

Mystery Babylon

Chapter 1 - "An Introduction"

"I remember the vision of that night. I knew I was going to be watching someone marching by, like a beauty pageant review of some kind. There was someone standing by me in the vision who said, "The Preview of the Bride". As I watched, I could hear someone coming. She marched by in front of me and passed off out of sight on the other side. As I watched each woman pass by I knew I was watching the churches of different nations passing by me in review. Each was so ungodly looking.

I do remember seeing the Asian church. Oh, you talk about filth. And I saw the European church. They were ungodly, too. Oh my. As these passed by and out of sight, I remember listening and hearing "rock-n-roll" music coming closer and closer. It was the church of another nation. It was the Miss America church. She was a sight. She did not have on any clothes. She was holding papers of some sort. Reminded me of gray newspapers as she held them in front of her as she danced to the rock-n-roll music.

As I watched her pass out of sight, I thought, "Oh, God, as a minister, if that's the best we've done, ...oh, oh, oh." I thought, "God hide me". I just wanted to get away from there if that was all that our ministry labors had produced. Those women were suppose to be virgins to Christ. Instead of being virgins, they passed by moving to the music with their short hair and painted faces. I just turned my head. It was so disgraceful. I knew the Lord was standing there and I wanted to start weeping. As a minister of the church I was thinking, "Is this the type of church I have produced for him". I thought, "Oh, God, I can't look at it. Let me die. Let me fade away."

Each of these churches would walk away from me out to a certain place and just drop out of sight. I'd hear their sound fade away and the sound of the next nation's church would begin to come from the other side.

As the last of these church-women passed off out of sight, I began to hear back over this way the sound of music similar to that old song, Onward Christian Soldiers. As I looked at this group, I saw the most sainted bunch of little girls. They were like none of those others. They were not unclothed. Nor were they dancing and gyrating to ungodly music as they came. These girls were all dressed so correctly and decently. Their hair was not

cut off as the others; their hair was hanging way down their back, smooth, and clean. They were marching just so in step with the Gospel. She was the Word. And it looked like one out of every nation. When this Bride people passed by, they did not drop off out of sight as those churches of the other nations did. Instead of going down, they started going up. As I watched, I noticed one or two or three of them trying to get out of line. I screamed at them, "Stay in line!"

Right then, the vision left me, and I came to myself standing in the room screaming, "Stay in line!" Yes, I saw a preview of the Bride of Christ - a beautiful little lady so correctly dressed as she marched by." (This vision was given over 50 years ago to a minister of the gospel, now deceased.)

For a moment, stop and think on the vision you have just read. Could it be true?

Could it be that "what" the general masses and John Q. Public calls THE CHURCH is nothing more than a sham, an imitation, an exercise in "Let's Pretend", a charade, a make-believe?

Could it be that there is a genuine CHURCH composed of believers of every race and nation on earth? Could there a people who march "AS ONE" to the step and rhythm of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the living Word of God in a much different manner than the body of people which the general public calls "the church"? Could it be that there is a people of dedication, discipleship, and holiness who are in fact the Bride of Jesus Christ?

One purpose of this sermon or study is to reveal and expose just how scriptural the preceding vision is, and to clearly describe the two churches which are In the earth.

The true church people live their lives in conduct and experience according to Christ's sound of the Word and Gospel. In both appearance and spirit these becometh the Bride of Christ, a Bride of the living Word Made Flesh, ...a Word Bride of Christ. Christ's True Bride is Not a sect. She is Not an organization. Not a denomination. She is the TRUE CHURCH; ..a body of people whose walk with Christ is beyond all man-made artificial boundaries. Her whole manner is different.

A great portion of the church world put on a good show, ...but do not come to Christ's righteousness, discipleship, holiness, and to his WORD. They represent themselves to the world as Christ's Church. Yet, this other people live their lives and conduct themselves marching to the sound of a different song. They march as unto Christ, but are under the influence and direction of a beat which is generated by the world, by the the lusts of the flesh;moved by the powers of darkness behind the scenes, by Satan himself. While they hold themselves before the minds of men as an exhibit of God's church; ...they rebel against God and His Christ and serve their true master, ...the rebellious one. They serve

Christ in name only.

Two peoples? Two Churches? This idea of two vines or branches should not surprise us when we consider some of Jesus' Parables, ...especially the one of the TARES and the WHEAT. Recorded in Matthew 13, ...It reveals that there are two seeds in the earth, ...two seeds in God's kingdom. One seed, Jesus calls "the children of the kingdom" (v.38) and the other he calls "the children of the wicked one" (v.38), a seed of offense, a seed sown by the wicked one. Both seeds or peoples grow together in the Kingdom until the time of the harvest when God separates out of His Kingdom those that offend and DO INIQUITY. (Iniquity is the spirit of Lawlessness in human kind which causes men to live by their own law, which is really out of a spirit of rebellion toward their creator. This same rebellious attitude operates in all religions and christianity; not allowing man to yield to the Spirit of Christ, the liiving Word of God. It is always rebellion against God in some measure.)

IT'S A MYSTERY! In fact it's TWO MYSTERIES! One mystery is called in scripture, THE MYSTERY OF GODLINESS......while the other is spoken of as THE MYSTERY OF INIQUITY or lawlessness. The mystery of two peoples, of two churches. One is the MYSTERY OF A VIRGIN, ...THE CHURCH, ...THE BRIDE OF CHRIST. The other is the MYSTERY OF A WHORE, ...A PROSTITUTE, ...BABYLON THE GREAT.

For over one-half of a millenium, 500 years, ministers of Jesus Christ have gone on record as labeling the Roman Catholic Church System as the Great Whore of Revelation 17. It would be enlightening for each person to be acquainted with the reasons why Catholicism has been called ...the AntiChrist, the Great Whore, and Mystery Babylon by such historical Christians and ministers as John Fox, John Wycliffe, Martin Luther, John Knox, John Calvin, William Tyndale, Sir Isaac Newton, John Wesly, Cotton Mather, Johnathan Edwards, Alexander Hislop; ...to name a few. But by itself that would be in-complete, not up to date.

We will attempt to bring the revelation of the Mother Harlot, the Great Whore UP-TO-DATE. If all those men were to resurrect today, what would be their decree? If they were to behold the religious landscape of this 20th century, they would have to refine and adjust their description of the Mother Harlot, the Mystery Babylon Spirit. To simply label Roman Catholicism exclusively would be to acknowledge that nothing has changed over pass 5 centuries and play into

Satan's schemes to hide his agenda of deception for *the endtime.* Things have changed. The Protestant Reformation has come and gone. The Methodist Revival has flowered and faded. The 20th Century out-pouring of the gift of the Holy Ghost has pressed its way onto the religious stage. Charismaticism has stirred the lives of many. Things have changed. The Revelation of the Great Whore has moved on. There is another beast of Revelation 13. Things have

changed. The web has spread further.

We will lay some foundation for those who may not understand that Roman Catholicism, at one time, was the Great Whore in totality. But we will go further. We must go further. Why? Because Satan's deceptive designs have progressed further. Jesus Christ spoke of it to John on the isle of Patmos.

Martin Luther said it this way in 1520, "...personally I declare that I owe the Pope no other obedience than I do than that to AntiChrist."

Cotton Mather's 1700 understanding was, "...The oracles of God foretold the rising of an ANTICHRIST in the Christian Church; and in the Pope of Rome, all the characteristics of that Antichrist are so marvelously answered that if any who read the scriptures do not see it there is a marvelous blindness upon them."

If you understand and believe these two statements,then you are prepared with a foundation to have the revelation of the the Great Whore, Mystery Babylon, the Mother of Harlots, the Beast;unveiled for this present endtime generation of the 21st century.

By the grace of God through the Lord Jesus Christ, we will, in our own limited way, try to share what God asked us to share with others. It won't be the "last word", nor "complete", but hopefully it will add another stone to your Wall of Righteousness and Faith.

As names and identities are described please realize that we are not inditing the specific individuals who are members of particular sects and movements,it is the spirit of the thing. That is why the Lord is so clear and emphatic when he said, "Come out of Her MY people, and be not partaker of her sins and her plagues." (Rev. 18:4)

Alexander Hislop's, <u>Two Babylons</u>, would be a good preface to this sermon. We could call his book of the 1800's,Mystery Babylon-- Part 1. We will pick up the revelation where he left off. We could call this study,Mystery Babylon -- Part 2. We encourage you to read chapter 2: "Mysteries"



Mystery Babylon Chapter 2-"Mysteries"

Different mysteries are mentioned in the New Testament, such as: the mysteries of the Kingdom of God, the mystery of God, the mystery of Christ in you, the mystery of Iniquity, the mystery of godliness, and lastly, the mystery of MYSTERY BABYLON.

Each of the mysteries in scripture are important pieces in the overall development of God's eternal purposes. Col. 1:26 speaks of "the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but NOW is manifest to his saints". God's plan and central purpose was always ...a reality with Him by the indwelling of the Spirt of .."Christ in you". Christ in one body, one people, of both Jewish and Gentile peoples, one "the hope of glory". The Mystery of Christ!

A mystery to the people of God in one age, later became "present truth" (2 Pet.1:12) and "meat in due season" (Matt.24:45), when unveiled by the Spirit of God, to believers of a later age. Do you remember God's reply to Daniel's request for more understanding? God instructed Daniel that the visions and truths spoken to him were closed and would not be revealed until the time of the end, ...the end-time. (Dan.12:9) The unveiling of truth only comes to a people or generation as that truth is needed to further develop God's purposes in the earth. Thus, that which was a mystery to the people of God in one generation or age, ...as they "looked through a glass darkly", later became understood more clear "in the light" when it came time for that understanding to be opened.

