



the book of

# REVELATION

sermon series



**Dr. Andy Woods**

Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church

President – Chafer Theological Seminary

# Seven Areas

- I. Tower of Babel (Gen. 1–11)
- II. Prophecies of Isaiah (13–14) & Jeremiah (50–51)
- III. Prophecy of Zechariah (Zech. 5:5-11)
- IV. Kings of the East (Rev. 9:14; 16:12)
- V. End-Time Harlot (Rev. 17–18)
- VI. Inadequate Theories
- VII. Current Events





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## Genesis 11:1-4

<sup>1</sup> Now the whole earth used the same language and the same words. <sup>2</sup> It came about as they journeyed east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. <sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup> 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.”







## Daniel 1:1-2

“<sup>1</sup> In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it.<sup>2</sup> The Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, along with some of the vessels of the house of God; and he brought them to the land of Shinar, to the house of his god, and he brought the vessels into the treasury of his god.”







CASPIAN SEA

• HARRAN

ASSYRIA

• NINEVEH

CYPRUS

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

• SIDON  
• TYRE

• DAMASCUS

• SAMARIA

• JERUSALEM

Jordan River

Tigris River

Euphrates River

Chebar River

• BABYLON

BABYLONIA

• SUSA

ELAM

• UR

CHALDEA

PERSIAN GULF

ARABIAN DESERT

THE CHEBAR RIVER  
Ezekiel 1:1

# Spread of the Mother-Child Cult

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

Alexander Hislop, *Two Babylons*

Larkin, *The Book of Revelation*, 151.

“The river Euphrates, on which the city of Babylon was built, was one of the four branches into which the river that flowed through the Garden of Eden was divided, and Satan doubtless chose the site of Babylon as his headquarters from which to sally forth to tempt Adam and Eve. It was doubtless here that the Antediluvian apostasy had its source that ended in the flood. To this centre the ‘forces of Evil’ gravitated after the Flood, and ‘Babel’ was the result. This was the origin of the nations, but the nations were not scattered abroad over the earth until Satan had implanted in them the “Virus” of a doctrine that has been the source of every false religion the world has ever known.”

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# Isaiah 13-14

- Day of the Lord (13:6-9)
- Cosmic disturbances (13:10-13)
- Global judgment (13:11-12)
- Sodom and Gomorrah (13:19)
- Complete and final desolation (13:20-22)
- Universal peace and rest (14:5-8)
- Israel's regeneration (14:1-4)

Morris, *Revelation Record*, 348.

# Isaiah 13/Matthew 24 Connection



■ **Isaiah 13:10; Matthew 24:29**

■ **Isaiah 13:12; Matthew 24:21-22**



## Isaiah 13:12

“I will make mortal man scarcer than pure gold and mankind than the gold of Ophir.”



## Matthew 24:21-22

“<sup>21</sup> For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will. <sup>22</sup> Unless those days had been cut short, **no life would have been saved**; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.”





# ARAB TENT HOME at Babylon 1899-1908

“It will never be inhabited or lived in from generation to generation; **Nor will the Arab pitch his tent there**” (Isaiah 13:20)



<https://www.bibleprophecyaswritten.com/2-arabs/>

# Isaiah's Oracles Against the Nations (Isa 13–23)

1. Babylon (13:1-14:23)
2. Assyria (14:24-27)
3. Philistia (14:28-32)
4. Moab (15-16)
5. Damascus and Samaria (17)
6. Ethiopia (18)
7. Egypt (19-20)
8. Babylon (21:1-10)
9. Edom (21:11-12)
10. Arabia (21:13-17)
11. Jerusalem (22)
12. Tyre (23)



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7. Egypt (19-20)
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9. Edom (21:11-12)
10. Arabia (21:13-17)
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12. Tyre (23)



# Jeremiah 50-51

- Sudden destruction (51:8)
- Complete destruction (50:3, 13, 26, 39-40; 51:29, 43, 62)
- No reuse of building materials (51:26)
- Believers flee (50:8; 51:6, 45)
- Israel's regeneration (50:2, 4-5, 20; 51:50)



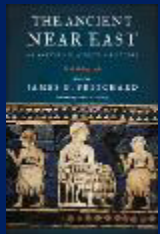


## Herodotus, *Histories*, 1:191 (450 B.C.)

“...he conducted the river by a channel into the lake...and so he made the former course of the river passable by the sinking of the stream. When this had been done, the Persians who had been posted for this very purpose entered by the bed of the river Euphrates into Babylon, the stream having sunk so far that it reached about to the middle of a man’s thigh...those Babylonians who dwelt in the middle did not know that they had been captured...”

# Cyrus Cylinder



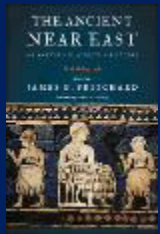


# James Pritchard

*The Ancient Near East Texts Relating to the Old Testament, 315-16.*

Without any battle... sparing Babylon... any calamity....I am Cyrus...king of Babylon...When I entered Babylon...under jubilation and rejoicing...troops walked around Babylon...in peace, I did not allow anybody to terrorize (any place) of the [country of Sumer] and Akkad. I strove for peace in Babylon...and in all his (other) sacred cities....I returned to (these) sacred cities on the other side of the Tigris, the sanctuaries of which have been in ruins for a long time, the images which (used) to live therein and established for them permanent sanctuaries.





# James Pritchard

*The Ancient Near East Texts Relating to the Old Testament, 315-16.*

I (also) gathered all their (former) inhabitants and returned (to them) their habitations. Furthermore, I resettled... unharmed, in their (former) chapels, the places which make them happy. May all the gods whom I have resettled in their sacred cities ask daily Bel and Nebo for a long life for me...all of them I resettled in a peaceful place... ducks and doves,...I endeavoured to fortify/repair their dwelling places . . .

# Isaiah 13-14

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## Babylon's History After 539 B.C.

- Herodotus gives Babylon's measurements (450 B.C.)
- Alexander the Great visits and dies in Babylon (323 B.C.)
- Seleucus seizes Babylon (312 B.C.)
- Strabo pronounces Babylon's hanging gardens as one of "seven wonders of the world" (25 B.C.)
- Babylonians present on Pentecost (Acts 2:9)
- Talmud promulgated from Babylon (A.D. 500)
- Haukal mentions Babylonian village (A.D. 917)
- Babylon known as "Two Mosques" and "Hilah" (A.D. 1100)



## Dr. John Walvoord

*The Nations in Prophecy, 63-64*

“As far as the historic fulfillment is concerned, it is obvious from both Scripture and history that these verses have not been literally fulfilled. The city of Babylon continued to flourish after the Medes conquered it, and though its glory dwindled, especially after the control of the Medes and the Persians ended in 323 B.C., the city continued in some form or substance until A.D. 1000 and did not experience a sudden termination such as anticipated in this prophecy.”

## Parallels Between Jeremiah 50-51 & Revelation 17-18

	Jeremiah	Revelation
Associated with a Golden cup	51:7a	17:3-4; 18:6
Dwelling on many waters	51:13	17:1
Intoxicating the nations	51:7b	17:2
Same name	50:1	17:5
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.



Larkin, *The Book of Revelation*, 158.

“...and this is in exact harmony with the words of Isa. 13:19. ‘And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees’ excellency, shall be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah;’ and the Prophet Jeremiah makes the same statement. Jer. 50:40. The destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah was not protracted through many centuries, their glory disappeared in a few hours (Gen. 19:24–28), and as ancient Babylon was not thus destroyed, the prophecies of Isaiah and Jeremiah cannot be fulfilled unless there is to be a future Babylon that shall be thus destroyed. In Rev. 16:17–19, we are told that Babylon shall be destroyed by an Earthquake, attended with most vivid and incessant lightning and awful thunder.”

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## Zechariah 5:5-11

<sup>5</sup> Then the angel who was speaking with me went out and said to me, “Lift up now your eyes and see what this is going forth.” <sup>6</sup> I said, “What is it?” And he said, “This is the ephah going forth.” Again he said, “This is their appearance in all the land <sup>7</sup> (and behold, a lead cover was lifted up); and this is a woman sitting inside the ephah.” <sup>8</sup> Then he said, “This is Wickedness!” And he threw her down into the middle of the ephah and cast the lead weight on its opening.





