



**Look straight ahead...Follow Christ...Don't**

**Look to the right of left!**

**GOD IS on His Throne and IS and ALWAYS will be Watching  
to See the Reaction of the Children of God!**

### **Revelation 17 and 18**

- 2 Corinthians 6:14-18, "Don't become partners with those who reject God. How can you make a partnership out of right and wrong? That's not partnership; that's war. Is light best friends with dark? Does Christ go strolling with the Devil? Do trust and mistrust hold hands? Who would think of setting up pagan idols in God's holy Temple? But that is exactly what we are, each of us a temple in whom God lives. God himself put it this way: "I'll live in them, move into them; I'll be their God and they'll be my people. So leave the corruption and **compromise**; leave it for good," says God. "Don't link up with those who will pollute you. I want you all for myself. I'll be a Father to you; you'll be sons and daughters to me." *The Word of the Master, God.* *The Message*
- Romans 12:2, "Do not **conform** to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."
- 1 Peter 1:14, "As obedient children, do not **conform** to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance."

**The next two chapters in Revelation gives us a glimpse of what is going to happen to a compromising religion that tries to pawn itself as the Christian religion today...and deceive the elect as to what real Christianity is all about!**

**Revelation 17**, "One 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. <sup>2</sup> With her the kings of the earth committed adultery, and the inhabitants of the earth were intoxicated with the wine of her adulteries." <sup>3</sup> Then 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. <sup>4</sup> The 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. <sup>5</sup> The name written on her forehead was a mystery: *BABYLON THE GREAT...THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.* <sup>6</sup> I 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. <sup>7</sup> Then 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. <sup>8</sup> The 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. <sup>9</sup> **"This calls for a mind with wisdom.** The seven heads are seven hills on which the woman sits. <sup>10</sup> They 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. <sup>11</sup> The beast who once was, and now is not, is an eighth king. He belongs to the seven and is going to his destruction. <sup>12</sup> "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. <sup>13</sup> They have one purpose and will give their power and authority to the beast. <sup>14</sup> They 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." <sup>15</sup> Then the angel said to me, "The waters you saw, where the prostitute sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations and languages. <sup>16</sup> The 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. <sup>17</sup> For 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. <sup>18</sup> The woman you saw is the great city that rules over the kings of the earth."

**18** After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven. He had great authority, and the earth was illuminated by his splendor. <sup>2</sup> With a mighty voice he shouted: "Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great! She has become a dwelling for demons and a haunt for every impure spirit, a haunt for every unclean bird, a haunt for every unclean and detestable animal. <sup>3</sup> For all the nations have drunk the maddening wine of her adulteries. The kings of the earth committed adultery with her, and the merchants of the earth grew rich from her excessive luxuries." <sup>4</sup> Then I heard another voice from heaven say: "Come out of her, my people, so that you will not share in her sins, so that you will not receive any of her plagues; <sup>5</sup> for her sins are piled up to heaven, and God has remembered her crimes. <sup>6</sup> Give back to her as she has given; pay her back double for what she has done. Pour her a double portion from her own cup. <sup>7</sup> Give her as much torment and grief as the glory and luxury she gave herself. In her heart she boasts, 'I sit enthroned as queen. I am not a widow; I will never mourn.' <sup>8</sup> Therefore in one day her plagues will overtake her: death, mourning and famine. She will be consumed by fire, for mighty is the Lord God who judges her. <sup>9</sup> "When the kings of the earth who committed adultery with her and shared her luxury see the smoke of her burning, they will weep and mourn over her. <sup>10</sup> Terrified at her torment, they will stand far off and cry: "Woe! Woe to you, great city, you mighty city of Babylon! In one hour your doom has come!" <sup>11</sup> "The merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her because no one buys their cargoes anymore— <sup>12</sup> cargoes of gold, silver, precious stones and pearls; fine linen, purple, silk and scarlet cloth; every sort of citron wood, and articles of every kind made of ivory, costly wood, bronze, iron and marble; <sup>13</sup> cargoes of cinnamon and spice, of incense, myrrh and frankincense, of wine and olive oil, of fine flour and wheat; cattle

and sheep; horses and carriages; and human beings sold as slaves. <sup>14</sup> “They will say, ‘The fruit you longed for is gone from you. All your luxury and splendor have vanished, never to be recovered.’ <sup>15</sup> The merchants who sold these things and gained their wealth from her will stand far off, terrified at her torment. They will weep and mourn <sup>16</sup> and cry out: “‘Woe! Woe to you, great city, dressed in fine linen, purple and scarlet, and glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls! <sup>17</sup> In one hour such great wealth has been brought to ruin!’ “Every sea captain, and all who travel by ship, the sailors, and all who earn their living from the sea, will stand far off. <sup>18</sup> When they see the smoke of her burning, they will exclaim, ‘Was there ever a city like this great city?’ <sup>19</sup> They will throw dust on their heads, and with weeping and mourning cry out: “‘Woe! Woe to you, great city, where all who had ships on the sea became rich through her wealth! In one hour she has been brought to ruin!’ <sup>20</sup> “Rejoice over her, you heavens! Rejoice, you people of God! Rejoice, apostles and prophets! For God has judged her with the judgment she imposed on you.” <sup>21</sup> Then a mighty angel picked up a boulder the size of a large millstone and threw it into the sea, and said: “With such violence the great city of Babylon will be thrown down, never to be found again. <sup>22</sup> The music of harpists and musicians, pipers and trumpeters, will never be heard in you again. No worker of any trade will ever be found in you again. The sound of a millstone will never be heard in you again. <sup>23</sup> The light of a lamp will never shine in you again. The voice of bridegroom and bride will never be heard in you again. Your merchants were the world’s important people. By your magic spell all the nations were led astray. <sup>24</sup> In her was found the blood of prophets and of God’s holy people, of all who have been slaughtered on the earth.”

