

BABYLON, THE BEAST AND THE CHURCH- PART 3

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We have begun to identify some of these end-time players in the book of Revelation. They are The Great Harlot of Revelation 17 and 18; the Beast of Revelation 13, 17 and 18; and the second Beast of Revelation 13 among other players at the end-time. To understand the book of Revelation, Daniel and the other prophesies, it helps to know who is on stage. I challenged some of my old belief and some we have had for many many years. I started with the Great Harlot because I think it is important to identify that one perhaps first. You will recall that I mentioned the Protestant commentators, after they had broken off from the Catholic Church in the Protestant reformation, all looked upon the Catholic Church as that Great Harlot. Little did they understand they were the daughters of that Church and did not change most of the doctrines of the Catholic Church. They merely put a different window dressing on it and retained the same pagan doctrines the Catholics had always taught. So, yes, I believe the Catholic Church is a great harlot in a religious sense and that those daughters, which came out from her changed very little, and certainly they are daughters of that organization. But, I have come to believe that the Great Harlot of Revelation 17 and 18 is speaking of someone other than the Catholic Church. I am not saying religion does not play its part at the end-time. I think we will see the religions, which have taken over the Israelite people identified as a player in the end-time as well. But, I believe it is someone different from what we always

believed. I realize, starting today, that I have not in any way defined America as that Great Harlot or the head of that Harlot at least. I have simply introduced the fact through Ezekiel 16, Hosea 1 and other scriptures to show that God looks upon Israel in the end-time as a Great Harlot. He looked upon her as a harlot when Christ divorced her for harlotries historically. Ezekiel was written sometime after that destruction, that captivity occurred. So, it had to be for a future event. Israel, at least the 10 nations have been lost. It seems very few know who Israel is today. Yet, the promises God made to Abraham concerning those who would proceed from him, those prophecies are very clear. We have to examine, and I think most of us here by now have proved in our own minds that Western Europe, the United States, South Africa, Australia; the white Anglo Saxon peoples for the most part are Israel. Where in what phone books do you look up names like Isaacson, Jacobson and Jacobs? Do you do it in the Hong Kong directory? No, you do it in the American, English and Northwestern Europe directories. There are many proofs to show that. But, God looks upon Israel at the end as a great harlot. Not only that, but Ezekiel 16 describes her as a Great Harlot. We went through to show she has many daughters. So, she is also a Mother of Harlots.

Let's pick it up again in Chapter 17 of Revelation. I am breaking into the context here on purpose. We will make some identifications then go more

directly into some of the specific prophesies about it. Now, we will get into more of the definition of the Harlot at the end. So far, I have only shown you that God looks upon Israel as a Great Harlot and a Mother of Harlots. But, does that fit Revelation 17, 18; Isaiah 47 and Jeremiah 50 and 51? Is it the same Harlot, in other words? We will examine that now.

Picking it up again in Revelation 17:

“And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters:” (Revelation 17:1)

We defined from Verse 15 that the waters are many peoples, nations around the earth. So, "waters" is symbolic of peoples in this context.

“With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.” (Revelation 17:2)

I think it is obvious and I dwelt on this in the previous sermon that America has the greatest influence of any peoples and nation upon the world. It is our culture, if you can call it that, that is spread around the world via TV, radio, music, politically and every way.

“So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.” (Revelation 17:3)

The Beast is nowhere pictured as religious, but this Beast is scarlet colored, wearing bright colors. In other words, it is to be shown off. It is to be seen, it is not mousy sitting in the corner, but wears bright clothing. It wants to be seen and have preeminence and dominance over everything else.

It is full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. Blasphemy is against God. The New World Order we see arising today is against God in every way. It is basically ruled over and peopled by those who have accepted Humanism. Christian Scientists and various others who believe animals are good as, probably better than human beings. They won't kill animals or insects but our whole culture aborts babies by the millions. So, insects, spotted owls and all those things are more important in the eyes of our people today in our culture than are human lives. Woeful, pitiful, but true.

Those who are beginning to rule in America and around the world do have blasphemous thoughts. They deny the God of Creation and accept Darwinism, evolution, humanism and various other religious ideas. Increasingly in this country we are being taken over by Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism. Transcendental meditation is taking on. They're as many people doing that today as are working out in gymnasiums. Because the Eastern demonic religions are taking over our culture. But, this is talking about the Beast in particular and I want to concentrate on the Harlot.

“And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls,

having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication.” (Revelation 17:4)

The main proof people have said this is the Catholic Church is she is arrayed in purple and scarlet. But, the Catholic Church is not the only ones that wear gay clothing, in that sense. America is known for having plenty and wearing whatever we want whenever we want. What are the watchwords of our culture today? We want to dress up to look good. Almost every advertisement you see makes you want to look good, smell good or feel good. We are a sensory society, we go by our senses. We are sensual in that sense. We want to please the five senses. We are rich; we don't just hold up a little pewter mug, we hold up a golden mug, an expense mug. But, in spite of our economic and material wealth and gain it is full of sin. Our culture is certainly wealthy materially, the wealthiest nation, the wealthiest peoples that have ever been and yet our culture is filled with sin.

“And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.” (Revelation 17:5)

There is a mystery about this that needs to be uncovered and I think this mystery could not be uncovered 100 years ago, 200, 300, or 500 hundred years ago because the end-time table or stage was not yet set. Today, it is pretty well set. We need to look at the realities of what is going on in the world, not the ideas of some Protestant pulling away from the Catholic Church 200-400 years ago. We must look at what is on the

stage today and define it in end-time terms not the eyes of a monk or a preacher who had a very different perspective several hundred years ago.