THE MYSTERY OF INIQUITY

"For the mystery of iniquity doth already work"... These words of instruction were spoken under the direction of the Holy Spirit almost two thousand years ago, in about A.D. 55, to the believers in Thessalonica. He, this mystery of iniquity, was to "be revealed in his time" (2 Thess 2:7-8). This mystery of iniquity or lawlessness was present **then** (AD.55), ...but **was not** revealed or unveiled at

that time. It was standing in the shadows where only the light of the Spirit of Christ could shine upon it.

This Iniquity (spirit of lawlessness) was then working to weave itself into God's New Plan, ...Christ in His Church. This was <u>not a new iniquity</u>,but <u>the same iniquity</u> of lawlessness and rebellion against Jehovah God, which had touched every race, culture, and generation since Adam and Eve's seduction in the garden. The pronouns "He" and "She" are both used as God veils the nature of this Mystery. God's Spirit is unveiling a spirit which has neither sex nor gender, however, describing its attitudes and character in terms of ... "he, she, or it" help us comprehend it's manifestations. When God uses "he" or "she" or "it",it is the outworking of Satan's deceptions which are being described.

Religious mysteries of an *unholy* nature were upon the face of the earth, deeply in-grained into human cultures and confronted the spread of the good-news preaching of Jesus, the apostles, and the early saints in the book of Acts. These mysteries of evil were woven among the religious rituals and ceremonies of those prevailing pagan cultures in their worship of false deities, images, animals, and heavenly bodies.

The Mystery of Iniquity had already shaped the pagan systems of religion throughout the earth and had even influenced Judaism. This Iniquity had crafted Israel's worship of Jehovah during Jesus' day, into such a mingled, mixtured, mongreled religion,that only "a remnant (in Israel) according to the election of (God's) grace" would receive Jehovah's "more excellent ministry" of Jesus Christ. (Rom.11:5) Judaism at the time of Christ was a fabric so woven and interlaced with Mystery Iniquities' blinding elements of ritual, tradition, and rebellion,that the kingdom was taken from them and given to another people that would bring forth fruit. (Matt.21:43) As a nation, the cancerous effects of religious confusion had brought Israel to an almost un-redeemable level; so "that the blood of all the prophets which was shed from the foundation of the world, from the blood of righteous Abel", was to "be required of this (that) generation" of Hebrews. (Luke 11:50,51)

Wherever the truth was preached in villages, markets, heathen temples, and even Jewish synagogues, ...those evangelists of the Book of Acts confronted "Mystery Iniquity's Religion of Babylon", ...the same spirit of religious confusion which first bloomed at the tower of Babel.

Babel means confusion. It was there that the minds and efforts of men united to work together to get to heaven. God brought confusion and scattered them. At Babel the seeds of religious confusion were sown which later bore fruit in EVERY kingdom to which mankind had scattered. All religious confusion and iniquity, whether Pagan, Judaic, or Christian comes from the same seed bed, ...Mystery Religion of Babylon, ...it is simply one Mystery of Iniquity. The cities of Babel and

Babylon long ago disappeared into dust and ruins thousands of years prior to the 1st century. Those same powers and principalities of darkness birthed the Pagan Babylonian mysteries and doctrines of religious confusion which were manifested at Babel. They were still present in 55 AD. within the hearts, minds, and religious practices of the men and women to whom Christ was preached in the 1st century. It was only a matter of time until that same "spirit of lawlessness" (iniquity), which had corrupted the Pagan world and the 12 tribes of Israel, ...would begin to breed its rebellious nature of iniquity within the unsuspecting New Testament Church. And just as it was in Israel, not everyone would become ignorant, blind, and overcome. The Spirit was already forewarning and reminding those early believers of Thessalonica of what they had been taught through Apostle Paul, ..."Remember ye not, that when I was yet with you, I told you these things? And now ye know..." (2 Thess 2:5) The Mystery of Iniquity was to keep unfolding.

INIQUITIES MANY FACES

The veil which has cloaked Mystery Babylon's deceit is ripped away when any individual begins to understand that kingdoms, civilizations, and cultures live and die. Each kingdom has it's time of influence upon the stage of man, only to be replaced in a few years, decades, or centuries, ... by another. But this process of life and death among kingdoms is not true of religion. Civilizations have come and gone; but their religious systems have *lived-on* under the cloak of different names or different images. *All the kings of the earth HAVE drunken of the intoxicating wine of her religious adulteries, lusts, and spiritual fornications.* (Rev. 18:3) She has not known any permanent relationships.

Revolution and war have not affected the Great Harlot Mother of Abominations in the Earth. This religious Harlot has not cared who ruled the political realm, nor has it mattered where wars were fought. She did not mind being called Isis or Osiris in Egypt, Ashtaroh in Assyria, Diana of the Ephesians, Aphrodite in Greece, Jupiter or Mercury in Rome, or even called Pharisees and Sadducees in Israel. She clothed herself in the religious garb of whatever suited the need of that time with her ultimate goal to cause rebellion against the God of creation through the might and influence of idolatry. She was that spirit of iniquity always operating behind the scenes, so she could continue to exist in spite of political upheavals and kingdom shifts. She would simply change her clothes, change names, switch alliances, and continue to stay in control of men's souls and hearts through false religion, whether pagan, ...rebels of Judaism, ...or apostate Christianity. Yet, beneath the new garb was always the same religious harlot who could not submit to God's revealed WORD as He spoke it in each age. Each harlot religious system always had their own words, their own teachings which were held in higher esteem than God's Words.

As each civilization was replaced by another, Mystery Iniquity grew in religious

deceit and knowledge. She kept learning and developing apostasy over the ages and centuries until we see Her today robed in her most splendid, deceitful, and adulterous attire. She portrays herself as the seat of truth and orthodoxy, when all the while she is the seat of Satan. She is presently alive, thriving, and reigning within the religious Christian and Non-Christian communities of this earth. She is not of the future; ... but of the present. She is not one woman, one city, or one church. She is religion which is untrue to God Almighty.

PARALLEL MYSTERIES

The *Mystery of God* and the *Mystery of Iniquity*, ...are Parallel Mysteries, ...which have both unfolded down through time. God's plan of the ages from the garden of Eden kept unfolding and being revealed to mankind during each age according to God's design and timing. Satan's plan of Iniquity, deception, and rebellion was always designed to match and counter God's plan in each age. The devil, the master of disguise, has used the same spirit of deception which he used to defile Eve. He used it to defile all nations in every age down through history.

Iniquity deceptively veiled itself in each age with just the right approach at just the right time. No matter the method, Satan's purpose was always to combat, hinder, resist, and stop, if possible, God's plan and purposes for His called out people during each age. Satan knew from personal experience that subtle defilement, spiritual impurity and mixture always brought God's wrath and judgment upon God's People. Regardless of the manner of attack, Satan's ultimate purpose was to create a religious behavior among humans, always contrary to God's desire, so that God could not fellowship them any longer;thus he would have to separate from them and judge them.

In the garden Satan began by beguiling Eve to fall from God's Word. This resulted in Paradise being locked away from all mankind with the curse of death. In Abel's day, Satan fathered murder and lying through Cain which marked and separated him from his family and God. Later, the Noah generation witnessed Satan's seductive ability to create mixed marriages between the Sons of God and the daughters of men (Gen 6:2) which brought forth such a depth of violence and evil upon the earth that God sent the flood.

In Canaan, Satan's influence incited idolatrous, sexual pagan worship practices of creatures, images, astrology, and witchcraft. Consequently the children of Israel became anointed to establish a beach-head for righteousness in the heart of Amorite territory and to cast out those offending nations when the cup of Amorite Iniquity (Gen.15:16) came to fullness.

Satan seduced and defiled Israel by prompting them to walk in the statues of the heathen by building high places, setting up groves, shaping images, burning incense and just like the heathen, serving idols, worshipping the host of heaven,

serving Baal, offering their children in sacrifice and enchantments (2 Kgs.17:6-20),and whose ultimate rebellion was in rejecting Jesus Christ. Satan watched the effects of Iniquity as God's people (because of their pollutions), became cursed and victims of divine judgments. Later, Satan's plan bore fruit as the kingdom was taken from them (Matt 21:43) and their house left desolate. (Matt 23:38)

The **One Mystery of Iniquity** continuously played out in lawlessness and spiritual rebellion within human hearts by using the deceptive elements of the Mystery Babylon Religion.

When Jesus came upon the scene, none had fought the Mystery of Iniquity Religion openly, with any measurable results, for many years. Iniquity held sway over the whole world. Jehovah had been silent nearly 400 years until the fullness of time came for God to speak. Jesus of Nazareth came preaching and teaching the **true unadulterated religion of Jehovah** which was pure and <u>free from any elements of the Mystery of Iniquity and Babylon's religious confusion.</u> To God's people and his "called out" church of that day God's word came in his expressed human image form of a Living Christ. The word was made flesh and dwelt among us. He came to His own "people which sat in darkness (they) saw great light and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is (was) sprung up". (Matt.4:16) Similar to that exists today. Darkness covers the earth and gross darkness the people. (Isa.60:2) But, praise God, there is a light in the darkness.

