



John has vision of human civilization, religious but independent of God, blossoming for one last time as a splendid city supported by Antichrist. The city is personified as a gorgeous prostitute drunk on the blood of God's people yet doomed to be destroyed by Antichrist and his forces.

Outline

- **Chapter Preview** Introduction
- **Scarlet Woman & Beast** Revelation 17:1-6
- **Meaning of the Woman & Beast** ... Revelation 17:7-18



Truths & Principles

- ✓ What is evil in human civilization infects both great world leaders and ordinary people alike.
- ✓ Religion can join politics in forming an unholy alliance, creating a civilization that has no civility and in which God takes no pleasure.
- ✓ The allures of the world and the flesh are hiding moral abominations and deadly hostility to Christian people.
- ✓ God can use the treachery and hatred of evil powers to carry out His purposes in judging other forms of evil.
- ✓ Christ, the Lamb of God, will finally overcome all other powers simply because He is King of Kings and Lord of lords.

Preview

The great harlot who rides a scarlet beast appears. She is called "Babylon the great". But the details of her description clearly indicate she represents the city on "seven mountains" - that great city that "reigns over the kings of the earth." Together, Revelation 17 & 18 describe the fall of "Babylon" in detail.



Applications

- ✓ Prepare to face persecution – and even martyrdom-from unexpected quarters.
- ✓ Do not be shocked when one form of evil attacks and exposes another form of evil.
- ✓ Rejoice that God has written down the names of His people - from the creation of the world.
- ✓ Faithfully follow Christ to demonstrate to the world that He chose and called you to Himself.
- ✓ Beware of the seductive power of civilization: It may look fair but be foul.



Test all things; hold fast what is good. 1 Thessalonians 5:21

1. Whose judgment was John invited to witness (17:1)? _____
2. Who is she riding when John sees her (17:3)? _____
3. What name is she given (17:5)? _____
4. On what has she become drunk (17:6)? _____
5. From what place is the beast said to have emerged (17:8)? _____
6. What do the seven heads of the beast represent (17:9)? _____
7. What do the ten horns represent (17:12)? _____
8. Who will make war against the Lamb (17:14)? _____
9. Who begins to hate the woman and eventually destroys her (17:16)? _____
10. What identity is given to the woman who "reigns over the kings of the earth"? (17:18) _____

Study Questions

1. Read Daniel 7:24-25.
 - ❖ What key to the prophetic significance of Revelation 17 do you find in these verses?
2. Read Isaiah 13-14, Jeremiah 50-51, and Revelation 17-18 in one sitting.
 - ❖ What are the prophecies regarding the city of Babylon?
 - ❖ What are the differences between the Fall of Babylon and the Destruction of Babylon?
 - ❖ Which features of the Destruction of Babylon have yet to be fulfilled?
 - ❖ What has been God's attitude toward Babylon?
 - ❖ How does that explain His actions?
3. What do the woman and Babylon represent?
 - ❖ What aspects of our society fit the description of Babylon?
4. When we think of evil, something ugly or distasteful often comes to mind.
 - ❖ What is it about the woman that is so attractive?
 - ❖ How can evil appear to be so attractive in your life?
5. What specific evidence in chapter 17 clearly identifies the woman as "that great city"?
 - ❖ Which city is in view here?
 - ❖ Is it a real city?
 - ❖ Is it symbolic?
 - ❖ Could it be both?