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You come become a Christian right now as you read this, by personally placing your faith and trust in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior; believing that he is God's only begotten Son, that he died on the cross for you and that he was raised from the dead and is now seated in heaven at the right hand of God the Father. "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved.." Acts 16:31a And when you do trust Christ, and Christ alone, as your Lord and Savior, then go to God the Father in heaven in prayer and tell him so. Tell him that you have believed on his Son, thank him for his Son, and thank him for forgiving your sins and saving you! "That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord", and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved." Romans 10:9,10 "For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Romans 10:13 "Therefore, being justified by faith (declared righteous), we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Romans 5:1

The City Of Babylon

"Woe! Woe, O great city, O Babylon, city of power! In one hour your doom has come!" Revelations 18:10b

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The End Time City Of Babylon

For centuries the church has been trying to **determine the true identity of the last days city of Babylon.** And in these last days it has been finally revealed! This study uncovers the true identity of the city of Babylon in the time period prophesied by the Apostle John and it's location. Hopefully the reader will set aside any preconditioned biases that he might have had accumulated over the years and carefully study the material at hand. I think that many people will be surprised to find out the true name of the city of Babylon! You might want to know what it is at the beginning, but you will have to study along with the rest of us and see it developed before your eyes.

One of the major factors involved in the end time scenario is the city of Babylon. But there has been much speculation about it and many unanswered questions. Questions such as, "What is it?" "Is it a real city?" "Does it refer to something else?" "And if it is a real city, could the term Babylon be used for it disguising its true identity, its real name, but ascribing its character?" Another question is, "Where is it?" "In the mid-east?" "In Europe?" "In Italy?" "In the west?" "Where?" "And are there clues to its real identity and location?" The Bible will answer all these questions.

One of the things that will help us ascertain Babylon's true identity is with the statement **that it is a city!** The Bible uses terms such as, <u>nation</u>, <u>tribe</u>, <u>kingdom and city</u>, not arbitrarily, but accurately, for a purpose. A tribe is one thing, and a nation is another thing. A tribe would be a smaller group of people of the same race, same language, often related to one another, living in the same geographical location. While a nation could be

comprised of many tribes, or no tribes at all; but people made up of the same race, language and culture, living in a geographical area with borders, usually natural; having a form of government over them all.

A kingdom has the same aspect as a nation, but its main difference is **that it is ruled over by a king**. Depending upon whether it is a limited monarchy, or an unlimited one, the king's word is the law. And often the king held title to all the land; as it was, and perhaps still is in England, where the king holds title to all the land, with other people owning land under the color of title. So when the Bible uses these terms they have their own significance and legal definition.

Now when it comes to the word **city**, it has its own special meaning too! People often think of a city as a place that has the highest concentration of people residing in it; the place that is the center of culture, education, government, religion, etc., and the place with the biggest buildings, and that's usually true.

But the thing that makes a city, a city, is its legal structure of incorporation. To turn land with boundaries into a city, it must be legally incorporated. But the emphasis is not the land; that's secondary! The primary thing was incorporating the people in that area into one body; when the people incorporated, that gave them legal standing. They were now recognized as one body, an artificial body.

Incorporation is the legal device used to create the existence of a legal body. A body composed of many individuals, who are now legally classified as persons, but a body now viewed as a single person. **It is an artificial person created by law consisting of one or more natural persons united into one body.** Members may be added to the body without changing the identity of the body. It is empowered to act in a certain capacity and transact business, just as a natural individual would. Incorporation is the act of creating a corporation. It is a body politic, or a body (corpus) formed to act as an individual. It is preserved by a succession of members forever, or until: 1) the corporation is dissolved by the power that formed it, 2) by surrender of its charter, 3) forfeiture, 4) or by the death of all its members.

So when we talk about a city, we naturally think of a large inhabited area with buildings and people, but we also need to look at it from the standpoint of a large number of natural people who have formed a legal body called a corporation.

Now when it comes down to the city of Babylon, we need to look at it from this light. That it is, first of all, a legally incorporated body of people as all cities are. It is not just an inhabited area, but also a body politic, and a body that conducts commercial business.

The legal device of creating a city by incorporation is not a recent thing in history. It is very old and a concept practiced by the Greeks in the 7th and 8th century BC. Over the course of many years the Greeks had conquered many people and many lands. Because of

this, and the migrations of many people, their rule and control over these lands and people was very loose. So there arose a great desire for the concentration of the Greek political will over these areas (districts), and people. Not only for the benefit of the Greek people themselves, but also for the benefit of the areas and people that they had conquered. The method they used to do that was through **the creation of the city-state corporation.**

This corporate body, made up of many people, had rewards and punishments, laws, duties and responsibilities. The Greek citizen had the right to vote, being a democracy, but it was more about the running the affairs of the corporation, much like stockholders, board of directors, etc., than the changing of the corporation, the corpus, the body. They could feed their input in on the nuts and bolts, day in day out operation of the corporation; they just couldn't change the corporation proper; they couldn't just get rid of it if they didn't like it.

It must also be remembered that a city can be in one geographical area and have districts in another area, even in a foreign country. And the inhabitants, perhaps more accurately, citizens, residing in that district are still under the rule and jurisdiction of the city corporation, even though it may be far away. For example, let's say that you are living within the "City limits" of the city state corporation. Then you are bound to obey its laws. But if you go far away to one of that City's districts, then you are still bound to obey the City's laws, even though you are not physically within its borders. The City's jurisdiction extends past it's own physical borders to its districts. A city corporation may have several districts within its own physical borders, and it can have districts in foreign countries.

A natural individual can become a citizen of a city by agreeing to become a part of that corporate body. He then is entitled to the franchises offered by the city. When a city was incorporated, whereby an artificial person was created, the many individuals, who were truly individuals before, now are one body. Individuals may come and go, but the city lives on. When this artificial body is formed, written into it are certain freedoms, privileges, rights and responsibilities. But the term rights should be qualified, because whatever rights the citizen has are not the rights granted to him by God, but "rights" conferred to him from the city corporation! These freedoms and privileges cover the scope of human existence and interest, commerce, private business, education, religion, home and government. So by becoming a citizen of the city-state corporation, the natural individual gets to enjoy certain rights, privileges and immunities granted to him by the state that he would not otherwise have in his home country, or out in the wild.

But in becoming a member citizen of the city corporation he is also expected to live up to certain responsibilities; he must pay his taxes; obey all the laws; participate in the government process; serve in the military for the defense of the country, etc.. What things he may be called upon to give up were very minor in comparison to the overwhelming benefits he received. Under the democracy of the Greek city-state the Greek citizen was called upon to eagerly participate in the political process to vote on a wide range of

issues. But the one thing that could not be voted upon was the existence of the city corporation itself. It stood as it was - untouchable.

Another thing about the city corporation was its **jurisdiction**. If you resided in its city limits, its jurisdictions and laws bound you. If you were a non-citizen passing through its city limits, you were still bound by its laws. If you were a Greek citizen living in a foreign country, you were still bound by the city's laws, for you as a citizen of it, were still under its jurisdiction wherever you went. Non-Greek citizens were only bound by the laws of Greece, if they were within the borders of the Greek city, or one of its districts. Outside of the City's borders or districts, they were no longer under their jurisdiction. But Greek citizens were under the laws of Greece, whether they were within the city-state borders, a Greek district, or a foreign country. Why? **Their citizenship in the corporation extended the jurisdiction of that corporation on them regardless of where they resided.**

So when it comes to the **city of Babylon** we need to understand that the first matter of importance is not where it's located, but that it's **a legal corporation!** That it was legally incorporated somewhere and that it's **a matter of public record!** The second thing that we need to see is that **it probably was not incorporated under the name of Babylon, but under some other name**. Its name could be the name of an already existing city corporation, such as, London, Paris, New York, Jerusalem, etc.. Or it could be a business name. It could also be a business corporation doing business in various countries and in certain districts.

We need to remember that the definition for as city had existed for centuries long before the writing of the New Testament, and a city was an artificial body created by incorporation. It was a corporation, it had site location, and its size was immaterial. So the city of Babylon is a corporation! And if we knew it's name of public record, and if we had access to all public records, we could find out who, what and where Babylon is!

But there are some areas that we can consider. The existence of municipal city corporations that fit the end time scenario; and the existence of business corporations that fit the bill. For example, we might take Washington, D.C., Washington, District of Columbia. Now the name of this city is not Washington D.C.. Its name is Washington, and it is a District of Columbia. And Columbia, whatever that is and wherever it is, is someplace else! Washington is a corporation and it is a district of another corporation called Columbia. It also tells us that Columbia is a corporation, that it was incorporated some other place, and it is a matter of public record somewhere, if one could get at it. And that Washington is a district of that corporation. In fact, the signs on the highways have it as the corporate city limits. The legal wording and grammar tell us that Washington, D.C. is: Washington, comma, and a district of a corporation called Columbia.

So the question now is, "Where is Columbia?" Or, "What is Columbia?" Is it a town? A city itself? A city corporation? A business? A business district? And remember, it had to have been in existence more than a hundred years ago. Or, is Columbia a religious organization? Or, is it simply the name given by a large business or religious enterprise to the corporation it had started? A bank, a brush company, a conglomerate of investors, a religious organization formed a corporation named Columbia and set up a branch office in America and called that district Washington, a District of Columbia; or, a District of the Columbia Corporation. By the way, Columbia comes from Columban, which means the dove. And the dove was the symbol of the mother-goddess.

Along these lines, there is a financial district within the city of London called "**The City**". Metropolitan London, the city of London covers an area of 443,455 acres, but "The City" covers only an area of 677 acres, a little over a section of ground, and is completely autonomous from the London police and the Queen herself. This city corporation directly controls 1/2 of the earth's basic raw materials, and indirectly the rest of them; and it controls the world's finances; and is a law unto itself. It sits on the property owned by the Knight's Templar and operates under the title of "**The Crown**". Could this be the city of Babylon?

I think that we need to see that the term "City of Babylon" is allegorical. That is, it is a real city corporation, and it does have a site location on earth, but that it's real name is not Babylon. Its real name is something else, but it is called Babylon to signify what this city is like in character. The precedence for this interpretation has already been set in Scripture and the Book of Revelations; where the first century church referred to the city of Rome allegorically as the city of Babylon, even as God referred to the city of Jerusalem allegorically as Sodom and Gomorrah.

The understanding of the corporate concept of a city, its laws, jurisdiction, regulations, responsibilities and the things that go with being a citizen of it is necessary if we are to understand the city of Babylon, its laws, privileges, responsibilities and jurisdiction over people; all tying into the taking of the Mark of the Beast. For example, **if an individual**, **a natural person**, **has personally established himself as a resident and citizen of a city, then he is under the jurisdiction of that city, even if he now lives in a foreign country**. This is going back to Greek times and laws. Today, one is only under the municipal city corporation's laws and jurisdiction, if he is residing within the city corporation's limits. But because he is a citizen of the State of California and the U.S.; he is bound by their laws. If one was under the Crown, the City, found within the city of London, he would still be under its jurisdiction, even if he lived in India or china. This is like the city corporation jurisdiction idea of ancient Greece. You were still subject to the city's jurisdiction and laws, even though you may live outside of the situs corporate limits.

I think that this is what has happened to Americans concerning Washington, D.C. and being a citizen of the United States as versus being a citizen of one of the several states. By becoming a "citizen of the U.S." the natural person has become a citizen of the city corporation known as Washington, District of Columbia, and now is subject to

its laws, jurisdiction, etc.. As a citizen of this city you now are under its rules and jurisdiction, regardless of where you happen to reside.

And this will be how it happens in the end times to get people to take the economic mark of the Beast, a computer chip that will be attached to their skin on the right hand or forehead. Either voluntarily and with full knowledge, or by ignorance, or deception, the various citizens of the separate, individual, sovereign nations will, through one manner or another, become citizens of a corporate entity, a city corporation. And having done so, they are now under it's jurisdiction which will impact all three areas of life; economically, politically, religiously, etc.; a city corporation known in Scriptures as the city of Babylon. A city that will have rule, authority and power over all the people of the world. The next question is, "What are the legal devices being used to bring people into this corporation?" (International based contracts and voluntarily established residence).

