

the book of

REVELATION

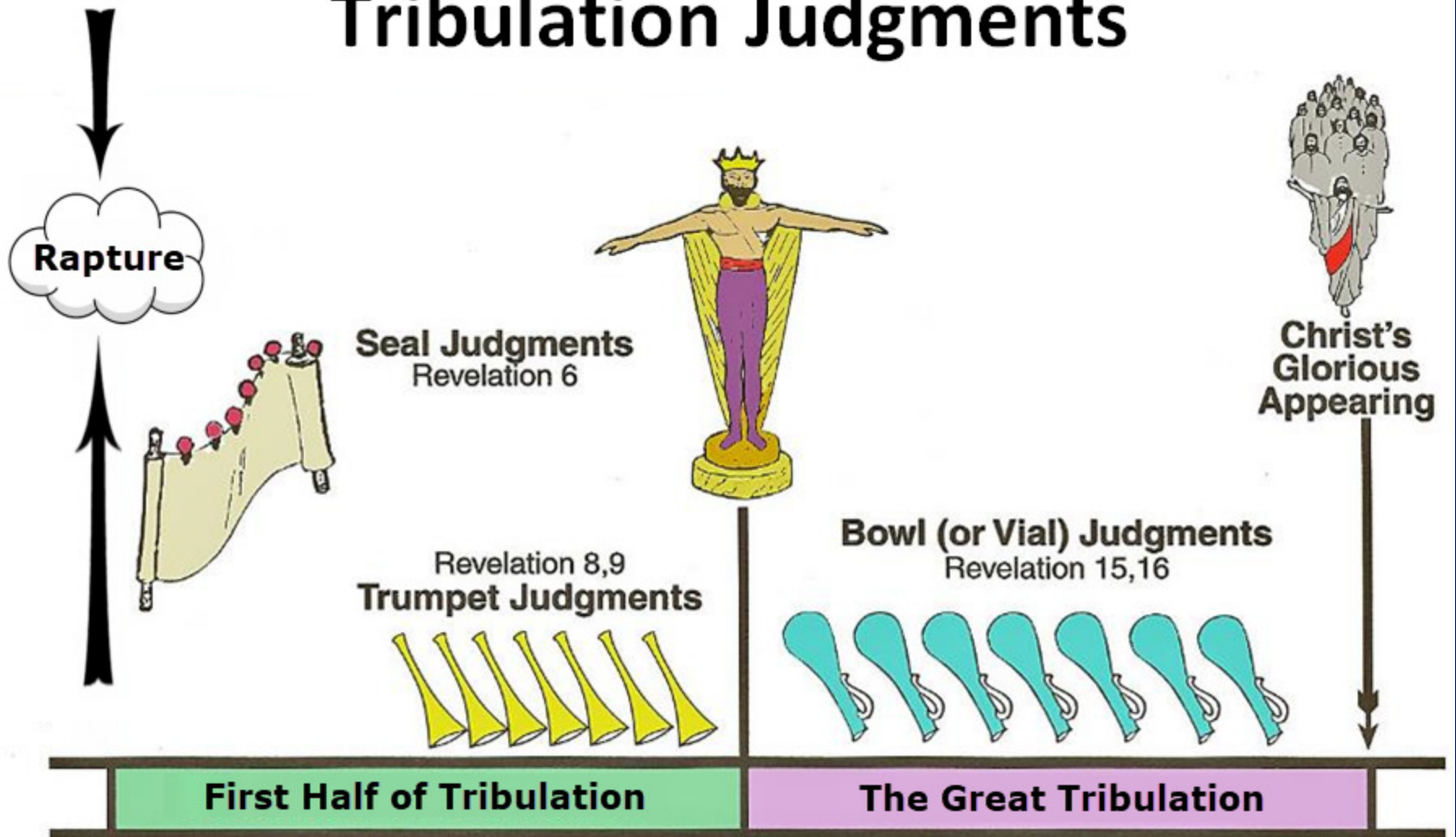
sermon series



Dr. Andy Woods

Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church
President – Chafer Theological Seminary

Tribulation Judgments





Seven Bowls

(Revelation 16)



1st Bowl (16:1-2) – Boils

2nd Bowl (16:3) – Sea becomes blood

3rd Bowl (16:4-7) – Freshwater destroyed

4th Bowl (16:8-9) – Sun scorches man

5th Bowl (16:10-11) – Darkness

6th Bowl (16:13-16) – Euphrates dried

7th Bowl (16:17-21) – Greatest earthquake

7. The Seventh Bowl

Revelation 16:17-21

- a) 7th angel pours out the bowl (17)
- b) Lightning & thunder (18a)
- c) Greatest earthquake (18b)
- d) Jerusalem destroyed (19a)
- e) **Babylon destroyed (19b)**
- f) Every mountain & island moved (20)
- g) 100-pound hailstones (21a)
- h) Man's sinful reaction (21b)



Revelation 16:19

“The great city was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. Babylon the great was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath.”



Revelation 17:1

“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.”



