



BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Preaching and Teaching Resources

ADRIAN ROGERS





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Beauty and the Beast

SERMON REFERENCE: Revelation 17

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #2357

Revelation 17 shares the prophetic story of a mysterious Beauty sitting on top of a vicious Beast. This prophecy takes place during the Great Tribulation. The Rapture has already occurred; the Bride of Christ has been taken from the earth. And now the false bride shows herself:

"...and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet-colored beast..." (v. 3) "And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." (v. 5)

In the Bible, women have often symbolized religion, whether good or bad. Babylon is considered the den of false religion. Even now, the world is haunted by the ghosts of Babylon.

So when the Bible links the woman from Revelation 17 with Babylon, it reveals that she symbolizes false religion.

This Beauty has given birth to all the false religions of the world: New Age/Occult religions, Satan worship, Mother Earth worship, Globalism, Hinduism, Islam, Apostate Christianity. False religion has always been a bloody thing. This passage states that the Beauty is drunk on the blood of the martyrs; she feasts on those who believe in the One True God.

Now, consider the beast, her monstrous consort. This beast represents the antichrist and his kingdom. So, what we see here is the ultimate alliance of church and state; a united world government, growing more powerful as the End draws near.

What will happen to the Beauty?

The beast will turn on her and devour her, for practical and political reasons. He wants to be the ruler of the world. He doesn't want any competition, even religion.

Yet, the devil is on a leash. His plan to devour her fulfills God's providential purpose to exterminate false religion from the earth. Even during the Great Tribulation, the devil is simply a servant of God.

If you are a Christian, you don't belong to this world. You belong to Jesus Christ.

And in these days, though we're not yet in the Great Tribulation, coming events cast their shadows ahead of time. Don't flirt with false religion; be true to Jesus.

LIFE APPLICATION

Are you loyal to the heavenly Bridegroom, the Lord Jesus Christ? Are you a faithful Bride of Christ? Don't flirt with false religion; be true to Jesus Christ.



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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) Revelation 17 tells of a Babylonian mother and a Babylonian monster.
 - i) It deals with the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ and the end of the age.
 - ii) Man has always wanted to look into the future; people make prognostications about future events, but they fail.
 - iii) The Bible is the only book that has a perfect record in prophesying what is to come.
- b) No Christian can afford to be ignorant of prophecy in these days in which we live.
 - i) We are standing on the threshold of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ and the rapture of the church.
 - ii) The things that are prophesied in the Bible are imminent.
 - (1) There is a beast, the antichrist, lurking in the shadows getting ready to take the stage.
 - iii) We need to know of these events because of the intercession factor.
 - (1) We need to pray like never before.
 - iv) We need to know because of the soul-winning factor.
 - (1) We need to make sure our loved ones have heard the Good News of the Gospel and have had the opportunity to know Jesus.
 - v) We need to know for the family instruction factor.
 - (1) We need to prepare our loved ones for the things that are coming.
 - vi) We need to know for the comfort factor.
 - (1) We may feel as though things are coming apart, but everything is fitting into the sockets of prophecy.
- c) The time period in Revelation 17 is the Great Tribulation.
 - i) The rapture has already taken place.
 - ii) The church of the Lord Jesus Christ, the bride of Christ, has been taken out.
 - iii) The false bride, the false church which is referred to as the harlot or the woman in this passage, shows herself.

2) THE WOMAN AND HER MYSTERIOUS CHARACTER (Revelation 17:1-5)

- a) This woman represents an apostate and a false worldwide religion.
 - i) The woman in Bible prophecy is always a symbol of religion, whether it be good or bad.
 - (1) For example, the church of the Lord Jesus Christ is called the bride of Christ.
 - ii) This woman mentioned in Revelation 17 is the antithesis, the false church and the antichurch.
 - (1) The antichrist will have an antichurch.
 - iii) Loyalty to Jesus is called spiritual purity.
 - (1) James 4:4
 - (a) If we flirt with this world (this harlot world), then we've become enemies of our



