



Revelation 17:9-18

Randy Duke 01/19/25 **The Harlot of Babylon**

(conclusion)

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Class notes, info & Directory posted to www.SJCalvaryBerean.com or scan the QR code



- i. Please keep praying for America, a PEACEFUL & SAFE transition on Monday, for Global Revival, for Pastor Mike and Calvary San Jose, for the release of the hostages, & for the Peace of Jerusalem (2 Chron. 7:14)
- ii. Do you want to give personally to aid for SoCal fire victims? Calvary Chapel Chino Hills (Jack Hibbs) has set up a link where 100% of all donations got to direct aid to first responders & fire victims. This is approved by Pastor Mike & can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/ynw8pvnr>
- iii. Want to support Joe & Jill Novelo? Checks should be made out to “Missionary Resource Network” (mailing address: Missionary Resource Network, 5558 Pine Circle, Coral Springs, FL 33067)
- iv. A real example of the ‘Babylonian religious system’ can be seen at <https://tinyurl.com/jhz3tdwz>
- v. **Understanding The Times:** “Are we seeing the rise of the Ten Kings?” (Rev 17:12). Today at 1:00PM on 88.1 FM or at OliveTreeViews: <https://bit.ly/31WMM0s> YouTube: <https://tinyurl.com/3dw9uc4s>
- vi. **Agenda Weekly:** “The Uprising of the Global Elite” <https://tinyurl.com/yw3uh983>
- vii. **Amir Tsarfati’s Weekly Newsletter** (terms of ceasefire): <https://tinyurl.com/yfwkdvkt>
- viii. **Israel unable to move forward with ceasefire as Hamas hasn’t sent list** <https://tinyurl.com/su9khuja>
- ix. **Faith events & prayer integral to Trump Inauguration:** <https://tinyurl.com/2mmzvz9>
- x. **Global Persecution of Christians growing:** <https://tinyurl.com/2arad2cf>
- xi. **Is Sanity Finally Beginning to return to Gov’t Agencies?** <https://tinyurl.com/2ts68vni>

II. Revelation Chapter 17:9-18 Babylon – The Prostitute on the Beast (conclusion)

- i. **Catholicism’s Universalism extends back at least 2 Popes**
 - a. Roman Catholicism’s ultimate partnership with a one-world religion are evident in Pope Francis’ endorsement & approval of non-Christian religions.
 - b. “As children of the one God, we must love and honor one another, respect diversity and differences in a spirit of fraternity and inclusion, and care for one another as well as for the Earth, our common home.” (Nov 30, 2024)
 - c. This goes back to Pope John Paul II: “The unity of religion promoted by the Holy Father Pope John Paul II and approved by His Holiness the Dalai Lama is not a goal to be achieved immediately, but a day may come when the love and compassion which both Buddha and Christ preached so eloquently will unite the world in a common effort to save humanity from senseless destruction, and lead toward the light in which we all believe.”
- ii. **Seven Kings & Kingdoms (Verse 10)**
 - a. This is one of the more difficult passages in the Book of Revelation. Some think these **seven kings**, five past, one present, and one to come in the succession of Roman Emperors in John’s era, but there are many historical difficulties with this approach. More likely, it is a reference to:
 - ✓ “Five have fallen” refers to 5 world empires before John’s day: Egypt, Assyria, Babylonia, Medo-Persia, & Greece
 - ✓ “One is” refers to the world empire of John’s day: Rome
 - ✓ “The other has not yet come” refers to the one world empire to come: a revival of the Roman Empire
 - b. “When he comes, he must continue a short time”: This seventh King will quickly be taken over by an eighth – and will become the ‘State of the Antichrist’ ([Revelation 17:11](#)).
 - c. There are problems with this viewpoint as well (so some have taken the seven as symbolic).
 - d. This is a difficult passage with no clear Scriptural answer, so once again ... **YOU GET TO BE A BEREAN** and dig for an answer for yourself.
 - e. ... and yes, in case you’re interested, the majority of commentaries also say there’s no clear-cut position, **so there!**
- iii. **The beast (the Antichrist) is clearly identified as the eighth king (Verse 11)**
 - a. “And the beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition.”
 - b. “Is himself also the eighth”: He is one “of the seven” in the sense that he shares characteristics with all previous world empires, but his fate is clear. **Perdition means “destruction,”** and the **beast** will be destroyed.
 - c. Here, this eighth king and his fate are clearly identified
- iv. **Ten kings to come, allies of the Antichrist (Verses 12-15)**
 - a. “Ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet”: This likely alludes to a ten-nation confederation (as in the toes of the [Daniel 2:24-45](#) image)
 - b. “These are of one mind”: Many see the European Union as the fulfillment of this. Maybe, but now there are more than 10 nations in the EU (27)
 - c. **The EU itself claims to be a successor to the ancient Roman Empire.** The EEC started in 1957, when 6 European nations met to talk about combining nuclear, coal, & economic resources. They met in Rome & signed the Treaty of Rome – the beginning of the present EU.

