The Woman On The 7 Headed Beast

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The Riddle of Revelation 17
The Harlot Rides The Beast & The Beast Burns The Harlot!

Two chapters in Revelation deal specifically with Babylon. These are Revelation 17 & 18. The introduction to Babylon is presented in the 2nd Angel's message of Revelation 14 where it declares,

"And there followed another angel saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication." (Verse 8)

WHY TWO SYMBOLS OF BABYLON?

Babylon is pictured under two symbols. In Revelation 17, she is portrayed as an immoral woman, and in Revelation 18, as a dominating city. These symbols are combined in Revelation 17:18 to show that they represent one and the same power.

"The woman which thou saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth."

What is the purpose of these two symbols? The harlot depicts Babylon's corruption and her ripeness for destruction. The city depicts Babylon's oppressive power, and how she will be totally and eternally destroyed. Both symbols represent a powerful religious organization. In Revelation are featured two women and two cities. The imagery is drawn from the Old Testament, where two women are used to represent the two cities of Babylon and Jerusalem.

Of Babylon it declares: "Come down and sit in the dust, O virgin daughter of Babylon." (Isaiah 47:1) And of Jerusalem: "I have likened the daughter of Zion to a comely and delicate woman." (Jeremiah 6:2)

In Revelation, these two women represent spiritual Babylon and spiritual Jerusalem, two opposing religious organizations. Spiritual Jerusalem represents the church of God, and spiritual Babylon represents the church or "synagogue of Satan" - the counterfeit church.

THE PLAN OF REVELATION 17

Let us notice the plan of Revelation 17. In verse one we have the announcement of the theme of the chapter which is the judgment or punishment of the woman. In verses 2-6 there is a description of the woman and her crimes, showing why she is worthy of punishment.

In verses 7-11 we have the identification of the beast that supports the woman. In verses 12-14 we have the identification in particular of the seventh head and what the woman inspires it to do. In verses 15-18 it reveals how the seventh head turns on the woman in punishment and destroys her.

THE HARLOT IDENTIFIED

Let us identify the woman.

"The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet color and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication. And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." (Revelation 17:4-5)

Through the centuries, the majority of Protestant scholars have been unanimous that the woman of Revelation 17 represents, in the main, the Church of Rome. There are at least fourteen specifications by which the woman may be identified and every point perfectly fits that organization. In identifying the church of Rome and any other religious bodies, this commentary is not referring to any individuals but to a system.

HER COLOURS

The most arresting item that greets the eye in the city of Rome, is scarlet color. This is the color in which the popes are generally portrayed. Likewise the cardinals. In "St. Paul's Outside the Wall", in Rome, 109 popes are portrayed around the ceiling of that great building. Every single one is in scarlet. The throne room of the Pope is also in scarlet. The floors, walls and ceilings are in scarlet. Why the scarlet? Scarlet often denoted kingliness but in scripture it denotes sinfulness. "Though your sins be as scarlet." (Isaiah 1:18)

In 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4, St. Paul symbolized the Papacy as "the man of sin", or lawlessness, who sits (enthroned) in the temple of God, (the Christian church) "showing himself that he is God". One can understand why Protestant commentators through the centuries have mostly agreed that the Babylon of Revelation 17 is none other than Rome. Purple is recognized as the official color of Roman bishops and archbishops. In Catholic festivals one beholds the blending of the purple and the scarlet.

Verse 5 declares that the woman was "decked with gold and precious stones and pearls". It has been the practice of the church of Rome to deck her altars, images, statues and leaders with such items. This was especially true during the Middle Ages, but much of it was stolen or destroyed at the time of the Protestant Reformation. Motley, in his "Dutch Republic" declares that at the time of the great image-breaking Crusade in the Netherlands in 1566,

"Pictures, statues, organs, ornaments, chalices of silver and gold, reliquaries, chausables, copes, cibores, crosses, chandeliers, lamps, censors, all of richest material, glittering with pearls, rubies and other precious stones, were scattered in heaps of ruin upon the ground." (1)

In Catholic countries, the infant Jesus and other images in the principal churches are decked with gold and other precious stones. In Jerusalem, at the traditional Calvary, the image of the Virgin, on the altar of that church, is loaded with precious stones. In Spain one sees the same sight of images and statues loaded with jewels.

"In 1512 AD, a book was compiled by Archbishop Marcellus of Rome and dedicated to Pope Leo X. It enumerates five different articles of dress of scarlet color that only popes and cardinals can wear. A vest is mentioned studded with the Pope's miter is of gold and precious stones. These are the very characteristics Revelation thrice ascribes to Babylon." (2)

Another Roman Catholic authority has written:

"Pope Paul 2 wore vestments decorated with diamonds, sapphires, emeralds, chrysolithes, jaspers and all manner of precious stones." (3)

HER GOLDEN CUP

"A golden cup in her hand." Two cups are brought to view in scripture; God's cup and Rome's cup. God's cup is called "the cup of salvation".

"I will take the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord." (Psalm 116:13)

On the other hand the cup of Rome is a cup of damnation for it says,

"A golden cup in her hand, full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication." (Verse 4)

It is a striking fact that the church of Rome has officially represented herself as a woman, holding a golden cup in her hand. At least two medals have been struck depicting this very fact. (4) The first medal depicts the church of Rome as a woman, standing at Rome, holding the cross with her left hand, and in her right hand she holds a cup containing the host, the wafer, which she is extending to the world. The cross and the cup are the two leading symbols of the church of Rome.

The second medal depicts the church of Rome, as a woman, seated on a globe of the world, with a cross in her left hand, and a cup in her right hand, which she is also extending to the world. The inscription on the medal reads "Sedet Super Universum"; which means "The whole world is her seat." The globe, or world on which the woman is seated, we all know, consists of about 70% of water. Thus this official symbol of Rome agrees perfectly with the prediction,

"The great whore that sits on many waters. "(Revelation 17:1)

The cup is "a golden cup, full of abominations". This represents the fact that outwardly, spiritual Babylon has a splendid appearance. It looks good, it sounds good. It is very impressive, but inside, are "abominations and filthiness of her fornication". In what way is this so?

Inside the cup, is "the wine of her fornication" (Verse 2), Wine represents doctrines or teachings. These are classed here as "an abomination" to God. This means that Rome's teachings and influence, in essence, are corrupt and offensive to God. This is a shocking statement but in making it, we do not refer to individual Catholics as such. This divine prediction is referring to a system of religion. It is therefore extremely important to know what constitutes the wine of Roman Babylon. What are her doctrines and teachings that are so offensive to God? The following list reveals most of the doctrines that constitute her wine.

THE WINE OF BABYLON

- 1. The primacy of the Pope that he is head of the church, whereas Jesus Christ alone is head of the church.
- 2. The authority of the church is tradition, not scripture only.
- 3. An earthly priesthood instead of the heavenly priesthood of Jesus Christ.
- 4. Mary and the Roman Catholic priesthood as mediators, instead of Jesus Christ alone.
- 5. The immortality of the soul. That is that man's soul cannot die.
- 6. Prayers to and for the dead.
- 7. Purgatory.
- 8. Eternal torment in hell fire, instead of "everlasting destruction"
- 9. The doctrine of original sin that all are born guilty of Adam's sin.
- 10. Infant baptism by sprinkling.
- 11. Sunday sacredness.
- 12. The celebration of Christmas, Easter and Lent and other pagan festivals under a Christian cloak.
- 13. The sacrifice of the mass.
- 14. Auricular confession, penance, and absolution through an earthly priest.
- 15. The use of material aids in worship, such as the altar, cross, images, etc which are contrary to the second commandment.

"On her forehead was a name written. MYSTERY. BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." (Verse 5.)

What offensive language this is, but it is the solemn language of Holy Writ. It is Heaven speaking, therefore we need to take heed, and endeavor to understand it.