- Lord, the Bridegroom.
 - (2) 2 Corinthians 11:2
 - (a) The church is the virgin who will be presented to the Lord Jesus Christ, the Bridegroom.
 - (3) Revelation 17:2
 - (a) This woman of false religion has seduced the nations.
 - b) Babylon also represents false religion.
 - i) When the Bible uses the term “Babylon,” it is referring to more than just Babylon the city.
 - (1) Babylon is a literal place.
 - (a) It is modern-day Iraq.
 - (2) In this Scripture, Babylon is a code word, and the Bible uses the term in a larger sense.
 - (a) Babylon is an historical city and steeped in antiquity.
 - (b) Babylon is great in iniquity, prophecy and is the cradle and the grave of false religion.
 - ii) All false religion has its roots in Babylon.
 - (1) Genesis 10-11
 - (a) Babylon was first built by a man named Nimrod.
 - (i) The name Nimrod means “rebel.”
 - (ii) Nimrod is a type, a prophecy of the antichrist to come.
 - (b) Nimrod built the Tower of Babel.
 - (i) The top of this tower was a place for pagan worship.
 - (ii) It was here that man first began pagan, idolatrous worship.
 - (2) Daniel 5:7
 - (a) As far back as in Daniel’s day, Babylon had magicians, soothsayers and astrologers.
 - c) Satan is not against religion; in fact, he is working for a worldwide religion.
 - i) The first temptation from Satan in the Garden of Eden was not against religion, rather it was for religion.
 - (1) The devil was trying to tell Eve how to be “godly.”
 - (2) It wasn’t a temptation to fall down; it was a temptation to climb up, to be godly but in the devil’s way.
 - (a) Genesis 3:1-6
 - d) During The Great Tribulation, the world will be unified by the beast with a false religion.
 - i) This false religion will have all of the resources it will ever need.
 - ii) Revelation 17:4
 - iii) When the Bible links this woman with Babylon, the mystery is unlocked.
 - (1) She is deeply involved in apostate, false religion; it will be a worldwide religion.
- 3) THE WOMAN AND HER MISCHIEVOUS CHILDREN (Revelation 17:5)
- a) The woman, who had her origin in Babylon so long ago, has spawned many children across the world.
 - i) She has given birth to all the false religions of the world.
 - (1) She has taught her daughters, these religions, to prostitute themselves.



- (2) She is a mother of harlots.
 - (3) Some of the daughters of this false religion include:
 - (a) New Age religion
 - (b) Satan worship
 - (c) Mother Earth worship
 - (d) Globalism
 - (e) Hinduism
 - (f) Islam
 - (g) Apostate Christianity
 - ii) The world today has been engulfed by the New Age movement.
 - (1) It is a syncretism of all the world's religions.
 - (2) Monism is the theory that all reality is a unified whole.
 - (a) This theory holds that any perceived differences are not real.
 - (3) Pantheism believes that everything is God.
 - (4) Therefore, in the New Age religion, there is no distinction between the Creator and the creation, and the people of the world are trying to unify the religions of the world.
 - b) Just as there is coming a one-world government, there is also coming a one-world religion.
 - i) There are movements today to unite world religions.
- 4) THE WOMAN AND HER MURDEROUS CONDUCT (Revelation 17:6)
- a) This woman, who is beautiful on the outside but hideous on the inside, is not only a prostitute but also a murderess.
 - b) False religion has always been a bloody thing.
 - i) This is one reason why Christianity is not truly a religion; it is a vital relationship with Jesus Christ.
 - c) This woman of false religion is drunk with the blood of the saints.
 - d) During the Great Tribulation, there will be coerced conversion.
 - i) For those who are alive during this time, they will either believe and bow the knee to the beast, or they will be martyred.
 - ii) Revelation 13:15
 - (1) As Christians, we do not believe in forced conversions.
 - (2) One of the great mistakes that has blackened the pages of so-called Christianity is the Crusades
 - (3) We desire the right to try to persuade anyone to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, but we resist any type of forced conversion.
 - e) More people died in the Twentieth Century for the cause of Christ than all of the centuries since the ascension of Jesus Christ.
- 5) THE WOMAN AND HER MONSTROUS CONSORT (Revelation 17:3, 7-13)
- a) The woman of false religion keeps company with the beast.
 - i) Revelation 17:3
 - ii) The beast is the antichrist and his kingdom.