## Zechariah 5:5-11

<sup>9</sup> Then I lifted up my eyes and looked, and there two women were coming out with the wind in their wings; and they had wings like the wings of a stork, and they lifted up the ephah between the earth and the heavens. <sup>10</sup> I said to the angel who was speaking with me, “Where are they taking the ephah?” <sup>11</sup> Then he said to me, “To build a temple for her in the land of Shinar; and when it is prepared, she will be set there on her own pedestal.”



# Zechariah 5:5-11

- Woman (wickedness)
- Ephah (commerce)
- House (Temple-2 Sam 7; religion)
- Shinar (Gen 10:10; 11:2; Dan 1:2)



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## Genesis 11:1-4

<sup>1</sup> Now the whole earth used the same language and the same words. <sup>2</sup> It came about as they journeyed east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. <sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup> 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.”





# Hitchcock

*The Second Coming of Babylon, 109.*

## **ZECHARIAH 5:5-11**

## **REVELATION 17-18**

Woman sitting in a basket

Woman sitting on beast, seven mountains, many waters (17: 3, 9, 15)

Emphasis on commerce (basket for measuring grain)

Emphasis on commerce (merchant of grain, 18:13)

Woman's name is wickedness

Woman's name is Babylon the Great, Mother of Harlots and Abominations of the Earth

Focus on False worship (temple is built for the woman)

Focus on False worship (17:5)

Woman taken to Babylon

Woman called Babylon





Arthur W. Pink

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1886 - 1952

“The vision or prophecy contains the germ which is afterward expanded and developed in such detail in Rev. 17 and 18.” Pink, *The Antichrist*, 281.

# Daniel Interprets the Writing (5:24-28)



## Zechariah 1:7

On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month, which is the month Shebat, in the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to Zechariah the prophet, the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo, as follows:





# Newton

*Babylon: Its Future, History, and Doom*, 1890, p. 64.

“That this event predicted in this remarkable passage remains still unaccomplished, is sufficiently evident from the fact of Zechariah’s having prophesied after Babylon had received that blow under which it has gradually waned. Zechariah lived after Babylon had passed into the hands of the Persians . . .”

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## Revelation 9:14

“one saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, ‘Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates.’”





## Revelation 16:12

“The sixth *angel* poured out his bowl on the great river, the Euphrates; and its water was dried up, so that the way would be prepared for the kings from the east.”



# East = Babylon

- Genesis 2:8
- Genesis 11:2
- Matthew 2:2



# East = Babylon

- Genesis 2:8
- Genesis 11:2
- Matthew 2:2





## Genesis 11:1-4

<sup>1</sup> Now the whole earth used the same language and the same words. <sup>2</sup> It came about as they journeyed **east**, that they found a plain in the land of **Shinar** and settled there. <sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup> 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.”







# East = Babylon

- Genesis 2:8
- Genesis 11:2
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# Messiah must present Himself to Israel on March 30, A.D. 33

## ■ Daniel 9:25





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# 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 17–19) 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**

## Revelation 17:1

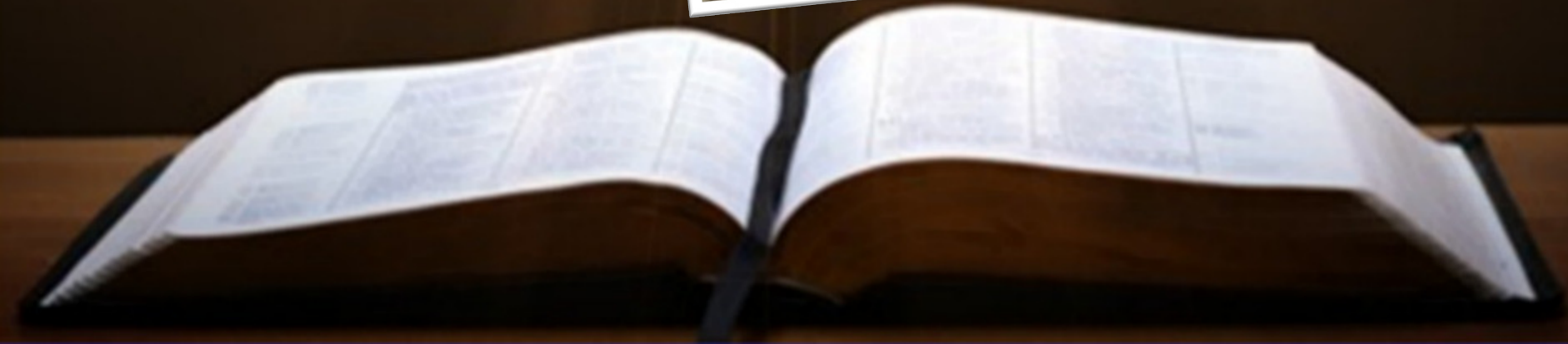
“Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, “Come here, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters.”





## Revelation 18:10

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



# Literal Geography in Revelation

<b>Asia</b>	1:4	<b>Philadelphia</b>	3:7
<b>Patmos</b>	1:9	<b>Laodicea</b>	3:14
<b>Ephesus</b>	2:1	<b>Euphrates</b>	9:14;16:12
<b>Smyrna</b>	2:8	<b>Jerusalem</b>	11:8
<b>Pergamum</b>	2:12	<b>Armageddon</b>	16:16
<b>Thyatira</b>	2:18	<b>Jerusalem</b>	20:9
<b>Sardis</b>	3:1	<b>New Jerusalem</b>	21:2

# OT Descriptions of Babylon in Rev 17–18

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



## John F. Walvoord

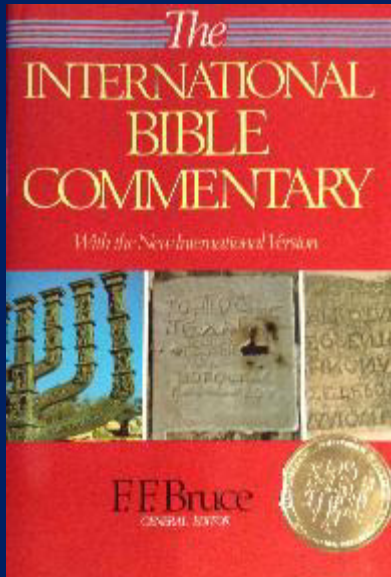
John F. Walvoord, *The Revelation of Jesus Christ: A Commentary* (Chicago: Moody, 1966), 257, 263.

“The city here according to verse 5 is a mystery, not a literal city...The ultimate decision depends upon the judgment of the expositor, but in many respects it is simpler to postulate a rebuilt Babylon as fulfilling literally the Old Testament prophecies as well as that embodied in this chapter.”



# F. F. Bruce

*“Revelation,” in International Bible Commentary, 1986, p. 1621.*



“This title was written on her forehead: Mystery: ‘mystery’ indicates that the name she bears...is not to be understood literally, but allegorically: Babylon the Great is read, but ‘Rome’ is meant (cf. verses 9, 19).”

## **“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)**

# “Mystery” Defined

“In the N.T, it [*mystērion*] denotes, not the mysterious (as with the Eng. word), but that which, being outside the range of unassisted natural apprehension, can be made known only by Divine revelation, and is made known in a manner and at a time appointed by God, and to those who are illumined by His Spirit.”

W. E. Vine, Merrill F. Unger, and William White, *Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of the Old and New Testament Words* (Nashville: Nelson, 1996), 424.

