



God Provides Unrelenting Hope Through the Assurance that End-Time Governmental Structures Will Be Judged

A Study of Revelation 17-18

Scripture Reading

Psalm 2

Man's final Great City is pictured in these chapters as the Great Prostitute who —

1. HAS WORLD-WIDE INFLUENCE – 17:1-6

- a. She is Judged
- b. She Defiles Kings and Makes Earth Dwellers Drunk
- c. She is a Governmental System
- d. She is Arrayed in Material Wealth and Moral Depravity
- e. She Persecutes the Saints

2. MAKES POLITICAL ALLIANCES – 17:7-14

- a. Concealed in a Mystery
- b. Aligned with the Beast
- c. A Call for Wisdom
- d. Wars Against the Lamb

3. FULFILLS GOD'S PLAN AND PURPOSE – 17:15-18

- a. "Waters" from 17:1 Defined

- b. She is Devoured by the Beast
- c. God's Sovereign Decree is Fulfilled

4. IS SEEN WITHIN GOD'S DIVINE PERSPECTIVE – 18:1-24

- a. The Position of Babylon the Great is "Fallen!" (vv 2-3)
- b. The Invitation to Separate (vv 4-5)
- c. The Pronouncement of Judgment (vv 6-8)
- d. The Mourning of Earth's Kings and Merchants (vv 9-19)
- e. The Call for Heaven to Rejoice (vv 20-24)

OBSERVATIONS

- a. The governmental powers of this world are established by and limited by our Sovereign God.
- b. The wealth and resources of our lives should have an eternal focus.
- c. There is no material wealth or governmental power which can endure forever.
- d. This final, great city is not yet disclosed.

That God should put it into the hearts of these kings to fulfil his will, in destroying the whore ... is easily received; but there seems some difficulty that he should put it into their hearts to agree and give their kingdom to the beast, which was sinful. Now this he did, not by infusing sin into them, which is contrary to his pure and holy nature, but by leaving them and giving them up to their own hearts' lusts.

- John Gill. *Exposition of the New Testament*, 1748.