- iii) This is the ultimate alliance of church and state.
 - b) The place from which the beast comes:
 - i) Revelation 17:8
 - ii) He will come from the bottomless pit.
 - (1) He has died and is incarcerated in the bottomless pit and will ascend from the pit.
 - iii) The beast will be catapulted into power with a satanic miracle.
 - (1) The devil always wants to imitate and take the place of Almighty God.
 - (2) The devil will give his false Christ, the antichrist, a resurrection or resuscitation.
 - (a) Revelation 13:3
 - (b) The beast will die or appear to die from a mortal wound.
 - (c) This will be an imitation of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus.
 - iv) This will cause all the world to wonder after the beast.
 - c) The purpose for which the beast comes:
 - i) Revelation 17:8
 - ii) His purpose is to deceive.
 - (1) 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12
 - (2) If you hate the truth, then you will embrace a lie.
 - d) The power with which the beast comes:
 - i) Revelation 17:9
 - (1) Rome is a city built upon seven hills.
 - ii) This power will be concentrated in Rome.
 - (1) In 1957, the Treaty of Rome, originally signed by six European nations, created the European Common Market.
 - (2) This was a re-unification of Europe, or the reestablishment of the Roman Empire.
 - iii) The beast will concentrate his power and consorting with religion at Rome.
 - e) The period when the beast comes:
 - i) Revelation 17:10-11
 - ii) John sees in prophecy seven world leaders.
 - (1) Five of these seven kings had fallen.
 - (a) In John's day, there were five Roman emperors who had lived and died.
 - (2) There was a Roman emperor on the throne when John wrote the book of the Revelation, and he wrote that the other is yet to come.
 - (3) There is coming a final Caesar, the last ruler of the world empire of Rome who will be the antichrist.
 - (a) Revelation 17:10-11
 - (b) The seventh beast is the one who goes down into the grave; and when he comes out, he will be the eighth.
 - (i) He goes into the grave a human.
 - (ii) He comes out a super-human, the antichrist.
 - f) The people with whom the beast comes:
 - i) Revelation 17:12-13
 - (1) In Bible prophecy, a horn speaks of power.



- (2) These ten horns are ten kings.
 - (a) They are puppet kings out of the unified Roman Empire.
- ii) Europe will be unified, federated under ten nations.
 - (1) Ten is the complete number.
- iii) The beast himself will be the genius of this federation and will be the unifying factor in Europe.
- iv) A one-world government will be in place.
- v) The western world will be of one mind, which is to submit to the beast and acknowledge his lordship.
- g) The passion with which the beast comes:
 - i) Revelation 17:14
 - ii) When all the nations of the world come to the Battle of Armageddon, they will not be coming primarily against Israel, but against the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - (1) The devil in his insanity will still think that he can overthrow the Lamb of God.
 - iii) The beast comes to make war with the Lamb.
 - iv) His one passion is to defy Jesus Christ.
 - v) The beast will meet his demise at Armageddon.
- 6) THE WOMAN AND HER MOMENTOUS CALAMITY (Revelation 17:14-18)
 - a) The Babylonian monster will turn around and destroy the Babylonian mother.
 - i) The beast, or antichrist, will destroy the woman.
 - ii) He is going to detest her.
 - (1) As in any marriage of convenience, the honeymoon period will end; and the beast will hate the woman of false religion.
 - iii) He is going to desolate her.
 - (1) He will see all of the riches that she has and will want them for himself.
 - iv) He is going to disgrace her.
 - (1) He will expose all of her moral vileness; scandals will be exposed.
 - v) He is going to devour her.
 - vi) He is going to destroy her with fire.
 - b) Why is the antichrist going to do this?
 - i) Practical reasons
 - (1) He wants to be the ruler of the world and doesn't want any competition, even religion.
 - ii) Providential reasons
 - (1) God will put it in their minds.
 - (a) Revelation 17:17
 - (b) The beast does not rule; God rules.
 - (c) The devil is on a leash.
 - iii) Political reasons
 - (1) He wants to rule the world.
- 7) CONCLUSION



- a) There is coming a world religion and a world government.
- b) We do not belong to this world government; we belong to Jesus Christ, the King of kings and Lord of lords.
- c) We do not belong to this harlot church; we are the bride of Christ.
- d) Though we are not yet in the Great Tribulation, coming events cast their shadows ahead of time.
- e) We are to be loyal to the heavenly Bridegroom, the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - i) We should not flirt with false religion.
- f) We need to get a bulldog grip on the truth.
 - i) Great pressure is going to come, and we need to be able to stand and proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord.
- g) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- h) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16



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Would you take God's Word and find Revelation chapter 17. We're making our way through. It seemed like we would never get this far, but we're this far, and going on. The title of the message today is, "Beauty and the Beast." We're going to find in this passage of Scripture a Babylonian mother and a Babylonian monster.