## 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.”







Art By Pat Marvenko Smith Copyright 1982/1992  
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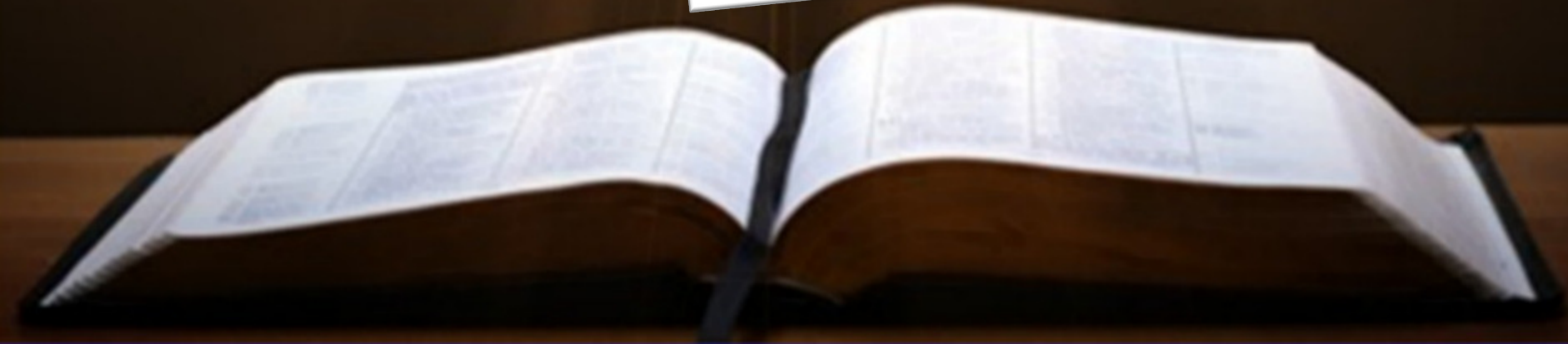
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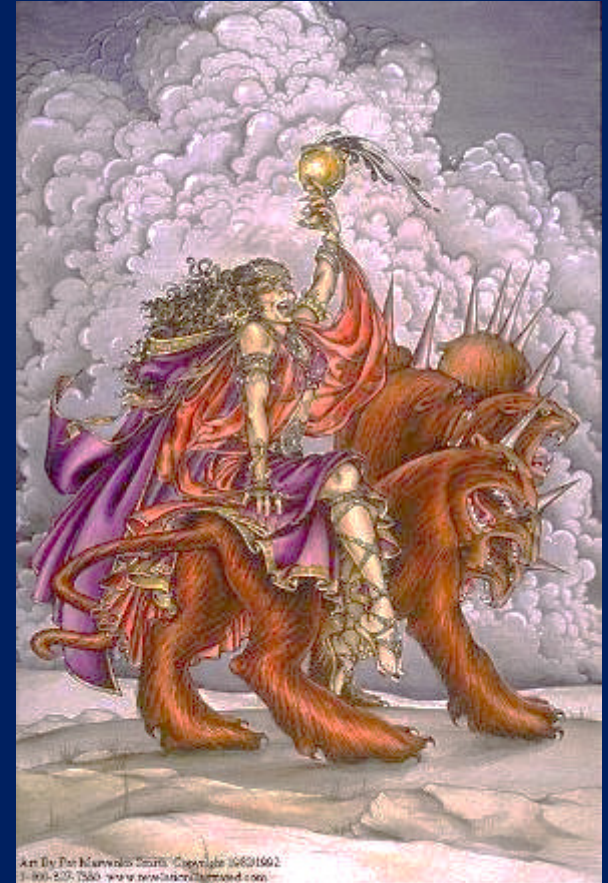
“and on her forehead a name *was* written, a mystery, “BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.”





# Other Alternatives ?

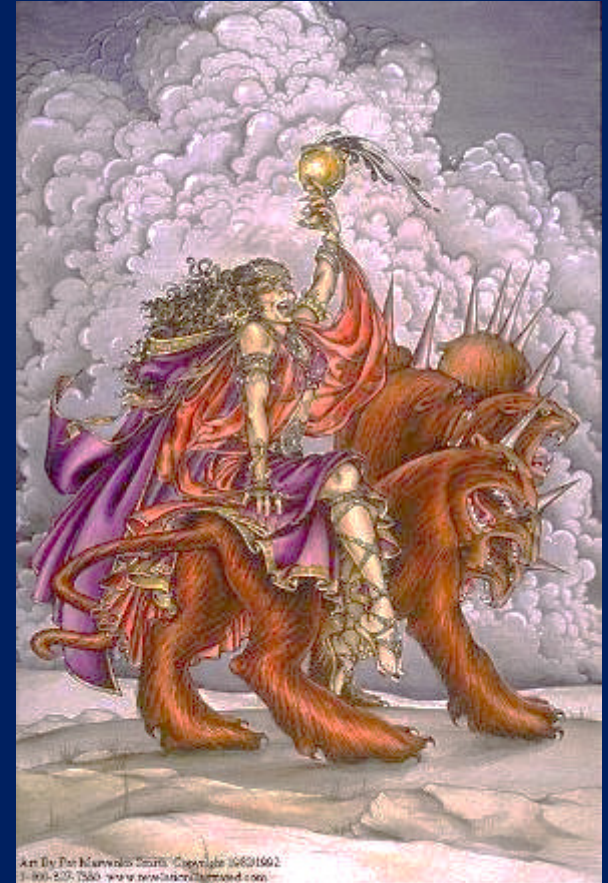
1. Religious system?
2. Jerusalem?
3. Rome?
4. Revived Rome?
5. Two Babylons?





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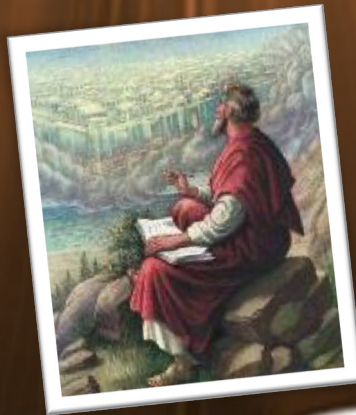
## Revelation 17:18

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



## Revelation 18:10

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



# Bullinger

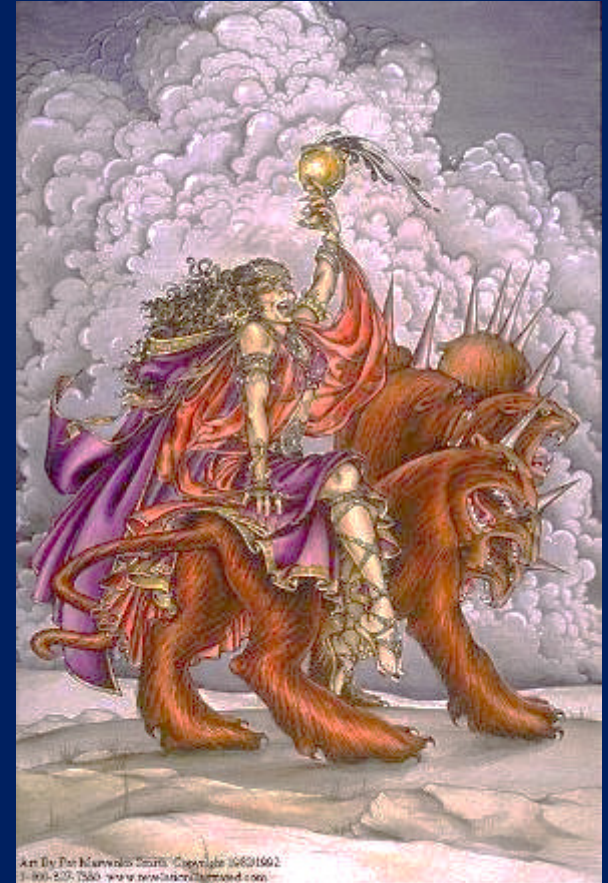
*The Apocalypse or "The Day of the Lord", 509*

“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.’”



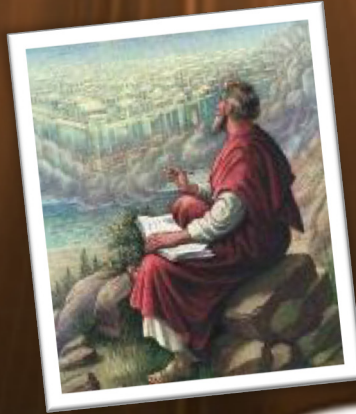
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## Isaiah 23:17

“It will come about at the end of seventy years that the LORD will visit Tyre. Then she will go back to her harlot's wages and will play the harlot with all the kingdoms on the face of the earth.”