"MYSTERY" ON FOREHEAD

In ancient times it was customary for harlots to bear their name on their foreheads, and this imagery is used here to identify the Harlot Church, the church of Satan. It is interesting to note that originally on one of the Pope's tiaras or crowns, there was a golden plate with an inscription in Latin, "MYSTERIUM." This means "MYSTERY." The Protestant Reformers drew the attention of the world to this inscription and showed how it was a fulfillment of Revelation 17:5. This Protestant exposure was so powerful that Pope Julius III (1550-1555) had the inscription removed and in its place he had engraved upon the crown the words, "Vicarius Filii Dei", which means "The Vicar Of The Son of God" (5) Astonishingly the Pope as it were, jumped from the frying-pan of Revelation 17, into the fire of Revelation 13 because Revelation 13:18 declares that "the number of the beast, is the number of a man and his number is 666". "Vicarius Filii Dei" is the official title of the bishop of Rome and it adds up in Latin to exactly 666! (6)

However the word "mystery" means more than the title on one of the crowns of the Pope. It is connected with Babylon.

WHY ROME IS CALLED BABYLON

Why is the church of Rome called Babylon? Because in truth her religion is the same as old Babylon's. As Dr. Alexander Hislop declared,

"It has been known all along that Popery was baptized paganism, but God is now making it manifest, that the paganism which Rome has baptized is, in all its essential features, the very paganism which prevailed in the ancient Babylon. The essential character of her system, the grand objects of her worship, her festivals, her doctrine and discipline, her rites and ceremonies, her priesthood and their orders, have all been derived from ancient Babylon." (7)

In Revelation 13 where the papacy is also portrayed, it declares that the leopard beast "had the mouth of a lion". Why the mouth of a lion? In Daniel 7 the lion represented Babylon. This means that when the Papacy speaks, it is Babylon speaking. Dr Grattan Guinness, the famous Anglican preacher and scholar of last century, has shown that Romanism and paganism bear an exact and extraordinary resemblance. He lists eighteen similarities. (8)

ORIGIN OF THE MYSTERIES

Ancient Babylon was famous for its mysteries. The church of Rome also has her mysteries. The Babylonian mysteries were invented by Semiramis, or Ishtar, queen of Babylon, widow of Nimrod. Nimrod had been slain and Sun worship was outlawed. Semiramis invented the mysteries, a diabolical system inspired by Satan, in which Sun worship, or Satan worship, continued underground. Its true nature was concealed until it could practice its perverted rites in safety. (9) The same system is practiced today in witchcraft, which comes from the same source as the mysteries of the church of Rome, from Babylon.

There are two mysteries mentioned in scripture. One is "the mystery of Godliness". The invisible union of Jesus Christ with his church, is termed a great mystery.

"This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and his church." (Ephesians 5:31, 32)

The Babylonian mysteries, involved a union of apostate people with Satan, and it is called "the mystery of iniquity". (2 Thessalonians 2:7) It possesses a system of intellectual philosophy which is in opposition to the Christian philosophy. This system has permeated the thinking and the religions of the non-Biblical world.

"Upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY."

This denotes not only her name, but also her character. Anciently harlots wore their names on their foreheads indicating their lifestyle, etc. So the Papacy, having the name "mystery" upon her forehead, denotes in a symbolic sense, her lifestyle, her union with Satan. The Jewish High priest had inscribed on his forehead,

"Holiness to the Lord"; but Rome has on her forehead, "Mystery Babylon the Great the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth." What a contrast!

THE MOTHER CHURCH

The term "mother of harlots"; indicates that this church is a mother church. The true church of Christ is also called the mother church.

"But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all." (Galatians 4:26)

The church of Rome is the great counterfeit mother church. She has officially titled herself as the Mother Church. In the 16th century, the Roman Catholic Council of Trent decreed,

"I acknowledge the holy catholic apostolic Roman church the mother and mistress of all churches." (16) St. John's Lateran church in Rome, was the leading Roman Catholic church for centuries before St. Peters was built. Inscribed in its interior in Latin, are the words, "The Mother and head of all churches."

In AD 1725 Pope Benedict XIII, in his declaration of a jubilee, described the church of Rome as "The mother of all believers and the mistress of all churches." (11) It is interesting to notice, that according to the original Greek, there are two striking parallel expressions in Revelation. "The harlot and the beast" and, "The bride and the lamb." (12)

MEANING OF "ABOMINATION"

What is the significance of this term, "mother of abominations"? In scripture this word is associated with idolatry, which in the sight of heaven is detestable, abhorrent and offensive. The fact that the harlot is termed, "the mother of abominations", indicates that she is first of all, the originator of false worship of idolatry, of astrology, of satanic worship. It is an indisputable fact that all false worship originated in the great city of ancient Babylon. (13) The term "mother", indicates that Rome is the source of all false worship, and this has been abundantly proven. Secondly, it indicates that spiritual Babylon has been the inspirer of false worship. By her union with satanic power, she has multiplied it. Through the centuries Rome has been notorious for her encouragement of degeneracy. Thirdly, it indicates that she has daughter churches, religious organizations that imitate her.

DAUGHTER CHURCHES

Are there churches that have come out of Rome, and who now are also spiritual harlots? Later we will explain the significance of spiritual harlotry, or adultery. The term "abomination" that is used in prophecy, is a term that applies to both Imperial and Papal Rome. (See Appendix 1.)

PAPAL PERSECUTION

"And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus." (Verse 6)

This terrible description coincides with the prophetic picture of the Papacy in Daniel 7 & 8, and also in Revelation 12 & 13.

"He [the Papacy] shall wear out the saints of the Most High. " (Daniel 7:25)

"He shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. (Daniel 8:24)

"They that understand, [i.e. the saints] shall fall by the sword and by flame and by captivity, and by spoil many days." (Daniel 11:33.)

"He shall scatter the power of the holy people. "(Daniel 12:7.)

"The serpent cast out of his mouth, water, as a flood after the woman [the true church] that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood." (Revelation 12:15)

"It was given to him [the Papacy] to make war with the saints and to overcome them." (Revelation 13:7)

Without question, these tragic predictions were horribly fulfilled in the reign of the Papacy during the Middle Ages. This has been acknowledged by both non Catholic and Catholic historians. (15)

CHURCH PERMITS DENIALS OF HISTORIC FACTS

The destruction of God's people by Papal persecutors is confirmed by paintings, medals, and memorials both Catholic and Protestant. Today many Catholic writers deny these historical facts, and they do so with the permission of their church. Cardinal Baudrillart, a Roman Catholic scholar, in his book "The Catholic Church, the Renaissance and Protestantism" has declared,

"Indeed even among our friends and our brothers we find those who dare not look this problem in the face. They ask permission from the church to ignore or even deny all those acts and institutions in the past which have made orthodoxy [Catholicism] compulsory." (16)

This book bears the sanction of Roman Catholic authorities and of their "censor". This is an indisputable admission, that Roman Catholics have been given by their church, permission to deny the terrible persecutions of the past. This is why our history books of today are whitewashed. The truth is kept from the people regarding the awful guilt of Rome.

THE TRUTH ON THE MASSACRE OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW

A classic example of Papal guilt is revealed in the accounts of the massacre of St. Bartholomew August 24, 1572. That massacre was planned by the church of Rome in conjunction with Spanish and French Catholic kings. At the tolling of a bell, the Roman Catholic population set themselves upon the unsuspecting Protestants of France. and according to the Catholic Archbishop of Paris, Perefixe, 100,000 Protestants perished. (17) According to the Huguenot or Protestant historian, Sully, 70,000 perished. According to the author of "The Great Controversy" 70,000 perished. (18) Dr J Wiley states:

"Sully, from his access to official documents, and his unimpeachable honor, has been commonly reckoned the highest authority." (19)

A medal was struck by Pope Gregory XII to celebrate the massacre. Three frescoes were also ordered by the same Pope and displayed in the hall of the Vatican, illustrating the terrible slaughter. (20) It has been confirmed by reliable historians, that the total number of martyrs executed by the church of Rome during the Middle Ages was at least sixty million people. (21) Others declare that there were many more.

