**Signs of the Times – Part Six**

**Fall of Babylon and Battle of Armageddon**.

**Mystery Babylon – Revelation Chapters 17 and 18**

**Chapter 17 – The Great Whore – the religious system**

* She rides the Beast with seven heads and ten horns.
* She is the mother of all harlots and abominations.
* She is drunk with the blood of the saints.

**Chapter 18: – The Great City – The Economic and Political System**

* Kings of the earth
* Merchants that buy and sell on the earth.
* The sea captains and those that trade by sea.

**Chapter 17: 1-4**

* The beast is the political system that the whore (false religion) rides upon.
* The leader of this political system is the Antichrist.
* God is going to judge.
	+ All who have committed fornication/immorality.
	+ All who have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication/immorality.
	+ Spiritual fornication/adultery is always idolatry, worship of that which is false.
* The woman wears purple and scarlet, decked with gold, precious stones, and peals.
* Holds a golden cup filled with abominations and filthiness of her fornication.

**VS 5 - 7**

* MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT; THE MOTHER OF ALL HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. – She is the source of all false and counterfeit religions.
* There is a link between her and Nimrod – first world dictator – we rebel – Gen 10
* Drunk with the blood of the saints the martyrs of Jesus.

**VS 8 – 11**

* The beast that was, is not and is yet again.
* Seven heads are seven mountains.
* Seven kings – five fallen, one is, and one is yet to come:
	1. Egypt - Pharoh
	2. Assyria - Ninevah
	3. Babylon - Nebuchadnezzar
	4. Persia - Cyrus
	5. Greece – Alexander the Great
	6. Rome – was at the time of John’s writing the Book of Revelation
	7. Rome II – Final system Daniel saw in Chapter 7 – dreadful and devouring, worldwide.

**VS 12-16**

* Ten horns are ten kings which receive a kingdom.
* They will receive power and give their power for one hour with the Beast.
* They will make war on the Lamb but lose to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.
* They kings will turn on the woman (whore) and devour her.
* This will all be to fulfill the Word of God.

**Review and Observations**

* The Woman is often connected with the Roman Catholic Church, the Pope, and the Vatican.
* The book: A Woman Rides the Beast, by Dave Hunt is a historical overview of this topic.
* The seven hills are Rome.
* The whore is not the Beast but rides the political system to her advantage for a season.
* She is a false religion (fornication – spiritual adultery), filled with abominations.
* She is the object of God’s wrath.
* She has universal influence throughout the earth.
* Has a history of persecution Christians.

**Chapter 18 – Political and Economic System**

**VS 1-10**

* Fallen, Fallen is Babylon
* Filled with demons, unclean spirits, unclean and hateful birds.
* All nations have “drunken” the wine of her “immorality.”
* The kings of the earth, the merchants have obtained great wealth,
* If you have ears to hear – get out and avoid the judgment/wrath of God.
* God has remembered all her sins and will pay her back “double.”
* This judgment will happen in one day.
* Those who love her will weep and mourn – Kings of the earth.

**VS 11-20**

* The merchants mourn, nobody wants to buy their goods any longer.
* Twenty-eight categories of goods mentioned.
* The merchants and the shipmasters mourn.
* This is a cause of rejoicing in heaven, for God has avenged those who died for Him.

**VS 20-24**

* Babylon is destroyed.
* No more music
* No more craftsman
* No more light
* No more weddings
* In her was sorcery and the blood of the prophets and saints who were slain

**Zachariah Chapter 12 – 14**

**Summary**

* Worldwide coalition of nations coming together to destroy Israel.
* The spiritual conversion of Israel to see and acknowledge Jesus as their Messiah.
* A cleansing inwardly (the heart) and outwardly (removal of idolatry, false prophets, etc.).
* Fulfilling the “time of Jacob’s trouble” (the great tribulation, Matthew 24;21-22; Dan 12:1
* The appearance of Jesus as their Messiah.
* The rescue of Israel and the 2nd Coming of Jesus with His saints.
* The establishment of the Messianic Kingdom (Millenium Kingdom).
* Punishment on the nations.
* The Feast of Tabernacles – if not observed, no rain.
* Complete restoration of the people of God into a Holy Nation.

**Chapter 12**

* VS 2 The cup of trembling – God’s wrath.
* VS 3 All the nations come against Israel at Jerusalem.
* VS 4 God smites the men and the animals with bewilderment, blindness, and madness.
* VS 8 No feeble among you, all will fight with the might of David.
* VS 10 They shall look on Him whom they have pierced and mourn.
* VS 12-14 Intense sorrow, private/public; national/individual; personal/family.

**Chapter 13**

* VS 1 A fountain opened for cleanliness from sin.
* VS 2 Idols, false prophets and unclean spirits removed.
* VS 8 Two thirds of the Jews will die; one third will be saved.
	+ Time of Jacob’s trouble, the great tribulation (Rev 5 – 19).

**Chapter 14**

* VS 2 All the nations attack, houses ransacked, women raped, half the city in captivity.
* VS 3 The Lord will go forth into battle on their behalf.
* VS 4 Jesus returns to the Mount of Olives – Luke 24:50-51; Acts 1:8-9).
* VS 5 Jesus comes with His saints (2nd Coming).
* VS 6 Cosmic changes, twilight vs day and night.
* VS 8 Living waters from Jerusalem – spiritual purification.
* VS 9 Jesus will be Lord over the whole earth, and only His name will be worshiped.
* VS 12 Sudden and catastrophic destruction of God’s enemies – they melt standing up.
* VS 14 The wealth of the nations will come to Jerusalem.
* VS 16 Of any that remain they must all celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles.
* VS 17 Those who do not participate will have no rain and as judgment.

Revelation 19: 11-21: The return of Jesus and the destruction of the nations.

Revelation 14:20: The wine press of God’s wrath.