

Mystery Babylon



“Harlot Riding a Beast”

Unlocking the Bible’s Greatest Prophetic Mystery

Revelation 17- 18



Unlocking the Mystery of Mystery Babylon

Revelation 17-18

Tim Buck - 1/25/2017



A. Avoiding Landmines

1. Priority of Mystery Babylon - 10%
2. Guidelines for Interpreting Revelation 17-18
 - a. Must fulfill every aspect, revealed about the harlot, in the text
 - b. Must be consistent with the rest of Bible prophecy
 - c. Both Revelation 17 and 18 point to the same entity: The religious system of Antichrist located in the Capitol City of Satan (Mecca) and its role in the end-times
3. Islam's Connection to Bible Prophecy

B. Weighing the Options



1. Global Financial System

Some see Mystery Babylon as the fall of the world's financial system. This view stems from the wrong assumption that Revelation 18 represents something entirely different than the false religious system of Revelation 17 - it does not!

2. Apostate Church

The reasoning here is that Mystery Babylon refers to the end times "church" who is gone astray. And as we get closer to the Lord's return, the church will fall away into greater and greater apostasy. Thankfully, this view is misguided and true believers will be serving the Lord and ready when He returns, *"But you aren't in the dark about these things... and you won't be surprised when the day of the Lord comes"* (2 Pet. 3:12).



Prophecy News, Classes and Events

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3. Illuminati / New World Order

This view holds that Babylon refers to a global cabal of world leaders, power brokers, and bankers who control everything. This group, it is claimed, consists of an assortment of secret societies, clubs, and organizations that span the globe. This shadowy network of global leaders is supposedly involved in occult rituals and the worship of Satan.

The notion of a global organization of world leaders who all secretly worship Satan and seek to do his bidding is a myth and not something that can be proven.

Read - "Myth of the One-World Government"
www.fotet.org/myths

4. Literal, rebuilt Babylon, Iraq

Some prophecy teachers believe that Revelation 17-18 calls for the actual building of a mega, super-powerful city, somewhere in close proximity to ancient Babylon in Iraq. This new city/empire will somehow rise up overnight and become the political, religious and financial capitol of the world in the end times.

Here are some problems to consider about this view:

a. The difficulty with this view is that once Babylon was destroyed, God promised it would never rise again. (Isa. 13:19-20; Jer. 51:26)

b. In interpreting Mystery Babylon, there is an important distinction to keep in mind - Naming the harlot "*Babylon the Great*" is not in reference to the ancient Babylonian Empire of Nebuchadnezzar but rather it's pointing to the roots of her paganism which first gushed forth from the original Tower of Babel (Gen. 11).

c. The word "*mystery*" (17:1) conveys the idea of something cryptic or hidden about the name, "*Babylon the Great*" and is not predicting a future city called Babylon.

5. America

Despite America's increasing wickedness, she simply doesn't fit the prophecy for several reasons: 1 - Mystery Babylon is a city (17:18) not a country 2 - For all its faults, killing Christians (17:6), a hallmark of the harlot, is not one of them 3 - The United States is not a false religious system.

6. Vatican

As a Christian religion, seeing Mystery Babylon as the Vatican does not concur with the rest of prophetic scripture. Here's why. The Apostle John warns that the theology of Antichrist denies all the major Christian doctrines about Christ, thus, eliminating the harlot from being any type of Christianity (1 Jn. 2:22, 4:3; 2 Jn. 7).

Mystery Babylon Points to Mecca not the Vatican

C. Unlocking the Mystery

Answers: 1. City 2. Desert 3. Consumer 4. Port 5. Harlots 6. Abominations 7. Religious 8. Seducer 9. Saints 10. Hated

1. The Harlot is a _____ (17:18)

To unravel the mystery of the great harlot, the first thing that needs to be made clear is that she is a **literal city**. A city powerful and influential enough to "reign over the (Muslim) kings of the earth".