The woman was indeed "drunken with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus". "When I saw her, I wondered with great admiration. (Verse 6) This is an unfortunate translation. It should read, "I was amazed with great amazement." "The angel said unto me, Wherefore [or why] didst thou marvel?" The record of the Papacy is perhaps the most amazing phenomenon of history. After such an appalling record, how is it that Rome has deluded mankind for so long? How is it that after she was exposed in 1798 and received the deadly wound, she is now being restored to greater favor than ever before? No wonder the apostle was amazed. It appears that the Revelator views the woman after the time of persecution or the Middle Ages because she is "drunken [past tense] with the blood of the saints."

THE TIME-SETTING OF REVELATION 17

What then is the time setting of Revelation 17? The statements made by the angel could indicate that John views the woman when spiritual Babylon is in the process of being restored to power, i.e. after 1798 A.D. Babylon is called "Babylon the Great". In the Old Testament, on which the book of Revelation is based, ancient Babylon was called "great" when she had conquered the then known world.

"The king, [Nebuchadnezzar] spoke and said, Is not this great Babylon that 1 have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power and for the honor of my majesty?" (Daniel 4:30)

Likewise spiritual Babylon becomes "great" when she gains world support, when she is restored to power, when she "sits upon many waters" (Verse 1), when she is supported by the peoples of the world when she rides or controls the beast, i.e. uses the beast to do her bidding (Verse 3). When she says "I sit a queen and am no widow. (18:7)

THE PUNISHMENT OF SPIRITUAL BABYLON

The angel that explains Babylon to John is one of the angels that delivers the seven last plagues. "There came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials saying. Come hither I will show thee the judgment of the great whore that sits upon many waters." (Verse 1)

The angel reveals to John, the judgment or punishment of the woman. The woman is located in the wilderness. "He carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness and 1 saw the woman." Revelation 12 also reveals God's woman in the wilderness. This was for 1260 years, from 538-1798 AD. But in Revelation 17, there is no mention of the 1260 years. The reason, we suggest, is that Revelation 17 applies after the time of the 1260 years, when Rome's power has been restored. It applies to the time after the healing of the wound. Why then is she pictured as being in the wilderness? This is a description of the woman under punishment, the time when the harlot church loses her support. The punishment of Babylon proper is administered in particular in the final three, of the seven last plagues. They particularly apply to Babylon. The fifth plague was poured upon the seat or throne of the beast, and its kingdom was full of darkness. The throne of the beast is the Vatican, but its kingdom will involve the whole world. This plague is upon the central power of Babylon, which is the beast. The sixth plague is poured upon Babylon's river. "The Euphrates is dried up", i.e. the peoples who support Babylon around the world, withdraw their support. In the seventh plague.

Babylon is divided into three parts. Why the division? For the sake of punishment. Some sections of Babylon are more guilty than others. Thus when the angel said "I will show thee the judgment [punishment] of the great whore" of Babylon, it indicates that Revelation 17 deals with the punishment of Babylon. Maybe the angel that speaks to John is the angel with the sixth vial because he says, "I will show thee the judgment of the great whore that sits upon many waters." The waters comprise the great river Euphrates (16:12) and in Revelation 17:15 the Euphrates or "many waters" are interpreted as "the peoples, multitudes, nations and tongues" on which the whore sits. It is these waters that are dried up in the sixth plague. In Revelation 17:16 it tells us how these waters are dried up, how the support of the peoples, worldwide, is turned away from Babylon.

"The ten horns which thou saw and the beast, [not "upon the beast" as in the KJV] these shall hate the whore and shall make her desolate and naked and eat her flesh and burn her with fire." (Verse 16) This tells us how the supporters of the false church finally turn on her, and bring about her destruction.

HOW BABYLON UNITES THE WORLD

In verses 1 - 2 it reveals how the world will be united under Babylon. It says she "sits upon many waters" meaning that Babylon is supported by the peoples of the world. "All the world wondered after the beast." (Revelation 13:3) How is this accomplished? How does Babylon reach her goal? Verse 2 gives the answer, "With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication."

"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."

"The kings who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her." (Revelation 18:3, 9)

What is the meaning of this term "fornication"? It is used here in a symbolic sense. It refers to the illicit union of the kings [or rulers] of the earth, with the false church.

WHAT IS SPIRITUAL WHOREDOM?

The term "whore" is also used in a symbolic sense. According to scripture, there are three ways by which a church can be guilty of spiritual fornication or whoredom.

- 1. By the practice of idolatry, which is spiritual unfaithfulness to Christ.
- "Thou hast made to thyself images of men [idols] and did commit whoredom [fornication] with them. "(Ezekiel 16:17) By the practice of idolatry ancient Israel was unfaithful to God.
- "She committed adultery with sticks and stones. "(Jeremiah 3:6, 9.)
- 2. By the church becoming friendly with the degenerate world.
- "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God?" (James 4:4)
- 3. By the union of church and state.

Fornication is illicit union, and when the rulers, or civil powers of the state unite with the church or support the church, it is an unlawful union. It is spiritual fornication in the sight of God. According to scripture, the spiritual husband of the church is Jesus Christ; therefore if a church unites with or receives favors of one who is not her husband, she commits spiritual adultery. The kings or rulers, who are involved in this practice, are also guilty of spiritual adultery with the harlot church.

The most effective method that will restore Babylon's power will be the union of church and state. The state will eventually support the false church and make effective by law, the desires of that church.

WINE OF FORNICATION

The second method by which Babylon is being restored to power, is that "the inhabitants of the earth are made drunk with the wine of her fornication. Wine denotes doctrine or teaching. Fermented wine denotes false doctrine or erroneous teaching. Alcohol in the wine is poisonous. It benumbs the senses and beclouds the brain. So it is with false teachings. They becloud the spiritual senses of those who receive them. This reveals the tremendous importance of pure doctrine, or correct teaching. It exposes the danger of the claim that is heard today that doctrine is unimportant. True doctrine is vital, especially in the end-time, when millions will be deluded by the wine of Rome's errors.

"Error is never harmless. It never sanctifies, but always brings confusion and dissension. It is always dangerous. The enemy has great power over minds that are not thoroughly fortified by prayer and established in Bible truth." (22)

"It is through false theories and traditions that Satan gains his power over the mind." (23)

"The mind in which error has once taken possession, can never expand freely to truth, even after investigation." (24)

So it is with the wine of Babylon's fornication, or false doctrine. It leads to spiritual fornication or adultery, which exhibits itself in idolatry and/or friendship with the world, and the union of church and state. Are not the peoples of the world being led into these forms of spiritual adultery today? Millions are being deceived; millions are being led into various forms of idolatry and worldliness and this is preparing the ground for the dominance of Rome.

THE RIDDLE OF REVELATION 17:7-8

"And the angel said to me, wherefore [or why] didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns. The beast that thou saw was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they

behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is." (Revelation 17-7, 8) This is one of the enigmas of Revelation 17. What does it mean?

"It was." It existed previously.

"And is not" It is out of existence – i.e. It is dead.

"And shall ascend out of the bottomless pit" It comes back into existence. It returns from the dead.

THE BOTTOMLESS PIT

What is meant by the bottomless pit or abyss? Seven times in the book of Revelation, the term "bottomless pit" is used. Five times it is used in a symbolic sense and two times in a literal sense.

- 1. In Revelation 9 it is used three times to describe the source and inspiration of the symbolic locusts that are inspired by Satan to bring woe to the inhabitants of the earth, under the fifth trumpet.
- 2. In Revelation 11 it is used to describe the source from which Revolutionary France, in its attack upon Christianity, received its inspiration. This undoubtedly was of Satan. (25)
- 3. In Revelation 20 it is used twice in a literal sense to describe the prison-house of Satan during the millennium when the earth will be turned into a worldwide graveyard, or place of death.
- 4. In Romans 10:7 the same Greek word is translated "deep" and is used to describe the grave or the place of death.

