

# THE BOOK OF REVELATION

A REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

## REVELATION CHAPTER 17:1-18

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SM-557

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

### IDENTIFYING THE ROAD TO BABYLON – PART 4

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

***Worship, and Praise, The False and True, Babylonianism***

**INTRODUCTION**

***to the text***

***Revelation 17:1-18***

#### **Revelation 17:1-5**

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and talked with me, saying to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters, :2 with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication." :3 So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast *which* was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.:4 The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication. :5 And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

Since the Very Creation of Mankind,  
The Act and Art of Worship has Been at The Core of Man's Spiritual Fiber

In The Scientific Communities of the World  
and Studies of Anthropology, Archaeology, and Sociology,

In Every Culture That Man has Studied,  
The Act and Art of Worship has Been Present!

Those Acts and Arts have Been Revealed To Us  
via (1) The Expression of idolatry or (2) Through Expression of Writing  
or (3) via the Expression of Art.

Since The Garden of Eden,  
The Act and Art of Worship Has Been Leaving its Mark  
Upon Each and Every Culture Throughout History

**Mankind is Given to Worship**



# 4 THINGS WE NEED TO GUARD AGAINST WHEN WORSHIPPING

## I.) ***Never be "Unwise" about worship***

### **John 4:23-24**

But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. :24 *God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.*"

## The Architecture of the Temple and Worship

### **Acts 7:47-49**

for Solomon built God a house. :48 "However, the Most High does not dwell in temples made with hands, as the prophet says: :49 *"Heaven is My throne, And earth is My footstool. What house will you build for Me? says the LORD, Or what is the place of My rest?"*

### **1 Corinthians 3:16**

Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you?

## The Example of Moses' Tabernacle And of Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem These Were Just Models or Prototypes of Something Better

### ***So, to accurately worship God, you must know His nature and His purpose***

### **1 Peter 2:4-9**

Coming to Him as *to* a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God *and* precious, :5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. :6 Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, "*Behold, I lay in Zion A chief cornerstone, elect, precious, And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame. :7 Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious; but to those who are disobedient, "The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone," :8 and "A stone of stumbling And a rock of offense."* They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed. :9 But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

### **Hebrews 7:28 & 8:1-2**

For the law appoints as high priests men who have weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the law, *appoints* the Son who has been perfected forever. 8:1 Now *this is* the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, :2 a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.

### **Hebrews 9:2-11**

For a tabernacle was prepared: the first *part*, in which was the lampstand, the table, and the showbread, which is called the sanctuary; :3 and behind the second veil, the part of the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All, :4 which had the golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which *were* the golden pot that had the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant; :5 and above it were the cherubim of glory over-shadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail. :6 Now when these things had been thus prepared, the priests always went into the first part of the tabernacle, performing *the services*. :7 But into the second part the high priest *went* alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself and *for* the people's sins *committed* in ignorance; :8 the Holy Spirit indicating this, that the way into the Holiest of All was not yet made manifest while the first tabernacle was still standing. :9 It was symbolic for the

present time in which both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make him who performed the service perfect in regard to the conscience— :10 *concerned* only with foods and drinks, various washings, and fleshly ordinances imposed until the time of reformation. :11 But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation.

#1 - We're Never to Be **Unwise** about Worship (*knowing His person*)

## 4 THINGS WE NEED TO GUARD AGAINST WHEN WORSHIPPING

### II.) ***Never legalize worship***

Mandating The Act and Art of Worship

#### **Romans 7:6**

But now, by dying to what once bound us, we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code.

#### **2 Corinthians 3:6**

for we are ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter of the law, but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

#2 - We're Never to **Legalize** Worship (*mandates never work*)

## 4 THINGS WE NEED TO GUARD AGAINST WHEN WORSHIPPING

### III.) ***Never sterilize worship***

??? Is It Possible ???

that we have confused the holiness of God and the Glory of God  
with man-made formalism and rituals?

