

LISTENING GUIDE



**REVELATION** *The future unveiled*  
A Study on the Book of Revelation

**The Mystery Babylon**  
**EXPLAINED**

Revelation 17 : 7 - 18

DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NV • FEBRUARY 17, 2013  
All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. Pastor Joe's personal commentary is in brackets modifying the biblical text underlined with dots. The abbreviation "NIV84" stands for the NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION of the Holy Bible published in 1984. You can find this passage in your Pew Bible on page 1202.

## THE FALSE CHURCH

### A. What John Sees:

**He sees *a woman riding a beast with seven heads and ten horns.***

**Revelation 17:7, NIV84** <sup>-7</sup> *Then the angel said to me: "Why are you astonished? I will explain to you the mystery of the woman and of the beast she rides, which has the seven heads and ten horns.*

### B. What John is Told:

**The woman represents a corrupt religious system depicted by the city of Babylon.**

#### 1. The Great Harlot – God defiant, "works based" religion.

**Revelation 17:5, NIV84** <sup>-5</sup> *This title was written on her forehead: MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.*

#### 2. The Beast – The Antichrist.

*Revelation 17:3, NIV84* <sup>-3</sup> *Then the angel carried me away in the Spirit into a desert. There I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was covered with blasphemous names and had seven heads and ten horns.*

#### 3. The Many Waters – All lost people.

**Revelation 17:15, NIV84** <sup>-15</sup> *Then the angel said to me, "The waters you saw, where the prostitute sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations and languages...*

#### 4. "Was...is not...is about to come..." – Antichrist, imitating the resurrected Christ.

**Revelation 1:8, NIV84** <sup>-8</sup> *"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."*

#### 5. Seven heads – World empires standing in opposition to God.

**Revelation 17:10, NIV84** <sup>-10</sup> *They are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come; but when he does come, he must remain for a little while.*

#### 6. Seven Mountains – The capitol of the Antichrist.

**Revelation 17:9, NIV84** <sup>-9</sup> *"This calls for a mind with wisdom. The seven heads are seven hills on which the woman sits.*

#### 7. The Eighth King – Phase one of the Antichrist's rule (as a king).

**Revelation 17:11, NIV84** <sup>-11</sup> *The beast who once was, and now is not, is an eighth king. He belongs to the seven and is going to his destruction.*

#### 8. Ten Horns – Ten political powers that empower the Antichrist.

**Revelation 17:12, NIV84** <sup>-12</sup> *"The ten horns you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but who for one hour will receive authority as kings along with the beast.*

#### 9. "Called and chosen faithful" – Resurrected and raptured believers returning with Christ.

**Revelation 17:14, NIV84** <sup>-14</sup> *They will make war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will overcome them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings—and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers."*

### What we need to know:

1. Holy God is not going to allow Satan and the unsaved world to ridicule Him, reject Him, and rob Him of His rightful glory—*He would not be "Holy God" if He did.*
2. "Religious activity" feels full and alive but is, in truth, empty and dead.
3. Satanic strategy appears impressive and effective but is, in truth, impotent and deceptive.