The city is not merely a metaphor for vague ideas but a tangible, definable, specific city. The harlot is symbolic for Mecca, Satan's capitol city of Islam!

2. The Harlot in the _____ (17:3a)

The harlot city is described as sitting in a desert. Saudi Arabia sits upon the great Arabian Desert - the size of Texas. We know this clue is meant literally because the interpreting angel never offers a different meaning.

Jesus prophesied of spiritual deception coming out of the desert - Mt. 24:24-26



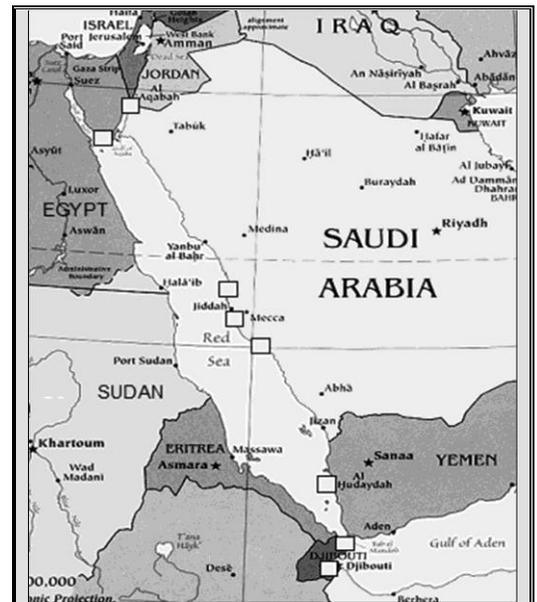
3. A _____ City (18:11-16)

As a desert city, most provisions for daily life need to be imported. That’s what God wants us to see in this section. We find 29 imports listed vital to the city of the harlot. She imports everything from basic food to cars to slaves. Today, Saudi Arabia, thanks to her petro dollars, hosts the largest slave work force in the world.

4. A _____ City by the Sea (18:17-19)

Seafarers can see the smoke of Mystery Babylon burning (Rev. 18:17) from their ships. This clue tells us that the desert city is in close proximity to a major commercial waterway. As it turns out, the Red Sea is the busiest shipping lane in the world.

Just Fifty miles to Mecca’s west, on the Red Sea is the port city of Jeddah. Not only is Jeddah the main religious port of the kingdom, serving millions of visiting Muslims each year on their way to Mecca and Medina, but it is also the most important commercial port on the Red Sea.



5. Mother of _____ (17:5)

In scripture, “harlot” is common imagery for spiritual infidelity. Her title as “Mother of Harlots” means she is the farthest from God’s truth than all others. The harlot is a depiction of Satan’s final Babylonian-like deception. This false, religious system will give rise to the Caliphate and Antichrist in the last days.

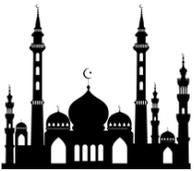
The Hajj pilgrimage to Mecca is the 5th Pillar of Islam and graphically reveals the pagan roots that still exist in Islam today: Donning their required white robes, pilgrims visit the Grand Mosque of Mecca to circle the Kaaba 7 times, kiss the black stone (Eph. 19:35-36), climb Mt. Arafat, stone the devil and visit Muhammad’s cave Hira.

6. Mother of _____ (17:5; 18:5)

Meaning: Filthiest of all false religions - *“Her sins have reached to heaven”*

See Charts: “Islam, Mother of Abominations”
“Blasphemous Teaching... in Quran”

7. Presides over a vast, global _____ System (Rev. 17:1, 15)



The numbers are staggering! According to Pew Research, Islam will leap from 1.6 billion (in 2010) to 2.8 billion by 2050 and become one-third of the world's population. If those numbers holds, on average, 68,000 people will become Muslim every twenty-four hours... every day for the next 4 decades!

8. The _____ of Nations

The sorcery-like, hypnotic allure of Islam is powerful and very deceptive (Rev. 18:23)! Not only is Mecca the historical womb from which Islam was birthed, but the modern rulers of Saudi Arabia continue to be the primary source of ideological and financial support for the rapid spread of Islam globally.