This mystery is something that is unveiled or revealed at the end because this is an end-time book about the things that would happen at the end of the age. This is a mystery and it encompasses and entails Babylon. I spent considerable time in the previous sermon showing how the Babylonian symbols have infiltrated and been promulgated and purposely put in America. Those things did not happen by happenstance. They were planned that way by people who subscribe to the Babylonian Mystery System. That is the system that goes back to Babel, really back to Cain, but which was put forth by Nimrod and Semiramis and their various reincarnations in various nations. Whether it is the Greeks who had Zeus etc. to whom they dedicated the Olympics or whether it is to Isis and Osiris In Egypt, wherever you go the mother and child, the Madonna is seen. It all came from Babel along before Mary gave birth to Christ. This mysterious system will include the symbols, doctrines, the gods of Babylon, if you will, sun worship, Christmas and Easter. The Christmas tree represents a full grown evergreen that sprung up alive after Nimrod died and Semiramis said, see my son is resurrected in a tree. She decked it with ornaments and it is described in Jeremiah 10. Ezekiel describes the queen of heaven and that is sun worship and Easter very clearly. This Great Harlot is part and parcel with ancient mysteries of Babylon, who ever she is, and other abominations of the earth. Homosexuality is rife. Adultery and fornication is everywhere. Living in

instead of marrying is common. It doesn't matter where you go in our society you find woeful sins that are against the laws, the ordinances and the covenants of God. We spread those around the world by every way we can to gain money for us and to spread sin to others.

We got to Verse 6 last time and I stopped before I addressed it because this might really be the first objection someone might bring up.

“And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.”

It has been stated historically that the Catholic Church persecuted and killed Christians and perhaps to some degree that is true. But, when you really understand what happened in the crusades, in the middle ages and even before from the end of the 1st century AD on, when the Catholic Church really came into prominence and God's Church basically disappeared after 70 years of existence roughly 30-31 AD until 100 AD with the last standing apostle John, God's people had either gone into apostasy and departed as in today, or disappeared, you will understand the ones the Catholics primarily persecuted over the ages were not true Christians. We need to understand that. She persecuted the Protestants who broke off, those were the ones she burned, not true Christians who were keeping God's Sabbath, God's Holy Days and who understood the plan of salvation and were truly following the Bible as opposed to following some Protestant reformers who left and did not go to the

Bible as a source of their authority except for a very few verses which they followed. But, this is an end-time book, written to an end-time church.

Now, let's go to Matthew 24. We will come back here in a little while. Matthew 24 is a scripture with which we are familiar. It is speaking of God's Church. That is how it starts.

“And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple.”

We know from many scriptures the temple is the Church. He is speaking of the physical temple, which still remained, and then specifically and yet, He projected this prophecy to the end-time. The temple He spoke of then, that physical building, has long since been destroyed. It was destroyed 2000 years ago. This is an Olivet Prophecy for the end-time Church just preceding the return of Christ as you see later on in the Chapter.

“And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.” (Matthew 24:2)

That physical temple was thrown down. But, within about 70 years of this prophecy even the spiritual temple had been torn to the ground. The ministry was gone, the Church had gone into apostasy and very little remained. There may have been a few individuals who continued to keep the gospel of Jesus Christ, but most had gone to the synchronized gospel of the Catholic

Church, which had inculcated Babylonian mystery systems into it.

“And as he sat upon the Mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?” (Matthew 24:3)

They understood at least to some degree He wasn't only talking of that physical temple or that if He was, Christ would return before that temple was destroyed. That was probably the limit of their understanding at that point. But, the question they put to Him was, what would be the sign of His coming and the end of the world and that is the question He answered. It wasn't the question that is implied about that physical temple, but they asked specifically what would be the signs of His return and the end of the world. That is the question He answers in the rest of this Chapter.

“And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.” (Matthew 24:4-5)

Think today as I speak. Don't let any man deceive you, be careful. Think, consider!

“And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.” Verse 6

We are in a world today that has rumors of war, wars and rumors of war, it has both. We just recently concluded a war, if you can call it that in Iraq, after one in Afghanistan, after one in Eastern Europe, you know on and on. We hear rumors of more, perhaps in Iran, Saudi

Arabia, North Korea or wherever that we would be involved in. The Continent of Africa is full of wars today. You don't hear much about it because that is just Africans. They are unimportant to our culture and society for the most part. Although we are finally sending some help to those in Liberia. But, we see a world that is full of wars and rumors of wars, so we know the time is drawing near.

These things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. You are going to see this, but there are other events that must occur He says. It is not quite yet.

“For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.” (Matthew 24:7)

It is hard for us to imagine that as we sit in America today because we are not exposed to it. We still have plenty to eat, more than enough to eat. America as a whole is obese. We have far too much. But, that is not true all over the world. There are famines and disease pestilences spreading. The Center for Disease Control in Atlanta expects this. They know that sooner or later something is going to get loose on the same level of the flu that killed millions and millions in the late 1800's or 1900's, whenever it was. They just know it is going to happen. Something is going to mutate and get loose that will kill millions and millions of people. Maybe it is not West Nile or SARS, but then AIDS has already killed millions hasn't it? So, there already are pestilences. In parts of Africa there are 40-50 and 60% of the people who have AIDS or at least have HIV, which leads to AIDS. We see

increasing earthquakes around the world; we had one the other day in Greece. We are in the time of the end.