An Awesome and Telling Passage

#### **2 Chronicles 1:3-4**

Then **Solomon** led the entire assembly to the hill at Gibeon where God's Tabernacle was located. This was the Tabernacle that **Moses**, the LORD's servant, had constructed in the wilderness. :4 But **David** had already moved the Ark of God from Kiriath-jearim to a special tent that he had prepared for it in Jerusalem.

For 100's of Years, the Ark had Resided in the Tabernacle of Moses.  
But David had the Ark of the Covenant not in Gibeon, but at Jerusalem,  
Outside and Away From Moses' Tabernacle.

## David Had Made a New Tabernacle

it was personal, it was new, it was available, it was where God was!

## Once Solomon Had Completed the Temple...

### 2 Chronicles 6:44-41

Now, my God, I pray, let Your eyes be open and *let* Your ears *be* attentive to the prayer *made* in this place.  
:41 "Now therefore, Arise, O LORD God, to Your resting place, You and the ark of Your strength. Let Your priests, O LORD God, be clothed with salvation, And let Your saints rejoice in goodness.

#3 - We're Never to **Sterilize** Worship (*establishing a form kills*)

### 4 THINGS WE NEED TO GUARD AGAINST WHEN WORSHIPPING

#### IV.) ***Never fossilize worship***

Worship! - -

It's The Single Most Thing That We'll Be Doing in Heaven!

## Are You a Worshipper of God?

### Psalm 27:4

One *thing* I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple.

The New Christian - Level 1  
The Maturing Christian - Level 2  
The Age-Old Christian - Level 3  
The Departing Christian - Level 4

#4 - We're to Never **Fossilize** Worship (*holding on to the past*)

Now - 4 Things We Need to ***Guarantee*** While  
Worshipping

### 4 THINGS WE NEED TO GUARANTEE WHILE WORSHIPPING

#### I.) ***We want to be specific about our worship***

because He has saved us  
because He is awesome in power  
because He is our salvation and righteousness and hope

# Being Specific, Is Being Holy

## Hebrews 12:14-15

Pursue peace, and holiness, without which **no one will see** the Lord: **:15 looking carefully** lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled;

## Becoming a dedicated - vessel of worship

### 1 Chronicles 15:28-19

Thus all Israel brought up the ark of the covenant of the LORD with shouting and with the sound of the horn, with trumpets and with cymbals, making music with stringed instruments and harps. **:29** And it happened, as the ark of the covenant of the LORD came to the City of David,

### 1 Chronicles 16:26-32

#### SPECIFIC WORSHIP WITH JOY AND PRAISE

For all the gods of the peoples *are* idols, But the LORD made the heavens. **:27** Honor and majesty *are* before Him; Strength and gladness are in His place. **:28** Give to the LORD, O families of the peoples, Give to the LORD glory and strength. **:29** Give to the LORD the glory *due* His name; Bring an offering, and come before Him. Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness! **:30** Tremble before Him, all the earth. The world also is firmly established, It shall not be moved. **:31** Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; And let them say among the nations, "The LORD reigns." **:32** Let the sea roar, and all its fullness; Let the field rejoice, and all that *is* in it.

## Turn to 1 Chronicles 16:1-36

### Nehemiah 9:3

The Book of the Law of the LORD their God was read aloud to them for about three hours. Then for three more hours they took turns confessing their sins and worshiping the LORD their God.

#1 - We Want to be **Specific** about Our Worship (*presenting ourselves (w)holy*)

## 4 THINGS WE NEED TO GUARANTEE WHILE WORSHIPPING

### II.) ***We want to be constant about our worship***

## Under Solomon, Worship was Offered Up to The Lord 24/7

### Psalm 33:1-3

Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous! *For* praise from the upright is beautiful. **:2** Praise the LORD with the harp; Make melody to Him with an instrument of ten strings. **:3** Sing to Him a new song; Play skillfully with a shout of joy.

### Psalm 40:3

He has put a new song in my mouth—

### Psalm 96:1

Oh, sing to the LORD a new song! Sing to the LORD, all the earth.