## Nahum 3:4

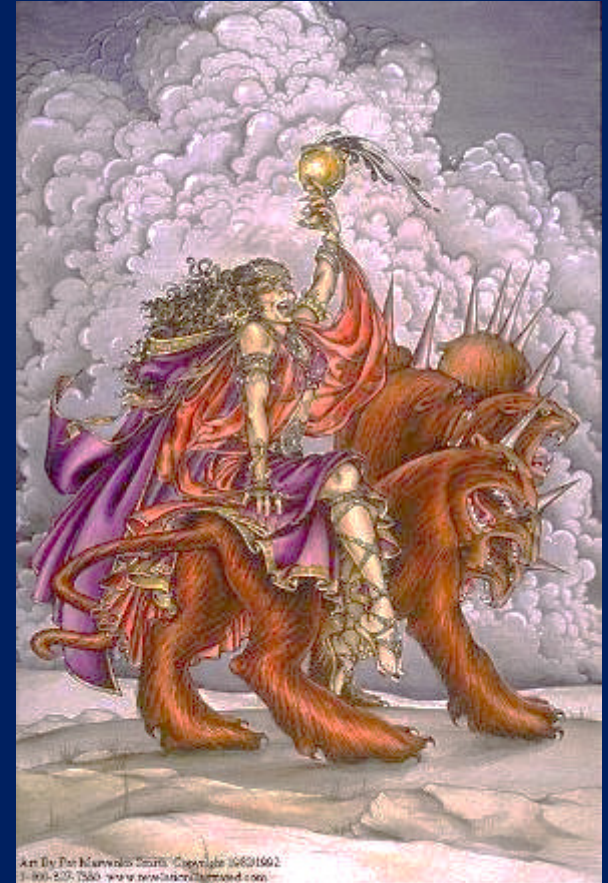
“All because of the many harlotries of the harlot, The charming one, the mistress of sorceries, Who sells nations by her harlotries And families by her sorceries.”





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2. Jerusalem?
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4. Revived Rome?
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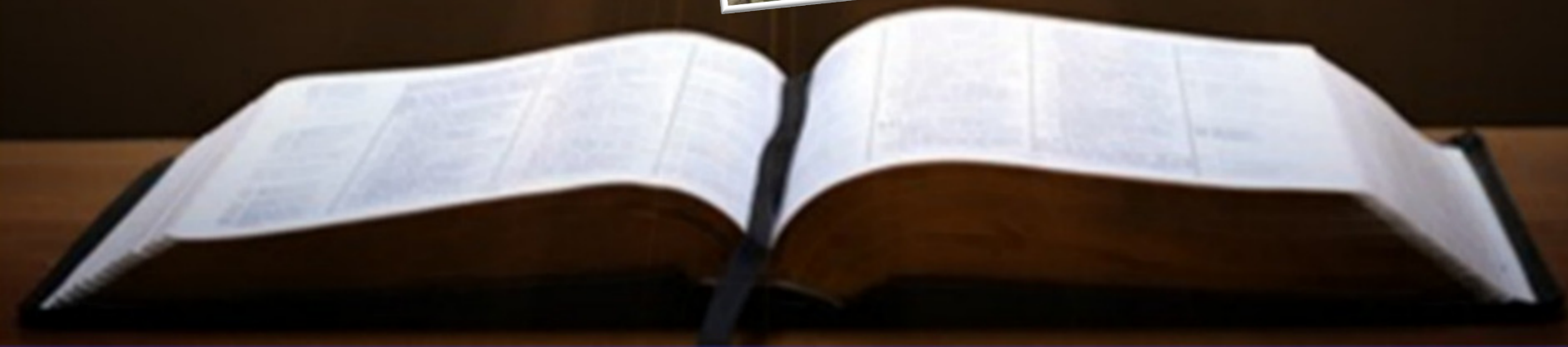
# THE NATIONS OF PENTECOST ACTS 2:9-11

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## Revelation 17:9-10

“Here is the mind which has wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits, <sup>10</sup> 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; <sup>38</sup> 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.





## 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.”



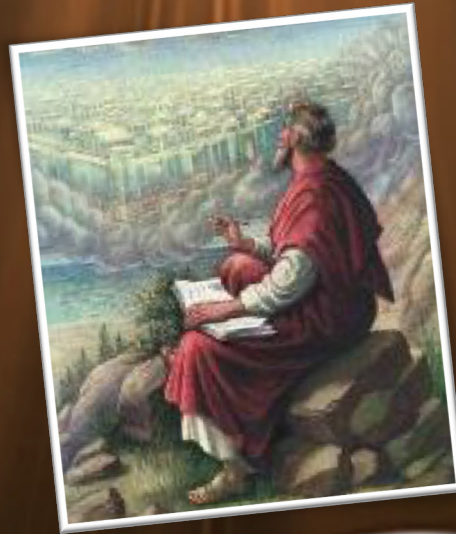




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# 1 Peter 5:13

“She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you greetings, and so *does* my son, Mark.”



## Galatians 2:7-8

“7 But on the contrary, seeing that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been to the circumcised<sup>8</sup> (for He who effectually worked for Peter in his apostleship to the circumcised effectually worked for me also to the Gentiles).”





# THE NATIONS OF PENTECOST ACTS 2:9-11

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## Josephus, *Antiquities*, 15.2.2

“But when Hyrcanus was brought into Parthia the king Phraates treated him after a very gentle manner, as having already learned of what an illustrious family he was; on which account he set him free from his bonds, and *gave him a habitation at Babylon, where there were Jews in great numbers. These Jews honored Hyrcanus as their high priest and king, as did all the Jewish nation that dwelt as far as Euphrates;* which respect was very much to his satisfaction...”

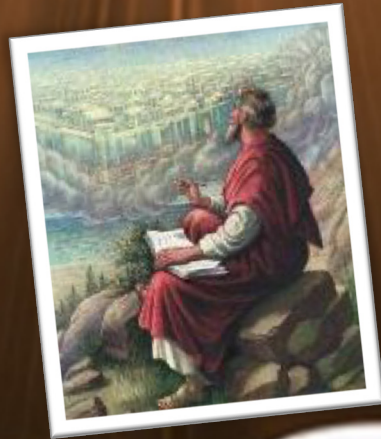
## Strabo, *Geography*, 16.1.5?

“Strabo, who died in A.D. 25, is cited in proof that by this time no city was left. . . . This is an instance of how easily lax quotation or assertion may falsify both an author and an issue, which being once done, other writers too easily follow suit. What Strabo says is: ‘And now indeed [Selucia] has become greater than Babylon, which *for the most part* has become deserted’ (ἡ δ’ ἔρημος ἡ πολλή).”

