

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Revelation 17 y 18

BABYLON THE MOTHER OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH PART II

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I. THE NATURE OF BABYLON

- A. **ITS ORIGIN:** After the flood, the men of the nations gathered in Babel with the determination to build their own city to exalt themselves independently of God again rejecting His leadership and redemption plan:

Gen. 11:4 ***“And they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.”***

- B. **BABYLON IS A RELIGIOUS AND COMMERCIAL SYSTEM THAT GIVES BIRTH TO ALL INFIDELITY TO GOD AND ALL OBSCENITY AND IMMORALITY IN THE EARTH.**

Rev. 17:5 ***“And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH”***

In the vision of **Rev. 17-18** God shows who this woman really was that John saw. For the world it is a covetable system but in reality it is demonic and promotes infidelity to God, perversion and violence.

- C. **THE HARLOT SYSTEM EXERTS AN INFLUENCE ON THE ENTIRE WORLD EVEN THE RULERS OF THE EARTH HAVE SOLD THEMSELVES TO IT:**

Rev. 17: 2, 15 and 18 ***“with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication... 15 Then he said to me, The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues... 18 And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth.”***

People who are in the pinnacle of governments, covet to stay in power and are capable of anything in order to stay there and the harlot system offers them power in exchange for betraying God and His principles. It is very similar to what happened with the Roman church and the kings of the world.

- E. **THE HARLOT PERVERTS EVERYONE THROUGH HER PASSIONATE IMMORALITY**

Rev. 18:3a ***“For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication [passionate immorality]...”***

This system exploits the lowest passions of human beings worldwide and controls them. The immorality and sinful desires of this world are causing addictions in millions of people like never before.

- F. **IT HAS A STRONG TENDENCY TO SELF-EXALTATION:** **Ap.18:7** ***“She glorified herself and lived in luxury, so match it now with torment and sorrow. She boasted in her heart, ‘I am queen on my throne. I am no helpless widow, and I have no reason to mourn.’”***

This is a characteristic of Satan and of the human being without God and is the opposite of the heart of Christ:

Is. 14:13-14 ***"For you [King of Babylon/Satan] have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; ¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High."***

Jn. 8:50 ***"And though I [Jesus] have no wish to glorify myself, God is going to glorify me. He is the true judge."*** (NLT)

G. THE MERCHANTS HAVE ENRICHED DUE TO THE DESIRE FOR EXCESSIVE LUXURY.

Rev. 17:4 ***"The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations [obscenities] and the filthiness of her fornication [immorality]."***

Rev. 18:3b, 12-13 ***"the merchants of the earth have become rich through the [b]abundance of her luxury... ¹² merchandise of gold and silver, precious stones and pearls, fine linen and purple, silk and scarlet... ¹³ and...fragrant oil and frankincense.... wine... chariots, and bodies and souls of men."***

She displays an excessive luxury which appeals to man's desire to glorify himself. It is a commercial system that exploits the desires of the eyes and the flesh.

1 Jn. 2:15-16 ***"Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. ¹⁶ For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world."***

H. IT HAS A VERY INTENSE DEMONIC INFLUENCE:

Rev. 18:2 ***"...Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird!"***

The influence of the Harlot system not only includes a philosophy or the pleasure of the lust without limits of the industries that are enriched by all this but is driven by the hosts of evil in the spiritual regions.

Eph. 6:12 ***"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places."***

1 Cor. 10:20 ***"Rather, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice they sacrifice to demons and not to God, and I do not want you to have fellowship with demons."***

The emergence of this false movement of worship will lead to an apostasy. Once people leave their religious ideals whether Christianity, Islam, Hinduism or Buddhism, etc. there will be no more absolute truths to stop them to worship Satan as an angel of light (**2 Cor. 11:14**).