5 Non-Chronological Parenthetical Insertions

Seals (Rev 7) 144,000 JEWS

1 2 3 4 5 6 ↓ 7

Trumpets (Rev 10–11) No Delay; 2 Witnesses

1 2 3 4 5 6 ↓ 7 (Rev 12–14) Israel's flight

Bowls (Rev 16:13-16) Armageddon

1 2 3 4 5 6 ↓ 7 (Rev 17–18) Babylon falls

5 Non-Chronological Parenthetical Insertions

1. Rev 7 – 144,000 Jews
2. Rev 10:1-11:13 – Announcement of no more delay and the two witnesses
3. Rev 12-14 – Israel's flight, two beasts, six scenes of hope
4. Rev 16:13-16 – Gathering of the nations to Armageddon
5. **Rev 17:1-19:6 – Babylon's fall**

The Woman Rides the Beast

Revelation 17

- I. The Vision Concerning Babylon (17:1-6a)
- II. The Interpretation Concerning Babylon (6b-18)



The Woman Rides the Beast

Revelation 17

- I. The Vision Concerning Babylon (17:1-6a)
- II. The Interpretation Concerning Babylon (6b-18)



I. The Vision Concerning Babylon

Revelation 17:1-6a

- A. Her introduction (1a)
- B. Her judgment (1b)
- C. Her immorality (2)
- D. Her influence (3)
- E. Her appearance (4)
- F. Her title (5)
- G. Her persecution (6a)



The Woman Rides the Beast

Revelation 17

- I. The Vision Concerning Babylon (17:1-6a)
- II. The Interpretation Concerning Babylon (6b-18)**



II. The Interpretation Concerning Babylon

Revelation 17:6b-18

- A. The Interpretation Promised (6b-7)
- B. The Beast & His system (8-14)
- C. Babylon (15-18)



II. The Interpretation Concerning Babylon

Revelation 17:6b-18

- A. The Interpretation Promised (6b-7)**
- B. The Beast & His system (8-14)**
- C. Babylon (15-18)**



Revelation 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.”





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Arthur W. Pink

1886 - 1952

“We believe that the English translators have misled many by printing (on their own authority) the word ‘mystery’ in large capital letters, thus making it appear that this was a part of ‘the woman’s name. This we are assured is a mistake. That ‘mystery’ is connected with the ‘Woman’ herself and not with her ‘name’ is clear from v. 7, where the angel says unto John, ‘I will tell thee *the mystery of the Woman*, and of the beast which carrieth her.’””

Pink, *The Antichrist*, 262.

Two Rules of Interpretation



- Search the immediate context
 - ◆ Walvoord: 26X
- Search the remote context
 - ◆ Old Testament
 - ◆ Thomas: 278 / 404 verses

II. The Interpretation Concerning Babylon

Revelation 17:6b-18

- A. The Interpretation Promised (6b-7)
- B. The Beast & His system (8-14)**
- C. Babylon (15-18)



B. The Beast & His System

Revelation 17:8-14

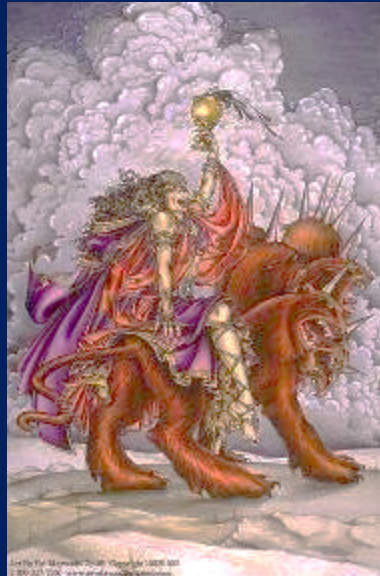
1. The Beast (8)
2. The Seven Heads (9-11)
3. The Ten Horns (12-14)



B. The Beast & His System

Revelation 17:8-14

1. The Beast (8)
2. The Seven Heads (9-11)
3. The Ten Horns (12-14)



Revelation 13:14

“And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who had the wound of the sword and has come to life [zǎo].”



Revelation 2:8

“And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write:
The first and the last, who was dead, and has
come to life [zǎo], says this.”



Revelation 20:4-5

“⁴ Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I *saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they **came to life [zǎo]** and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. ⁵ The rest of the dead did not **come to life [zǎo]** until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection.”



2 Thessalonians 2:6-7

“⁶ And you know what restrains him now, so that in his time he will be revealed. ⁷ For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains will do so until he is taken out of the way.”