OLD TESTAMENT SAINTS FOUGHT HER

This woman, this Mystery Babylon of Revelation 17, is no stranger to God's people of every age. They had to overcome her enticing wiles and resist her from age to age for the right to worship the true and living God -- Jehovah. She is that WOMAN, that SPIRITUAL CITY, which has ruled over the kings, governments and souls of men upon earth. The saints and prophets of every age fought and resisted her religious harlotry, "abominations, and the filthiness of her fornications". (17:4) Her lusts for the "souls of men" (18:13) cost multitudes their lives as they held faithful to Jehovah. She pursued their blood, literally and spiritually, with such a lust that in time she became "drunken with the blood of the saints" of the Old Testament "and the blood of the martyrs of Jesus." (17:6) In fact, she is responsible for the blood "of all that were slain." (18:24)

She reigned "over the kings of the earth" (17:18) from her throne. She sat "upon many waters" (17:1,15), of peoples, nations and generations spanning the centuries and cultures preceding Abraham's day to the Present. Abraham sojourned among HER as "he looked for a city, ...whose builder and maker was God" (Heb. 11:10) Moses faced her in the courts of Pharaoh as he gave

Jehovah's decree..."Let My People Go"! As Joshua and the Judges of Israel struggled to reclaim the land of Canaan for Jehovah, they encountered HER deceptive influence, always inviting them, -- as Balak did --, to enjoy the pleasures of lusts, sin, and rebellion. David faced her as he warred against neighboring nations who were under Mystery Iniquities' intoxicating religious influences, as he attempted to bring the worship of Jehovah to greater heights.

In time SHE, ...that Mystery of Iniquity, ...Mystery Babylon, managed to manipulate the religious character of Israel from within the King's palace. Elijah fought to break Her strangle-hold upon Israel. Elijah felt that he was alone, but God said,..."Yet, I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal." (1 Kings 19:18) (That figure could have represented less than 1% of Israel's population still holding onto Jehovah.) Could you imagine that over 90% of God's people and church (in Northern Israel) of that day had bowed to Baal ...to HER, ...to the GREAT HARLOT, ...to MYSTERY BABYLON, ...to the spirit of religious harlotry in that generation. It teaches us the potential of great error in following the majority and the masses.

Daniel and the Hebrew children resisted HER advances as they kept themselves faithful to their covenant vows in the middle of her enticements, sorcery, and wooing from the kingdom of Babylon's numerous religious spirits. As Jesus walked among the people during the days of His Flesh, he wanted them to know that His teachings came from the Father and were not borrowed from HER. "My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me." (John 7:16) None of Jesus' doctrine was borrowed from HER influence upon the surrounding pagans, nor borrowed from the Rabbi's or scribes of Israel,who had corrupted themselves by committing spiritual fornication with the Mystery Harlot,by exalting their traditions above the WORD of GOD. (Matt 15:6-9)

NEW TESTAMENT SAINTS FOUGHT HER

Certainly the Apostles and Paul spread the good news of Jesus Christ into the depths of the religious harlot's own territory. The entire earth at that time worshiped under the Mystery Iniquity's religious spirit. Everywhere they went there were Jewish and Gentile souls ready and waiting for release from her bondage and spiritual captivity,wanting to be free.

After the Apostles passed from the scene, the Harlot's seductive advances made their impact upon even the Church of Jesus Christ. Not even God's New Covenant church people were beyond the reach of Her wiles; nor could they withstand all of her advances. Apostle Paul instructed the Thessalonians that "the Mystery of Iniquity doth already work" even in 55 AD. and that the restraints upon him, (this Mystery of Iniquity) would in the future be removed "that he might be revealed in his time." (2Thes. 2:7,6) Within a few hundred years this Mystery was in full-bloom and had stolen the name of "Christianity". Many departed from

the faith, as man's intellect borrowed non-Biblical doctrines, religious principles (principles not previously taught by Jesus nor the 12 apostles) and attitudes from the Greek and Roman philosophies. These non-scriptural principles and philosophies were incorporated into the Church by the early church Fathers? whose teachings were adulterous to God's WORD and commandments. They presumed to change, modify, and shape the church to the designs of their own intellect, which was really a Greek & Roman intellect. Men's natural religious intellect separated them from a Christ's intellect that only comes from Christ's indwelling Spirit.

As Jesus spoke to John on the isle of Patmos in ?95 AD., he addressed some of the prevailing situations which had developed since Paul's exhortation to the Thessalonians of nearly 40 years earlier. The Mystery of Iniquity had not been idle during those 40 years. Over that 40 year period, she had brought forth such a change in the churches from God's original intent, that Jesus had to speak a rebuke to nearly every church of Asia he addressed.

Listen to Jesus speak of the spiritual conditions which existed at that time (A.D. 95) within the Seven churches of Asia..., some "say they are apostles and are not and thou hast found them liars" (2:2)..., "I know ...where satan's seat is" (2:13)..., "thou hast ...the deeds of the Nicolaitanes which I also hate" (2:6)..., "some hold the doctrine of Balaam, ...and the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes, which thing I hate." (2:14-15)..., some "say they are Jews (the original church) and are not, but are the synagogue of satan" (2:9), and even the spirit of "Jezebel" had surfaced again among God's people. (2:20)

Jesus' statements recognized what had been going on and he also forewarned the churches of God in *that 1st century*of Mystery Babylon's spiritual web of unfaithfulness, fornication, and rebellion that was beginning to engulf the church as a spider does its prey.

ONE SYSTEM OF UNFAITHFULNESS

The true identity of Mystery Babylon as the Mystery of Iniquity has been gradually unveiled in the earth as that of <u>one system of Whoredoms and Spiritual Fornication.</u> Satan has lived and influenced mankind through her ONE whorish spirit. She has expressed Satan's character as she has ridden that ONE beast of Rev. 17; not 7 beasts, not 7 women, ... one system of harlotry. "So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns." (v.4) This religious Harlot spirit was "Mother" to all other "abominations of the earth," (v.5) as she was carried by the devilish 7 headed beast through each of the seven great kingdoms or civilizations of earth, ...from the Egyptian Pharoahs till the present, ...satisfying her lust for "the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth." (18:24)

Abraham, Moses, David, Daniel, Jesus Christ, the saints of the book of Acts, those martyred by the Pagan Roman Empire, those killed by the Roman Catholic church,and even those fearless men of the Reformation faced Her,the same Prostituting Spirit. The same religious Harlot influenced the crowd to cry that day in Jerusalem..... "Away with this man, release unto us Barabbas."

Even today we are either resisting Her advances, ...or we are yielding to Her advances for the sake of convenience or for the gratification of our own desires.

When a person fails to see that her influence and life has spanned generations and cultures, he is blinded in his perception of Her in THIS generation "upon whom the ends of the world are come." She, Mystery Babylon, the Great Whore, the Mother of Harlots and Abominations in the Earth is the ENTIRE SYSTEM OF RELIGIOUS CONFUSION, whether it be Paganistic (worship of gods besides Jesus Christ), Judaic (with its traditions and rejection of Jesus Christ) or Apostate Christianity (those who confess belief in Jesus but walk after the flesh). Each of the kingdoms which carried Her represent only 1/7th of the whole. Each of the 7 kingdoms in turn have produced a more refined religious machine dominating the souls of men through religious fraud and spiritual darkness.

As we share that which the Lord Jesus bids us, we hope that you will understand that Roman Catholicism is *not the present manifestation of the Mystery of Iniquity,* as it once was in the past, ...NOW the Harlot has daughters.

We encourage you to read Chapter 3: "Beasts of Daniel & Revelation"

Mystery of Iniquity



Mystery Babylon The Mother of Harlots

Chapter 3

"The Beasts of Daniel"

THE HARLOT and HER BEAST

Come with me and I will show you the punishment of the great harlot who sits upon many waters. With her the kings of the earth have committed fornication and the peoples of the earth were intoxicated with the wine of her fornications. So the angel carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness where I saw a woman sitting upon a seven headed, ten horned scarlet colored beast which was full of blasphemous names. She was dressed in purple and scarlet red color, gilded with gold, precious stones and pearls. In her hand she held a golden cup which was filled with the filthiness of her fornications. Upon her forehead was written a name:

MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS & OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH

I wondered greatly as I watched this woman who was drunken with blood of saints and the martyrs of Jesus. Then the angel said to me: "Why were you astonished? I will explain to you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her which has the seven heads and ten horns. The beast which you saw, was, is not, but shall come up out of the bottomless pit and go into perdition.

This calls for a mind which has wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits. They are also seven kings. Five kings have fallen, one king is, and another king has not yet come; but when he does

come, he must remain for a little while. The beast who once was, and is not, even he is the eighth. He belongs to the seven and goes into perdition.

The angel said to me,"The waters upon which you saw the prostitute sit are peoples, multitudes, nations, and languages. The woman you saw is the great city which rules over the kings of the earth." (Paraphrased excerpts from Revelation 17)

SEVEN MOUNTAINS ~ SEVEN KINGS

The angel said that the mind which has wisdom should understand that, ... "the seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth" (Rev.17:9) and may have some fulfillment in "the seven hills of Rome" and Jerusalem. The seven mountains on which the woman sits are seven kings and their kingdoms, (Rev.17:10) ... not one city. Seven great kingdoms or civilizations have dominated the earth during the times of God's dealing with his elect and chosen people; from Abraham to the present.

The angel said in 17:10: "There are seven kings: five are fallen",He was saying that 5 kingdoms had fallen or ceased to exist at the time of John's visitation in A.D. ?95.. The fallen five were : 1st-Egypt, 2nd-Assyria, 3rd-Babylon, 4th-Media-Persia, and 5th-Greece. Each of these kingdoms had up to that time, in the course of history, been a world power and ruled the earth, ...but each had been conquered and replaced by the another kingdom.