All the above usages indicate two things in common: Satan is the inspirer and controller, and it is a place of death. Whose territory is the place of death? Whose prison-house is the grave? It is the realm of Satan (Hebrews 2:14). It is his stronghold or arsenal. The bottomless pit represents Satan's realm, and any person or power that is pictured as rising from the bottomless pit is inspired by him. In scripture the things of God are described as coming "from above", while the things of Satan are described as emerging "from beneath".

"This wisdom descends not from above but is earthly, sensual, devilish. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits." (James 3:15) The beast of Revelation 17:8 ascends out of the bottomless pit. This means that it emerges from the place of death. It is experiencing a resurrection, it is returning to power, it is a restoration.

What of the claims that this beast represents Communism? There is no evidence in scripture to confirm this. Scripture indisputably shows that this beast represents the political powers supporting the false church. It is the political power of Rome. "All the world wondered after the beast." (Revelation 13:3) There is no room for Communism in the final conflict. But more than that! This beast is identical with the beast of Revelation 13:1. The book of Revelation employs the principle of repetition and enlargement. Revelation 17 enlarges on Revelation 13 and gives more detail. There are seven parallels between the beasts of Revelation 13 & 17 showing that they are one and the same power.

- 1. Both have seven heads and ten horns (13:1; 17:3)
- 2. Both are blasphemous (13:1; 17:3)
- 3. Both persecute the saints (13:7; 17:6)
- 4. Both are slain. (13:3 "deadly wound" or slain margin 17:8 "is not" i.e. no longer exists, it is dead.)
- 5. Both revive (13:3 wound healed; 17:8, "yet is", and "shall ascend out of the bottomless pit" or place of death.)
- 6. Of both ("All the world wondered" 13:3. "They that dwell on the earth shall wonder" 17:8)
- 7 Of both "names are not written in Book of Life" (13:8 & 17:8)

The beast of Revelation 13:1-10 is fulfilled only in the Papacy. (26) The beast of Revelation 17, especially the 6th head, is also fulfilled in the Papacy. This shows that the beast of Revelation 17 cannot be the same beast as in Revelation 11. It is claimed that because the beast of Revelation 11 also emerges from the abyss - or bottomless pit - that therefore it must be the same beast as that of Revelation 17. This is a mistake. Because there may be one identical point between the beasts, it is no evidence that they are one and the same beast. In fact, there are many contrasts between the two beasts showing very conclusively that they are not identical. (27) (See Appendix 2) These points show that the beasts of Revelation 13 and 17 are distinct and altogether different from the beast of Revelation 11.

There are three tenses used of this beast of Revelation 17 which may reveal the time-setting of the chapter. We now come to another enigma in this chapter on which there have been varied opinions.

"Here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sits. And there are seven kings: five are fallen and one is and the other is not yet come; and when he comes, he must continue a short space." (Revelation 17:9, 10)

In the past some have interpreted the seven mountains to be literal mountains or hills. Because Rome is situated on seven hills, the beast was applied to the city of Rome or the Papacy. In the great Protestant Reformation the Protestant Reformers used this application with deadly effect. However, Constantinople [Istanbul] the new Rome, was also built on seven hills. Likewise, Moscow is situated on seven hills. We must therefore re-examine the old Protestant application. Some apply the seven heads to seven kings and claim that they represent seven popes since 1929. This claim is pure speculation and must be rejected.

The angel declared, "The seven heads are seven mountains." Here we have a double symbolism; mountains and heads. There is another double symbolism in verse 18 - the woman and the city. Both the woman and the city are symbols of a religious organization. The seven mountains and seven heads represent seven political kingdoms or empires. A mountain is a symbol of a kingdom.

"I am against thee, O destroying mountain." (Jeremiah 51:25) This is an allusion to Babylon. The kingdom of God is also likened to "a great mountain which filled the whole earth." (Daniel 2:35, 44) The seven mountains and the seven heads represent seven kingdoms or empires. The angel then declares: "Five are fallen, one is, and the other is not yet come." (Verse 10) This statement reveals that the seven kingdoms are successive: one follows the other. How then can we identify these seven kingdoms?

The seven kingdoms are symbolized by seven heads on the beast on which the false church sits or controls. In other words, they are seven political powers which support the great pagan religion of Babylon through the centuries. Secondly, they are agents of Satan in opposing God and His people. In an endeavor to identify the seven kingdoms comprising the beast, some have arbitrarily concluded that the guide for such identification is the book of Daniel alone. Because Revelation complements the book of Daniel, it is argued that Daniel 7 and especially the four beasts of Daniel 7 provide the key to the seven heads of Revelation 17.

Such a conclusion is quite unjustified. The book of Revelation is based, not on Daniel but on the whole Old Testament. It has been correctly described as "a mosaic of the Old Testament." Over five hundred O.T. quotations are to be found in Revelation. Therefore the whole Old Testament should be employed in seeking the identification of the seven heads. Who then were the leading kingdoms in the Old Testament that supported Babylonian Sun worship and opposed God's people?

The first we suggest, was the original Babylonian empire recorded in Genesis 10 & 11. This was founded by the infamous rebel named Nimrod. Under him and his queen Semiramis, Sun worship was initiated and established. Nimrod's empire "was one of the Most powerful in the world of ancient times". According to Charles Rollin in his "Ancient History", Nimrod's kingdom extended over all of the Fertile Crescent (28). This means that it involved Egypt, Palestine, Assyria, down to the Persian Gulf and across to Battriana and India. Nimrod's empire was involved in the building of the Tower of Babel and from thence the worship of the Sun spread over the entire habited world.

Surely Babylon then must be counted as one of the seven heads or empires upholding Babylonian Sunworship and opposing God and his people. The second empire after ancient Babylon that fits the symbolism

was Egypt. It was in Egypt that Babylonian Sun-worship flowered into a highly sophisticated civilization. The Pharaohs of Egypt at times controlled most of the Fertile Crescent and as the book of Exodus records, Egypt was a leading opponent of the true God and his people. Seven hundred times the Old Testament refers to Egypt in twenty seven Old Testament books. Egypt played a major role in the O.T. scenario. For at least 1600 years she held a dominating position. Both Isaiah and Ezekiel distinctly describe Egypt as the dragon power.

"'Are thou not it, that has cut Rahab [Egypt] and wounded the dragon. "(Isaiah 51:9) "I am against thee Pharaoh, king of Egypt, the great dragon that lies in the midst of his rivers." (Ezekiel 29:3) Seeing the seven-headed beast of Revelation 12, 13 & 17 is alluded to as the dragon, it is logical that Egypt should be counted as one of its seven heads. Finally the Revelator himself employs the nation of Egypt to symbolize Revolutionary France. It is described as "the street of the great city," and "the tenth part of the city." The symbolic city represents spiritual Babylon, and Revolutionary France.

"Spiritually called Egypt", (Revelation 11:7-8,13) was one of the ten kingdoms of spiritual Babylon. (29) The third head, it is suggested, is the Assyrian-Chaldean or Neo-Babylon. The Assyrians settled the Chaldeans in Assyria in order to infuse new blood into the Assyrian armies. Ultimately the Chaldeans gained supremacy and formed the Neo-Babylonian empire. (30)

The Assyrians and Chaldeans were zealous devotees of Sun-worship and fiercely opposed Israel and the true God, as revealed in the OT books of Kings, Chronicles and Daniel. Historians class the Assyrians and Chaldeans as one empire, the Assyrian-Chaldean. The Chaldeans are also described as Neo-Babylon because, under the brilliant Nebuchadnezzar, the ancient metropolis of Babylon was rebuilt and enlarged and became the glorious centre of the then-known world.

