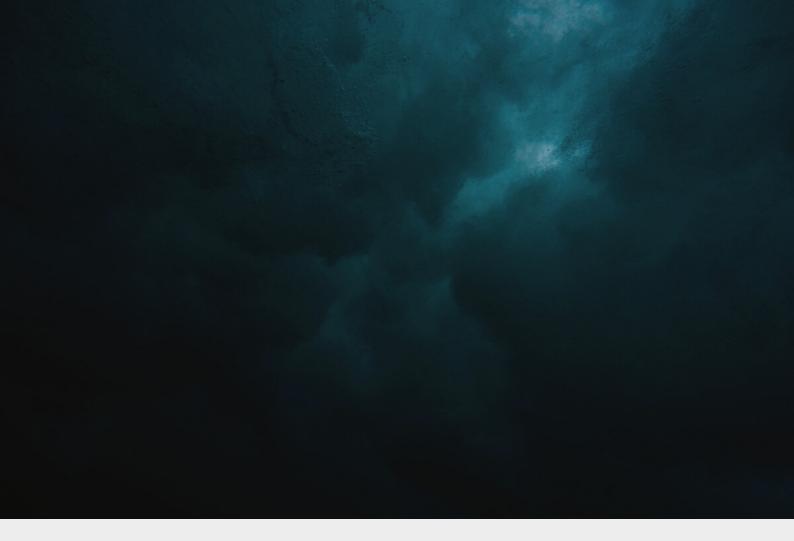
UNRAVELLING THE BOOK OF REVELATION | SESSION 46 (PART 3)

THE ROOT AND ORIGIN OF THE HARLOT-BABYLON (REVELATION 17:5)



IHOP - ONE THING MINISTRIES



And on her forehead a name was written:

"MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." (Rev. 17:5)

Revelation 17:5 gives us four titles for the Harlot-Babylon, all pointing to its root and origin. As we study and understand deeper, we will see that the evil and darkness that happened in the time of Noah and the Tower of Babel will be re-enacted. But this time, it will be allowed to reach its fullness! Knowing this should awaken us to watch and be vigilant, pray and prepare ourselves for what is coming.

The word "*mystery*" tells us that this is a hidden truth of God that has not yet been fully revealed. At the right time, He begins to reveal it through the revelation of the Holy Spirit.

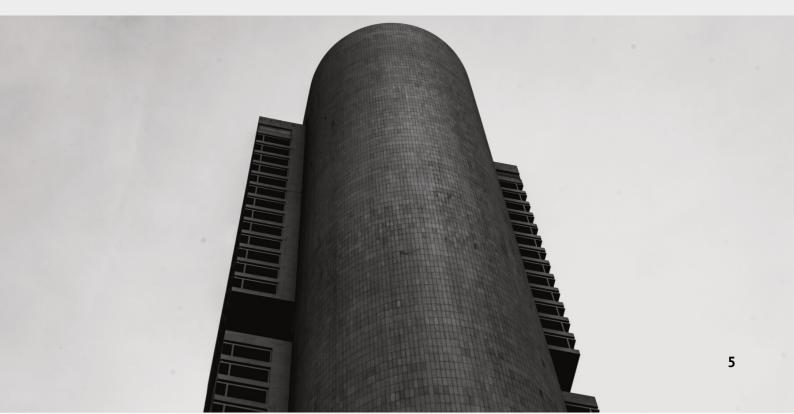




We need to continually seek the Lord for deeper understanding. need to continually We challenge preconceived our notions and evaluate our premises related to the Harlot-Babylon, so as to make sure that they line up with our understanding growing of what Scripture says about this End-Time mystery.

As we approach the End of the Age, we can have confidence that **the sovereign revelation of the mysteries of God will be completed** (Rev. 10:7). Jeremiah 23:20 tells us that we can have perfect understanding of what is on God's heart. Hence, we need to press in hard to attain it! The name Babylon the Great gives us a powerful hint of the **root and origin** of the Harlot-Babylon. It goes back all the way to the Tower of Babel in Genesis 11. **The same spirit that is working behind the Harlot-Babylon is the same spirit that was at work in the Tower of Babel.** The only difference is that in Genesis 11, God did not allow it to reach its fullness. **In Revelation 17 and 18, He will allow the spirit to work in the Harlot-Babylon such that she attains to the fullness of abomination (Rev. 17:4)**!

We need to understand what actually took place at the Tower of Babel because there will be a reenactment in Revelation 17 and 18. There are two things that happened at the Tower of Babel:



O N E

IT IS THE FIRST UNITED AND ORGANIZED HUMAN REBELLION AGAINST GOD

In Genesis 11, men were acting in rebellion against God. They came together as one to build themselves a city, to make themselves a name, so that they will not be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.

