

The Voice of Truth # 524

God Executes the Harlot Wife of the Antichrist

When the Apostle John saw the woman clothed in purple and scarlet, as recorded in the first part of the 17th chapter of Revelation, dressed and decked with gold, precious stones and pearls, with a golden cup in her hand, full of abominations and filthiness of her fornications, sitting upon a scarlet-covered beast full of names of blasphemy, and having seven heads and ten horns, with the name written upon her forehead, **MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH**. And he saw her reeling with drunkenness on the blood of saints and the martyrs of Jesus. He stood there and gazed upon her with incredible wonder.

Now will you read again the 17th chapter of Revelation? Will you have your Bible and listen? Then the angel spoke to John, Revelation 17:7, and asked, **Wherefore didst thou marvel and wonder?** The apostle could hardly believe his eyes. He stood there almost unbelieving. He had seen that same beast in the 13th chapter, whom he knew was the Antichrist. He had seen the rise of the Antichrist in the sixth chapter of Revelation and had followed the conquest of that beast through the entire tribulation period; but now when he gazed upon that woman clothed in purple and scarlet and adorned with the finery of the world and having in her hand a golden cup, full of the abominations of the filthiness of her fornications, his eyes were fixed on the name written upon her forehead-- "Mystery Babylon", and he was shocked beyond measure to see the full blossoming and fruitage of paganism and idolatry under all the veneer of Christianity. In other words, all the religions of the world headed up in one body and being carried and supported by the Antichrist, the world's ruler.

Before he could find words to answer, the angel said to him, John, let me show you the mystery of this woman. The beast you are looking upon, he says, was and is not, and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit. 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. When the angel goes on to explain in verse 9, **the seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth**, which are the **seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come.**

Five kings with their kingdoms had already fallen. One was in power at that time when John saw the vision, that was Rome, and one was not yet come. But when the seventh king arises, the Antichrist, he must continue a short space. In verse 11, the angel emphasizes the fact that the seventh beast was and is not. Even he is the 8th and is of the 7th, and goeth into perdition. This means that the Antichrist comes on the scene, chapter 6, and is the 7th king or kingdom who will be slain, raised from the dead, and become the 8th. Yet he is the 7th. In other words, he is emphasizing the fact that this is the same beast set forth in Chapter 13 who will be slain with a sword, rise again from the dead, for whom the whole world will wonder after, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world. He will all but deceive God's elect, but by the grace of God they cannot be deceived.

The angel continues; Now, John, **the ten horns you saw in the beast are ten kings, but they have not yet received a kingdom. But they will receive power as kings one hour with the beast.** That is, in their own time they will come forth, and they will have one mind, as stated in verse 13, and **they shall give their power and strength unto the beast.** You know, that expression in verse 13 struck me forcibly. These ten kings have one mind. It carries my mind back to Romans 8:7. **The carnal mind is enmity against God, for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.** So, these unsaved kings all hate the Lord Jesus Christ. They're in utter rebellion against the Lord God of heaven. Therefore, they have one mind, a carnal mind, a rebellious mind, a mind of hatred, and they readily lay down themselves at the feet of the Antichrist and say to him, Go on, lead us out. We'll follow you to destroy the Lord Jesus Christ, if we can get to him, and bring his entire work to naught, and put to death every believer in Christ, and clear the earth of every vestige of Christianity and every symbol of religion. Now, that's their mind. In Revelation 17, verse 14, we read these words, ...these kings **shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for He is the Lord of lords and King of kings: and they that are with him are called and chosen and**