"And one is".... Was the present 6th kingdom to ruling the earth at that time controling and exercising dominion upon the nations. It was the pagan Roman Empire of the Caesars

"And the other is not yet come",....The 7th kingdom to rule the earth would not come upon the world scene until years after AD. ?95. This 7th kingdom has become known as The Holy Roman Empire or the The Roman Papacy. The Roman Catholic church represents the fullness of manifestation of the 7th head or 7th kingdom. (We can not take the time or space to explain this more fully, but a little reading in any thorough history text which surveys the Civilizations of Man will make this evident.) Alexander Hislop's "Two Babylons" is a great place to start.

"And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition." (v.11) The power of this beast would know a time called, "is not", when its influence and ability to dominate and exert authority would be taken from it. Yet, its ability to exert power and authority in the earth would return, "and yet is", "shall ascend out of the bottomless pit." It would fade away for a while into the shadows, but it would return.

All of this speaks of forces operating upon the affairs of humanity, beyond the scope and limitations of one historical figure, city, or one historical religious or church system, or historical government. Yet, most assuredly, this Mystery Harlot expressed her nature and purposes through **specific** individuals, cities, religions, and governments in each kingdom.

The **Great Whore, the mystery Babylon** spirit has existed and ridden through every age and civilization since the tower of Babel age. She represents the influence of **religious confusion** among Pagans, Jews, and Christians for false worship, deceit, corruption, rebellion, fraud and unfaithfulness **in each of the the seven great civilizations** within which God's covenanted people lived. One system of idolatry, rebellion and adultery against God and his will. These **7 kingdoms**, civilizations, or mountains of this 7-headed devilish power have served Mystery Harlot faithfully from culture to culture. Natural and carnal minded men and women of this 20th & 21st centuries are unknowingly yielding themselves to shape this spiritual power called the **EIGHTH BEAST**.

Let's take a look at God's descriptions of these kingdoms and how they appear in Bible history.

HISTORICAL ROOTS OF BABYLON

In calling the mystery whore by the name of Babylon, God directs our attention to the root of Babylon, ...Babel. Nimrod was ruler of ancient Babylon. "He was a mighty hunter before the LORD" (Gen. 10:9,10). It was in the land of Shinar that men first attempted to get to heaven on their own by building the tower of Babel. Here men said, "let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.. (Gen.11:4)

Jehovah God stopped their venture because their motives and attitudes were obviously evil and rebellious toward God. They were not intending to approach God for worship and adoration. Consequently, God confused their languages and thus the place was called **Babel**, ...meaning confusion.

The seeds of the "Mystery of Iniquity" Babylon religion were sown in the earth at Babel (Babylon) through Nimrod and his wife Semiramis. Astrology, demons, sorcery, and witchcraft were fundamental elements of Babylonion religion and are traceable to Babel.

After the Egyptian and Assyrian (1st & 2nd) kingdoms passed from power, Nebuchadnezzar's (3rd) kingdom of Babylon conquered the known world. Babylon brought credit to it's name,confusion. It was known for it's numerous

temples and worship of as many as 50 different deities. The Pagan Religious Mysteries seed from Babel had flourished through the centuries until a pantheon of gods of religious confusion were at the helm of the strongest political power of that day,Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon. An living religious & political example of confusion.

In time, Babylon would be called upon to recognize another God, ...Jehovah of the Hebrews, ...as the "God of gods, ...because there is no other God that can deliver" as he does. (Dan. 2:47, 3:29) Even Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, would "praise and extol the King of heaven, ...and none can stay his hand, or say unto him What doest thou?" (Dan. 4:37,35) However, Jehovah God became just another God within their Babylonian Confused Pantheon of Religions.

Students of religious history are aware that from Babel the seeds of religious confusion spread the Mystery Babylon religion to all cultures and civilizations. **Hislops',** *The Two Babylons*, makes it all too clear, that all the idolatry and false worship of the whole earth is **all of one system**, with one unifying source,Babylonian. The deliberate schemes of Satan modified the names of false deities and their origins from culture to culture. But, when they are looked upon through a wide-view lense looking across centuries and cultures, ...it is evident that the same paganistic religious elements of ritual, tradition, doctrine, and practice repeatedly and continually kept resurfacing over and over from culture to culture. A mystery of religion.

This repeated emergence explains why that over time, the **Mother-Son worship** of Semiramis, the "**Queen of Heaven**" and her son, Tammuz, which originated within Nimrod's kingdom of Babel, spread across the ages among varying world cultures. **In Assyria**, her name was Ishtar, and her son was Bacchus; ...**in Egypt**, she was known as Issis, and her son as Osiris; ...**in India**, she was Isi, and her son was Iswara; ...**in Asia**, Cybele and her son Deoius; ...**in Greece**, Aphrodite and her son Eros; ...**in Rome**, Venus and her son Cupid, and later in Roman Catholicism, ...she became known as **Mary and Baby Jesus**. A Continuity in the mystery of iniquity.

However, the Babylonian Mystery of Iniquity religion gave rise to more than just Mother-Child worship. Pagan religions throughout the earth which did not worship the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, carried many of the same familiar strains and characteristics. Such as: prayers for the dead, ...worship of images, ...a non-marrying priesthood, ...a separation of the priestly caste from the general worshiper, ...monkery, ...holidays to commemorate Pagan Deity births, ...purgatory, ...initiation rites of baptism, ...prayers to the dead, ...relic worship, ...rosary beads, ...and even a Pontifus Maximus, ...where the political leader is considered to be a god with leadership in both the civil and religious affairs of the state.

The system of religious lawlessness and iniquity conceived at Babel bore continual fruit in the earth as The Mystery of Iniquity made in-roads into the cultures & religions of all nations. Religious confusion thrived and held sway upon the souls of all men except for those faithful Israelites who stayed close to the precepts of Jehovah.

Truly a world-wide system of false worship was transmitted across political boundaries and across ages until it found its **most fruitful expression of poly-theism** and corrupting pagan religious practices in the**Pagan Roman Empire** of the Caesars. All religious confusion and harlotry conceived at Babel eventually found it's way into the Roman culture of the Caesar's.

There had never been a kingdom like Rome, it was different from all the previous kingdoms which had ruled the earth, it was ... "diverse from all those which came before it". Satan had finally funneled all of the social, religious, and political evil of man into "a single creation". Thus, when God revealed the nature of this kingdom, He could not type it with any creature God had ever created -- It was different! It was un-natural! It was without precedent! It was a beast unlike any the prophet had ever seen or heard of before. Let's take a look at how God described Satan's political-religious creation of Rome.

THE AGE OF GENTILE KINGDOMS

The scriptures of the Bible have somewhat to say of those <u>seven kingdom</u> <u>mountains</u> which would rule the earth. God does give various descriptions of the natures of these kingdoms which would dominate the earth for many centuries. All would be Gentile nations and kingdoms. Daniel got a glimpse of 4 of these kingdoms while dealing with Nebuchadnezzar's dream. The King's dream begins with His Babylon, omitting Egypt and Assyria, since their dynasty's were already ended.

Daniel 2:31-45 relates Daniel's interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream of a great image. The image had a head of gold, breast and arms of silver, belly and thighs of brass, two legs of iron, and feet of part iron and clay. It tells us of four kingdoms, from that time on, which would dominate the earth. (If not familiar, now would be a good time to read it again.)

Daniel said to the King, Nebuchadnezzar, "Thou, O king, ...art this head of gold (v.38),

[&]quot;after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee (v.39 ...Media-Persia, Dan.5:28),

[&]quot;and another third kingdom of brass(v.39 ...Greece, Dan.8:20-21),

"and the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things; and as iron that breaketh all these, shall break in pieces and bruise."

(v.40) ...non-biblical history reveals plainly that the next world-wide kingdom after Greece was the Roman Empire.) The fourth kingdom was to be divided, (v.41) and be partly strong and partly broken because of the iron mixed with the potter's miry clay (v.42) in the feet and toes. The Roman Emperor Constantine performed that very division when he move the capitol of the Empire to Constantinople. This formed an eastern and western division of that empire.

Daniel revealed to the King that in the future **another kingdom**, represented as **a stone**, would be cut out of a mountain and fly through the air and strike the image upon it's iron-clay feet and toes. The image of gold, silver, brass, and iron would then be broken by the stone into fine pieces and blown away by the wind. (v.34,35) The stone kingdom (v44) would be set up by God, and not man, and would break these Gentile kingdoms into pieces, ...thereby bringing them to an end.

God said that four great kingdoms would rule over the earth **from Daniel's day until the endtime**: Babylon, Media-Persia, Greece, and The Roman Empire. Secular history verifies these very events. However, *...since* God said that 4 Gentile Kingdoms would rule the earth until the kingdom of God appeared (the stone kingdom) *AND since* we know that the fourth Roman Empire kingdom, came to a political end about 476 AD.;there is a question which needs answering. Where is the 4th kingdom now?

We know the Kingdom of God has not physically appeared; (even though "it has come without observation, ...in righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost."),so Where is the 4th Gentile Roman Kingdom? God said in the dream that the 4th kingdom would exist as iron and later as iron mixed with clay, until the stone kingdom came and broke the image's kingdoms to pieces and blew them away. Where is the Roman Empire kingdom? Politically it no longer exists. But, religiously and spiritual it is still here! Politically it has ceased to exist; but, religiously and spiritually the 4th Roman Gentile kingdom still exists exerting influence in the earth.

We will explain in more detail during Daniel's vision of the 7th chapter; ...but, here is what happened.

The Roman empire fell in the 5th century. When Pagan Rome ceased to exist as a political force in the earth, <u>the spirit of Pagan Rome continued on in a religious form.</u> It continued! The pagan-political spirit of the Roman Empire shifted into a spiritual and religious system called... The Roman Papacy. The

political system of the Caesar's was toppled, ...but **the religious system and spirit of Rome remained intact,**it went into the Roman Church, which had already begun at that time to exercise itself with political powers, ... thus the Christian? church simply filled in the vacuum. And before too long the church was exercising both religious and political powers.