G. H. Lang, *The Revelation of Jesus Christ: Select Studies*  
(London: Paternoster, 1948), 302.

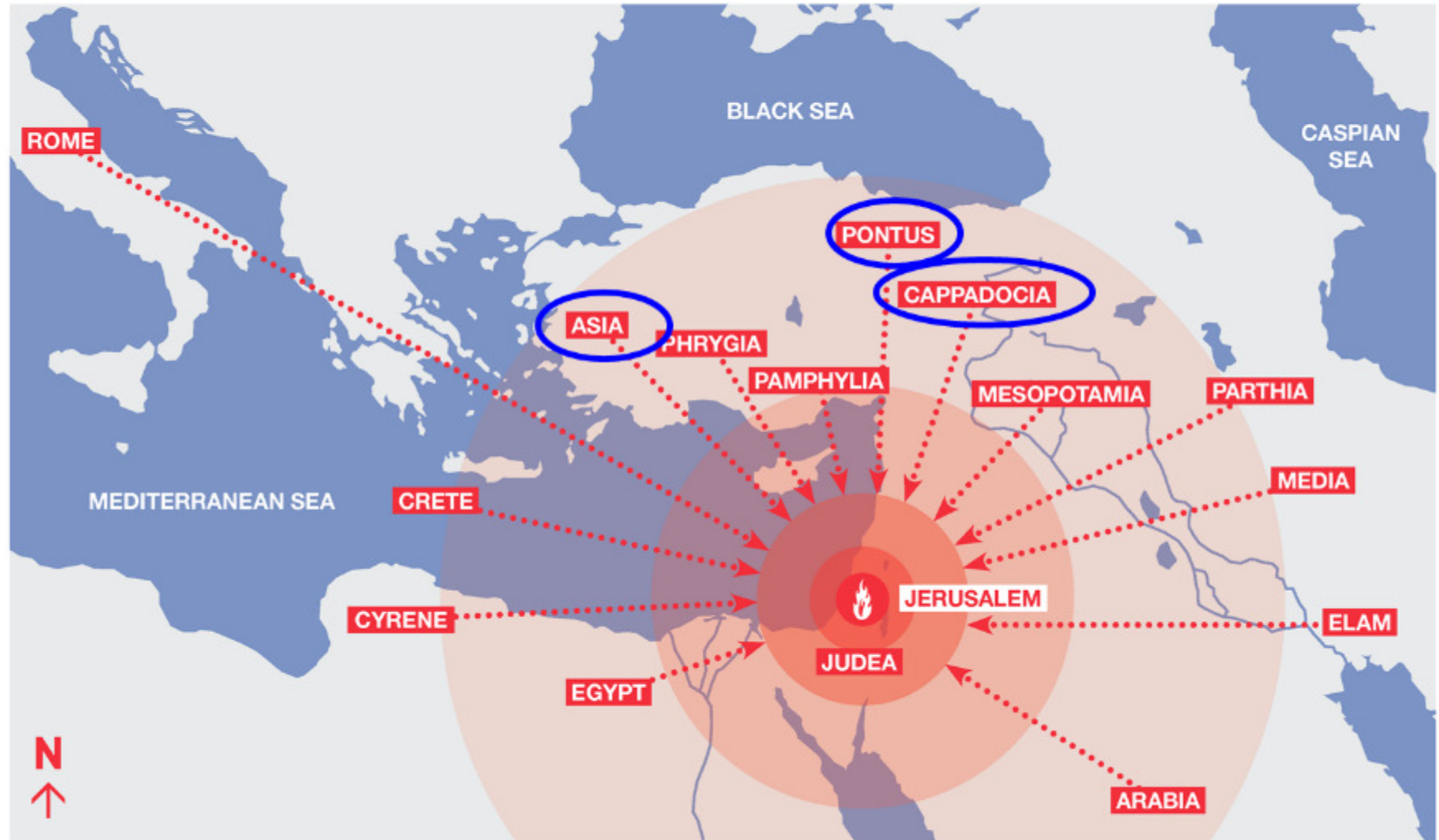
# 1 Peter 1:1

“To those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, who are chosen.”



# THE NATIONS OF PENTECOST ACTS 2:9-11

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# Morris

*The Revelation Record, 323*

“At the very least, it would be confusing to John’s first century readers, as well as to later generations, for him to write so much about Babylon when he really meant Rome (Paul was not afraid to speak directly against Rome in his writings, so why should John be?) or ‘the false church’ (all the apostles , including John, wrote plainly and scathingly about false teachers and false doctrines in the church and would not hide their teachings by symbols). It must be stressed that Revelation means “unveiling,” not “veiling.” In the absence of any statement in the text to the contrary, therefore, we must assume that the term Babylon applies to the real city of Babylon...”



# Martin Luther

"Against the Roman Papacy, an Institution of the Devil," in *Luther's Works*,  
ed. Eric. W. Gritsch (Philadelphia, PA: Fortress Press, 1966), 273-74.

"No man can believe what an abomination the papacy is. A Christian does not have to be of low intelligence, either, to recognize it. God himself must deride him in the hellish fire, and our Lord Jesus Christ, St. Paul says in II Thessalonians 2 [:8] will slay him with the breath of his mouth and destroy him by his glorious coming." I only deride, with my own weak derision, so that those who now live and those who will come after us should know what I have thought of the pope, the damned antichrist, and so that whoever wishes to be a Christian may be warned against such an abomination."



## John Calvin

Calvin, *Institutes*, IV, ii, 12.

“However, when we categorically deny to the papists the title of *the* church, we do not for this reason impugn the existence of churches among them. Rather, we are only contending about the true and lawful constitution of the church, required in the communion not only of the sacraments (which are the signs of profession) but also especially of doctrine. Daniel [Dan. 9:27] and Paul [2 Thess. 2:4] foretold that **Antichrist** would sit in the Temple of God. With us, it is the **Roman pontiff** we make the leader and standard bearer of that wicked and abominable kingdom. The fact that his seat is placed in the Temple of God signifies that his reign was not to be such as to wipe out either the name of Christ or of the...



## John Calvin

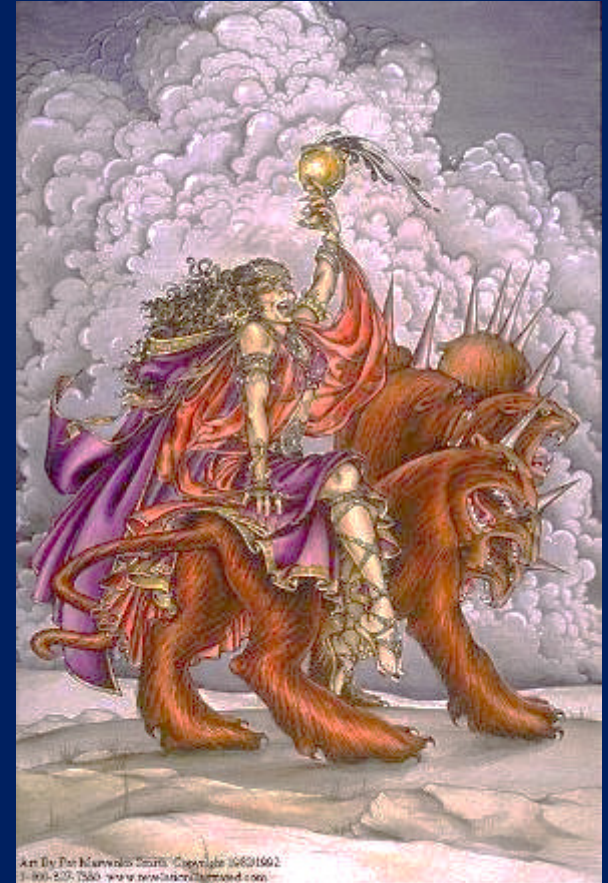
Calvin, *Institutes*, IV, ii, 12.

...church. From this it therefore is evident that we by no means deny that the churches under his tyranny remain churches. But these he has profaned by his sacrilegious impiety, afflicted by his inhuman domination, corrupted and well-nigh killed by his evil and deadly doctrines, which are like poisoned drinks. In them Christ lies hidden, half buried, the gospel overthrown, piety scattered, the worship of God nearly wiped out. In them, briefly, everything is so confused that there we see the face of Babylon rather than that of the Holy City of God.”



# Other Alternatives ?

1. Religious system?
2. Jerusalem?
3. Rome?
4. Revived Rome?
5. Two Babylons?





# 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

## 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.”





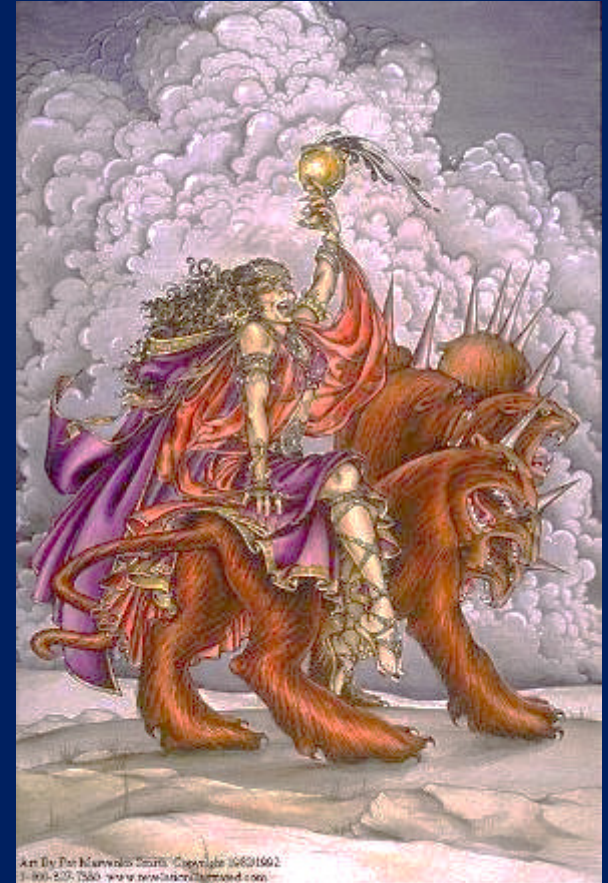


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# Other Alternatives ?

