



God's Revelation of the Future

The Destruction of Babylon
Rejoicing in Heaven

The Insets of Revelation

The insets represent parenthetical sections in Revelation 6:1-19:10. They interrupt the chronological flow of the book found in the seals, trumpets, and bowls sequence.

→ Seals 1 - 6	6:1-17
The 144,000 Sealed	7:1-8
The Great Multitude	7:9-17
→ Seal 7 and Trumpets 1 - 6	8:1-9:20
The Angel with the Scroll	10:1-11
The Two Witnesses	11:1-13
→ Trumpet 7	11:14-19
The Woman & the Dragon	12:1-17
The First Beast	13:1-10
The Second Beast	13:11-18
The 144,000 Upon Zion	14:1-5
The Three Messages	14:6-13
The Harvests	14:14-20
→ Bowls 1 - 7	15:1-16:21
The Destruction of Babylon	17:1-18:24
Rejoicing in Heaven	19:1-10

The Destruction of Babylon

- Babylon's Identity
 - There are two visions of Babylon, one in chapter 17 and another in chapter 18.

Are these descriptions of two different entities or is this one entity described in two ways?

The Destruction of Babylon

- Babylon's Identity
 - Chapter 17 emphasizes a political aspect.
 - The relationship between Babylon and the Beast is in focus.
 - Chapter 18 emphasizes a commercial aspect.
 - The relationship between Babylon and the kings and merchants of the world is in focus.

The Destruction of Babylon

- Additional questions
 - Given this political-commercial emphasis, is there any anti-God (religious) aspect of Babylon?

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 - Given this political-commercial emphasis, is there any anti-God (religious) aspect of Babylon?
 - Can we identify this Babylon?
 - How does Babylon relate to the Beast and his global empire?

The Destruction of Babylon

- 17:1-2

¹ Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great prostitute who is seated on many waters, ² with whom the kings of the earth have committed sexual immorality, and with the wine of whose sexual immorality the dwellers on earth have become drunk."

The Destruction of Babylon

- 17:3-5

³ And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness, and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns.

⁴ The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and jewels and pearls, holding in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the impurities of her sexual immorality. ⁵ And on her forehead was written a name of mystery: "Babylon the great, mother of prostitutes and of earth's abominations."

The Destruction of Babylon

- 17:6-7

⁶ And I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. When I saw her, I marveled greatly. ⁷ But the angel said to me, "Why do you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman, and of the beast with seven heads and ten horns that carries her.

The Destruction of Babylon

- 17:8

⁸ The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to rise from the bottomless pit and go to destruction. And the dwellers on earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world will marvel to see the beast, because it was and is not and is to come."

The Destruction of Babylon

- 17:9-11

⁹ "This calls for a mind with wisdom: the seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman is seated; ¹⁰ they are also seven kings, five of whom have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come, and when he does come he must remain only a little while. ¹¹ As for the beast that was and is not, it is an eighth but it belongs to the seven, and it goes to destruction."

The Destruction of Babylon

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The Destruction of Babylon

- 17:12-14

¹² "And the ten horns that you saw are ten kings who have not yet received royal power, but they are to receive authority as kings for one hour, together with the beast.

¹³ These are of one mind, and they hand over their power and authority to the beast. ¹⁴ They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful."

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The Destruction of Babylon

- 17:15

¹⁵ And the angel said to me, "The waters that you saw, where the prostitute is seated, are peoples and multitudes and nations and languages."

The Destruction of Babylon

- 17:16-17

¹⁶ And the ten horns that you saw, they and the beast will hate the prostitute. They will make her desolate and naked, and devour her flesh and burn her up with fire, ¹⁷ for God has put it into their hearts to carry out his purpose by being of one mind and handing over their royal power to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled."

The Destruction of Babylon

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The Destruction of Babylon

- 17:18

18 And the woman that you saw is the great city that has dominion over the kings of the earth."

The Destruction of Babylon

- 18:1

¹ After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was made bright with his glory.

The Destruction of Babylon

- 18:2-3

² And he called out with a mighty voice, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! She has become a dwelling place for demons, a haunt for every unclean spirit, a haunt for every unclean bird, a haunt for every unclean and detestable beast. ³ For all nations have drunk the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have grown rich from the power of her luxurious living."

