

Revelation – The Return Babylon (Revelation 17-18)

Babylon the Great

Babylon the Great will face God's wrath.

- Revelation 16:19

Babylon the Great is:

- an actual city, the capital of the Antichrist's empire.
- the world's center\capitol of one religious, economic, and political system.
 - Genesis 11:1-9 After Noah we get the tower of Babel

Babylon the Great will seduce the world into following her.

- Revelation 17:1-2
- She will be supported by the beast and she will think she can control the him.
 - Revelation 17:3
- She will lure powerful leaders into an alliance with her.
 - Revelation 17:4
- She will get drunk on the blood of Christian martyrs.
 - Revelation 17:6

Have you tried to dress up your sin? _____

The seven heads of the beast represent:

- Rome to the first readers of Revelation.
 - Revelation 17:9
- seven kings or kingdoms.
 - Revelation 17:10-11
- The eighth king is the Antichrist who will be destroyed.

The ten horns represent ten kings who will join with the Antichrist to fight Jesus but they will be defeated in the end.

- Revelation 17:14

Memory verse¹⁴ They will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will triumph over them; for He is Lord of lords and King of kings—and those with Him *and* on His side are chosen and called [elected] and loyal *and* faithful followers.

The Antichrist and the ten horns will destroy Babylon the Great.

- Revelation 17:16-18
- Evil will turn against itself.
- We cannot control sin in our lives. It will destroy us.
- God will use the beast and the kings for His purpose.

The woes of grief

Babylon the Great will be destroyed and decimated.

- Revelation 18:2
- Christians cannot compromise with Babylon.
 - James 4:4 See below
 - John 15:19 See below

Memory vs. Rev 18:4⁴ I then heard another voice from heaven saying, Come out from her, my people, so that you may not share in her sins, neither participate in her plagues.

The world thinks Babylon cannot fall.

- Those in political power will grieve the fall of Babylon.
 - Revelation 18:10
- Those with economic power will grieve the fall of Babylon.
 - Revelation 18:11
 - Revelation 18:16-17
 - Revelation 18:19
- Babylon will be destroyed quickly and violently.
 - Revelation 18:7
 - Revelation 18:21-24
- Nothing and no one can stand against God.

The allegiance of the Christian is to God.

- Revelation 18:4

Action Steps

- Ask God to tear down any man-made towers in your life.
- Name them: _____
- Take action this week to remove any alliances you have with the world.

- Plan to do so: _____
- Share the gospel with someone this week.
- Invite someone to join us next week.

Rev 17 Babylon, the Prostitute on the Beast

¹One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the punishment of the great prostitute, who sits by many waters. ²With her the kings of the earth committed adultery, and the inhabitants of the earth were intoxicated with the wine of her adulteries."

³Then the angel carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness. There I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was covered with blasphemous names and had seven heads and ten horns. ⁴The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, and was glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls. She held a golden cup in her hand, filled with abominable things and the filth of her adulteries. ⁵The name written on her forehead was a mystery:

BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES,
AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

⁶I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of God's holy people, the blood of those who bore testimony to Jesus. When I saw her, I was greatly astonished. ⁷Then the angel said to me: "Why are you astonished? I will explain to you the mystery of the woman and of the beast she rides, which has the seven heads and ten horns. ⁸The beast, which you saw, once was, now is not, and yet will come up out of the Abyss and go to its destruction. The inhabitants of the earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the creation of the world will be astonished when they see the beast, because it once was, now is not, and yet will come. ⁹"This calls for a mind with wisdom. The seven heads are seven hills on which the woman sits. ¹⁰They are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet

come; but when he does come, he must remain for only a little while. ¹¹The beast who once was, and now is not, is an eighth king. He belongs to the seven and is going to his destruction. ¹²"The ten horns you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but who for one hour will receive authority as kings along with the beast. ¹³They have one purpose and will give their power and authority to the beast. ¹⁴They will wage war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will triumph over them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings—and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers." ¹⁵Then the angel said to me, "The waters you saw, where the prostitute sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations and languages. ¹⁶The beast and the ten horns you saw will hate the prostitute. They will bring her to ruin and leave her naked; they will eat her flesh and burn her with fire. ¹⁷For God has put it into their hearts to accomplish his purpose by agreeing to hand over to the beast their royal authority, until God's words are fulfilled. ¹⁸The woman you saw is the great city that rules over the kings of the earth."

James 4:4 AMPC You [are like] unfaithful wives [having illicit love affairs with the world and breaking your marriage vow to God]! Do you not know that being the world's friend is being God's enemy? So whoever chooses to be a friend of the world takes his stand as an enemy of God.

John 15:19 AMPC If you belonged to the world, the world would treat you with affection *and* would love you as its own. But because you are not of the world [no longer one with it], but I have chosen (selected) you out of the world, the world hates (detests) you