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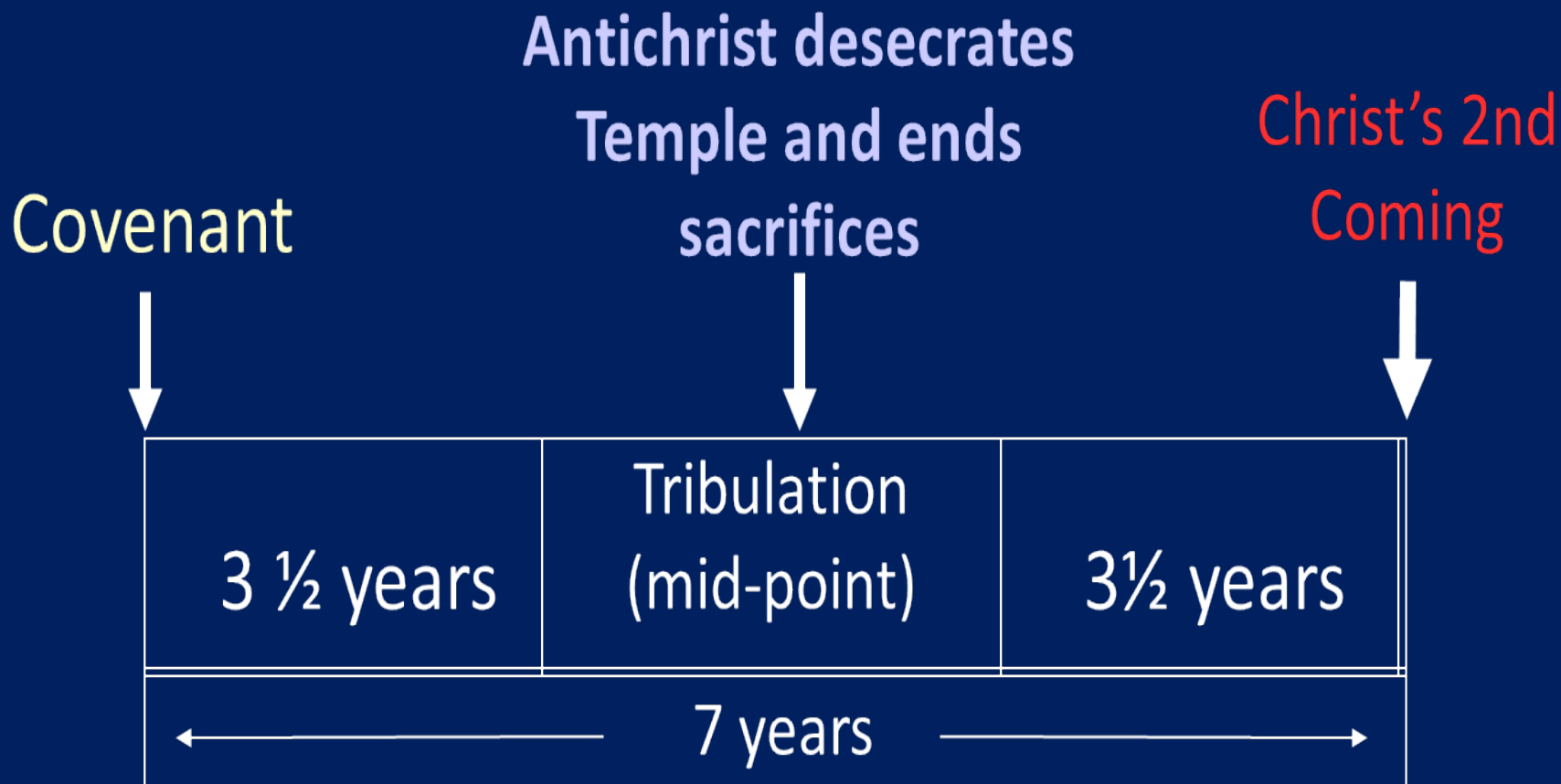
## John F. Walvoord

*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).”

# DAN 9:27 OVERVIEW OF TRIBULATION PERIOD



# Two Babylons View

	<b>Ecclesiastical Babylon</b>	<b>Commercial Babylon</b>
Chapter in Revelation	Revelation 17	Revelation 18
Literalness	Not literal	Literal
Time of Destruction	1 <sup>st</sup> half of Tribulation	Second Advent
Emphasis	Religion	Commercial & Political





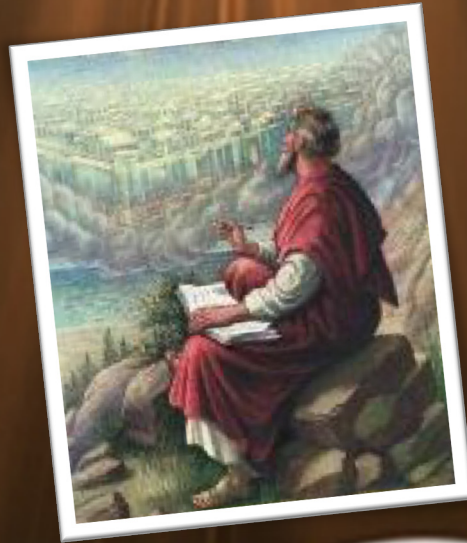
## John F. Walvoord

*The Revelation of Jesus Christ: A Commentary*  
(Chicago: Moody, 1966), 257, 263.

“The city here according to verse 5 is a mystery, **not a literal city**...The ultimate decision depends upon the judgment of the expositor, but in many respects it is simpler to postulate a rebuilt Babylon **as fulfilling literally** the Old Testament prophecies as well as that embodied in this chapter.”

## Revelation 17:18

“The woman whom you saw is the great city, 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.’”

## 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 17–19) 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**

# ONE BABYLON

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

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

# Seven Areas

- I. Tower of Babel (Gen. 1–11)
- II. Prophecies of Isaiah (13–14) & Jeremiah (50–51)
- III. Prophecy of Zechariah (Zech. 5:5-11)
- IV. Kings of the East (Rev. 9:14; 16:12)
- V. End-Time Harlot (Rev. 17–18)
- VI. Inadequate Theories
- VII. Current Events**





# Early Babylon Interpreters

**Govett** (1813–1901)

**Pink** (1923)

**Newton** (1853)

**Jennings** (1937)

**Newell** (1935)

**Pember** (1941)

**Bullinger** (1909)

**Cooper** (1942)

**Seiss** (1909)

**Lang** (1948)

**Larkin** (1919)

**Dyer** (1979)

Ice, "Babylon in Bible Prophecy," 5 . [www.pre-trib.org](http://www.pre-trib.org).





# Morris

*The Revelation Record, 349*

“Computer studies of the Institute for Creation Research have shown, for example, that Babylon is very near the geographical center of all the earth’s land masses. It is within navigable distances of the Persian Gulf and is at the crossroads of the three great continents of Europe, Asia and Africa. Thus there is no more ideal location anywhere for a world trade center, a world communication center, a world banking center, a world educational center, or especially, a world capital! The greatest historian of modern times, Arnold Toynbee, used to stress to all his readers and hearers that Babylon would be the best place in the world to build a future world cultural metropolis.”

# June 2007 Conventional Oil Reserves

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Percentage of oil reserves</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Saudia Arabia</b>	<b>21.9 %</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Iran</b>	<b>11.4 %</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Iraq</b>	<b>9.5 %</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Kuwait</b>	<b>8.4 %</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>United Arab Emirates</b>	<b>8.1 %</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Venezuela</b>	<b>6.6 %</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Russia</b>	<b>6.6 %</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Libya</b>	<b>3.4 %</b>

David Jeremiah, *What in the World is Going On*, 207



# Iraq Tries to Get Babylon on UNESCO World Heritage List

Jan 20, 2015

“Iraqi Minister of Tourism and Antiquities on Monday said that his country is seeking to restore the ancient ruin city of Babylon onto the UNESCO world heritage list.”



# Iraq Celebrates Naming Babylon a UNESCO World Heritage Site

QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA of Times of Israel - July 6, 2019

“BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq on Friday celebrated the UNESCO World Heritage Committee’s decision to name the historic city of Babylon a World Heritage Site in a vote held in Azerbaijan’s capital, years after Baghdad began campaigning for the site to be added to the list..The 4,300-year-old Babylon — now mainly an archaeological ruin and two important museums — is where dynasties have risen and fallen since the earliest days of settled human civilization. King Hammurabi wrote his famous code of laws in Babylon, while Nebuchadnezzar sent his vast army from the city to Jerusalem to put down an uprising and bring the Jews back as slaves.”



# Iraq Celebrates Naming Babylon a UNESCO World Heritage Site

QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA of Times of Israel - July 6, 2019

“The Babylonian exile of the Jews lasted from 605 BCE until the Persian King Cyrus the Great conquered Babylon and in 539 BCE allowed the Jews to return home and build the Second Temple...Dozens of Iraqis waving their national flag gathered at the Ishtar Gate at the site celebrating their city’s new international status. Iraqi Prime Minister Adel Abdul-Mahdi described the vote as ‘another victory for the Iraq of civilizations that was and will always be a lighthouse to the world.’ President Barham Saleh tweeted that after Babylon, more ancient sites will be added to the list through which ‘Iraq will restore that status that it deserves.’”