A. Figurative Usage

1. "Their bodies will lie in the street of the great city, which is figuratively called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified." Revelations 11:8.

"Their bodies will lie in the street of the great city" - kai to ptomata auton epi tes plateias tes poleos tes megales.

During the events of the end times God will raise up two men who will be his witnesses testifying to the people of Israel about Jesus Christ. We do not know who these two men are, only that their ministry goes for 3 1/2 years; and that during the period of their ministry no one on earth can stop them or harm them. It is only after they have finished their testimony about God and his Son Jesus Christ, thus concluding their ministry that the Beast, who comes up from the Abyss will be allowed to kill them; and this for the glory of God, for god will raise them from the dead.

The word for **body** *is soma*, but the word for a <u>dead body</u>, a **corpse**, *is ptoma*, which is what we have here. The word for **street** *is plateia*, a <u>wide street or road</u>. It seems to indicate some particular street, but we do not know which one. <u>All the references to the street and the city are in the feminine</u>.

Now we get down to the term, "the great city". There are several references in Revelations where this term is used and connected with the city of Babylon. "Woe! Woe, O Babylon, city of power! In one hour your doom has come!" Revelations 18:10b. "The woman that you saw is the great city that rules over the kings of the earth." Rev.17: 18.

The first thing that e notice is that it is called *the great city*. Now the word great, *megales*, has different meanings: 1) Large, great in the concept of **spaciousness**. That is, it covers a large area of land. But I don't think that is the idea here because there are many cities, such as, Mexico City, Los Angeles, London, etc., that are much greater in land area

than this one particular city. 2) Another concept is greatness in regards to **population**. But again, many cities on earth have great populations. 3) Greatness in regards to **wealth** is a distinct possibility. 4) But there is another concept under the greatness of measure and that is the **importance** of something. Obviously, this city has had some historical importance.

Now in determining what and where the city of Babylon is we can get some insight by using context and terms. For example, in <u>Revelations 11</u> the context is all the same in talking about one particular city. This city is called the "*Holy City*"; and it is also called the "*Great City*". In fact, the term "*the Great City*" is found in <u>Revelations 11:8;</u> 14:8; 16:19; 17:18; 18:10,16,18,19,21.

This tells us that there are not two or more cities called the "Great City", which would be confusing; plus there is no indication for that approach given in the passages. But it does tell us that there is one "Great City" having several characteristics about it. If Revelations 18 is talking about this one city referred to as the "Great City", and if Revelations 16,17 are both talking about this same city, then it follows that Revelations 11,14 are also talking about the same "Great City".

Some of the things associated with this city are: 1) It rules over the kings of the earth. Revelations 17:18. 2) It is a city of **power**, *ischura*, it has dominion over people. Revelations 18:10. 3) It is classified as both a prostitute and an adulteress. Revelations 17:1,2. 4) It is a city of great wealth and lives in wanton luxury. Revelations 18:9,16,17. 5) It is an unique city. Revelations 18:18. 6) Responsible for the murder of countless believers in Christ. Revelations 17:6. 7) Supported by the European community and the anti-christ. Revelations 17:3,9-14. 8) Responsible for the murder of the apostles, prophets and saints. Revelations 18:20,24. 9) Will be split into tree parts by a massive earthquake. 10) A great battle will be fought outside it. Revelations 14:8,20. 11) Another earthquake will occur before the massive one. Revelations 11:3.

Certain characteristics of this city have been in existence for centuries, others are developing right now, and others will come to be in the future, such as it's great wealth, power, earthquakes, etc.. But its characteristics are clues to be used to identify it.

2. "Which is figuratively called Sodom and Egypt" - hetis kaleitai pneumatikos Sodom kai Aiguptos - present passive indicative - kaleo.

As I had mentioned we have one clue as to the identity of the "Great City", in that "great", "street" and "city" are all in the feminine gender, as the word Jerusalem is feminine, but that in itself is not enough. But here we have that "Great City" being identified figuratively as Sodom and Egypt.

The <u>adverb</u> pneumatikos, related to pneo, <u>to blow</u>, or the wind, has the idea of pertaining to spiritual concepts and could be rendered as, "Which is allegorically Sodom and Egypt",

or, "Which is spiritually Sodom and Egypt". (Note that it is both Sodom and Egypt, not one or the other).

The writer has given us four designations of this city; 1) It is Sodom spiritually, 2) It is Egypt spiritually, 3) It is where our Lord was crucified, 4) And it is the "Great City", identifying it as the city of Babylon. We know it refers to Jerusalem because it was where our Lord was crucified. So Jerusalem, where our Lord was crucified, is Sodom and Egypt, spiritually speaking; it is the "Great City", and it is the city of Babylon, but more later.

Spiritually Sodom and Egypt means that Jerusalem will embody what was the spiritual essences of those two places. That is, end times Jerusalem will epitomize, be the climax, the culmination, the extreme example and the capital of these two places. And remember, the prophecy concerning this subject is what will happen at the end times.

What we are actually going to see is **that the spiritual essence or characteristics of: Sodom, Egypt, Babylon and Rome, will all be represented, manifested and embodied in last days Jerusalem!** That is to say, that Sodom, Egypt, Babylon and Rome will all be rolled up into one sickening, demon-filled city.

The first term given to Jerusalem is that it is called Sodom. But this is nothing new for God had already called Jerusalem Sodom over 2,500 years ago through the prophet Isaiah. "Hear the word of Yahweh, you rulers of Sodom; listen to the law of your God, you people of Gomorrah!" Isaiah 1:10. And through the prophet Jeremiah, "And among the prophets of Jerusalem I have seen something horrible: they commit adultery and live a lie. They strengthen the hands of evildoers, so that no one turns from his wickedness. They are all like Sodom to me; the people of Jerusalem are like Gommarah." Jer.23:14.

And through the prophet **Ezekiel** God said that Jerusalem was like it's mother, "Like mother, like daughter", he said. Your mother was a Hittite and your father was an Amorite. Indeed, Jerusalem was a true daughter of her mother. And one of her sisters was Samaria and the other sister was Sodom. <u>Ezekiel 16:44-48, 48-58</u>. (The Hittites and Amorites descended from Ham, through Canaan, the one who was cursed by Noah, Genesis 10:6,15,16).

In fact, Jerusalem not only copied the wicked practices of Sodom, but far exceeded everything that Sodom did and Sodom stood for! Indeed she was a true daughter of Sodom and God is perfectly just and accurate in calling the last days Jerusalem, Sodom. And if Sodom was the mother and Jerusalem the daughter, and a true daughter at that, because she not only copied her mother's example but exceeded it, then can we see how ancient Babylon, as the mother, also had another daughter that she could be proud of at the end times, the city of Jerusalem - the end times city of Babylon!

That ancient city, Babylon, the city of banking and commerce, of political intrigue and espionage, the city that embodied the mother-goddess cult of Nimrod and Semiramis, and all the other concepts of wickedness; at the end times will have a daughter that far excels

it in every area. This city, as the ancient mother, will have a daughter that embodies everything found in its mother. That city? **Jerusalem!** The city that is supposed to belong to God! But just like Jerusalem in the Old Testament became Sodom in the eyes of God, so the end time Jerusalem become the embodiment and epitome of the ancient city of Babylon, but excelling it in every area.

And what were those things found in ancient Sodom that became embodied in Jerusalem? Things that Jerusalem exceeded in far beyond her mother Sodom? 1) Sodom's wholesale rebellion against God. 2) Sodom's rejection of the servants of God and the Word of God. 3) Sodom's moral degradation into all forms of sexual perversion: fornication, adultery, homosexuality, lesbianism, homosexual and heterosexual rape. 4) The awfulness of God's judgment on it.

As was the case with ancient Jerusalem, and so will be the case with end times Jerusalem. God has characterized the end times Jerusalem, as he did the ancient, historical Jerusalem, and he calls it, **Sodom!** And so we will see the same things characterized in the end times Jerusalem as we did in ancient Sodom: 1) Jerusalem's rebellion against the true God. 2) Jerusalem's rejection of the Word of God and his communicators. 3) Jerusalem's degradation into illicit sex and sexual perversion. 4) And Jerusalem's destruction again.

God also calls the city of Jerusalem, Egypt; or that it is Egypt spiritually. Which means that all that was embodied in ancient Egypt will be embodied in end times Jerusalem; that Jerusalem will be the epitome of what Egypt was, as well as the epitome of what Sodom was. When we say **embodiment**, we're saying that one would take all the negative, evil concepts found in the city of Sodom and the nation of Egypt, and collect it into one whole, the city of Jerusalem. When we say **epitome**, we're saying that Jerusalem will be the climax and extreme example of everything bad associated with Sodom and Egypt.

And what were those things associated with Egypt? Of course there was idolatry; and the people were arrogant, proud, rebellious, stubborn, worldly and carnal; and the nation was destroyed as a world power. But there's something else about the nation of Egypt, and that outside the city of Babylon, and that was it was the occult center of the worship of Satan through Nimrod and Semiramis, who were worshipped there under the names of Osiris - the man, Isis - the woman, and Horus - the son. And Egypt also was the steam that was the source from which all modern freemasonry has flowed.

God called ancient Rome the city of Babylon, not because Rome was Babylon, (after all Rome was Rome and Babylon was Babylon). He called it the city of Babylon because the religion of Babylon was now centered in Rome! That's why he can call the end time Jerusalem the city of Babylon because Babylon's headquarters will be located there!

When he says that Jerusalem is spiritually Sodom and Egypt, he's saying that Jerusalem in the end times will become what Sodom and Egypt were, **only more so**! Jerusalem will

become the hub of Rome, Sodom, Egypt and Babylon. These things will be centered there. Over the centuries they have not been centered there; having their capitols other places on earth. But at the end they will all be located there, which tells us that at those times they will be brought into Jerusalem, or locate there.

In fact there will be many things centered, or headquartered in Jerusalem; the control over these things will be located there: 1) A commercial center; controlling much, if not all, of the world's commerce. 2) Financial center; controlling the world's banking. 3) Maritime center; controlling the world's shipping. 4) The center of international law. 5) Center for the international court. A move is already underway to move the international court from the Hague to Jerusalem. 6) World jurisdiction; control of the world from Jerusalem. 7) World police force; controlled from Jerusalem. 8) Headquarters of freemasonry. 9) The center for the King of Jerusalem cult. 10) The headquarters of Roman Catholicism.

How this will happen is that those individuals who control these various areas in their own centers will have them moved to Jerusalem. To have Jerusalem be the city where all these things are controlled from is real easy. All you have to do is move them from their present centers of control to the city of Jerusalem. And Jerusalem then will become the center from which all these things are controlled, and even more!

All these things will come into the city of Jerusalem, and along with them will come an even greater invasion of demon spirits; making Jerusalem a home and haunt for every evil spirit. Revelations 18: 2. And the city of Jerusalem will become the demonic capitol of the world!

One can also expect to see Roman Catholicism centered there along with everything else. For centuries the Vatican has dreamed of moving it's headquarters to Jerusalem; making it it's capitol. You can be sure that it is working towards that goal.

Free-masonry and the Vatican there blended into one new super-masonic religion! The difference I see between the two, (I'm sure their adherents see a lot of differences), is their origin; and the one holding to a formal priesthood and the other one not. Babylon was the originator of the concept and from there it spread down to Egypt. Over the years the two groups went in different directions. The Babylonian school was very strong and centered around a strong priesthood, while the Egyptian school over the years became very strong on the philosophical, intellectual side of it.

Babylon moved its headquarters and college to Rome making Rome now the center and capitol of the Babylonian school, thus making Rome the city of Babylon. While from the Egyptian school came many of the secret societies and mystery religions, which were the forerunners of modern day freemasonry.

So, if we have **Rome moving its capitol to Jerusalem**, then the city of Jerusalem will become the center and capitol of the Babylonian religion, and the city of Babylon! If the

ranking members of free-masonry, or its grand masters move their headquarters there, then Jerusalem will become the capitol of the Egyptian school of Babylon. And the same would go for Buddhism, Islam, etc.. Can you just imagine the demonic activity that will be centered there? And if those things happen, then you can be sure that the centers for banking, law, finance, commerce, international courts, etc., would all follow suit and move their headquarters there. And with that happening, one can only imagine the wealth and power that would flow into the city. Plans are being made right now for Jerusalem to become the capitol of the world, and to rule the entire earth using an international peacekeeping force. This proposal is being supported at the highest levels all over the world, and is presently being set in motion. (See the Jerusalem Report Oct.25, 1999 issue).