The Harlot's seduction can be felt around the world in the highest political places through political bribery, mosque building and planting religious schools... all of which spew forth the radical Saudi brand of hateful Islamic ideology.

9. Drunk on the Blood of the _____ (17:6, 14; 18:24; 19:2)

The picture here is clear - The Harlot is intoxicated with Jihad. Since its inception, Islam has killed more Christians than anything in existence. The Koran teaches killing Christians and Jews by crucifixion and beheading (K 8:12; 47:4)

Wake up world! God gives strong warning about the dangers of Islam and getting out of Mecca - (Rev. 18:4). Islam is the greatest danger facing the church and our world today (Dan. 7:21; Rev. 7:9-13; 13:15-17; 20:4)

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly”. (Jn. 10:10)

10. The _____ Harlot of the Middle East (17:16-17)

- a. Hated by Shiites - They see Saudi Arabia as unfit to lead Islam
Shiites will have strong influence in the Caliphate (Syria, Iraq, Iran - Rev. 13:2)
- b. Hated by Antichrist - After establishing his Seat in Jerusalem (2 Thess. 2:4), at the mid-point of the Tribulation, Mecca's stranglehold on Islam, depicted by the harlot riding the beast, is no longer needed or tolerated
- c. Destroyed by the Caliphate - "the Beast"
4 times = Destroyed in "one hour" - Nuclear War (Rev. 18:8, 10, 17, 19)

*Harlot...
"Burned with Fire"*



Mecca and Saudi Arabia become "burning pitch" forever - Isa. 13:19-20
"her smoke rises up forever and ever" - Rev. 19:3

While her judgment comes directly from God, quite shockingly, it is carried out by the very beast she is riding:

The ten horns and the beast (Caliphate), these will hate the harlot (Mecca) and will make her desolate and naked, and will eat her flesh and will burn her up with fire. For God put it in their hearts to execute His purpose.

D. Heaven's Response - Rev. 19:1-9

1. Praising - For God's judgment on the Harlot who "corrupted the earth" (1-6)



Fourfold Hallelujah! (1,3,4,6) Saints long for the day of God's Judgment!

We apparently will be made aware of earthly activity related to end time events

2. Rejoicing - The Marriage of the Lamb has arrived! (7-9)

With the harlot removed, the church, the righteous Bride of Christ, will be wed to Jesus, in heaven, just prior to returning with Him at His Second Coming

*Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory!
For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.*

3. Looking - All Prophecy points to Jesus (10)

"The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

Islam/Allah/Muhammad/Koran/Sharia...
“Mother of Abominations” - Revelation 17:5



Belief or Practice	Jesus/NT	Muhammad / Sharia
Have no other gods before Me	I AM the LORD	Allah/Muhammad Shahada blasphemy - 17 times a day
Murder	Love those who hate you	<p>Killed 3000 - Wage war on infidels Apostasy Law - Kill those who defect - Parents kill children - “Honor killing” Kill Jews and Christians - Koran 9:5 Kill apostate Muslims - Koran 9:73</p> <p>Apostasy laws in 23 Muslim nations – 8 of which demand execution for people who leave Islam Koran 9:29 - Fight against those People of the Book (Jews and Christians) who don’t believe in God (Allah) or the Day of Judgment, who do not consider unlawful what God and His Messenger have made unlawful, and who do not believe in the true religion... Koran 9:123 - O you who believe! Fight those of the disbelievers who are close to you, and let them find harshness in you, and know that Allah is with the pious.</p>
Terrorize and behead	Do good to all men	Commanded - Koran 8:60
Lead armies by sword	Peter... put sword down	<p>Caliphate always ruled by the sword Subjugate the world - Islam = “submit”</p> <p>Koran 9:33 - He it is Who hath sent His messenger with the guidance and the Religion of Truth, that He may cause it to <i>prevail over all religion</i>, however much the idolaters may be averse.</p>
Use of Torture	Healing & Freedom	Torture to convert infidels
False Witness/Lying	Truth	<p>Al-Taqiyya = Sacred lying - Koran 3:54 Lying for Islam - Koran 9:3; 16:106 Holy deceit - Obligated for Allah</p>
Adultery	Purity	<p>Multiple Wives - 15 wives Muhammad’s Child bride - Aisha, Age 6 Adultery rewarded to all martyrs</p>

Adultery in Islam

Approval of rape (Koran 4:24) You are forbidden to have married women except your slave-girls.

