

Syllabus
The Book of Revelation
Chapter 17

See Appendix: The Babylonian System

Rev. 17:1 † *And there came one of the seven angels that had the seven bowls, and spake with me, saying, Come hither, I will show thee the judgment of the great harlot that sitteth upon many waters;*
Rev. 17:2 *with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and they that dwell in the earth were made drunken with the wine of her fornication.*

Many commentators see “the great harlot” as false religion.

The Numerical Bible, pages 460, 461

The woman here is a harlot in guilty relation with the kings of the earth...
She has managed to divorce morality from religion...
“Babylon the great” means “Confusion the great.”

Dr. Hilton Sutton, *Revelation Revealed*, pages 171-173, 180

The harlot is the personification of false religion. She is the amalgamation of all man’s religion into one organization. Fornication refers to [includes] false religion...the harlot is carrying on an affair with the Beast...The harlot...has been supported by the Beast System from its beginnings...Mystery is the first name...She is of a religious nature, mystical, spiritualistic. Close historical examination reveals that she dominated the seven great empires supporting her. It is not surprising to note that spiritualist mediums or people who practiced witchcraft controlled the leaders of the great empires from the time of Egypt until the fall of the Roman Empire...The harlot has operated over a vast period of time...

When the Antichrist is ready to pursue his ambition to become God, he must destroy the religious system in order to rule unopposed as the spiritual leader.

Rev. 17:16 *And the ten horns which thou sawest, and the beast, these shall hate the harlot, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and shall burn her utterly with fire.*
Rev. 17:17 *For God did put in their hearts to do his mind, and to come to one mind, and to give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God should be accomplished.*

The Revived Roman Empire

Rev. 17:8 *The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and is about to come up out of the abyss, and to go into perdition. And they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, they whose name hath not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast, how that he was, and is not, and shall come.*

Rev. 17:11 *And the beast that was, and is not, is himself also an eighth, and is of the seven; and he goeth into perdition.*

Rev. 17:12 *And the ten horns that thou sawest are ten kings, who have received no kingdom as yet; but they receive authority as kings, with the beast, for one hour.*

Rev. 17:13 *These have one mind, and they give their power and authority unto the beast.*

Rev. 17:14 *These shall war against the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them, for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings; and they also shall overcome that are with him, called and chosen and faithful.*

As I have mentioned in the previous chapters, and especially in the Appendices, I have for years gone to Brussels and searched out the ten-toed, and ten-horned, multi-headed Roman Empire revived as in the European Union.

Much conjecture has been put forth about the number ten.

I reached a measure of satisfaction about it in the following personal experience.

Several years ago we were at Parliament on a special day when it was promoting the idea of "Regions." We slipped into a session with Ireland. They were being "sold" on "saying yes to everything" (See Appendix: The Image of Europe, Picture of geese in flight.) The Irish delegation was made up of representatives of a section of their populace seeking badly needed roads. The parliamentarian said to them, "We have to stop thinking of ourselves as individual countries, and begin to think of ourselves as regions." He mentioned some names of regions, as that was the idea being sold everywhere that day. The one I remember was the Madrid region.

The thought came to me. *We have always thought ten nations. But the number ten is all the Bible really reveals.* That there will be ten is absolutely without doubt. The government will be made up of ten "somethings" no matter what they turn out to be.

They will give their power and authority to the beast (verse 13).

They will be the platform from which the antichrist and the system operates.

Of course, it is God who is in ultimate control, and those who must be judged, will play right into His hands.