3. "Where also their Lord was crucified" - hopou kai ho kurios auton estaurothe – aorist passive indicative - stauroo.

The first thing that we notice is that this holy city, this great city, was where the Lord Jesus was crucified; making no doubt as to the identity of the city as being Jerusalem. And we also notice that these two witnesses are Christians; they have believed on Jesus Christ as their Savior. It says that, "Their Lord was crucified." "The Lord of us all".

Undoubtedly this is the city of Jerusalem identified as the "*Great City*". And it appears that something has been going on there for 3 1/2 years. For we have the Gentiles "*trampling*" on the city for 42 months, (3 1/2 years), which is a military term for an occupation army in the land; and we also have these two prophets of God testifying for 1260 days, (3 1/2 years). Or 42 moons, however many days that is, and 1260 days.

Nothing can happen to them; no one can stop their doctrinal communication during this time of the 3 1/2 years. It is only after they are through, that the Beast, who comes up out of the Abyss, will kill them. The word for **attack** here is *polemos*, which means to do war against them. It brings in the entire concept of a military attack against them.

The word for **Beast** here is *therion*, but it doesn't refer to the four-footed animal, or the animals of herds and flocks, but was used of the <u>offspring of humans and celestial beings</u>. I know it's used figuratively, but **sometimes I wonder if the two rulers at the end of the age are really, fully human! That is, that they are genetic offspring of Satan and some woman on the earth. Remember the seed of the woman and the seed of the serpent in the Genesis? And as we go through the rest of the passages we will see that they also point out that Jerusalem will be the end times Babylon.**

B. The Second Angel And Babylon.

"A second angel followed and said, 'Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great, which made all the nations drink the maddening wine of her adulteries." Revelations 14:8.

1. "A second angel followed and said" - kai allos deuteros [angelos] ekolouthesen legon – aorist active indicative - akoloutheo, present active participle - lego.

To put this in context we have to go back to <u>Revelations 6-8</u> where we have **the opening** of the seven seals.

The **first seal** is the conquering of the world by the anti-christ establishing "*the peace*". This peace is probably the same "*peace*" being brought about by the leaders of the world and our own leaders. Revelations 6:1,2.

The **second seal** speaks of many individuals rising up all around the world and in America who do not want this "peace" concept and fight back against it. So the anti-christ and his peacekeeping forces go out to do war against them. Revelations 6:3,4. The **third seal** speaks of a worldwide drought that hits the food crops such as: wheat, barley, the grain crops, thus causing a massive shortage and out of control inflation; resulting in a day's wages for a loaf of bread. Revelations 6:5,6.

The **fourth seal** refers to the results of war, food shortages, drought, and transportation and infrastructure breakdown: death, famine, plagues, and wild beasts once again in inhabited, civilized areas. Revelations 6:7,8.

The **fifth seal** looks at the results of the anti-christ's forces being brought to bear against the people of God in the second seal; the murdering of God's people, <u>Revelations 6:9-11</u>.

The **sixth seal** looks at the comets, or meteorites sent by God in judgment and punishment on the earth's people, <u>Revelations 6:12-14</u>.

The **seventh seal** is where the seven angels are given seven trumpets to blow; and fire was thrown to the earth, <u>Revelations 8:1-5</u>.

The **first trumpet** signals that a large comet either brushes the earth, or that the earth goes through its tail. <u>Revelations 8:6,7</u>.

The **second trumpet** is where an asteroid apparently strikes the earth. Revelations 8:8,9.

The **third trumpet** is where a comet, meteorite, or bolide called Wormwood strikes the earth. Revelations 8:10,11.

The **fourth trumpet** is the blanketing of the earth with the thick smoke and dust of these terrifying events. <u>Revelations 8:12,13</u>.

The **fifth trumpet** is the <u>first woe</u>, where the locusts, under the angel of the Abyss, are released to go out and torment the unsaved on earth, <u>Revelations 9:1-12</u>.

The **sixth trumpet** is the <u>second woe</u> and speaks of the 200 million horsemen, etc., Revelations 9:13-11:14.

The **seventh trumpet** is the <u>third woe</u> and speaks of Satan coming down to the earth, <u>Revelations 11:15, 12:12</u>. (No, Satan is not in Hell at this present time).

It appears that the two witnesses will be there at the end of the sixth trumpet. And remember, that all these other events can happen in a relatively short period of time, and they will be testifying for only 3 1/2 years. It is after their 3 1/2 year testimony that they are killed, and then brought to life once again by God 3 1/2 days later. Whereupon God takes them up to heaven, and then, at that very hour, God hits the city of Jerusalem with a large earthquake killing 7,000 people, <u>Revelations 11:13</u>.

That was the sixth trumpet; then there is the seventh; then the three successive angels, and it is the second angel that follows the first that says, "Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great" Revelations 14:8. In context the only city that had fallen was Jerusalem by a large earthquake, Revelations 11:13.

Another thing that I had found is that the **Textus Receptus** has the Greek different than the other texts. It has it as, "Babylon the Great City", while this translation has it as just, "Babylon the Great". By having it as, "Babylon the Great City", it tells us that the "Great City" is identified as being Babylon, and we know also that it is Jerusalem. **So end time Jerusalem** is not only the "Holy City", the "Great City", Sodom, and Egypt, but also Babylon!

These three angels fly through the sky around the world, one following the other. The first angel's message is: the eternal gospel, Revelations 14:6,7. The second angel's message is: the announcement of God's judgment on Babylon, Revelations 14:8. The third angel's message is: the warning against and the punishment for taking the mark of the beast. (The present active participle shows that they will be speaking the message while they are flying around the world).

2. "Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great City" - Epesen! Epesen Babulon he polis megale – aorist active indicative - pipto.

As I've mentioned before, when there is any doubt, we always rely on the **Textus Receptus**, the Received Text, upon which the King James is translated from; and in this passage it has it as, "*Babylon the Great City*".

The word *pipto* means to <u>fall down from a higher point to a lower one, to fall to the ground</u>. It can be used **figuratively and literally**. It can speak of <u>a fall from a position of power, wealth, glory, influence and respect, or it can mean to simply fall to the ground, to <u>collapse</u>. It can also mean to be completely ruined or destroyed. And it can be ruined by: plagues, pestilence, drought, military conquest, fires, floods, or earthquakes.</u>

Some have thought this to be a <u>prophetic aorist speaking of an event that will occur in the future as if it has already happened</u>. It is an <u>aorist tense</u>, which is a <u>simple past tense</u>, used to describe an event that had already occurred in the past. But it could be both! It could be a prophetic announcement that Jerusalem is going to be totally destroyed and that the earthquake of <u>Revelations 11:13</u> was the event that signaled the beginning of its destruction.

It must be remembered that God judged, cursed and destroyed the city of Jerusalem for the murder of his Son and its continual rejection of Him, even up to its destruction in 70ad. And for 1,878 years up to 1948 there was no Jewish state; he had kept the Jewish people off the land as a national entity. And even if Israel does build a temple, as some think they will, he will destroy that one too, as he did the former temple back in 70ad. Their coming back to the land could end up being a repeat of what happened years ago.

3. "Which made all the nations drink the maddening wine of her adulteries" - he ek tou oinou thumou tes porneias autes pepotiken panta ta ethne – perf. act. ind. - popizo.

One of the oldest concepts in theology, or the occult, is the symbol of the mother-goddess, Semiramis, holding out a golden cup for her adherents to drink. History has the story that in ancient Babylon there was a bronze, or gold, goblet that weighed around 1,200 pounds, from which the kings and other various rulers drank.

Starting with her, and the Babylonian priesthood to follow, the cup of wine played an important part in their initiation into the mystery, which actually was a Luciferian initiation. The wine was mixed with honey, flour, spices, various forms of drugs and various forms of disgusting things.

The wine, laced with drugs, was used to bring about an altered state of consciousness similar to the psychedelic drugs of the sixties. This altered state of consciousness was needed to so alter the thinking process of the mind so they could "see" or understand what the mystery was.

The word maddening is used here, not that it made the individual who drank it mad or angry, but that it totally inflamed their passions, their lusts and desires; causing the individuals to give themselves over to the unbridled acts of their sin natures. That's why sexual promiscuity and perversion, and wholesale orgies so often accompanied their rituals. And even in their sexual "off-duty" times, the adherents of the cult gave themselves over to the pursuit of their other lusts: money, power, materialism, etc..

To drink is a figure of speech and it means to partake in something, to agree with it, to do it, to swallow it. Which tells us that all the nations of the world will be partaking in the mother-goddess cult, which will be a synthesis of masonry, Romanism and the New Age. What we will have at this time is not only a synthesis of these three movements, but all the other religions of the world blended into one super-religion, with the anti-christ at the top of it with his high priest. And all people, except for true believers

in Jesus Christ will be partakers of it. And no doubt drugs will be a major factor of it. They have been all throughout history, and they will be during this time also.

The word for **sorceries** in Revelations is *pharmakeia* and is the word for <u>drugs</u>. They translate it as magic arts or sorceries, but were called that because drugs were always used in those things. The sixth angel - "Nor did they repent of their murders, their magic arts, their sexual immorality or their thefts." <u>Revelations 9:21</u>. "Your merchants were the world's great men. By your magic spell all the nations were led astray." <u>Rev.18:23b</u>.

Drugs are used in the occult to altar the mind of the individual, to break it down, so that it may be more susceptible to the thoughts and ideas of demons. Demons need to have the natural barriers of people's minds broken down, so that they can get in their to influence them with their ideas, and, if possible, to indwell them! Even today drug usage is an open invitation to demons to enter into that person, or at least invade their minds with demonic ideas.

The <u>perfect tense</u> of to **make drink**, (the maddening wine of her adulteries), shows that the masonic cult of Semiramis is the one who will make the whole world enter into this new, super-masonic religion; and it all will have been a completed act by this time. In other words, by this time the whole world will have been already been inducted, (probably **through some initiation process**), into the new masonic mystery. The word for **adultery** is actually the word for prostitution, *porneia*. But her doom has started and is coming.

C. The Destroying Earthquake

"The great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations collapsed. God remembered Babylon the Great and gave her the cup filled with the wine of the fury of his wrath.", Revelations 16:19.

1. "The great city split into three parts" - kai egeneto he polis he megale eis tria mere – aorist active indicative - ginomai.

This occurs under the seventh bowl judgment of God's wrath: 1) The **first bowl** is the ugly and painful sores that break out on those who take the economic mark of the beast. Revelations 16:2. 2) The **second bowl** is where the sea turns into blood killing every thing in it. Revelations 16:3. 3) The **third bowl** turns the rivers and springs into blood. Revelations 16:4-7. 4) The **fourth bowl** causes the sun to flare up with intense heat. Revelations 16:8. 5) The **fifth bowl** plunges the throne of the anti-christ into darkness. Revelations 16:10,11. 6) The **sixth bowl** judgment dries up the Euphrates River. Revelations 16:12-15. 7) The **seventh bowl** judgment is a massive earthquake that destroys the city of Babylon. Revelations 16:17-21.

This **earthquake** will either be caused by, or accompany tremendous worldwide volcanic activity; all tied into a shifting of the earth's crust, and/or the earth being struck by a comet or asteroid.

The 100-pound **hailstones** tell us that there will be large fires all over the world either as the result of the earth being struck by a comet, or just a major shifting of the earth's crust with resultant volcanic activity. Meteors striking the earth will result in worldwide forest fires and/or volcanic eruptions causing dirt, smoke and ash to rise up high into the by tremendous winds higher than ever before allowing the time needed for dust particles to form into hail stones approaching the weight of 100 pounds.

We do know that this earthquake, (literally, shaking of the earth), will be large. In fact, it will be the largest earthquake on earth, recorded or not. Its impact on the city of Jerusalem will be that it splits the city into three sections; a totally devastating blow. Jerusalem is very vulnerable in this matter because it sits right at the end of a very large fault that extends southward to the Red Sea and right on out into the Persian Gulf.