Not long ago I had a granddaughter who got married here at this church. And she is beautiful indeed. She is a beauty. I can tell you that. All my granddaughters are beautiful. They are gorgeous. And, this precious granddaughter got married. And I happen to have a Model A Ford. Now if you don't know what a Model A Ford is, many of you old geezers know, I'm an old geezer. You know what a Model A Ford is. A Model A Ford is one of the greatest automobiles I think ever built. And I have the privilege of owning a 1929 Model A Ford, black and yellow with a ragtop. And it's a pretty little thing. I don't drive it much, but I keep it in the garage and just go out and touch it ever so often. I like to see it. And Angie said, "Papa, why don't you take us to our car from the church in the rumble seat of the Model A Ford?" I said, "Well, I'll be glad to do that." And, so, I took them after the wedding in the rumble seat, that's the seat in the back that opens up in the open air. And drove them over to their car for their escape and their honeymoon. It was a wonderful thing. They had put on the back of that Model A Ford a sign that said, "Just Married." Some tin cans were tied to it, and there were balloons festooning the car. So they got in there and I drove them to their car. And then I had to take my car home.

Well I have another granddaughter, and she's in her twenties. And so I said to her, "Renee, you ride with me as I take the car back." It didn't dawn on me what was happening there. But there we are going down Interstate 40, and I've got this sign on the back, says, "Just Married," these balloons up there, and these tin cans behind it. And you wouldn't believe these eighteen-wheelers would come by and say, "Whooo, whooo, whooo." They'd point at me and clap like that. But I know what they were all thinking. "What is that old geezer doing with that young twenty-something girl?" How on earth did he ever talk her into marrying him?" That is a classic example of beauty and the beast.

Now the difference between that episode and this episode as we talk about Beauty and the beast is this, that my granddaughter, Renee, who was riding with me is beautiful without and within. The beauty we're going to be talking about was beautiful outside but ugly within. You know beauty is skin deep, ugly goes all the way to the bone. And this beauty is only beautiful outside. We're going to find out about beauty and the beast.

And it all deals with the Second Coming of Jesus Christ and the end of the age. Prophecy, you know, is in the news. Man has always wanted to look into the future. But so many times he makes awful mistakes, even if he's a weatherman. I heard about a weatherman who had to leave one city and go to another because the weather didn't agree with him. And often this is true. People make prognostications about all things but they fail. The Bible is the only book that has a batting average



of one thousand.

And no Christian can afford to be ignorant of prophecy in these days in which we live because I believe that the shadows of the end of the age are lengthening. And I believe the sands of time are running low, and we're standing on the threshold of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ and the Rapture of the church. And the things that are prophesied are imminent. Jesus Christ may come before I finish this message.

And there is a beast, the antichrist, who is lurking in the shadows getting ready to take over. We need to know because of the intercession factor. We need to pray like we've never prayed before. We need to know because of the soul-winning factor. We need to get our loved ones; our brothers and sisters, fathers, mothers, children, whomever it may be into the ark of safety. We need to know for the family instruction matter. We need to prepare our loved ones for the things that are coming. I say we cannot afford to be ignorant. And we need to know for the comfort factor. Because you may think that things are coming apart, but I want to tell you that everything is fitting into the sockets of prophecy.

So we need to understand, and today we're going to look into the seventeenth chapter and discover a mysterious woman, what I call beauty. And then we're going to discover and see again, discern a beast, the antichrist, the man of sin.

Now the period of time that we're in is The Great Tribulation. In Bible prophecy, what we're studying is this. The Rapture's already taken place. The church, the blood-bought body of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Bride of Christ, has been taken out, the true bride. And now the false bride, the false church, the harlot shows herself.

Well, the first thing I want you to see is the woman and her mysterious character. Begin Revelation 17 in verse 1 if you will and let's read through verse 5, "There came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials," we've already seen those, the bowls of wrath, "and talked with me saying, 'Come up hither, and I will show unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters. 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.' So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness, and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet-colored beast," that's where the title comes from, "Beauty and the Beast." "Full of the names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. And 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.'"

Now what on earth does that represent? May I tell you right up front, this woman represents an apostate and a false worldwide religion. Now the woman in Bible prophecy is always a symbol of religion, whether it be good or bad. For example, the church of the Lord Jesus Christ is called what? "The Bride of Christ." This is the antithesis, this is the false church, the harlot, the whore, the antichurch, if you will. Because the antichrist is going to have an anti-church.

Loyalty to Jesus is called spiritual purity. Let me give you some Scripture here. James 4 verse 4. James warns the church when he says, "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that friendship



of the world is enmity with God?" That is, if we flirt with this prostitute world, this harlot world, we've become an enemy of our Lord and Savior, the Bridegroom. Paul put it very clearly in Second Corinthians chapter 11 and verse 2. Paul said, "For I am jealous over you with a godly jealousy, for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste," or pure, "virgin to Christ." The church is the virgin who is going to be presented to the Lord Jesus Christ, the Bridegroom.

