

## **Reign of the Antichrist Revelation 17:7-18**

### **I. The Beast – 17:7-14**

1. Angel seeks to help John understand – 7  
John marvels at this mystery of the woman & the beast
2. Angel explains this beast appears at times – 8  
It was, and is not, and yet shall appear again  
It does and will again appear from the bottomless pit  
Signifying that it is evil (held in check)  
It will ultimately go to destruction  
“Unbelievers will marvel to see the beast because it was, is not & is to come”
3. “This calls for a mind with wisdom” – 9  
The seven heads are 7 mountains on which the woman sits  
Mountains used to speak of kingdoms in Scripture (Isa.2:2; Dan. 2:25 Zech. 4:7)
4. John tells us the 7 heads were 7 mountains – Rev. 17:9  
On which the woman was seated (again she is in control)
5. These mountains (kingdoms) were also 7 kings - 10  
Five of these kings have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come  
When he does come he must remain only a little while (7 years)
6. The one who “has not yet come” is the antichrist  
The term “antichrist” is not used here but John writes of him often to warn his readers in his epistles. – 1 John 2:18-25
7. Jesus also warned His followers about the antichrist and what he shall do even in desolating the Temple – Matt. 24:15-26  
Note that He also speaks of “false Christs” and “false prophets” – 24:24
8. This 7<sup>th</sup> head on the beast is simply called “The Beast” - 13:1-10  
Where he is worshipped (13:4) And he controls all “trade” – 13:17

### **II. Justice for the Prostitute – 17:15-18**

1. The Angel adds more information – 15  
The waters you saw, where the prostitute is seated  
“Are peoples, multitudes, nations and languages”  
These are those who seek what the prostitute offers
2. The ten horns and the beast will hate the prostitute – 16-17  
They have allowed themselves to be deceived by her  
They will make her desolate & naked, devour her flesh, burn her up with fire,  
For God has put it into their hearts to carry out His purpose by being of one mind and handing over their royal power to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled – 17

With the prostitute gone the beast & false prophet reign

3. This woman is the great city that has dominion over kings of the earth – 18

### **III. “The Abomination of Desolation”**

1. Daniel spoke of this in Daniel 9:27  
He is spoken of as a “Prince” who makes a “strong covenant” with many of Israel (Daniel’s people).
2. We are not told if this covenant includes the building of the Temple but we are told in Rev. 6:1-2 that this rider comes seeking to make peace. He rides on a “white horse” and “its rider had a bow” (no mention of arrows” and a “crown was given” to him  
This may indicate that this “strong covenant” is aimed at making peace in the Middle East
3. We are told that this rider comes “conquering” and “to conquer”  
But we are also told this covenant appears to end after one half of a week (3 ½ years)
4. The break comes with “an end to sacrifice and offering”  
Daniel speaks of this as an “Abomination that “makes desolate”  
Something this prince does to defile the sanctuary  
Speaking of Antiochus desolating the Temple altar when he offered a sow.
5. Jesus spoke of this when the antichrist would also do something that would desolate the Temple—Matt.24:15  
He urges any who are living at that time to flee and seek a place to hide – 24:16-21
6. Jesus promised the time of the Tribulation would be graciously cut short because of such a vile act—24:21-22
7. Apostle Paul writes of this in 2 Thess. 2:1-12 where he applies it to the “man of sin” (The beast, the antichrist)  
“He opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship,  
So that he takes his seat in the temple of God,  
Proclaiming himself to be God”  
He speaks of this man as one who is working under Satan’s power - 2:9-10  
He also says that God will allow unbelievers to be deceived since they refused to believe the truth about His Son, Jesus Christ – 2:11-12

### **IV. Justice on the Beast – Rev. 19:19-20**

1. We see the beast still reigning when Jesus comes  
He still is in power as he is able to gather the kings of earth together  
They appear to be united to make war against the Lord on the white horse
2. The beast & the false prophet are captured– 20  
The miracles of the false prophet could not prevent their capture
3. “These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur”. - 20

## 7 Beastly Heads

1. Babylon – Nebuchadnezzar was the great king – who took kingdom of Judah into captivity  
He threw Daniel's three friends into the fiery furnace because they would not bow down to him.  
Even worse He rose in pride to declare his greatness – Dan. 4: 29-31  
Insane he lived as a wild animal for 7 years  
In the end he came forth with a written testimony to God – Dan. 4
2. Persia – Haman, under the king made an edict to have all Jews killed in his kingdom and a gallows built for Mordecai – Book of Esther  
Jews celebrate feast of Purim thanking God for His victory
3. Greece – Alexander the Great conquered the world for Greece  
Died at 32 leaving his army & what he conquered to 4 generals  
Two of them fought over Israel – ruler over north & ruler over south  
Ruler of the north Antiochus Euphoniades desecrated the altar of God's Temple  
By offering a pig (sow) on the altar of God  
The Maccabee brothers led an army defeating Antiochus – Hanukah
4. Egypt – Pharaoh ruled over Israel and would not bow to God  
even after 10 plagues He did not know God & would not yield - Passover  
Followed Israel into the Red Sea & was destroyed with his chariots
5. Assyria – 2 Kings 17 Took 10 tribes of Israel into captivity  
Replaced them with other people (not Jews) in N.T. Samaritans  
King of Assyria – Sennacherib attacked Jerusalem in days of Hezekiah  
and the prophet Isaiah. He challenged them & denounced their God  
That night the angel of the Lord killed all the army of Assyria.  
Sennacherib went back to Nineveh & was killed by his 2 sons
6. Rome – Israel under Roman authority and Jesus executed by  
Roman authority. Resurrection & Ascension  
Later Titus of Rome destroyed Israel's Temple and the city of Jerusalem  
The crucifixion of God's Son became the world's opportunity for eternal redemption  
And Christ will descend from heaven as the conquering king
7. Antichrist (the beast) was allowed to blaspheme God – 13:5-6  
The one who is yet to come – 2 Thess. 2:1-12  
Called "man of sin" He will seat himself on the throne – 2:4  
Presents himself in the temple "as he is God"  
Fights against Israel, Makes war against the coming King – Rev. 19:19  
He and the false prophet are cast into the Lake of Fire – Rev. 19:20