2. "And the cities of the nations collapsed" – kai 'hai poleis ton ethnon epeisan – aorist active indicative - pipto.

This earthquake, this shaking of the earth, will be so severe that it not only cause the city of Babylon to collapse, but also the cities of the Gentiles to fall down. New York, Washington, Los Angeles, San Francisco, London, Rome, Paris; all these cities and more will collapse because of the magnitude of the shaking of the earth.

An interesting note here is that the word for **nations**, *ethne*, is also the word for <u>Gentiles</u>. So you could also say, "*The cities of the Gentiles*". Which is bringing out a distinction. The "*Great City*" is not identified as a "Gentile City"!

3. "God remembered Babylon the Great and gave her the cup filled with the wine of the fury of his wrath" - kai Babulon he megale emnesthe enopion tou theou dounai aute to pothrion tou oinou tes orges autou – aorist passive indicative - mimnesko, aorist active infinitive - didomi.

To **remember** is coupled with the <u>infinitive of purpose</u> showing that God remembered Babylon for the purpose of, not blessing her, but judging and destroying her.

The <u>metonymy of the **cup**</u> is used often in the Scriptures and throughout the Gentile world, where the drinking of the cup signifies the <u>partaking of its contents</u>. The cup that God has for Jerusalem is filled with the wine of the fury of his wrath, *thumos* and *orges*. Both used together show how intense his anger is. But they also signify something.

Orge would be the <u>heat of the fire</u>, while *thumos* would be the <u>bursting forth of the flame</u>. Thumos would be the bursting forth of the anger of God, while orge would be the lasting effects of his anger and wrath. Which is to say, that God's anger against Jerusalem will burst forth suddenly, and will have a lasting effect as demonstrated here with the city being destroyed.

D. The Woman

"The woman you saw is the great city that rules over the kings of the earth." Rev.17:18.

1. "The woman you saw is the great city" - kai he gune hen eides estin he polis he megale – aorist active indicative - horao.

The woman is described as dressed in purple and scarlet; glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls. She had a golden cup in her hand, (used by the mystery religions for initiation into the mystery), and on her head the title: "Mystery Babylon the Great, The Mother of Prostitutes and of the abominations of the earth." Revelations 17:5.

She was also drunk with the blood of the saints, of those who bore testimony to Jesus. Showing that she is responsible for the deaths of all those believers in Christ; and in her blood lust, she became intoxicated by it. Her riding on the beast ties her to Europe. Europe is the power that supports her, holds her up. Without which she would not be able to exist as she is.

It was from Europe, (including England), that the idea came to create a Jewish state in Palestine. The people who populated Israel basically came from Europe. And the financial backing came from Europe Europe is Israel's greatest trading partner, (some estimates have it as a 80% of her GNP). Virtually all the noble houses of Europe claim Israeli descent, with some houses claiming to have direct lineage from the line of David.

So this city, the city of Babylon, is put as a woman, and we also know that she was an adulteress. But for a woman to be an adulteress, there has to be two things! One, she has to be married. She has to be some man's wife. And two, she has to be unfaithful to him. The only city on earth considered as a woman, a wife and an adulteress in relation to God was, and is, the city of Jerusalem! And she's in bed with Europe and the Babylonian cult.

2. "That rules over the kings of the earth" - he echousa basileian epi ton basileon tes ges – present active participle - echo.

There are several forms of government; a **democracy**, where you have a rule by people; a **republic**, where you have a rule by principle; an **oligarchy**, the rule by a few; and a **monarchy**, where you have rule by a king. And that's what we have here. The KJV has it as, "Reigneth over the kings of the earth". The NIV has it as, "Rules over the kings of the earth". But there is more going on than on the surface. The actual translation is, "The woman you saw is the Great City, (not a real woman, but a legally incorporated city), that has a kingdom, or is a kingdom over the kings of the earth."

What this shows is an overlapping, or capping concept where there will be, first of all, the earth divided into different kingdoms, (that's already been done- ten in all), with each one

under another kingdom. So there will be ten kingdoms on earth reigning over the earth, and one kingdom reigning over the ten!

So this great city is going to have a kingdom in it, which also means that it is going to have a king! And this king is going to rule the world from Jerusalem through the ten kings under him! The city will be legally incorporated and have a monarch - the anti-christ!

Jerusalem will be the headquarters for the mother-goddess religion, with descendants of Israel and the tribe of Judah reigning from Jerusalem, although their residency could be in Europe or some other place; and the head king, the anti-christ reigning over them all. Somewhat similar to the ancient tradition of Atlantis, which was ruled by Poseidon, with ten kings under him, all super-imposed on Jerusalem.

E. The Rule Of The City

"Terrified at her torment, they will stand far off and cry: 'Woe! Woe, O great city, O Babylon, city of power! In one hour your doom has come!'" Revelations 18:10.

1. "Woe! Woe, O Great City, O Babylon, city of power!" - Ouai, Ouai, `he polis he megale Babulon 'he polis 'he ischura.

Ouai is used to denote impending disaster. Judgment has been made and now the city of Babylon is going to be destroyed bringing untold misery on the people. What we have just seen is that the city of Babylon (Jerusalem) will be ruling over the earth. But the way that it will do this is through a monarchical form of government, because of the word used for ruling. There will be ten kings and ten kingdoms that will be ruling the entire earth, and over them will be one king, the anti-christ.

There are words that will help us understand this: 1) **Dom** - The word dom signifies the jurisdiction one has. Jurisdiction is the legal power to enact laws over the people, and the power to enforce those laws. Those that fall within that jurisdiction are legally liable to obey those laws, or suffer the consequences. So dom refers to the jurisdiction, the rule of law one is under. 2) **Domain** - Looks at the territory, or land that belongs to a certain jurisdiction where its rule of law applies. 3) **Dominion** - Looks at the exercising of power over those in the domain by the one who has the power. 4) **Kingdom** - Is a compound of two words: king - the monarch, and dom - the area under his rule, or jurisdiction.

We start out with a king, and under this king is a large area of land or territory, which is his domain. Everybody that resides within his domain, that is in his land, which defines the boundaries of his rule, is under his dominion. They fall within the jurisdiction of his laws, his will, and his rule. If they do not submit to his rule (dominion), then they must suffer the consequences. The only way out of that situation is to remove themselves physically from his domain; the land over which he rules, and go to another land; one

over which he does not have dominion. Our forefathers did this in the 17th and 18th centuries.

Under the divine institute of nationalism, the dividing up of the world into different domains and dominions provided safety and security for people. If they were living in an area of just dominion, then they could live in peace and prosper. But if they lived in a domain ruled over by a despot, then they could always remover themselves from his tyranny by moving out of his domain and go some place else!

But in the last days people will not have this option, for there will be one man reigning over the whole world and there will be no place that any one could go to remove themselves from his tyranny. He will be King of the World, with ten kings under him.

What this means is that all national sovereignty will be abolished. Borders will still exist, but only for the purpose of identification of certain districts and local rule. The rule of those districts, or regions, will be under the rule of the ten kings, who will rule under the one king. They will not be borders for jurisdictional separation and limitations, for they will all be under the one man. The anti-christ's dominion and domain will be the entire earth! His rule surpasses national borders and sovereignty.

What this means for people is that there will be no place that they can go; no country that they can flee to, no place to run to, no place to hide, to get themselves out from under the tyranny of the anti-christ, for his dominion will extend to all countries, and they will all be under his jurisdiction, unless there is a way to get out from under it by legal means.

Another convincing point in identifying Jerusalem as the last days city of Babylon goes back to the point made in the identifying and allegory concepts. Remember why Rome was called the city of Babylon? It was because the priests of Babylon had moved there and made it their new headquarters, their capitol. And if the priests of Babylon moved their headquarters to Jerusalem, then Jerusalem will become the city of Babylon, as Rome was.

But another thing has to happen, Jerusalem has to have a king if there is going to be a monarchy and the monarchical rule of a kingdom. Can't have the reign of a king without a king! To have that the man has to have a legitimate claim of title and be able to prove it. Concerning the city of Jerusalem, the man who would be king must be an Israelite; one from the tribe of Judah, and have the genealogical records to prove it. Whatever man that steps forward with a claim to the title of king of Jerusalem is an excellent candidate for the anti-christ.

It would be a perfect scenario if the future king of Jerusalem would be tied into the Vatican, as a staunch Catholic. They help get him installed as king, he in turn gets them in, both helping each other out for a common goal. Remember the sovereign pontiff of Babylon was not the man, the anti-christ; he was the representative of that man. He was there to serve him. There is the Beast and the False Prophet.

There are several qualified candidates toward that position already. One of them that comes to mind is **King Juan Carlos of Spain**. He is a king already. He rules as a king. He is a staunch Roman Catholic. He has the bloodline, genealogical proof. **And he holds the title of King of Jerusalem!** And as, king of Jerusalem, one would think it normal that he would desire to be installed as king of Jerusalem and move his throne there. And then have the Vatican move the Basilica there. Or, perhaps, the Vatican would be first, then the king.

Can we not see that if Juan Carlos is indeed crowned king of Jerusalem, or some other candidate with credentials, that he would move the Vatican to Jerusalem? Can we not also see that if Rome somehow works it out that he does become the king of Jerusalem, that he, as a good Catholic, would return the favor and enable the Vatican to move it's headquarters there? Or, if the Vatican establishes a presence there first, that it's first order of business would be to institute a monarchy there with a good Catholic son? With Juan Carlos and the Vatican, or some other individual, in Jerusalem we would have: a king, the Babylonian cult headquartered there making it the city of Babylon, and the rule of a monarchy.

This is not saying that Juan Carlos is the anti-christ; we're not picking on him. There are several other men who fit that bill. The important thing is the set up. They have to have Jewish background and be able to prove it. They have to be from the tribe of Judah. It certainly helps if they already carry the title of king of Jerusalem. And one would expect them to also be tied into the Catholic church and freemasonry at the same time.

Originally there was the city of Babylon, but when Babylon moved its headquarters to Rome, Rome became the city of Babylon. The Vatican is an incorporated city separate from the city of Rome. It is incorporated and sovereign. Its territory is 108 acres, but its jurisdiction extends beyond its borders to those who submit themselves to its jurisdiction.

The next thing that we want to see about the city of Babylon is that it is a city of power. *Ischura* looks at the strength or power that one has to do something. There are several ways that Babylon will have and exercise power over the nations and the world:

1) Militarily - It will have the authority over a worldwide military "peace-keeping" force, probably the UN. UN forces, or forces controlled by the UN will be set up in every city and town in the world. 2) Politically - Under the anti-christ and the ten kings. 3)

Financially - It will have control over a world central bank that controls all dealings in currency. Control the money supply of a nation and you control the people of that nation.

4) Commerce - It will control the ebb and flow of trade: shipping, shipping lanes, ports, companies, insurance companies, etc.. 5) Religion- It is the religious capitol of the world.

Babylon (the city of Jerusalem) will have its hand on all the controls of power. There will not be anything that it does not control. But the problem is, how does this king, or any other king for that matter, extend his jurisdiction past the borders of his domain?

One way is through **international law**. If nations and individuals have willingly accepted international law and jurisdiction, then they have put themselves under international jurisdiction. **They have submitted themselves to the rule of international law**.

But another way, and probably used in conjunction with it, is through a city corporation. If they have wittingly, or unwittingly, established themselves as a resident, or non-resident citizen of this city, then they are under its jurisdiction no matter where they live, even if they live outside of its site boundaries!

This way the final king of the world can extend his rule, or dominion, even past the territorial borders of his domain. And because he is the king of this city; it is his domain and he rules over it, then his dominion will extend throughout the world. Its citizens will be worldwide and he will rule over them wherever they live.

We are seeing these things come together right now; everything is in place. The city corporation, international law, the UN, international treaties, insurance agreements, etc., are all being put in place, or are already in place. All that is needed now is for the king of Jerusalem to establish his throne there.

2. "In one hour your doom has come" - hoti mia hora elthen he krisis sou – aorist active indicative - erchomai.

Here the translators decided **to use the Anglo-Saxon word doom**, which speaks of **one's judgment or punishment**, for the Greek word *krisis*. In the ancient court there was a judge who deliberated on the guilt or innocence of a man. Once he had done this he pronounced his verdict, guilty or innocent. If found guilty, then his sentence would be pronounced, (that was his judgment), and the pronounced sentence would be of what his punishment was to be. He then was taken out to his punishment. The word judgment is often used synonymously with punishment.