“All these are the beginning of sorrows.” (Matthew 24:8)

This is just where it starts. Then what comes next?

“Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.” (Matthew 24:9)

He is talking to His disciples, soon to become apostles. In other words, addressing the leadership of the Church of God in whatever form it might take at the end time. Because, this is an end-time prophecy about the return of Christ. It wasn't specifically about them though they at that time thought so. They thought they would live until that time. But, it was still a couple of thousand years off.

So, the “you” has to be perceived in terms of the end-time, not of their time. It did happen to them, didn't it? Most of the apostles were martyred and many of the people in the Church were. Paul, himself, before he became converted was killing Christians every time he got a chance, every time he could identify one he had him killed. So, there was a fulfillment then, but we are looking beyond that to the return of Christ as this Chapter goes on.

There is to be a martyrdom of saints at the end. Could that possible be what Revelation 17:6 is talking about? Where is that persecution going to take place? Well, it would seem to me it would have to take place where God's

true believers are. Where are most Sabbath keepers and followers of the Bible today? Most are in the United States, Canada and throughout Northwest Europe, Australia and South Africa. You don't find many Sabbath keepers in Hunan Province; you don't find them in North Korea, Malaysia, or Africa. You find them in Northwest Europe, the United States and those pieces of the British Empire, now defunct basically, which are scattered around the earth. That is where you find them. There are people scattered around the world in South America and other places in small numbers, but most of those Sabbath keepers and remember that is the sign between God and His people, those who keep the Sabbath and by extension the Sabbaths including the Holy Days. Because in Leviticus 23 it mentions “The Sabbath” the weekly Sabbath first and then in the same context begins to explain the Holy Days we are to keep. So, where do you find people who keep the Sabbath and God's Holy Days today? Mostly, 90% are in the United States, at least those we know of. If you are going to persecute and kill those people, where do you have to go to do it? You have to go where they are that should be obvious. That means the majority of the persecution would have to take place in those areas where most of the Sabbath and Holy Day keepers are. That would be in the countries I just described because they aren't anywhere else except in small numbers. So, they will deliver us up in this country to be killed here.

You shall be hated of all peoples for the name of Christ. This is going to be a persecution that becomes worldwide, but most of it will be

centered here because that is where most of those true believers are.

“And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.” (Matthew 24:10)

We already have a divided cracked Church with many breaches as described in Isaiah 58 and other places. Already in turmoil, I am speaking of people who keep the Sabbath and Holy Days and the other testimony of Christ. Shattered and cracked, but it has not reached this proportion except spiritually. This is happening on a spiritual level right now. The ministry is betraying people wholesale so spiritual death, famine and pestilence. I think there can be no question of that. They are a hireling ministry. But, I think this is speaking ultimately of physical death, not just spiritual death, which really is worse. Spiritual death is worse. But, physical death is what we fear perhaps more than spiritual death in many cases. That is backward, but that is often the way it is. That which we fear will come upon us. If we are worried about our physical lives more than our spiritual lives we will lose our physical lives. That is what people tend to do.

“And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.” (Matthew 24:11-13)

Because sin shall abound within God’s people, within those descendants, if you will of the apostles, the love of many shall wax cold.

The end of this age is coming. These prophecies have to do with that end and very much have to do with persecution of those who would obey God, those who are obeying God.

“And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.” (Matthew 24:14)

I don’t think that is what Herbert Armstrong did by any means. I think there are two witnesses coming to do that. He is dead. He is gone. He did a calling work; he did Matthew 28 the last two verses. He made disciples of many nations and peoples, but he didn’t do this. This is right at the end, and then shall the end come.

“When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)

16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:” (Matthew 24:15-17)

Remember, we the temple of God. Then will come a tribulation such has never been. We are familiar with that. He says, that except those days should be shortened there would no flesh be saved alive. That didn’t happen in the 1st century AD, but it is now possible to destroy all human flesh by means of man’s devices. There is a great persecution coming. Read Ezekiel 5 where it talks about how 1/3 will die of famine and pestilence and 1/3 be taken into captivity and a sword sent after them. We are very familiar with those. They tie in with the famine, pestilences and sword of Matthew 24 and with the

persecution on true saints at the end as we see in Revelation 17:6. I don't know why, but I have always more or less perceived the persecution on true believers would come from our own government. I don't know, it is just where we are. I did not think the Beast would do it. This is something that happens before the Abomination of Desolation is set up and before we flee for our lives. So, it is something that happens to us before those events. There is a great persecution coming. A mark of the Beast will be instituted. We will see that more later on. We will see how the religious community is involved in that before we are done with this series.

You could say this is the Catholic Church perhaps or you could say this is our own government coming down on true Christians, Sabbath keepers. This hasn't defined anything for sure has it? But, I think it is clear there is an end-time persecution coming that has not yet occurred. We might as well be ready and prepared for it, spiritually prepared. There is an end-time confrontation. That is what Revelation 17:6 is talking about in companion with other scriptures.

This woman, this harlot, whoever she might be is drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus.

"...and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration." (Revelation 17:6)

This is an incredible harlot with power unparalleled in the history of the earth. No time before has any nation or people had the capacity to do whatever they wished, whenever they wished,

anywhere on the planet. The Babylonian, the Medo-Persian, the Greeks and the Roman Empires were limited basically to Eurasia. Today, we can dominate anywhere we wish on the earth by means of airplanes and modern weaponry. The world wonders with great admiration. They hate us, they are jealous, but there has to be a great awe in terms of what can be done. It was even termed in Iraq "shock and awe". Let's go on.