This was blatantly against God's mandate for mankind to spread across the earth, to multiply and to take dominion. But they refused to go and wanted instead to build their own city in defiance against God.

In the End Times, the Harlot-Babylon will seek to seduce and deceive man to rebel against God!

TWO

IT IS THE FIRST UNITED AND ORGANIZED RELIGION IN HISTORY THAT IS DEFIANT AGAINST GOD

The people in Genesis 11 wanted to build a tower whose top is in the heavens. This is not talking about the architectural skills of constructing a building that reaches the heavens, as this would not be possible. Rather, it is talking about them **illegitimately accessing the spirit realm** in a way that is not permitted by God.

The Tower of Babel in the Babylonian language means "gateway to heaven". This gives us an insight to their intent.



They were setting up the counterfeit of Jacob's ladder that would reach to the heavens (Gen. 28:12-17). They were seeking to open up a portal into the demonic spirit realm!

The root of evil of the Tower of Babel and the Harlot-Babylon goes back to Genesis 3. The issue is that man wanted to be like God but wanted to do it in his own way, independent of God. He wants to illegally access the spirit realm and power that are forbidden.

As a result of accessing the demonic realm, the Harlot-Babylon will have demonic and occultic power to the highest. There will be the greatest spiritual darkness and deception that is unleashed upon the world. And there will be dynamic interactions with demons happening on the earth.



WHERE ARE ALL THESE LEADING TO?

It is going back to the time of Genesis 6 where there will be unprecedented and unusual interaction between humans and demons in the physical realm.

What happened in Genesis 6 was that demonic beings were having sexual intercourse with humans. There will be a re-enactment with the Harlot-Babylon. She will open the door wide for this interaction. Demons will manifest physically. They will have a physical appearance and have sex with human beings. This will be a total abomination to the Lord.

That is why the Harlot-Babylon is called the "*Mother of the Abominations of the earth*". She will be the source of all wickedness and perversions.

Is this scenario even possible? Yes. This is not far-fetched.



Hollywood and the media are already preparing the world to receive the demonic beings through movies about vampires, aliens, etc., and in some instances portraying them as good or in an attractive manner. Technological advances in the cyber and virtual up further world will also open gateways for the demonic to come in. Sexual perversions have increased and. more and more, they are accepted as the norm by society.

There is coming a time when Satan and his demons are cast down on the earth (Rev. 12:9,12). The earth will be totally demonic!

Daniel 12:4 gives us two key elements that when these happen in the End Times, will bring about the re-enactment of the Tower of Babel:

MANY SHALL RUN TO-AND-FRO

This means that there will be a time when travel will increase, and the world will become interconnected. This has already happened. Through the internet and globalisation, the world has become more connected and united than ever. The same element of connectedness and unity was present in Genesis 11.



KNOWLEDGE SHALL INCREASE

The people in Genesis 11 could build the Tower of Babel because they have the required knowledge. The growth of knowledge in the internet age has been exponential. The knowledge that increased from 2000 to 2005 is more than all the knowledge that human beings have from the beginning of human history till the year 2000!

The stage is set for the rise of the Harlot-Babylon. The world is connected. Knowledge has increased exponentially. Add to this the evilness of the human heart. We will see the re-enactment of the End-Time "Tower of Babel", the opening up of a gateway to the demonic realm, through the Harlot-Babylon.



Finally, the term "*Mother of Harlots*" tells us that the Harlot-Babylon is the source of all false religions. She is able to pull all the religions of the world together in "unity", ultimately serving the goal of Satan and the Antichrist, by first forming the One-world religion, which will be subsequently replaced by the worldwide Antichrist worship system.

In Genesis 11:6, the Lord said, "... the people are one... now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them." This means that when the people of the world are united in sin and evil, they will attain what they set their heart to do, which is reaching their full potential in sin and evil. The Lord divinely intervened and stopped this in Genesis 11. But in Revelation 17 and 18, He will allow evil to reach its fullness through the Harlot-Babylon. Their unity in sin, together with unprecedented knowledge and global connectedness, will enable them to reach their full potential in sin and evil.

As the people of God, we have to be alert. We must be able to see this with clarity, live a lifestyle of watching and praying, and be the voices who warn others about the Harlot-Babylon.

Let us remember that the Harlot-Babylon is the abomination to the highest in the eyes of the Lord. May we not be seduced or deceived by the Harlot to partake in her sins.

Instead, let's set our hearts and press in to become the mature, equally-yoked Bride of Christ, the authentic Ekklesia, who will shine and carry God's glory in the darkest hour of human history!



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