How Satan Imitates God and the Antichrist Imitates Jesus Christ

NO.	CATEGORY	JESUS CHRIST	ANTICHRIST
1.	World prepared in advance	Gal. 4:4	2 Thess. 2:7
2.	Revealed at the proper time	Gal. 4:4	2 Thess. 2:6
3.	Claim of deity	John 14:9	2 Thess. 2:4
4.	Heralded by a forerunner	John 1:23	Rev. 13:12
5.	Forerunner comes in the Spirit and power of Elijah	Luke 1:17	1 Kgs. 8:37-38; Rev. 13:13
6.	Empowered by a higher source	1 Cor. 6:14	Rev. 13:14
7.	Member of a Trinity	Phil. 1:2; Acts 5:3-4; John 14:9	Rev. 16:13; 20:10
8.	Head of a Church	Eph. 5:23	Rev. 2:9; 3:9
9.	Miracle worker	Acts 2:22	2 Thess. 2:9
10.	Resurrection from the dead	1 Cor. 15:3-6	Rev. 13:3, 12, 14
11.	Given a throne	Rev. 3:21	Rev. 13:2

How Satan Imitates God and the Antichrist Imitates Jesus Christ

NO.	CATEGORY	JESUS CHRIST	ANTICHRIST
12.	Ruling a political kingdom	Isa. 9:6-7	Rev. 13:5
13.	Ushering in world peace	Isa. 9:6-7	Rev. 6:1-4
14.	Activity in the Temple	Luke 2:41-50	2 Thess. 2:4
15.	Putting an end to animal sacrifices	Heb. 9:26-29	Dan. 9:27
16.	Length of ministry	Over 3 years	Rev. 13:5
17.	Sealing ministry	Eph. 4:30	Rev. 13:16-17
18.	Presentation to Israel as her Messiah	John 1:11	John 5:43
19.	Covenant with Israel	Gen. 15:18	Dan. 9:27
20.	Reception of worship	Zech. 14:16	2 Thess. 2:4
21.	Establishing Jerusalem as the center of worldwide worship	Zech. 14:17	2 Thess. 2:4

B. The Beast & His System

Revelation 17:8-14

1. The Beast (8)
2. The Seven Heads (9-11)
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Revelation 17:3

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Revelation 17:9-10

“Here is the mind which has wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains [oros] on which the woman sits, 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.”



TABLE OF ALPHABETIC NOTATION OF NUMERALS

	Hebrew	Greek		Hebrew	Greek
1	א	α	50	ל	ν
2	ב	β	60	מ	ξ
3	ג	γ	70	נ	ο
4	ד	δ	80	ס	π
5	ה	ε	90	ק	φ
6	ו	ς	100	ר	ρ
7	ז	σ	200	ש	σ
8	ח	τ	300	ת	τ
9	ט	θ	400		υ
10	י	ι	500		φ
20	כ	κ	600		χ
30	ל	λ	700		ψ
40	מ	μ	800		ω



Revelation 17:9-10

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Revelation 11:8

“And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which mystically is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified.”



Galatians 4:24



“This is allegorically speaking, for these *women* are two covenants: one *proceeding* from Mount Sinai bearing children who are to be slaves; she is Hagar.”

Revelation 17:9-10

“Here is the mind which has wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains [oros] on which the woman sits, 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.”



Daniel 2:37-38

You, O king, are the king of kings, to whom the God of heaven has given the kingdom, the power, the strength and the glory; ³⁸ and wherever the sons of men dwell, *or* the beasts of the field, or the birds of the sky, He has given them into your hand and has caused you to rule over them all. You are the head of gold.



7 Kings or Kingdoms (Dan. 2:37-38)

(Revelation 17:9-10)