Here God is sitting, (as always), in judgment of the affairs of men and their nations. And he has judged the city of Babylon and pronounced her punishment, which is the destruction of the city. The culminative agrist emphasizes the results of this action; the horrible destruction of the city.

It appears that we have a literal one hour period when all this happens, although some have surmised that a prophetic hour could speak of a two week period of time. (One hour is 1/24th of a day; a day equaling a year, so 1/24th of a year would be around two weeks). As we had see in Revelations 16:19, a catastrophic earthquake shakes the entire earth causing not only the city of Babylon (Jerusalem) to split into three parts, but also the cities of the Gentiles. Apparently Jerusalem sits very precariously at the end of a major geological fault, and underneath the mountain range, several thousand feet down, are active volcanoes.

I imagine that many people living there will die, but not the Beast-King and the False Prophet. They may have residency in some other place and survive the quake, or just happen to be some place else at the time. We know this because they will be thrown alive into the Lake of Fire.

A little aside from all this, it reminds me of that old fairy tale where a beautiful woman falls in love with a beast-king, the beauty and the beast. And who is this woman that falls in love with him? She is either the apostate church, unsaved Israel, or both!

F. Come Out Of Her

"Then I heard another voice from heaven say: 'Come out of her, my people, so that you will not share in her sins, so that you will not receive any of her plagues.'" Rev. 18:4.

1. "Come out of her, my people," - exelthate, ho laos - aorist active imper - exerchomai.

This has been one of the most perplexing concepts to understand. How is one in her, the city? And how does one come out of her? But one thing that will help us is that **Babylon** is not just a city; it is a system. It is economical, political and religious. It just so happens that it will be centered in one city.

The word, **come out of**, is *erchomai*, with the <u>preposition</u> *ek* prefixed to it. This shows the action of leaving something, or coming out of it. And *ek* shows that the person was in something, that he is identified with it, partakes of it, and then comes out of it making a clean separation. And there are many concepts connected to in and out.

The word *laos* was usually used to refer to **the redeemed, covenant community** of God. One became one of the people (*laos*) of God through his covenant of salvation. He then was now termed as one of the people of God. And the only covenant that has been adopted and recognized by God since 30ad, the one that he established, is the New Covenant of faith in Jesus Christ.

But how does one get out of the city of Babylon? In fact, how did one get into it in the first place? Is this speaking in geographical terms? That the covenant people of God are residing in the city of Babylon geographically? If you are in Redding, it says that you are either a visitor, or a resident. To get out of Redding, you must either leave the boundaries of the city limits, or move out altogether. If it is speaking geographically, then it's saying that all, or some of the people of God are living in Jerusalem and they are to leave the city. (According to some reports, 80% of the Christians living there of various denominations have already left!)

But remember, the term city of Babylon, (allegorical for the city of Jerusalem), is not just a legally incorporated corporation with a site location, but it is also a political, religious and economic system. Which brings in the ideas of the believer's

<u>legal-jurisdiction</u>, or economic entanglement in this world, political-economic system.

This is a hard subject to breach, because it deals with legal matters. something that most of us are not familiar with. We get up, eat, go to work, come home, spend time with our families, and do what we have to do without giving much thought to the matter.

But there are some things that can help us understand this. If one joins a club or organization, and he has done this of his own free will, then he is liable to abide by its by-laws and rules, pay his dues, etc.. If he breaks the rules, then he is liable to censure, fines, or even expulsion from the club.

If one buys a house in a covenant community, or moves into a mobile home park, then he is also subject to their rules and by-laws. He has made himself legally and financially liable because he has become a member of the group.

If one joins a church by becoming one of its members, then he is subject to the rules of that church. And because a church is a legal corporation in most cases, he now is also a member of a corporation and can, in certain instances, be legally and financially liable, as certain court cases have born out.

Now the city of Babylon is a city, but it is also a corporation. And as such, if one is a member of that corporation, he is subject to its laws and regulations. There will be legal and financial benefits by being a part of it; and there will be serious drawbacks. The main one is that everyone will have to have an identifying mark; like belonging to some of these price clubs, where you have to have a membership card to get in. But if one takes this "club's" mark, then you will spend eternity in the Lake of Fire!

The city of Babylon will have a king reigning over it. He may reside in country, or out of country. But this king's dominion will not stop at the city limits of Babylon, but extend far beyond its borders around the world. So how does the anti-christ king extend his dominion past the borders of Israel?

As we have seen, the city is also a corporation. And as the king of the city, he is also the chairman of the board of the city corporation. And if this city operates worldwide, and it will, then his jurisdiction, his dom, his dominion will extend worldwide. But, only over those who are members of that corporation, or who are classified as residents of the city.

But how does one do that? One does this by voluntarily taking the economic and identifying number of the beast. This will mean that the individual now considers himself a member of the 666 city. What we're looking at is the finalized form of everything that is going on today: social security numbers, credit cards, insurance ownership, international based contracts, the web, satellites, computers, smart cards, driver's licenses, etc., etc..

From what I've found out, there is the jurisdiction of a state over those who are citizens of that state. If one is a citizen of a state, then he is not under the jurisdiction of another state, or the federal government, unless he does something legally to put himself under their jurisdiction. There is a difference between a citizen of an individual state and a citizen of the United States; two different citizenships, and two different jurisdictions. A citizen of a state falls under the jurisdiction of that state. But a citizen of the United States also falls under the jurisdiction of the Federal government.

What this means as well is that the individual is not only under the jurisdiction of the Federal government, but also the jurisdiction of Washington, D.C., a city corporation 2,000 miles a way. He can be a citizen of a state, but he is also a citizen of a city back east, subject to its laws and regulations. He simply resides in different areas of its area of dominion or jurisdiction.

This concept is also found in national and international law (the beast from the sea, and the Trojan horse for America). When the colonies were founded, and later on the states, there were two laws that existed and two different jurisdictions. The Law of the Land was Common law and the boundaries of its jurisdiction extended to the borders of the land at the high tide mark. The other law was the Law of the High Sea, and the boundaries of its jurisdiction extended to the high tide mark all around the world. It was also called Admiralty jurisdiction and the basis for international law.

Two separate concepts of law; two separate areas of jurisdiction; two different structures for governing people. The people on land were under the Law of the Land; governing themselves by their own elected officials. While the people at sea were under the Law of the High Sea and were governed by the ship's captain, who was under the admiralty. If one was at sea, he was not under the jurisdiction of the Law of the Land. He was not liable to its laws. If one was on land, he was not under the jurisdiction of the Law of the High Seas. He was not liable to its laws.

How did one put himself under one jurisdiction or another of laws? By physically staying ashore, or sailing abroad! But there was another way that he could do that, and that was by engaging in international commerce.

In the course of life many individuals did business with foreign companies; buying this from them; selling that to them; or having goods shipped to them. In every aspect the thing that we see in common is that things had to be shipped! And in the process of doing business internationally, one had to sign contracts, where he entered into a covenant with them, thus putting himself under the Law of the High Seas. And this was fair because, let's say that you bought something from a foreign trader and once you got the goods on shore you decided you wouldn't pay him! The law couldn't touch you because of the separate jurisdictions. But if you signed a contract with an international company, then you put yourself under international law and the jurisdiction of the high seas. So the Law

of the High Seas could now come on land and enforce its dominion over you. There were courts established to settle these kinds of cases.

Now through a variety of means, legal, commercial, etc., Christians and non-Christians have put themselves under the jurisdiction of the Federal government in Washington, D.C., and under international law and jurisdiction. It's like, **once America became a member state of the United Nations it signed its sovereignty away!** Now it has to abide by the rules and by-laws of the UN. It has to adopt as law the treaties and decisions that the other member nations of the UN have adopted. And as such, all "United States" citizens have to obey these laws. If you join a club, you have to abide by its rules.

So millions of American citizens are already subjects of the New World Order, whether they like it or not, or know it or not! They are under international law, international jurisdiction, law of the high seas, the United Nations, etc.. And they have done this because of their: driver's licenses, social security cards, insurance policies, and many other things. Now remember, we are not talking about one's feelings, where their heart is, one's love and loyalty to God and country. We are talking about a legal issue.

As I've said before, the stage is already set. Most people of the world are already in the legal, political, economic system of the beast, but not in its finalized form. The groundwork has already been laid; the structure already exists. All that is needed now is the finishing touches that the man of lawlessness will bring. Even now primitive natives are being rounded up out of the jungles and having computerized, national ID cards with bar codes issued to them. First everybody will be carded, next they will have to have a computer chip placed on their right hand or forehead! The mark of the beast.

Now as to how one comes out of her, out of the city of Babylon, which, as we have seen, is a political, economical and religious system that covers the whole world: 1) If it is **geographically**, the answer is obvious. One has to physically remove himself from the city of Jerusalem. 2) If **legally**, then one has to extricate himself from all legal devices that have entangled them in the jurisdiction of the city. 3) If **dynamically**, then it would refer to the city of Babylon as the epitome of worldly living. It's the World System; the Cosmos, finally brought to a head with a capitol city. So it would mean that the believer would have to finally, fully separate himself from the World system. 4) If **economically**, which would come under the legal aspect, it would mean that the believer in Christ would finally have to cut all ties with the system: credit cards, driver's licenses, social security cards, debt, etc.. 5) If **religiously**, then one would have to leave any and every religious organization and go back to living by faith alone in Christ and his Word.

2. "So that you will not share in her sins, so that you will not receive any of her plagues" - hina me sunkoinonesete tais hamartiais autes kai ek ton plegon autes hina me labete — aorist active subjunctive - sunkoinoneo, aorist active subjunctive - lambano.

Both of these verbs, "to share in her sins", and "to receive any of her plagues", are in the subjunctive mood, and when coupled with the word hina, it introduces a purpose clause.

God is commanding his people to come out of the Babylonian system for a purpose. Actually he has two purposes in mind.

The first one is that these believers are commanded to separate themselves from the Babylonian system for the purpose that they don't partake in her sins! The World system, because it is a system that has not only been established by the fallen angel Lucifer, is a system that operates on the principle of the flesh nature.

Covetousness, greed, lusts, materialism, power, money, wealth, getting ahead are all under the foundation of this system and leads to many other things that are even worse: murder, lying, stealing, cheating, etc.. And Christians are not exempt from these things. If one goes back into the system, he will find himself caught up in these things, partaking in them. The only way that he can keep from partaking in some, or all of them, is to come out of the system altogether.

The second purpose that God has in mind is so that the believer will not receive any of her plagues that God has decided to bring upon Babylon. A lot of believers get very sensitive about this matter. They think that because God loves them, he would never allow anything bad to happen to them. Not understanding, though, the nature of God's justice and how he objectively deals with people in his justice. His judgment is coming down on the satanic system regardless of whether believers are living in it or not! And their deliverance from his wrath is to get out of it!

Did not God judge Sodom and Gomorrah? Were there not believers in the city of Sodom? Yes! Lot and his family. Did God stay his justice on the city because believers were there? No! What was the solution? They got out of it. What would have happened if they refused to leave? It may be a question for debate, but they probably would have perished in the city if they hadn't heeded God's commands. Look what happened to Lot's wife because of her disobedience. And consider what happened to Jerusalem in 70ad. What did the believer's do then to avoid destruction? They left the city according to the Lord's prophetical instructions in Luke 21.

It must be remembered that the Lord's people on earth have not and will not understand every concept in the end time prophecies. Only those living in those times will be able to accurately put it together. But we can understand parts of it and be able to pretty much put it together, so that we will have a clearer understanding into these things.

G. Haunt For Demons

"With a mighty voice he shouted: Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great! She has become a home for demons and a haunt for every evil spirit, a haunt for every unclean and detestable bird." Revelations 18:2.

1. "Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great! She has become a home for demons" - Epesen! Epesen Babulon he megale. kai egeneto katoikethrion daimonion - aorist middle indicative - ginomai.

It's interesting that the word *ginomai* is used here in conjunction with the city of Babylon. *Ginomai* signifies to become something that it was not before, a change of condition; it was not this at one time, but now is, giving us one more concept that points the finger at Jerusalem. Which is to say that this Babylon was not a home for demons, but now has become one!

