

The Revelation of Jesus Christ - A Picture Is Worth a Thousand Words
Lesson 12: The Picture of the Downfall of Satan's Allies

Introduction

What warnings does the Lord give us in 1 John 2:15 and 1 Timothy 6:6-10?

In what sense can we describe unfaithfulness to Jesus as spiritual adultery?

How Does the Picture of the Prostitute and of Babylon Show the Downfall of the Devil's Allies?

Read Revelation 17:1-7 - The Picture of the Woman and the Beast

1. If the "woman" in Revelation 12 is the Church, who do you think the "great prostitute" is in Revelation 17?
2. So who is the Antichrist? Who makes the following claims?
 - *If anyone says that...by faith alone absolution and justification are perfected, let him be cursed.*
 - *The _____ is of so great dignity and so exalted that he is not mere man, but as it were God, and the vicar of God.*
 - *The _____ is of so great authority and power, that he is able to modify, declare, or interpret even divine laws.*
3. Let's take a closer look at the "great prostitute" of Revelation 17. What does it mean that...
 - v. 1 – she sits on many waters (cf. vs. 15):
 - v. 2 – with her the kings of the earth committed adultery:
 - v. 4a – she is dressed in purple and scarlet:
 - v. 4b – she is glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls...holds golden cup filled with filth:
 - v. 5 – the title on her forehead reads:
 - MYSTERY
 - BABYLON THE GREAT
 - THE MOTHER OF ALL PROSTITUTES AND OF ALL ABOMINATIONS

Read Revelation 17:8-18 - The Beast

4. Who is the "beast" on which the woman rides?

Read Revelation 18:1-8 - The Fall of Babylon

5. Respond using a verse from this section: Andy knows that the Catholic Church doesn't quite teach the truth; nevertheless it's the church of his youth so he's going to keep going to it.

Read Revelation 18:9-19 - The Lament for Babylon

6. According to this section, what is the world's relationship to the apostate church?

Read Revelation 18:20-19:4 - The Song of Victory

7. Respond: Doesn't this section conflict with what God says in Ezekiel 33:11 that he does not take pleasure in the death of the wicked?

Read Revelation 19:5-10 - The Wedding Supper of the Lamb

8. What verse in this section provides a beautiful picture of justification? Explain?

Read Revelation 19:11-21 - The Rider on the White Horse

9. Who is the rider on the white horse?
Why is the rider's robe dipped in blood (v. 13)?
10. What is another name for the battle described in this section? (cf. Rev. 16) When will the battle take place?

Summary:

Ungodly power, false teaching, and the seduction of wealth and pleasure all will collapse before the Savior when he comes in judgment. Those who trust in Him, however, receive the blessings of the eternal wedding feast of heaven.

For Discussion:

- **What tempts you to be unfaithful to Jesus? How does picturing unfaithfulness to Jesus as prostitution help you resist temptation?**
- **How pertinent is the warning in 1 John 2:15 to you? List several subtle ways we are tempted to love the world or the things in the world. List several subtle ways worldly love could affect our church.**
- **How does popular entertainment fit into the picture of Babylon? What kinds of people do TV drama and movies glamorize? Are we tempted to idolize them or imitate their behavior?**
- **Read Mark 8:34-37. How does Jesus' question receive and answer in this vision of Revelation?**