"And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns." (Revelation 17:7)

The angel is going to tell John, and we will see it in the following context, what this mystery is all about and of the Beast that carries the woman. "Carries" here in the Green is #941 in Strong's. It is the word, which means lifts or bears up or received the woman. So this Beast lies down and takes on the woman, the harlot.

"The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is." (Revelation 17:8)

I am not going to explain these next few verses in detail except to pick a point out of here. We will come back to this later when we discuss the Beast itself. There have been many theories about whom this might be talking about.

Some theories are members of the U.N., leaders of the U.N., New World Order and various other ones. But, let's not get into that, let's move on.

“...And shall ascend out of the bottomless pit and go into perdition...”

This Beast is right at the end. It is talking of the Beast and the False Prophet, which in Chapter 19 Christ takes by the scruff of the neck and throws into a lake of fire. So, this Beast and the False Prophet last until the end. We will see this harlot; this woman is destroyed before then. So, the Beast and the False Prophet are still in tact when Christ returns, but this harlot dies before then.

“...and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world...”

Here again we see a confrontation between the whole world and the true believers, the Father and the Son. Everyone who is not written in the book of life is going to stand in great awe and admiration of this Beast. So, it is the whole world, whom Satan has deceived, against God's true believers wherever and whomever they may be. That is what the stage is being set for.

“...when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

9 And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, (governments) on which the woman sitteth.

10 And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.

11 And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.” (Rev 17:8-11)

The last one is the one that is thrown in to the lake of fire.

“And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings...”

We had always equated this with the Roman Empire and perhaps there is a fulfillment through history in terms of that. But, notice something about this one. This is the point I wanted to make.

...which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.” (Revelation 17:12)

They are something that is to come. We are talking in the context remember of this Great Harlot, whomever she might be and she is on the scene and yet this Beast, even though the woman is on the scene, has not yet come into sight. They have not yet been given power, kingship, rulership or whatever. They have received no kingdom as yet, but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. This is a very short period of time. The harlot is already on the scene before the Beast comes fully into view. These kings have not yet today received power and yet I submit to you that the harlot can be very much in view.

“These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.” (Revelation 17:13)

These ten kings, ten horns, whomever they might be give all of their

influence, power and strength to the Beast.

“These shall make war with the Lamb,”

This Beast, these 10 kings last until the end, but as we will see here in a moment, they destroy the Great Harlot whoever she is.

“...and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings:...”

They think they are pretty hot, but He is stronger.

“...and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.” (Revelation 17:14)

So, there is process of salvation that includes a calling, a choosing and then a period of time to show faithfulness. What was the big sin of ancient Israel and the reason they were divorced in the first place? It was unfaithfulness. God wants the bride-to-be of Christ to be faithful. Faithfulness has to be proven over a period of time. It is not something you make the day the wedding vows are made and then you are recognized as faithful from then on. It takes a period of time before that faithfulness can be shown. There is a process of salvation that goes on. But, these faithful will come with Christ when He returns. We won't get into that, but we understand, don't we, that we rise to meet Him in the air if we are dead and faithful in Christ or if we are alive and remain, we rise to meet Him in the air. I believe we go and are married to Christ, at that point, and spend a year having a honeymoon in Heaven and then

come back and He destroys the gentile kingdoms at that time and takes rulership of the earth. We rule with Him 1,000 years. We will always be with Christ wherever He is from that time that we rise to meet Him and thence forward. I said we wouldn't get into that, but I will explain it briefly and not go to all the scriptures.

Now, we get back to the Great Harlot, understanding that the Harlot and the Beast are together for a short time.

“And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.” (Revelation 17:15)

Many, many peoples in other words.

“And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, (these 10 kings who have power for a short while or an hour with the Beast) these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.” (Revelation 17:16-17)

The whore, the harlot, this Great Mystery Babylon will be destroyed by the Beast, but the Beast will remain.

If you try to say the whole earth is Babylonian, that in an overall sense is true. Yet, this is a specific entity being defined here that will be killed by other people on the earth who also are part of the Satanic Babylonian system. But, this entity on the stage at the end of the age is one that dies, is burned with fire and made desolate. It will show violence here in a little while.

Does this conflict with our traditional view of what would happen to Israel? No, it doesn't. Because if we are the peoples of Israel and we are destroyed that fits the punishment that God has shown throughout all the prophecies for end-time Israel. It is not a problem. Can you both be Israel and a Great Whore? I think we have already seen that in Ezekiel 16, Hosea 1 and other places. Yes, you can. Is it us? I am including here Great Britain and the Israelite nations whom we feel we have defined. But, America is the head. We are undisputedly today the leader of all those peoples. The prophecies talk about Judah, Jacob and all the tribes being destroyed here at the end. It is not just America, but certainly you have to consider that America itself to be the leader of the Babylonian system we see today.

“For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.” (Revelation 17:17)

In other words there are some words of God about this. Perhaps written in the prophecies of Ezekiel, Isaiah, Jeremiah and the Minor Prophets all the way through. The words of God, which He had written, will be fulfilled on this Great Harlot.