1. Egypt
2. Assyria
3. Babylon
4. Persian
5. Greece
6. Rome I
7. Rome II



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Statue & Stone

2. A Statue and a Stone



Statue is destroyed by a great stone, which represents Jesus Christ



HEAD
GOLD

WORLD POWER
BABYLON
608-539

CHEST AND ARMS
SILVER

WORLD POWER
PERSIA
539-331

STOMACH AND THIGHS
BRASS

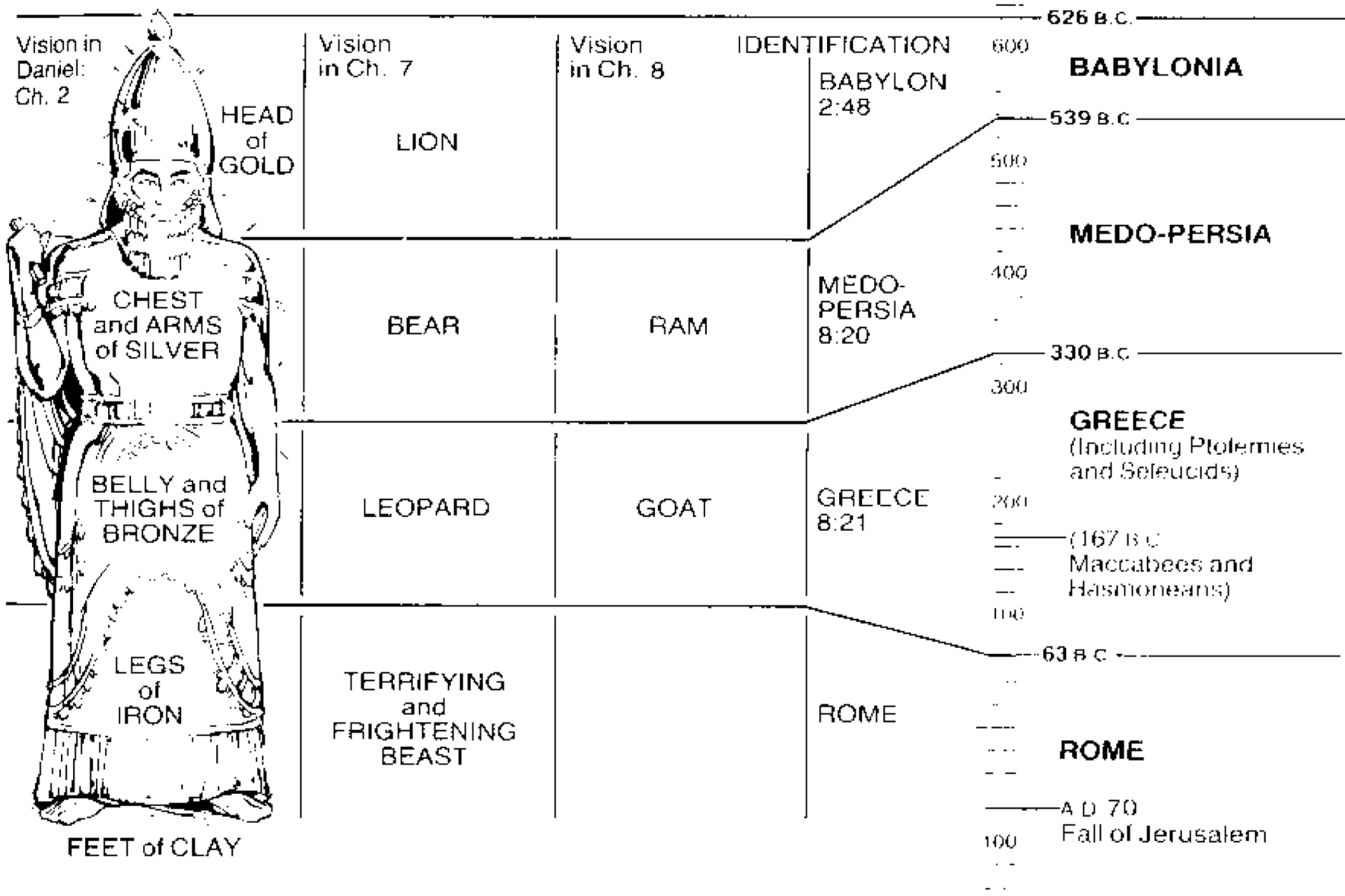
WORLD POWER
GREECE
331-323

LEGS AND FEET
IRON & CLAY

WORLD POWER
ROME
322 B.C.—A.D. 476
FUTURE

Identification of the Four Kingdoms

Chronology of Major Empires in Daniel



Daniel 7:12

“As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but an extension of life was granted to them for an appointed period of time.”



B. The Beast & His System

Revelation 17:8-14

1. The Beast (8)
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Daniel 2:44

“In the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which will never be destroyed, and that kingdom will not be left for another people; it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, but it will itself endure forever.”