But notice in Revelation 17 verse 2. This woman is one who has seduced the nations. Look in verse 2, "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." Now, so the woman stands for false religion. Got it?

Secondly, what does Babylon stand for? Well, Babylon stands for false religion also. The word Babylon is a code word. Now, we use code words today. Wall Street. When somebody says, Wall Street, do you think they're talking about that literal street? No, they're talking about more than that. They're talking about the economic system when they say, Wall Street. Or, Madison Avenue. When they say, Madison Avenue, are they talking about an avenue named Madison? No, they're talking about more than that. They're talking about a system of merchandising called, Madison Avenue.

And when the Bible uses the term Babylon here, it is talking about more than Babylon the city, the true Babylon. It's rooted in that, just like Wall Street is rooted in a true street. I've walked down Wall Street. Many of you have who've visited New York. Madison Avenue is a true avenue. And Babylon is a literal place. Today what is Babylon? Iraq. But that's a literal city. Now, we don't call it Babylon today, we call it Iraq. The name has been changed to protect the guilty. But it is the same place.

But when the Bible uses the term Babylon here, it uses the term in a larger sense. You see, Babylon goes way back in history. Babylon is great in antiquity. Babylon is great in iniquity. Babylon is great in prophecy. You see, Babylon is the cradle and the grave of all false religion.

Babylon, if you were to go back to Genesis chapters 10 and 11, you would find out that Babylon was built, first of all, by a man named Nimrod. The very name Nimrod means rebel. Nimrod is a symbol, a type, a prophecy of the antichrist to come. He was an enslaver of men. He was a hunter of men. And he built a tower, the Tower of Babel, whose top was unto Heaven. He wasn't trying to build a tower into the stratosphere. That's not what it means. It means that the top of this tower was a place for pagan worship. It was unto Heaven. It was there that man first began pagan, idolatrous worship there. And all false religion roots back to Babylon so long ago.

In the book of Daniel, put in your margin Daniel chapter 5 and verse 7. Daniel was in Babylon and the king of Babylon had a dream he wanted interpreted. And notice what it says, "And the king cried aloud, 'Bring in the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers.'" Do you see how false religion is rooted there? As far back as in Daniel's day, they had the magicians. They had the soothsayers. They had the astrologers. Babylon has been through all history a den of demons. And the world today is haunted by the ghosts of Babylon today.

And the Bible speaks of, "The wine of her fornication," in Revelation chapter 18 and verse 3. Now that wine was bottled centuries and centuries ago. But men are still getting drunk on that wine today. I talked about astrology. Did you know that in the world today one billion people practice



astrology? Many of them are Americans. And by the way, if you have a horoscope in your home, get it out. Now! And don't fool with it. You say, "Well I'm just titillating with that." That would be like a married man just flirting with somebody who's not his wife. Get it out.

Now, Satan is not against religion, not at all. As a matter of fact, Satan is working for a worldwide religion. The first temptation in the Garden of Eden from Satan was not against religion, it was for religion. The devil was trying to tell Eve how to be godly. He said, "If you'll do this, you'll be as God." Wasn't a temptation to fall down; it was a temptation to climb up, to be godly, but the devil's way.

Now, the world is going to see a worldwide religion. During The Great Tribulation, the entire world is going to be unified by the beast with a false religion. And this false religion will have all of the resources that it will ever need. Look in Revelation 17 verse 4, "And 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."

So the first thing I want you to see is the woman and her mysterious character. When the Bible links her with Babylon, the mystery is unlocked. And when we see here that she is a woman deeply involved in apostate, false religion. And it is, as we're going to see, a worldwide religion.

But now secondly, I want you to see the woman and her mischievous children. She has some children. Look in Revelation 17 verse 5, "And upon her forehead was a name written, Mystery, Babylon the Great," now watch this, "The Mother of Harlots and Abominations of the Earth." Now you see this woman who had her origin in Babylon so long ago has spawned many children across the world. And this scarlet woman has given birth to all the false religions of the world. She has taught her daughters how to prostitute themselves. And she is the mother of harlots. What are some of these harlots? Well: New Age religion, Satan worship, Mother Earth worship, Globalism, Hinduism, Islam, Apostate Christianity. All of these are daughters of this false religion.