Spiritual Rome lives. The Roman Empire exists now in a spiritual medium and affecting your and my spiritual life more than most comprehend. In later centuries it evolved into what became known as the Roman Papacy or the Catholic Church. (But, would later metamorphose again) The 4th Kingdom does exist today. It did a shift, from Pagan Rome to Papal Rome. You might call it a form of spiritual possession.

The spirit of Pagan Rome lives on today within the christian church-world. Many are expecting a revival of the old Roman Empire. Once you see her spiritually, you will know there is no need of waiting. **She exists today!** We will show a little more fully how this happened. Remember, the Roman Empire of the Caesars was the 6th mountain head kingdom and the Roman Christian Papacy is the 7th mountain head kingdom. The first six kingdoms were all clearly pagan while the 7th kingdom called itself christian. They are all of the same religious spirit of unfaithfulness to God our creator.

But, do not forget,....There was an 8th Kingdom to come, of the previous seven.

DANIEL'S VIEW OF THE KINGDOMS

Daniel the 7th chapter gives a little more insight into Mystery Babylon's disguise as she rode upon the civilizations of history.

This time Daniel has a vision and watched as four beasts came up out of the sea as the winds blew upon the waters. (v.3) The angel said "These great beasts which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth." (v.17) He saw:

1st a lion with eagles wings
2nda bear with 3 bones in his teeth
(kingdom of Babylon)

3rd4 headed leopard with 4 wings terrible beast
(kingdom of Greece)

2nda bear with 3 bones in his teeth
(kingdom of Medes & Persians)

4th ten horned dreadful and terrible beast
(the Pagan Roman Empire, v.4-7)

The 4th beast is the focus of the 7th chapter. Daniel had never seen anything like it or else he would have been able to identify it by name.

"a dreadful and terrible" beast with "great iron teeth", (iron was the metal of the image's legs, the 4th kingdom in Daniel 2).

"It devoured and brake in pieces and stamped the residue with the feet of it." ...a description of the conquering Roman Empire.

"It was diverse from all the beasts that were before it." No animal God had created could portray its nature and character -- as did the lion, bear, and the leopard. This kingdom was Satan's creation.

"and it had ten horns. (v.24they represent 10 kings or the 10 divisions of the Pagan Roman Empire at its fall: (the Anglo-Saxons, Burgundians, Huns, Heruli, Lombards, Franks, Ostrogoths, Suevi, Visigoths, and Vandals).

PAGAN ROME BECAME PAPAL ROME

"There came up among them another little horn". As he watched, an 11th horn (v.25 ...another king arose among them, an 11th rose up among the ten (v.8), ...the 11th horn represents the Roman Papacy) This verse of the ten horns and the 11th little horn which came up and plucked-up three horns represents the political events which came about within a century of Rome's fall in 476 AD.

The **ten horns represent the ten divisions** which the Empire became when it fell. The little horn represents the Roman Papacy which allowed the religious and political life of the spirit of Pagan Rome to continue. This is where the Roman Empire **shifted into being both a political and spiritual force**. Here is a simple explanation of how the shift occurred and why the 4th Kingdom of Rome presently continues to dominate and conquer the earth, even in the 20th and 21st century. However, now it conquers in a religious and spiritual manner.

The transition of the spirit of Pagan Rome into the christian church was given extra energy when Constantine proclaimed the Edict of Toleration in 313 AD. This decree stopped all persecution of the christians throughout the empire. It brought to an end persecutions which had battered the christian community for more than two hundred years.

Persecution ended, ...churches were re-opened, ...new buildings erected, ...state sacrifices to pagan gods were stopped, ...many heathen temples were consecrated as church buildings, ...churches began to receive state financial support, ...clergymen became a privileged class, ...the church could even use the state military to enforce religious decrees, ...crucifixion was abolished, ...Sunday was proclaimed a day of rest,in fact, membership in the church was sought as a way to gain social and political influence. Christianity had moved from the

outcast religion of the empire to ... Christianity - the New State Religion of Rome.

It was all due principally to one man,Constantine. While he was attempting to militarily solidify his position as emperor, he said he saw a cross in the sky and was told to conquer by this cross. So he changed his military insignias to a cross, won the battle and became a convert of the christian faith.

With the concern of persecution over, it was not long until Constantine had to deal with the bishops who now had time to focus upon doctrinal debates which had been dividing the christian community. With the great influx of Gentile converts over the past 250 years, the church was no longer Jewish in its thinking and doctrines. The church now contained some of the best **Greek educated minds**, who began to teach doctrines and concepts contrary to those taught by the New Testament apostles. Thus, factions formed and began to debate.

In a few years, Constantine realized that his new state religion, Christianity, had factions and strife in it which were not promoting unity in the empire. Thus, he began to convene religious councils to work out these issues and to bring unity to the state religion. Some of the bishops knew Constantine was going to use political and civil muscle to stop the bickering and bring a united faith to his Empire. Those bishops and leaders knew that whoever persuaded Constantine of their religious correctness would have the backing of the political and the military machine of Rome. And so it happened.

Constantine was going to be the turning point for the Christian faith in more ways than one. Not only did he stop the imperial persecutions of christians by making Christianity the state religion; **But**, **He opened the door for a new type of persecution for christians**. *One believer persecuting another believer*. This came about from councils which Constantine called and required the bishops to attend. These councils resulted in many believers and churches losing their property and civil rights. The winning Bishops and leaders labeled the losers as heretics, and even required re-baptism and re-ordination of all those who did not agree with the "trinity" concept of God and the trinity mode of baptism. **The 325 AD. Council of Nicea** was the principal turning point in the debates. It was the beginning of christians with more political muscle out-lawing all other christians who disagreed with what the leaders deemed religiously correct.

It was not long until the Empire's new state religion began to take on a more Pagan Roman attitude. Why? The Roman Church contained **the old Harlot Spirit of Pagan Rome**, in a way it became demon possessed. It all came so natural. The masses were joining the church by merely confessing a creed, rather than by true repentance and being born again of the water and the Spirit. (John 3:3-5)

So Constantine did Christianity a service by ending the persecutions; ...but a dis-service by wedding it to the political-religious machine of the Empire. Worship services became less spiritual, as pomp and ritual were more accented. Gradually, old Roman pagan forms, images and rituals which Romans were already familiar with were given change-of-name face-lifts as they were brought into the church. This allowed popular heathen festivals to become religious christian church social events.

Later Constantine moved the capitol of the Empire to Constantinople. This left the Bishop of the church in Rome as the most influential and powerful figure in that area. In time, Rome fell to the barbarians. Rome politically existed no more. Rome was divided into 10 territories or smaller kingdoms. That is when the Beast had ten horns. But, remember;the spirit of the Pagan Roman Empire shifted into the new power that was exerting more and more control over the old capitol of Rome. Rome's Bishop or Papa would get stronger and stronger.

"and it had ten horns. (v.24 ...they represented 10 kings or the 10 divisions of the Pagan Roman Empire at its fall: the Anglo-Saxons, Burgundians, Huns, Heruli, Lombards, Franks, Ostrogoths, Suevi, Visigoths, and Vandals).

But, this did not last long. Three of the ten rulers would not submit to the bishop of Rome. They resisted the bishop of Rome who was accustomed to having authority and things his way since Constantine divided the empire. So he used the military strength at his disposal and had the three rebellious territories conquered. These three refused to submit to his brand of christianity, thus they were *plucked up* by the Bishop's political, and military might.

"before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots" ("...whose look was more stout than his fellows" v.20) This 11th horn king tore 3 of the 10 horns out by the roots. (v.7-8) {v.24 The Roman Bishop Papacy toppled 3 kingdoms :the Vandals, the Heruli, and the Ostrogoths.}

The beast became truly diverse as a religious-civil, and church-state power. It began to persecute and torture all who would not submit. Thus, **the false church vine**, got control of the name,christian. The Roman Catholic Papacy became the receptacle of all the Paganism which was Rome and fostered if off on the world as Christian. Pagan Rome became Papal Rome. The Spirit of Pagan Rome simply shifted into the christian arena as Papal Rome. Thus the 4th Iron Kingdom of Nebuchadnezzar's dream continued to dominate the earth. The 4th kingdom was still alive. And Daniel was told even more.

"behold in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking

great things, ...And he shall speak great words against the most High and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws:" (v.8,25)

The 11th horn (v.25), the Roman Papacy, spoke great words and became more stout than the other kingdoms. In time he spoke against God, wore out the saints, and changed times and laws. He became full of him-self.

WEARING OUT THE SAINTS

Daniel saw a power emerge which would get a reputation as a destroyer of saints. The blood of God's people would flow as never before. Pagan Rome had tried to exterminate New Covenant Christianity by it's many purging persecutions of the Christians. They began with Nero in 67 A.D. and continued through Diocletian's persecutions which began in 302 A.D.

However, history reveals that the Roman Papacy Catholic church exceeded Nero's & Diocletian's persecutions in churches? systematic, barbaric torture and murder of those who confessed Jesus Christ in opposition to the Papacy's perversions of worship and scripture. This continued for well over 1200 years.

