



## **REVELATION CHAPTER 18 PART 1**

### **Babylon the Great!**

**Basic Study of Revelation compiled  
by Gaetan.**

If you have missed the previous chapters and you don't understand what "*Babylon*" means, then know that this term refers not just to the ancient city. Babylon of old, however, was the prime example of the "*Babylon*" of all ages, including the great World City Commercial System of today, with all its wealth, money, riches and materialism -- the religion of the World, the worship of things and not God! That is the version of Babylon about which the Lord is talking here. But of course, Babylon is used as the symbol and symbolic name for all other Babylons and World Systems ever since the Beginning of human history to the End!



In addition to “*Babylon*”, there is another rival empire known as the “*Beast*”, headed by one who is known as the Antichrist. He is like Satan in the flesh, and having come into power, this Devil-man decides he no longer needs Babylon, the End Time version of this great commercial, Capitalistic City System, so he destroys her! It sounds like she is destroyed in an atomic war! Remember, by the way, this is a flashback. Chapter 16 described the period of Wrath after the Return of Christ. But here in chapters 17-18 we're back in the period of the Tribulation and the Antichrist's rule prior to the Coming of Christ.

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

**REV.18:2** 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. (Jer.51:37)

**\*\* ISA.21:9** *And, behold, here cometh a chariot of men, with a couple of horsemen. And he answered and said, **Babylon is fallen, is fallen**; and all the graven images of her gods he hath broken unto the ground.* (Jer.51:8)

We're going to see what the Antichrist does to the Great Whore, he and his ten kings who turn upon her, devour her with fire and destroy her! (Rev.17:12, 13, 16-17) --She who made western nations rich and powerful, while riding on the backs of all nations as if she were a queen, saying, *"I shall see no sorrow!"*. (v.7) Here at last she is devastated by the kings she once tried to rule over! She who was a king-maker, she who was an Empire-ruler, the Empress of all false religion and worship including materialism, is finally destroyed by the forces of the Antichrist, who then demands that *"religion"* be abolished. Of course, he is happy to permit the world to indulge in the secular adulation (worship) of himself as the World's new god. There will no longer be any other religion allowed or any other worship but that of Satan's Devil-man!

**\*\* DAN.11:36** *And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done.*



**"No more religions...  
worship me only!"**

The fall of Babylon the Whore is such a tremendous event that God devotes this whole extra chapter to it, a fairly long one, to describe how she is finally destroyed, how this empire's cities,



its banks, office-buildings and temples of worship are totally destroyed, wiped out! Very suddenly...very quick... He says, in a day, in one hour! All the great riches are destroyed!

She is totally ravaged! -not by God, but it was ordained by God. As she has used and oppressed the nations, now the Beast uses her to gain power and to become the dictator of the World. God allows the Antichrist to rise up as His judgment against the *Harlot* empire.

**And then having attained supreme power, the Antichrist will finally have what he wants. The Devil has finally accomplished his purpose. He no longer needs the Whore, the World Money System and its materialistic worship. Now he is going to demand not just the worship of things--which he has persuaded man to worship for thousands of years— but from then on, he demands also the worship of himself (in the person of the Antichrist), something he always wanted to be--God himself!**

**He tried before to steal the position of God in Heaven! But, of course, he was nothing compared to God, and so God forced him out of power completely, and finally he is cast out down to the Earth at the time of the Great Tribulation to tribulate and trouble the World.**

***(Isa.14:12-16; Rev.12:9; Eze.28:13-19)***





**Satan declares the worship of himself to be the only legal *“religion”* and insists that everyone worship the Beast (the Antichrist) and his Image, or be killed. And he requires everyone to bear his name (his Mark) in their foreheads or hands, or starve to death, because of being unable to buy or sell. Now he rules supreme as the god of this World! (*Rev.13:14-18*)**

**REV.18:3** 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.

Observe that **“all”** the nations in the world, throughout history and in the present time, have **“drunk”** of this **“fornication.”** The **“kings”** and their nations and the **“merchants”** who are in them, acquire great wealth through the **“harlot”** of these verses. Those who place material advantage first will often acquire much, but the goods and money obtained will be lost, because the power behind the systems of this world will be destroyed, **“for the Lord God who judges her is strong”** (v. 8). Place your trust in the Lord now, or otherwise, you will lose – everything!



**REV.18:4** And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, **come out of her, my people**, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and **that ye receive not of her plagues**.



**\*\* 2CO.6:17** Wherefore **come out from among them, and be ye separate**, saith the Lord, and **touch not the unclean thing**; and I will receive you.