“And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.” (Revelation 17:18)

Which city today rules over the kings of the earth? Is it Istanbul? Is it Tokyo? Is it Hong Kong? Is it Johannesburg? Is it Zurich? Which city

today has greatest influence over all the kings of the earth? I would pencil in Washington, D.C. because Washington, D.C. represents the economic and military might of America and of Britain and the rest of Israel for that matter, our coalition. Just as Babylon was a city that ruled over and was symbolic of the Chaldean Empire. It wasn't just the city, but as I explained before we often use a city to delineate which country we are talking about. We don't always say the United Kingdom or England, we say London or Washington or Rio de Janeiro whatever country you want to talk about. Often we refer to in politics Japan as Tokyo. The same is here because many of the prophecies we will get into later on in Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel etc. speak of Babylon and the Chaldean Empire in tandem. You cannot separate them in that sense.

Does anyone have another candidate for another city, which has domination over the whole earth?

“And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. (Revelation 18:1)

He lays out here a Beast and Harlot. Now another angel comes and we are going to see detail added. Now we are going to get into a chapter, which adds definition to this Harlot.

“And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.” (Revelation 18:2)

What do we see in America today? “Harry Potter Books” witchcraft being disseminated from the United Kingdom, part of Israel, to America and the rest of the world by the millions. We see all kinds of movie, which deal with science fiction and demonism. Witchcraft in this country is increasing by leaps and bounds. The secret societies are into demonism, Satanism and witchcraft. It is something we do in hiding and something we are doing increasingly in the open. Babylon the Great is fallen, is fallen and is become habitation of devils. He clearly relates it with demonism and Satanism. The hold of every foul spirit and the cage of every unclean and hateful bird. Do we have clean and unclean still today? Even in the Book of Revelation it talks about that which is clean and that which is unclean.

“For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.” (Revelation 18:3)

Not just some nations, but all. Does that fit the Catholic Church so far? The Catholic Church even though it calls itself a universal church has very limited influence on the earth today, the end-time stage as we see it. It has almost taken over completely South America. It is almost completely in charge in Italy. There are a high percentage of Catholics in Spain and Portugal and a smattering in the United States percentage wise. Some of the nations of Europe also, even Germany is 40% Catholic. But, Catholics have made few inroads into Asia, the Middle East, North America; the major populations of the earth are

untouched basically by Catholicism. America, on the other hand, touches all nations. We will see how it touches all nations in way the Catholic Church simply cannot do.

It mentions Babylon the Great is fallen, is fallen and we will return to that because once we get some definitions made I think it will make more sense what the doubling falling is talking about. I am not going to ignore that; we will come back to it.

“...all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication,...

Has the world become drunk with the things that have been exported from the Catholic Church or the things that have been exported from America? When I got to Africa, Europe, Asia or Australia and I have been to those places, and I turn of the TV do I find programs submitted by the Catholic Church or do I find them all coming from America? Ninety-eight percent come from America. The whole world is drunk on our fornications.

Is America causing the whole world to lose perception and perspective and what is important? What is important to Americans? A lot of money and lots of entertainment and the bawdier that entertainment gets increasingly the more we seem to like it and the more of it we export causing other peoples, if they had any perspective and perception to lose that too. As we stumble along, not following God, as a people we are causing other people to follow those same paths and stumble along as well with us. You also lose conviction when you are drunk. You may have moral convictions,

economic convictions, a way of managing your money and your life, but when you become drunk those convictions go away. We become “loosy goosy” in many different ways. We see a nation today, a people and a world that has lost perspective, perception and conviction as well as where it is headed and what is important. A world that has gone against God, away from God, does not even recognize God for the most part any more and indeed as Christ said, you worship you know not what. The Jews of His day, which were supposedly the holy ones, He said were worshipping Satan the devil. How much worse is it today?

Let’s go on in Verse 3,

“For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication,”

That basically is a moral decline, a cultural decline. All nations have partaken of our cultural decline via the media and the examples of our people, our armed services people who have gone over seas.

“...and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her,”

There is political and governmental involvement. So, on a social and moral level, on a political level and then,

“...and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.” (Revelation 18:3)

So, there is economic concourse or intercourse if you want to say, in this example. All aspects of our society are

affecting the world. Can you say that of the Catholic Church? Have the nations or merchants of the earth waxed rich through the abundance of the delicacies of the Catholic Church? Give me a break here. The Catholic Church has raped, ravaged and pillaged nations, a whole continent in South America. They took all the wealth of the Aztecs, the Incas and everyone else back to Rome. They haven’t made anybody rich. They have made themselves rich. So, this woman, whoever she is will have to have made the merchants of the earth rich. I think that leaves out the Catholic Church. This one means of defining becomes very very important as we go on here.

“And I heard another voice from heaven, saying,”

All right we now have this harlot defined in the Book of Revelation. Then we have God’s people addressed. So, again the confrontation is between those around God’s people and God’s people. That is what the whole of the Book of Revelation is about. It is a confrontation of the Church against the world. Satan has deceived the whole world. He need not have any work there. The only ones he is really concerned about today are those who still follow God’s way and God’s will. So, John heard a voice saying,

“Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.”

This woman is full of sin and will be plagued. As I rehearsed some time back we are a people have become degenerative and sick. We have a plague of cancer, a plague of diabetes, a

plague of heart disease, a plague of all kinds of and manners of disease in spite of the “developments” of medical science. We are sicker and sicker day by day, month by month and year by year. Come Out of Her. Do not live as she is living, do not think like she thinks. If this great harlot can be defined as America and Israel today, then what He is telling us is, Do Not Imbibe of this countries culture, its social order, its politics and government or its materiality because it is sinning in all those areas. Therefore, if we America and rest of the nations of Israel can be defined as this great harlot we had better take heed to the way Americans and Western Europeans are living and not live like they are. Do We Get It? I am trying to get it. I am trying to understand that we have some changes to make based upon this incredible warning, if we indeed represent this great harlot in our own country. Do not partake of her sins and her plagues.