And, we live today in a world that is being engulfed by something called the New Age movement. What is the New Age movement? It's a syncretism of all of the world's religions.

One of the leaders in the New Age movement said this. Listen, "We honor the truth and beauty of all the world religions, believing that each has a seed of God, a kernel of the spirit that unites us." Doesn't that sound beautiful? Now here's what a New Ager has said, "New Agers believe that God revealed Himself in Jesus, but he also revealed Himself in Buddha, Krishna, and a host of others." And therefore they don't believe that the Bible alone is the guide.

Now they have something called monism. That's a word we don't use very much but monism is the theory that all reality is a unified whole. The word itself comes from the Greek word monos. Everything is together. So any apparent differences or any perceived differences are apparent and they're not real.

Now take monism and then connect it to something called pantheism. Pan meaning all and theism meaning God; that everything is God. And in the New Age religion there's no distinction between the Creator and the creation. It's all just together so all of this ecology and earth worship, mother earth rather than Father God, is part of this last world movement. And the people of the



world now are trying to unify the religions of the world.

Just as there is coming a one-world government, there is coming a one-world religion. As a matter of fact, there is a move just like we have the United Nations, a move for united religions. The organization is already in place. The charter is formed. Here is the declaration on a global ethic. Here's what it states, listen to it. "We affirm that there is an irrevocable, unconditional norm for all areas of life, for families and communities, for races, nations and religions. There already exists ancient guidelines for human behavior." That's right. All the way back to the Tower of Babel. "Ancient guidelines for human behavior which are found in the teachings of the religions of the world and which are the condition for a sustainable world order." Friend, it is coming, as sure as I'm standing here, a worldwide religion.

So, you see this woman and her mysterious character. She stands for false religion. You see this woman and her mischievous children. She has spawned many, many, many daughters, but all of them prostitutes.

Now here's the third thing I want you to see. I want you to see this woman and her murderous conduct. Look if you will in Revelation 17 verse 6, "And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration." Now this woman, this hideous woman, beautiful on the outside, is ugly to the bone. She is not only a prostitute but she is a murderess.

False religion has always been a bloody thing. That's the reason I say that Christianity is not truly a religion. It is a vital relationship with Jesus Christ. This woman is drunk with the blood of the saints. And during the Tribulation there will be coerced conversion, and you will believe and bow the knee to the beast, or you will die, if you are alive in this time.

Go back to Revelation chapter 13 and look in verse 15. Speaking of the sinister minister of propagandea, the false prophet, and it says, "And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed." It is a forced conversion. I don't believe in forced conversions. Matter of fact, that's a contradiction in terms. One of the mistakes that has blackened the pages of so-called Christianity are the Crusades. We're still today reaping the bitter fruit of the crusades. Where, people that we say, "Knights in shining armor," trying to enforce Christianity, and to conquer the Holy Land with the sword. Islam is into forced conversions. The antichrist will be in forced conversions. Now I want the right to try to persuade anybody to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. But with all of my heart and soul I resist any kind of so-called forced conversion.

And the world now is drenched with the blood, and this woman is drunk with the blood, of martyrs. More people have died for the cause of Jesus Christ in this one century than all of the centuries since the ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ. The woman and her murderous activities.

Now, here's the next thing I want you to see. Number four. I want you to see the woman and her monstrous consort. Because she has a consort. She has a friend. I could call her the bride of the beast but I'm not sure they've ever been married. They just keep company together. She's a prostitute. Notice again in Revelation chapter 17 verse 3, "And he carried me away in the spirit into



the wilderness, and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet-colored beast, full of the names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns." Well he does sound kind of beastly. He's ugly himself. Seven heads and ten horns, I'd hate to meet him.

Look in Revelation chapter 17 verse 7. "And the angel said unto me, 'Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns. The beast that thou sawest 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. And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth. And there are seven kings, five are fallen, one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short time. And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition. And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. And these have one mind, and shall give their power and strength to the beast.'" Well, that's obviously all so clear I won't even comment on that.

All right, let's look at this for a moment, and let's just see if we can unravel it a little bit. This beast is the antichrist and his kingdom. That's what the beast represents, just as the woman and Babylon represent false religion. What you see here is the ultimate, ultimate alliance of church and state. Now, I don't believe in the alliance of church and state if you mean a church-run government or a government-funded church. I don't believe in that. But I do believe in the right of every freeborn American to express himself in matters political and religious or whatever. I believe in that. I don't believe in the separation of God and government.