The Mother Harlot Spirit became intoxicated on the blood of martyrs as she declared an "open season" on all people she labeled as ... "heretics". (The true Christians attempted to abide in the Apostles doctrine of the New Testament). All of this transpired with the sanction of the Roman Catholic Church. History records how Catholic clergy-men and church men empowered civil-servants who then burned, massacred, hacked, hunted, butchered, shot, stabbed, drowned, beheaded, quartered, impaled, buried alive, baked, threw from cliffs, starved, suspended, stuffed, blew up, ripped, dragged, bored with hot irons, choked, trampled, and performed other unmentionable barbarities upon men, women and children who opposed Rome's Catholicism and brand of Christianity.

Roman Catholic Inquisition efforts were made to extinguish the Waldenses, the Lollards, the Bohemians, the Hussittes, the Huguenots, and other innumerable Protestants. It has been estimated that close to 50 million souls were killed under the direction of the Roman Pontiffs. The executioners of this torment and torture were given absolution of all their sins and a promise of immediate entrance into heaven if they should die in the pursuit and murder of "heretics". Sounds similar to other religious tenets doesn't it. Remember It's all of the same religious mystery iniquity Babylon spirit, regardless of the name or culture or generation.

Truly for well over 1200 years the Great Whore "wore out the saints" and

became "drunken with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus." (Rev.17:6)

CHANGING TIMES AND LAWS

She changed numerous doctrines to suit her fancy and labeled them God's laws. All religions and religious systems do that. The doctrines which surfaced from the clergy of the Roman Catholic Papacy had very little in common with the good news preached by the apostles and disciples of Christ in the book of Acts and the New Testament Epistles. In fact the new doctrines of "that church" resembled MORE those of the Mystery Babylon Religion which had expressed itself in the polytheism of Pagan Rome. A simple glance at history reveals a christian church so **unlike** the "Acts Church" and **so Like** Roman Paganism!

The following are some of the rituals which were brought into "that Roman church" and given the label of Christian: Mary worship, Mother-child worship, prayers to dead saints?, prayers for the dead, purgatory, the christianizing of Pagan holidays as Easter, Halloween, and Christmas, worship of statues, signing of a cross, tri-theism, trinity, celibate priesthood, mandatory worship on Sunday, laymen forbidden to read the Bible, traditions were declared above Scripture in authority, the immaculate conception of Mary, the confessional, professed power to forgive sins, church membership by baptism, and on it goes.

All of these were of pagan origin, yet they were clothed with Christian labels and declared inspired of God. Nothing could have been further from the truth.

It was the Mystery Harlot's work to bring God's people into judgment for "eating things sacrificed to idols" and to "committing fornication",spiritual unfaithfulness to God's word. (Rev.2:20)

The saints were "given into his hand until a time, times and a dividing of time" (v.25) or 3 and 1/2 times. (representing 3 1/2 years of 360 days each,which equals 1260 days,3 1/2 X 360 =1260) And if each day represents 1 yearthen it equals 1260 **years** of prime domination and torture. (Remember, 40 days spying out the land translated into 40 years of wandering in Num. 14. See Rev.12:6,14, ...to equate 3 1/2 times with 1260 days)

History shows all too clearly that for well over 1200 years, the Babylonian Religious spirit of confusion manifested itself through the Roman Papacy Catholic christian church system of rebellion against God, his name, and his saints.

This continued until the Mother Harlot's Roman Catholic church system was dealt a staggering blow by the preaching of men during the Reformation in the

sixteenth century. The good news gospel of Jesus Christ was preached in the earth by men un-afraid to challenge with their Sword of the Spirit, the word of God. Their sword wounded that dreadful beast in it's 7th head. Apostle John was given an even deeper insight into the Mystery Babylon Spirit while he was upon the isle of Patmos near the close of the 1st century. A portion of it is recorded in Revelation chapter 13.



Mystery Babylon

The Great Whore

The Mother of Harlots

"The Beasts of Revelation"

Chapter 4

Come with me and I will show you the punishment of the great harlot who sits upon many waters. With her the kings of the earth have committed fornication and the peoples of the earth were intoxicated with the wine of her fornications. So the angel carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness where I saw a woman sitting upon a seven headed, ten horned scarlet colored beast which was full of blasphemous names. She was dressed in purple and scarlet red color, gilded with gold, precious stones and pearls. In her hand she held a golden cup which was filled with the filthiness of her fornications. Upon her forehead was written a name:

MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH

I wondered greatly as I watched this woman who was drunken with blood of saints and the martyrs of Jesus. Then the angel said to me: "Why were you astonished? I will explain to you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her which has the seven heads and ten horns. The beast which you saw, was, is not, but shall come up out of the bottomless pit and go into perdition. This calls for a mind which has wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits. They are also seven kings.

Five kings have fallen, one king is, and another king has not yet come; but when he does come, he must remain for a little while. The beast who once was, and is not, even he is the eighth. He belongs to the seven and goes into perdition. The angel said to me, "The waters upon which you saw the prostitute sit are peoples, multitudes, nations, and languages. The woman you saw is the great city which rules over the kings of the earth." (Paraphrased excerpts from Revelation 17)

THE BEAST SHE RIDES

"There are seven kings: five are fallen",...

The angel said that the mind which has wisdom should understand that, ... "the seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth" (Rev.17:9) It may have some fulfillment in "the seven hills of Rome" or Jerusalem. However, the seven mountains on which the woman sits are seven kings and their kingdoms, (Rev.17:10) ... not one city. Seven great kingdoms or civilizations have dominated the earth during the times of God's dealing with his elect and chosen people; from Abraham to the present. The angel said in 17:10:... "there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space".

He was saying that 5 kingdoms had fallen or ceased to exist at the time of John's visitation in A.D. 95? They were: 1st-Egypt, 2nd-Assyria, 3rd-Babylon, 4th-Media-Persia, and 5th-Greece. Each of these kingdoms had in the course of history, up to that time, had been a world power and ruled the earth, but each had been conquered and replaced by the next.

"And one is"....

The 6th kingdom to rule the earth was currently at that time in control and exercising dominion upon the nations. It was the pagan Roman Empire of the Caesars

"And the other is not yet come",...

The 7th kingdom to rule the earth would not come upon the world scene until years after AD. ?95. This 7th kingdom has become known as The Holy Roman Empire or the The Roman Papacy. The Roman Catholic church represents the fullness of manifestation of the 7th head or 7th kingdom. (We can not take the time or space to explain this more fully, but a little reading in any thorough history text which surveys the Civilizations of Man will make this evident. Approach it prayfully and ask God to show you.)

"And the beast that was , and is not, even he is the eighth and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition." (v.11)...

The power of this beast would know a time called, "is not", ...pointing to a time when its influence and ability to dominate and exert authority would not exist, or be taken from it. Yet, its ability to exert its power and authority in the earth would

return, "and yet is", "shall ascend out of the bottomless pit."
Thus, it would fade away for a while into the shadows, but would later return.

All of this speaks of forces operating upon the affairs of humanity beyond the scope and limitations of one historical figure, city, church, or government. Yet, most assuredly, this Mystery Harlot manifested herself religiously during each generation by acting out her nature and purposes through **specific** individuals, cities, churches, and governments.

The Great Whore, the mystery Babylon spirit, has existed and ridden through every age and civilization since the tower of Babel age. She represents the influence of religious confusion among Pagans, Jews, and Christians for false worship, deceit, corruption, rebellion, fraud and unfaithfulness **during each** of the earth's seven great civilizations within which God's COVENANTED people lived.

It is one religious spirit system regardless of it's labels or doctrines. One system of idolatry, rebellion and adultery against God and his will. These 7 kingdoms, civilizations, or mountains of this 7-headed devilish power have served the Mystery Harlot faithfully from culture to culture even as men and women of this 20th century yield themselves to shape THE EIGHTH BEAST.

JOHN'S VIEW OF THE BEAST

Over 500 years after Daniel's experiences, Apostle John was given, for the New Testament church, further insight into the SAME power that Daniel saw in Daniel 7. Only John witnessed more detail and a broader description of the **11th horn spirit**. Notice the parallels.

John, in Revelation 13, saw also the sea; but, this time only one beast came up. "And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns.." (v.1) Yes, this is the Great Whore's Beast of Rev. 17. This beast was a mixture of some leopard (Greece), some bear (Media-Persia), and some lion (Babylon) (v.2), which represented those peoples and nationalities which composed Pagan Rome and later composed Pagal Rome.

This beast was almost a duplicate of the Devil-Dragon of Rev. 12:3,9. "And behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns." The same scarlet red color and the same number of heads and horns: "that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world." (12:9) It was Satan's instrument by which he could manifest himself within the nations of humanity. Satan's earthly vehicle was injected with the Devil's own "power, and his seat, and great authority." (v.2)

Notice what John sees happen to one of the heads. "And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast." (v.3) Though one of the heads, or one of the kings or kingdoms of the beast (17:10) was struck a death blow -- it healed itself, greatly astonishing the earth. The head which was wounded unto death was the seventh head kingdom. More on that a little later.

Just as the "little horn" of Daniel 7, the 11th horn, was given a mouth to speak -notice the parallel revealed to Apostle John. "And there was given unto him a
mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; andhe opened his mouth in
blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them
that dwell in heaven." (v.5-6) A very stout fellow. He speaks blasphemy even
against God.

Remember the phrase "wear out the saints" from Daniel 7? "And it was given unto him to make war with the saints and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations." (v.7) He likes to make warfare and war against God's people. He likes to see their blood flow.

