

## **Revelation Chapter 17**

### **Mystery**

- Deuteronomy 29:29
- Mark 4:10-12

### **The Harlot**

- Isaiah 1:21
- Harlot, Whore, Prostitute is a way God describes His people for their idolatry.
- The woman's garb was the color of Roman royalty. She appeared to be wealthy and in control.
- Therefore what this second beast represents changes from all false religions and spirituality in general into the false prophet and the harlot, that is, pseudo-Christianity and the false church, the most deadly form of the religious beast. In Revelation 17, the use of "harlot" to designate the apostate pseudo-church is reminiscent of God's complaint that his people Israel had become a harlot because of their idolatry in the worship of false gods. // Dr Brighton "Revelation"
- Until God's judgment at the End, the pseudo-church, which appears to be beautiful and attractive (the harlot), will be accepted and honored by the world, for she flatters and encourages the lifestyles of the ungodly // Dr Brighton "Revelation"
- Jeremiah 51:13 - Babylon is a city on many waters in Jeremiah 51

### **The City**

- As throughout Revelation Rome is being singled out as the great oppressor of God's people
- Rome becomes representative of any oppressor of God's people and opponent of God's rule and reign
- Rome was known as the city of seven hills

### **The Beast**

- From Christ's ascension to the End at his return, this political beast (represented by Rome in John's era) will carry on and sponsor such a program of idolatry so as to deceive the peoples of the earth in the dragon's warfare against the church of Christ. // Dr Brighton "Revelation"

### **The Waters**

- The explanation of the waters in verse fifteen may bring some clarity to the dragon's strategy in chapter 12. The waters are people. These rushing waters of demonic allies fight against the church. They're the armies of evil that make war against Jesus and His redeemed. // Newman "What the last book of the Bible really means"

### **The Abyss**

- Represents where all demons come from. This is where Satan is/comes from.

### **Seven Kings (Plus One)**

- The number seven is symbolic and represents all earthly powers and rulers who claim spiritual authority by which they justify and sanction their despotic dominion over their subjects, in particular as it is used in opposition to the church of Christ. // Dr Brighton "Revelation"
- The beast then, with its seven heads and ten horns, symbolizes all earthly powers of whatever sort and makeup which are under the influence of the dragon (Satan) in his warfare with the followers of Christ. // Dr. Brighton "Revelation"

### **The Judgment**

- Reminiscent of Ezekiel 23:1-34 and God's judgment on Israel and Judah for being unfaithful harlots. This is a very graphic description of what will happen to them. But similar to Revelation 17 their "lovers" turn on them and destroy them.