

# The Beast in Babylon Notes

Revelation 17:1-18

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**Main Point:** Every human empire and worldly system that exalts itself in pride will eventually collapse from within and ultimately yield to the absolute sovereignty of the Lamb.

## Babylon

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is one of the most frequently mentioned cities in the Bible, beginning with the building of the Tower of Babel.
2. Babylon was later the \_\_\_\_\_ of the mighty and malevolent Babylonian empire that destroyed Jerusalem and carried the southern tribes into captivity in 586 B.C.
3. Today, Babylon is mostly in \_\_\_\_\_.
4. In Scripture, it represents the seductive power of a \_\_\_\_\_ world system that promises everything but ultimately delivers nothing.
5. Babylon embodies the glittering alternative to God, a spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ that lures the hearts of humans with luxury, security, sexuality, and prestige.
6. Observations
  - Babylon seems to be symbolic of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - It appears that the city of Babylon will somehow be \_\_\_\_\_ during the Tribulation.
  - Revelation is a tale of two cities: Babylon and New \_\_\_\_\_.
    - One city signifies humanity's \_\_\_\_\_ against God.
    - The other represents God's eternal \_\_\_\_\_ with His redeemed people.

## The Seduction of the World (17:1-6)

1. Verses 1-2 connects the judgment of the great prostitute with the seven bowl judgments.
2. The word "prostitute" is a metaphor for \_\_\_\_\_ religion, moral corruption, political idolatry, economic temptation, and spiritual apostasy.
3. Most commentators believe the prostitute is Rome which stands for a \_\_\_\_\_ world system based on seduction and power.
4. The phrase "seated on many waters" is interpreted for us in verse 15 where it refers to "peoples and multitudes and \_\_\_\_\_ and languages."
5. People will be unable to think \_\_\_\_\_. This will cause unbelievers to be deceived, seduced and swept up in the intoxicating influence of rampant idolatry.
6. What we do with our bodies affects our \_\_\_\_\_.
7. When we are involved in any kind of immorality, it will eventually affect us physically, emotionally, relationally, and \_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 32:3-4).
8. Purple and scarlet signify the \_\_\_\_\_ and splendor of ancient Rome.

9. This woman sitting on a scarlet beast, whose description reminds us of the great red dragon in Revelation 12:3.
10. The connection is intentional: both are associated with Satan's \_\_\_\_\_ to God.
11. The word translated "beast" refers to a wild and savage creature, emphasizing his \_\_\_\_\_ nature.
12. The phrase "full of blasphemous names" means "to be \_\_\_\_\_ or filled completely" with blasphemous titles and slander against God.
13. The ten horns are ten \_\_\_\_\_.
14. Outwardly, this woman who exemplified false religion, was dressed in beautiful clothes representing \_\_\_\_\_ and adorned with gold, jewels, and precious pearls.
15. Inwardly, she was filled with foul "abominations" and putrid \_\_\_\_\_.
16. Sin rarely arrives looking ugly or dangerous. It comes packaged in a sparkling \_\_\_\_\_ cup. It masks its true corruption behind glamour, thrill, or promises of security.
17. It was customary for a Roman prostitute to wear a \_\_\_\_\_ bearing her name.
18. The word "mystery" is used to convey something \_\_\_\_\_, like a cryptogram.
19. One of the best ways to battle against the seduction of the world is to become a joyful \_\_\_\_\_.
20. The word "money" also known as mammon in the ancient world, referred to an idol, a false god that promised security, identity, and \_\_\_\_\_.
21. Every time we give, we make a declaration that money is not our \_\_\_\_\_; the Lamb is.

#### **The Shattering of Human Empires (17:7-13, 15-16)**

1. The reference to the beast that "was, and is not, and is about to rise" takes us back to Revelation 13:1-3 when his \_\_\_\_\_ head wound was healed.
2. The beast may experience a temporary resurrection, but he will never experience an eternal \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The seven mountains and seven kings
  - Rome – was famously known as the city built on seven hills.
  - Rulers – seven kings as a succession of Roman \_\_\_\_\_. John is describing a sequence of rulers, with five having already fallen, one ruling in John's day, and another still to come who will rule for only a short time.
  - World powers – seven kings represent successive kingdoms or world \_\_\_\_\_ that have opposed God's purposes. The five that have fallen as Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, and Greece. The one that "is" would then be Rome, with a final kingdom still to come.
4. Early kingdoms may appear unstoppable, but their power is \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The Antichrist is related to the seventh but also has a separate \_\_\_\_\_ as he rules over the eighth.
6. This ten-nation confederation will cooperate fully and be united, but her reign will only be "for one hour," which is a figure of speech for being very \_\_\_\_\_.
7. This worldwide ecumenical system, which appeared so powerful and unified, will shatter from \_\_\_\_\_.

### **The Sovereignty of the Lamb (17:14, 17-18)**

1. The Lamb will \_\_\_\_\_ overcome and conquer all enemies (vs. 14).
2. Satan will rally the beast, Babylon, the Antichrist, and the forces of humanity to go to war against the \_\_\_\_\_. This will prove futile.
3. God will move within the hearts of His \_\_\_\_\_, bringing them together in one purpose so they would hand everything over to the beast.
4. Even in the midst of the beast's rebellion and Babylon's corruption, God is still \_\_\_\_\_.
5. God even uses \_\_\_\_\_ people and His enemies to accomplish His purposes.
6. A high view of God leads to \_\_\_\_\_ living, and a low view of God leads to low living.
7. When we think too highly of ourselves, we think too \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
8. Only God can \_\_\_\_\_ your soul.