## “Want Middle East Stability? Move UN to Iraq”

“The idea of moving U.N. headquarters seems to resonate with many...Where should it go? Try Iraq...In order to maintain its fledgling democracy, Iraq needs international commitment, an inducement to stop factional violence, and a stable form of income not subject to the terrorists’ reprisals...New York is an expensive city, and representation at the U.N. is currently a costly endeavor...The remaining big spenders should have a positive effect on the Iraqi job market and improve the overall economy of the entire region, which might in turn reduce the tendency to...



# “Want Middle East Stability? Move UN to Iraq”

...engage in violence. With such a large and formidable presence, fundamental human rights issues ranging from honor killing and female infanticide to state-imposed death sentences for children, religious converts, and political dissidents...could be more effectively addressed, transforming the region developmentally in the process.”

Cynthia E. Ayers and David W. Cammons, “Want Middle East Stability? Move UN to Iraq,” Newsweek, April 9, 2007, posted at:  
[Http://newsweek.washingtonpost.com/postglobal/needtoknow/2007/04/want\\_middle\\_east\\_stability\\_mov.html](http://newsweek.washingtonpost.com/postglobal/needtoknow/2007/04/want_middle_east_stability_mov.html)

# How Could Babylon Be Built So Quickly?

- Imminency?
  - ◆ Chicago fire
  - ◆ Dubai
  - ◆ Neom, Saudi Arabia
- Harbor?



# How Could Babylon Be Built So Quickly?

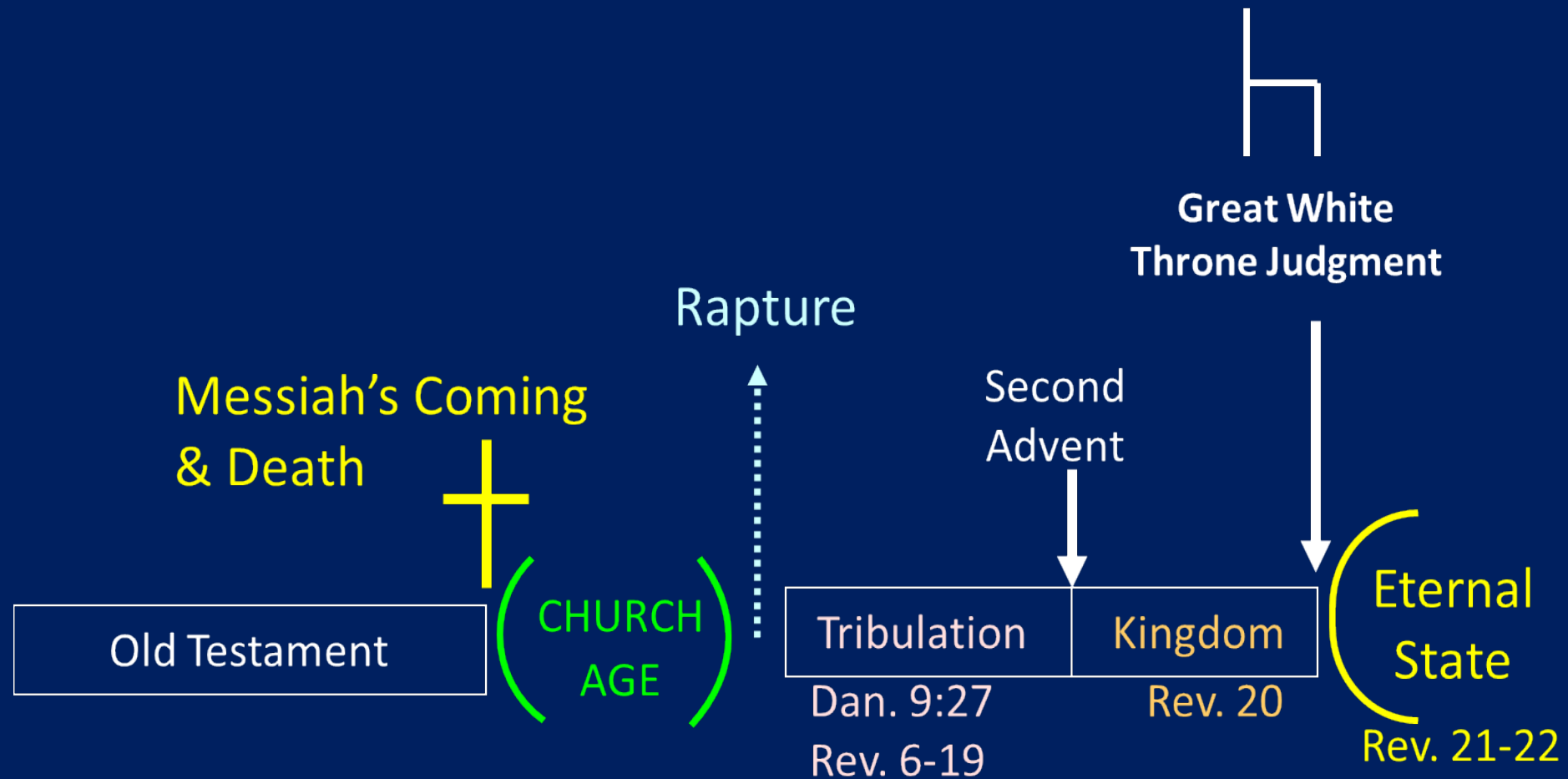
## ■ Imminency?

