

THE GREAT HARLOT: RELIGIOUS BABYLON
REVELATION 17:7-18
October 12, 2008 Sunday Evening

1. THE SYSTEM EXPOSED
2. THE SYSTEM EXPLAINED vss.7-15

a. The Identity of the beast vs.8

The beast=the Anti-Christ

He was=his presence on earth

He is not=his death wound was healed

He ascends out of the bottomless pit=possessed by Satan himself

He will go to perdition=eternal destruction

- At this point in history Satan will have achieved his ultimate goal and that is to be worshiped by the world.

b. The locale of the harlot

1) The geographical location vs.7

Seven heads=seven mountains vs. 9

The city of modern Rome rests upon seven mountains which implies that religious Babylon under the leadership of the great harlot will be Rome itself.

2) The political location vss.10,11

Seven kings=seven prominent kings who rule or will rule the Roman Empire

- In John's day 5 kings had already ruled.
- The sixth ruler who was still alive and ruling in John's day was Domitian.
- The seventh ruler is yet to appear and will be the Anti-Christ.
- The eighth ruler indicates the two-fold career of the Anti-Christ. He will be cut short by assassination and then come back to life and rule as the eighth king of Rome and Babylon.

The eighth king is of the seventh.

c. **The alliance with the beast vss.12-13**

The ten horns=represent ten regional kings which make up the United States of Europe

The Roman church is not the entire system, but she is the key part of the whole false religious Babylon that will engulf the entire world population.

3. THE SYSTEM EXTINGUISHED vss.16-18

a. **The Anti-Christ not only breaks his seven year treaty with Israel, but he also breaks his relationship with the harlot, the Roman church.**

b. **He then takes over the control of religious Babylon and becomes both the political and religious ruler of the world.**

c. **In due time God's wrath will put an end to all that Nimrod started and the Anti-Christ concludes.**

Charles Spurgeon:

You cannot have unity without forsaking truth, and to forsake truth for the sake of unity is to betray Jesus Christ.