But now let's look at this beast and see if we can pick it apart here a moment. Let's look at the place from whence the beast comes. Look if you will in Revelation 17 verse 8, "And the beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition." Now what does it mean, he's going to, "Ascend out of the bottomless pit?" Well, it means that he has died and is incarcerated in the bottomless pit. And he's going to come out of the bottomless pit. How's he going to do that? The beast, the antichrist, is going to be catapulted into power with a satanic miracle.

The devil, who always wants to imitate and take the place of Almighty God, is going to give to his false Christ, his antichrist, a resurrection or resuscitation or the appearance of a resurrection. It is hard to tell. But look in Revelation chapter 13 verse 3. The Bible speaks of this beast and it says, "And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed." Now here, something's going to happen to this antichrist, and he's going die or appear to die, wounded unto death. But then, out of the abyss he comes. This is going to cause all the world to wonder. It's going to be an imitation, I say, of the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It's going to be the beast's stamp of authenticity.

I have been to Russia. I have been to see the sarcophagus of Lenin there, and his body lying there in that crystal sarcophagus. What would've happened after they had put Lenin in that sarcophagus and kept him there for say three and a half days, if he were to come out alive? Well, I'll tell you one



thing; it would make news, wouldn't it? All the world would wonder about it. Everybody would say, "Communism is definitely the way to go." What I'm saying is this; this person comes out of the abyss. Now that's the place from which he comes.

What is the purpose for which he will come? It is to deceive. Look in Revelation 17 verse 8. The Bible says, "All those that dwell on the Earth, shall wonder whose names are not written in the book of life." You say, "Well, if I go into The Great Tribulation, I'll not be deceived." Oh yes you will. Yes you will. Put in the margin, Second Thessalonians the second chapter verses 10 through 12. The Bible speaks of this antichrist that's coming. And the Bible says he's coming, "With all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they receive not the love of the truth." If you're here today and you hear the truth and you don't receive it, listen to what's going to happen to you. "And they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie," literally in the Greek, "the lie, that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness." When you hate the truth, you will embrace a lie.

Now notice the power with which he comes. Look if you will in Revelation 17 verse 9, "Here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth." Now what city is built on seven hills? It's Rome. This power is going to be concentrated in Rome. In 1957 a very important treaty was written up by half a dozen European countries. It was known as the, "Treaty of Rome." Out of this Treaty of Rome is what we have today called the European Common Market, the reunification of Europe, the Roman Empire reestablished, which it will be in the last days. And this beast is going to concentrate his power and his marriage with religion or his consorting with religion, at Rome. That's where his power is going to come. And he's going to rule over an empire, the United States of Europe.

Now notice, the period when he comes. Look in Revelation verses 10 and 11, "And there're seven kings, five are fallen, one is, and the other is yet to come." Let's just pause right there. John is seeing in prophecy seven world leaders, seven emperors. Seven kings, five are fallen. There was in John's day, five Roman emperors who lived and died. There was a Roman emperor on the throne when John wrote the epistle. And he says, "The other's yet to come." There is coming the final Caesar. There is coming the last ruler of the world empire of Rome. Five have gone into the grave, one was in existence when John is writing, and there is one yet to come. And then he says, "And when he cometh, he must continue a short space. And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth." Now what does that mean? Well, this seventh beast that was and is not is the one who lives, who dies, and then comes back. So the one that went into the grave is the seventh, and when he comes out, he is the eighth. That is, he goes into the grave a human; he comes out a super human. This is the antichrist. That's what he's talking about. He's the one that's in the end of this sequence.

Now think about the people with whom he comes. Look if you will in Revelation 17 verses 12 through 13, "And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings." A horn, in Bible prophecy, on an animal, speaks of power. That's obvious. But the ten horns on this beast are ten kings, "Which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast." These are puppet



kings out of the unified Roman Empire. “And these have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.”

Now what you have now is the United States of Europe, federated under ten nations, ten being the complete number, and you have a one-world government. The Western World will have one mind, that is to yield to the beast and to acknowledge his lordship. The beast himself will be the genius of this federation and he will be the unifying factor in the United States of Europe. The one who died, “The one who is and was not” and then is again.

Now notice the passion with which he comes. Look in Revelation 17 verse 14, “And these shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them.” Now do you think the Battle of Armageddon and all the nations of the world when they come to Armageddon is coming primarily against Israel? Not primarily against Israel. Against the King of kings and the Lord of lords. The devil in his insanity will still think that he can overthrow the Lamb of God. That’s the reason I’ve called this study, “The Triumph of the Lamb.”