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- ◆ Neom, Saudi Arabia

## ■ Harbor?

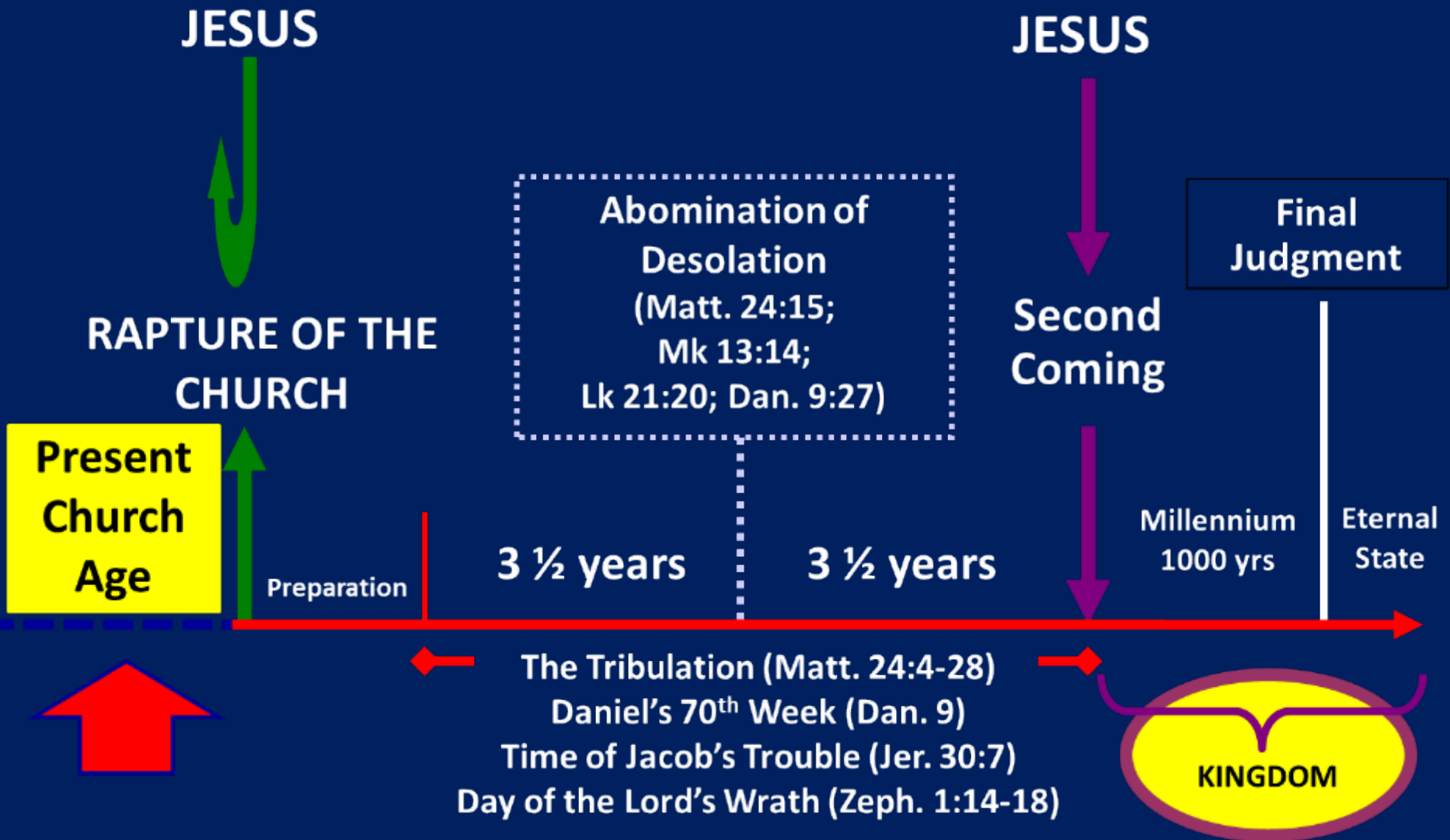


# Prophecy Panorama



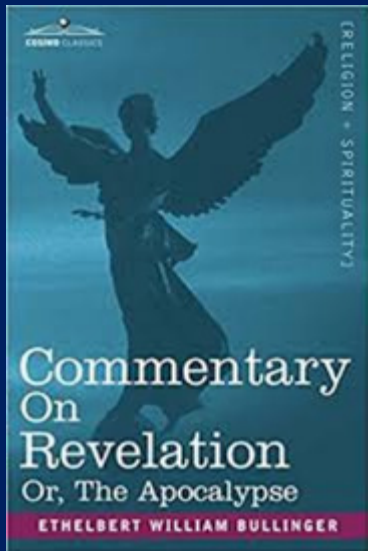


# The End Times



# Bullinger (1909)

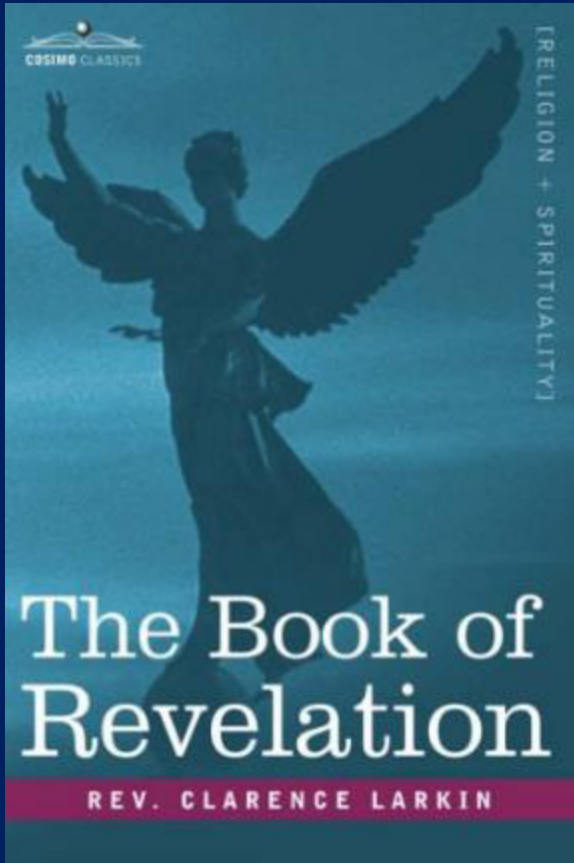
*Commentary on Revelation, 577*



“And Babylon, though fallen gradually, and very low, has never suffered such a destruction. There is only one conclusion, that in the interval of, say some 30 or more years between the removal of the church and the last "week "of Daniel's prophecy, it will be revived and exceed all its former magnificence.”

# Larkin (1919)

*The Book of Revelation, 162*



“But I hear the protest, how can you say we be expecting Jesus to come at "any moment," if the city of Babylon must be rebuilt before He can come? There is not a word in Scripture that says that Jesus cannot come and take away His Church until Babylon is rebuilt. The Church may be taken out of the world 25 or even 50 years before that.”

# How Could Babylon Be Built So Quickly?

## ■ Imminency?

- ◆ Chicago fire

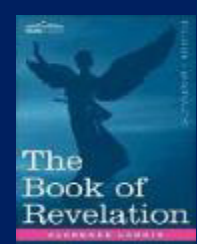
- ◆ Dubai

- ◆ Neom, Saudi Arabia

## ■ Harbor?







## Larkin (1919)

*The Book of Revelation, 162*

“The rapid growth of modern cities is one of the remarkable phenomena of the times. Since 1880 more than 500 cities have been built in America. Less than 100 years ago the site of the City of Chicago was but a swampy expanse at the mouth of the Chicago river. Now it has been transformed into a beautiful Metropolis, stretching 25 miles along the shore of Lake Michigan, with 5000 miles of streets, many of them beautiful boulevards 120 feet wide. In 1840 Chicago had only 4470 inhabitants, today the population is over 3,000,000. Once the Capitalists of the world are ready the revived City of Babylon will spring up in a few years.”

# How Could Babylon Be Built So Quickly?

## ■ Imminency?

- ◆ Chicago fire

- ◆ Dubai

- ◆ Neom, Saudi Arabia

## ■ Harbor?



# MIDDLE EAST



DUBAI













# How Could Babylon Be Built So Quickly?

## ■ Imminency?

- ◆ Chicago fire
- ◆ Dubai
- ◆ Neom, Saudi Arabia

## ■ Harbor?



# A Prince's \$500 Billion Desert Dream: Flying Cars, Robot Dinosaurs and a Giant Artificial Moon

“Saudi Arabia’s crown prince turned to U.S. consultants for help imagining a massive new city-state in a barren section of his kingdom. What emerged was a Jetsons-style world of automation. SHARMA, Saudi Arabia—This seaside corner of northwest Saudi Arabia is so barren that the only abundant resources a group of consultants could identify were sunlight and ‘unlimited access to salt water.’ But Saudi crown prince Mohammed bin Salman didn’t see a wasteland when he landed in his helicopter here a few years ago. He saw the future — and hatched a plan for a \$500 billion city-state to cover 10,000 square miles of rocky desert and empty coastline to attract the ‘world’s greatest minds and best talents’ to the world’s best paying jobs in the world’s most livable city.”

Justin Scheck, Rory Jones, and Summer Sawwww.wsj.comid, “A Prince’s \$500 Billion Dollar Desert Dream,” online:, 25 July 2019.



# How Could Babylon Be Built So Quickly?

## ■ Imminency?

- ◆ Chicago fire
- ◆ Dubai
- ◆ Neom, Saudi Arabia

## ■ Harbor?



## Babylon Needs a Harbor?

“It was unacceptable to Saddam [Hussein] that a country as great as Iraq did not have a long coastline. Over and over he talked about the necessity of building a Navy and becoming a seafaring power. Iraq’s isolation from the sea was a cruel accident of history, he believed, and one that had to be rectified—a theme he continued to dwell on after his invasion of Kuwait.”

## Babylon Needs a Harbor?

“Actually, the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers converge in southern Iraq and enter the Persian Gulf in Iraqi territory. The problem has been that Iran and Kuwait squeeze Iraq into a bottleneck at the mouth of the rivers and Iraq’s attempts to forge a harbor there have been thwarted by the hostile refusals of those two countries. But suppose international pressures were brought to bear upon Iran to allow Iraq access to the Shatt al-Arab waterway all the way to Basra and cooperation could be coerced from Kuwait to open up the area around its little island of Bubiyan and Warba.”

## Babylon Needs a Harbor?

“A commercial port and harbor for ships could become a reality for Babylon in a relatively short period of time. With modern dredging equipment, a deep channel waterway could be opened from the Persian Gulf all the way to Babylon. With its location on the Euphrates River, ships and sailors could indeed have access to this future queen of modern cities. The Antichrist ruler, with his political and economic power and global influence, could easily make that happen. So, as you can see, a harbor in Babylon is not at all out of the question.”



Conclusion

## Ecclesiastes 1:9

“That which has been is that which will be, And that which has been done is that which will be done. So there is nothing new under the sun.”



# Seven Areas

- I. Tower of Babel (Gen. 1–11)
- II. Prophecies of Isaiah (13–14) & Jeremiah (50–51)
- III. Prophecy of Zechariah (Zech. 5:5-11)
- IV. Kings of the East (Rev. 9:14; 16:12)
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