The Destruction of Babylon

- 18:2-3

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The Destruction of Babylon

- 18:4-6

⁴ Then I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you take part in her sins, lest you share in her plagues; ⁵ for her sins are heaped high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities. ⁶ Pay her back as she herself has paid back others, and repay her double for her deeds; mix a double portion for her in the cup she mixed."

The Destruction of Babylon

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The Destruction of Babylon

- 18:7-8

⁷ "As she glorified herself and lived in luxury, so give her a like measure of torment and mourning, since in her heart she says, 'I sit as a queen, I am no widow, and mourning I shall never see.' ⁸ For this reason her plagues will come in a single day, death and mourning and famine, and she will be burned up with fire; for mighty is the Lord God who has judged her."

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The Destruction of Babylon

- 18:9-10

⁹ And the kings of the earth, who committed sexual immorality and lived in luxury with her, will weep and wail over her when they see the smoke of her burning. ¹⁰ They will stand far off, in fear of her torment, and say, "Alas! Alas! You great city, you mighty city, Babylon! For in a single hour your judgment has come."

The Destruction of Babylon

- 18:11-13

¹¹ And the merchants of the earth weep and mourn for her, since no one buys their cargo anymore, ¹² cargo of gold, silver, jewels, pearls, fine linen, purple cloth, silk, scarlet cloth, all kinds of scented wood, all kinds of articles of ivory, all kinds of articles of costly wood, bronze, iron and marble, ¹³ cinnamon, spice, incense, myrrh, frankincense, wine, oil, fine flour, wheat, cattle and sheep, horses and chariots, and slaves, that is, human souls.

The Destruction of Babylon

- 18:14

¹⁴ "The fruit for which your soul longed has gone from you, and all your delicacies and your splendors are lost to you, never to be found again!"

The Destruction of Babylon

- 18:15-17a

¹⁵ The merchants of these wares, who gained wealth from her, will stand far off, in fear of her torment, weeping and mourning aloud, ¹⁶ "Alas, alas, for the great city that was clothed in fine linen, in purple and scarlet, adorned with gold, with jewels, and with pearls! ^{17a} For in a single hour all this wealth has been laid waste."

The Destruction of Babylon

- 18:17b-19

^{17b} And all shipmasters and seafaring men, sailors and all whose trade is on the sea, stood far off ¹⁸ and cried out as they saw the smoke of her burning, "What city was like the great city?" ¹⁹ And they threw dust on their heads as they wept and mourned, crying out, "Alas, alas, for the great city where all who had ships at sea grew rich by her wealth! For in a single hour she has been laid waste."

The Destruction of Babylon

- 18:20

²⁰ Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets, for God has given judgment for you against her!"

The Destruction of Babylon

- 18:21-23

21 Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "So will Babylon the great city be thrown down with violence, and will be found no more; ²² and the sound of harpists and musicians, of flute players and trumpeters, will be heard in you no more, and a craftsman of any craft will be found in you no more, and the sound of the mill will be heard in you no more, ²³ and the light of a lamp will shine in you no more, and the voice of bridegroom and bride will be heard in you no more, for your merchants were the great ones of the earth, and all nations were deceived by your sorcery.

The Destruction of Babylon

- 18:24

²⁴ And in her was found the blood of prophets and of saints, and of all who have been slain on earth."

Rejoicing in Heaven

- 19:1-10
 - A celebration in heaven of the destruction of Babylon (19:1-5)
 - An invite to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb (19:6-10)

Rejoicing in Heaven

- 19:1-3

¹ After this I heard what seemed to be the loud [sound] of a great multitude in heaven, crying out, "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, ² for his judgments are true and just; for he has judged the great prostitute who corrupted the earth with her immorality, and has avenged on her the blood of his servants." ³ Once more they cried out, "Hallelujah! The smoke from her goes up forever and ever."

Rejoicing in Heaven

- 19:4-5

⁴ And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who was seated on the throne, saying, "Amen. Hallelujah!" ⁵ And from the throne came a voice saying, "Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, small and great."

Rejoicing in Heaven

- 19:6-8

⁶ Then I heard what seemed to be the [sound] of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. ⁷ Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb [came], and his Bride [made] herself ready; ⁸ it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure"-- for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

Rejoicing in Heaven

- 19:9-10

⁹ And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he said to me, "These are the true words of God." ¹⁰ Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, "You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God." For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

Rejoicing in Heaven

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