faithful. You know, a man lives in a double fool's paradise when he thinks he can destroy Christianity, do away with the Bible, and then ultimately destroy the Lord Jesus Christ. You may put us followers of Christ to death, and you can do that only at His permission, and then it will redound to His name, honor and glory. But you can't touch Him. Kill our bodies if you please, but we'll go to be with Him, and one day we'll come back with Him according to the latter part of that 14th verse. **And they that are with Him, Christ, are called and chosen and faithful.** God's elect will go through. Not only do we have the promise of God's Word to back us up, but we have the God of resurrection. We have the God of creation. We have the God of redemption. Christ said, **I am the resurrection and the life.** You may put this body of mine to death, and at God's permissive will, you may cause me to suffer every torture that has been invented in the vortex of hell. But when I move out of this old body, I'm going to be with my blessed Lord. And when I enter into his presence, he's going to give me a pre-resurrection body, according to 2 Corinthians, the 5th chapter. And I'll live where there will be no sin, no persecution, no hatred, no enemies, no devils, no one who hates the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. I'll be beyond your reach. Then when he leaves his mediatorial throne as a bride groom, I'll come with him. I don't care what you may do with his body. It will be raised from the dead in the likeness of his glorious body. And I will live with him forever and forever, while you are tormented with fire and brimstone forever and ever, in hell, unless you repent. That's God's Word, whether you believe it, whether any man believes it.

I read an article the other day, in which one of the religious leaders of the nation said, "We no longer look for the return of Jesus". You know, he's not as smart as the devil. The devil knows the Lord Jesus is coming back. The devil believes it and trembles. So, my friend, you're not as smart as you think you are. Scoffers shall come in the last days, saying, **Where is the hope of his coming?** 2 Peter 3:3, 4.

Then the angel said in that 15th verse, **The waters which thou sawest, John, where the harlot sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.** And in the 18th verse, **The woman which thou sawest is that great city which reigneth over the kings of the earth,** which is Babylon. Then John had a right to marvel.

Now, I want you to listen. Hold your seat now, friend, you listen. John had a right to marvel as there opened to him the complete history of idolatry, or spiritual fornication and harlotry, from Nimrod until the day the Lord puts in the hearts and minds of those ten kings to literally strip the earth of every vestige of idolatry that has ever existed. In other words, these ten kings will be God's executioners under the direction of the Antichrist, to put to death the harlot wife of the Antichrist. It is no wonder that John marveled when the angel gave him the full explanation of the scarlet-colored clothed woman seated on the scarlet-colored beast. His mind went back to old Nimrod in the 10th and 11th chapters of Genesis, the grandson of Ham, who was a mighty rebel before the Lord, the greatest rebel who was ever in the earth. John saw the beginnings of idolatry under Nimrod, who setup the worship of a trinity, namely the Father, the Mother, and the Son. They put the emphasis on the Mother, making her the Supreme Deity, and she is known under various names. Namely, the Queen of Heaven, the Mother of the Gods, or the Blessed Virgin. Then as idolatry spread, she took on other names as Astra, Diana, Venus, and so on. Each town chose its own patron god or goddess, and she was always considered the highest in the pantheon.

Nimrod's purpose was to build a tower unto the heavens, which he called Babel, which means the gateway to God. Of course, he was not talking about the god of Noah or the god of Shem. To him it was the sun god. When the Lord came down and confused the language, they left off building the Tower of Babel. And we have always connected the word Babylon with the confusion of tongues. From Babel, the people scattered over the face of the earth, and the earth was divided.

Now you get this truth. This will answer a lot of questions. If you'll turn to me to Genesis 1:9, you'll find that in the restoration of the earth, all the waters were gathered into one place, and the dry land appeared. That is, in the original restoration of the earth, there were no continents. There was one body of land, one body of waters. But in Genesis 10:25, we find that in the days of Peleg the earth was divided, and the Lord divided the land mass into continents and set the bounds of the waters of the seas. Everywhere people migrated over the globe, they carried with them the seeds of idolatry. Regardless of what continent you find the human race scattered upon, you'll find that they're all idolaters. And a study of each of their religions reveals the general framework of all paganism and

idolatry. A similar thread running through the whole body of our folklore. This points to the common origin of the races migrating from a central location, regardless of whether they are found in Asia, Africa, Europe, North or South America, or the islands of the sea. Now you can understand why South America was inhabited, why the Indians of North America were here. That central location of the common homeland, as all historians and geographers will tell you, is the land of the fertile crescent in Asia Minor, where you can still see the ruins of Nimrod's old tower of Babel. Let me repeat this thought for emphasis. Every form of idol worship, regardless of the religious clothing it wears, Judaism, Mohammedism, Confucianism, Romanism, Protestantism, all the various religious cults of the world, had its beginning under Nimrod in Babylon.