The Harlot's religion will prepare the nations to receive the antichrist. It will be a religion of affirmation and tolerance. It will be a forgery of the justice movement that will feed the poor and be deeply involved in humanitarian projects. It will inspire

acts of compassion but for the wrong reasons. The superficial goal will be the dignity and happiness of man. Although the harlot's voluntary religion will be replaced by an obligatory religion of the Antichrist.

2 Thes. 2:3-4 "Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, 4 who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits [cl]as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God"

I. HE HATES THE SAINTS TO THE POINT OF BEING DRUNK WITH THEIR BLOOD:

Rev. 17:6; 18:24 "I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus... 18:24 And in her was found the blood of prophets and saints, and of all who were slain on the earth."

Anyone who dares to oppose, question or confront this system will pay it dearly. It supposedly promotes tolerance, equality and diversity but kills anyone who dares to dissent from it.

II. THE REACTION TO THE FALL OF THE GREAT HARLOT: When a system like this falls, first partially by the same beast who destroys it and then totally by the judgments of God in the cups of wrath; we see the contrast of reactions...

A. THE REACTION ON EARTH:

1. The kings will cry bitterly: Rev. 18:9-10 "The kings of the earth who committed fornication and lived luxuriously with her will weep and lament for her, when they see the smoke of her burning, 10 standing at a distance for fear of her torment, saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one hour your judgment has come"

The partnership so intense that exists between those in power and the Harlot system awakens a desperate cry in them.

2. The merchants lament: Rev. 18:11 "And the merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her, for no one buys their merchandise anymore"

The greed and association that exists between the great Whore and these entrepreneurs makes the fall of this system the worst tragedy for them.

Rev. 18:15-18 "The merchants of these things, who became rich by her, will stand at a distance for fear of her torment, weeping and wailing, 16 and saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city that was clothed in fine linen... 18 and cried out when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, 'What is like this great city?"

B. THE ANSWER IN HEAVEN: The blast reaction of heavenly praise shows the complete contrast in the perception that there is on the earth by the fall of the Great Harlot.

1. THE MULTITUDES IN THE HEAVEN Rev. 19:1-3 After these things I [a]heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God! 2 For true and righteous are His judgments, because He has judged the great harlot who

corrupted the earth with her fornication; and He has avenged on her the blood of His servants shed by her.” ³ Again they said, “Alleluia! Her smoke rises up forever and ever!”

2. **THE 24 ELDERS:** Rev. 19:4 “And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sat on the throne, saying, “Amen! Alleluia!”
3. **THE THRONE INVITATION:** Rev. 19:5-6 “Then a voice came from the throne, saying, “Praise our God, all you His servants and those who fear Him, both small and great!” ⁶ And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, “Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!.”

III. HEAVEN'S EXHORTATION TO US:

Ap. 18:4 “And I heard another voice from heaven saying, “Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues;”

- A. Another voice from heaven (the Son or the Father himself) instructs the people of God to separate themselves from the system that symbolizes this city to avoid the judgments that will come against it including hell itself. **The idea is to depart from the seduction of idolatry, self-reliance, love for luxuries and aggression against the saints.**

Lk. 17:32-33 “[Jesus said] Remember what happened to Lot’s wife! ³³ If you cling to your life, you will lose it, and if you let your life go, you will save it”

2 Cor. 6:17 “Therefore, come out from among unbelievers, and separate yourselves from them, says the Lord. Don’t touch their filthy things, and I will welcome you. ¹⁸ And I will be your Father, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty. [Is. 52:11 y Ez. 20:34, 41].”

- B. The history of redemption is intertwined with two cities and two towns. The eternal destiny of one can be determined by what is the "city" to which we now belong either Babylon or the New Jerusalem.

Heb. 11:9-10 “By faith he [Abraham] dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; ¹⁰ for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.”

Phil. 3:20 “For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.”

IV. REFLECTION QUESTIONS

2. How much influence do you think the Harlot system has in today's world?
3. How much influence do you think it has on your life, directly or indirectly?
4. How can a Christian leave the harlot system? Apply the answer to your own life.