

The Revelation of Jesus Christ – Part 4 (c. 95–96)

Revelation 14–18

The Lamb and the 144,000 on Mount Zion

14:1 And I looked, and behold, the Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with him one hundred forty-four thousand who had his name and the name of his Father written on their foreheads.

2 And I heard a sound from heaven like the sound of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder, and the sound that I heard was like harpists playing on their harps.

3 And they were singing *something* like a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders, and no one was able to learn the song except the one hundred forty-four thousand who had been bought from the earth.

4 These are those who have not been defiled with women, for they are virgins. These *are* the ones who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. These were bought from humanity *as* first fruits to God and to the Lamb,

5 and in their mouth a lie was not found; they are blameless.

The Message of the Three Angels

6 And I saw another angel flying directly overhead, having an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who reside on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and language and people,

7 saying with a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship the one who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and the springs of water!”

8 And another second angel followed, saying, “Fallen, fallen *is* Babylon the great, who caused all the nations to drink from the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality.”

9 And another third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, “If anyone worships the beast and his image and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand,

10 he himself also will drink of the wine of the anger of God that has been mixed full strength in the cup of his wrath, and will be tortured with fire and sulphur in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.

11 And the smoke of their torture went up forever and ever, and those who worshiped the beast and his image did not have rest day and night, along with anyone who received the mark of his name.

12 Here is the patient endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and the faith in Jesus.

13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying, “Write:

‘Blessed *are* the dead who die in the Lord from now on!’”

“Yes,” says the Spirit, “in order that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow after them.”

Jesus Comes to Harvest the Earth

14 And I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud was seated *one* like a son of man, [cf. [Dan 7:13](#)] having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle.

15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying out with a loud voice to the one seated on the cloud, “Send out your sickle and reap, because the hour to reap has come, because the harvest of the earth is ripe!”

16 And the one seated on the cloud swung his sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped.

17 And another angel came out of the temple *that is* in heaven; he also had a sharp sickle.

18 And another angel who had authority over the fire *went out* from the altar, and he called out with a loud voice to the one who had the sharp sickle, saying, “Send out your sharp sickle and harvest the clusters of grapes from the vine of the earth, because its grapes are at their prime!”

19 And the angel swung his sickle into the earth and harvested the vine of the earth, and threw *the grapes* into the great winepress of the wrath of God.

20 And the winepress was stomped outside the city, and blood went out from the winepress up to the bridles of the horses, about one thousand six hundred stadia.

The Seven Bowls

15:1 And I saw another great and marvelous sign in heaven: seven angels having seven plagues *that are* the last *ones*, because with them the wrath of God is completed.

2 And I saw *something* like a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had conquered the beast and his image and the number of his name were standing by the glassy sea, holding harps from God.

3 And they were singing the song of Moses, the slave of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying:

“Great and marvelous *are* your works,
Lord God All-Powerful;
righteous and true *are* your ways,

King of the ages!

- 4 Who would never fear, Lord,
and glorify your name?
For only you *are* holy,
because all the nations will come
and worship before you,
because your righteous deeds have been revealed.”

5 And after these *things* I looked, and the temple, the tent of the testimony in heaven, was opened,

6 and the seven angels who had the seven plagues came out from the temple, dressed *in* clean, bright linen garments, and girded with golden belts around their chests.

7 And one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God, who lives forever and ever,

8 and the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from his power, and no one was able to enter into the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed.

The First Bowl—Painful Sores

16:1 And I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, “Go and pour out on the earth the seven bowls of the wrath of God.”

2 And the first went and poured out his bowl on the earth, and there was an evil and painful sore on the people who had the mark of the beast and who worshiped his image.

The Second Bowl—the Sea Turns to Blood

3 And the second poured out his bowl on the sea, and it became blood, like *that* of a dead person, and every living thing *that was in* the sea died.

The Third Bowl—the Rivers Turn to Blood

4 And the third poured out his bowl on the rivers and the springs of water, and they became blood.

5 And I heard the angel of the waters saying,

“You are righteous, the one who is and the one who was, the Holy One,
because you have judged these *things*,

- 6 because they have poured out the blood of the saints and prophets,
and you have given them blood to drink;
they are deserving!”

7 And I heard the altar saying,

“Yes, Lord God All-Powerful,
true and righteous *are* your judgments.”

The Fourth Bowl—A Scorching Sun

8 And the fourth poured out his bowl on the sun, and it was granted to it to burn up people with fire.

9 And people were burned up *by the* great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has the authority over these plagues, and they did not repent to give him glory.

The Fifth Bowl—Painful Darkness Covers the Beast’s Kingdom

10 And the fifth poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom became darkened, and they began chewing their tongues because of the pain.

11 And they blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pain and because of their sores, and they did not repent of their deeds.

The Sixth Bowl—Three Unclean Spirits Gather the Nations to Armageddon

12 And the sixth poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, in order that the way would be prepared for the kings from the east.

13 And I saw coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet three unclean spirits like frogs.

14 For they are the spirits of demons performing signs that go out to the kings of the whole inhabited world, to gather them for the battle of the great day of God the All-Powerful.

15 (Behold, I am coming like a thief. Blessed *is* the one who is on the alert and who keeps his clothing, so that he does not walk around naked and they see his shamefulness!)

16 And he gathered them to the place called in Hebrew Armageddon.

The Seventh Bowl—A Super-quake Destroys the Great City

17 And the seventh poured out his bowl on the air, and a loud voice came out of the temple, from the throne, saying, “It is done!”

18 And there were lightnings and sounds and thunders, and there was a great earthquake, as has not happened from the *time* humanity has been on the earth—so great in this way *was* the earthquake.

19 And the great city *was split* into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And Babylon the great was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of his furious wrath.