The fourth empire to make up the seven heads of the beast was that of Medo-Persia It was under this head that Babylonian Sun-worship assumed new forms under the names of Zoroastrianism and Mithraism. It spread southward into India and westward into the Roman Empire. Later Mithraism became a serious threat to Christianity. Finally it amalgamated with apostate Christianity and developed into the great apostasy of the church of Rome.

The fifth empire undoubtedly was Greece. Babylonian Sun-worship had been firmly established among the Greeks from earliest times. The famous "wisdom" or philosophy of the Greeks originally emanated from ancient Babylon. Even the unique Greek architectural knowledge originally came from Babylon.

The Grecian system of belief called Gnosticism, also from Babylon, developed into a strong and difficult opponent of the early Christian church. It finally infiltrated Christianity and was one of the chief elements in bringing about the great apostasy. These five empires we suggest, comprised "the five that are fallen". All of them dominated the world of their day and supported Sun worship. They certainly were powerful agents of Satan in opposing the true God and his people.

To what time was the Revelator referring when he declared "five are fallen, one is, and the other is not yet come" (Verse 10). Undoubtedly he was referring to the period of the sixth head. What kingdom or empire comprised the sixth head? Unfortunately some endeavor to fit Atheism or Communism into Revelation 17 and claim that the sixth head represents that philosophy. They base this claim on a faulty interpretation of the beast of Revelation 11:7-8 which slays the Two Witnesses.

This prediction was fulfilled by Revolutionary France. In the prediction, that political power was symbolized as "Egypt" Why Egypt? Because in the O T at one period, Egypt rejected the existence of the true God. This was a form of Atheism. It denoted that the nation featured in Revelation 11 would be atheistic. This was exactly so of Revolutionary France. But some, either carelessly or failing to think it through, dogmatically assert that the beast is Atheism. This claim clashes with a fundamental law of prophetic interpretation. In prophecy a beast represents a kingdom, not a religion, or philosophy.

"These great beasts are four kings [kingdoms]."

"The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth." (Daniel 7:17-23.)

To try and confirm the above error, they misuse or misapply the S.O.P. In applying the prediction of Revelation 11:3-11 to Revolutionary France. The S.O.P. declares of France's rejection of the true God as "a new manifestation of satanic power" and "This is Atheism." But the S. O. P. then declares,

"And the nation represented by Egypt would give voice to a similar denial of the claims of the living God and would manifest a like spirit of unbelief and defiance."

"This prophecy has received a most exact and striking fulfillment in the history of France." (G. C., page 269)

The beast represented an atheistic political power, not a philosophy. To so apply it, amounts to twisting the S.O. P. to make it fit into ones private interpretation. But another compelling reason that Atheism, etc. cannot be represented by one of the seven heads is that the heads represent political powers that uphold or are controlled by the harlot - the Babylonian religion. Atheism or Communism has never upheld the Babylonian system, nor has it accepted the guidance of, or control by, the harlot church. Therefore, Atheism must be completely rejected as being one of the seven heads.

What kingdom then, comprises the sixth head? We believe it refers to the Roman power. Which Rome? Was it Rome under the Caesars or Rome under the Popes? It makes no difference. Scripture as well as secular historians, class Imperial Rome and Papal Rome as one and the same power. Therefore, we suggest that the sixth head is Rome, Imperial and Papal.

With only one exception, Imperial and Papal Rome are counted as one power in Daniel and Revelation. In Daniel 7:8, 20, 24 the little horn, [the Papacy] is represented as coming out of the fourth beast, [Imperial Rome]. The little horn is a continuation or part of Imperial Rome. In Daniel 8 the little horn power finds its fulfillment only in Imperial and Papal Rome combined.

Heaven counts them as one. In Daniel 11 the King of the North represented both Imperial and Papal Rome. Both are termed "the King of the North." In Revelation 12:3-4 the dragon power that endeavors to destroy the Christ child was Imperial Rome. (31) But verses 13-16 reveal that during the 1260 years, the dragon cast water out of its mouth to sweep away the woman. This was during the reign of Papal Rome. The dragon power of verses 15-16 involved the ten horns. These, we need to recall, were a part of the dragon. (12:3)

They also formed a part of the Papal beast of Revelation 13:1. However, in 13:1 the ten horns are crowned, indicating that the ten kingdoms were ruling when the Papacy was supreme. The ten kingdoms were the political supporters of the Papacy and on her behalf they persecuted the saints. Therefore the ten kingdoms of Europe should correctly be classed as part of the dragon. This harmonizes with the S.O.P. which declares: "Kings and rulers and governors, have placed upon themselves the brand of antichrist, and are represented as the dragon who goes to make war with the saints." (32)

Revelation 13 is the only occasion where a clear distinction is drawn between Imperial and Papal Rome. Revelation 13:2 declares that "the dragon" [Imperial Rome] gave his power, seat and great authority to the leopard beast [the Papacy]. Why the distinction in this chapter? We suggest it is to indisputably identify the Papacy.

However, in this prediction Imperial Rome was still closely connected with the Papacy because "the dragon [Imperial Rome] gave him [the Papacy] his power, seat and great authority." In other words, without the support of the Roman Empire, the Papacy could not have been established. History confirms that it was Constantine the Great who gave the seat of the empire to the Bishop of Rome when he transferred his capital to Constantinople. (33) It was the emperor Justinian who established Papal authority. In 533 AD he pronounced the Bishop of Rome as "the Universal Bishop of the World and the Corrector of heretics". (34) In 538 AD by military power, Justinian crushed the Arian Ostrogothic power in Italy and compelled all in his domain to accept Catholicism or forsake the empire. This gave the Papacy freedom to exercise its political power. (35)

Secular and ecclesiastical historians also class Imperial and Papal Rome as one. Thomas Hobbes, English historian and philosopher declared: "If a man consider the original of this great ecclesiastical dominion, he will easily perceive that the papacy is no other then the ghost of the deceased Roman empire sitting crowned upon the grave thereof." (36)

Adolph Harnack stated,

"The Roman church in this way; privately pushed itself into the place of the Roman world empire, of which it is the actual continuation; the empire has not perished. but has only undergone a transformation. That is no mere clever remark, but the recognition of the true state of the matter historically, the most appropriate and fruitful way of describing the character of this church. It still governs the nations. It is a political creation, and as imposing as a World-empire because the continuation of the Roman Empire. The Pope, who calls himself 'King' and 'Pontifex Maximus' is Caesar's successor." (37)

Philip Schaff, church historian, says,

"When the western empire fell into the hands of the barbarians, the Roman bishop was the only surviving heir of this imperial past or in the well-known dictum of Hobbes, the ghost of the deceased Roman empire sitting crowned upon the grave thereof." (38)

Dr. Arthur Stanley declares,

"The Popes filled the place of the vacant emperors at Rome, inheriting their power, prestige, and titles from paganism. Constantine left all to the Bishop of Rome and the Papacy is but the ghost of the dead Roman empire, sitting crowned upon its grave." (39)

Many other reliable historians confirm that Imperial and Papal Rome are one and the same. (40) Finally J.P. Conroy stated,

"Meekly stepping to the throne of Caesar, the Vicar of Christ took up the scepter, to which the emperors and kings of Europe were to bow in reverence through so many ages." (41) On the above grounds, we suggest that the sixth head is Rome - Imperial and Papal.

THE NUMBER SIX IS ROME'S NUMBER

It is a significant and proven fact that the number six is the number of both Imperial and Papal Rome. Six was originally the number of Babylon and Rome has rightly been termed, The Second Babylon.