- d. **“These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast” (Verse 13):** Whatever their exact identity, their actions are clear. They join with the Antichrist in the war against Christ, in the battle alluded to in the sixth and seventh bowls ([Revelation 16:12-21](#)).
- e. **“The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits” (Verse 15):** The harlot presides over **peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues**. This shows the harlot’s influence is **worldwide**, through her connection to the beast.
- f. This will truly be a **one-world religion**.
- g. The interpretation of the harlot focuses on her **relation to the beast**: she is utterly connected to the beast and his government.
- h. If this sounds unthinkable, remember that throughout history, **religion, not true Christianity** – has often been the willing servant and supporter of tyrants.
- i. Think the ‘woke’ church & how the Democrats used the ‘Liberal Church’.
- v. **The great harlot is judged. (Verse 16)**
 - a. **Antichrist’s allies turn on the great harlot.**
 - b. **“These will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire”:** This violence probably takes place at the mid-point of the tribulation period. Here, apostate religion discovers the true nature of the beast.
 - c. Ultimately, the Antichrist will not tolerate any worship except of himself: **“The son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshipped, so that he sits in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God”** ([2 Thessalonians 2:3-4](#)).
 - d. **“Burn her with fire”:** Once his power has been consolidated, the Antichrist no longer needs the help of **religious Babylon**. He will then work to dismantle and destroy her and her **one-world religion**.
 - e. This has always been the goal of tyrants – and most politicians – to use religion for their purposes, then discard it.
 - f. **Remember Karl Marx’s comment:** “Religion is the sigh of the oppressed creature, the heart of a heartless world, and the soul of soulless conditions. It is the opium of the people”
- vi. **God’s hand ultimately directs all this (Verse 17)**
 - a. **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.**
 - b. **“God has put it into their hearts”:** God directed the judgment against religious Babylon. God will sometimes use a wicked group (the ten kings) to be an instrument of His judgment against another wicked group (religious Babylon).
 - c. **“To be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast”:** God will ordain the political support of these ten kings for the Antichrist. God will give the world just what it wants: godless religion and godless rulers.
 - d. **“God put it into their hearts”:** God directed the judgment against Babylon.
- vii. **The great harlot is identified with Rome (Verse 18)**
 - a. **“And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth.”**
 - b. **“That great city”:** In John’s day, there was no doubt which city **reigns over the kings of the earth**. Rome was the political, economic, and religious center of the world of that time.
 - c. **But Babylon** – in the sense of the world system – has always been **“that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth”**. The question for Christians is, “Does it reign over me? Or am I the citizen of a better city, the Jerusalem above?” ([Galatians 4:26](#))
 - d. **“That great city”:** Again, the association of this harlot – **of religious Babylon** – with Rome doesn’t mean that the Roman Catholic Church is identical to religious Babylon, though apostate Roman Catholics will definitely be a part of this great harlot.