THE MAN OF MYSTERY "MYSTERY BABYLON EXPOSED" Part 3

By: Phillip Hayes

In our last installment of "The Man of Mystery" I asked this question, "Who are you walking with"? As we look at "Mystery Babylon" the reason I asked this question will become much more apparent.

And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saving unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication: And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration. And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns. The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall Trumpet Messenger Page 1

ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is. And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth [Revelation 17:1-9].

In The Book of Revelation, the Apostle John writes of TWO WOMEN. One is dressed in pure white, revealing the purity of true faith and doctrine. This pure woman of Revelation 12 is committed to Christ. She's absolutely loyal to Him and her heart burns with a love for Jesus. Nothing can break her loyalty to the One she loves so much. This woman represents all the faithful believers who have loved Jesus Christ, kept His commandments and been obedient to Him down through the ages.

If you do not have any of our articles where we describe the symbols and identify the woman of Revelation twelve, you may request your copy today.

Revelation 17 pictures another woman who portrays the opposite of the woman in Revelation twelve. Who is this woman in scarlet riding on a Beast? We will prove without any doubt that **Mystery Babylon is a CHURCH.**

Throughout the Old and New Testaments a woman is used to symbolizes a church. This is an extremely important point that must absolutely not be overlooked as it proves beyond all shadow of a doubt that this "woman" with mystery Babylon written upon Her head and riding a Beast (Kingdom) has to be a "church." I will share with you several scriptures that prove this is an undeniable fact. The only question that remains is which church? Please remember that an unfaithful Church commits spiritual adultery.

For centuries Bible teachers and students have attempted to explain just who or what Mystery Babylon is. No doubt thousands of articles have been written and countless sermons have been preached about this woman. Some have stated that she represents the United States because of what America has become to represent in the world: prosperity, materialism, rampant permissible sexual sins, abortion and the approval and license our country now gives to same sex marriages. However, the United States <u>is</u> <u>not</u> a city, and of course it <u>is not</u> a church. It is guilty of all I have just described and could certainly be called Sodom, but I do not believe this woman represents America or ancient Babylon as many believe. Furthermore, she is a city sitting on seven mountains or hills. That specification eliminates ancient Babylon.

However, for more than 2000 years there is a city that historically has been known "as the city on seven hills". That city is Rome, Italy. The Catholic Encyclopedia states: "It is within the city of Rome, called the city of seven hills, that the entire area of Vatican State proper is now confined." I will define this more clearly in a moment.

Just as the body of Christ is a church and is also described as the bride of Christ (a woman); the body of antichrist (the Mysterious Man of Sin) is a church and is also described as a woman. Satan has a bride! MYSTERY BABYLON is the false antichrist church! She is not a town, city or country! This will be abundantly clear if you have a spiritual mind and are seeking Truth.

For further evidence consider the fact that God also refers to Israel as a "woman". In the Old Testament God called Israel His wife; but He also called Israel a "Harlot" and a "Whore" when she worshipped other gods and committed spiritual adultery. We find the very same in the New Testament. A "woman" represents the false church and also the True Church.

When the Church apostatized it was compared with a corrupt Woman. Please consider the following scriptures:

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". . . If a man put away his wife, and she go from him, and become another man's, shall he return unto her again?"... "But you have played the HARLOT with many lovers; yet return again to me, saith the LORD" . . . "You have polluted the land with your WHOREDOMS and with your wickedness" . . . "You hadst a WHORE'S FOREHEAD, you refusedst to be ashamed" . . . "The LORD said also unto me", . . "Have vou seen that which backsliding Israel has done? she is gone up upon every high mountain and under every green tree, and there has played the HARLOT". . "And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed ADULTERY I had put her away, and given her a bill of divorce; yet her treacherous sister Judah feared not, but went and played the HARLOT also" . . . "Surely as a wife treacherously departeth from her husband, so have you dealt treacherously with me, O house of Israel, saith the LORD' [Jeremiah 3:1-25].

