

Revelation Study
Vision 5
The Seven Bowls of Wrath
Revelation 17:1-18

- I. The Woman
 - A. The personification of false (adulterous) religion
 - 1. Manifest long ago by pure paganism
 - 2. Manifest by “spiritualism”
 - 3. Manifest more recently by certain kinds of false/incomplete monotheism
 - 4. Manifest by the worship of reason/secularism
 - B. On many waters – the people that false religious identity influences (cf. Jeremiah 51:3; Isaiah 1:21; Jeremiah 2:20; Nahum 3:4)
 - C. The kings of the earth of been swayed by her for most of human history
 - 1. Using her to influence the masses
 - 2. Being used by her to govern poorly
 - D. She rides on top of “the beast”
 - 1. Could be a manifestation of the idea of “satanic governance”
 - 2. Likely a reference to Satan himself (cf. Revelation 12:3)
- II. The Beast
 - A. “Was, is not, is about to come up out of the abyss and go to destruction”
 - 1. Threefold destruction of the ‘false Christ”
 - 2. Compare to “was and is and is to come and will reign”
 - B. A description of Satan’s historical situation
 - 1. He was in dominion to deceive the nations
 - 2. At Christ’s crucifixion and resurrection, he “was not” – namely, he was bound in the abyss no longer able to deceive whole nations
 - 3. Is about to come out – release at/near the end with one last effort against the Lamb
 - C. It ends with his “destruction” – the final judgement
- III. The Beast Will Destroy The Woman First
 - A. Pure secular humanism (politics devoid of all religion) will annihilate all false religious ideologies
 - B. Then, the attention will turn against the true faith of Christianity
- IV. The Victory of the Lamb
 - A. The “horns” and the “beast” – Satan and the secular governing powers (likely along with the aid of the “many waters) will wage war against the Lamb
 - B. The Lamb will overcome them (remember the church’s call in Revelation 2-3 “to overcome”)
 - C. WHY?
 - 1. Because he is the Lord of Lords
 - 2. Because He is the King of Kings
 - D. What about the believers?
 - 1. Those who are with Him are called chosen
 - 2. Those who are with Him are called faithful