

Relationship between the Beast and the Prostitute

Revelation 17—18

<i>Babylon, the Prostitute, is a City</i>	And on her forehead was written a name of mystery: “Babylon the great” (17:5) And the woman that you saw is the great city (17:18)
<i>This City Rules Over the Nations</i>	the great prostitute who is seated on many waters (17:1b) And the angel said to me, “The waters that you saw, where the prostitute is seated, are peoples and multitudes and nations and languages. (17:15) the seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman is seated; ¹⁰ they are also seven kings (17:9-10) And the woman that you saw is the great city that has dominion over the kings of the earth. (17:18)
<i>The Nations “Committed Sexual Immorality” with this City</i>	the great prostitute ... ² with whom the kings of the earth have committed sexual immorality (17:2)
<i>The Nations Profited from this Relationship with the City</i>	For all nations have drunk the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have grown rich from the power of her luxurious living. (18:3) And the kings of the earth, who committed sexual immorality and lived in luxury with her, will weep and wail over her when they see the smoke of her burning. (18:9) And the merchants of the earth weep and mourn for her, since no one buys their cargo anymore (18:11) The merchants of these wares, who gained wealth from her, will stand far off, in fear of her torment, weeping and mourning aloud (18:15)
<i>This City also Fiercely Persecutes the Saints</i>	And I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. (17:6) And in her was found the blood of prophets and of saints (18:24)
<i>The City Initially “Rode on” the Beast</i>	And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness, and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns. (17:3) But the angel said to me, “Why do you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman, and of the beast with seven heads and ten horns that carries her.” (17:7)
<i>But Later both the Beast and the Ten Kings Will Turn on and Destroy this City</i>	¹⁶ And the ten horns that you saw, they and the beast will hate the prostitute. They will make her desolate and naked, and devour her flesh and burn her up with fire, ¹⁷ for God has put it into their hearts to carry out his purpose by being of one mind and handing over their royal power to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled. (17:16-17)