20 And every island fled, and mountains were not found.

21 And large hailstones, weighing about a hundred pounds, came down from the sky upon people, and the people blasphemed God because of the plague of hail, because the plague of it was very great.

The Woman on the Beast—Babylon the Great, Mother of Prostitutes, the Great City Who Rules the World

17:1 And one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, “Come, I will show you the judgment of the great prostitute who is seated on many waters,

2 with whom the kings of the earth committed sexual immorality, and those who live on the earth became drunk with the wine of her sexual immorality.”

3 And he carried me away into the wilderness in the Spirit, and I saw a woman seated on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, having seven heads and ten horns.

4 And the woman was dressed in purple and scarlet and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, holding a golden cup in her hand full of detestable things and the unclean things of her sexual immorality.

5 And on her forehead a name *was* written, a mystery: “Babylon the great, the mother of prostitutes and of the detestable things of the earth.”

6 And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the witnesses to Jesus. And I was greatly astonished when I saw her.

The Meaning of the Woman and the Beast (see Rev 13:1–10)

7 And the angel said to me, “Why are you astonished? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that has the seven heads and the ten horns that carries her.

8 The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is going to come up from the abyss, and he is going to destruction. And those who live on the earth, whose names are not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, will be astonished *when they* see the beast that was, and is not, and will be present.

9 Here *is* the mind that has wisdom: the seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits and they are seven kings.

10 Five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come, and whenever he comes it is necessary *for* him to remain a short time.

11 And the beast that was, and is not, is also himself an eighth, and is of the seven, and he is going to destruction.

12 And the ten horns that you saw are ten kings, who have not yet received a kingdom, but they will receive authority as kings *for* one hour with the beast.

13 These have one opinion, and they will give their power and authority to the beast.

14 These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, because he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him *are* called and chosen and faithful.”

15 And he said to me, “The waters that you saw, where the prostitute is seated, are peoples and crowds and nations and languages.

16 And the ten horns that you saw and the beast, these will hate the prostitute and will make her desolate and naked, and they will eat her flesh and will burn her up with fire.

17 For God put into their hearts to carry out his purpose and to make a unanimous decision and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled.

18 And the woman that you saw is the great city that has sovereignty over the kings of the earth.

The Destruction of Babylon the Great

18:1 After these *things* I saw another angel descending from heaven, who had great authority, and the earth was illuminated by his splendor.

2 And he cried out with a powerful voice, saying,

“Fallen, fallen *is* Babylon the great,
and it has become a dwelling place of demons
and a haunt of every unclean spirit
and a haunt of every unclean bird

and a haunt of every unclean and detested animal.

- 3 For all the nations have drunk
from the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality,
and the kings of the earth have committed sexual immorality with her,
and the merchants of the earth have become rich
from the power of her sensuality.”

4 And I heard another voice from heaven saying,

“Come out from her, my people,
so that you will not participate in her sins,
and so that you will not receive her plagues,
because her sins have reached up to heaven,
and God has remembered her crimes.

- 5
6 Pay back to her as she herself also paid out,
and pay back double according to her deeds;
in the cup that she mixed, mix double for her.
7 As much as she glorified herself and lived in luxury,
give to her so much torment and mourning,
because in her heart she said,
‘I sit as a queen, and am not a widow,
and I will never see mourning!’
8 Because of this her plagues will come in one day—
death and mourning and famine—
and she will be burned up with fire,
because the Lord God who passes judgment on her *is* powerful!”

9 And the kings of the earth will weep and mourn over her, those who committed sexual immorality and lived sensually with her,
when they see the smoke of her burning,
10 standing far off because of the fear of her torment, saying,

“Woe, woe, the great city,
Babylon the powerful city,
because in one hour your judgment has come!”

11 And the merchants of the earth weep and mourn over her, because no one buys their cargo any more—
12 cargo of gold and silver and precious stones and pearls and fine linen and purple cloth and silk and scarlet cloth and all kinds of
scented wood and all kinds of ivory goods and all kinds of goods of precious wood and bronze and iron and marble
13 and cinnamon and amomum and incense and ointment and frankincense and wine and olive oil and fine wheat flour and wheat
and domesticated animals and sheep and horses and carriages and slaves and human lives.

- 14 “And the fruit your soul desires has departed from you,
and all the luxury and the splendor has perished from you,
and they will never find them any more.”

15 The merchants of these *things*, who became rich from them, will stand far off, weeping and mourning because of the fear of her
torment,
16 saying,

“Woe, woe, the great city,
dressed in fine linen and purple cloth and scarlet cloth,
and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls,

- 17 because in one hour such great wealth has been laid waste!”

And every shipmaster and every seafarer and sailors and all those who labor on the sea stood far off
18 and began to cry out *when they* saw the smoke of her burning, saying, “Who *is* like the great city?”
19 And they threw dust on their heads and were crying out, weeping and mourning, saying,

“Woe, woe, the great city,
in which all those who had ships on the sea
became rich from her prosperity,
because in one hour she has been laid waste!”

20 Rejoice over her, heaven
and the saints and the apostles and the prophets,
because God has pronounced your judgment on her!”

21 And one powerful angel picked up a stone like a great millstone and threw *it* into the sea, saying,

“In this way Babylon the great city will be thrown down with violence,
and will never be found again!

22 And the sound of harpists and musicians and flute players and trumpeters
will never be heard in you again!
And every craftsman of every trade
will never be found in you again!
And the sound of a mill
will never be heard in you again!

23 And the light of a lamp
will never shine in you again!
And the sound of a bridegroom and bride
will never be heard in you again!
For your merchants were the most important people of the earth,
because with your sorcery they deceived all the nations.

24 And in her was found the blood of prophets and saints
and all those who had been slaughtered on the earth.

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