The Lamb is the Lion. Now the beast, it comes to make war on the Lamb. He has one passion, that is to defy the Lamb. And the beast will strut across the stage of history, and he will meet his demise there at Armageddon. And all those who follow their beloved beast will discover they made a poor choice.

Now let’s move to the fifth and final point in this chapter. And, you say, “Pastor, you don’t explain it full enough.” I’m trying to get through a chapter, friend, in a few minutes.

All right, let’s look now at the woman and her momentous calamity. What’s going to happen to this apostate religion? What is going to happen to this scarlet woman? This beauty who is ugly? Well notice in Revelation 17 verses 14 to 18, speaking of the beast and his armies, “These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them, for He is the Lord of lords, and King of kings.” Can you say Amen to that? “He is the Lord of lords and the King of kings, and they that are with Him are called, and chosen, and faithful. And He saith unto me, ‘The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.’” That’s the reason I call it a worldwide religion. ““And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire. For God hath put in their hearts to fulfill His will, and to agree, and to give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled. And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.”” Now, what is going to happen is this. The Babylonian monster is going to turn around and destroy the Babylonian mother.

When we were kids we used to sing a little song, “When she sailed away on a happy summer day on the back of a crocodile. Mister Crock winked his eye as she waved a fond goodbye. On her face there was a smile. At the end of the ride, the lady was inside, and the smile on the crocodile.” Now what does all that mean? Well it means, dear friend, that this woman ought not to ride that beast, because he’s going to turn on her and he’s going to devour her.

Now, notice he’s going to detest her. First of all, he’s going to hate her. The honeymoon is over, just like any marriage of convenience. And then he’s going to desolate her. He’s going to see all of



the riches that she has, and he's going to want them for himself. And then he's going to disgrace her. He's going to make her naked. He's going to expose all of her moral vileness, and scandals will be exposed. And then he's going to devour her. He is going to eat her flesh. And then he's going to destroy her. He's going to burn her with fire! That's the reason we're going to see in the next chapter where God speaks of Babylon and God says, "Come out of her My people."

Why is the antichrist going to do this? Well, for practical reasons. He wants to be the ruler of the world, and he doesn't want any competition, even religion. He's going to destroy her for providential reasons. The Bible says in Revelation 17:17 that, "God will put it in their minds." Did you know that the devil is really God's servant, and that the beast doesn't rule? God rules. The devil is on a leash. And then he's going to destroy her for political reasons. He wants to rule the world.

Well, I wish I had more time. But friend, that's the story of Beauty and the Beast. Listen to me. There is coming, and it is coming like gangbusters, a world religion and a world government. Now you don't belong to this world government. You belong to Jesus Christ. He's King of kings and Lord of lords. You don't belong to the harlot church. You are the bride of Christ. And in these days, though we're not yet in The Great Tribulation, coming events cast their shadows ahead of time.

I want to tell you, you are to be loyal to the heavenly Bridegroom, the Lord Jesus Christ. You are the Bride of Christ. And don't flirt with false religion. You say, "Well Pastor Rogers, Pastor Rogers, I need to know about all these other religions, so I'm going to study the religions of the world." Do you know what you remind me of? You remind me of a married man who says, "Well, I want to see what all the other women in the world are like." You be true to Jesus. You don't have to study all these other religions. Know the Lord Jesus Christ. You married men, never flirt with another woman and never cease to flirt with your own wife. You be true to Jesus Christ. And get a bulldog grip on the truth. And you're going to see that there's going to come great pressure, but you say, "Jesus Christ is Lord," and you say it and mean it. And if you're not saved, my best advice to you is to give your heart to Jesus Christ. Not today, but now.

Would you bow your heads in prayer? Heads are bowed and eyes are closed. Precious friend, would you call out to Him? Would you say, "Dear Lord, thank You for loving me. Jesus, thank You for shedding Your blood on the cross for my sin. I believe You did. Thank You for being raised from the dead. And I now receive You by faith this moment as my Lord and Savior. Save me Jesus." Pray it friend. Say it and mean it. "Save me Lord Jesus." Did you ask Him? Did you? "Save me Jesus." Did you ask Him? Ask Him. "Save me Lord Jesus." Did you ask Him? Then thank Him for doing it. Say, "Thank You for saving me Jesus. I receive it by faith and that settles it. Now, Lord, give me the courage to make it public and begin now to make me the person You want me to be. In Your holy name I pray, Amen.



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