By the time of this writing by the Apostle John, the old Babylon, which was at that time the city of Rome, had been a home of demons for some time. And the original city of Babylon (Babylon) had been a home for demons for centuries. But the end time city of Babylon will, at one time not have been a home for demons, then will become one! Once again bringing our attention to Jerusalem.

The city of Jerusalem will become a haunt for demons for two reasons, aside from the anti-christ moving his throne there: 1) By making Jerusalem the international capitol of the world in various areas, commerce, banking, law, etc., it will attract demons, demon possessed, or demon-influenced people from all over the world. 2) And by making Jerusalem the capitol city of Romanism, it will bring into it all the demons connected with it.

The word for **home** is *katoiketerion* and it means to settle down and make some place your home, but the emphasis is on the permanence of the idea. **Babylon the Great will become a permanent habitation for demons.** For it is there that demons from all over the world, under Lucifer, will rule over the world; not only in the political area, (laws, international courts, etc.), but will rule over the world's economy, a military and in the area of religion.

The problem with this, (and there are many problems), is that this power will be centered in the hands of one man and in one place, and this man will be totally given over to doing the will of Lucifer. Before, under nationalism, God divided the world up into different nations, different lands, cultures, people, etc.. If one man became a despot under Satan, then the people who suffered under him could simply move to another nation.

But under international law and international government, no one will be able to do that because the same laws and the same government will be over all people no matter where they live, so there will be no place for people to flee to.

And to centralize this law and government in one place and in one man will be the worse of all possible scenarios. For this man will be operating in complete agreement with the plans of Lucifer; and he will be effecting Lucifer's will over the entire earth. We are rapidly heading toward this concept now.

I had read somewhere that Shimon Peres had written a letter to Pope John Paul II offering to hand over the sovereignty of Jerusalem's old city to the Vatican, with West Jerusalem still remaining the capitol of Israel, so the Vatican could be the administrator of the city. They believe that the Vatican could solve any future disputes between the Arabs and Israelis and therefore should be given control over the city of Jerusalem.

2. "And a haunt for every unclean spirit, a haunt for every unclean and detestable bird" - kai phulake pantos pneumatos akathartou kai phulake pantos orneou akathartou kai memisemenou – perfect passive participle - miseo.

To begin with, *phulake* doesn't mean a haunt, although it has some of that idea in it. It comes from *phulasso*, which meant to guard or watch over someone like a prison guard. *Phulake* referred to the act of watching, or the place that was watched. It often referred to a prison, because that was where someone was watched. If it was referring to the place of watching, it would refer to the watchtower of a fort or castle.

The word for **and** is *kai*, and is the <u>explicative use</u> of *kai*, which takes the preceding statement in the passage, "Babylon has become a home for demons", and <u>explains it further</u>. It has become a home for demons; evil spirits who are watching there.

With the introduction of *phulake*, and the idea of unclean spirit, we have an old Oriental concept being brought in. **One idea** is that individual planets are the guardhouses, or watchtowers of demons (evil spirits), who block the paths of mortal men as they seek to go to heaven. **Another idea** is that **the demons watch from the lofty towers of the Temple of Zeus, watching over, guarding who comes to him.** The Pythagorean's called the center of the circle of the world the "guard-house" of Zeus. The same emblem you find on British warplanes.

And we have this frightening picture of the end time city of Babylon, the city of Jerusalem. It not only will become a permanent dwelling-place for demons, (until Christ returns), who will take position on its lofty towers and buildings all over the city; watching, waiting like birds of prey. (Picture this in your mind).

To tie this in further we need to see what happened to the original city of Babylon. It was filled with demons who watched over the city to protect it from those who opposed it; and were waiting to ensnare others in its grasp.

"And a haunt for every unclean bird", has the same word, phulake, also, but kai is used here for similarly speaking, or like something. These unclean spirits watch over the city from their towers like the unclean birds of prey. When ancient Babylon fell all that was left was rubble and some towers. There in those elevated places, birds of prey now made their homes.

When God established his law with Israel, he set out that there were two kinds of birds; ones they could eat, and ones that they couldn't. Birds of prey were considered unclean

and the Israelites weren't allowed to eat them. The desert owl, the screech owl and great-horned owl were all considered unclean, and so were the pelican the heron and the raven. (These birds were also used in occultism). And as birds of prey they would build their nests in elevated places watching and waiting for some hapless animal that they could swoop down upon and devour.

And here we have the picture of demons (many think that these demons will be extraterrestrial visitors) who will fly into the city of Babylon in the end times in droves, like the ravens flock to their resting places at night. From all over the world and the heavens demons will swoop down into the Great City of Babylon to make it their haunt, as ravens and crows fly to their watching places in the trees when night comes. And there in the lofty places of Babylon, untold numbers of demons will watch and wait, as birds of prey, to swoop down on their hapless victims.

The original has *memisemenou*, which is the <u>perfect passive participle</u> of *miseo*, to **hate**. Which refers to Babylon, the Babylonian system, to show that it is hated by God, and has been ever since it has been on earth. And he explains **why**, *hoti*, in <u>v.3</u>. It has led people away from God. For Babylon is the religious, economic and political system set up on earth by Satan.

H. More Insight Into The City

"Rejoice over her, O heaven! Rejoice, saints and apostles and prophets! God has judged her for the way she treated you." Revelations 18:20.

1. "Rejoice over her, O heaven" - Euphrainou ep`auten, ourane – present passive imperative - euphraino.

The <u>imperative mood is a command, but in the present tense it tells us that they are already rejoicing over the good news about Babylon and they're to keep it up.</u> To **rejoice** is to gladden the mind; and in the <u>passive voice</u> it tells us that their minds become gladdened upon hearing the news of Babylon's demise.

The mighty angel who had come down from heaven to earth, whose presence literally illuminated the earth, had a message of good news. Good news for the family of God, but not for the inhabitants of the earth; that the city of Babylon was destroyed. The political, religious and economic system that Satan had built on earth, including its capitol city has been destroyed. Revelations 18:1,2. The United Nations "peace-keeping" army will be destroyed by Jesus Christ at his coming; his presence on earth. Rev.19:19.

All of heaven has been rejoicing now for some time over all the chain of events connected with God's judgment on the people of the world, and on the devil's attempt, through the anti-christ, to build Satan's one world empire on earth. The elders in heaven give thanks to God, because he has taken his great power and begun to reign; that the time of his wrath has come, Revelations 11:16-18. And the heavens rejoice because

Michael the archangel defeats Satan and Satan is thrown out of heaven! And the heavens are rejoicing because Babylon is destroyed and the unbelievers are judged.

Rejoicing seems to be the characteristic theme of heaven concerning God's angels, because they are always rejoicing over the acts of God; whether his acts of judgment, or his acts of grace. The Bible says that all of heaven rejoices over one person who is saved by his grace. So it is no wonder that we find heaven rejoicing over the destruction of the satanic world system of Babylon established by the devil.

2. "Rejoice, saints and apostles and prophets" - kai hoi hagioi kai hoi apostoloi kai hoi prophetai.

This <u>command</u> has a compound object, and it is directed toward all of heaven to keep on rejoicing, from the voice in heaven, <u>Revelations 18:4</u>, and it is directed toward the believers in Christ, apostles and prophets to keep on rejoicing.

This obviously necessitates that they are all consciously aware of what's going on and are ecstatic over the vengeance of God being wrought upon this satanic system that not only persecuted them, but was the cause of their deaths and the deaths of their loved ones.

Their prayer in the **fifth seal** of <u>Revelations 6:9-11</u> for God's vengeance has finally been answered. And we notice by the addition of the apostles and prophets we have a reference to those who are in the Church.

3. "God has judged her for the way she treated you" - hoti ekrinen ho theos to krima humon ex`autes — aorist active indicative - krino.

The phrase, "Because God has judged your judgment on her", or, "Judged her with your judgment", means that God has vindicated you, done you justice by exacting vengeance on her. Vengeance means that which proceeds out of that which is right and fair. To get back what you have coming to you.

Believers have been subjected to "Babylon's Courts of Injustice" resulting in them being persecuted, hunted down, imprisoned and their deaths. Now Babylon is subjected to "God's Court of Divine Justice" resulting in its death! As it says in Revelations 19:2b, "He has avenged on her the blood of his servants."

Now in determining the identity of the end time city of Babylon, and there have been many candidates over the years, the main candidate of history was Rome, and rightly so, for Rome has been Babylon since the time of the Apostle John. And if Rome, then the Vatican would be the chief culprit; the one responsible for all the things mentioned in Revelations 18:20,24. But as we study history, we will find there was another city responsible for all these things mentioned here.

I. All That Blood

"In her was found the blood of prophets and of the saints, and of all who have been killed on earth." Revelations 18:24.

1. "In her was found the blood of the prophets and of the saints" - kai en aute haima propheton kai hagion eurethe kai panton ton esphagmenon epi tes ges – aorist passive imperative - heurisko, perfect passive participle - sphazo.

In her, en plus the dative case of her, can refer to a place or location, or the cause of an action. Which is to say that the blood of the saints, etc., would have been caused by the city of Babylon, and/or would have taken place in Babylon. This is a significant passage because it tells us that the blood of the prophets and the saints are found in this city; that is, this city caused their deaths.

Now when we study the Word of God we find that there is only one city that has ever had this indictment against it; and it isn't New York, or London, or Washington, or even Rome! It's Jerusalem! And this indictment against the city of Jerusalem was made by none other than the Lord himself. "You snakes! You brood of vipers! How will you escape being condemned to Gehenna? Therefore I am sending you prophets and wise men and teachers. Some of them you will kill and crucify, (the Jews could not crucify, but they caused it to happen by having the Roman government crucify them); others you will flog in your synagogues and pursue (persecution of the saints) from town to town. And so upon you will come all the righteous blood that has been shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Berekiah, whom you murdered between the Temple and the altar. I tell you the truth, all this will come upon this generation. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you...". Matthew 23:33-37a. "In any case, I must keep going today and tomorrow, and the next day- for surely no prophet can die outside of Jerusalem." Luke 13:33.

And then there was the case of **Stephen** who was stoned to death by the Jews, <u>Acts 7:54-60</u>. Stephen was the first of the Christian community to be murdered for the sake of Christ; but they had been killing God's people all along. And there was James, the brother of John, who Herod had put to death, <u>Acts 12:1-3</u>. An act that greatly pleased the Jews.

And the most outstanding example of this is the **Lord Jesus** who was crucified there in Jerusalem. And it will be in this same city that the two end time witnesses will be murdered in the streets of Jerusalem. "Their bodies will lie in the street of the great city, where also their Lord was crucified." Revelations 11:8.

2. "And of all who have been killed on the earth" - kai panton ton esphagmenon epi tes ges – perfect passive participle - sphazo.

The word **all**, *pantos*, refers to the group of human sacrifices and victims of the mother-goddess cult; all those who have died because of it, or who caused their deaths. This all refers to a specific group of people, believers who have died because of Babylon.

The word for **kill** here is *sphazo* and it speaks of ritual sacrifice; the killing of a human being to please a god. For centuries it was practiced by the Babylonian religion from Babylon to America today, either in satanic underground rituals, or by governments enforcing the public policy by executions.

It was practiced by the Jews in the Old Testament and in Christ's day, where they even tried to kill him. Only they did it in a "legal" manner, because in so doing they thought they were pleasing God. And that's what human sacrifice is all about; pleasing some god.

How did Jerusalem become identified with Babylon? It did centuries before Christ and even further back, when it started worshipping Babylon's deities instead of God. And the Babylonian system became entrenched in Israel, propagated even by the priests, so that the outer facade appeared to be the worship of the Lord, but the heart and soul of their worship was Babylonian to the core. Even during Ezekiel's day they had idols in the Temple; women mourning for Tammuz; and the men worshipping toward the east. Ezekiel 8.

The word *sphazo*, translated as **killed** here, spoke of ritual sacrifice to please a god, as mentioned before. It was used of both animal and human sacrifices, and was normally accomplished by bending the head back to expose the throat, so that one could slit the throat to cause the blood to pour out.