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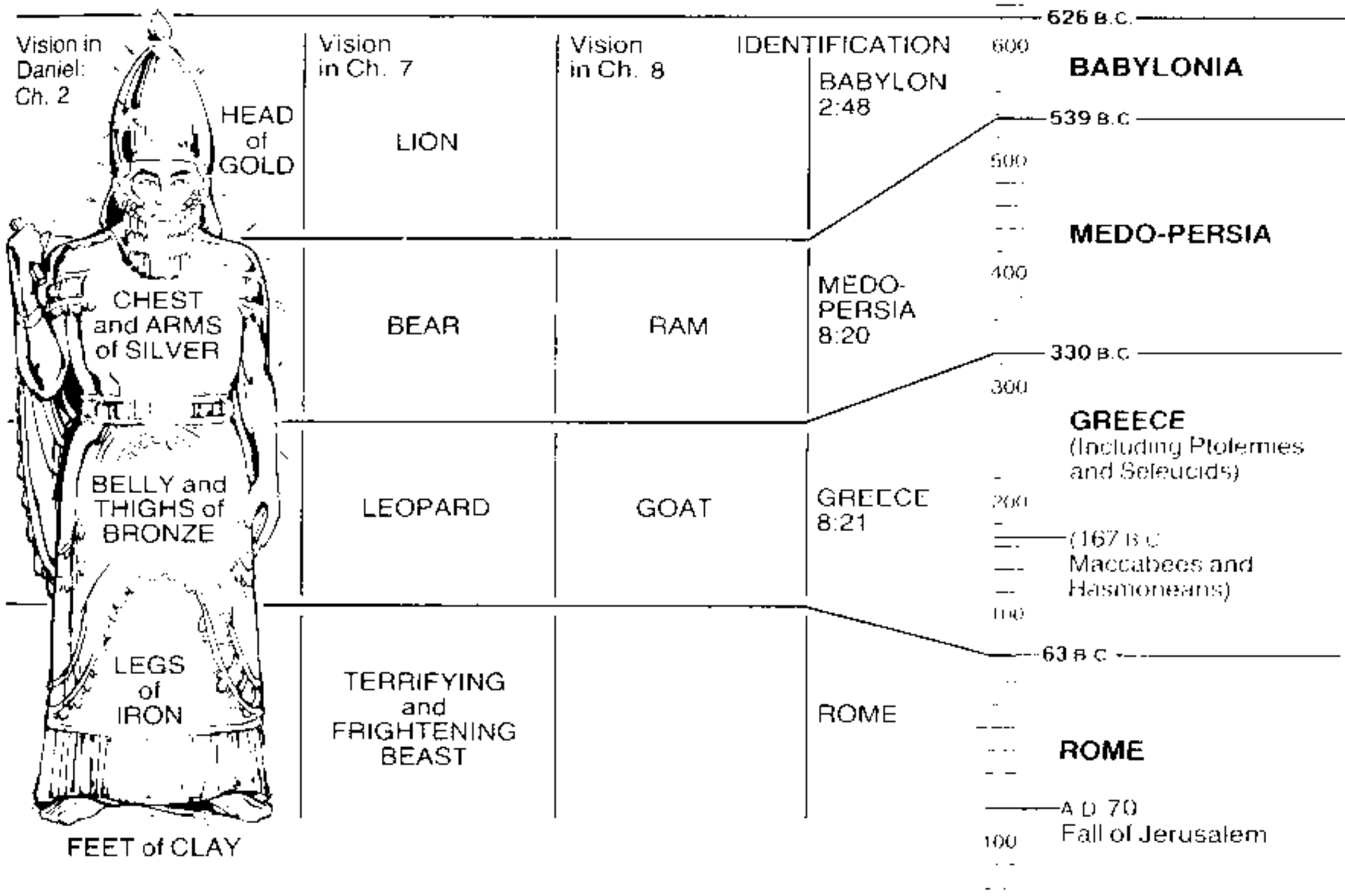
Daniel 7:24

“As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings will arise; and another will arise after them, and he will be different from the previous ones and will subdue three kings.”



Identification of the Four Kingdoms

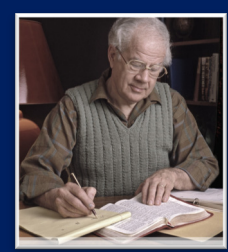
Chronology of Major Empires in Daniel



Daniel 7:23

“Thus he said: ‘The fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth, which will be different from all the other kingdoms and will devour the whole earth and tread it down and crush it.’”





J. Dwight Pentecost

Things to Come, Page 321-22

“(3) From among those ten kingdoms there will arise one individual who will have control over the whole dominion of the ten kings (Dan. 7: 8, 24; Rev. 13: 1-10; 17: 13). In gaining his authority three of the ten kings are overthrown. (4) This final authority over the empire is wielded by one who is marked by blasphemy, hatred of God’s people, disregard for established law and order, who will continue for three and one-half years (Dan. 7: 26). (5) This final form of world power will have world-wide influence (Dan. 7: 23).”



Arnold Fruchtenbaum

Footsteps of the Messiah, Page 36

“This stage was seen in both Daniel 2 in the ten toes and in Daniel seven in the ten horns...**the One World Government will divide into ten kingdoms that will cover the whole world – not merely Europe.** It has become common today to refer to the ten kingdoms as being in Europe only, especially the Former Common Market, now the European Union. But the text does not allow for this kind of interpretation. At the very best, the European Union might become one of the ten, but it could hardly become all of the ten.”



Arnold Fruchtenbaum

Footsteps of the Messiah, Page 36

“A careful reading of the Daniel passage states that once the Fourth Empire rules the whole world, then this One World Government will split into ten kingdoms. **This requires the ten kingdoms to cover the entire world, not just the territory known as Europe.** It would be a mistake to make too much of the European Union as being the Ten Division Stage. It would be far more consistent with the text to view it as possibly one of the ten, but not the entire ten. More consistent with Daniel's prophecy is the recommendation of the Club of Rome that the world be divided into ten administrative districts to avoid a world economic collapse.”

