

The Final Destruction of BABYLON

Revelation 16:1-6

DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NV • FEBRUARY 10, 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.

What is "Babylon?"

Around 200 years following the flood of Noah, there lived a man named Nimrod. His wife's name was Semiramis. Under these two people, in a place called Babylon (a city), two significant systems came into existence: A **God-defiant political system** and a **God-defiant religious system**. The *Political Babylon* was founded by Nimrod; the *Religious Babylon* was founded by his wife. The *Political Babylon* had its beginnings in the *city of Babylon*; the *Religious Babylon* had its beginning in the *Tower of Babylon* (also called *The Tower of Babel*.) These two systems, in varying forms, have continued on—side by side—through the centuries. The Bible refers to both systems in the one word, "**Babylon**"—a **God-defiant political and religious system**. - JKT

Babylon-called "The Prostitute"

1. Her _____.

Revelation 17:1-2, 4 NIV84 -¹ *One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the punishment of the great prostitute, who sits on many waters [a clear reference to the City of Babylon—built on the river Euphrates]."* ² *With her the kings of the earth committed adultery [GK: πορνείω, por—neu-ō, It gives us our English*

word, porn, it's "illicit, immoral sexuality";] and the inhabitants of the earth were intoxicated with the wine of her adulteries." ⁴ *The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, and was glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls. She held a golden cup in her hand, filled with abominable things and the filth of her adulteries.*

2. Her _____.

Revelation 17:3, NIV84 -³ *Then the angel carried me away in the Spirit into a desert. There I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast [ie., The Antichrist] that was covered with blasphemous names and had seven heads and ten horns [Biblical scholars don't know if this is a reference to the past kings of the Roman empire or the leaders of the nations that will attack Israel in the Battle of Armageddon—whoever they are, they are in rebellion against Holy God].*

She has aligned herself with the godless political systems of this world.

3. Her _____.

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

4. Her _____.

Revelation 17:6, NIV84 -⁶ *I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of those who bore testimony to Jesus. When I saw her, I was greatly astonished.*

What do we need to know?

1. **God will be victorious and will destroy evil once and for all.**

2. Regardless of how good other religions look, Jesus Christ is your only way to heaven. **We are saved by faith—never works.**

Three foundations of false, man-made religion(s):	1. A refusal of God's grace— <i>legalism</i>
	2. A rebellion against God's commands— <i>disobedience</i>
	3. Rejection of God's promises— <i>faithlessness</i> .

3. **Don't be fooled, each person must identify with either the harlot or The Bride (21:9); there can be no compromise.**

Answers to “The Final Destruction of Babylon” Sermon

BY DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NV • FEBRUARY 10, 2013

1. Corruption
2. Compromise
3. Caption
4. Cruelty