"You have also committed FORNICATION with the Egyptians your neighbours, great of flesh; and have increased your whoredoms, to provoke me to anger... You have played the WHORE also with the Assyrians, because you were unsatiable; yes, you have played the HARLOT with them, and yet couldest not be satisfied. How weak is thine heart, saith the Lord God, seeing you doest all these things, the work of an imperious WHORISH WOMAN; In that you buildest thine eminent place in the head of every way, and makest thine high place in every street; and have not been as an HARLOT, in that you scornest hire; But as a wife that committeth ADULTERY, which taketh strangers instead of her husband" [Ezekiel 16:26-32].

Based on the previous scriptures, should not the following verses from the Revelation also describe a corrupt church?

"And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH" [Revelation 17:1-3,5].

God's true Church is frequently represented as a woman:

"For your Maker is thine husband; the LORD of hosts is his name; and your Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall he be called. For the LORD has called you as a WOMAN forsaken and grieved in spirit, and a wife of youth, when you were refused, saith your God" [Isaiah 54:5-6].

"For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ" [2Corinthians 11:2].

"For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning CHRIST AND THE CHURCH" [Ephesians 5:31-32].

Christ is represented as the Bridegroom and the Church is the bride which of course is a "Woman."

"Then came to him the disciples of John, saying, Why do we and the Pharisees fast oft, but your disciples fast not? And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bridechamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? but the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast" [Matthew 9:14-15].

"Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his WIFE has made HERSELF ready. And to HER was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints" [Revelation 19:7-8].

There should be no doubt, the following verse in the Book of Revelation also refers to the Church, the Lamb's wife:

"And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a WOMAN clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars" [Revelation 12:1].

You should certainly be convinced with all those scriptures!

Therefore, **WITHOUT CONTROVERSY**, the women described in Revelation twelve, seventeen and eighteen . . . **IS A CHURCH!**

The church of Revelation twelve is the true church clothed in the righteousness of Christ. But the church described in Revelation seventeen and eighteen is a corrupt church; the very Icon of Apostasy! We will identify this apostate church from information readily available to any seeker of truth. These facts can be found in most Public Libraries, Bible College Libraries and on the internet from which a great deal of the following was derived.

Mystery Babylon is a CORRUPT Church: Just as a pure woman represents a pure Church, a corrupt woman represents a corrupt Church. The *woman in white* is Christ's bride, the true Church. But Revelation 17:1, 15-16 and 19:2 call this second woman a "*WHORE*" or "*HARLOT*", a fallen Church teaching false doctrines.

Mystery Babylon is a RICH Church: This symbolic wicked woman, this corrupt Church is a rich one with gorgeous display. Revelation 17:4 says she's "*decked with GOLD and PRECIOUS STONES and PEARLS, having a GOLDEN cup in her hand.*" Which Church would you say is the *richest* in the world?

Before we proceed further, I would like the reader to be aware of the following. All of the information we are addressing in the next two segments of "The Man of Mystery" is readily available in most libraries and on the internet. I am aware there is much misinformation available that one can read or hear today. "Fake News" is the latest phrase concerning the misinformation that now seems to have penetrated many news agencies that were once trusted. I have made every effort to weed out any misinformation and to confirm what I have written is from trusted sources.

Mystery Babylon is a Church built on SEVEN HILLS or MOUNTAINS: This identification given in Revelation 17:9, is impressive and clear, for Rome is *proverbial* as "*the city built on seven hills.*" *Webster's* large unabridged dictionary says this under the entry "*seven-hilled*": "*as, the SEVEN-HILLED CITY, that is, Rome, Italy.*" Furthermore,

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Revelation 17:18 tells John, "*The woman whom you saw is that GREAT CITY which reigns over the kings of the earth.*" John wrote this using the present tense for the word "*reigns*" and it is very possible he knew that *"That great city*" was Rome.

Mystery Babylon is a LARGE, WORLDWIDE Church: She sits on "*MANY WATERS,*" explained as being many "*peoples,* and *multitudes,* and *nations,* and *tongues.*" Revelation 17:1 and 15. The very word *catholic* means "universal," and the Papal Church has the largest, most widespread membership.