From that it came to speak of all ritual sacrifice, whether accomplished by slitting the throat with a knife or some other means. Crucifixion, impalement, burning alive, or cutting the heart out as practiced by the Aztecs in middle America are but some of the ways this was done.

Sphazo generally was always used of those who were faithful to God, the faithful believers in Christ, who have lived at all times in human history and were murdered because of their loyalty to the true God and his Word. The basic thought behind sacrifice is expiation. A god has been offended and his anger has been aroused. The only thing that will appease him, satisfy him, that will cause his anger to subside, or be satisfied is a sacrifice, human or otherwise.

Under the Old Covenant there were millions of animals that were sacrificed to God, but none of them could satisfy the wrath that proceeded out of his righteous nature. Only the death of his righteous son could do that. But outside of Israel animal and human sacrifice was practiced all over the world; not only to Zeus and the Olympian gods, but to all the deities of the different countries. The very first sacrificial victim of those who were faithful to the true God, *Yahweh*, was righteous Abel, who was killed, *sphazo*, by his brother Cain who slit his throat.

But after the flood, the first civilization that practiced this was Babylon, by Semiramis the Queen of Babylon. According to legend, her husband, Nimrod, was executed by a judicial court of believers headed up by Shem, for leading people away from the true worship of God. Later on, Semiramis' son Tammuz was killed. It was said, taught and believed to this day that Nimrod was deified after his death and became Orion, (from which we get the term Orient). After Nimrod died, it was thought that he went to the constellation Orion. Concerning her son, if anyone did not worship him, or spoke evil of him, he was to be killed as a human sacrifice to appease the anger of Nimrod/Orion. The method of execution was crucifixion on a cross in the form of a T, the first letter of the name of Tammuz.

This gory business of human sacrifice, whether by the knife or crucifixion, or whatever means, was practiced all around the world, from the Far East to the Americas; and sad to say, by the people of Israel in Jerusalem. Even *Yahweh* said of Jerusalem, "Woe to the city of bloodshed, to the pot now encrusted... Woe to the city of bloodshed." Ezekiel 24:6-9. Jerusalem, like Babylon, had shed the blood of the faithful.

It must be remembered, that whether the names of the deities mentioned are Osiris and Isis in Egypt, or Baal and Ashterah in Israel, they are all speaking of the same couple from Babylon, Nimrod and Semiramis and their son, Tammuz.

It is best said by God himself: "The people of Israel and Judah have done nothing but evil in my sight from their youth; indeed, the people of Israel have done nothing but to provoke me with what their hands have made, declares the Lord. From the day it was built until now, this city has so aroused my anger and wrath that I must remove it from my sight. The people of Israel and Judah have provoked my by all the evil they have done- they, their kings and officials, their priests and prophets, the men of Judah and the people of Jerusalem. they turned their backs to me and not their faces; though I taught them again and again, they would not listen nor respond to discipline. they set up their abominable idols in the house that bears my name (his temple) and defiled it. They built high places for Baal in the valley of Ben Hinnom to sacrifice their sons and daughters to Molech, though I never commanded, nor did it enter my mind, that they should do such a detestable thing and so make Judah sin." Jeremiah 32:30-35.

"On the very day they sacrificed their children to idols, they entered my sanctuary and desecrated it. That is what they did in my house." <u>Ezekiel 23:39</u>. As I've said before, the people of Israel only had an outward "show" of walking with God, the appearance of doing so. **But the true substance of their spiritual life was satanic!**

"You burn with lust under the oaks and under every spreading tree; you sacrifice your children in the ravines and under the overhanging crags." <u>Isaiah 57:5</u>. I think from this that we get the true picture of what Israel, Judah and Jerusalem were really like. A far different picture than what is being put forth in Sunday Schools across the nation. Indeed, Jerusalem was a city of bloodshed and had to be destroyed.

The point of this is not the ages of those who were killed; they were of all ages, nor the manner in which they were killed. But the fact that they were killed by the mother-goddess cult because they belonged to *Yahweh*! These were people who believed in *Yahweh*, belonged to him, loved him, trusted him and were faithful to his Word. And because they were they were murdered by those who were in and of the Babylonian system. And it mattered not if they were murdered as the result of "judicial" proceedings, by individuals, or a mob; they were all sacrificial victims of Babylon.

And now the angel with his doom-song has announced the destruction of this evil system, people and city responsible for the deaths of all the faithful on earth; and it is followed by an outburst of celestial triumph.

The Heb.11 passage is not only a testimonial of the faith of the Old Testament believers, but of their faithfulness to Yahweh, and the price they had to pay for that faithfulness. "And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel (a prophet) and the prophets, who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. Women received back their dead, raised to life again. Others were tortured and refused to be released, so that they might gain a better resurrection. Some faced jeers and flogging, while still others were chained and put in prison. They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated- the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground." Hebrews 11:32-38.

And who are these spoken of here? The prophets and the faithful believers in Israel! It was them who suffered by the hand of the mother-goddess cult, regardless of whether the people were inflicting the injury, death and persecution were Gentiles, or their own countrymen! Once the Babylonian cult had gotten into Israel and captured the hearts of the people, and taken over the legal system, and the ruling class of Israel, it resulted in the persecution and deaths of those believers who remained faithful to Yahweh and his Word. Sometimes they had to fight and die on the battlefield; sometimes they died at the hands of mobs; sometimes they dressed it all up with a "legal" facade and were "judicially" executed; and sometimes they were murdered in back alleys at the hands of assassins. But make no mistake about it, Babylon was to blame.

J. The Great Prostitute

"For true and just are his judgments. He has condemned the great prostitute who corrupted the earth by her adulteries. He has avenged on her the blood of his servants." Revelations 19:2.

1. "He has condemned the great prostitute" - hoti alethinai kai dikaiai hai kriseis autou hoti ekrinen ten pornen ten megalen – <u>aorist active indicative</u> - krino.

This angel announces the **doom** of Babylon. God has judged her and found her guilty. And the angel says, "*True and just are his judgments*." And the next phrase begins with *hoti*, **because**, to tell us why Babylon is doomed, because, "*He has condemned the great prostitute who corrupted the world by her adulteries*", and because she had murdered the servants of God.

She is called a **prostitute** because of her actions. A prostitute was one who sold her body for money. But she was also the instrumental agent by which a man, married or unmarried, would go away from the woman that he was supposed to be with. Usually they were pretty, had a nice figure, and beautifully dressed, jewelry, pretty voice and pleasant sounding words that held forth the promise of so many delights to allure the man into her trap. The charm of the ancient prostitute, not like today's streetwalkers.

And this is the Babylonian system. Decked out with beautiful clothes, much jewelry and wealth, enticing words alluring the individual to it instead of God. Whether it is the religious, economic, or political side of Babylon, it entices men still today.

In the ancient world there were **two kinds of prostitutes, the secular prostitute, and the cult prostitute:** 1) The **secular prostitute** was one who operated on her own outside of any religious system for her own purposes. Of the secular prostitute there were two kinds: a) The one who sold her body so she could live; b) The one who did it casually for thrills or extra money. 2) The **cult prostitute** was one who sold her (or his) body in the context of the mother-goddess system. Of the cult prostitutes there were two kinds: a) The daughter who did it one time, for it was required that all women do it once in the mother-goddess system, b) The one who did it professionally.

Cult prostitution was a socially accepted profession in the ancient world outside of Israel; and was very much a part of everyday life. Even the most socially prominent families had no problems with the fact, that at least once in their life, their young daughters had to go down to the Temple area and sell their bodies to a stranger. just like the professionals did. **But Yahweh commanded that the Israelites not do that evil practice**, "No man or woman is to become a temple prostitute." Deuteronomy 23:17.

Porne not only spoke of <u>cult and secular prostitution</u>, <u>but also unrestricted sexual intercourse</u>. In context, the fornication's and adulteries of the great harlot really speak of cult prostitution; sex for sale as a part of the worship of the mother-goddess. But one thing that one always found in abundance wherever the mother-goddess cult went, was unrestricted sexual intercourse.

In the Temple of Venus at Corinth there were over 1,000 cult prostitutes. But the city was also full of secular prostitutes, many of them poor or slaves, who had no way of supporting themselves. And in addition to all that, unrestricted sexual intercourse, "free

sex", was practiced all over the city, especially by the young. This resulted in many illegitimate children of various races and rampant venereal disease.

In <u>1 Corinthians 6:15-20</u> we have Paul's admonition against certain male believers who were having sex with prostitutes. And he tells them that by so doing, they have made themselves one in body with that prostitute. But by doing that, they are uniting a member of the Body of Christ to that prostitute. But there was something even more serious than that going on, for they were uniting themselves to a **demon**!

As we had mentioned, Corinth was the center of the worship of Venus (Semiramis) and cult prostitutes abounded. Next we have to consider that these believers are still men with old sin natures. And then finally, that sex with temple or street prostitutes, or just free unrestricted sex was a normal, socially accepted custom in their communities that they had grown up in. Except for one thing. It was not acceptable to God! here's an excellent example of how one's old lifestyle, which was accepted as normal and practiced before they came to Christ, was brought over to the Christian life. But still forbidden by God.

But the problem here was not just joining their bodies to an unbeliever, but to a temple priestess/prostitute! Simply put, the prostitutes were representatives of the mother-goddess; and the male who came to worship her, worshipped her in the act of sex. It was taught that the man entered into union with Venus, Diana, Aphrodite, etc., when he had sex with one of her priestesses. So, when Christian men die this, they were vicariously joining a member of Christ's body to the mother-goddess; which was no goddess at all, but a demon! Obviously, Christ was not pleased with this. Actually they had communion with their god by food, drink and sex.

The concept behind all this is the pagan mystery religion was that Baal's sacred marriage to the earth was a mystical union. He was said to be the mystical power that sent rain (his seed) down to the earth causing the earth to be fruitful, with the inhabitants of the earth enjoying it's bounty. The Israelites turned from looking to Yahweh as the one who blessed their ground to believing this pagan myth. Once they did that, they began to adopt all the pagan practices of Babylon's religion; including cult prostitutes, unrestricted sex, human sacrifice, etc.. Human beings could share in this mystery and enjoy it's fruitful power by having sex with the cult prostitutes.

2. "Who corrupted the earth by her adulteries" - hetis ephtheiren ten gen en te porneia autes — imperfect active indicative - phtheiro.

The word is not **adulteries**, *moicheia*, but *porne*; the <u>activity of a cult prostitute</u>. The word for **corrupted** is *phtheiro*, and it means to bring something down into a <u>worsened state gradually!</u> It doesn't happen overnight, but over a period of time. As wood rots, and metal rusts, and food spoils, so does the norms, standards, culture and institutions of a people deteriorate due to the influence of the mother-goddess religion.

It usually captures a nation from the top down; corrupting its leaders in government, economics and commerce and eventually in the religion all the way down to the common man, until it takes the whole country over. The ivy plant is an excellent example of its operation. In fact, the ivy is one of the symbols of the mother-goddess religion, as in our "ivy-league" colleges back east. Even in economics there was this old saying, "As the ivy is to the oak tree, so is usury (interest) to a nation."

Ivy starts out as a simple plant planted by somebody in the shade of a tree. Over the years it sends it's roots down and climbs up the tree, until one day it chokes out the life of the tree. And so has the Babylonian system operated in culture after culture, nation after nation for over 4,000 years. Being planted in some culture, where it grows so strong that it destroys the host nation morally, financially, spiritually, etc.. Until it is judged and destroyed by God crumbling under its own corruption.

The writer is looking at end time Babylon's corrupting influence in the imperfect tense, describing the whole of her activity on earth for the past 4,000 years, but now it's operation is finally and permanently over.

K. The Great Moneymaker

"For all the nations have drunk the maddening wine of her adulteries. The kings of the earth committed adultery with her, and the merchants of the earth grew rich from her excessive adulteries." Revelations 18:3.

1. "And the merchants of the earth grew rich from her excessive luxuries" - kai hoi emporoi tes ges ek tes dunameos tou strenous autes eploutesan – aorist active indicative - plouteo.

Whatever Babylon is in its many facets, there is one thing that it really is for those involved in it, and that is it's a moneymaker. It not only makes money, the fiat money in circulation, but it creates wealth for those in it.

