

## THE MEANING OF THE WOMAN AND THE BEAST ---REV. 17:7-18

### OBSERVATION

### INTERPRETATION

### APPLICATION

Monday 7:30pm, H 106 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by doughnut/vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell # 714 425 9221; email – [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column. References include commentaries by Pastor Chuck Smith, Vernon McGee, David Hocking, Warren Wiersbe and others.

#### THE DESCRIPTION OF THE BEAST – VS. 7-14

#### THE IMPACT THE BEAST WILL HAVE – VS. 7-8

*Rev 17:7 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.*

*Rev 17:8 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.*

*v. 7 “Why did you marvel? (wonder, amazement) I will tell you the mystery” - Cf. 13:3b, 8*

*v. 8a The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition. - The beast (with seven heads and ten horns) came out of the bottomless pit (the devil and all his demonic hoards) and will go into perdition - Cf. Rev. 17:8, 11 with 19:20 (referring to the eighth)*

*v. 8 b 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. - “name not written in the book of life” cf. Rev. 3:5; 13:8; 20:15; Luke 10:20*

#### “THE MEANING OF THE WOMAN AND THE BEAST - THE MYSTERY REVEALED” - Revelation 17:7-18

The woman, described as a mystery and a mother, is sitting on the beast – she is not the beast. They are separate!

Are you really rejoicing that your name is written in the Lamb’s Book of Life?

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### THE IDENTITY OF THE SEVEN HEADS – VS. 9-10

**Rev 17:9 "Here is the mind which has wisdom:**

**The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits.**

**Rev 17:10 There are also seven kings.**

**Five have fallen,**

**one is,**

**and the other (allos)has not yet come.**

**And when he (it) comes, he (it) must continue a short time.**

v. 9a “has wisdom” - The wisdom of God to understand. –cf. Rev. v. 17: 1; 15

Fact #5 v. 9 “The seven heads are seven mountains (empires-nations people, multitudes?) on which the woman sits.” – the mountains represent nations, people, multitudes and tongues. – cf. Rev. 12:3 The ten horns on the seventh head?

Fact #6 v. 10a “There are also seven kings.” or “and they are seven kings or kingdoms” (Greek - kai Basileis hepta eisin). Cf. Rev. 17:12 -“have received no kingdoms as yet”. The seven heads are seven kings or kingdoms. Some argue for the heads being the first Roman Emperors, but this has a number of problems, as there were many Roman Emperors-it falls apart. The other view is that the heads represent world empires.

v. 10a “Five have fallen” The five empires that fell (had fallen at the time Revelation was written) - Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, and Greece

v. 10b “one is” - The one is - Rome (in John’s day)

v. 10b “and the other has not yet come” - The other (Greek – allos, another of the same kind) has not yet come - a future empire, composed of ten divisions - ten horns. The world right now has already been divided into ten divisions – Canada, USA, and Mexico have been identified as Division #1.

Fact #7 v. 10c “And when he comes, he must continue a short time.” - The seventh head will last only a short time. It will be over before the Tribulation is done.

*“wisdom” – God’s wisdom*

**Facts (#):**

**#1. Seven heads were on the dragon (Satan) with seven crowns on the heads – Rev. 12:3**

**#2. The beast who arose from the sea had seven heads and ten horns with crowns on the horns – Rev. 13:1**

**#3. The beast (with seven heads and ten horns) came out of the bottomless pit (the devil and all his demonic hoards) and will go into perdition - Cf. Rev. 17:8, 11 with 19:20 (referring to the eighth)**

**#4. The beast ceased to exist and then came back to life “the beast that was, and is not, and yet is” – Rev. 13:3 (deadly wound was inflicted on one of its heads -presumably the sixth one (Rome? – it fell in 476 A.D.); it comes back to life as the seventh one (resurrected Rome?) with ten divisions or kingdoms of the entire world). (“Rev 17:8 The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition”) But it will last only a short time-probably will be over before the Tribulation is done.**

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**Rev 17:11 The beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition.**

#### **THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE TEN HORNS** **– VS. 12-13**

**Rev 17:12 "The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast.**

**Rev 17:13 These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast.**

#### **THE IMPOSSIBILITY FACING THE TEN HORNS – V. 14**

**Rev 17:14 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."**

**Rev 17:15 Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.**

**Fact #8 v. 11 "The beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, -. The eighth will come out of the seven – The beast will be the eighth world empire? - Cf. 17:17 cf. Daniel 7:8, 24, 25**

**vs. 12-13 "The ten horns which you saw are ten kings - The involvement of the ten horns (seventh head) - Cf. Daniel 7:7-8, 23-25**

