

**MAPLE GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH SUNDAY NIGHT
BIBLE STUDY - The Revelation - Sunday November 7, 2021**

“The Destruction of the Final False Religion” – Revelation 17

Review & Background

Remember this chapter is really an exposition or explanation of the judgment in Revelation 16:19 – the two-fold judgment on Babylon. Chapter 17 reveals the spiritual nature of the AntiChrist’s kingdom, while Chapter 18 follows with its material aspects. We see in Revelation 16:19 that both are destroyed. Chapters 17 and 18 are inserted into the chronological flow of Revelation. As we saw in Revelation 16:17, the pouring out of the seventh bowl is actually followed immediately by the return of Jesus Christ to end the great world battle. (Revelation 19:11). These two chapters give us an idea of what is being judged.

The Bible makes a clear distinction between true and false religion.

- Jesus calls Himself “the truth” and calls the devil “the father of lies” (John 8:44).
- This chapter looks forward to the climax of all false beliefs in the form of “Mystery Babylon.”

The “Queen of Heaven” & Tammuz

Jeremiah 44:16-19

Ezekiel 8:12-14

Throughout time, Babylon has been the center of false religion. It will be in the end also

- This chapter reveals the final form of this unified religion from God’s perspective.
- John views it as “the great harlot who sits on many waters.”

Do false religions still exist today?

The Introduction of the Harlot (v. 1a)

The Authority of the Harlot (vv. 1b; 15)

Revelation 13:7

The Alliances of the Harlot (vv. 2-3)

Jeremiah 51:7

The Apparel of the Harlot (v.4a)

The Abominations of the Harlot (vv. 4b – 5)

Ezekiel 20: 30-31

The Accusation of the Harlot (v. 6)

False religion is drunk on the blood of whom?

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The Explanation of the Harlot (vv. 7-14; 18)

Fallen – Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia and Greece

Is – Rome

Yet to come – the AntiChrist's world empire.

The Destruction of the Harlot (vv. 16-17)

The AntiChrist's religious empire will be judged and destroyed. So, also, as we will see next week, Chapter 18 will reveal the destruction of the political and economic aspects of the evil world empire.