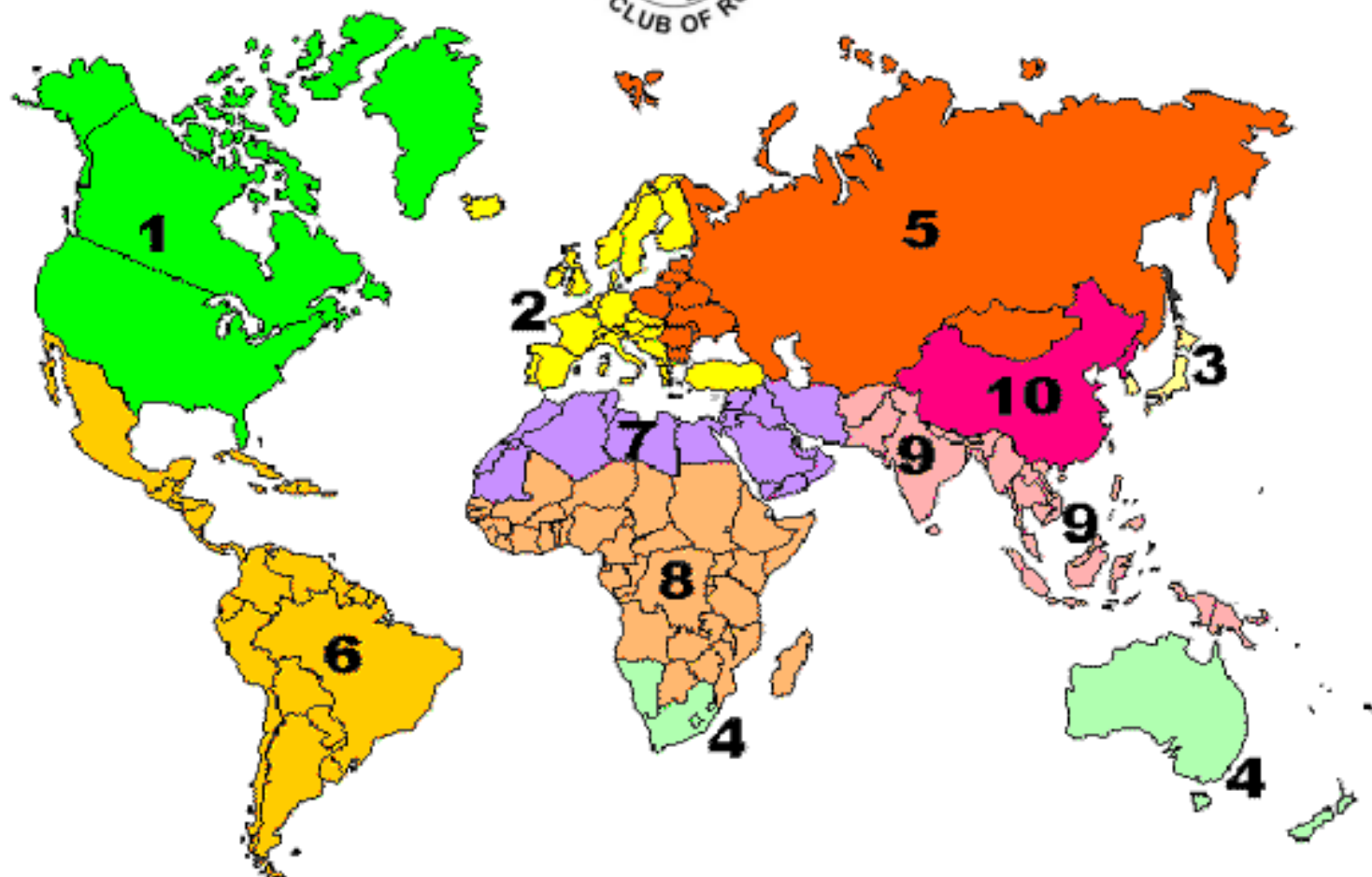


David Hocking

David Hocking, *Babylon: Its History and Prophecies* (Tustin, CA: Hope For Today Publications, 2015), 90.

“The ‘ten horns’ could represent ten nations of the end times, or perhaps more likely ten divisions of world government that will come into existence. Out of this confederacy will arise the ‘little horn’ or the ANTICHRIST himself empowered by Satan. His control and influence over the peoples of the world will be amazing!”

THE CLUB OF ROME



The Environmental Handbook (1970)



“...let's look at a few "root" mistakes the old-timers are about to make in the context of their new eco-concern. I use 'old timer'...to indicate anybody—regardless of age—whose frames of reference are products of OLD TIME, i.e., the industrial revolution phase of history...They are about to initiate massive programs within old frames of centralized authority of the nation. Nations are such an artificial construct from an ecological point of view that any further energies poured into them are almost certain to do more long-term harm than good. Nations...must be phased out as quickly as possible and replaced with tribal or regional autonomous economies...Boycott the words "national" and "international.”

Jean Monnet

(1888–1979)



“The sovereign nations of the past can no longer solve the problems of the present; they cannot ensure their own progress or control their own future... And the European community itself is only a stage on the way to the organized world of tomorrow.”

Regionalism



“The contemporary quest for world order will require a coherent strategy to establish a concept of order *within* the various regions and to relate these regional orders to one another.”



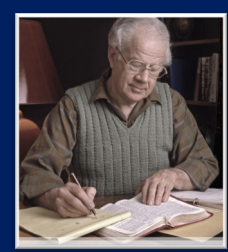
Open Borders

“In a private, paid speech to a Brazilian bank on May 16, 2013, Hillary Clinton said: ‘My dream is a hemispheric common market, with open trade and open borders, some time in the future with energy that is as green and sustainable as we can get it, powering growth and opportunity for every person in the hemisphere.’ This secret speech was released as part of the Podesta emails obtained by Wikileaks.”