Mystery Babylon is a Church that revives BABYLON'S pagan teachings: "On her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT ... " Revelation 17:5. Long before John wrote the Book of Revelation, the ancient city of Babylon had been completely destroyed and never rebuilt. For centuries it lay in ruins and had faded into insignificance. The apostle Peter could not have been referring to literal Babylon when he wrote in 1Peter 5:13 that: "She who is in Babylon ... greets you." There was no Church or any other human institution in the desolate ruins of ancient Babylon. He was referring to ROME as all authorities agree. It is easy to see why early Christians used "Babylon" as a code word or nickname for Rome, for there are many striking parallels between the twin cities of literal Babylon of ancient times and figurative Babylon or Rome. Consider just a few: Babylon was the dominant warring power of its day and Rome was the dominant warring power of its own era. Babylon conquered Israel and centuries later, Rome also conquered Israel. Babylon destroyed the first Jerusalem Temple and Rome destroyed the second. Each carried sacred vessels from the Jewish

Temple back to Babylon in the east and Rome in the west; each completely destroyed and devastated the city of Jerusalem; each carried away surviving Jews into captivity. Rome was Babylon all over again. As Babylon's "carbon copy," Rome provides a perfect example of *history* repeating itself. But more to the point, this woman who sits on seven hills which is this Church located in Rome, has revived the same pagan teachings that ancient Babylon taught ages ago. She baptizes them, sanctifies them, and brings them into the Christian Church. Ages ago, when presumptuous men tried to build the Tower of Babel at Babylon, God confused their language. Genesis 11:1-9. So here in the last book of the Bible, "Babylon" is a spiritual term referring to *confusion*, not the confusion of languages in the Old Testament but religious confusion as the Church drifted away from God's Word.

Mystery Babylon is a RELIGIOUS power dominating the CIVIL powers: Revelation 17:3 and 7 tell us the harlot, or fallen Church, is RIDING the beast. Daniel 7:17 and 23 tell us a beast represent a king or kingdom. When we ride a horse, we direct it and control it, so the picture God gives here is of a *Church* dominating the *civil* power. For centuries, the Papacy dictated to kings. When she wanted to punish or execute any who dared to question her teaching, she would often call on *the police power of the state*. Revelation 17:2 describes this harlot: "*with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication.*" She has influence over the kings of the earth, great influence over heads of state. Today, unlike other Churches, the Vatican exchanges ambassadors with every major nation on earth. They come to her city on seven mountains, and they bow before her, having "*lived luxuriously with her.*" Revelation 18:9

The Harlot and IMAGE Worship: Sincere Catholics often bow down before a statue of a SAINT and devoutly pray. Many false doctrines entered the Church. First of all, was the center of idol worship. Babylon ancient you turned there were Everywhere images, idols representing the pagan gods, not just statues of Bel-Marduk, their chief god. King Nebuchadnezzar set up a huge golden idol and commanded all to bow down before it. But God's Second Commandment in Exodus 20:4-5 FORBIDS using images in religious worship, FORBIDS bowing down before them. Today the Papal Church not only fosters those very things but also has DELETED the Second Commandment from its catechisms (official training manuals). Everywhere in Catholicism you find statues of Mary and various saints. Mary of course is worshipped in many ways.

The Harlot and SUN Worship: The main deity of Babylon and Egypt was the Sun god. Astrology and worship of the heavens originated in Babylon. But God calls it one of the *greatest* of "abominations" in Ezekiel 8:15-16. Roman Emperor Constantine was a sun worshiper who never gave it up. The Roman Church disregards not only the Second Commandment about image worship but also the Fourth Commandment about the Creator's Seventh-day Sabbath, substituting the unscriptural SUNDAY as the Lord's Day or Christian Sabbath. Constantine's famous decree in 325AD concerning this fact is known by all Bible scholars.

COMING IN OUR NEXT ARTICLE PART 4 OF "THE MAN OF MYSTERY"

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