

Revelation 17:1~18

Introduction:

John describes in highly metaphorical language a filthy religious harlot.

- I. The **Information** In Regard To This Harlot (17:1-6)
 - A. Her **corruption** (17:1-2, 4)
 1. She commits adultery with both potentates and people of this earth (17:2)
 2. She says blasphemous things about God (17:4b)
 3. She is utterly materialistic (17:4a)
 - B. Her **compromise** (17:3): She has aligned herself with the godless political systems of this world.
 - C. Her **caption** (17:5): On her forehead is written, “MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.”
 - D. Her **cruelty** (17:6): She is drunk with the blood of martyrs of Jesus.
- II. The **Interpretation** In Regard To This Harlot (17:7-18)
 - A. What John Sees (17:7): He sees a woman riding a beast the seven heads and ten horns.
 - B. What John is told (17:8-18)
 1. The woman represents a corrupt **religious** system depicted by the city of Babylon. (17:8)
 2. The beast represents various kings (17:9-18)
 - a. Some have already ruled (17:10-11)
 - b. One king will be most powerful (17:13)
 - c. Ten kings are yet to rule (17:12)
 - d. These kings will **destroy** the Harlot, but will themselves be destroyed by the **Lamb** (17:14-18)