Now, that's what John saw. That's the reason he was shocked when he gazed upon the harlot sitting on the beast. He saw idolatrous worship from the beginning to end in full blossom and fruitage. He was amazed to see the scope of it, the depth of it, the corruption of it, as he took in the significance of the golden cup full of abominations and filthiness and corruption of idol worship, and so had drunken the blood of saints and martyrs.

John's mind went back over the history of the Jews, how they had been led into captivity, and how the true worship of Jehovah had been corrupted by idols. He also saw how the Lord God of Heaven calls out men and women here and there, and how He separates them from this idol worship and saves them by His grace.

Then he saw this woman drunken, reeling, staggering, because she had thirsted and slain and drunken the pleasures of brutality against the saints she has murdered, who have dared lift their voices against the idolatrous worship of old Babylon. He saw how she had burned at the stake and crucified and strangled to death, the followers of Jesus of Nazareth, through the centuries since the resurrection and ascension of Christ, back to the right hand of the Majesty on high.

Yes, he not only saw the spiritual harlotry of religion in its ripeness, but he saw all mankind under the judgment of a sin-avenging God. I believe that John also saw and understood more clearly the letter that the Lord Jesus had directly dictated to him in Revelation 2:18-29 to the church at Thyatira. After the Lord had

commended the church for certain things, He said, **I have a few things against thee**, and then stated His grievance against the church. You remember, He addressed the letters to the pastors of the church, and He was saying to the pastor of this church at Thyatira, You have permitted your wife, whose name is Jezebel, who calleth herself a prophetess to teach and to lead my bondsmen to commit spiritual fornication with idols and eat things sacrificed unto idols. The pastor of that church had married a daughter of the priest of the heathen temple, who had been converted to Christianity and posed as one who had been saved because of her high learning, great intellectuality and seeming spiritual discernment, which was nothing but the spirit of Satan. And because she was the predominant character of his family, he allowed her to move among the membership of that early church and permeate the entire church with idolatry, which was spiritual fornication.

Then in Revelation 2:22, we have the prophecy that the Lord gave, **Behold, I will cast her into bed, and them that commit adultery, spiritual harlotry, with her into the great tribulation**. John is seeing how the primitive church in the first century had already begun to be permeated with spiritual fornication, harlotry and idolatry. John is seeing how old Babylon begin to infiltrate the first Christian churches with idolatry, and how throughout the Church Age the scarlet-colored woman, by a delicate wave of her jeweled hands, would allure the servants of Christ to drink from her golden cup full of the idolatrous abominations of mystic Babylon until all peoples and multitudes and nations and tongues became drunken with her wine of fornication. It's impossible to make a drunken person face and see the reality of an awful situation, and face facts as they are. You do not want to face reality. That's why you drink, to escape painful reality. That's why you can't believe there's a hell and that a good God can't or wouldn't send a soul to hell. You are drunk on the wine of idolatry. What is your idol, my friend? It's time to get sober and face the awful fact of your standing before God, before it's too late.

In the midst of this dark spiritual condition we face in the religious world, Let's read Matthew 16:18. **I say also unto thee that thou art Peter, and upon this rock Christ I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it**. Throughout the centuries there has been Christ's true Church, His blood-bought

believers, the called-out ones, the born-again ones, who have lived and walked with the Lord Jesus Christ and looked for His coming. Satan has never been able to defeat Christ, but over against this true Church has been the harlot church with her false doctrines, her false creeds, her rituals, her gaudy apparel, her gilded gold, her jeweled fingers, with its golden cup, who has fought, persecuted, killed, martyred the saints of the Lord Jesus Christ. Let me call your attention to this important fact, there is no one church, get it now, hold your seat, listen, there is no one church or system of beliefs that can be singled out and called the great harlot. If you try to do that, you miss the heart of this whole message that the Lord Jesus revealed through the Apostle Paul. You'll have to go back to the beginning, and the beginning was with Nimrod and the first city of Babylon that was ever built.

