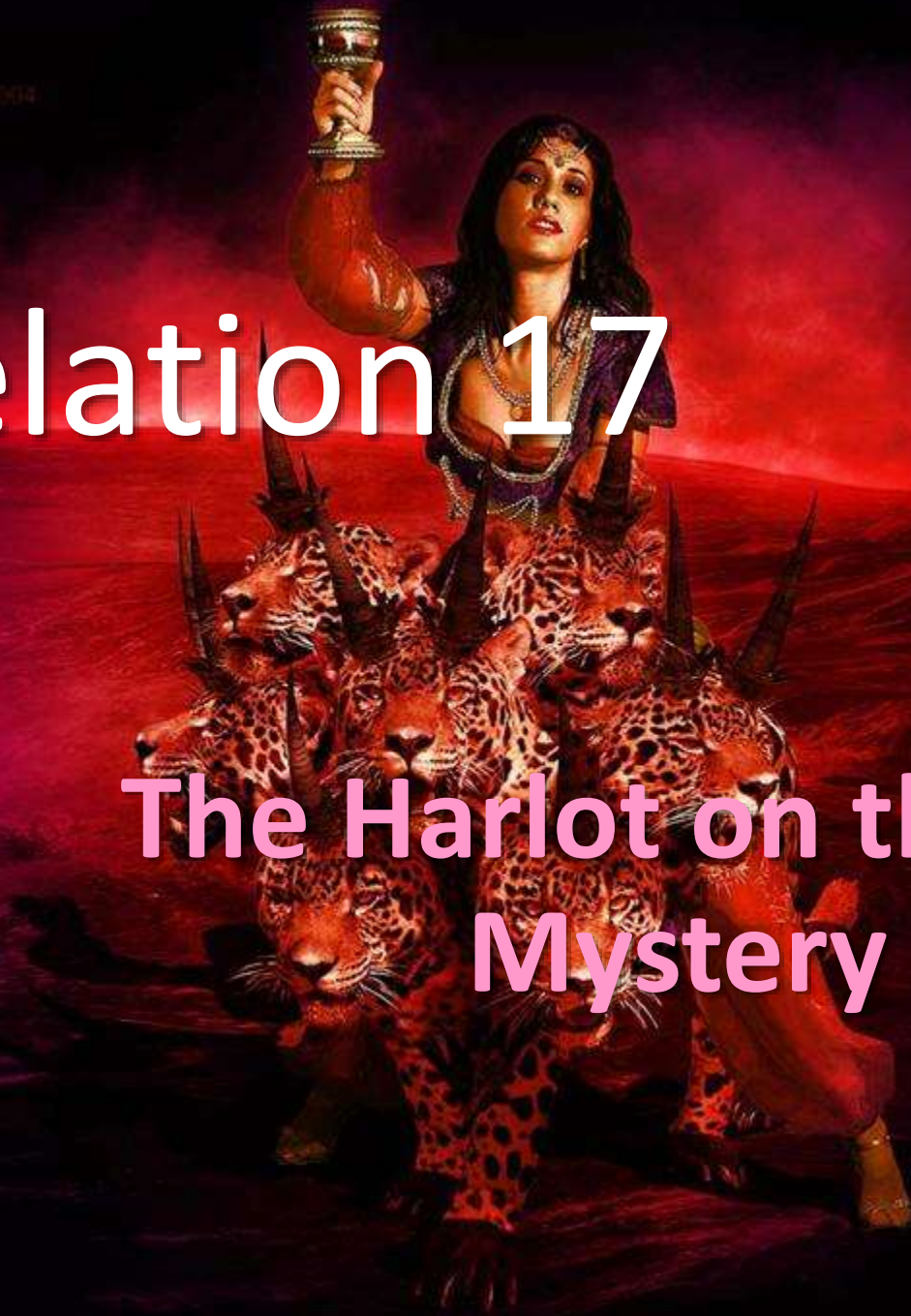


Copyright Ted Larson 2014

Revelation 17

The Harlot on the Beast
Mystery Babylon



Whose Battle?

In heavenly armor we'll enter the land
The battle belongs to the Lord
No weapon that's fashioned against us
shall stand
The battle belongs to the Lord

We sing glory and honor
Power and strength to the Lord (repeat)

When the power of darkness comes in like a flood
The battle belongs to the Lord
He's raised up a standard, the power of His blood
The battle belongs to the Lord

When your enemy presses in hard do not fear
The battle belongs to the Lord
Take courage my friend, your redemption is near
The battle belongs to the Lord



Revelation 16

Seven Bowl Judgments

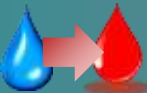


1



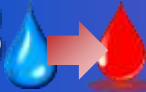
Sores on those who take the mark

2



Seas turn to blood

3



Rivers turn to blood

4



Sun scorches men

5



Darkness on beast's throne, pain

6



Euphrates dried up

7



Earthquake,
killer hail

"For in them the wrath of God is complete."

(Revelation 15:1)

IT IS DONE!

Revelation 17

¹Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and talked with me, saying to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters, ² with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication."

³ So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. 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 and the filthiness of her fornication.

Revelation 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.*

*⁶ I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints
and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I
saw her, I marveled with great amazement.*

*⁷ But the angel said to me, “Why did you marvel? 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. ⁸ The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will
ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition.*

Revelation 17

And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

⁹ “Here is the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits. ¹⁰ There are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, and the other has not yet come. And when he comes, he must continue a short time. ¹¹ The beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition.

Revelation 17

12 “The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast. 13 These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast. 14 These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful.”

15 Then he said to me, “The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues. 16 And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire.

Revelation 17

17 For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled. 18 And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth.”

Revelation 18

In order to maintain continuity in studying about the fate of Babylon, we need to read both chapters 17 and 18 together for the first time. Then we will go back and look at each separately.

¹ After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory. ² And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, "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! ³ For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury."

Revelation 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. ⁵ For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities. ⁶ Render to her just as she rendered to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her. ⁷ In the measure that she glorified herself and lived luxuriously, in the same measure give her torment and sorrow; for she says in her heart, ‘I sit as queen, and am no widow, and will not see sorrow.’ ⁸ Therefore her plagues will come in one day—death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong is the Lord God who judges her.

Revelation 18

⁹ “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.’

¹¹ “And the merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her, for no one buys their merchandise anymore: ¹² merchandise of gold and silver, precious stones and pearls, fine linen and purple, silk and scarlet, every kind of citron wood, every kind of object of ivory, every kind of object of most precious wood, bronze, iron, and marble; ¹³ and cinnamon and incense, fragrant oil and frankincense, wine and oil, fine flour and wheat, cattle and sheep, horses and chariots, and bodies and souls of men.

Revelation 18

¹⁴ The fruit that your soul longed for has gone from you, and all the things which are rich and splendid have gone from you, and you shall find them no more at all. ¹⁵ 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, purple, and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls! ¹⁷ For in one hour such great riches came to nothing.' Every shipmaster, all who travel by ship, sailors, and as many as trade on the sea, stood at a distance ¹⁸ and cried out when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, 'What is like this great city?'

Revelation 18

19 “They threw dust on their heads and cried out, weeping and wailing, and saying, ‘Alas, alas, that great city, in which all who had ships on the sea became rich by her wealth! For in one hour she is made desolate.’

20 “Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you holy apostles and prophets, for God has avenged you on her!”

21 Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, “Thus with violence the great city Babylon shall be thrown down, and shall not be found anymore.

Revelation 18

22 The sound of harpists, musicians, flutists, and trumpeters shall not be heard in you anymore. No craftsman of any craft shall be found in you anymore, and the sound of a millstone shall not be heard in you anymore. 23 The light of a lamp shall not shine in you anymore, and the voice of bridegroom and bride shall not be heard in you anymore. For your merchants were the great men of the earth, for by your sorcery all the nations were deceived. 24 And in her was found the blood of prophets and saints, and of all who were slain on the earth.”

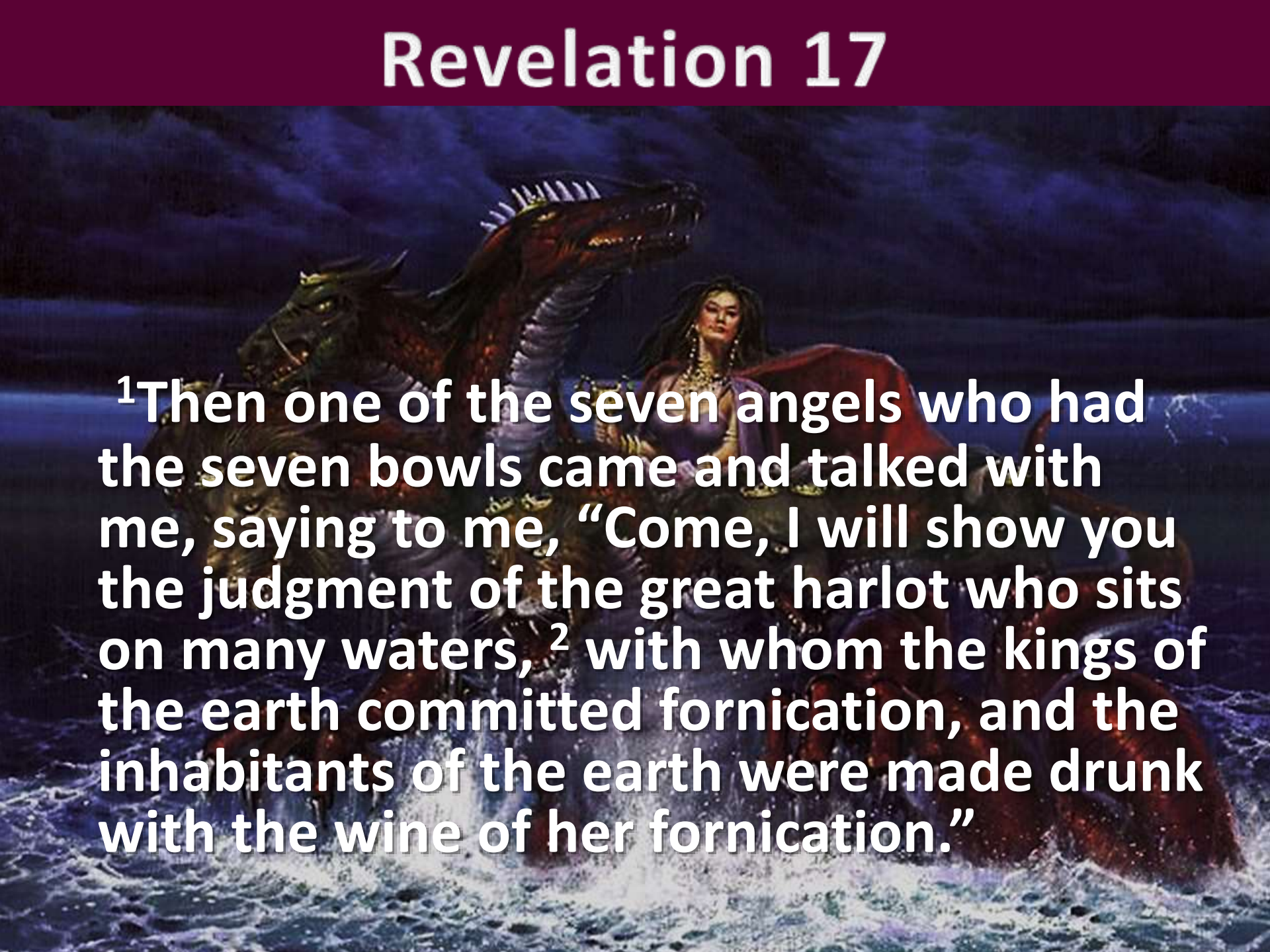
Revelation 17

- Chapter 16 all final plagues poured out, world prepared for Armageddon.
- Chapters 17/18 further explanation of end judgments. Most likely **judgment of “harlot” happening at same time**, or near same time.
- Babylon is a key symbol in scripture, these chapters explain who “she” is and why she is being judged.
- Important to our understanding of **what God expects** of His people, and those who follow Him, and what can be expected from, and for, the world that does not.

Revelation 17

NOTE: As detailed as this lesson may seem, there are entire libraries full of information about this chapter alone and all the speculation that surrounds it. We are merely scratching the surface. If you are interested in more than what is provided here, you are encouraged to do your own research, but beware, it will not be a short or light endeavor! And be sure you have prayed for discernment and wisdom. **Trust only what can be verified by the Word.**

Revelation 17

A woman in a purple dress and red cape sits atop a large, dark, multi-headed dragon. The dragon is breathing fire and is surrounded by a stormy sea with dark, swirling water and a dark, stormy sky. The woman is holding a golden chalice. The scene is dramatic and apocalyptic.

¹Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and talked with me, saying to me, “Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters, ² with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication.”



Revelation 17

- Main character here **receives more attention than any other symbol in Revelation.**
- This character is a woman, and she is surrounded by more identifying clues than any other character or symbol in Revelation.
- ***“...the great harlot...”*** Biggest question, just **who is this harlot?** Notice she is being judged, and entire earth has **“committed fornication”** with her.
- Apparent this person **not of God**. This harlot and earthly kings and peoples who interact with her are symbolic for something.

Revelation 17

- A woman is often symbolized as a seductress, someone who seduces or entices people away from God.
- Here woman identified as a harlot, a **very developed symbol in the Old Testament** of God's people (or others), or a system, who have "prostituted" themselves with other gods, with other systems, with other forms of government or ways of doing things that are not God's ways.



Revelation 17

- **Harlot = symbol of religious apostasy/rebellion against God. May refer to all religious systems that are “apostate.”** (*those who renounce truth*)
- A religious system, or people, with false teachings that ignore the word of God.
- Harlotry **can also mean false devotion, flatteries** (Jeremiah 3:6, 8, 9; Ezekiel 16:32; Hosea 1:2; Revelation 2:22); feigned love, pretended affection, intimacy for favors.
- **Jerusalem** called a harlot (See Isaiah 1:21); **Tyre** a harlot (Isaiah 23:16-17); as was **Nineveh** (Nahum 3:4)

Revelation 17

- God uses image of harlot to **represent whole of false worship.**
- In several places (see Ezekiel 16, and 23) God likens all of Israel as a whore/harlot, who “prostituted” herself with other gods. **Israel was the wife of God, and should have been faithful to Him.**
- Mosaic Covenant likened to a marriage covenant between God and Israel, one which Israel broke and suffered not only a “divorce” but also loss of status, “wealth” and position.

Revelation 17

- Will have several **clues regarding her identity** provided in this chapter. *Watch for them.*
- ***“who sits on many waters...”*** In scripture, many waters are **symbolic for many peoples from all nations**. Phrase is generally a representation of the nations of the world. This is interpreted for us in verse 15 (***“The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.”***)



Revelation 17

- Harlot **not to be confused with the woman in Chapter 12**. Some differences:

Feature	Woman in Chapter 12 (Israel)	Woman in Chapter 17 (Harlot)
Where	In Heaven	In Wilderness
Mother	Of Son	Of Harlots
Clothed	With Sun	Purple, scarlet, gold
Influence	Sun, moon, stars	Kings of earth
Enemy	Dragon	10 kings (ultimately)
Nature	Pure	Harlot
Relationship	Hated by powers of earth	Caressed by them
Sustained by	Wings of heaven	Dragon
“Headdress”	Crown of 12 stars	Forehead
Final location	New Jerusalem	Habitation of demons

Revelation 17

- ***“...committed fornication, made drunk with the wine of her fornication.”*** In scripture, fornication both in literal physical terms (as a sin) and in spiritual terms, symbolic for “prostituting” one’s self, or an entire group, with foreign (pagan) gods.
- Only true worship is of Almighty God, which He demands. Israel considered a harlot who had prostituted herself with pagan gods around her, as she is considered wife of God.
- Here **implication much wider than Israel.** This fornication is all peoples of the earth, against God.

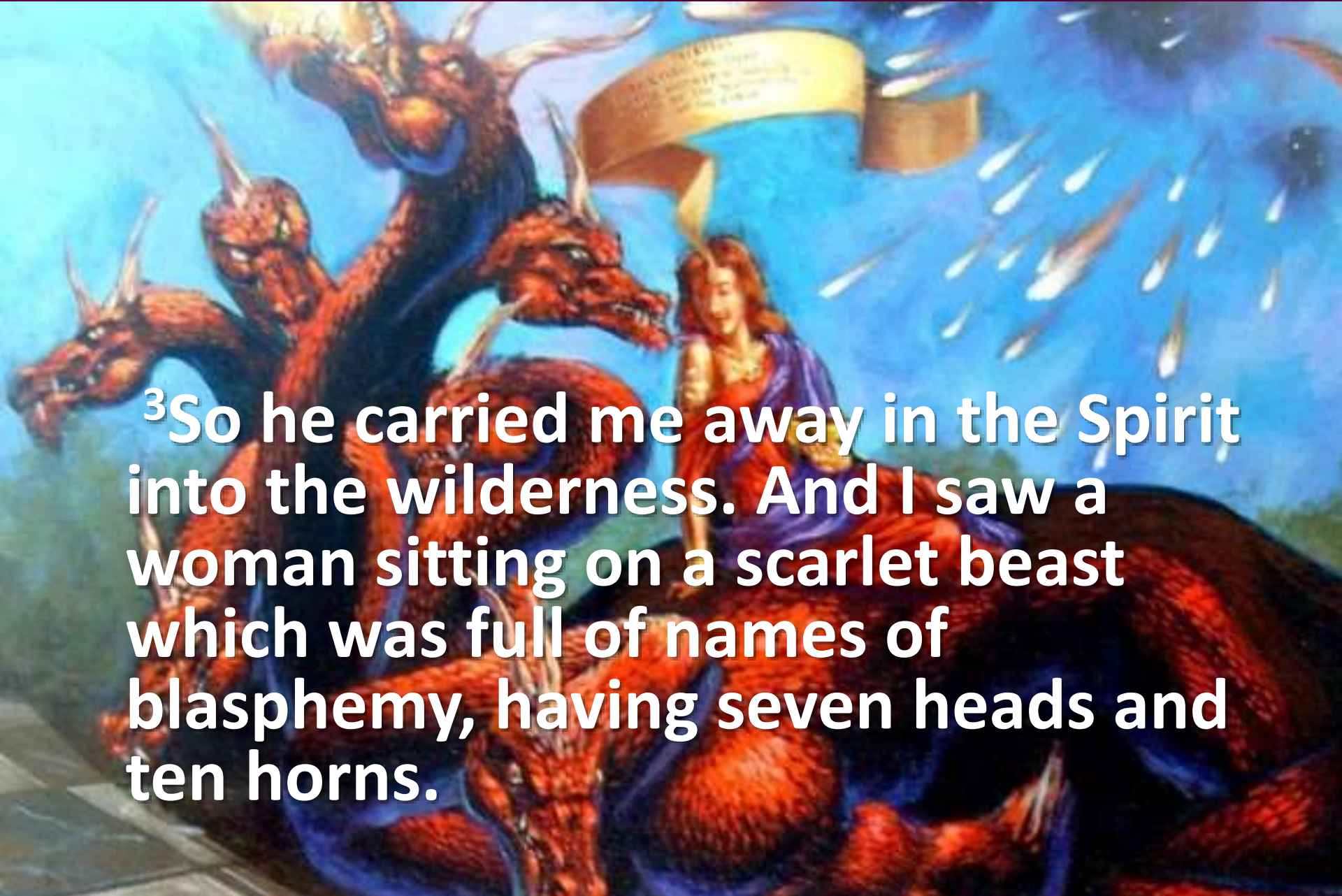
Revelation 17

- God is the true husband, and His people (Jews and Gentiles) have **committed fornication in His eyes, with “Harlot”** (*false gods, false religions, apostate “church” of this world*).
- *(Note: Some have assigned very specific identities to Harlot, will discuss this a bit later.)*
- Harlot has committed fornication with “kings of the Earth” - **union of false “church” with human political kingdoms.**
- By "joining herself" to the kingdoms of world, Harlot has spiritually committed herself to the world instead of to God and His Messiah.

Revelation 17


- “Church” likened to bride, Yeshua as bridegroom.
- By going after the world, and idolatry of worldly systems, she has **committed spiritual adultery**.
- ***“Made drunk with the wine of her fornication.”***
Being drunk brings on euphoria, a “high” of sorts. Here world is rejoicing over physical and spiritual union with evil. Evil exalts and promotes all the lusts of the flesh. Personal power is an evil lust which is fed and promoted by the Harlot.
- Being drunk also dulls the senses. The world, in this drunken stupor, rebels against the truth of God. **It is “high” on the lies of a false religious system, which promotes sin.**

Revelation 17



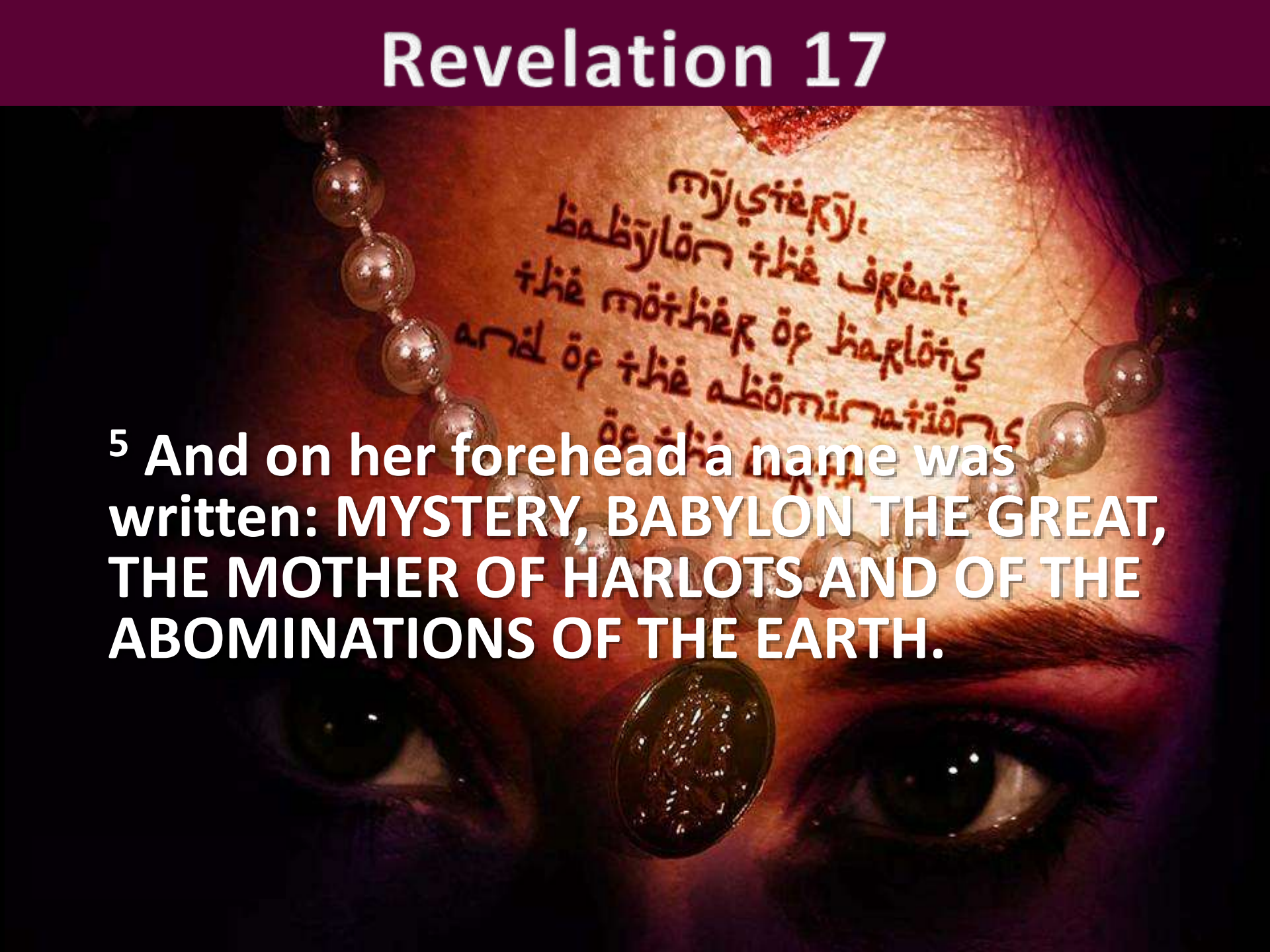
³So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

Revelation 17

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a red dress and a purple cape, is riding a large red dragon. She is holding a golden cup. The dragon is breathing fire. The background is a dark, stormy sky with lightning. The scene is set on a rocky, mountainous terrain.

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 and the filthiness of her fornication.


Revelation 17

A close-up photograph of a woman's face, focusing on her eyes and forehead. She is wearing a pearl necklace. On her forehead, there is handwritten text in three different languages: Greek (μυστήριον), Arabic (بابلون العظيمة), and English. The English text reads: "the mother of harlots and of the abominations of the earth".

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

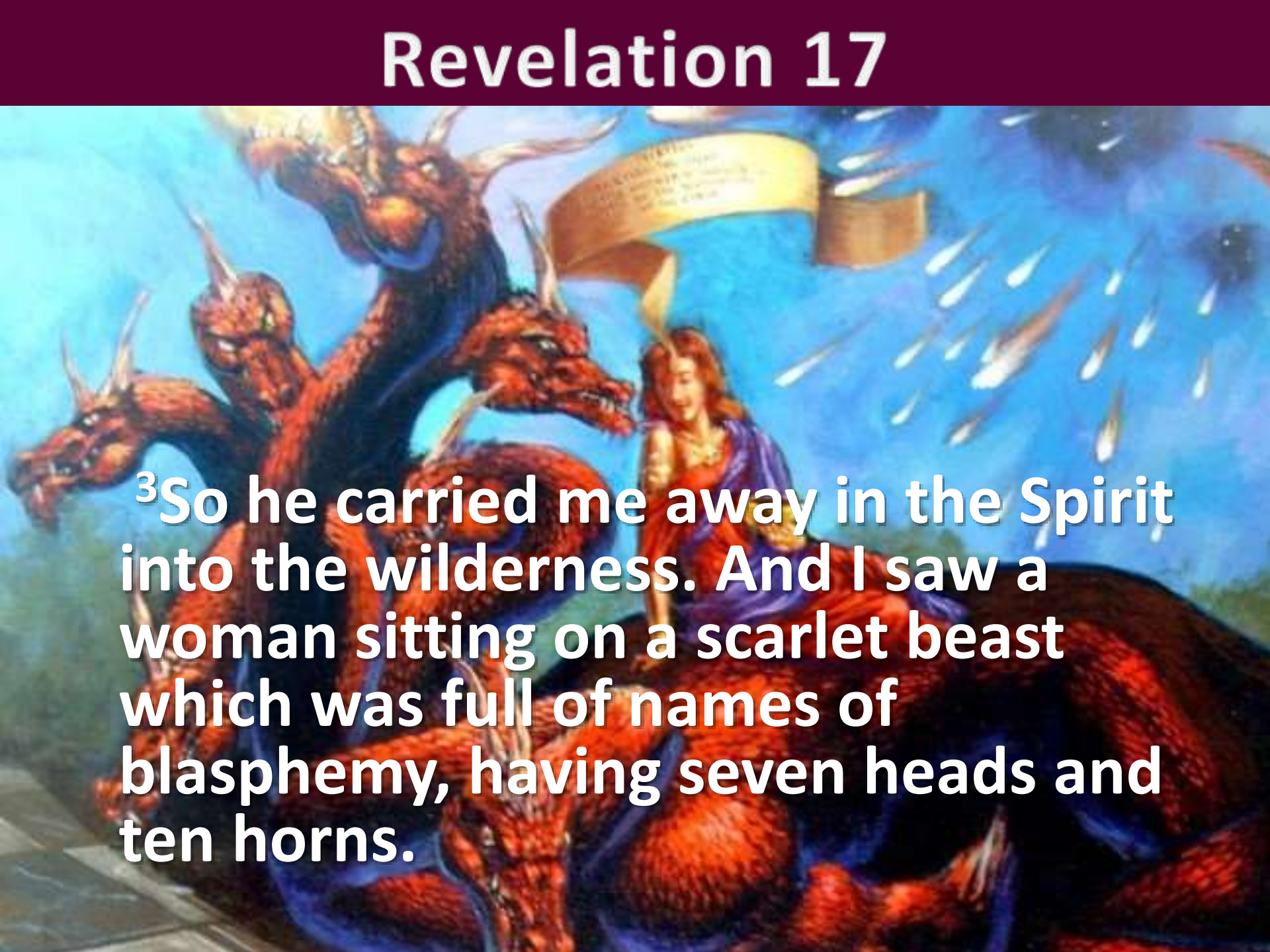
Revelation 17

Copyright Ted Larson 2004

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a purple and gold ornate outfit with multiple necklaces and a headpiece, is shown drinking from a golden chalice. The chalice has a skull-like face on it. She is looking down at the chalice. The background is a dramatic, fiery sky with red and purple hues, suggesting a sunset or a hellish landscape. The overall mood is dark and ominous.

⁶ I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.

Revelation 17



³So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

Revelation 17

A great deal of information we need to look at...

- ***“...into the wilderness...”*** Wilderness = place of desolation.
- When God’s people went into wilderness He protected, taught, and provided for them. However, because many sins and continued rebellion, the first generation died in the wilderness and did not go into the promised land.
- Harlot and beast will also die in wilderness because they oppose God, will not repent and leave their sins behind. God will not tolerate them any longer. Will not enter the spiritual promised land either.


Revelation 17

- “...**woman sitting on a scarlet beast...**” important note. This woman, the Harlot, is sitting on the beast.
- **Rider generally in control of one being ridden.**
- At this point, appears that Harlot controls beast. **Beast clearly antichrist**, (full of blasphemy, with 7 heads and 10 horns) who will form a one world total government system. (same as ch 13)
- Harlot is false religious system of final end days (*giving that away early here to make this point!*). Would seem both “church” and state represented here, and church is riding, or controlling, the state.
- ***At the beginning***...but that doesn't last...

Revelation 17

- **Blasphemy** = doctrine that attempts to add to or deny (remove) what God has said/completed.
- Salvation by works denies God's work and glory, ***which is blasphemy!*** Any false doctrine is blasphemy. Cursing name of God is blasphemy.
- ***“And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet,...”*** Information about Harlot's dress important. Wears colors purple and scarlet, with lots of jewels and pearls.
- Some have noted **purple and scarlet used extensively by Catholic** cardinals and bishops, as well as gold trimmings. *(may be important!)*

Revelation 17

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a red dress and a purple cape, is riding a large red dragon. She is holding a golden cup. The dragon is breathing fire. The background is a dark, stormy sky with lightning. The scene is set on a rocky, mountainous terrain.

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 and the filthiness of her fornication.

Revelation 17

- It is interesting to note that there is a comment about the COLOR of the beast. It is **scarlet**.
- The Harlot also wears scarlet.
- Both the Beast and the Harlot use scarlet and **purple** extensively. This has resulted in much debate and interesting controversy.

Revelation 17

- Purple was also used by the Catholic Church, but was also a predominant color of Roman imperialism; every senator and consul wore a purple stripe as badge of his position; emperor's robes were purple.
- More important clue, however, is fact that God commanded the priest's dress, and key portions of Tabernacle embroideries, to **also be purple and scarlet**, and one more color.
- What color missing from Harlot of the three commanded? **Blue**. So what significance does blue have? Consider these verses...

Revelation 17

“Again the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Speak to the children of Israel: Tell them to make tassels on the corners of their garments throughout their generations, and to put a blue thread in the tassels of the corners. And you shall have the tassel, that you may look upon it and remember all the commandments of the LORD and do them, and that you may not follow the harlotry to which your own heart and your own eyes are inclined, and that you may remember and do all My commandments, and be holy for your God. I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: I am the LORD your God.”

(Numbers 15:37-41)

Revelation 17

- The Harlot tries to mimic (counterfeit) the true faith that God commanded, but with one vital element missing: **The Word of God.**
- Notice also she is fabulously bedecked with precious jewels. Purple, scarlet and gold were considered only for the wealthy. **Harlot is fabulously wealthy.**
- We should remember that the early organized Church also gained incredible wealth, and also ruled the governments of the world.
- **The picture of this Harlot is getting clearer.**

Revelation 17

- ***“...golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication.”*** Harlot has been drinking to her heart’s content all of the abominations and sins of the ages.
- She is **intoxicated on sin, rebellion, apostasy,** and the fact that she is leading God’s people away from Him.
- The cup is significant, as the **“cup” is symbolic in scripture of drinking judgment.** “Golden cup,” religious intoxication of the anti-church (not the antichrist), a pseudo-religion counterfeit.

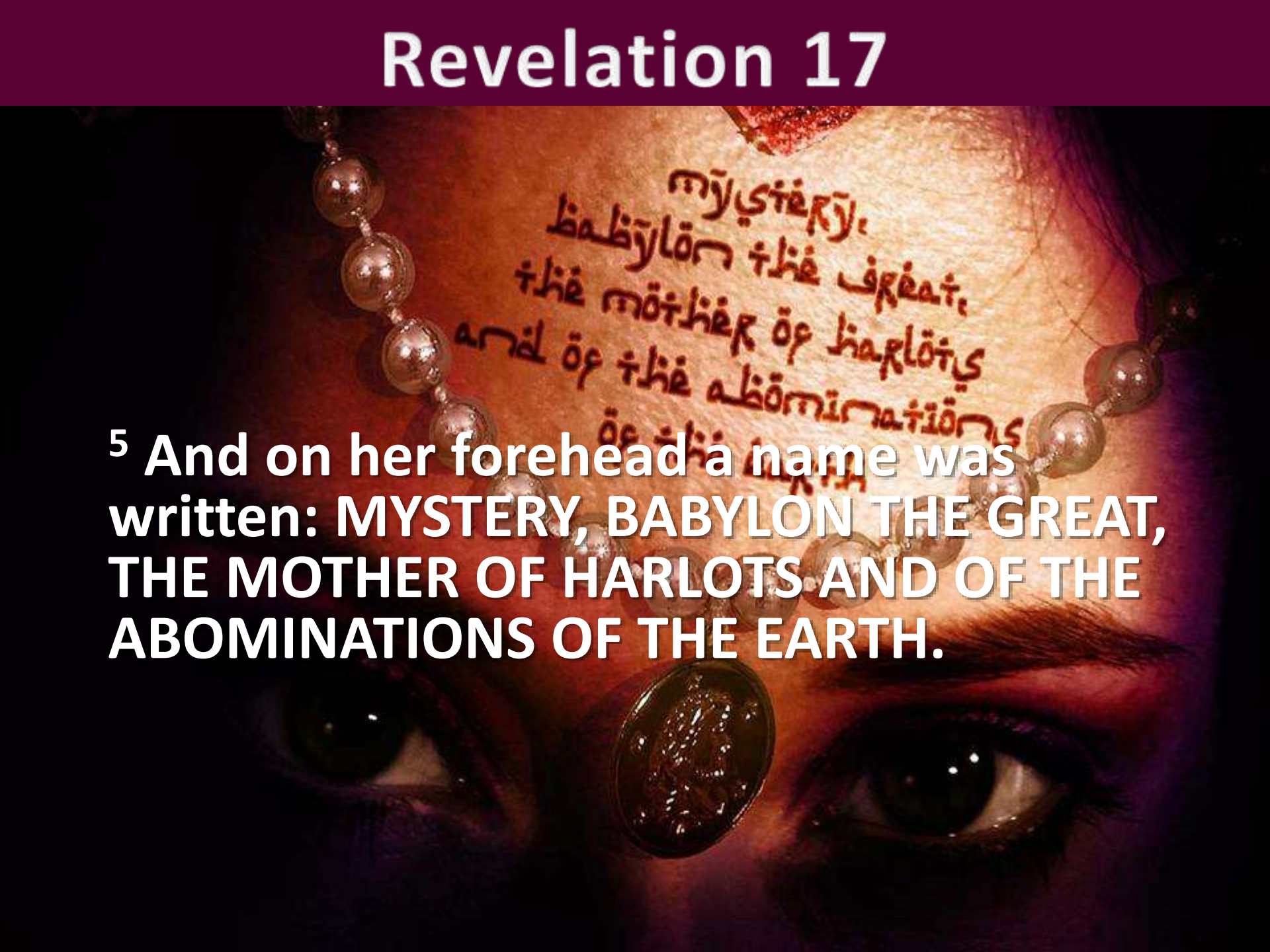
Revelation 17

Very interesting...



Babylon was a golden cup
in the Lord's hand,
That made all the earth drunk.
The nations drank her wine;
Therefore the nations are
deranged. (Jeremiah 51:7)

Revelation 17

A close-up photograph of a woman's face, focusing on her eyes and forehead. She is wearing a pearl necklace. On her forehead, there is a piece of parchment with handwritten text in three different languages: Greek, Arabic, and English. The English text reads: "MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." The Greek text above it reads "μυστήριον" and the Arabic text below it reads "الابواب العظيمة".

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

Revelation 17

- Fascinating phrase, caused endless speculation. Need to consider the following carefully:

MYSTERY: Term used is *musterion*, meaning “something secret, previously unrevealed.”

- Scripture presents many contrasts like light and dark, world’s vs God’s ways, Law vs Grace.
- One of biggest contrasts could call Tale of Two Cities: **The City of God** (Jerusalem) vs **the City of the Enemy** (Babel, Babylon). And in these verses in chapter 17, we have a continuation of this contrast: **Mystery Babylon vs. Mystery of the “True Church”** (Ephesians 3:1-9).

Revelation 17

- **MYSTERY...**
- In Ephesians, the Church is called a “mystery” by Paul. Something previously hidden, or not revealed in scripture, though it was there.
- Paul then explains the concept of the Church as the **Bride of Christ**.
- Here is another mystery, another church – a **contrasting, opposite** church.
- But this church is false, and we can assume at this point it is the **final, end times apostate church**. Wicked and phony.

Revelation 17

“BABYLON THE GREAT...”

- Babylon first mentioned in Genesis 10 (The Euphrates River as early as Genesis 2:14) and appears more than 300 times in scripture.
- Today still exists as literal city, located about 62 miles south of Bagdad in current Iraq.
- **Origin and History:** Nimrod, first world dictator (*name means “rebel”*) built Tower of Bab-el as centerpiece of rebellion against God.
- Word **Bav** (our Bab) means “gate” and **El** means God. Bab-el translates “gateway to the gods.” Beginning of city of Babylon.

