

# **RELIGIOUS BABYLON OF FALSE RELIGION**

## **Part 1**

Rev. 17:1-6

**Introduction:** Of all the things that have caused the doom of more people than any other single thing it is false religion. It deceives by promising life, salvation, peace, security and hope in some kind of life hereafter. It is a lie and millions are doomed to an eternity in hell. This chapter warns about the false religion that is going to sweep the earth in the end time.

### **I. JOHN IS APPROACHED BY AN ANGEL**

1. John is standing in utter shock at what he has just seen: the seven angels with their bowls of judgments.
2. One of the seven angels comes over to John and shows him even more judgment to come upon the earth: judgment upon the false world wide religion.

### **II. RELIGIOUS BABYLON IS CALLED A HARLOT**

1. Harlotry in the Bible stands for false gods, false worship, false religion, false devotion. It stands for idolatry, for worshipping something other than God himself.
2. Spiritual harlotry means to follow a false religion and worship, the worship of a false god. The religion of the end time will be a false religion, the worship of an idol and not of God, Himself.
3. A person commits spiritual harlotry:
  - when he/she imagines what God is like and follows his/her own thoughts about God rather than what the Scriptures reveals God to be.
  - when he follows an earthly religion and its rituals, ceremonies, and teaching instead of following Jesus Christ as revealed in the Scriptures.
  - when he/she molds and makes an image and worships it.

### **III. RELIGIOUS BABYLON SITS UPON MANY WATERS**

1. Many waters means many people and nations.
2. Religious Babylon will fill the earth; most races and multitudes and nations and languages will be caught up in the worship of the false religion.
3. Think of how many millions today are following a false religion and worshipping idols around the world.

#### **IV. RELIGIOUS BABYLON WILL BE SUPPORTED BY WORLD LEADERS**

1. The governments of the world will support and encourage the worship of religious Babylon.
2. The antichrist and his government will bring peace and economic recovery to the world and he will be acclaimed as the answer to all man's problems.
3. The world will acclaim this man and his religion as the state religion and will become the only recognized and accepted religion of the world.

#### **V. RELIGIOUS BABYLON WILL RECEIVE IT'S POWER FROM THE ANTICHRIST**

1. It sits upon a scarlet colored beast. Supported and dependent upon the antichrist.
2. Its seven heads and ten horns are of the antichrist: seven heads are seven nations that will come under his power after he has already defeated three other nations. The ten horns are ten powerful nations and they will influence the world to bow to the religion of the antichrist.

#### **VI. RELIGIOUS BABYLON WILL BE WEALTHY AND CORRUPTIVE**

1. Scarlet and purple are the colors of the wealthy along with all the gold, stones and pearls.
2. The false religion will corrupt everyone who follows it, giving them nothing but lies.

#### **VII. RELIGIOUS BABYLON STARTED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT**

1. The name came from the Old Testament name "babel." Babel is the name given the city where man decided to have his own heaven and be his own god. The town came to be called Babylon. (Gen. 11)
2. Since that time, God has declared the name to mean a godless religion or godless government and society. It stands for false religion.
3. False religion is man's efforts to reach heaven or the perfect life.
4. The difference in the false religions of today and the false religion of the last days is that the false religion of the last days WILL become a reality...it will solve and answer mankind's problems.....for a little while.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Millions upon millions will be slain, a numberless multitude because they refused to worship the antichrist and his religion: "Religious Babylon."