- 1. The name of the pagan Sun god from the whom the Romans claimed descent was called "Lateinos" which in the Greek language adds up to exactly 666.
- 2. The Greek term for "the Latin Kingdom" adds up in the Greek language to the number 666.
- 3. The original Roman numerals: I, V, X, L, C, D, were six in number and added up to 666.
- 4. The official seal of the Roman Empire was of Babylonian origin It was called "Sigillum Solis" the Seal of the Sun. It was comprised of a series of numbers which added up to 666.
- 5. The official title of the Pope of Rome is "Vicarius Filii Dei" In Latin, this name adds up to 666.
- 6. The Hebrew term for the Roman power was "Romiith" which in the Hebrew language adds up exactly to 666.
- 7. The Pope's official signature is "Dux Cleri," 'Chief of the Clergy' In Latin this also adds up to 666. (42)

THE SEVENTH HEAD

"The other [seventh head] is not yet come: and when he cometh, he must continue a short space." (Verse 10). The identity of the seventh head is intimated in verse 11. "The beast that was, and is not. even he is the eight., and is of the seven, and goes into perdition." What is the solution to this riddle?

WHY THE EIGHTH?

The original Greek reads, "even he is eighth." There is no definite article. This may denote that the number eight, does not refer to an eighth head or kingdom, but is a symbol. What does eight symbolize in scripture? Eight generally denotes regeneration, newness of life or resurrection. (43) This means that the seventh kingdom would experience regeneration or resurrection or restoration. Only one kingdom has experienced death and resurrection, and that is Rome.

"I saw one of his heads. as it were wounded to death [Margin: Greek. - slain] and his deadly wound was healed." (Revelation 13:3) This experience concerning Rome is repeated three times in Revelation 17 and is expressed in the form of a tantalizing riddle,

THE RIDDLE SOLVED

	THE RIDDLE SOLVED	
EXISTED IN THE PAST	NON-EXISTENT	EXISTS AGAIN
	(Dead)	(Resurrected)
Verse 8. "The beast that was	and is not	and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit."
Verse 8. "The beast that was	and is not	and yet is."
XX 44 (/77)	••	
Verse 11. "The beast that was	and is not	even he is eighth."

[&]quot;Even he is eighth and is of the seven." (Verse 11)

The Greek reads "out of the seven." This means that the head that was wounded or slain, on returning to life, becomes the seventh head. Thus the seventh head we suggest, is Rome resurrected, Rome restored, Rome after the deadly wound is healed, Rome reaching world power in the end time.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE WOMAN AND THE BEAST

What is the difference between the woman and the beast? The harlot woman represents the religious element, the Babylonian religion. The beast, or any one of its heads, represents the political or civil element of this power. Why is the woman featured in the 17th chapter but not in the 12th and 13th chapters? In Revelation 13, the religious element is evident because the Papacy is a union of church and state.

Chapters 13 to 19 are an enlargement of Revelation 12, especially 12:17, where the dragon makes war on the remnant. Revelation 17 goes into more detail concerning Babylon's punishment and reveals how the woman, the religious element of spiritual Babylon comes to its end. "I will show thee the judgment [punishment) of the great whore that sits upon many waters." (Revelation 17:1)

In 1798 the political element of Rome was wounded or slain. It was not the religious element. The head of the beast was wounded to death, (Revelation 13:3) It was the 6th head, the Roman head. The political or civil power was stripped from the harlot. The beast on which she rode to power was wounded to death. The harlot was made a widow. No political powers supported her.

The healing of the wound is the restoration of the political element that had been stripped from the church. The next section of Revelation 17 reveals more fully all the powers that comprise the seventh head. These are the powers that will support the Papacy, in the final drama of the end time.

"The ten horns which thou saw are ten kings, [kingdoms) which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings [kingdoms] one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast." (Verse 12, 13.)

Who are the ten horns or kingdoms of Verse 12, 13. Originally they were the ten divisions of West Europe. This is the initial and primary application. But in the end time, symbols apply in a world-wide sense. These end time predictions involve the entire world. The final conflict is a global conflict and every person will be involved. (See Appendix 5)

There are some who claim that the seventh head is the second beast of Revelation 13:11. This beast unquestionably represents the U.S.A. It is true that the USA is to play a leading role in the final conflict. The prediction reveals that the USA is the prime mover in the global movement for the restoration of the Papacy,

"He exercises all the power [authority] of the first beast [the Papacy] before him [in his presence] and causes [compels] the earth and them which dwell therein, to worship [obey] the first beast [Papacy] whose deadly wound was healed." (13:12)

The above verse reveals that the USA gains a position of global control and whole-heartedly enforces Babylonian worship. She becomes an agent of Satan in oppressing God's people.

"He had power to give life to the image of the beast and cause [compels] that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed." (Revelation 13:15)

The USA will certainly form a part of the seventh head but it will not be alone. In the final conflict, all nations are involved. All will support the USA in enforcing Papal policy. As the S.O. P. clearly stated: "Romanism in the Old World [Europe and Asia] and apostate Protestantism in the New [The Americas, South. Africa, Australasia] will pursue a similar course toward those who honor all the divine precepts." (44)

As the prediction declared:

"All the world wondered after the beast."

"All that dwell on the earth shall worship [obey] him whose names are not written in the book of life. "(Revelation 13:3, 8)

This clearly reveals that the final powers supporting the Papacy involve all the unsaved world. While USA plays a leading role, ultimately the real power is spiritual Babylon whose leader is the Papacy.

"In both the Old and the New World, The Papacy will receive homage in the honor paid to the Sunday institution, that rests solely upon the authority of the Roman church." (45)

In the terminology of Revelation the seventh head involves:

"The dragon, beast and false prophet." (Revelation 16:13) "The kings of the earth." (Revelation 16:14; 17:2; 18:3, 9; 19:19) "And of the whole world." (Revelation 16:14) "All nations" (Revelation 18:3; 14:8) "The merchants of the earth." (Revelation 18:3, 11) "The inhabitants of the earth." (Revelation 17:2) "All the unsaved." (Revelation 13:8) "All the world." (Revelation 13:3) "The earth and them which dwell therein." (Revelation 13:12) "The false prophet" or "apostate Protestantism." (Revelation 19:20; 13:14-15) "The lamb-like beast as a dragon." (Revelation 13:11) "The image to the beast." (Revelation 13:14-15) "The fen horns or kingdoms." (Revelation 12:3; 13:1; 17:3; 12-14)

15

Is there any evidence that reveals the emergence of a global organization that fits the prophetic picture? The answer is becoming abundantly clear. Such an organization commenced in 1776 in Bavaria, Germany, under the guidance of a university professor Dr. Adam Weishaupt. This man was a Jewish Jesuit. Posing as a Freemason, he organized the Illuminati, meaning "the enlightened ones"; and connected it with the Grand Orient Masonic Lodge of France. Its members were initiated into the secret teachings of Lucifer. Its aim was to create a new world order through the policy-making circles of European government. Although officially banned in the 1870's, it continued in disguise under the mantle of High-Freemasonry. (46)

While Freemasonry in general has been seen to be in opposition to the Papacy, it has recently been revealed that the leaders of High-Freemasonry are answerable to the Pope. (47) The Illuminati inspired the formation of the Jacobin Society in France in 1789, which was notorious for its policy of conspiracy and revolution, and was responsible for organizing the French Revolution.

In 1913 America was unwittingly led into creating The Federal Reserve System. This gave the "Illuminists a permanent role in controlling America's finances." Earlier in the same period there was union between "the Illuminists" and the one-world interests of the Rothschild-Warburg-Rockefeller cartel.

After the Great War of 1914-1918 the same group played a major role in the formation of The League of Nations. This was the first political attempt to form a one world government. (48) The next step was the setting up of national groups to advise their respective governments on international affairs. In 1921 "The Council of Foreign Relations" was officially formed in the USA with counterparts in London, Paris and Hamburg. This organization declared publicly, "We shall have world government whether or not you like it - by conquest or consent." (49)

The C.F.R. from its inception has employed the term "New World Order" in describing the coming world government The United Nations is the brainchild of the C.F.R. The European counterpart of the C. F. R. is known as the Bilderbergers, which began to function in 1954. It is responsible for the unification of Europe Another step was the formation of the Club of Rome in 1968. It is responsible for the regionalization and unification of the entire world.

