

Chap 17 Nature and history of
of great harlot – Babylon

Chap 18 Inevitable and
complete fall of Babylon

Chap 19 Rejoicing in heaven at
fall of Babylon and wedding of
lamb

Rev 17:1-3 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters, (2) with whom the kings of the earth committed acts of immorality, and those who dwell on the earth were made drunk with the wine of her immorality."

The kings represent anti-Christian government and those who are accomplices in the government's deeds. Currently abortion, homosexuality, previously persecution, etc

Rev 17:3 And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness; and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast, full of blasphemous names, having seven heads and ten horns.

The woman of 17.3 is not the woman of 12.6; 14

Rev 12:6 And the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she might be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

The woman of 17.3 is not the woman of 12.6;
14

Rev 12:14 And the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, in order that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she was nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. 15 And the serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, so that he might cause her to be swept away with the flood.

Rev 17:4 The woman was clothed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a gold cup full of abominations and of the unclean things of her immorality,

We expect the beautiful cup to hold something wonderful but contains abominations (pornography, sex, evil wealth, luxuries, fame, power)

Rev 2:14 'But I have a few things against you,
because you have there some who hold the teaching
of Balaam, who kept teaching Balak to put a
stumbling block before the sons of Israel, to eat
things sacrificed to idols, and to commit acts of
immorality.

Jude 11 Woe to them! For they have gone the way
of Cain, and for pay they have rushed headlong into
the error of Balaam, and perished in the rebellion of
Korah.

Rev 17:5 and on her forehead a name was written, a mystery, "BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH."

Not just Rome, but for all the gospel age.
Antichristian government, whether Rome, Paris,
Moscow, Washington DC, etc.

Rev 17:18 "And the woman whom you saw is the great city, which reigns over the kings of the earth."

Rev 17:6-8 And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus. When I saw her, I wondered greatly. (7) And the angel said to me, "Why do you wonder? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns.

John wonders and an explanation is given in v. 7-18

The harlot is Babylon 17:5, 18; 19:2-3.

Represents that which allures, tempts, seduces, draws away. A city which by means of industry, commerce, art and culture seeks to entice and seduce the believer to turn away from God.

1Jn 2:16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.

Rev 17.8 "The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to come up out of the abyss and go to destruction. And those who dwell on the earth, whose name has not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, will wonder when they see the beast, that he was and is not and will come."

Babylon's fall takes place throughout ages,
as successive world empires fall and the
last great fall coincides with coming of Lord
in judgment

The beast is past and future = antichristian persecution of all ages through successive world empires. It represents antichristian seduction at any moment of history, e.g. the Rome of the NT. There is danger of this seduction for people of all ages

Rev 18:3 "For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the passion of her immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed acts of immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich by the wealth of her sensuality." 4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, "Come out of her, my people, that you may not participate in her sins and that you may not receive of her plagues;

*Rev 17:9 "Here is the mind which has wisdom.
The seven heads are seven mountains on which
the woman sits,*

Rome, a city set on 7 hills begins the scenario
of successive antiChristian governments.

Rev 13:18 **Here is wisdom. Let him who has
understanding** calculate the number of the
beast, for the number is that of a man; and his
number is six hundred and sixty-six.

Rev 17:10 and they are seven kings; five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come; and when he comes, he must remain a little while.

Babylon, Assyria, Medo-Persian, Grecian and now Roman.

The gospel age is but a little while as is pointed out

Rev 11:2 "And leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the nations; and they will tread under foot the holy city for forty-two months. 3 "And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for twelve hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."

Rev 12:6 And the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she might be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

Rev 12:14 And the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, in order that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she was nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent.

Rev 13:5 And there was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies; and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him.

Rev 17:11-13 "The beast which was and is not, is himself also an eighth and is one of the seven, and he goes to destruction. (12) "The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour. (13) "These have one purpose, and they give their power and authority to the beast.

v. 11 Eighth king is religion that permeates all governments and rules through them v. 12-13 the lesser authorities will serve the central authority -- art, education, commerce, industry, government in opposition to Christ

Rev 17:14 "These will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, because He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those who are with Him are the called and chosen and faithful."

The Theme of The Book!!!

The harlot and her minions war but do not win!

Matt 5:6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

We are called!

2 Thess 2:14 And it was for this He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are chosen!

Matt 22:14 "For many are called, but few are chosen."

Luke 18:7

Now shall not God bring about justice for His elect, who cry to Him day and night, and will He delay long over them?

Rom 8:33 Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies;

Col 3:12 And so, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;

1 Thess 1:4 knowing, brethren beloved by God, His choice of you; 5 for our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.

James 2:5 Listen, my beloved brethren: did not God choose the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light

We must be faithful!

2 Tim 2:2 And the things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, these entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.

Rev 2:10 ... Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

The kingdoms of the antichrist perish and finally God will put an end to Satan's power

Rev 16:14 for they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for the war of the great day of God, the Almighty.

Rev 11:11 And after the three and a half days the breath of life from God came into them, and they stood on their feet; and great fear fell upon those who were beholding them. 12 And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." And they went up into heaven in the cloud, and their enemies beheld them. 13 And in that hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell; and seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the God of heaven.

Rev 19:11 And I saw heaven opened; and behold,
a white horse, and He who sat upon it is called
Faithful and True; and in righteousness He judges
and wages war.

2 Thess 2:8 And then that lawless one will be
revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath
of His mouth and bring to an end by the
appearance of His coming; 9 that is, the one
whose coming is in accord with the activity of
Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders

Rev 17:15 And he said to me, "The waters which you saw where the harlot sits, are peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues.

The forces of immorality and evil

Rev 17:16 "And the ten horns which you saw, and the beast, these will hate the harlot and will make her desolate and naked, and will eat her flesh and will burn her up with fire.

Rev 17:17-18 "For God has put it in their hearts to execute His purpose by having a common purpose, and by giving their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God will be fulfilled. (18) "The woman whom you saw is the great city, which reigns over the kings of the earth."

Even the world finally turns against Satan seeing what fools they have been. e.g. Judas

Matt 27:5 And he threw the pieces of silver into the sanctuary and departed; and he went away and hanged himself.

Heb 11:24 By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; 25 choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God, than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin;