A composite image featuring a lion and a lamb. The lion is on the right, looking towards the left. The lamb is on the left, looking towards the right. They are set against a warm, golden sunset background with a wooden cross visible on the left side. The text is overlaid in the center.

“...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.”

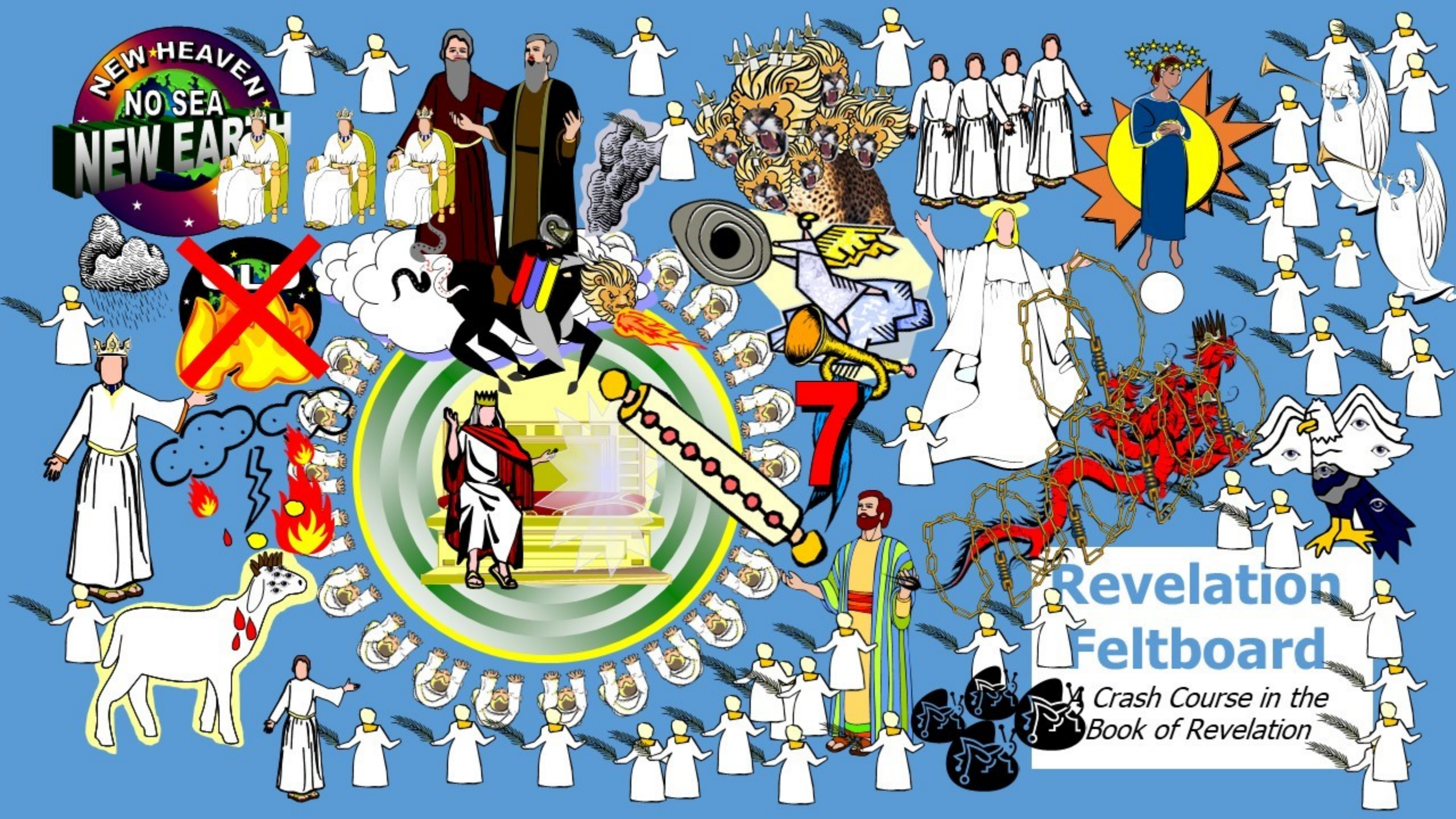
Revelation 17:14

**Sh'ma Yisrael, Adonai Eloheinu
Adonai Echad
Baruch Shem k'vod malchutto,
l'olam va'ed**

**Hear, O Israel: the LORD is our God.
The LORD is One.
Blessed be the name of His glorious kingdom
for ever and ever.**



NEW HEAVEN
NO SEA
NEW EARTH



Revelation Feltboard

*Crash Course in the
Book of Revelation*

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Revelation 17

The Harlot on the Beast
Mystery Babylon



REVELATION 16

- 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

Seven Bowl Judgments



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

(Revelation 15:1)

IT IS DONE!

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.

*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 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.*

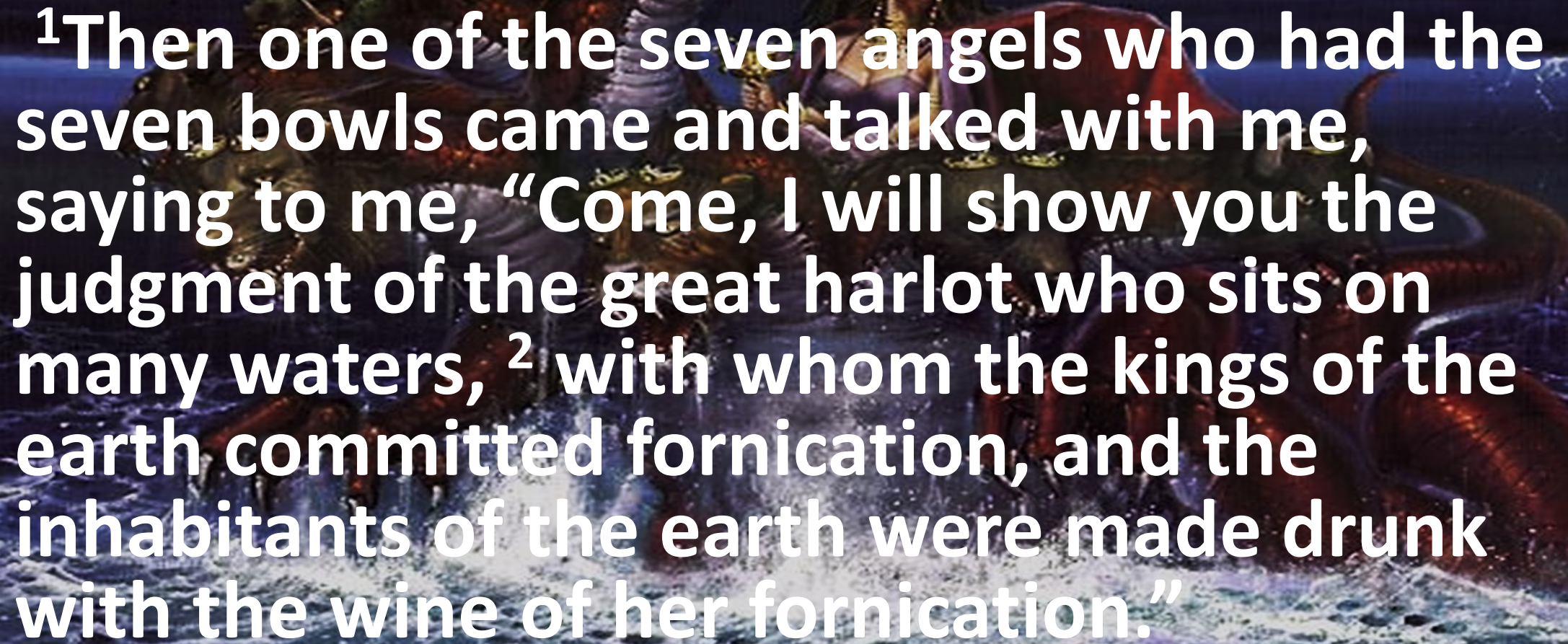
¹² “The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast.

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.

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.”

- Final plagues poured out in Chapter 16, world prepared for Armageddon.
- 17/18 further explanation of end judgments. Most likely **happening at same time**, or near same time.
- **Babylon = key symbol**, these chapters explain who “she” is, why she is judged.
- Chapter and subject full of varying opinions and thoughts. Do your own research. Trust only what can be verified by the Word.

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a purple dress and a gold necklace, sits atop a large, multi-headed dragon. The dragon is dark red and black, with several heads and a long, spiky tail. They are in a dark, stormy sea with white-capped waves. The background is a dark, cloudy sky.

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.”

- Harlot receives more attention than any other symbol in Revelation.
- A woman, surrounded by more identifying clues than any other character or symbol in Revelation.
- “...*the great harlot*...” Biggest question, **who is this harlot?** Notice she is being judged, and entire earth has “**committed fornication**” with her.
- Obviously **not of God**. Symbolic for something.
- Clues pretty clear.

- “A woman” often symbolized as seductress, seduces or entices people away from God.
- Here identified as harlot, **very developed symbol in OT** of God’s people (*or others*), or system, **who have “prostituted” themselves with other gods, other systems, other forms of government or ways not God’s ways**.



Harlot = symbol of apostasy/rebellion against God. May refer to all apostate religious systems (*those who renounce truth*).

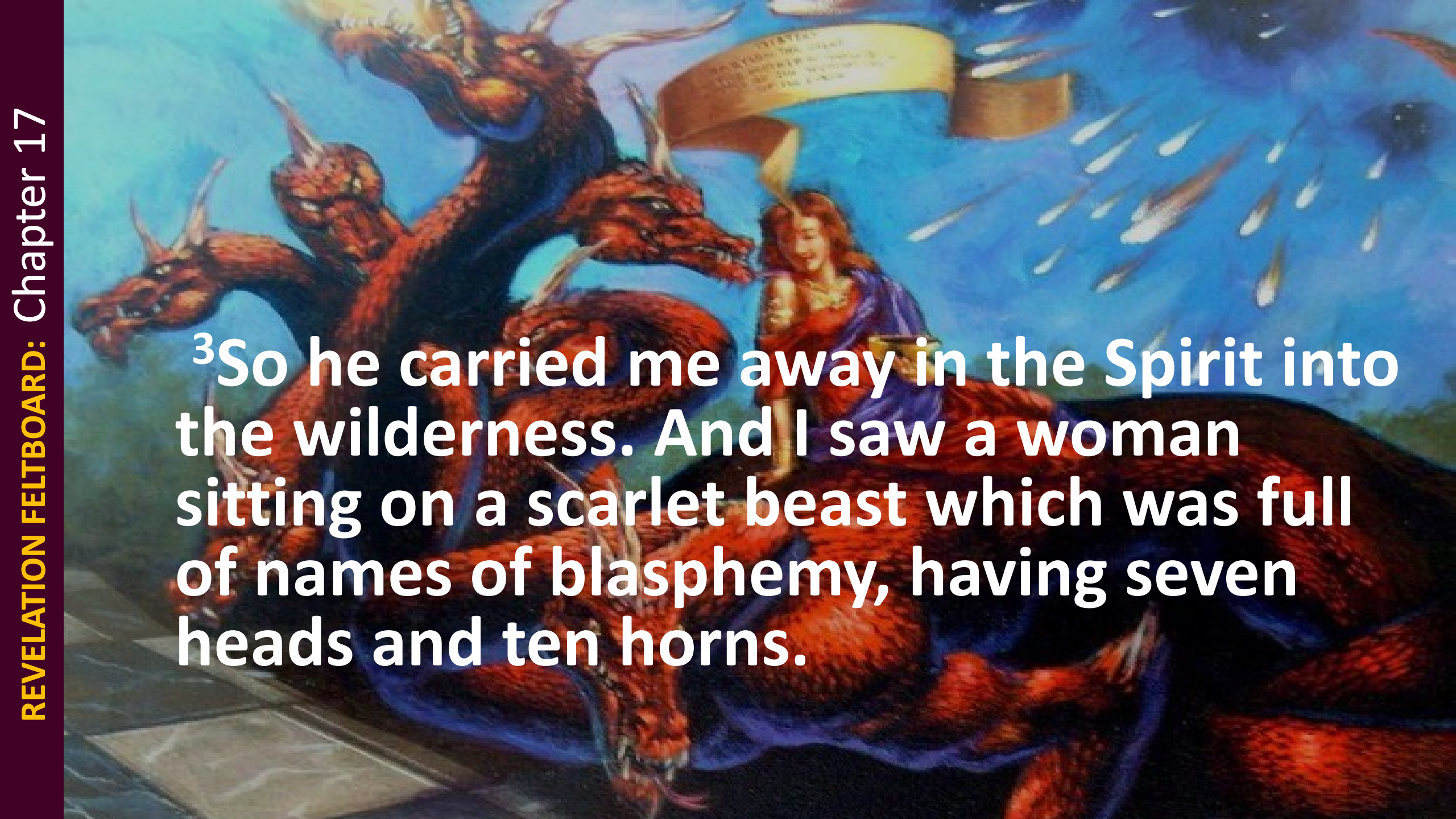
- A religious system, or people, with false teachings.
- Harlotry **also false devotion, flatteries** (Jeremiah 3:6, 8, 9; Ezekiel 16:32; Hosea 1:2; Revelation 2:22); feigned love, pretended affection, intimacy for favors.
- **Jerusalem** called a harlot (Isaiah 1:21); **Tyre** a harlot (Isaiah 23:16-17); as was **Nineveh** (Nahum 3:4)
- “Harlot” **represents all/any kind of false worship.**
- God likens all Israel as whore/harlot (Ezekiel 16, and 23), who “prostituted” herself with other gods. **Israel was wife of God, should have been faithful to Him alone.**
- Mosaic Covenant likened to marriage covenant between God and Israel. Israel broke it.

- Several clues about her identity. *Watch for them.*
- **“*who sits on many waters...*”** Generally representative of nations of world. Interpreted for us in verse 15 (“*The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.*”)
- **“*...committed fornication, ... made drunk with the wine of her fornication.*”** fornication both literal physical (*sin*) and spiritual, symbol for “prostituting” one’s self, or entire group, with foreign (*pagan*) gods.



- Only true worship is of Almighty God. Israel “prostituted herself” with pagan gods but here **implication much wider than Israel.**
- This fornication is all peoples of earth, against God.
- Harlot committed fornication with “kings of the Earth” - **union of false “church” with political kingdoms.**
- By “joining herself” to kingdoms of world, Harlot is spiritually committed to world instead of to God.
- **Even true “Church” can be “harlot.”** Bride of Messiah. If pursues world, commits spiritual adultery.
- *(Note: Some have assigned very specific identities to Harlot, more a bit later.)*

- ***“Made drunk with the wine of her fornication.”***
Drunkenness brings euphoria. World rejoices in physical, spiritual union with evil. Evil exalts/promotes lusts of flesh.
- Personal power = **evil lust** fed and promoted by Harlot.
- Being drunk also dulls senses. World, in drunken stupor, rebels against truth of God.
- **“High” on lies of false religious system, which promotes sin.**

An illustration depicting the Scarlet Beast from the Book of Revelation. The beast is a multi-headed dragon with seven heads and ten horns, colored in shades of red and orange. A woman with long brown hair, wearing a purple and red dress, is seated on the beast's back. She holds a golden bowl. The background is a bright blue sky with white clouds and a golden banner with text. The scene is set on a stone-paved ground.

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.

Looking at all “clues...”

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

- “...**woman sitting on a scarlet beast...**” *important note*. Harlot sitting on the beast (AC/AC Kingdom).
- **Rider in control of one being ridden.**
- Appears Harlot controls beast. **Beast clearly antichrist** (same as ch 13) Beast supports harlot, but harlot in control...*at the moment*.
- **Harlot = false religious system of final end days** (*giving that away early here to make point!*).
- Would seem both “church” and state represented here. Church riding, or controlling, state.
- ***At the beginning***...but that doesn’t last...

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 scene is set against a dark blue background with a large, glowing orb in the upper right corner.

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.

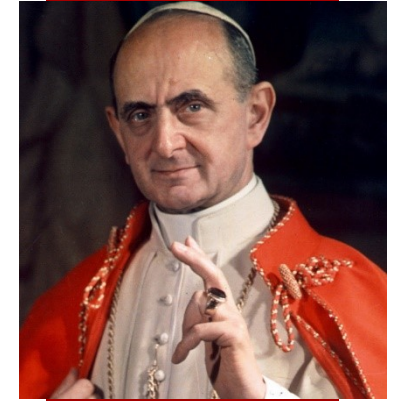
- ***“And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet,...”***
Info about Harlot’s dress important. Wears purple and scarlet, with lots of jewels, pearls.
- Color of beast also scarlet.
- Some have noted **purple and scarlet used extensively by Catholic** cardinals and bishops, as well as gold trimmings. *(may be important!) Much debate about this.*
- Purple also predominant color of **Roman imperialism**

- God commanded priest's dress, portions of Tabernacle embroideries, **also purple and scarlet**, + one more color.
- What color missing from Harlot of 3 commanded? **Blue.**
Important?...

“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)

- Harlot mimics (*counterfeit*) true faith God commanded, with vital element missing: **Word of God**.
- Also fabulously bedecked with precious jewels. Purple, scarlet and gold considered only for wealthy. **Harlot fabulously wealthy**.
- Remember early organized Church also gained incredible wealth, also ruled governments of world.
- **Picture of Harlot getting clearer.**



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





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

“BABYLON THE GREAT...”

- First mentioned Genesis 10, appears 300+ X.
- Still exists, ~ 62 miles south of Bagdad, current Iraq.
- **Origin and History:** Nimrod, first world dictator (*name means “rebel”*) built Tower of Bab-el as centerpiece of rebellion against God. (Genesis 11)
- **Bav** (or Bab) = “gate” and **El** = God. Bab-el translates “gateway to god.” (not THE GOD) Beginning of Babylon.
- God disrupted rebellious coalition by confusing tongues.
- 627 BC Nebuchadnezzar’s father led rebellion to break Babylon away from Assyrians and establish new empire, to become a true world empire under Nebuchadnezzar.

“BABYLON THE GREAT...”

- Ziggurat (*tower of Bab-el*) later rebuilt by Nebuchadnezzar as *Etemenanki*, “**the building which is the foundation of heaven and earth.**”
- 606 BC, Nebuchadnezzar besieged Jerusalem, taking first wave of captives into captivity to Babylon. 2nd and 3rd sieges until Temple destroyed in 587 BC.
- 70 years later, *right on schedule per God’s prophecies*, Cyrus the Great, Persian king, diverted Euphrates river entered Babylon, conquered it without a fight.
- Babylon’s fall in **Daniel 5**. Ended Babylonian empire, began Persian empire.



“BABYLON THE GREAT...”

- Throughout coming empires, Babylon never destroyed, magnificent city. Alexander the Great died there.
- Babylon fell into disrepair, pretty much abandoned – but never destroyed.
- *Plans to rebuild Tower of Babel as hotel today. Iraq war brought world's interest back to Babel.*
- All forms of occult practices had origins in Babylon. ...
- **Tammuz**, son of Nimrod and queen, Semiramis, identified with Babylonian Sun God, worshipped following winter solstice. (*Origins of Christmas???*)

“BABYLON THE GREAT...”

- **Babylon** conquered by subsequent empires, entire religious system transplanted, first to **Pergamos** (See *Revelation 2:12-17*) then to **Rome**.
- Constantine made “Christianity” official state religion of Rome. Religious traditions/practices of pagan worship adopted, incorporated into resulting religious system.
- Babylonian religious system integrated with Christian ceremonial observances. Seen today in Christmas and Easter celebrations, church rituals, based on pagan culture, not Biblical truth.

Babylon – Pergamos - Rome

*“And on her forehead a name was written: **MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.**”* Enigmatic phrase, endless speculation. *Look at clues carefully.*

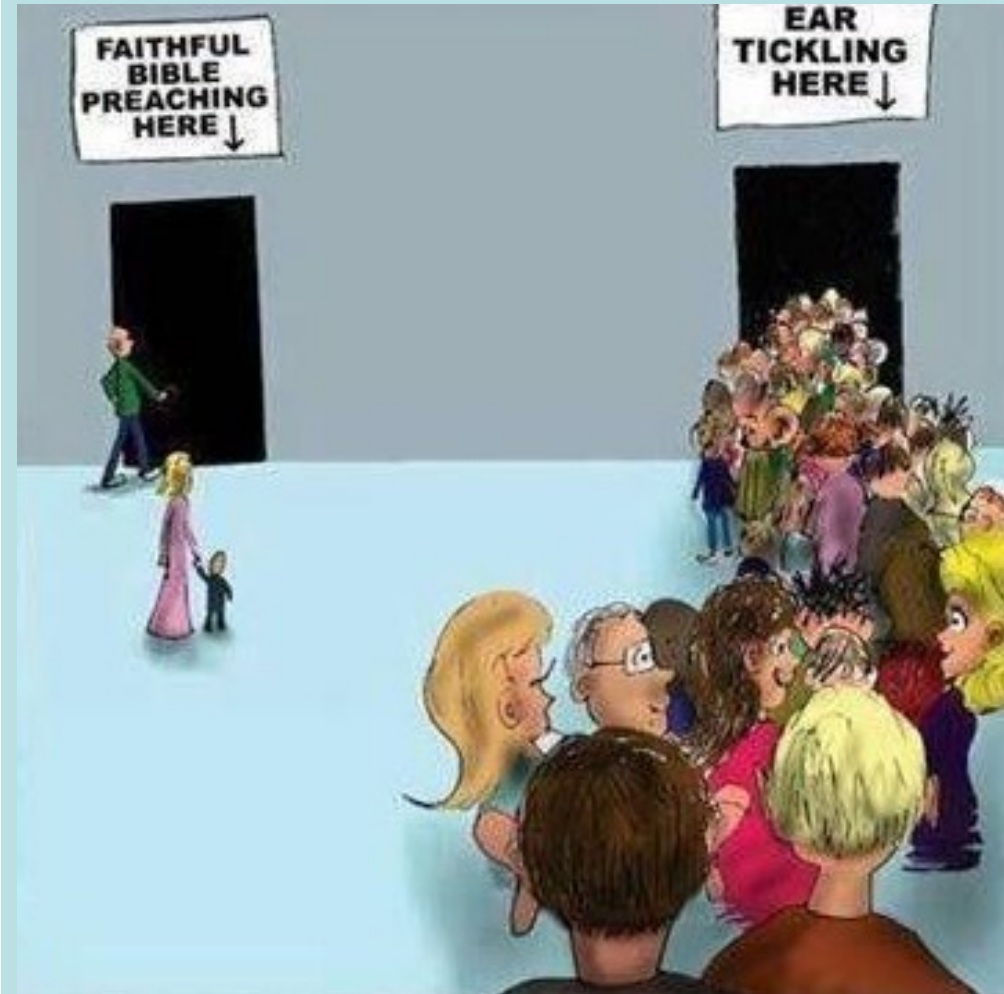
- **“MYSTERY”** - *mysterion*, = “something secret, previously unrevealed.”
- Scripture uses many contrasts, light and dark, world’s vs God’s ways, Law vs Grace. One of biggest can be called Tale of Two Cities: **The City of God** (Jerusalem) vs the **City of the Enemy** (Babel, Babylon).
- Chapter 17, continuation of this contrast: **Mystery Babylon vs. Mystery of “True Church”** (Eph. 3:1-9).

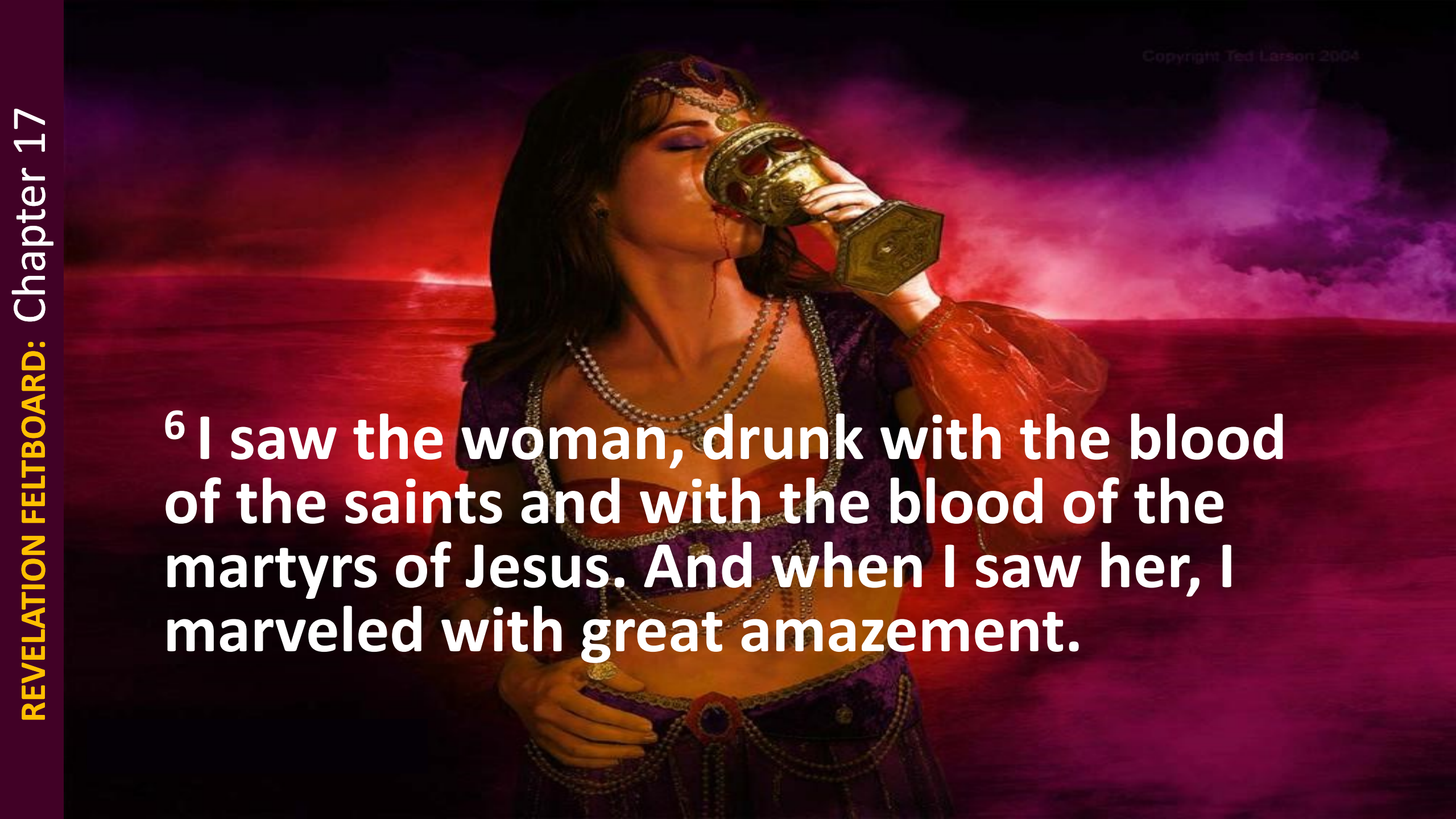
- **MYSTERY**...Ephesians, Church called “mystery.” Something previously hidden, not “revealed,” though it was there.
- Paul explains concept of Church as **Bride of Christ.**
- Here, now, another mystery, *another church* – a **contrasting, opposite** church.
- **Final, end times apostate church.** Wicked and phony.
- **“THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS...”** this harlot not alone.
- Harlot is mother of many daughter “churches,” have followed in her sin.

- Women, symbolic in prophecy, represent churches, or groups and forms of worship.
- **Four women** mentioned in Revelation, one of them represents true ***“Called out ones.”***
 1. **Jezebel** = pagan, perverted church. (2:20)
 2. **Woman clothed with sun** gave birth to “male child” caught up to heaven. Represents Israel.
 3. **The Harlot**, scarlet woman here represents apostate, false “church” or religious system.
 4. **Wife of the Lamb** in Revelation 21, represents true church (Body of Messiah).

- "Mother Church" **gave birth** to other churches come out of her, still have her characteristics.
- Harlot influenced her "daughters" to also become harlots. Apostatized (*abandoned or perverted truth*) relationship with God and His Messiah, guilty of "prostitution" with world.
- Corruption of organized church led to many "breakaways" into **Protestantism, sects**.
- **Can be true of ANY church, ANY denomination.**
- Catholic Church first of organized Christian churches.
- History of Catholic church full of bloodshed, incredible wealth, and political intrigue worldwide (still is!)

- Today many of these also corrupt. “**Mini-harlots**” who have abandoned truth of God’s Word.
- Today Catholic church also abandoning what truth it had (*though mixed with paganism*).
- **Hard to find solid Bible truth-based church not more concerned with political rightness, world acceptance and social agendas than truth of God’s Word.**

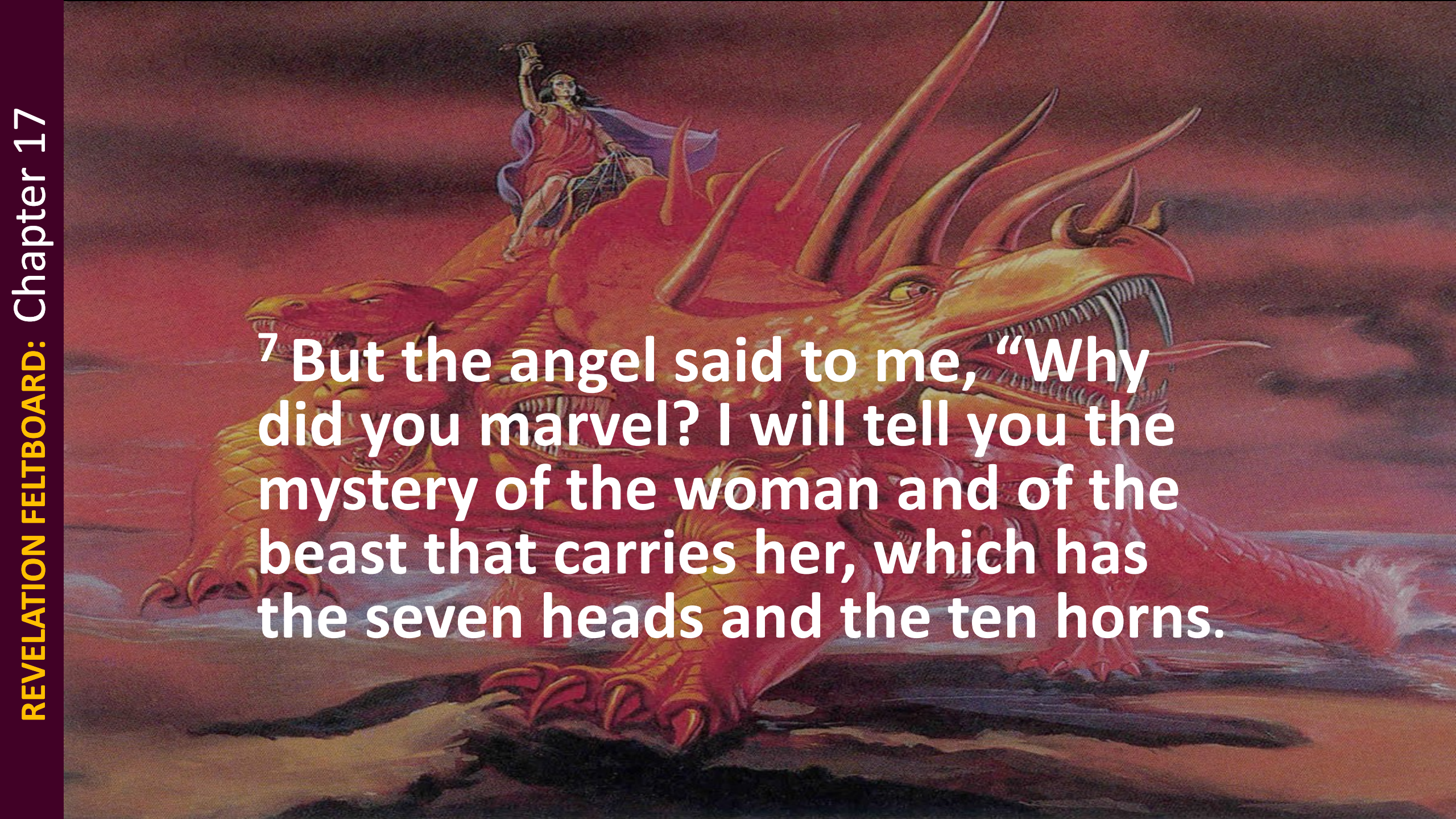


A woman with long dark hair, wearing a purple and gold ornate outfit with multiple necklaces and a headpiece, is shown drinking from a golden chalice. The chalice has a hexagonal base and a decorative top. She has a small amount of red liquid on her chin. The background is a dramatic sky with purple and red clouds over a dark sea.

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.

- ***“...drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus.”*** Harlot “church” actively involved in persecution of believers. Revels in persecution of God’s own. (*FALSE church seeks to take from God.*)
- ***“And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.”*** John stunned. Vision bad enough, images disturbing. Likely more going on than John’s reaction to a terrible image.
- KJV = *“I wondered with great admiration”* (***perceived in great wonder***), something amazing *and surprising*. CJB = *“I was altogether astounded.”*
- Before this, only thing John needed explaining was beast, heads, horns and kings.

- Did not get interpretation of who or what harlot was **because he didn't need one!**
- **Knew it was religious system.** Knows harlot represents unfaithful (or wouldn't be a whore!) apostate church.
- John knew Church as persecuted, meeting secretly.
- Seeing this incredible harlot, he is **completely confused and astounded.** **Could not imagine fledgling Christian faith could become this harlot, big, powerful, fearsome and completely unfaithful.**
- Harlot consistently used for faithless "church" (group/system). John knows what the harlot is. **Just can't believe what organized Church becomes.**

A dramatic illustration of a woman with long dark hair, wearing a red dress and a purple cape, riding a massive, multi-headed dragon. The dragon is depicted with seven distinct heads and ten prominent horns, all rendered in shades of red and orange. The scene is set against a dark, stormy sky with a dark sea below. The woman is seated on the dragon's back, holding a small object aloft in her right hand. The dragon's heads are open, showing sharp teeth and tongues. The overall atmosphere is one of apocalyptic power and mystery.

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.

- Angel knows John understands image of harlot. It's everything else that needs to be revealed – including ***relationship*** of woman and beast. Woman's ID known.

Interesting thought about “***woman and the beast that carries her.***” Another very well-known story of woman riding a beast...may have major significance in understanding this book: **THE LEGEND OF EUROPA**

Eerie similarity to symbols of Revelation:

- **Woman riding a beast**
- **Beast in the sea**
- **Forbidden relationship**



“In Greek mythology **Europa** was mother of King Minos of Crete, a woman with Phoenician origin of high lineage, for whom the continent Europe was named. The story of her abduction by Zeus in the form of a white bull was a Cretan story; but most of the love-stories concerning Zeus originated from more ancient tales describing his marriages with goddesses. This can especially be said of the story of Europa.” *(Wikipedia)*





Story also known (*interestingly*) as Rape of Europa. (*story = rape of Truth!!*)

Zeus saw Europa alone on the beach and lusted after her. So he transformed himself into a bull and lay down at her feet. She climbed on his back and he plunged with her into the waves of the sea and raped her. She conceived a son, and after her death she received divine honors as "**Queen of Heaven.**" The bull became the constellation Taurus. The legend of Europa has come alive in the European Union, and "**The Queen of Heaven**" is no stranger to the cults.

SYMBOLS OF EUROPA (European Union)...today!



Euro Magazine Cover, coins





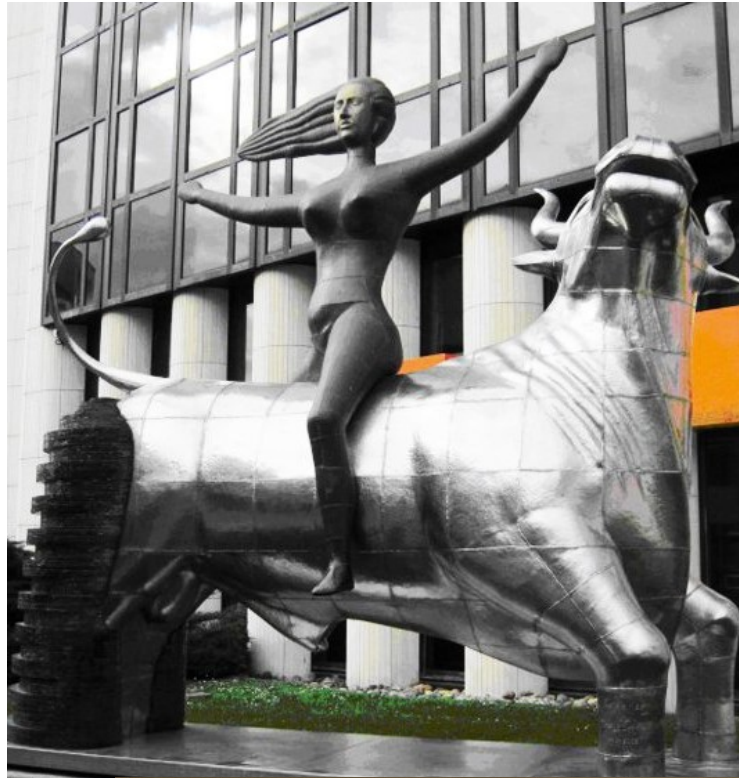
stamps



German phone card



Time Magazine article about European Union

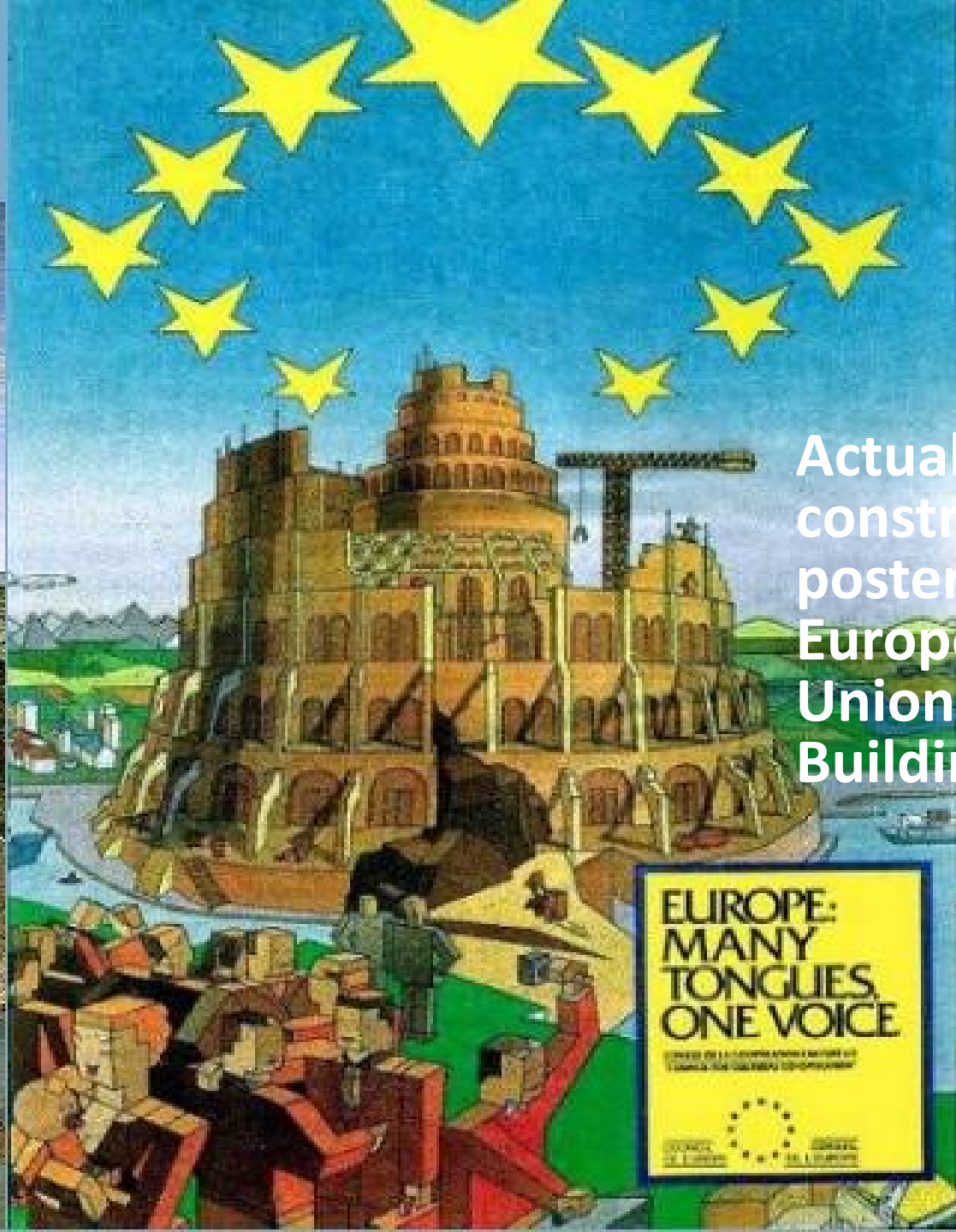


Sculpture, "The Removal of Europa," gift from Crete to European Parliament in 2005.



Sculpture outside the Council of Ministers in Brussels

TOWER OF BABEL



Actual construction poster for European Union Building...

**EUROPE:
MANY
TONGUES,
ONE VOICE**
UNION OF EUROPEAN STATES
UNION OF EUROPEAN STATES





European Union flag,
note 12 stars in a
circle....Chapter 12?

Tower of Babel Rebuilt:
European Union
Parliament Building
Strasbourg, FRANCE
“unfinished” look
deliberate association
with Tower of Babel

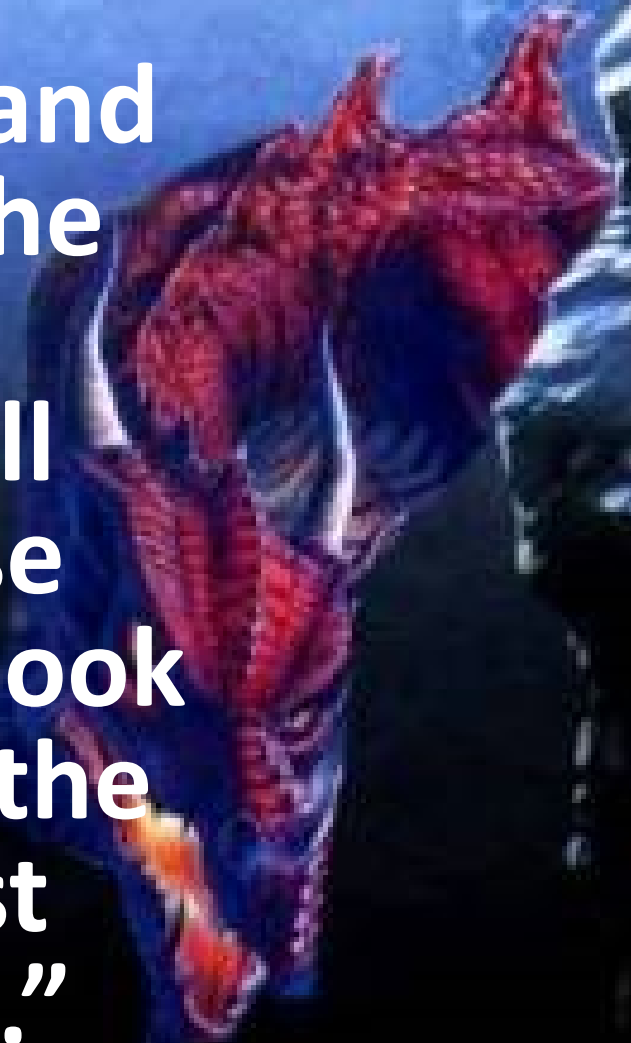


SO, ANY ASSOCIATION WITH EUROPEAN UNION, EUROPA AND THE WOMAN AND THE BEAST?

Probably.

- Just not exactly sure, YET, **what form it will take.**
- A revived Roman Empire (Daniel 2), an Islamic Empire where church and state are combined? **A false religious system supported by government, most likely.** Speculation rampant.

⁸ The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition. 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.”



- Causes **great confusion, speculation**. Have to take it apart to understand.
- First, “**the beast...**” already know identity from ch 13. (*human antichrist, final world ruler*)
- However, “*...was, and is not, and will ascend...*” and later in verse 11 “*the beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth...*” **makes entire passage a puzzle**. *No end to interpretations.*
- Most prominent idea, represents entire **Roman Empire** (*or even imperialism as a world system*) beginning downward spiral (point of writing), but would be “resurrected” in end times as “**revived Roman empire.**” (Daniel 2)

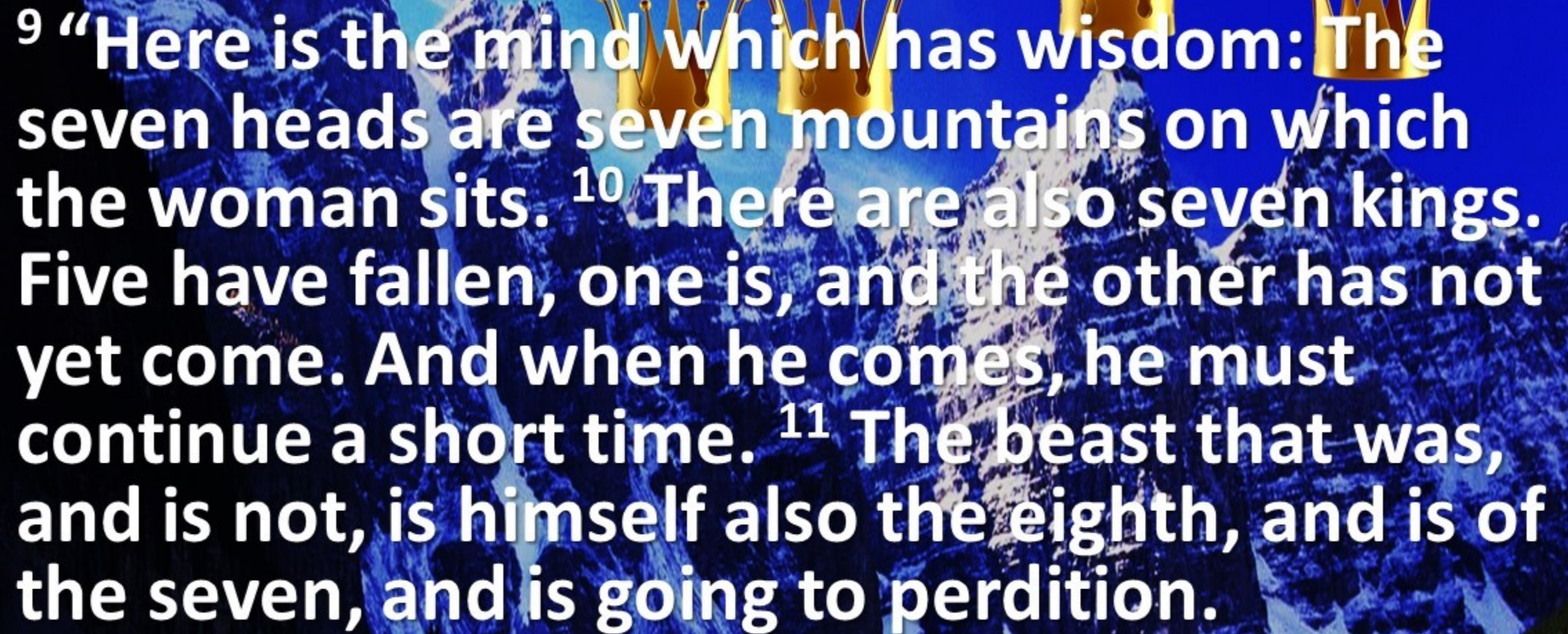
- However, may only be about beast, not necessarily his kingdom, so could also be reference that beast will apparently “die” then be resurrected, though many believe only be grand deception.
- ***“...will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition...”*** Gives satanic origin (*and ultimate destination*) of beast.
- Many believe antichrist will be indwelt by satan at this point, following “apparent resurrection.”
- Could also be reference to what comes at end of Chapter 20, after Millennial Kingdom, when satan is loosed from abyss.

- “...those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the *Book of Life* from the *foundation of the world...*” again indicates unbelievers (“inhabitants of the earth”), those whose names are not written in Book of Life.
- These will marvel at events here. Will be deceived *because* they do not know and follow the Lamb.
- They follow earthly king, **something happens to amaze them** . Usually interpreted as apparently “fatal” wound from which antichrist recovers.
- can explain “ *was, and is not, and yet is.* ”



- Some “scholars” even say relates to historical figure “**reincarnated**” or comes back from dead as antichrist.
- Most popular figures **Judas** Iscariot, or world rulers like **Nero, Hitler**, etc.
- Does not seem likely in view of other verses that **preclude reincarnation** as a method in which God works.
- **Reincarnation not supported by God’s Word.** In fact, it anticipates this as false teaching: *“And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,...”* (Hebrews 9:27)

- Whatever or whoever verses refer to, is obviously **revival, bringing back to life**, of either:
 - 1) **Rome (or other empire) as world power;**
 - 2) **imperial-style (or other style) government;**
 - 3) **final world ruler, the beast himself.**
- Either way, these things are going to happen, not important to know precisely who or what right now, just that it will be revived, and it **comes from the pit of hell.**
- People spend lifetimes trying to decipher these mysterious passages. Perhaps only people **living in this time** will be able to put pieces together correctly.
- ***Speculation has no meaning here.***



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.

If you aren't totally
confused yet, don't worry.
You WILL be soon!
From here it
gets a bit weird...



- ***“Here is the mind which has wisdom...”*** Another **challenge to use wisdom** (*not worldly*) to decipher. Requires God’s revelation, thorough understanding of Word of God. Also implies one with wisdom will “take note,” be warned.
- ***“The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits.”*** (Greek “mountain” = either hill or mountain, something that “lifts itself above the plain.”)
- **Could be Rome.** Frequently referenced this way. ***Or....?***
- Could also represent **7 greatest world empires** in history: Sumeria, Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medes/Persians, Greece, and Rome. *Mountains often imply kingdoms.*

- A little tricky in determining/counting empires and kingdoms...*(more later on this.)*
- Woman, harlot, **sits on them**, or controls them. False religious systems dominant in controlling governments.
- *(Harlot same at any point in history.)*
- **“There are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, and the other has not yet come.”** Hills also seven kings *(Bible makes no distinction between kings and kingdoms. Could literally say “**there are also seven kingdoms.**”)*
- OR the seven kings in addition to seven kingdoms. Some say these kings are Caesars of Rome. *(not much support for this)*

- If identified as kingdoms, would indicate 5 have come and gone (fallen), one is (Rome) and another still to come (*revived Roman Empire, or some other kingdom*)
- Sumeria first “kingdom” in world history, but not world dominating empire like others. May not be included as one “fallen,” so that leaves five *perhaps*, as Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Persia and Greece.
- One that “is” = **Roman Empire in John’s day**. Have not yet seen this scripture fulfilled, *so at best, we have only speculation.*
- **Counting kingdoms difficult.** Possible some other kingdom(s) may be included here. God’s counting different than ours!

- Rome kingdom/empire of that day, identified as 6th (5 fallen before it.). Leaves one more to make 7, *but then we hear of an eighth.*
- Could speculate another world power after Rome in which antichrist is part (*next verses*), but then he forms his own unique kingdom [not associated with worldly false worship (the harlot), but worship of him alone.] That would be the final, eighth, kingdom. ***Again, all speculation!***
- ***“And when he comes, he must continue a short time.”*** Refers to ***“other has not yet come.”*** Either final world kingdom (*revived Roman Empire, or something else?*), or final world ruler, antichrist.

- ***Short time*** likely 7-year duration of Daniel's 70th week (Daniel 9) (*or last part, "great tribulation," 3½ years*).
- Kingdom/king interchangeable, identified together.
- ***"The beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition."***
Now it gets really confusing!
- Coming world empire, and coming final world leader going to hell, or perdition, *that much we can determine easily*.
- However, ***"is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven,"*** a bit puzzling.



DANIEL 7

- Daniel 7 helps explain. *“I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.”* (Daniel 7:8)
- Beast has 10 horns (*horns = power, represent kings or government leaders*), seen here (Revelation) and Daniel.
- 10 horns = 10 kings (*next verse*). Per Daniel 7, one horn, called **“little horn,”** takes out 3 others, and rises to become 8th horn.

- Now, *after taking out 3 of 10 kings*, little horn becomes 8th power, but all other “horns” (*kings*) will hand over power to little blasphemous horn (*antichrist*) making him final world ruler.
- “Eighth” can also be interpreted as eighth final world power, an entity all to itself.
- Final kingdom different from all others. *“It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns.”* (Daniel 7:7)
- Whatever verses relate specifically to, in general are about final world empire and the final world ruler.

- Should be noted Roman Empire never conquered, or considered “fallen.” Died from within, still found in some form in nations across planet. **IMPORTANT to know know....Roman Empire...**
- began ~ 100 BC, continued as world empire to 476 AD
- **eastern branch** (Byzantine Empire) lasted until 1453 AD
- Rome’s imperial rule (*empires, emperors*) found as late as 1918. German “Kaiser” = Caesar, Russian “Czar.”
- Roman imperialism lasted well over 2000 years. Everyone *thought it was dead*, but perhaps will rise again, for a short time, **very intense and very deadly**. Or....(*could go on and on with speculation, but that is all it is!*)



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.”

- Daniel 7 more help: *“Thus he said: ‘The fourth beast shall be a fourth kingdom on earth, Which shall be different from all other kingdoms, And shall devour the whole earth, Trample it and break it in pieces. **The ten horns are ten kings Who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them; He shall be different from the first ones, And shall subdue three kings.**”*
(Daniel 7:23-24)
- Daniel has vision of beasts related to world kingdoms, from Babylon through Rome. At time Daniel **only knew of Babylon**, not of successive kingdoms.

- After **Babylon** (*head of gold*) came **Persia** (*Meads and Persians, arms and chest of silver*), then **Greece**, (*belly and thighs*) and finally **Rome**, the 4th kingdom on the statue (*legs*).
- God said 4th beast/kingdom **will be different than all the others**. Perhaps difference is Rome not defeated or conquered, crumbled from within, still found in various forms throughout world today.
- Two legs of statue **grow into ten toes** (iron + clay mixed). Toes NOT defined as a 5th kingdom, but are to be interpreted as **an extension of the 4th kingdom**.

**DANIEL 2**

- This 4th kingdom = END TIME kingdom, or will **BECOME** final power.
- Again, **important to note** NOT another, or fifth, kingdom mentioned. **The fourth is final.** If Rome was final, that means end time kingdom comes from *what was Rome*, or has morphed in some way from Roman Empire.
- Same is true for Daniel's vision of wild beasts (*God's view of government, vicious, bloodthirsty entities who prey on others*) in Daniel 7.
- It is the 4th beast, Rome, that will become "terrible." Fourth or "terrible" beast is Rome, or more correctly, **what will come out of, or from, Rome.**

- Why many speak of a **“Revived Roman Empire.”**
- Most look to **European Union** today as revived Roman Empire. Original leaders *actually stated they saw themselves as revival of Roman Empire.*
- First steps in 1948. “Treaty of Rome,” 1957. Started with three very small nations, grew to 10 (*when Greece joined in 1981*) and **every prophecy scholar in the world went ballistic!** (*thinking this was fulfillment of these prophecies in Daniel and Revelation*).
- EU still in formative stages. Many changes, still moving forward. 28 nations today, 500 million people. **Boundaries of EU are same as Roman Empire.**

- Rise of Islam a “wrench” in many old theories about Revived Roman Empire, but God has plan we cannot see clearly yet, likely both EU and Islam will play roles in extension of 4th kingdom, or 4th beast birthed in Roman Empire. (*clay and iron don't mix??*)

COMMENTARY: Protests and revolutions in various Islamic countries around the Mediterranean Sea since 2011 raise the specter of a new Islamic caliphate that might merge with the European countries where Muslim culture is becoming predominant. Such a coalition would resemble the old Roman Empire at it's greatest extent, and could be what was predicted in Daniel, chapter 2 -the final world empire, symbolized by iron [Rome] and clay [Islamic caliphate].

(<http://www.bible-prophecy.com/2015/roman2015.htm>)

- Daniel says 10 kings (*or kingdoms*) will come from fourth beast. Correlate to 10 toes of statue in Daniel 2.
- Out of a revived Roman Empire will come 10 kingdoms and 10 kings.
- ***“for one hour...”*** Not necessarily literal one 60-minute period of time. **“One hour” = very short period of time.**
- Daniel’s 70th week is 7 literal years. One hour would represent a very small portion of that time.
- **Reign of these kings together, before their power is usurped, will be very short.**

- ***“These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast.”*** initially kings will reign together. “Little horn” (*antichrist, the beast*) will convince others to give him their power, he ***will become sole world ruler***.
- Kings, while of “one mind” **may have NO choice.**
- **Leaves just one “horn” standing** – the beast, antichrist. (8th after 7 horns, after 3 uprooted, 10 originally)
- A **coming geo-political scenario** not yet fully developed, “ten kings” don’t have their kingdoms yet.
- Some speculate 10 kings/kingdoms **geographically apportioned**, dividing world into 10 geographic states.



Jesus

—King of Kings—

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.”

- “These” = 10 kings (ten horns here, 10 toes Daniel 2), or precisely **8 kings = 7 + antichrist** (*supplanted 3 of original 10.*)
- Will **persecute and war against God** (*and God’s people, see all of Daniel 7*).
- Good news, **Jesus, the Lamb of God, will overcome the world**, and all governments.
- Nebuchadnezzar’s statue in Daniel 2 a preview of this. All human government will be destroyed (*stone smashes statue*), and Lamb will take His throne.
- He is, after all, **King of kings and the Lord of Lords!**
- Title also Revelation 19:16, *where written on His robe, and on His thigh.*

- War extends to all called by His Name, all believers.
- We are called, chosen, and faithful. “Called” = title, *not verb* here. We are: **CALLED, CHOSEN, FAITHFUL**

called *kletos* Invited, appointed

chosen *ekletos* Favorite, chosen

faithful *pistos* Trustworthy,
faithful, sure



No matter who
is president,
Jesus is King.

- Persecution can happen *before* antichrist rises, *during* his takeover, and *after* his solitary reign begins.
- Happening today, all over world, and *increasing as world become less tolerant of truth.*
- Many martyred, but **Lamb of God overcomes enemy.**
- **Wonderful ray of hope** in otherwise terrifying, dismal chapter.

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.

- Harlot and her scope of influence (*sitting on many waters*).
- Harlot, apostate church, will influence and deceive ALL (*whose names are not written in Lamb's book of life*).
- Has **global influence**, everyone who does not seek the Lamb will be *sucked into her deceit*.
- Reference to peoples, multitudes, nations and tongues makes this clear.
- Now **demise of this apostate worldwide religious system**. "She" does not last long!
- Why not? Because antichrist does not want world to worship anything but **him!!**

- Ten kings/rulers, prior to AC taking control, will despise apostate (false) church, not for her false teachings, but because she = arrogant, proud and **gets in the way of what these rulers really want to do.** Especially one.
- AC seeks worship for himself alone.
- He will eventually enter Temple (*which some say must be rebuilt in order to fulfill verses that prophesy this*) and **proclaim himself as god.**
- He is not interested in world church. 10 kings will do away with false church. Will be completely destroyed.
- Worship of beast (AC) will replace “church” as official “religion.” ***And it will be mandatory.***

³Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, ⁴ who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4





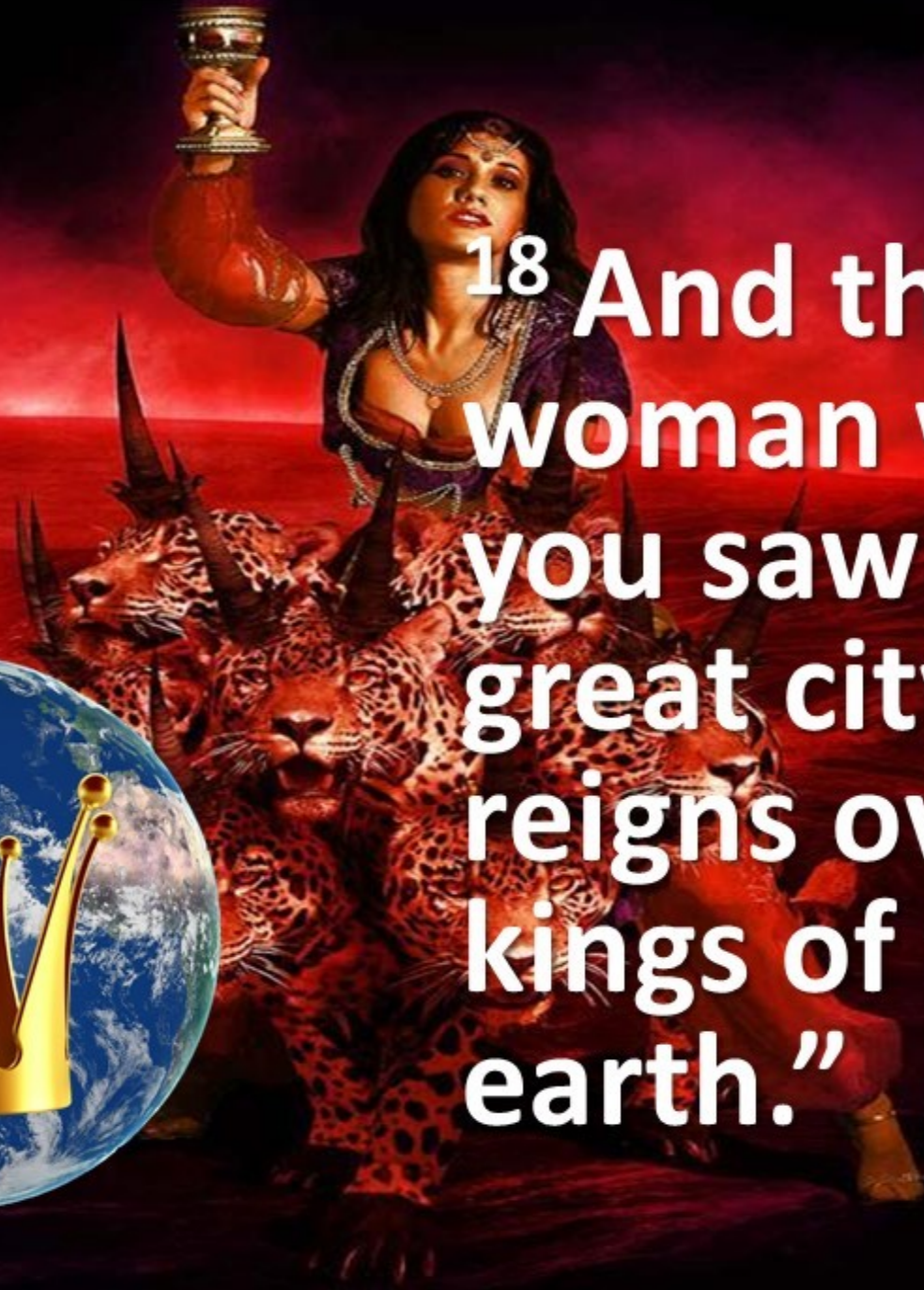
17 For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled.

- As terrible as these events are, God is in control. He is manipulating world rulers. He is Sovereign, yesterday, today, and tomorrow!
- He raises up kings and takes them down, puts in their hearts what He wants them to do. (Daniel 2)
- World not out of control, nor is AC in control. **GOD ALMIGHTY IS IN CONTROL!!**
- 10 (*or 8 at this point*) kings do as God intends, give their power and kingdoms to AC, to fulfill prophecies written beforehand. **God is controlling history. *It is not out of control!***

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18 And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth.”



- *Seems to reveal mystery, but a mystery in itself!*
- As John saw and wrote, **Rome** was only power that *“reigned over the kings of the earth.”*
- **Out of Rome came first organized church.** *Seems to be strong and irrefutable clue.*
- However, prophecy about END times. Perhaps final world power, or city of power, headquarters of beast.
- Some speculate that **Babylon really “code” name for Rome** (*suggest early disciples used*) and literal Babylon not referenced here. (*but “spiritual” Babylon IS.*)
- Say real “great city” = **Rome**, origin of organized church, and identity of harlot.

- However, reason to believe literal Babylon rebuilt, may become headquarters of beast, fulfill the phrase, *“great city which reigns over the kings of the earth.”*
- Clue: Zechariah 5, woman identified as “wickedness,” being kept in a basket until relocating her to “plains of Shinar” when time is come. (5:5-11)
- **“Plains of Shinar”** = Babylon.
- Some think while Rome center of world power at time of John’s vision, literal city of government power will be Babylon. So many different opinions here, difficult to keep them all straight!
- *Probably won’t know for sure until it happens.*

The Harlot: 10 Big Clues



- 1) **Prostitute**. promiscuous, unfaithful behavior; unfaithfulness to God by those who *claim* to honor Him.
- 2) **Universal influence**; all over the world.
- 3) **Seated upon the beast** (*Steers, dominates*), in control, even over government at beginning.
- 4) **Adorned with Purple, Scarlet, Gold and Jewels**. Conspicuously wealthy, outwardly attractive, adornment (vestments) of organized “church.”
- 5) **Holds Golden cup**: precious; *seems* a utensil in God’s service; counterfeit, filled with abominable things, “pursuing flesh” making her “drunk,” *will bring judgment*.



- 6) Writing, **Mystery, Babylon the Great**. Mystery, linked with Babylon of Nimrod (*Revelation 11:8, idiom*). Something not revealed before, shown now.
- 7) **Mother of Prostitutes:** has spiritual offspring, not alone. Spawned other “harlots.”
- 8) **Persecutor of Christians** (*true believers*). Revels in their blood, drunk on their persecution.
- 9) **Sitting on beast with seven heads, identified as Seven “mountains.”** Rome built on 7 hills; may not be reference to Rome, may represent historical kingdoms.
- 10) **The Great City that rules over the kings of the earth.** John’s day, only Rome, birthplace of first organized Church, (Catholic). But may also reference ultimate city of Babylon.

- **Final one-world religion**, completely apostate, false
- Roots beginning of **organized (“Christian”) religion**. Corruption in “mother harlot,” many “daughter harlots.”
- **Cannot say harlot is “Catholic Church.”** She is only church at this time, completely corrupt.
- Man’s **religious attempts**, opposition to true worship.
- Combination of all man-made religions, all churches (*called “Christian” or otherwise*) in last days.
- Began in Rome, combined truth + error (paganism).
- Ends in total destruction, replaced by worship of beast.
- Whether “great city” = physical/spiritual Rome (Church) or physical/spiritual Babylon, **remains to be seen.**

- More speculation of chapters (17 and 18) than most other passages. Well meaning “scholars” try, but **beyond universal understanding right now.**
- We have great *hindsight*. Only God has foresight.
- When these events occur, will make sense, be clear to those faithfully pursuing answers/truth in scripture.
- However fulfilled, **all these things will happen because He has a plan, and all His Words will be fulfilled exactly as He has given them to us.**

Yevarekh-kha Adonai veyishmerekha

May the LORD bless you and keep you

Ya'er Adonai panav elekha vihunneka

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

***Yissa Adonai panav elekha viyasem
lekha shalom.***

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

