

## REVELATION Lesson 198

### Chapter 21:9 and 17:1, —A Comparison of Two Women: Babylon and the Church

18 February 2022

- Rev 21:9** One of the seven angels shows John the bride, the Lamb's wife.
- She is the true church that belongs to God, a system of perfect symmetry (balance) and order, and a habitation of peace.

- Rev 17:1** One of the same angels shows John the great whore that sitteth upon many waters.
- She represents the false church, the instrument of Satan, and the habitation of confusion and moral chaos.
  - Her activities are very similar and very close to the true church to convince people that it's the same. But the false church is void of the life-changing truth.
  - Babylon is not figurative. It is a real city just as New Jerusalem is a real city.

#### CONTRASTING THE HARLOT WITH THE BRIDE

1.	<p><b>Rev 17:1</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Rev 21:9</b></p>	<p>Babylon the whore exists for the <b>temporary</b> satisfaction of lusts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whore — temporary. Not a lasting relationship.</li> <li>• This represents religion. It may satisfy a need and make you feel better because by participating in religion, you feel that you've done something positive.</li> <li>• Because it is temporary, it cannot change your life in a positive way.</li> </ul> <hr/> <p>The true Church, the Bride — exists for the <b>abiding</b> relationship of love.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bride — abiding union, devotion, commitment, relationship, and love.</li> <li>• She is bone of His bone, flesh of His flesh, a living, permanent relationship.</li> </ul>
2.	<p><b>Rev 17-18</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Rev 21</b></p>	<p>Babylon is likened to a woman (chp 17) and to a city (chp 18).</p> <hr/> <p>The true Bride — is a woman and is called a city.</p>
3.	<p><b>Rev 17:5</b></p> <p><b>Rev 17:3</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Rev 21:10</b></p>	<p>Babylon is viewed from the vantage point of the wilderness.</p> <hr/> <p>The true Church is viewed from the vantage point of a mountain.</p>
4.	<p><b>Rev 17:5</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Rev 21:10</b></p>	<p>Babylon is earthly and devilish.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Religion asserts that you can get yourself from the earth up to heaven, but it can never get you there.</li> </ul> <hr/> <p>Bible Christianity begins in heaven</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God comes down to earth to meet the requirements for man to go to heaven.</li> </ul>

5.	<b>Rev 17:4</b>	Babylon is decked in flashy, beautiful, gaudy colors. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Satan knows that worldly people are attracted to religious things that look impressive or attractive (Great cathedrals, statues, candles, religious clothing and implements, miraculous gimmicks, exciting but unscriptural claims or practices).</li> <li>Satan uses the lust of the eye to lure people to religion (1 Jn 2:16).</li> </ul>
	<b>Rev 19:8</b>	The true Church is adorned in fine linen, pure and white. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You'll find the plain truth and that which is biblically right with no flashy tricks.</li> <li>God doesn't use the lust of the eye to get your attention; He appeals to your heart with righteousness and truth.</li> </ul>

6.	<b>Rev 17:4</b>	Babylon has a golden cup. If you drink from this cup, it will lead you to a life of sinful and abominable practices.
	<b>Psa 23:5</b> <b>1 Cor 10:16,</b> <b>1 Cor 11:25</b>	The true Church has a cup. This cup is a reminder of the precious, soul-saving, sin-cleansing blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

7.	<b>Rev 17:4</b>	Babylon is decked with jewels. This is the reward for her whoredom.
	<b>Rev 21:2,</b> <b>21:18-19</b>	The true Church is adorned with gifts from her beloved Bridegroom <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christians need to be careful not to get fixated on worldly possessions. The abundance of possessions is not an indication of God's blessing on your life (Luke 12:15, 1 Tim 6:5-8)</li> <li>The Lord has blessed us with spiritual blessings in heavenly places (Eph 1:3)</li> </ul>

8.	<b>Rev 18:7</b>	Babylon BOASTS of having a throne and no sorrow. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>She has no king, no husband, and will see plenty of sorrow when she is overthrown.</li> </ul>
	<b>Rev 21:2, 4</b> <b>Rev 3:21</b>	The true bride actually HAS a throne (3:21), a husband (21:2), and no sorrow (21:4). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>But she doesn't boast about the things she has; she boasts about her Savior.</li> </ul>

9.	<b>Rev 17:5,7</b>	Babylon, the false church is called a mystery. This is the outworking of the mystery of iniquity (1 Thess 2:6-7, 1 John 2:18, 4:3).
	<b>Eph 5:32</b>	The true Church is called a mystery. This is the outworking of the mystery of godliness: God manifest in the flesh (1 Tim 3:16).

10.	<b>Rev 17:6</b>	Babylon the Harlot is drunken with the blood of saints and martyrs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Characterized by religious wars; one religion warring against another.</li> </ul>
	<b>Acts 20:28</b>	The true Church is redeemed by God's blood, the blood of the Lamb, the Lord Jesus Christ. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Characterized by Christian martyrs, willing to die for the sake of the furtherance of the gospel.</li> </ul>

11.	<b>Rev 18:5</b>  <b>Mic 7:19</b>	Babylon the harlot has sin in her history. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Her home is in the Lake of Fire and her sins reach unto heaven.</li> </ul> <hr/> The redeemed of the Lord have sin in their history. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Their home is in heaven and their sins have been cast into the depths of the sea.</li> </ul>
12.	<b>Rev 18:5</b>  <b>Heb 8:12</b>	Babylon, the false woman's sins will be remembered forever. <hr/> The true Church's sins and iniquities will not be remembered. We are cleansed (1 Jn 1:7).
13.	<b>Rev 18:4</b>  <b>Rev 22:17</b>	Of Babylon, God warns people to "Come out of her." <hr/> The Spirit and the Bride say, Come! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notice that the Lord is with the bride saying, Come.</li> </ul>
14	<b>Rev 17:18</b>  <b>Rev 22:5</b>	The false woman reigns over the kings of the earth. This is temporary. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conspiracy theories point to a power pulling the strings behind the governments. That power is religion: the false woman reigning over the kings.</li> </ul> <hr/> The true Church is outcast now but will reign with Christ forever.
15.	<b>Rev 18:17-19</b>  <b>Rev 19:6-7</b>	There shall be wailing on earth over the doom of the harlot. <hr/> There will be joy in heaven over the bliss of the bride.
16.	<b>Rev 17:16</b>  <b>Rev 4:10-11</b>	The harlot's subjects hate her. <hr/> The true Church honors, praises, and gladly serves their Lord.
17.	<b>Rev 17:16</b> <b>19:19-21</b>  <b>Rev 21:24</b>	The nations connected with the false woman shall be destroyed. <hr/> The nations connected with the true woman will abide forever.
18.	<b>Rev 17:3</b>  <b>Rev 19:8</b>	The harlot sits on the beast. The beast is headed for the lake of fire. <hr/> The Lamb's wife is adorned in righteousness and prepared to be seated with Christ on his throne (Rev 3:21, 22:5) forever.
19.	<b>Rev 18:8</b> <b>Rev 19:9</b> <b>21:4</b>	In one day, the false woman will experience death, mourning, and famine. <hr/> In one day, the true bride shall receive life, joy, and feasting.
20.	<b>Rev 18:21</b>  <b>Rev 21:10</b>	Babylon is <b>cast down</b> into the sea to be found no more. <hr/> The true Church is <b>lifted up</b> as high as it is possible to be lifted up.