Approval to rape, marry and divorce, both older woman and young girls - Koran 65:4
 And those of your women as have passed the age of monthly courses (menopause), for them the 'Iddah (waiting period to have sex), if you have doubts (about their periods), is three months, and for those who have no courses (too immature) their 'Iddah (waiting period) is three months likewise. And for those who are pregnant (whether they are divorced or their husbands are dead), their 'Iddah (waiting period) is until they deliver (their burdens), and whosoever fears Allah He will make his matter easy for him.

Approval of enslaving captives for sex (Koran 4:3)
 With respect to marrying widows (whose husbands were killed in Jihad), if you are afraid of not being able to maintain justice with her children, marry another woman of your choice or two or three or four (who have no children). If you cannot maintain equality with more than one wife, marry only one or your slave-girl. This keeps you from acting against justice.

Muhammad was in it for himself. After receiving demonic revelations, he made up the Koran as he went along to suit his needs of the moment to gain respect, power, wealth, and sexual privileges for himself. When his child bride Aisha grew up, she commented to him, "Your lord always hastens to do your bidding." She later testified that Muhammad did not die before he had made all women lawful for himself. The cunning and deceived Muhammad swindled his followers, promising them virgins in Paradise if they died in battle for him (Koran 9:111).

Stealing	Let him that stole, steal no more - Eph. 4:28	Stealing approved as a form of Jihad (Bukhari 4.53.351) Allah's Apostle said, "Booty has been made legal for me."
Forgiveness of sin	Repentance	Pagan concept of a meteor from heaven - Acts 19:35. Hajj - Circle Black Rock
Salvation	New Covenant/Blood	Martyrdom by committing Jihad
Evangelism	Share the Good News	Seduce & Conquer by Jihad
Slavery	Jesus was servant to all	Took 1/5 captured, taken in battle
Woman	Equality and Respect	Admonish, demean, then beat "Men have authority over women because God has made the one superior to the other... Good women are obedient... As for those wives you fear disobedience, admonish them and send them to beds apart and beat them. If they obey you, take no further action against them." (Koran 4:34)
Trinity	Father, Son, Holy Spirit	Blasphemy - Allah has no partners
Deity of Jesus Christ	"I and the Father are one"	Blasphemy - Allah has no son - believing God has a son is the worst apostasy

Conclusion - Islam is not so much a religion, as the frosted trappings of one to serve Satan's bloodlust and hatred for Israel, Christians and to defeat Jesus when He returns

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Jesus is not the Son of God, belief in the Trinity is “excess”: “O People of the Scripture, do not commit excess in your religion or say about Allah except the truth. The Messiah, Jesus, the son of Mary, was but a messenger of Allah and His word which He directed to Mary and a soul from Him. So believe in Allah and His messengers. And do not say, ‘Three’; desist – it is better for you. Indeed, Allah is but one God. Exalted is He above having a son.” – Qur’an 4:171

“It is not befitting to (the majesty of) Allah that He should beget a son.” – Qur’an 19:35

Jesus was not crucified: “And because of their saying: We slew the Messiah, Jesus son of Mary, Allah’s messenger – they slew him not nor crucified him, but it appeared so unto them; and lo! those who disagree concerning it are in doubt thereof; they have no knowledge thereof save pursuit of a conjecture; they slew him not for certain.” – Qur’an 4:157

Those who believe in the divinity of Christ are “disbelievers”: “They have certainly disbelieved who say that Allah is Christ, the son of Mary.” – Qur’an 5:17