**\*\* JER.51:6, 45** Flee out of the midst of **Babylon**, and deliver every man his soul: **be not cut off in her iniquity**; for this is the time of the LORD's vengeance; **he will render unto her a recompense...** (Is.52:11; Is.48:20; Gen.19:12-13)

The Lord warns His children not to get tangled up with Babylon, this great whore of Mammon-worship and materialism, calling them to **"Come out of her, My people..."** But her hold is so strong on the souls of men. **"The deceitfulness of riches,"** as Jesus called it, is such a strong, addictive delusion, that even many Christians today are tempted and some fall for the great god Mammon!



**\*\* MAT.13:22** He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and **the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.**

**Jesus Christ Himself said, "No man can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other; or else he will hold to the one and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and Mammon!"**



**(Mat.6:24) According to the dictionary, "Mammon" literally means "material wealth," money, material things. So, Jesus was saying that you can't serve God and material things at the same time--you cannot work for both! You'll wind up working for either one or the other! It is not that there's anything wrong with money, riches or wealth. It all depends on whether you own the money, or the money owns you! It's your attitude toward it. It all depends on how the money is used. Whether the money or the wealth is using you, or whether you are using the wealth – sharing it and using it for the benefit of others! "By her sorceries were all nations deceived." (V. 23).**



Have you *come out of her*? --Or are you a slave to the false gods of this World? *"Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also!" (Mat.6:21) Where's your treasure? Do you love this World and the things of this World? If so, the love of God is not in you! (1John 2:15) But if you are sick of this world's empty materialism, monotonous Mammon worship, selfish soul-slavery and are seeking better, more lasting, meaningful and eternal values in life, then you can find real satisfaction in Jesus!*

**\*\* HEB.11:24-26** *By faith Moses, when he was grown up, denied himself to be the son of Pharaoh's daughter; rather choosing to be afflicted with the people of God, than to have the pleasure of sin for a time, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasure of the Egyptians. For he looked unto the reward.*

**REV.18:5** For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.

We humans forget from one generation to the next the events that preceded us. But God remembers. And the whore has a long list of crimes to account for. This chapter 18 is a strong indictment against the Harlot empire.

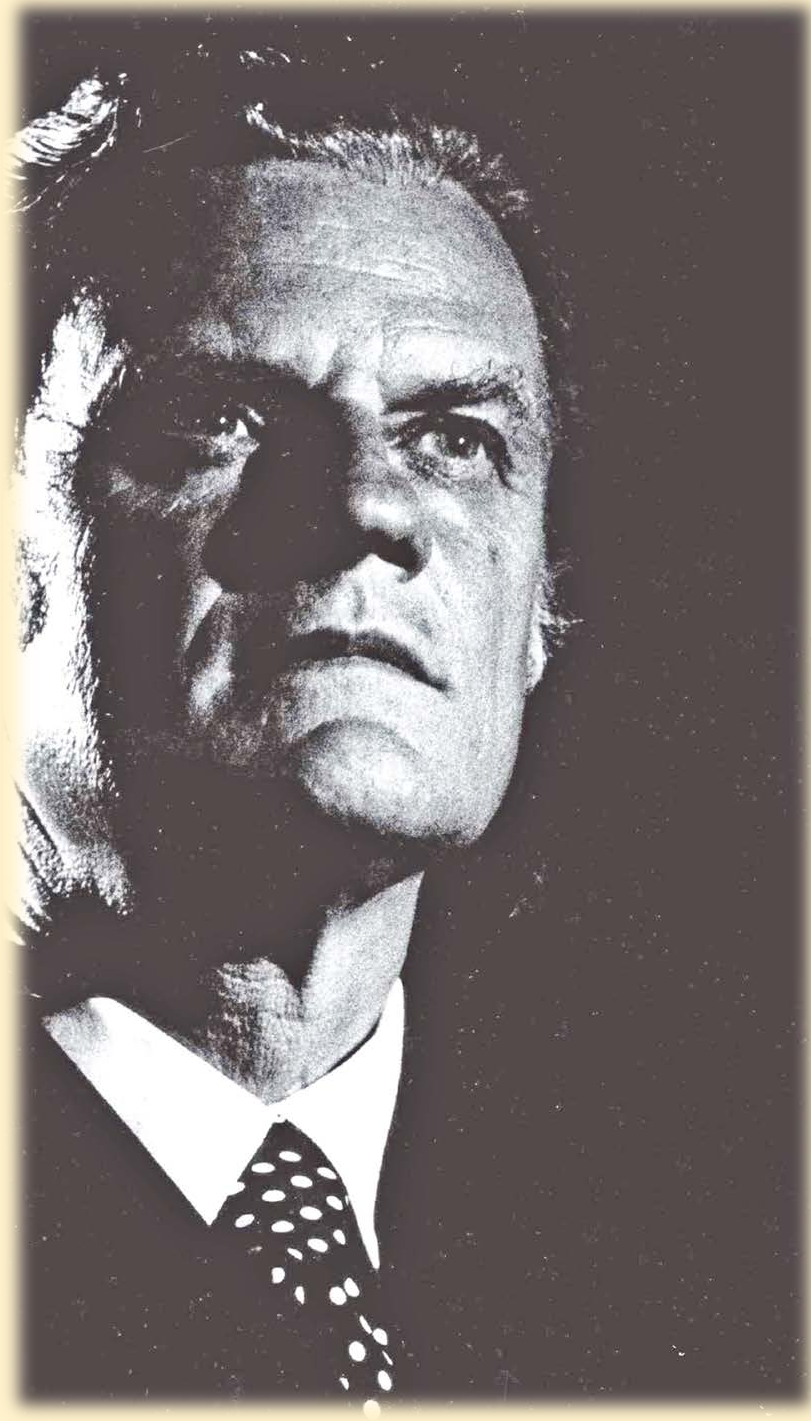
**REV.18:6** Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double.