Then the harlot wife of the Antichrist, listen now, is the composite of all religions that has permeated the world with the wine of Babylon's fornication or idolatry, which takes many forms, but which does not know the Lord Jesus Christ as their Lord and their Savior. Let me emphasize this one fact again. We must go back to the harlotry of old Babylon to identify the harlot bride of the Antichrist and define and trace the idolatry and spiritual harlotry in present-day religion. It is most direct in paganism and heathen idolatry, but it is found in Mohammedism, Romanism, in all heretical isms, in infidelities, and in every form where we see it, the religious profession invites adulteration with paganism, and that includes Protestantism. It is so true that great Babylon is the mother of harlots and of the abominations of the earth, who has made the inhabitants of the earth drunk with the wine of her fornication.

Do you know Christ? Do you know Christ?

After John was shown the beginning of idolatry, the growth of it through the centuries, and the full fruitage of it down to the middle of the tribulation period, then the angel directed John's attention to the ten horns of the beast which were revealed to him would be the ten kings ruling over ten kingdoms in the end time, who have one mind, and give their support to the beast. Then the angel said, John, I want you to see something, do you see those ten kings in the vision? They

are God's executioners who'll put to death that harlot wife of the Antichrist. Listen, John, listen: **For God hath put in their hearts to fulfill his will.**

John stands there looking at that harlot wife who has been tried and found guilty. Judgment is about to be executed based upon God's eternal word. Listen to Exodus 22:20. **He that sacrificeth unto any god, save unto the Lord only, he shall be utterly destroyed.** This is the law. God laid down his word regarding spiritual harlotry. The law has been here through the centuries, but no one has paid any attention to it. Now the time has come that God is going to execute that law. The centuries have rolled on, and now God has brought the harlot to the day of execution, and he says they're going to make her desolate. That is, strip her of every one of her lovers. They'll make her naked, that is, strip her of all of her clothing. She will stand naked before the Antichrist, before the God of the universe, in all of her empty religious profession, built upon abominations and filthiness and corruption and iniquity and wickedness. All of her petitions to charity and good works, all of her power and prestige, all of her authority based on false claims from God, will all be stripped from her, and she'll be seen as she is. As Ezekiel says, **they shall also strip thee out of thy clothing, and take away thy fair jewels.** Won't that be an awful day when all the modernists, the idol worshippers, those who are resting upon an empty religious profession without Christ, all the corruption and wickedness that is being paraded today under the cloak of religion are all laid bare, and all the saints of heaven shall be made to view the harlot in her utter nakedness, without God and without hope.

The angel said, That's not all, John. Look, and he beheld the kings eating her flesh. It is a picture of a tiger springing upon its prey to devour it, and shows the utter depravity of the hearts of those kings, and their utter hatred for anything that resembles Christianity. Yes, a hatred for even a religion that professes merely to worship a Supreme Being. It shows utter rebellion against the Lord God of Heaven. But, my friend, remember that God put it in their minds to destroy her and to execute the sentence of eternal death upon her. God hates idolatry, and God says thou shalt not have any gods, any other gods before me.

And again the angel said, John, look, do you see the fire of her burning? **And they shall burn her with fire.** The law says in Leviticus 21:9, **And the daughter of any**

priest, if she profane herself by playing the whore, she profaneth her father, and she shall be burned with fire. God is executing a sentence on this harlot wife of the Antichrist by burning her with fire because she's a harlot. That is, they will burn every temple, every church building, every place of worship where the name of Christ has ever been named; every Bible, every piece of literature shall be destroyed. Everyone who has turned to the false gods will be cast into the lake of fire that burneth forever and ever.

God hates idolatry in any form. Listen, friend, do you know Christ? Do you know Christ? What God are you worshiping?