Revelation 17

“BABYLON THE GREAT....”

- Ziggurat (tower) later rebuilt by Nebuchadnezzar as *Etemenanki*, **“the building which is the foundation of heaven and earth.”**
- God disrupted the rebellious coalition by confusing their tongues in Genesis 11.
- In 627 BC Nabopolassar, father to Nebuchadnezzar, led a rebellion to break Babylon away from the Assyrians and establish a new empire, which would go on to become a true world empire under Nebuchadnezzar.

Revelation 17

“BABYLON THE GREAT....”

- In 606 BC, Nebuchadnezzar besieged Jerusalem, taking first wave of captives into captivity to Babylon.
- 19 years later in 587 BC, after constant rebellion by Jews, Nebuchadnezzar came back (3rd time) and completely destroyed the Temple, and took remaining Jews into Babylonian captivity.
- 70 years later, *just on schedule per God's prophecies*, Cyrus the Great, Persian king, diverted Euphrates river entered Babylon, conquered it without a fight.

Babylon

“BABYLON THE GREAT....”

- Events of that night inside Babylon found in Daniel 5. Ended Babylonian empire, began Persian empire.
- Throughout successive empires, Babylon never destroyed, since such a magnificent city.
- Alexander the Great died there, after having conquered the Persian empire, sweeping in the Greek empire.
- Over the years, Babylon fell into disrepair, was pretty much abandoned – but never destroyed.

Babylon

“BABYLON THE GREAT....”

- Recently popped up again as center of world effort to make it a tourist attraction, and earlier during the first Iraq war (Desert Storm, 1991).
- Saddam Hussein had been rebuilding Babylon for years, pouring millions of dollars into its restoration. Successfully rebuilt famed dining hall and throne room where handwriting on the wall took place in Daniel 5.
- This huge ceremonial room used for various state functions over years of Hussein’s dictatorship. Babylon occupied by coalition military forces from Iraq war.

**INTERESTING ARTICLE:
U.S. TO HELP REBUILD CITY OF BABYLON
IN IRAQ**

Iraqi soldiers walk past a replica of the Ishtar Gate of Ancient Babylon, south of Baghdad, January 13, 2009.



Babylon

Largely overlooked by the Western news media in 2009 was an enormously significant story. The government of Iraq is moving forward with plans to protect the archaeological remains of the ancient City of Babylon, in preparation for building a modern city of Babylon. The project, originally started by the late Saddam Hussein, is aimed eventually at attracting scores of “cultural tourists” from all over the world to see the glories of Mesopotamia’s most famous city. What’s more, the Obama Administration is contributing \$700,000 towards “The Future of Babylon Project,” through the State Department’s budget.

Babylon

“Officials hope Babylon can be revived and made ready for a rich future of tourism, with help from experts at the World Monuments Fund (WMF) and the U.S. embassy,” reports the Reuters news agency. ‘The Future of Babylon’ project launched last month seeks to ‘map the current conditions of Babylon and develop a master plan for its conservation, study and tourism,’ the WMF says. ‘We don’t know how long it will take to reopen to tourists,’ said Mariam Omran Musa, head of a government inspection team based at the site. ‘It depends on funds. I hope that Babylon can be reborn in a better image.’”

Revelation 17

“BABYLON THE GREAT....”

- There are international plans in the works to rebuild the Tower of Babel as a hotel, with a monorail to connect the city features. A 400-seat Greek style theater, built during the reign of Alexander, is also being reconstructed.

Revelation 17

“BABYLON THE GREAT....”

- All forms of occult practices had their origins in original city of Babylon. *A few examples...*
- **Tammuz**, son of Nimrod and his queen, Semiramis, identified with Babylonian Sun God, and worshipped following winter solstice (December 22-23, *how Christmas was determined*).
- As **Babylon** conquered by subsequent empires, entire religious system was transplanted, first to **Pergamos** (See Revelation 2:12-17) and then to **Rome**.

Babylon – Pergamos - Rome

Revelation 17

“BABYLON THE GREAT....”

- When Constantine established Christianity as official state religion of Rome, many religious traditions/practices of earlier pagan worship adopted and incorporated into resulting religious system.
- As Babylonian religious system was integrated with Christian ceremonial observances, many traditions surrounding both Christmas and Easter emerged, based on pagan culture, not Biblical truth.

Revelation 17

“BABYLON THE GREAT....”

- Babylonian worship of **Ishtar** (*mother goddess of Babylon*), Golden Egg of **Astarte**, and fertility rites of spring give us Easter (*a pagan name*).
- Calendar year-end on October 31, and associated occult rituals, give us **Halloween**. Many ancient cultures (Celts, Druids, etc.) observed October 31, the Eve of Samhain, as their year-end.
- Related to worship of **Baal** (*Mars*), may have been stimulated by disturbance of earth orbit associated with planet Mars (*astronomical evidence to support this*).

Revelation 17

**This lesson continues
in Part 2...**

The Aaronic Blessing: Birkat Kohanim

May the LORD bless you and keep you

יְבָרֶכְךָ יְהוָה, וַיִּשְׁמְרֶךָ

Yevarekh-kha Adonai veyishmerekha

May the LORD make His face shine
upon you and be gracious unto you

יָאֵר יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ, וַיַּחַנֶּנְךָ

Ya'er Adonai panav elekha viḥunneka

May the LORD lift up His countenance upon you and
give you peace.

יְשֵׂא יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ, וַיַּשֵּׂם לְךָ שָׁלוֹם

Yissa Adonai panav elekha viyasem lekha shalom.

