

“These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful.” – Revelation 17:14

Overview:

In Rev 17:1-6, John is told by one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls to “Come” and see the “judgment of the great harlot”. This harlot is described in 17:1 as sitting on many waters, 17:3 sitting on a scarlet beast, and 17:9 sitting on seven mountains. She causes kings and the inhabitants of the earth to be drunk with the wine of her fornication (v2). In verse 6 we see that this woman is drunk with the “blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus”.

Starting in Rev 17:7, the angel tells John the “mystery” of the woman and the beast that she is riding. The word “mystery” when used in the Bible is not like a “whodunit” type of mystery where we have to find the clues and figure out the crime. A mystery is something that has not been revealed to man by God until now. It has always been truth but now in God's perfect timing, God reveals to John this mystery.

Even after revealing these things to John, there is still a lot of “mystery” not revealed. God has not given us everything but just what we need to know. The Antichrist is behind the power this one world religion and the 10 kings and they will make war with the Lamb. In the end, the Lamb will “overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings” (v14). The ten kings “hate the harlot” and will destroy this religious system (v16) because “God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose” (v17).

References:

Rev 17:7 – Beast that carries the woman – one world religion (Rev 12:3, 13:1)

Rev 17:8 – Ascend out of the bottomless pit – Satanic source (Rev 9:1,11)

Rev 17:8 – Go to perdition – Antichrist, son of perdition (2 Thessalonians 2:3)

Rev 17:9 – Seven mountains – Bible refers to kingdoms as mountains (Psalm 30:7, Jeremiah 51:25, Daniel 2:35)

Rev 17:13 – Source of the power and authority – Rev 13:2

Rev 17:13 – What it looks like as the Antichrist ascends (Rev 6:1)

Rev 17:14 – Make war (Rev 14:18-19, 16:12-16, 19:11-21)

Rev 17:14 – Those who are with Him are:

- Called (Rev 22:17)

- Chosen (Ephesians 1:4)

Rev 17:17 – To be of one mind (Rev 17:13)

Questions:

* Why do you think that John reacted to this vision of the woman as “marveled with great amazement” (v.6)?

* What does the woman in this vision represent?

* Who does the “beast” represent?

* Read Daniel 2:26-47 and Daniel 7 and compare these verses to Rev 17:10-17.

* Verse 14 describes a war, who are the participants of this war and who is the victor?

* In Rev 17, John gives us some amazing truths about you as a child of God. Your name was written in the “Book of Life” from the foundation of the world (v.8). You are called by God (v.14), you are chosen by God, (v.14), and in Christ Jesus, you are faithful (v.14).

Additional Study:

Rev 17:6

* Marveled (*thaumazo*) – with great amazement
(*thauma mega*) – astonishment, wondering, confusion

Rev 17:8

* Dwell on the earth – (*katoikountes*)

Rev 17:8

* (*katoikeō*) – 12x in Revelation – those who live like there is no tomorrow

Rev 17:16

* Make her desolate (*emeroō*) and naked (*gumnos*)