One of the first phases of Babylon's take over of a nation is to "grab the gold"! Throughout history many nations have made gold or silver their currency, their money, their coin of the realm. Babylon simply goes in and replaces the gold and silver of these nations with their worthless paper currency- fiat money- money by decree.

One only has to look at the civilized nations of the world in the last two to three hundred years and see the currency they used to have based on gold; the Austrian Crona, the Mexican Peso, the American dollar, the British pound, etc., that has now been replaced by Babylon with worthless paper currency, debt, regulation, inflation, etc..

Now who profits by Babylon? Not the poor, or the ordinary man on the street, but those at the top, or close to the top. The internationalists, the bankers, the owners of large multinational corporations, their lackeys in government that they buy and sell, the merchants and royalty.

But before we associate merchants with the little mom and pop store down the street, we need to see that the word for **merchant**, *emporos* (emporium) doesn't refer to them at all. Our neighborhood mom and pop store would be *kapelos*, the **retailer**, while *emporos*, as we have here, would be the **wholesaler**.

Originally *emporos* referred to the one who journeyed by ship, or camel caravan to conduct business in a foreign city. He would be the international businessman. And he was not involved in nickle-dime transactions. He was involved in large transactions to make large profits! While the "little guy" just wanted to support his family.

And over the centuries there have been many who fall into this category: the Templar Knights, the Venetian traders, the East India Tea Co., etc., down to the present multinational multi-billion dollar companies. Large companies and immensely wealthy individuals doing unbelievable amounts of business between nations: shipping companies, insurance companies, banks, holding companies, oil, telecommunications, power, are all involved in this end time scenario of getting rich off of Babylon.

So when it's talking about the merchants of the earth growing rich from Babylon's excessive luxuries, it isn't talking about the mom and pop store down the street. In fact, for them, it's usually the opposite. They're just trying to keep their heads above water! Debt, inflation, the devaluation of their funny money issued to them by Babylon, burdensome laws, oppressive regulations, tyrannical enforcement agencies, 60-80 hour work weeks grind them down daily.

No, when it's talking about the merchants of the earth, it's referring to those who own multi-national companies; the large industrialists, the bankers, internationalists, owners of insurance companies and shipping companies, the oil tycoons, the one's who are at the top of the pyramid, the one's who are at the head of the trough or feeding the trough that are the merchants of Babylon at the end time.

When Babylon comes into a nation, **eventually the middle class is wiped out**, leaving only the wealthy few and those who get rich by doing their bidding at the top, and a very large group of the poor at the bottom. Babylon accumulates wealth for those at the top, while God-ordained free enterprise profits everyone who will work hard and show initiative. Babylon is not free enterprise, but free trade. That's how it makes it's greatest profits by exploiting the little guy.

But for Babylon to work, **it must have control over the people**! So in its campaign of war against a nation, which usually takes decades to complete, it will seek after the various centers of power and conquer them. Obviously, this includes the **politicians**, the leaders of a nation, for it is they who make the laws. Laws that Babylon needs to control people for their own interests. The usual method for accomplishing this is by buying them off. Money, fame, power, recognition, glory, sex, whatever it takes to get the leaders in their "hip pockets", so that they will vote the way they want him to vote, or enact laws

they want enacted. If there is a politician who won't play ball with Babylon, they will create a scandal, or some such other thing to get him out of office, or even kill him!

Next is the **military**. Obviously Babylon needs a military to accomplish its goals, but because so many love their co8untry and not Babylon, and they all can't be bought; so what Babylon does is put men over them who will do Babylon's bidding to control the men under them.

Religion is another area that Babylon must take control over, for the people of a nation are to a large degree controlled by their religion. So, control the religious leaders in a nation, and the people of that nation will be under your control! Babylon has taken over the religions of various nations for thousands of years to this very day, even in America. And it isn't necessary that the religious leaders know that they are being used by Babylon, as long as Babylon can use them! And all that is necessary for the common man, is that he is kept in the dark as to what's happening; let him gratify his lusts and stay in darkness. All that is important is that a nation's leaders and people operate in such a manner that is in harmony with Babylon's plan to make money and control the world!

Then, of courses, there is the **press** in the nations that Babylon has taken over. The presses are not used to communicate truth to people, **but for the purpose of creating and controlling public opinion!** The people have to be deceived by Babylon so they can be controlled by Babylon! Who in their right mind would turn over their freedom, their national sovereignty, their land, their money, and their future and be robbed blind knowingly? So the real truth can never be heard. The people can never find out what is really happening to them! People can only be told what Babylon wants them to hear, so that they will not arouse from their sleep or stupor! Keep them running to buy things; keep them working to pay their debts, taxes, interest payments and insurance premiums; keep them occupied with entertainment; keep them drunk; keep them on drugs, but above all, keep them in the dark!!

And then there are the **schools**. Schools that are controlled by Babylon are not there to teach children truth and to be independent thinkers, **but to be good little workers in Babylon's economic system**. Workers at Babylon's mill who are punctual, do their jobs, do what they're told to do and not step out of line and cause problems for the system. It's schools are in essence brain-washing centers, where all will stay with the crowd, held in their by peer-pressure, and not step out into the light of day. They train children to be good workers at their factory; content to turn most of their paychecks over to the bankers, government and insurance companies, in turn for a few material trinkets, even turn over the sovereignty of their country for wampum. **Sell the wife; sell the children; sell the country, but give them their trinkets!**

We could go on and talk about how Babylon takes over a country, how it gets control and grabs the gold. But what if there is a strong, independent country that doesn't want Babylon? Simple! Babylon creates a war against it, under some pretext, using other

nations, until it surrenders. But one day, Babylon will finally be conquered and destroyed by Jesus Christ when he returns to earth; and we will all be there to see it.

2. "Her excessive luxuries" - strenos.

The word *strenos* emphasizes the mental attitude of insolence and arrogance that usually accompanies wealth. Very few people that have lived on earth have been able to handle tremendous wealth without it going to their heads, and these people are no different.

The city of Babylon will become the world's capitol, and as such, not only will the power of the world flow into it, but the wealth of the world also. Building materials, food, construction projects, beverage, cars, luxury items and more will all be flowing into the city of Babylon. And all these individuals and companies who own these companies and shipping will grow rich off of Babylon's luxuries.

One of the ways that Babylon will accumulate tremendous wealth is if a worldwide tax is levied upon all the inhabitants of the world. Already an international tax is being proposed to be levied, even upon each citizen of America, to the tune of around 10% of the tax rate. It's supposed to be for the environment, the upkeep of the UN, and for the arming and supplying of a UN army. But it's easy to see how a portion of this tax could be shifted to the world capitol located in Jerusalem. This would result in billions of dollars coming into Jerusalem each year from all around the world.

This exorbitant amount of wealth on just a few million people will result in luxury not seen since the days of pagan Rome and Babylon. With the result that those who are at the head of the trough, the international merchants will grow wealthy off her.

This sort of similar practice was found on the religious level in the days of Christ in Jerusalem's temple. The aforementioned idea is a worldwide, international income tax to be collected by individual governments that would go into Jerusalem's coffers. In Christ's day, the worship of God was turned into a commercial merchandising venture by the priests and businessmen.

It was required that Jews and Judaites (converts to Judaism) were required to make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem once a year to offer up a sacrifice and pay the temple tax. For the convenience of the pilgrims, so that they wouldn't have to take their animals with them and have then inspected to see if they were kosher, animals that were kosher were supplied on the temple grounds. Mark 11:15; John 2:14,15. Another problem was that the Temple would not accept the Roman currency of the pilgrims; it had to be converted into the Tyrian currency; the closest thing to the Hebrew shekel. So moneychangers were there to do business at exorbitant rates.

The problem was not that moneychangers existed, they do provide a service to people, or that people were selling kosher sacrifices, but that they were doing it on the Temple grounds in the court of the Gentiles; **debasing the Temple into a commercial venture**. It

was not only a desecration of the House of God, but the merchandising of the privilege to worship.

And why do you suppose it was done on the Temple grounds and not outside in the public thoroughfares? Because the priests were making their cut on the deal from the merchants! This is why Jesus drove out those who were buying and selling, with the sheep and the cattle, and overturned the moneychangers tables. He drove them out with a whip that he had made out of cords. John 2:14,15. After this, after cutting into their pocketbooks, the chief priests and teachers of the Law began looking for a way to kill him. This again is Babylon at work in its money-making venture using religion.

But all this will pale in comparison to the money that will flow into the city of Jerusalem in the last days via a worldwide tax and religious channels. We are seeing the beginning of these things right now, and the will come to completion. But Christ will destroy them all in his second coming.

In Conclusion

Over the years there has been much speculation as to the identity of who, what and where this city of Babylon is. Everything from Rome, the favorite candidate of the Reformers and many today, to cities like Washington, D.C. and London. But the answer lies within the pages of the book of Revelation itself. It is patently clear from exegesis that the end time city of Babylon will be none other than the city of Jerusalem itself!

Yes, it's true that **Rome** was the city of Babylon and still is at this present time, ever since the Babylonian religion moved its headquarters there. The original city of **Babylon** was the capitol of the Babylonian religion because, that was where Nimrod and Semiramis had the headquarters of their satanic religion. But when, many years later, the priests of Babylon moved their headquarters to Rome, then Rome became the capitol city of the Babylonian religion making Rome, the city of Babylon.

But what the book of Revelation is bringing out is not the current site of the city of Babylon, which had remained the same for over a thousand years, but the identity of the city of Babylon in the context of the last days. It's a prophecy concerning the end time Babylon! Which means that Jerusalem will become the next city of Babylon in the last days! That ancient city of God that he had established solely for the purpose of worshipping him and the fountainhead of his Word, will become the center for the worship of Satan and the fountainhead from which Satan's evil will flow throughout the world. How the mighty have fallen.

Satan now will be able to realize his age-old plan of, not only having control over the world, but also getting the entire world to worship him in a formal setting, and Jerusalem will be his capitol on earth! His plans, his policies, his evil, his worship, his control over all the peoples and nations of earth will finally become realized, and Jerusalem will be the capitol and center from which all this takes place.

What a coup d'etat he must think that he has accomplished! He has conquered the city of God, the city that belongs to God, the city that was the capitol of God's worship on earth, and made it into his capitol city! What a brilliant stroke of evil genius, in his own mind, he has in doing this. God and Satan have been fighting on earth for millennia in the angelic conflict. God's stroke of victory was in creating the man and the woman; Satan fights back and gets the two of them to sin against him. Their first child comes out, and Satan moves him to murder his brother. God creates another child, Seth; and back and forth it goes. The world becomes populated; Satan gets them to corrupt themselves. God judges, then preserves eight people. The worship of God is established after the flood; Satan raises up a man and his religion: Cush, Nimrod, Semiramis and the child, Tammuz. Back and forth it goes. Satan gets the entire world to worship him; God raises up Abraham. God builds a nation and establishes Jerusalem as it's capitol; Satan gets it to corrupt itself; God has to judge it- several times. God finally destroys Israel in 70 ad. God then raises up another nation - the Church; the Church becomes apostate in the last days. Back and forth it goes.

The war of Satan against God has been going on for millennia, with countless battles being fought. The biggest battle, and the most important, was around Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It was a major victory for the Father just to have his Son born into the mainstream of humanity; Satan certainly had tried to prevent that down through out the ages. But when Satan had God's Son crucified, he certainly thought that he had won the war against God. But then something happened; something that he had never counted upon; God raised Jesus Christ from the dead!

When Jesus Christ was raised from the dead, God had won the most important battle of the angelic conflict, and ever since then Satan has been on the retreat! But even though Satan has been retreating since the cross, it doesn't mean that he isn't fighting back! Many battles have been fought since his big defeat at the cross. But he hasn't been defeated yet! Why? Because he's still alive and still fighting back against God!

That's why Satan's victory of getting Jerusalem to be his capitol is so sweet to him! God defeated him big time at the cross and the resurrection, but now he has taken God's capitol as his own, sort of to gloatingly rub it in God's face. But that victory will be short lived, because, when Jesus Christ returns to earth with his angelic army; he will defeat Satan once again by destroying Satan's earthly army, his demons, the Beast and the False Prophet, and all the earth's people who sided with Satan; and then, Satan will be thrown into the Abyss for a thousand years. God wins the war.

Pastor Mike