it is clear that at the end of the tribulation the armies of the world which will be demonically inspired will gather in the middle east to come against Israel in a final death and for them suicidal struggle . That they gather is clear, and where they gather is clear ... and what will happen to them is clear...Christ will return from heaven to destroy them by the word of his mouth*

ESV Revelation 16:13. Sixth bowl

¹³ And I saw, coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs. ¹⁴ For they are demonic spirits, performing signs, who go abroad to the kings of the whole world, to assemble them for battle on the great day of God the Almighty.

¹⁶ And they assembled them at the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.

- *But why they gather is the question?* Nations have endured years of judgment and disaster, will the world tire of the Anti-Christ rule? By this time the world environment will have been ruined

by the trumpet judgments and over half of the world's population will have died. The world's economy will have unraveled and been replaced by a one world economy ruled by the Antichrist and the false prophet ... and they in great turmoil and are losing...to judgment...

This is their last move... an all out last assault on Israel and the Jewish people Is Satan's age long vendetta against the Jews will reach its climax...in an attempt to wipe out the final vestige of the Jewish race...

Revelation 12 describes Satan's attempt to kill Jesus when he was born and his onslaught against the Jews during the end times is because he knows God has promised to send Jesus the Messiah, to rule and reign from Jerusalem and sit on David's throne to usher in the Kingdom of God. So if Satan can eliminate the Jews he can thwart God's promise from being fulfilled...

ESV ISA 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Which brings us too chapters 17 and 18 which describe the destruction of Babylon also called the great prostitute..... which focuses on the fall of religious Babylon, the capital and symbol of Satan's false Religion during the second half of the tribulation. Revelation 17 opens with An angel who invites John to witness the judgment of the "great prostitute" who sits by many waters, a symbol for peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues. This figure has

committed adultery with the kings of the earth, illustrating spiritual unfaithfulness. Drunk on the blood of the saints, the woman sits on a scarlet beast covered with blasphemous names.

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

chapters 14 and 16 mention Babylon's upcoming collapse under the wrath of God in the second half of the great seven year tribulation. ...

- According to [Revelation 14:8](#) its end will be double destruction—both in this world, and in the world to come
ESV Rev 14:8 Another angel, a second, followed, saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, she who made all nations drink the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality."

Chapter [16:19](#) mention Babylon's collapse under the wrath of God in the second half of the great seven year tribulation.

NLT Rev 16:9 The great city of Babylon split into three sections, and the cities of many nations fell into heaps of rubble. So God

remembered all of Babylon's sins, and he made her drink the cup that was filled with the wine of his fierce wrath.

- ***A little bit about Babylon... Babylon is mentioned 287 times in the Scriptures, more than any other city except Jerusalem.***
- ***To those familiar with the O. T., the name Babylon is associated with organized idolatry, blasphemy and the persecution of God's people.***
- ***The book of revelation contains 404 verses ...44 of these verses deal with Babylon ...that is 11 percent of the entire book is devoted to one subject ...Babylon***
- ***In context...One out of every 10 verses from the book about the future concerns Babylon... the seat of rebellion against God is a central concern in God's final freeing of his people...***

Babylon was a literal city on the Euphrates River. Genesis 11:1-10 shows that right after the flood, Babylon "was the seat of the civilization that expressed organized hostility to God."

NLT Gen 11:2 As the people migrated to the east, they found a plain in the land of Babylonia and settled there. 11:4 Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth."

- ***God told the people to fill the earth...they said no...they will reach the heights themselves and raise their name up to God***
- ***to the Jews, Babylon was the essence of all evil, notorious for its idolatry, blasphemy, and immorality.***
- ***Babylon was later the capitol of the empire that cruelly conquered Judah its idolatry is evident in the case of Nebuchadnezzar King of Babylon's command to worship a giant image of himself***

NLT Daniel 3:1 King Nebuchadnezzar made a gold statue ninety feet tall and nine feet wide and set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon.

● **and its blasphemy and immorality in the case of Belshazzar**

NLT Daniel 5:1 King Belshazzar made a great feast for a thousand of his lords and drank wine in front of the thousand. ² Belshazzar, when he tasted the wine, commanded that the vessels of gold and of silver that Nebuchadnezzar his father had taken out of the temple in Jerusalem be brought, that the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them. ³ Then they brought in the golden vessels that had been taken out of the temple, the house of God in Jerusalem, and the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines drank from them. ⁴ They drank wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone.

Jeremiah describes Babylon as....

NLT Jer 50:38the whole land is filled with idols, and the people are madly in love with them.."

Further in Jeremiah we read:

NLT Jeremiah 51:7 “Babylon has been a gold cup in the Lord’s hands, a cup that made the whole earth drunk. The nations drank Babylon’s wine, and it drove them all mad.

- **Babylon is founded and perpetuated by Satan himself in his rebellion against God...so we must take a quick review of Satan;...**

His original position **NLT EZE 28:** ¹² “Son of man, sing this funeral song for the king of Tyre. Give him this message from the Sovereign LORD “You were the model of perfection, full of wisdom and exquisite in beauty. ¹³ You were in Eden, the garden of God.¹⁴ I ordained and anointed you as the mighty angelic guardian. You had access to the holy mountain of God..... ¹⁵ “You were blameless

in all you did from the day you were created until the day evil was found in you.... **Pride comes before a fall**

Why Did He become Proud? *NLT PS 8: 4 what are mere mortals that you should think about them, human beings that you should care for them?*

ESV PS 8:5 You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.

NLT HEB 1:14 14 Therefore, angels are only servants—spirits sent to care for people who will inherit salvation.

- **Did he not want to serve God...by serving a being lower than himself???**

What he Did Ezek 28:16 A *NIV EZE 28:16 Through your widespread trade (enticed angels to go with him, trades in deception) you were filled with violence, (Warred against angels) and you sinned.*

What Happened? NIV Ezek 28:16B *...So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and I expelled you, O guardian cherub from among the fiery stones.*

NLT REV 12:7 Then there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon and his angels. 8 And the dragon lost the battle, and he and his angels were forced out of heaven. 9 This great dragon—the ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, the one deceiving the whole world—was thrown down to the earth with all his angels. 13 When the dragon realized that he had been thrown down to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. 17 And the dragon was angry at the woman and declared war against the rest of her children—all who keep God's commandments and maintain their testimony for Jesus.

What is his plan on earth? *ESV ISA 14:13* You said in your heart, ‘**I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north; ¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.**’

His ultimate end prophesied. *ESV ISA 14:15* But you are brought down to Sheol, to the far reaches of the pit. ¹⁶ Those who see you will stare at you and ponder over you ‘Is this the man who made the earth tremble, who shook kingdoms, ¹⁷ who made the world like a desert and overthrew its cities....’

- **So John is taken in the spirit...to see the judgment of Satan and his false religion** *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.
- 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.” that beast was previously seen in [Revelation 13:1](#) — the 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.**
- The woman was arrayed: The woman is clothed with 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**
- **And The inhabitants of the earth were made drunk by it: Since this is a well-accepted religious system, it is likely to appear as attractive and spiritual**

The have been deceived and blinded...

NLT 2 Corinthians 4:4 Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don’t believe. They are unable to see

the glorious light of the Good News. They don't understand this message about the glory of Christ.....

But we do!

NLT 1 Peter 2:9 But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

- ***So we celebrate Jesus our union with Christ the King...in communion***

NLT 1 Cor 11:23 For I pass on to you what I received from the Lord himself. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread ²⁴ and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵ In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this in remembrance of me as often as you drink it." ²⁶ For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are announcing the Lord's death until he comes again.