

Discussion & Application:

1. Revelation 17-18 talks about “Babylon.” What does that refer to in these two chapters? Is it used more than one way?
2. In Rev. 17:3, the woman is riding on the beast. Who or what is the beast? What is the woman’s relationship to the beast?
3. The Bible often describes false religion as a harlot (prostitute). How are they similar? How might false religions seduce people?
4. In Rev. 17:14, the beast and those who support him will wage war against the Lamb. When will that war take place? Who is the Lamb? What title is given to Him in this verse? Why is that important for us to know in the context of the beast being given power and authority (v. 13)? How does knowing that help you when tempted to compromise with worldly authorities?
5. In Rev. 17:16, the beast hates the woman and destroys her. What changed? What does that tell us about alliances formed in defiance against God? What other lessons can we learn from this?
6. Some people prefer believing that God is not sovereignly in control of all things because evil keeps happening in the world. What does Rev. 17:17 teach you about God’s sovereignty even when evil things happen? Who is truly in control even when evil powers appear to be winning? (See Gen. 50:20; Job 42:2; Prov. 21:1; Is. 45:7; Rom. 8:28)
7. How does Rev. 17 encourage true followers of Jesus to make a stand against false religion(s) no matter what the cost? How can believers develop discernment to recognize false religion and political seduction?
8. How has your perspective on idolatry changed because of this study?
9. Walter Martin, author of “Kingdom of the Cults,” famously asked, “**Are you willing to do for the truth what the cults do for a lie?**” What did he mean by that? What is your answer to the question? What specifically will that look like for the rest of your life? What will it look like this week?

March 15, 2026

The Bridge Bible Fellowship

Pastor Paul S. Brown

Revelation 17

“The Things Which Will Take Place” – Part 30

“Pay Back to Babylon” – Part 3

- I. The Things Which You Have Seen (chapter 1)
- II. The Things Which Are (chapters 2-3)
- III. The Things Which Will Take Place (chapters 4-22)
 - A. Vision of Heaven (chapters 4-5)
 - B. Seven Seal Judgments (6:1-8:1)
 - C. Seven Trumpet Judgments (8:2-11:19)
 - D. Interlude (12:1-14:20)
 - E. **Seven Bowl Judgments (15:1-18:24)**
 1. Preparing for the Bowls: Three Heavenly Visions – (15:1-8)
 2. Pouring out the Seven Bowls (16:1-21)
 3. **Pay Back to (Plagues upon) Babylon (17:1-18:24)**
 - a. **Religious Babylon (17:1-18)**
 - 1) **The Invitation (1-2)**
 - 2) **The Description (3-6a)**
 - 3) **The Explanation (6b-18)** – cf. Dan. 2:31ff; 7:1-8, 15ff; 11:36ff; Rev. 12:3; 13:1-4
 - a) **Islamic Caliphate?**

Empire	Daniel 2	Daniel 7	Revelation 17
Egyptian	Not included	Not included	1 st head
Assyrian	Not included	Not included	2 nd head
Babylonian	Head of gold	Lion	3 rd head
Medo-Persian	Chest and arms of silver	Leopard	4 th head
Greece	Belly and thighs of bronze	Bear	5 th head
Roman	Not included	Not included	6 th head
Islamic	Legs of iron	Fourth beast	7 th head: Combination lion, leopard & bear
Antichristic	Feet of Iron and Clay	10 horns grow out of the Fourth Beast	Eighth King; Healed 7 th head
Messianic	The Rock		

¹⁵ And he said to me, “The waters which you saw where the harlot sits, are peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues. ¹⁶ And the ten horns which you saw, and the beast, these will hate the harlot and will make her desolate and naked, and will eat her flesh and will burn her up with fire. ¹⁷ For God has put it in their hearts to execute His purpose by having a common purpose, and by giving their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God will be fulfilled. ¹⁸ The woman whom you saw is the great city, which reigns over the kings of the earth.”

b) Revived Roman Empire?

Empire	Daniel 2	Daniel 7	Revelation 17
Egyptian	Not included	Not included	1 st head
Assyrian	Not included	Not included	2 nd head
Babylonian	Head of gold	Lion	3 rd head
Medo-Persian	Chest and arms of silver	Leopard	4 th head
Greece	Belly and thighs of bronze	Bear	5 th head
Roman	Legs of iron	Fourth beast	6 th head
Revived Roman	Feet of Iron and Clay	10 horns grow out of the Fourth Beast	7 th head
Resurrected Antichrist			8 th king; healed 7 th head
Messianic	The Rock	Son of Man	The Lamb

So What?