Muslims not to take Jews or Christians as friends: “O you who believe! do not take the Jews and Christians for friends; they are friends of each other; whoever amongst you takes them for a friend, surely he is one of them; surely Allah does not guide unjust people.” – Qur’an 5:51

Those who believe that Jesus is God’s Son are accursed: “The Jews call Ezra a son of Allah, and the Christians call Christ the son of Allah. That is a saying from their mouth; they but imitate what the unbelievers of old used to say. Allah’s curse be on them: how they are deluded away from the Truth! ” – Qur’an 9:30

Christians who do not become Muslims “are the most vile of created beings”: “Indeed, they who disbelieved among the People of the Scripture and the polytheists will be in the fire of Hell, abiding eternally therein. Those are the most vile of created beings.” – Qur’an 98:6

Jesus’ mission was to proclaim the coming of Muhammad: “And when Jesus, the son of Mary, said, ‘O children of Israel, indeed I am the messenger of Allah to you confirming and bringing good tidings of a messenger to come after me, whose name is Ahmad (Muhammad). But when he came with clear evidences, they said, ‘This is obvious magic.’” – Qur’an 61:6

Muslims must fight against and subjugate Christians: “Fight those who believe not in Allah nor the Last Day, nor hold that forbidden which hath been forbidden by Allah and His Messenger, nor acknowledge the religion of Truth, even if they are of the People of the Book, until they pay the Jizya with willing submission, and feel themselves subdued.” – Qur’an 9:29



Daniel and Revelation

Symbols of Prophecy

Daniel 2 - Image of Empires

1. **Sea/Waters** (Rev. 13:1; 17:1) People, pagan nations, kingdoms (Rev. 17:15)
2. **Beast** (Dan. 7:4-7, 17; Rev. 13:1-2; 17:8) Symbolic term used for empires
3. **7 Heads** (Rev. 13:1) Symbolic of Satan's 7 empires: Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome and the Islamic Empire
4. **7 Mountains** (Rev. 17:9) Mountains symbolize kingdoms or empires (Isa. 2:2; Jer. 51:25; Dan. 2:35)
5. **7 Kings** (Rev. 17:10) Leaders of Satan's 7 great empires
6. **Horn(s)** Kings, rulers of empires (Dan. 7: 24; 8:5-6)
7. **Harlot** (Rev. 17:1) A depiction of Antichrist's blasphemous religious system (Islam/Mecca)
8. **Dragon** - Satan (Rev. 12:3, 9; Rev. 13:2, 4)
9. **Leopard** - Grecian Empire (Dan. 7:6; Rev. 13:2)
10. **Bear** - Persian Empire (Dan. 7:5; Rev. 13:2)
11. **Lion** - Babylonian Empire (Dan. 7:4; Rev. 13:2)
12. **Woman** - Israel (Rev. 12:1; Gen. 37:8-10; Isa. 66:6-10)

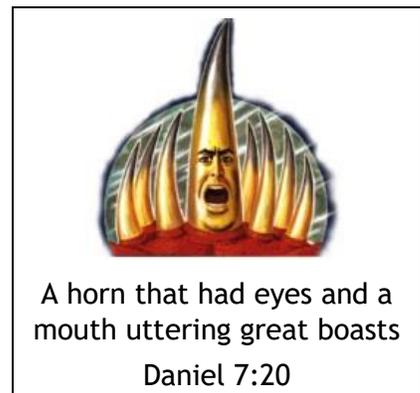
7 Empires as...

7 heads
Revelation 17:9

7 mountains
Revelation 17:9

7 kings
Revelation 17:10

3 symbols, same meaning



Mecca is Mystery Babylon

Middle East Map



Conclusion

- Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and John all agree, Mystery Babylon is:
 - a city,
 - located in the Saudi Arabia desert,
 - by the Red Sea,
 - the center of the false religion (describe spiritually as sexual immorality).



Only Mecca meets all this requirements