

THE BOOK OF REVELATION
CHAPTER SEVENTEEN
"THE DESTRUCTION OF THE APOSTATE ONE WORLD CHURCH"

I. THE EVIL IN THIS WOMAN'S CONTROL (1-8)

A. Can be seen in her being judged (1).

1. One of the seven angels invited John to come and see the judgment of the great _____.

2. Just what will be judged is _____ or a false system of religion which will culminate in the apostate one world church which is represented here as a great harlot (17:5).

B. Can be seen in her immoral deeds (2).

1. Notice what this harlot has done is committing _____ with the kings of the earth. Here we see a picture of the spiritual adultery of the one world church - she will be allied with the _____ powers of the earth.

2. These spiritually immoral acts is said to cause the inhabitants of the earth to be drunk with her wine. In other words people on the earth will be controlled by this union of the _____ with the world.

C. Can be seen in her illustrious description (3-5).

1. The woman is described as sitting upon a scarlet colored beast (3).

a. This beast upon which she sat is identical to the one described in Rev. 13:1 with seven heads and ten horns and is no doubt the revived _____ Empire of the Antichrist.

b. The fact that this woman is sitting upon the beast indicates two things. First of all, the apostate church will be _____ by the political power of Antichrist's Kingdom. Secondly the apostate church will be controlling and directing the _____.

c. This control of the woman over the beast will be exercised in the _____ half of the tribulation period. Around the middle of the tribulation period Antichrist will cast off all ecclesiastical or church power and demand worship of himself.

2. The woman is described as one clothed in rich apparel and possessing wealth yet as one with abominations (4).

a. This is such a fitting description of the ecclesiastical pomp of organized religion today and especially of the Roman _____ Church.

b. Notice while this woman appeared so rich outwardly she held a cup full of filthiness of her _____. In other words the one world apostate church will appear rich outwardly but it will be abominable in its fornication or worldly alliances. We have a good example of this a number of years ago when the pope urged the polish people to support communism which is atheistic and Anti-God.

3. The Woman is described as having a name upon her forehead (5).

a. The name no doubt indicates the _____ character of the apostate one world church.

b. Just what mystery Babylon is can be explained by looking at what Babylon has been historically. Babylon grew out of the _____ system of religion which began with the tower of Babel. In Nebuchadnezzar's day - it involved an image of a man. This false system will culminate in the one world church and the idolatrous worship of a man instead of God.

D. Can be seen in her own drunkenness (6).

1. This woman was drunk or intoxicated with the blood of the saints and martyrs of Jesus. Here we note the woman is not only the picture of false religion but she is involved in the persecution of the real _____.

2. How fitting this is concerning the Roman Catholic _____ which murdered an estimated 9,000 people in the Spanish inquisition, John Huss, John Wycliff, the Waldenses, the French Huguenots and many more thousands of the saints.

3. The apostate church of the tribulation period we note then will follow the pattern of all apostate religious groups - it will attack genuine _____ who take a stand for the Lord Jesus.

II. THE EXPLANATIONS CONCERNING THIS WOMAN'S CONTROL (7-15)

A. Gives us the interpretation of who she is (7).

1. According to verse 18 this woman is a _____ which reigned over the Kings of the earth.

2. In John's day when this book was written Rome was reigning over the Kings of the earth. This woman then is the false religious system of _____ which will dominate the world.

B. Gives us the interpretation of who the beast is (8).

1. This beast described in verse 8 is the _____ of Chapter 13. His description there is the same here.

2. While many attempt to prove the resurrection of Judas Iscariot from verse 8, the description here is of the revived Roman Empire which was, and ceased to exist, but will be revived under the Satanic power of Antichrist, the world ruler.

C. Gives us the interpretation of what the seven heads of the beasts are (9-11).

1. The seven heads of the beast on which the woman sits are seven mountains or _____ (9).

a. The five kings with their kingdoms that were fallen were Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Persia, and Greece (10).

b. The kingdom "that is" was Rome of the apostle John's day (10).

c. The "other not yet come" is the Kingdom of the beast which is the revived Roman Empire (10).

2. The beast who is the eighth and cometh out of the seven is the _____ who will come out of the revived Roman Empire or the seventh Kingdom which is yet to come (11). Note Antichrist will go into perdition (Rev. 17:11; 19:20; 20:10).

D. Gives us the interpretation of what the ten horns of the beast are and what they will do (12-14).

1. According to verse 12 the ten horns are ten _____. In John's day these kings had received no power as yet because they will be a federation of ten kingdoms which will comprise the revived Roman Empire.

2. These ten kings will have power one hour with Antichrist which speaks of the rule of this United Kingdom under Antichrist (12).

3. These ten kings will give their support to the beast who is Antichrist.

4. These Kingdoms will be against the _____ and will make war with Him when He comes (19:19) but they will be destroyed by the Lord (14).

E. Gives us the interpretation of what the waters are (15).

1. The waters on which the harlot sat (1:15) are the _____ of the world who are controlled by the false religious system of the apostate one world church.

2. Notice this union of the one world church with the political system of Antichrist will execute authority over the world during the first half of the tribulation period.

III. THE END OF THIS WOMAN'S CONTROL (16-18).

A. Is the result of her destruction (16).

1. We note the ten horns or kings "and" the beast (not upon) will hate the harlot and destroy her.

2. From this we gather that during the first half of the tribulation period there will be an alliance between the nations of the revived Roman _____ and the apostate one world _____. But around the middle of the tribulation period the beast (Antichrist) will reveal his true character and demand worship of himself. When this comes to pass he and his kingdom will destroy the apostate church with its control.

B. Will be according to God's will (17-18).

1. Notice the uniting of these ten kingdoms under the Antichrist's rule will be according to the sovereign will of God.

2. As we note the dangers and the direction of ecumenical movements to unite religion under one head, we will do well to separate from apostates and not be taken in by all of the spiritually cementing elements such as the charismatic movement and attempts to bridge the gap between Protestantism and Romanism