**Revelation 5:9**

And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,

#2 - We Want to be **Constant** about Our Worship (*in all things & at all times*)

**4 THINGS WE NEED TO  
GUARANTEE WHILE WORSHIPPING**

**III.) We Want to be *Passionate* about Our Worship**

**1 Chronicles 29:20-21**

Then David said to all the assembly, "Now bless the LORD your God." So all the assembly blessed the LORD God of their fathers, and bowed their heads and prostrated themselves before the LORD and the king. :21  
And they made sacrifices to the LORD

**Nehemiah 8:6**

And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. Then all the people answered, "Amen, Amen!" while lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with *their* faces to the ground.

**2 Chronicles 5:11-14**

The priests then withdrew from the Holy Place. All the priests who were there had consecrated themselves, regardless of their divisions. :12 All the Levites who were musicians — Asaph, Heman, Jeduthun and their sons and relatives — stood on the east side of the altar, dressed in fine linen and playing cymbals, harps and lyres. They were accompanied by 120 priests sounding trumpets. :13 The trumpeters and singers joined in unison, as with one voice, to give praise and thanks to the LORD. Accompanied by trumpets, cymbals and other instruments, they raised their voices in praise to the LORD and sang: "He is good; his love endures forever." Then the temple of the LORD was filled with a cloud, :14 and the priests could not perform their service because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the temple of God.

1. Cold Legalistic Formality - Died
2. Under David a Revival in Worship was - Renewed
3. With Solomon, Worship was Something - Desired

#3 - We Want to be **Passionate** about Our Worship (*Be careful, God is Alive*)

**4 THINGS WE NEED TO  
GUARANTEE WHILE WORSHIPPING**

**IV.) We want to be *expressive* about our worship**

**2 Samuel 24:24**

...for I cannot present offerings unto the LORD my God that has not cost me nothing!"

**Hebrews 13:15**

Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of *our* lips, giving thanks to His name.

### Psalm 29:1-2

Give unto the LORD, O you mighty ones, Give unto the LORD glory and strength. :2 Give unto the LORD the glory due to His name; Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

### 2 Samuel 6:12-16, 20-22

Then King David was told, "The LORD has blessed Obed-edom's home and everything he has because of the Ark of God." So David went there and brought the Ark to the City of David with a great celebration. :13 After the men who were carrying it had gone six steps, they stopped and waited so David could sacrifice an ox and a fattened calf. :14 And David danced before the LORD with all his might, wearing a priestly tunic. :15 So David and all Israel brought up the Ark of the LORD with much shouting and blowing of trumpets. :16 But as the Ark of the LORD entered the City of David, Michal, the daughter of Saul, looked down from her window. When she saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD, she was filled with contempt for him.....

:20 Then David returned to bless his household. And Michal the daughter of Saul came out to meet David, and said, "How glorious was the king of Israel today, uncovering himself today in the eyes of the maids of his servants, as one of the base fellows shamelessly uncovers himself!" :21 So David said to Michal, "*It was* before the LORD, who chose me instead of your father and all his house, to appoint me ruler over the people of the LORD, over Israel. Therefore I will play *music* before the LORD. :22 And I will be even more undignified than this,

### Luke 24:51-53

Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. :52 And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, :53 and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen.

### John 20:25-29

The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." :26 And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" :27 Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand *here*, and put *it* into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing." :28 And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" :29 Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed *are* those who have not seen and yet have believed."

## 4 Things We Need to Guard Against When Worshipping

- #1 - We're Never to Be **Unwise** about Worship (*knowing His person*)
- #2 - We're Never to **Legalize** Worship (*mandates never work*)
- #3 - We're Never to **Sterilize** Worship (*establishing a form kills*)
- #4 - We're to Never **Fossilize** Worship (*holding on to the past*)

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- #1 - We Want to be **Specific** about Our Worship (*presenting ourselves (w)holy*)
- #2 - We Want to be **Constant** about Our Worship (*in all things & at all times*)
- #3 - We Want to be **Passionate** about Our Worship (*Be careful, God is Alive*)
- #4 - We Want to be **Expressive** about Our Worship (*giving God our best dance*)

*End of Study*