“For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.

6 Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double.” (Revelation 18:4-6)

Whatever sins she has promulgated, let her reap double the penalty of those sins. Made desolate, burned, made naked, violently overthrown. If this harlot is America and Western Europe today and also the people Israel, then all those prophecies, in Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel and the Minor Prophets about Israel will be fulfilled in this Great Harlot. We will be taken down with her if we still live and

think as she lives and thinks. We too will receive double the violence, double the recompense for iniquity. Verse 7,

“How much she hath glorified herself,”

Who on earth today has glorified herself more than America? United we stand; proud to be an American, we see it all over our land today. We glorify ourselves as the greatest society on earth do we not? American ways, American industry, American movies, anything about our life we think is the best thing going and we wish to impart it to others, do we not? We have glorified ourselves.

“...and lived deliciously,”

In other words, anything we want we can have. The whole world seeks the American Dream. Are our borders being breached by tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands of people every year who want to come live the American dream? Who are living in tarpaper shacks south of our border in Mexico, who want to come across and live in fine homes. Wherever I have gong on this earth I have seen people living in 8’ x 10’ pieces of whatever they can find to put together. Millions and millions of them throughout Southern Africa and the different countries I have visited. No water except what they carry on their back, no water they can receive except that which they dipped out a place that I will not describe and they take it home one their backs to drink. They are all jealous of what they see on TV. Their perception of America is not necessarily Middle America it is of palatial mansions in Hollywood and New York, which are portrayed in our sitcoms and our movies. They think we all live that

way. Indeed, in many respect we do. It may not palatial, but if you have 1000-1500 square foot house or even a 700 or 800 square foot house you have a palace compared to most of the people on this earth. A palace with running water and heat and cool, electricity, toilets, things most of the world only dreams about. And I mean most of the world. We have lived deliciously. Is that true of the Catholic Church and were her sphere of influence has gone? Mostly in Southern Europe, the poor sister of the rest of Europe, Spain, Portugal and Italy and South America, which is poverty stricken have been mostly influenced by the Catholic Church. They don't live deliciously, except it they might be here. The real Catholics don't even look upon American Catholics as true Catholics. Whoever this harlot is, she has lived deliciously.

“so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow.”

It can't happen here, she says. We were shocked by “911”. Can it happen here? Our government reacted very violently and strongly to try to prevent it ever happening here again. Or at least that is what they say. More and more reports are coming out that they knew it was coming. Just as FDR knew Pearl Harbor was going to be bombed, but the government allowed it so happen for their own purposes. We will not go into that now. But, you see that in the newspapers and magazines now, that they knew ahead of time this was being prepared and ignored it, on purpose or not only remains to be seen. But, they did know something was coming. Apparently, they knew even specifically

what even before it happened. So, they allowed it on purpose so we could have an oil field we did not have. I think the same is true in Afghanistan; we wanted a pipeline through there. There are reports of the leaders of the Taliban meeting in Texas with President Bush before the Afghanistan was started. They demanded a bigger piece of the pie of the oil that would come through on that pipeline and we said no, we will see you in the war. That is a report I have heard. I don't know if it is true or not, but it wouldn't surprise me any, because we live on economic power. That is what we want. “I sit a queen and am not widow.” Does this fit Israel? Who would deny that Christ divorced her? America today overall looks upon herself as a Christian nation, right? Yes, we do. We don't feel divorced and yet Christ said He put Israel away, divorced her. No longer is she a queen of Christ or fit to be, but only those spiritual Israelites who will follow God's ways. She says, I sit a queen and not widow. Not a king in this sense because she is portrayed as a harlot, so the analogy here is female. If the analogy were of a king then this king would say, I am the king of the earth. Instead it is portrayed as a woman and she sits a queen. We are increasingly departing from so-called Christianity and going into demonism, humanism and various other things. Is it also a county, which says, Christ didn't die for me? I sit a queen on my own, I'm no widow. He didn't die for me. Increasingly Americans are denying even their so-called Christian faith.

“Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine;”

So, the plagues are coming very quickly, very suddenly when they occur. Read all the prophecies in the Old Testament about the judgment that will come upon Israel. They say, quickly, suddenly, one hour, one day, one month a very short period of time. So, we will go from sitting a queen, living deliciously saying, we are no widow and it can't happen here to very sudden destruction, if this is we.

“and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her.

9 And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning,” (Revelation 18:7-9)

If this is the Catholic Church or if it is America when the fall comes there is a category of people who are going to be sorry to see it happen. Who will they be?

“Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come.”

I don't want any part of that. I don't want to be destroyed like she is being destroyed, so they stand way back, saying, Alas, Alas. Now who is going to weep for her?

“And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more:” (Revelation 18:10-11)

Who is the greatest merchandizing nation on the earth

today? Liberia? Tokyo? London? No, it is America, hands down. California, alone, if it were a nation would have the 5th largest economy of any nation on earth. California alone and it is about to fall isn't it? Zephaniah 1 talks about a great economic crash coming in Israel. This is a crash; very suddenly in one hour is your judgment come.