**v. 14a "These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them., The impossibility which the ten horns will face - Cf. Psalm 2:1-12**

**v. 14 b "those who are with him" - John 14:2-3**

**v. 14 c "called, chosen, and faithful" - 1 Cor. 1:9, 23-24, 26-29 – a wonderful description of believers! We are coming with our conquering King!**

**v. 15 – "where the harlot sits" - cf. v. 9 – "on which the woman sits".**

**I'm planning on being there—how about you?**

## THE MEANING OF THE WOMAN AND THE BEAST ---REV. 17:7-18

### OBSERVATION

#### **THE DESTRUCTION OF THE WOMAN – VS. 16-18**

**Rev 17:16 And the ten horns** (on the seventh head) **which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire.**

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

**Rev 17:18 And the woman whom you saw is that great city**

**which reigns over the kings of the earth."**

### INTERPRETATION

**v. 16 "these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire. - The means by which the woman is destroyed - The woman has been sitting on top of the ten horns. Now they will turn on her and destroy her! - cf. Rev. 18:8, 9, 18**

**v. 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." - The motivation behind this destruction of the woman - Cf. Matthew 5:17-18; Jeremiah 50:45; 51:6-7, 11, 24, 29, 54-56 – this is the theme of Revelation. Whatever Babylon is, it represents ALL OF HISTORY!**

**v. 18 "that great city" – The meaning of the woman - cf. 11:8; 14:8; 16:19; 17:5; 18:2, 10, 19, 21; 21:10 (the city above) - The woman is a GREAT CITY (the city, the great one)!**

**v. 18 "which reigns (the one having a kingdom over the kings of the earth) over the kings of the earth."**  
**"reigns" (Greek - "the one having a kingdom over the kings of the earth") She has exercised her authority over the kings of the earth long before the tribulation period.**

**The woman is organized religion** whose present form is the Roman Catholic Church--but that's not a full answer! The woman **was in existence long before Rome ever came into being.** This woman seems to be representing **all false religion systems** who are against Jesus Christ! It also represented in the Protestant system (Christmas/Easter religious celebrations which were Babylonian) This pagan religious system is everywhere!!! 60 million Americans following astrological tables!!

If the Lord comes tonight, which city is the woman?? ROME?

### APPLICATION

#### **Questions:**

1. What is the meaning of the woman? What is she? What is the definition of "many waters"?
2. What does it really mean in verse 8 "...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"?
3. What is the identity of the seven heads in verse 9-10?
4. In verse 10 do you think the term "kings" could be referring to "kingdoms"? If so, what were the five world leading kingdoms that had fallen in John's day?
5. In verse 12, who or what are the ten horns?
6. In verse 14, who will overcome the ten horns, which are led by the beast?
7. In verse 16, who will turn on the woman, hate her, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire?
8. In verse 17, what or who is behind the ten horns to put it in their hearts to give their kingdom to the beast?
9. What/where is the "great city" referred to in verse 18? Today? In the future during the Great Tribulation?
10. What is the overlying application for us as individuals in today's study?

**"Come out of her, My people"!!!**  
**(Rev. 18:4).**

**There never has been a time when we need more loyalty to the Word of God!!!**

**Him only do we worship and serve!!!**

**"Little children, keep yourselves from idols"!! (1 John 5:21)**

**Depravity of man's heart:** 1<sup>st</sup> Generation – Adam/Eve; **man's fall; sin entered the world;** 2<sup>nd</sup> generation – **Cain/Able; murder**

After the flood – **Ham/Cush/Nimrod** - **3<sup>rd</sup> generation - Babylon mother of harlotry**

**After entry into promised land** – Jdg 2:7 So the people served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great works of the LORD which He had done for Israel.

Jdg 2:8 Now Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died *when he was* one hundred and ten years old.

Jdg 2:9 And they buried him within the border of his inheritance at Timnath Heres, in the mountains of Ephraim, on the north side of Mount Gaash.

Jdg 2:10 **When all that generation had been gathered to their fathers, another generation arose after them who did not know the LORD nor the work which He had done for Israel.**

**Jdg 2:11 Then the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served the Baals;**

Jdg 2:12 and **they forsook the LORD God of their fathers,** who had brought them out of the land of Egypt; and **they followed other gods from among the gods of the people who were all around them, and they bowed down to them; and they provoked the LORD to anger.**

Jdg 2:13 They **forsook the LORD and served Baal and the Ashtoreths.**

Jdg 2:14 And **the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel. So He delivered them into the hands of plunderers who despoiled them; and He sold them into the hands of their enemies all around, so that they could no longer stand before their enemies.**