Daniel 7:24

“As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings will arise; and another will arise after them, and he will be different from the previous ones and will subdue three kings.”





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II. The Interpretation Concerning Babylon

Revelation 17:6b-18

- A. The Interpretation Promised (6b-7)
- B. The Beast & His system (8-14)
- C. Babylon (15-18)



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C. The Beast & His System

Revelation 17:15-18

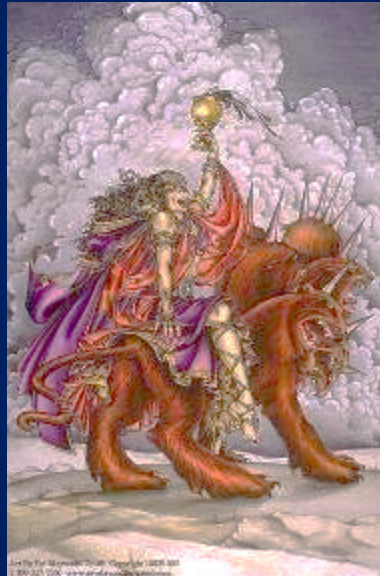
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2. Her Destruction (16-17)
3. Her Identification (18)



C. The Beast & His System

Revelation 17:15-18

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Parallels Between Jeremiah 50-51 & Revelation 17-18

	Jeremiah	Revelation
Associated with a Golden cup	51:7a	17:3-4; 18:6
<u>Dwelling on many waters</u>	<u>51:13</u>	<u>17:1</u>
Intoxicating the nations	51:7b	17:2
Same name	50:1	17:5
Persecution of the saints	51:49	17:6; 18:24
Stone sinking into Euphrates	51:63-64	18:21
Sudden destruction	51:8	18:8
Destroyed by fire	51:30	17:16
Final, uninhabitable	50:39	18:21
Deserved	50:29	18:6
God's people flee	51:6, 45	18:4
Heaven rejoices	51:48	18:20

Dyer, "The Identity of Babylon in Revelation 17–18 (Part 2)," 441-43.

OT Descriptions of Babylon in Rev 17–18

	Revelation 17–18	Old Testament
<u>Waters</u>	<u>17:1</u>	<u>Psalms 137:1</u>
Babylon the Great	17:5	Daniel 4:30
Mother harlots	17:5	Genesis 11:1-9
Fallen, fallen is Babylon	18:2	Isaiah 21:9
Will not see widowhood	18:7	Isaiah 47:7-9
Colorful attire	17:4; 18:16	Daniel 5:7, 16, 29
Sorcery	18:23	Isaiah 47:9-13

Genesis 11:1-4

¹ Now the whole earth used the same language and the same words. ² It came about as they journeyed east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. ³ They said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks and burn them thoroughly.” And they used brick for stone, and they used tar for mortar. ⁴ They said, “Come, let us build for ourselves a city, and a tower whose top will reach into heaven, and let us make for ourselves a name, otherwise we will be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.”



Spread of the Mother-Child Cult

	Mother	Child
Assyria	Ishtar	Tammuz
Phoenicia	Astarte	Baal
Egypt	Isis	Osirus/Horus
Greece	Aphrodite	Eros
Rome	Venus	Cupid
Asia	Cybele	Desius
India	Isi	Aswara
Roman Catholicism	Mary	Jesus
Israel	Queen of Heaven (Jer. 7:18; 44:17)	Tammuz (Ezek. 8:14-15)

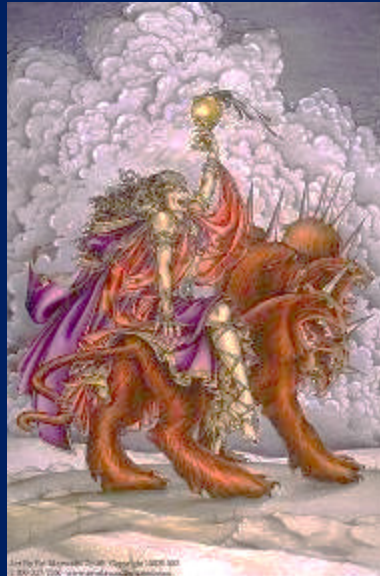
Alexander Hislop, *Two Babylons*



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Dyer, "The Identity of Babylon in Revelation 17–18 (Part 2)," 441-43.

ONE BABYLON

	Rev. 17	Rev. 18
Same name	17:5	18:2
City	17:18	18:10
Same clothing	17:4	18:16
Holding a cup	17:4	18:6
Fornicating with Kings	17:2	18:3
Drunk with wine of immorality	17:2	18:3
Persecuting believers	17:6	18:20, 24
<u>Destroyed by fire</u>	<u>17:16</u>	<u>18:8, 18</u>
Destroyed by God	17:17	18:5, 8

Dyer, "The Identity of Babylon in Revelation 17–18 (Part 1)," 311-13.