There is also a parallel dealing with the span of time this beast would reign. Daniel said "time (1) and times (2) and the dividing of time (1/2)" in 7:25 {that is 3 and 1/2}. John saw his beast reign; "and power was given to him to continue forty and two months" (v.5). {42 times 360 days per year = 1260} {time, times and a half (dividing) time equates to 1260 -- see Rev. 12:6,14}

We can use Numbers 14:34 and Ezekiel 4:6 to equate 1 day to 1 year yielding 1260 days in terms of 1260 years. {Remember Israel wandered 1 year for every day they spied out the land -- 40 days turned into 40 years}

The head which received the wound, the kingdom which received a death blow and was healed is the power which reigned, dominated, and wore out the saints through persecution and war for well over a twelve hundred years. Do a little reading concerning church history and you will find a kingdom and power which came after Pagan Rome that fulfilled all of Daniel's descriptions of the "little horn". John's beast with the wounded head. It was the 7th head of the Harlot's beast: The Roman Papacy or the Roman Catholic Church. Remember the 7 heads represent the 7 great kingdoms which have existed upon earth (Rev.17:3,9,10) and carried the Spiritual Harlot throughout her journey. They are: 1st-Egypt, 2nd-Assyria, 3rd-Babylon, 4th-Media-Persia, 5th-Greece, 6th-Pagan Roman Empire, and the 7th-Roman Papacy-Catholicism.

John received revelation on the isle of Patmos of the future -- not the past. John was aware of history; but, Jesus was revealing what the church would go through. The time factor referred to the future kingdom that <u>was to come</u>.

Remember, the angel said, "There are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come..." (17:10) A wound was coming in the future to the head of the beast which was ... "not yet come". The same head or kingdom which would war against God's people for over 1200 years. The 7th head of the beast was wounded unto death. God sent a death blow to the Roman Papacy-Catholicism.

A WOUND BY THE SWORD

"The Beast that was and is not"

The angel told John in Rev. 17:8 that the Harlot's Beast which carried her would for a period of time be out of the seat of authority, "was and is not". It "was" in power and authority, but for some period of time it "is not". But it would return, "yet is, and shall ascend (though it is not) out of the bottomless pit". What happened that caused this interruption in its domination of the earth? The Protestant Reformation.

"And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast." (Rev.13:3)

We are not presently in the 1260 days (years) period of supreme rule and iron-teethed domination of the 7TH Head, Mystery Babylon Harlot-Beast system of Revelation 13:1-8. That period of wholesale blood-letting by the 7th head Roman Catholic Church is over! That oppressive 7th Head expression of Satan's Beast-Harlot system during the Dark Ages was WOUNDED and crippled by a Sword wound.

About 500 years ago Satan's saint-killing machine, the 7th head Roman Catholic kingdom was wounded (Rev.13:3) by "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." (Eph.6:17)

Martin Luther indicted the Romanish Church for her many errors as he nailed his 95 theses to the Wittenberg church door that day in 1517. He "wielded the sword of the Word" and inflicted a wound which others of the Reformation rallied around in calling God's people back to the scripture, God's Word, as a guide of practice. They exalted the written scriptures above all church systems, above all traditions, and above all religious creeds. This unveiling by God of truth, righteousness, and return to scripture -- took the reigns of control from the political-religious hands of the Beast's 7th head kingdom ---Roman Catholicism. She was wounded.

When this "Sword of the Word" death blow was struck, her influence and power to hold the world's populace in slavery was broken for a time. History records the avalanche of freedoms and free-thinking which followed closely upon the

Reformation. These freedoms included: a release from suppression and ignorance,democracy bloomed,freedom of the press,scientific discoveries multiplied,freedom of speech,a Bill of Rights,freedom of religion, and more. Of course Roman Catholicism fought back with it's Syllabus of Errors of 1864, (which were later ratified by the 1st Vatican Council) in condemning the freedom of religion, speech, press, and all scientific discoveries not approved by the Roman church. Yet truth marched on in the sun-light in spite of resistance, no longer bound to the shadows.

Though a deadly wound was struck against the Harlot's Beast system, ...**she did not die!** The Beast's "deadly wound was healed". (Rev.13:3,12) The power and influence of the Mother Harlot spirit through the Roman Catholic Church would rejuvenate over time. She did not die.

This Babylonian Religious church system did lose much of it's power to direct the political and religious climate of the earth's governments for a period of time. This period of time allowed the gospel and faith in Jesus Christ to be preached with great liberty over the globe.

THE HARLOT HAS DAUGHTERS

"The Beast that was, and is not, and yet is."....

The Reformation did not annihilate her. She simply expanded her Mothering influence. Remember John saw that she had a name written upon her forehead which said,

"MYSTERY"

"BABYLON THE GREAT"

"THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS"

"AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH"

As the Mother of Harlots, she had offspring, ...daughters, ...other religious systems which were birthed or grew out of Roman Catholicism. They wanted to grow up and be separated from their Mother, ...but not entirely. They protested, but kept some of her doctrinal stones to build their own Protestant religious dwellings, which God prohibited.(Jer.51:26) For the most part, they could not sanctify themselves completely from the Mother's doctrines and unfaithful ways toward God, ...there was just too much of Mother in them.

Each Protestant group became a carrier of Roman Catholicism's genes of Paganism. At the beginning of their protesting, the Mystery of Iniquity seeds were concealed within believers: Lutherans, Baptists, Episcopalians, Anglicans, Methodists, Presbyterians, Church of Christ, Pentecostals, Charismatics, and

etc. These daughters of the Mother Harlot system in time began to exhibit and show a greater and greater resemblance to their Mother, ...the Roman Catholic Church. The Mystery Babylon Beast system of Iniquity had found another way to reproduce and resurrect herself.

The deadly wound began to heal as the Mother Harlot Catholic Spirit transmitted seeds of defilement to mankind through her Protestant daughters. You may not be aware of the numerous religious systems and denominations which came forth out of Roman Catholicism. But, each daughter *failed in some measure*, to purge themselves completely from ALL of the Catholic Harlot's fornicating (unfaithfulness) traditions, doctrines, and creeds.

The Light of Scripture returned to the common man as people refused ... Mary worship, ...priest celibacy, ...statue worship, ...prayers for the dead, and more. Yet, they did retain ...pagan holidays, ...the trinity, .salvation without the in-filling of the Holy Ghost, ...water baptism for church membership, and the ...elevation of tradition and church dogma above the teachings of the Apostles doctrines upon which the christian church was originally established.

The daughter systems and denominations, for some reason, could not cleanse themselves from all of the fornications of Roman Catholicism. They could not wash themselves completely and thoroughly with the "Washing of the Water by the Word" of God. Each daughter system kept some measure of the Mother's tradition and doctrines which had been developed over the centuries from her pagan roots. In time the newly formed Protestant movements began to preach and disciple believers who became diluted, mixed, and mingled with such worldliness until......, it was necessary and timely for the original "gift of the Holy Ghost" Pentecostal experience of the 1st Acts Church to be preached again in power and in demonstration. It was the beginning of the 20th century.

Much of Christianity today feels comfortable with the Roman Catholic church, believing that her awesome, destructive power of the Dark Ages was broken and that she is not to be feared anymore. Much of Protestantism feel that she has reformed and that fellowship with her is permitted. Little do they realize that they also carry the same seeds (same DNA) of (spiritual unfaithfulness) fornication, as their Mother, the Roman Catholic church. They are becoming more like their Mother every day. What was once separation and division has shifted into increasing tones of compatibility and harmony, -- all within specific guidelines, of course. However, war against the saints is being perpetrated AGAIN by the Mother Harlot Mystery Babylon spirit through Her prostituting daughter believers upon *the true endtime Church of God --- The Bride of Jesus Christ!*

God saw that the time would come when multitudes of HIS PEOPLE -- those called to everlasting life in Jesus Christ -- would unknowingly find themselves worshipping and co-existing within the Mystery of Babylon religious systems of

Judaism, Catholicism, and Protestantism. Of course, beyond these three groups there still remains many pagan religions world-wide. They are called by many names, yet of the same seed root of Mystery Babylon's Iniquity, even though they do use the name of Jehovah or Christ. Nevertheless, as the Great shepherd that he is, He said he would call unto his sheep who are within all the religious systems of the earth and say, "Come out of Her My People, that ye be not partakers of her sins and that ye receive not of her plagues." (Rev.18:4) God loves his own and does not want to destroy them with the others whom he must judge in his wrath. That judgment will fall upon the whole spirit of rebellion which drives all the religions of the world whether it is pagan, Judaism, or Christian.

The Beast was wounded! But the wound is healed! The next beast is upon the stage! Another beast, ...yes, another, and the last beast! *Now..., we are in the days of the "8th beast",* ...the Lamb-like Beast of Revelation 13:11-18. She appears quite differently; yet, it is the same Mystery Harlot - Beast, ...the same Babylonian spirit of religious confusion, ...the same spirit of Catholicism, and ...the same spirit of oppression and the same spirit spiritual unfaithfulness and whoredom to our Creator. Again, whose ultimate purpose is to bring all peoples of all races, creeds, and religions into spiritual bondage.

Remember, Satan's Harlot-Beast operation has become more clever and wise over the course of centuries. The Devil's systems have adjusted and re-adjusted their schemes and manifestations to increase their persuasive powers of deception upon all the nations of the earth.

But, Praise the Lord, through the eyes of the Holy Ghost the overcomers comprehend the revealing of *the Mystery of Iniquity*. The eyes of the Spirit of Christ show us *That same spirit* of religious Harlotry against Jehovah God which has dominated ... Paganism, ...Judaism, and apostate Christianity. That same spirit *is wooing today* from the pulpits of Catholicism, Protestantism, Charismaticism, and luke-warm Pentecostalism.