“And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more:” (Revelation 18:11)

Who does the world depend upon to buy their merchandise? Who does Japan depend upon to buy their merchandise, their cars, their TVs, their DVDs, their PDCs and whatever else they produce? Who depends upon America to buy everything they can produce? China, Chinese goods are taking over America today. Europe sends many of their exports over here. South America, Mexico anything they produce, send their exports here. We are the market place the whole world covets. If we can only sell our goodies in America, they say. We will be rich. Was Tokyo, Japan not a third/fourth rate nation at the end of World War II? Why is it a leader in economy today? It is actually in trouble, but why did it become a leading industrial power? Because they could sell their cheap, no good junk and cars over here. Then they got to the place where they had real good stuff and cars that they can still sell here. They are all over our country. Then it happened in Taiwan. It is happening in Hong Kong and now China. This is the market place everyone covets. Not the Catholic Church. How many people are trying to sell stuff to the Catholic Church? Do you know of anybody?

Maybe they are making these little crucifixes that came out of Christ's cross 2,000 years ago and they try to sell those to the Catholic Church, but that is about it. No man buys their merchandise anymore.

“The merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble,

13 And cinnamon, and odours, and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts, and sheep, and horses, and chariots, and slaves, and souls of men.” (Revelation 18:12-13)

America will buy anything from anywhere. Fine wonderful things, all kinds of imports anything and everything, stuff you use in your home, stuff you use in the military, in industry anything they have sold to us even slaves and souls of men. This could harken back to the Civil War for that matter. We have trafficked in the bodies of people made in the image of God. But, it doesn't need to go back that far. Are we not also making slaves of Chinese Nike makers today? Who work for almost nothing making \$100.00 tennis shoes that are worth about \$5.00 for Americans. Those people are working in sweatshops as virtual slaves by the millions to provide goods for America, not for the Catholics. Not unless they happen to be Americans. How on earth could this even begin to apply to the Catholic Church? No way, they have stolen from nations and continents, but they have not made anybody rich but themselves.

But, when this harlot falls, merchants all over the earth are going to cry bitterly and stand way back.

“And the fruits that thy soul lusted after are departed from thee, and all things which were dainty and goodly are departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more at all.” (Revelation 18:14)

The export-import market is going to dry up completely when this whore is destroyed.

“The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing,” (Revelation 18:15)

Has Great Britain, well in tandem with America to some degree, made the other nations rich? They are nowhere near today the trading combine America is. Nor were they 200 years ago when the sails of Britannia went around the world. What did they have? They had little bitty ships with sails that took a year to go to Africa and back, two or three years to go to Australia and back. We have huge transport vessels today. The oceans are clogged with them going back and forth from America to every nation on earth. We have airplanes flying by the thousands every day carrying our goods back and forth across the oceans. There has never been anything like this in the annals of history. Is the Catholic Church doing that? This is one definition that just blows them out of the water isn't it?

“And saying, Alas, alas, that great city, that was clothed in fine linen,

and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls!

17 For in one hour so great riches is come to nought.”

Again harkening back to Zephaniah 1 and the great financial crash that was in the market place of Jerusalem, Maktesh. Where is the greatest market today? Everything hinges on what happens in American markets, the New York Stock Exchange, the Nasdaq even the Chicago Market. The rest of them fear and tremble before what happens on Wall Street. Tokyo’s markets, British markets, German markets, Chinese markets all react to what happens in the economy of America. Not the Catholic Church.

“For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off,”

What nation, if the trade stopped would they all take notice of? There is only one.

“18 And cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city!”

There again harkening back to Chaldea. Babylon was only the capital city of that Empire just as the American Empire does today. And it is an empire. We may not take over those countries and say those are mine, but we influence them in everything they do.

“19 And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas, that great city, wherein were made rich all that had

ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate.

20 Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her.” (Revelation 18:17-20)

We, brethren have been in the captivity of the Babylonia system as disseminated from Washington, D.C., Hollywood, New York and all the pagan abominable places that exist in Babylon today. We have a war on our hands to try to live Godly in an ungodly society and a nation overtaken by materialism, money, gain and things by one swept away with immorality in a nation that is utterly ungodly. Not only morally and economically, but in every other way.

We do not depend upon God for our protection and safety as He told Israel to do. We depend upon the might of our military. That is whoredom from God. He is to be our husband to protect us, to put His arms around us to be sure we are unharmed. But, we look to our own hand, to our own strength, to our own military don’t we? In God We Trust, send some tanks; In God We Trust, send some smart bombs. It is all lip service. It means nothing. We trust in our own arm of military strength. But, it says that at some point the people of God will be able to rejoice over that Babylon because God is going to destroy it. That Babylon that made is almost impossible for us to serve God in the way He wishes to be served and then began to persecute and martyr us because of it. That is coming as we saw in Matthew 24. It is not upon us yet, but it isn’t far off.

Those who wish to rule the earth through the New World Order, the U.N., the Masons or whatever group you want to talk about who have aspirations along those lines, the Edomites as well. Whoever has those aspirations in today's world is against true Christianity. That is one thing they wish to get rid of. Those who rule in Washington are trying to get rid of the 10 Commandments in our schools. They are trying to get rid of the 10 Commandments on statues. They are trying to get rid of the influence of God and the Bible throughout our land. They are ignoring Romans 1 and Sodom and Gomorrah. Homosexuality is becoming rife. It is a plague that we are spreading to the world. We have cast down all the laws against sodomy. Now there is nothing to stop it. We are sick from the head to the foot. How can you and I escape it? How can we pull away? How can we break the bonds as He says in Isaiah 52 that are holding us down and causing this culture to walk all over us. He tells us to break them. Every aspect of this society is against God. What aspects of it do we still like? We like its clothes, its food, its entertainment, its materialism, and its warfare. What part are we unwilling to give up? What of her sins will we continue to imbibe of and then have to partake of her plagues?