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Revelation 17:15-18

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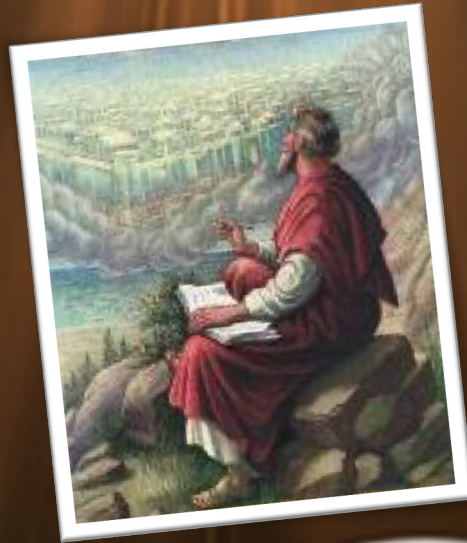
“MYSTERY” IN HARLOT’S TITLE? REV. 17:5

And on her forehead a name was written: **MYSTERY**, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. (KJV, NIV)

... and upon her forehead a name was written, a **mystery**, “BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.” (NASB)

Revelation 17:18

“The woman whom you saw is the great city, [polis] which reigns over the kings of the earth.



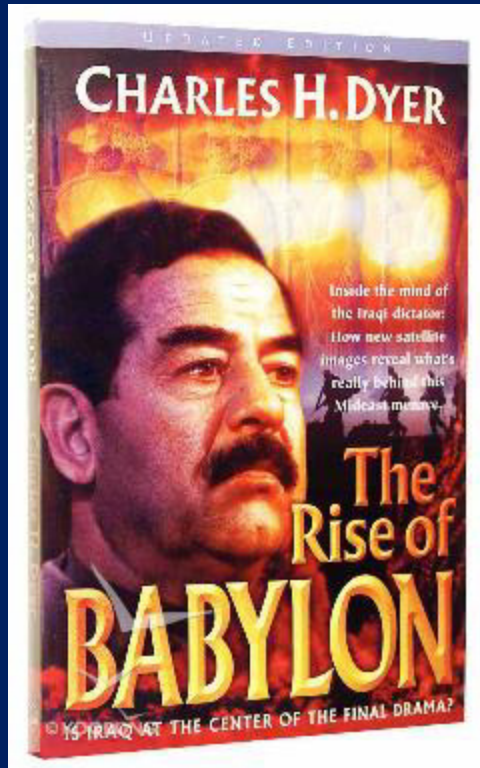
Bullinger

The Apocalypse or "The Day of the Lord", 509

“It is indeed surprising how any mistake could have been made in the identification of this woman. For the Holy Spirit first shows us her very name upon her forehead. Then, in verse 18, He tells us as plainly as words can tell anything, that ‘the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reignest over the kings of the earth’, and chap. xvi. 19, as well as xvii. 5, identifies this city with Babylon. God says it is a ‘city.’ He does not say *a system or a religion*, but a ‘CITY.’”

Charles H. Dyer

“The Identity of Babylon in Revelation 17–18 (Part 2),” *Bibliotheca sacra* 144 (October-December 1987): 436.



“Whatever else is said about the harlot, she is first a city, not an ecclesiastical system.”



John F. Walvoord

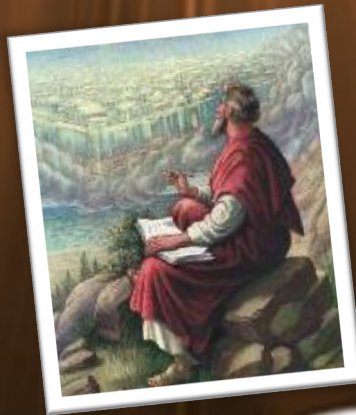
The Revelation of Jesus Christ: A Commentary

(Chicago: Moody, 1966), 267.

“Babylon, ecclesiastically symbolized by the woman in Revelation 17, proposes a common worship and a common religion through uniting in a world church. This is destroyed by the beast in Revelation 17:16 who thus fulfills the will of God (Rev. 17:17). Babylon, politically symbolized by the great city of Revelation 18, attempts to achieve its domination of the world by a world common market and a world government. These are destroyed by Christ at His second coming (Rev. 19:11–21).”

Revelation 18:10

“standing at a distance because of the fear of her torment, saying, ‘Woe, woe, the great city [polis], Babylon, the strong city! For in one hour your judgment has come.’”



ONE BABYLON

	Rev. 17	Rev. 18
Same name	17:5	18:2
<u>City</u>	<u>17:18</u>	<u>18:10</u>
Same clothing	17:4	18:16
Holding a cup	17:4	18:6
Fornicating with Kings	17:2	18:3
Drunk with wine of immorality	17:2	18:3
Persecuting believers	17:6	18:20, 24
Destroyed by fire	17:16	18:8, 18
Destroyed by God	17:17	18:5, 8

Dyer, "The Identity of Babylon in Revelation 17–18 (Part 1)," 311-13.

Conclusion

The Woman Rides the Beast

Revelation 17

- I. The Vision Concerning Babylon (17:1-6a)
- II. The Interpretation Concerning Babylon (6b-18)





“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.” (NIV)