### **Babylon = Representing the evil empire of Satan.**

**In every instance where Babylon is mentioned, it has represented an evil and rebellious place, religion, people, and the government of which the people represent.**

### **The Concept of Babylon.**

- Revelation 16:19 and 14:8 have already declared Babylon's fall. In Revelation 17 and 18, the fall of Babylon is carefully detailed.
- Babylon is mentioned 287 times in the Scriptures, more than any other city except Jerusalem.
- 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." (Tenney)
- Babylon was later the capitol of the empire that cruelly conquered Judah. "Babylon, to them (the Jews), was the essence of all evil, the embodiment of cruelty, the foe of God's people, and the lasting type of sin, carnality, lust and greed." (Tenney)
- To those familiar with the Old Testament, the name *Babylon* is associated with organized idolatry, blasphemy and the persecution of God's people.
- In John's day Rome epitomized all the antagonism and opposition to the Christian faith." (Mounce)

- In some ways, the city of Rome was the clearest fulfillment of the "Babylon" attitude.
- If we had to pick one city today that most exemplifies the world system, perhaps we would say that "\_\_\_\_\_ " is the "Babylon" of today.

**The Revelation 17 and 18 “Babylon” represents two (2) entities:**

- (1) Religious System – Counterfeit religion**
- (2) Commercial System—City for commercial and social purposes opposite of a pure and holy city.**

Opposite of the city of God and heaven which are explained and wonderfully presented in chapters 21 and 22 of Revelation.

**Again, Satan is trying to duplicate a system or systems set forth by the Lord God Almighty.**

**Satan: started the false religion(s) at this location (rebellion of God’s authority).**

Nimrod: Set up a city that rebelled against all of the commandments of God.

This is where man attempted a rule of self-government in defiance of the will of God.

This city was a counterfeit city set up by Satan to rebel against the commandment of God when God said, “be fruitful and replenish the earth.”

**These two great evils have damned the souls of millions by substituting counterfeit solutions to man’s natural problems that would ordinarily lead him to God. These two entities will be destroyed at the end of the Tribulation Period.**

**17<sup>th</sup> Revelation—The story of a total destruction of all rebellious and counterfeit religious personnel and their evil intentions (including Satan’s power to steal, kill, and destroy).**

**18<sup>th</sup> Revelation—The story of a city (representation of a governmental society who think that they have the answers for everything) that will be destroyed.**

**Note: Even today, there are those that have stated that the world would be a lot better off if all Christians were removed from the face of the earth. “The Christian rebellion against the powers that want the world to attain radical change for the betterment of society.” The idea that all should be on an equal setting...no haves and no have nots! They look at Christianity and see people who bring “conviction” for things or acts which the “world” seems to enjoy doing. “The Christians take the joy out**

of living.” The quote: “You have only one time to go around, do it with all the gusto you can!”

Gusto definition: The height of debauchery (Cumby’s definition).

17<sup>th</sup>—Speaks of Babylon, the harlot....a woman—representative of a false church (religion).

18<sup>th</sup>—speaks of a literal city...Babylon, the Great Beast (many think that Babylon will be built again, representative of governmental society, a ONE WORLD GOVERNMENT).

The woman and the city do not symbolize the same thing. What is said of the “harlot/woman” does not apply to the city, and what is said of the city does not apply to the woman.

Babylon has always been representative of Satan’s headquarters and the place where he will dominate the world.

From the headquarters....False religion was started and where man was given power to self-govern without the restraints of conscience.

When the Word says the woman “sitteth upon many waters” (v.1)....religious authorities think that represents people, multitudes, nations, and tongues.

“The false, counterfeit church”

Remember: The true church will be taken out (raptured out)....One will remain....The One World Church....the one... “Receiving and Deceiving.” They will gather the churches, denominations, and peoples together as they unify the religions... Unity Church;

*Today’s false hope and false teaching... “We can gather together those areas in which we agree and compromise those things which we are unsure of.”*

Has anyone ever heard of “Chrislam”? Compromising...false truth!

Christ is to have a “bride” ...the true church.

The antichrist is to have a “defiled bride/harlot.” (Represented in Rev. 17)

Satan loves to deceive and be idolized.

Antichrist loves to lie and be glorified.

The false prophet loves to counterfeit and lead people astray.

The Bride of Christ is made up of blood-bought followers of Christ.

Mystery Babylon will be made up of “blood of the martyrs” followers of false religion.

Commercial Babylon??? “The love of money is the root of all evil.” (1Tim. 6:10)

**It was Charles Spurgeon, a great preacher of the Gospel, who stated, “You cannot have unity without forsaking truth, and to forsake truth for the sake of unity is to betray Jesus Christ.”**

**Revelation 18:4, 5**

***“And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.”***

***The mercy of God is always available (but, not for eternity). In every age (even in the Tribulation Period) He receives men who are willing to repent of their sin and look to Him for mercy through His Son, The Lord Jesus Christ.***

***Only those who have done so will avoid the judgment of God that comes upon all sinners.***

***Remember what was highlighted and bolded in the Scripture read in the reading of the 17<sup>th</sup> Chapter?***

***<sup>9</sup> “This calls for a mind with wisdom.”***

***ONLY A MIND CHANGED BY THE POWER OF GOD IS A MIND WITH WISDOM!***

***Proverbs 2:6, “For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.”***

***Proverbs 2:10, “For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul.”***

***Proverbs 2:12, “Wisdom will save you from the ways of wicked men, from men whose words are perverse...”***