“20 Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her.”

How it must have felt when those few who were seeking to obey God in ancient Israel when they saw Jerusalem fall? When they saw the northern 10 tribes fall before that even? They realized the prophets had been warning and warning the Israel and later Judah

would fall. Then they saw it happen before their very eyes. How must they have felt? How will we feel when we have felt? How will we feel when we feel the persecution come upon our peoples, upon us as a Church, upon those Sabbath keepers who are seeking to obey God in every aspect of their lives? How will we feel when that persecution comes on us and we are being persecuted unrighteous for a change? Then we see that system fall down around us. Rejoice you people of God when you see this happen because we have been in slavery to the system all the nearly 70 years that the Church of God began developing from the 7th Day Church of God and to the Puritans, back to England and Europe. All the history of the modern Sabbath keeping Church of God who also adhere to the rest of Gods ways have been captivity of Babylon. Enslaved to its society, enslaved to its ways it will finally be broken.

God tells us ahead of time to come out of her My people, that you do not be broken with her, that you not suffer her plagues. This is a great call to you and me to come out of her. Rejoice over her, for God has avenged you on her.

“And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.” (Revelation 18:21)

When our society falls it's going to fall completely. No rock star is going to stand and say I'm going to make a new album now. It will end. It will be over and done.

“And the voice of harpers, and musicians, and of pipers, and trumpeters, shall be heard no more at all in thee;”

Maybe that’s what I was just referring to. All of our music culture is going to go away. Do you think it is hard for kids to divorce themselves from the music culture of today? Yes, it is. They get all emotionally involved. It is all going to be taken away. We won’t be able to turn on the MTV or the radio or go by discs and hear it because God is going to sweep the corruption and the garbage away.

“and no craftsman, of whatsoever craft he be, shall be found any more in thee; and the sound of a millstone shall be heard no more at all in thee;”

Our industry will be destroyed. Does the Catholic Church have an industry? So craftsmen will be gone. Even the making of food, the grinding of wheat, industry of all kinds will be destroyed, be gone. Do you want to live here then? Is the Catholic Church known as a great industrial entity? No. There is very little in here about religion. Except that it is addressing true believers. The rest of it is economic, military and social/moral.

“23 And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee:”

In other words, our society will be completely disrupted. People won’t be given or giving in marriage at that time. Now, that doesn’t conflict with Matthew 25, which says just before Christ returns they will be going on as if nothing had happened. We shall see that

even though the Great Harlot, which I believe is America and the rest of Israel will be destroyed the rest of the world will party on for 42 months. But, it won’t be heard here, because our society will be destroyed, that which corrupted the whole world and made the world rich.

“ for thy merchants were the great men of the earth;”

Are the merchants of the Catholic Church great men of the earth? Name one. They don’t exist.

“ for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived.”

By the sorceries of this Great Harlot. The word “sorceries” here in Strong’s is 5331, it means medicine, pharmacy, magic, witchcraft. We have false healers today. We have the Medical society, the AMA, who with their drugs and their pharmacies disrupt and destroy our bodies. They give us one drug to solve this problem and the side effects of it create another problem. Then they give you another drug to solve that problem, and then you have side effects from that so they give you a drug for those side effects. It is said that after you go through 7 to 8 different drugs treating side effects the mortician comes to you side for his effect. That is my poetry, but that is what we are talking about. We have deceived with our drugs. Not only with our pharmacies, and who exports more pills and potions than any other nation on earth or any people on earth? Does the Catholic Church? No it is us. If you get away from the legitimate drug trade who has the greatest illegitimate drug trade on earth? That is another sorcery that has been imported on our people and other

peoples as a result of our activity in illegal drugs. Pharmacan is the word that pharmacy comes from and it means a drug, a druggist, and a poisoner. Will the drugs they use to cure cancer poison you and kill you yourselves? Yes, they can and often do. By extension it says a magician. We are a magic kingdom to the rest of the world, economically, culturally, socially and in terms of medicine. Everything here is magic to the world. This word could also probably mean religious witchcraft and sorcery. But, we have already covered that. We talked about seducers, demons and unclean and hateful birds.

“24 And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth.”

Who slays more people today than anyone else all over the earth? The Liberians kill Liberians and maybe the Chinese whip and kill certain peoples, but if you want to look for a group of people or nation who go all over the earth and kill whomsoever they wish. You almost have to look at America. I believe that is where the prophets and the saints are going to be martyred very shortly now. Right here within Israel and the so-called Christian nations who are denying any Christianity true or so-called they have ever had and going after humanism. It is spreading rapidly here as well as demonism.

So, this Great Harlot, whoever she is has an awful lot of bills to pay.

“And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God:

2 For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand.” (Revelation 19:1-2)

God is going to take care of this problem.

“And again they said, Alleluia. And her smoke rose up for ever and ever.” (Revelation 19:3)

That is the flames of her fire were not put out. The Greek indicates it is a fire that is not quenched until it burns itself out. This isn't an ever-burning hell that is it talking about. Then He goes on to describe the marriage of the Lamb. This is very definitely an end-time prophecy, not something from 200-500 years ago or the Middle Ages or the Crusades, but something that happens right at the end of the age.