**\*\* JER.50:29 ...recompense her according to her work; according to all that she hath done, do unto her: for she hath been proud against the LORD, against the Holy One of Israel.**

**REV.18:7** How much she hath glorified herself, and **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.**

**REV.18:8** Therefore shall her plagues come in **one day**, death, mourning and famine; and she shall be utterly **burned with fire**: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her.



**Possible interpretation: Could America be the final manifestation of the commercial Babylon? God calls His people to come out of her, so that must mean that there are some and probably many in her. There are millions of Christians and other God-loving people in America, but as Billy Graham and others have said, if God doesn't judge America for her sins, He will have to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah.**

**What nation today is the choice marketplace of the earth where all other nations wish to sell their wares, and that has a trade deficit in the billions of dollars with many of them? That is billions flowing to these countries, and in particular to their merchants. There is one nation that clearly stands out above all others in this way: the United States of America, a great country, which once was righteous, but now is a country that worships violence, material things, money, war and nearly everything that's evil!**

**They are creators and exporters of evil. It is hard to appreciate how global America's corrupting influence is until you live overseas. Everywhere you go, American culture is desired and imported. The violent, carnal and depraved themes of American TV, movies, music, and pornography reaches nearly everywhere, even before the Internet was invented which now has only made it worse. America is imitated like no other nation and therefore, more responsible and accountable. She is in line to receive judgement because of her bad influence and negative portrayal of Christianity before the world.**



Whether or not America is the literal Babylon of the End Time, certainly it can be said that she is a striking example and bears a remarkable resemblance to her. So “if the shoe fits wear it”, as the saying goes. But it is not just in America where “*the Great Harlot*” flourishes. It symbolizes also a worldwide entity.



But the USA could unfortunately be the final inheritor of all that Babylon, the corrupt, materialistic, mammon-worshiping system that God pictures as a vain, decadent whore, has done since it started riding on the world’s empires.



Of course, this Whore, the great world commercial system of idolatry, has always been in existence, as an in-depth study of the previous Chapter 17 revealed. The Whore has always ridden the back of the Beast and its various heads and controlled and influenced the World powers and empires of history. Ancient cities like Nineveh, Tyre, ancient Babylon, Rome and others have all been *“the bad woman”* of their day, but it seems that today's modern commercial system, led of course by America, is the epitome of this Great Whore of Revelation, and could be its ultimate fulfilment!



Again, the “*harlot*” that we have been looking at in these verses, is a collective entity, a “*person*” that consists of many people, and “*she*” also represents the demonic system that is behind much of the trouble on this earth. “*She*” regards herself as a “*queen*” – “*She*” is obsessed with herself and regards herself highly. Note her statement, “*I am not a widow,*” indicating “*her*” denial that sorrow will come to her. “*She*” continues, “*and shall see no sorrow*”:

**\*\* ZEP.2:15** *This is the rejoicing city that dwelt carelessly, that said in her heart, I am, and there is none beside me: how is she become a desolation, a place for beasts to lie down in!*

**\*\* ISA.47:7-9** *And thou said, I shall be a lady for ever... Therefore hear now this, thou that art given to pleasures, that dwellest carelessly, that sayest in thine heart, I am, and none else beside me; I shall not sit as a widow, neither shall I know the loss of children: But these two things shall come to thee in a moment in one day, the loss of children, and widowhood: they shall come upon thee in their perfection for the multitude of thy sorceries, and for the great abundance of thine enchantments.*



**Be sure not to miss part 2 of this chapter which will be all about the fall of Babylon the Great!**

**You can receive Jesus at this very moment. It is a free gift of God. Jesus says:**

***“Behold, I stand at the door (of your heart), and knock: if any man hears my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.” Rev.3:20***

**Please pray this simple prayer:**

***"Jesus, please forgive all my faults and sins. I accept that You are the Son of God and that You died for me. I invite You into my heart and life. Thank you for your gift of eternal life and please fill me with Your Holy Spirit. Help me to read and understand Your Word. Amen"***

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