Most of the directives for world government have come from the C.O.R. In 1973 it released a highly confidential report entitled "Regionalized and Adaptive Model of the World Global System." (50) This document divides the world into ten political-economic regions which it called "kingdoms". In 1974 the word "kingdoms" was changed to "regions", allegedly to conceal the true nature of the plan.

The C.O.R. in its philosophy is New Age. This is deeply involved in the occult. (51) The next step was the formation of "The Trilateral Commission" by David Rockerfeller. This was in reaction to the exposure of the C. F. R. in the USA. (52) Its mission is "to promote world government by encouraging economic interdependence among the superpowers." The USA government is under the control and guidance of the C. F. R. (53) and the Trilateral Commission.

Another organization bent on establishing The New World Order is The Fabian Society founded by George Bernard Shaw. Its motto is "A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing". In the realm of religion, the new world order is also being strongly promoted and with phenomenal success.

The worldwide ecumenical movement which has infiltrated almost every religious group is involved in the one world government of the new world order. The ecumenical movement basically is aiming for the union of all churches of all persuasions and of all religions, Christian or non Christian. The ultimate aim is union with the Vatican, which will be the dominant power.

The popular charismatic movement which is involving millions of Christians of all persuasions, is having huge success. However unwittingly it is under the control of the occult, in the so-called gift of tongues. This has been exposed as inspired by the occult. The ministry of healing which it possesses is inspired by evil spirits posing as the good. Only God can heal, they claim, and as a result, millions are deceived and many become possessed by evil spirits. Exorcists admit that the majority of cases in which they are involved, are those caught up in the charismatic scene.

Similar admissions are made by psychiatric authorities concerning the inmates of psychiatric institutions. All these phenomena clearly declare that behind the various bodies aiming for world union is the occult - "The spirits of devils" in disguise.

"The ten horns are ten kings [kingdoms], which have received no kingdom as yet, [with the beast] but receive power as kings [kingdoms] one hour with the beast; These have one mind and shall give their power and strength to the beast." (Verse 12, 13.)

ONE HOUR WITH THE BEAST

What is the significance of "one hour with the beast"? This does not denote a specific period of time but according to the Greek it may denote "in the same era". It means that the ten kingdoms are contemporaneous with the seventh head of the beast. (54)

According to the economic-political model of the New World Order, the whole planet is to be organized into ten distinct regions. These will cooperate with the Papacy in the proposed design for world government and the third millennium of peace. Some inquire, Why do not the ten horns give their power and strength to the woman? Is there a difference? There is no difference, for the beast supports or carries the woman, or the woman rides and controls the beast. The ten horns being a part of the 7th head of the beast, naturally would also come under the control and direction of the woman.

Thus there is to be a vast worldwide union of the political powers represented by the ten kingdoms. This we suggest, is what comprises the 7th head. Today, this union of the political powers is taking place before our eyes. The regions listed above are moving closer together through manipulation and pressure of powerful organizations that seek world government. They are being aided and abetted by the powers of the occult as predicted by the Revelator.

BABYLON'S FINAL AIM

Revelation 17:14 reveals the ultimate aim of spiritual Babylon. "These shall make war with the Lamb." (Verse 14.) The Lamb represents Jesus Christ. This means the united powers of earth led by Rome attack Jesus Christ. How does Babylon make war with Christ? By attacking the saints, the followers of Christ. By attacking "the remnant of her seed."

"The dragon was wrath with the woman [of Revelation 12-2] and went to make war with the remnant of her seed [followers] which keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." (Revelation 12:17)

The word "war" in Greek is the same as for "battle". When Babylon proclaims "I sit a queen and am no widow and shall see no sorrow", she persuades her supporters to rid the world of all dissent. "I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to make war against him [Christ] that sat on the horse, and against his army." (Revelation 19:19)

This is a symbolic picture of the final conflict. How do they make war against Christ? He that touches a true believer touches Jesus Christ. He declared:

"In that ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto Me." (Matthew 25:40)

To Saul of Tarsus, Jesus said,

"Saul, Saul, why persecutes thou me?" (Acts 9:4)

"He that touches you touches the apple of his eye. "(Zechariah 2:8)

Whoever touches a saint of God in the final conflict touches Christ and this will result in divine intervention. "The Lamb shall overcome them."

HOW CHRIST INTERVENES

How does the Lamb overcome them? In the sixth and seventh plagues. First "by the drying up of the waters of the great river Euphrates". (Revelation 16:12) The angel explains what the waters represent. "The waters which thou saw where the whore sits, are peoples, and multitudes and nations, and tongues." (Revelation 17:15)

In the sixth plague the support of all these millions of peoples around the world dries up, or is withdrawn. The Lord accomplishes this when the woman [the religious leaders] is revealed as the one who has deluded and manipulated her followers. (55) Verse 16 tells how this support is removed.

"The ten horns which thou saw AND the beast [The KJV reads "upon the beast". In the Greek it is "AND the beast"] these shall hate the whore and shall make her desolate and naked and shall eat her flesh and burn her with fire. "(Verse 16)

METHOD OF PUNISHMENT

The most devoted and staunchest supporters of the woman will be the ones who will finally turn on her and destroy her. In their fierce rage at being duped and thereby losing eternal life, they are symbolized as taking four actions against the woman. Four denotes universality - embracing the whole world. It will involve not just the Vatican, but the religious leaders, world-wide.

- 1. "They make her desolate." "Desolate" is from the same word as "wilderness" of verse 3. It means to be made an outcast. The religious leaders become outcasts. They are universally scorned and damned.
- 2. "And shall make her naked." This means to strip her of her gaudy and splendid apparel, to tear away her cloak of pretended piety and religious fraud. Her real character is made public. She is seen as the arch hypocrite, the great satanic counterfeit, the source of all woe upon mankind.
- 3. "And shall eat her flesh." This denotes the consuming of her spoil. The Greek suggests "eating masses of flesh". The imagery is borrowed from the Old Testament description of the fate of Jezebel, of whom "the whore" is the great anti-type. When Jehu went to bury Jezebel he found no more of her than her skull, her feet and the palms of her hands in fulfillment of the prediction of Elijah "the dogs shall eat the flesh of Jezebel." 2 Kings 9:35, 36. The figure in Revelation 17:16 means to despoil, to be violently and pitilessly destroyed. "They have eaten up Jacob, and devoured him and consumed him." (Jeremiah 10: 25)
- 4. "And burn her with fire. "This picture is drawn from Leviticus.
- "The daughter of any priest, if she profanes herself by playing the whore, she profanes her father she shall be burnt with fire." (Leviticus 21:9.)

The mother and daughter churches of spiritual Babylon, by their spiritual harlotry, suffer the penalty of being burnt with spiritual fire. The religious leaders are destroyed by the burning anger of their supporters. As one author portrays the final drama:

"The people see they have been deluded. They accuse one another of having led them to destruction; but all unite in heaping their bitterest condemnation upon the ministers. Unfaithful pastors have prophesied smooth things; they have led their hearers to make void the law of God and to persecute those who keep it holy. Now in their despair, these teachers confess before the world their work of deception. The multitudes are filled with fury. 'We are lost,' they cry, 'and you are the cause of our ruin'; they turn upon the false shepherds. The very ones that once admired them most, will pronounce the most dreadful curses upon them. The very hands that once crowned them with laurels, will be raised for their destruction. The swords that were to slay God's people, are now employed to destroy their enemies. Everywhere there is strife and bloodshed." (56)

In these four judgments on the harlot, is spelt out her complete exposure and destruction. All this is according to the plan of Heaven. "For God hath put it in their heart to fulfill his will." (Verse 17)

Heaven has ordained that the very supporters of spiritual Babylon should be the ones that will bring about her end. They will be the agents of destruction. Verse 18 introduces us to Revelation 18. "The women which thou saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth."

In Revelation 18 the symbol of Babylon changes from a woman to that of a great city. The reason for this is that a great city is a more fitting symbol by which to picture the total destruction of the gigantic religion-political system of Babylon.

CONCLUSION

In these last days, there are two calls to mankind - the call of the harlot and the call of Christ. The harlot calls to earth's inhabitants to drink of the cup of her wine of false doctrine. Christ invites men to drink of the pure water of everlasting life. One cup will make you spiritually incapable (Verse 2), the other will give you heavenly wisdom and discernment (Verse 9). One will keep your name out of the Book of Life, the other will keep your name in the Book of Life.

The harlot calls for complete loyalty and faithfulness, so does Jesus Christ. One is very popular and in the majority. The other will be increasingly unpopular and in the minority. One side is united against Jesus Christ, the other is united with Jesus Christ. Those with the harlot finally face disillusionment and disaster Those with Christ face conflict, victory and translation to the Kingdom of God. If we are faithful to the Lamb now, He will be faithful to us in the coming conflict, and will deliver us. The choice is ours.

APPENDIX 1

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TERM "ABOMINATION"

The term ~abomination" is employed three times in the book of Daniel.

- 1. Daniel 9:27 The term refers to Imperial Rome in her destruction of old Jerusalem in 70 AD.
- 2. Daniel 11:31 This refers to papal Rome in setting up its idolatrous system of worship and mediation.
- 3. Daniel 12:11 Here it refers to the same event in connection with the 1290 and 1335 days which began in 508 AD. In that year the church of Rome set up her counterfeit idolatrous system of mediation. (57)

The term abomination is employed 6 times in the New Testament.

- 1. Matthew 24:15 This is a reference to the pagan Roman armies surrounding Jerusalem with their idolatrous standards. The author of "The Great Controversy," in commenting on this says,
- "When the idolatrous standards of the Romans should be set up in holy ground which extended some furlongs outside of the city walls, then the followers of Christ were to find safety in flight." (14)

The term "abomination" was connected with Rome's idolatry.

2. Mark 13:14 Here it is applied to the same event involving the Roman armies.

3. Luke 16:15
4. Revelation 17:4
5. Revelation 17:5
6. Revelation 21:27
This refers to mankind in general.
Here it applies to papal Rome.
Again it is applied to papal Rome.
Here it is applied to all idolaters.

Thus twice it is applied to Imperial Rome and twice to Papal Rome, but every time it refers to idolatrous worship. This is the main significance of the term "abomination" as it is used in scripture.

APPENDIX 2

The Contrasts Between The Beast Of Revelation 11 And The Beasts Of Revelation 13 & 17

REVELATION 13 and 17

Beast wounded or slain 1798.

Beast's territory included the ten kingdoms

Beast makes war on the saints.

Beast makes war on the saints.

Beast makes war on the Papacy

Beast is controlled by Scarlet Woman

This beast the two wit nesses "prophesy."

REVELATION 11

Beast rises about 1798.

Beast is only one of the ten kingdoms.

Beast makes war on the Papacy

Beast is "Egypt" i.e. atheistic - [anti-religious].

Under this beast the two witnesses are slain.

APPENDIX 3

Comments On Isaiah 23:13.

"Behold" - Calling attention to the fact, humiliating to Tyre, that a people of yesterday, like the Chaldees, should destroy the most ancient of cities, Tyre.

"Was not" - had no existence as a recognized nation; the Chaldees were previously but a rude, predatory people (Job. 1:17)

"Assyria founded it" - The Chaldees ("them that dwell in the wilderness") lived a nomadic life in the mountains of Armenia originally [Arphaxad, in Genesis 10:22 refers to such a region of Assyria near Armenia], north and east of Assyria proper. Some may have settled in Mesopotamia and Babylonia very early and given origin to the astrologers called 'Chaldees' in later times. But most of the people had been transferred only a little time before this prophecy from their original seats in the north to Mesopotamia and soon afterwards to South Babylonia.

'Founded it' means "assigned it [the land] to them who had [heretofore] dwelt in the wilderness" as a permanent settlement (so in Psalm 104:8) [Maurer]. It was the Assyrian policy to infuse into their own population of the plain, the fresh blood of hardy mountaineers, for the sake of recruiting their armies. Ultimately the Chaldees, by their powerful priest-caste, gained the supremacy, and established the later Chaldean empire. "A Commentary on the Old and New Testament." by Jamieson, Fausset & Brown.

APPENDIX 4

In the book of Revelation, under the symbols of a great red dragon, a leopard-like beast, and a beast with lamb-like horns, are brought to view those earthly governments which are especially engaged in trampling upon God's law and persecuting his people. Their war is carried forward to the close of time. The people of God, symbolized by a holy woman and her children, are greatly in minority. In the last days only a remnant exists. John speaks of them as those that "keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." E.G. White. "The Great Controversy." 1884 Edition page 276.

"Thus while the dragon, primarily represents Satan, it is, in a secondary sense, a symbol of pagan Rome." "The Great Controversy." 1911.

Education, page 438.

APPENDIX 5

In the official document of the Club Of Rome, issued in 1973 there were outlined the ten economic-political regions of the globe. This reveals how the New World Order is to organize and control the whole political world. On examining the ten regions it is evident that no one political power is to control mankind in the end time. The ten kingdoms or regions embrace the following groups of nations:

- 1. North America
- 2. Western Europe, Turkey and Israel.
- 3. Japan.
- 4. Australasia and South Africa.
- 5. Russia and Mongolia.
- 6. South and Inter- America.
- 7. The Islamic nations of the Middle East.
- 8. Africa.
- 9. India to Papua New Guinea.
- 10. China.

APPENDIX 6

Revelation 17 appears to be a repetition and enlargement of Revelation 16-13, 14. These verses reveal how the whole unsaved world will be brought into the final union.

"I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet, for they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty."

The "three unclean spirits" represent the powers of the occult in its various forms. They are to speak and work through three agencies called "the dragon"; "the beast" and "the false prophet". The beast is the Papacy, the false prophet is apostate Protestantism, but who is the dragon? In my pamphlet "The 3 Powers That Will Lead The World To Armageddon", it is shown that the dragon is not Spiritualism, as is taught by some today, but civil or political powers. The dragon is a beast and a beast represents a political power. (58) In harmony with the above definition, one author declares "kings rulers and governor" have placed upon themselves the brand of antichrist, and are represented as the dragon who goes to make war with the saints". (32)

Who then are "the kings rulers and governors under the brand of antichrist"; that comprise the dragon? Revelation 17:12-13 shows that they are the political powers represented by the 10 horns. We suggest then that the dragon represents the united political powers as listed previously. These, even now, are sympathetic towards the Papacy, the antichrist. When they unite to support Rome they will truly "place upon themselves the brand of antichrist." Thus, according to Revelation 16:13-14, spiritualistic powers [3 unclean spirits] will work and speak through the Papacy, Apostate Protestantism and the united political powers of the whole world, in order to gather, or unite the kings of the earth and the whole world to Armageddon.

APPENDIX 7

In 1985 when the author was in the USA he visited the publishing company owned and operated by Mr. Jack Chick Mr. Chick is a southern Baptist, whose aim is to win Roman Catholics to Christ. He is well known and recognized throughout the US and many other countries. While in discussion with Mr. Chick on current religious affairs, he revealed that the previous day he had received a personal visit from the newly elected leader of Freemasonry in the USA. This leader, Mr. Chick declared, had just resigned from his top Freemason position. The reason he had resigned was that he discovered that now as the leader of High-Freemasonry, he was subject to the Pope.

This confirms that the Illuminati, and with it High-Freemasonry has its source and inspiration from the Papacy. In other words the ultimate power behind the New World Order is Rome.

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