We encourage you to read Chapter 5: "Smokescreening The Harlot"

Mystery of Iniquity



The Mystery of Babylon

Chapter 5 – The Eighth Beast

"Smoke-screening the Harlot"

THE EIGHT BEAST MANIFESTATION

We of the latter part of the 20th & this 21st century are facing a different image of Mystery Babylon than the image that was projected during any of the seven great kingdoms: Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Media-Persia, Greece, Pagan Rome, and Papal Rome. We are facing the Beast-Harlot's bestthe EIGHTH MANIFESTATION, "which is of the seven." (Rev.17:11) Her greatest and last deception just before she "goeth into perdition."

Deception and craftiness is one area where Satan has no human equal. He is the source of all deceit. He is subtle and a "liar from the beginning". In keeping with his known methods, Satan has erected SMOKESCREENS at this endtime to keep God's ministers preoccupied with secondary issues rather than what is primary.

<u>Thus saith the Lord:</u> The preachers today are out hunting the Beast, they are trying to find him, while all the time they are looking here and there, the Beast-Harlot has come to their very House,to their Church religious system,to their Community of Believers!

So many ministers do not understand that they should be looking for the Man-of-Sin, the Son of Perdition, the Spirit of Anti-Christ **with-in** their own fellowship.

NOW, it is just as it was with Judas, who set the pattern for the AntiChrist spirit -- He was right among the apostles -- ministering and fellowshipping with them. This unfaithful spirit is working today among the church --not the world. Don't look in the world, they are already overcome -- look among the church. Don't look among the Catholics only -- look among the Protestants, the Charismatics, and the Pentecostals. The Son of Perdition is here now -- a partaker of the ministry! (This is not a call for a witch hunt. But, when the blind lead the blind, both fall into the ditch.) The snare is laid. But do we see it?

The Mystery of Iniquity has raised smokescreens and diverted the attentions of much of the ministry to issues which keep them from ever truly focusing upon the fullness of the truth of the Great Whore Spirit in this generation. Periodic up-dates are the norm for systems which are constantly developing and maturing. Reading statements and testimonies about the Beast and Great Whore by the leaders of the Reformation are enlightening, but they are all observations,after-the-fact! They need to be updated.

Martin Luther spoke from hindsight when he made this statement in the 16th century, "I rejoice in having to bear such ills for the best of causes. Already I feel greater liberty in my heart; for at last I know that the pope is antichrist, and that his throne is that of Satan himself." The time, times and a half-time or 1260 years (Dan. 7:25) of the "wearing out the saints" phase was at that time, close to its end. Its course was almost run.

Hislop's, <u>Two Babylons</u>, is a great work of research. But it was, as all research,an exercise in HIND-SIGHT. It no doubt was inspired of God to provide us with the historical information few of us would have ever found on our own. But we, upon whom the ends of the age are come, do not have the luxury of time to wait for the accuracy of 20-20 hindsight. We must see clearly as we encounter each new facet of the endtime. Or else we will fall into deception which means in some form and degree "becoming partaker of the sins and plagues" which are falling upon Mystery Babylon at the endtime. (Rev.18:4)

We must up-date our revelation to include more than Satan's yesterday's strategies. The Protestant Reformation created a whole different image of christianity. No longer was it a "universal - Catholic" church which took all the lime-light. The Mother Church had to share the stage with all the different Protestant daughter denominations which proceeded from her. Each developed into large religious bodies of their own with members on every continent.

At the turn of the 20th century, God unveiled another phase of his purposes when He began to "pour out of his Spirit" creating another Pentecostal out-pouring as in the book of Acts. Thus, He was beginning the fulfillment of James' "early and latter rain harvests" of the earth. (James 5:7) This move shook the religious world of Pagans, Jews, Catholics and Protestants as Holy Ghost filled believers made a place for themselves upon the Christian stage. Now all three stand in the lime-light of attention in Christianity: the Catholics, the Protestants, and the Pentecostals.

If Martin Luther were here now at this beginning of the 21st century, where would he say the "seat of Satan" is NOW? Would he still point to the Pope and Catholicism? No. He would now perceive that the Mystery of Iniquity did not crawl off into a corner and die with the Reformation. She moved on into the Protestants and later into the Pentecostals. The revelation was simpler in Luther's day. Everyone pointed at the Catholic church system. But, with the addition of the Protestant denominations (Episcopalians, Anglicans, Lutherans, Methodists, Baptists, etc.) and the Pentecostal denominations (Church of God, Assembly of God, United Pentecostal, & etc) and the present Charismatic element;the picture has become diluted. Outwardly, the religious mix has changed in many ways. But, the Devil is still the most subtle beast of the field and is now smokescreening his moves. We must open up the lense and open our field of vision. There is now more in the picture. Satan is using all types of distractions to keep ministers from comprehending what he is really doing.

Since the Reformation, adjustments have been made in the christian community. Consequently, Satan made some adjustments in his Mystery of Iniquity Harlot system, too. Quotes of historical religious leaders which are several hundred years old (not Biblical quotes) are at best unable to give the whole picture of this endtime. The Holy Spirit of God wants us to

look through the murky cloud upon today's horizon and focus upon the evil behind all the Smokescreens.

BABYLON IS NOT

<u>Mystery Babylon is NONE of the following:</u> the United States of America, Islam, Communism, Satanic worship, occult, witchcraft, New Age, the Illuminati, the Masons, the Tri-lateral Commission, European Common Market, Opec-Muslim oil cartel, Economics, Council on Foreign Relations, the Bilderbergers, the Rothschilds, Humanism, Homosexuality, Abortion, Central World Bank, One World Order, New York, Los Angeles, London,and neither Iraq nor Iran. Nor is it 100% Roman Catholicism. Catholicism is only a portion of the religious harlot.

All of these have portions of manifested evil in them from Satan's designs and plots to take over the planet, BUT none of these are the sum total of the Mystery Babylon, The Mystery of Iniquity.

Mystery Babylon is none of these exclusively. Each manifests a *portion* of the Harlot-Beast's evil character; but, none are Mystery Babylon's Beast *image* today! Yes, they all represent and reveal evil on a multitude of battle-fronts. The war is greater than any specific one by itself. Truly Satan has come with "all power" in all of above mentioned perversions ...to attack the Bride of Jesus Christ from numerous directions;but, ALL OF THESE SHOULD BE LOOKED UPON AS SMOKESCREENS.

BABYLON IS

It is truly a mystery that multitudes today can not see Mystery Babylon APART FROM Roman Catholicism. Many Protestants and Pentecostals have removed from their worship much of the Pagan Rome worship practices which crept into the christian community through the Catholic church;such as Mary worship, prayers for and to the dead, purgatory, worship of images and relics, a celibate clergy, and etc. Consequently, they feel they are free of Romanism and the Great Whore Spirit.

Truly, whenever a person rejects any area of Romanish NON-BIBLICAL worship practices, he or she sanctifies themselves and come more closely to God in refusing to "eat things sacrificed unto idols". (Rev.2:20) This purifying is accomplished only by the "washing of the water by the Word", (Eph.5:26) not by man's word nor by theologian's word, but Only by the Words of God, of which the scriptures of the BIBLE are a written expression of that spoken word.

Many of the Protestants and Pentecostals have failed to rid themselves completely of the Babylonian Spirit. They are believers who have been BIRTHED into:

-wide-spread religious confusion (a multi-taste "life-saver" christianity),
-elaborate church buildings (emphasis on the physical),
-a clergy who are lords over God's heritage.
-a spirit of Nicolaitanism (a conquering and suppressing of the laity),
-denominationalism (people belonging to a click more than to Jesus Christ),
-the doctrine of Balaam (a gospel of and for financial gain),
-organizationalism (believing that God needs man to structure his church,
-church creeds with more authority than the written scriptures.. ie..
 - (tradition and what men say matters more than God's word),
-teachingsthat men receive the Holy Ghost upon simple confession

....water baptism as church membership (rather than for remission and washing away of sins) The Harlot Daughter systems have done well in terms of following in the Mother Harlot's Spirit. The Pentecostals and Charismatics, by and large, have followed suit. Just as Israel wanted a king, so they want a visible structure like the heathen nations around them. (1 Sam.8:5)

A HARLOT IN HER HEART

Where is Mystery Babylon, the Mother of Harlots today? She is simply where she has always been.

The Mystery is that she exists in the Spirit of Religious Confusion within the religious institutions, doctrines, practices, dogmas, and creeds of religious men and women as they go about their daily lives attempting to worship Almighty God. It matters not which religious garment this Babel spirit of confusion wears; whether pagan, humanistic, Judaic, or Christian.

On the surface, false religions and apostate christianity may appear different and diverse; but, ...beneath all lies that same old Mystery of Iniquity Spirit which transferred itself from Pagan Rome into Roman Catholicism. If they can not worship God according to his revealed word through Jesus Christ and his "present truth" (2 Peter1:12) or "meat in due season" for this age, (Matt.24:45)then they are worshipping under the influence of the Mystery Whore's fornicating spirit.

Worshiping Jehovah God in doctrines and practices that are foreign to the foundations *laid by Jesus Christ and Heavenly Jerusalem's 12 apostles of the Lamb; ...* places believers and non-believers in a state of unfaithfulness, or spiritual fornication and adultery toward the God of creation. They can't be true or won't be true to the WORDS of their creator GOD! They are just like many Old Covenant Jews who exalted their traditions and creeds ABOVE GOD'S WORD,thereby making the "Word of God of None Effect". (Mrk.7:13)

They are always deviating in some respect from the preached word of the New Testament church written in the Bible. They won't be bone of his bone or one with HIS WORD; always holding out for the WORDS of their preacher or the words of their religious church system above the WORD OF GOD. Thus, the Mother Harlot is alive and well. The Wound has Healed! The same pagan nature and character Satan injected into Catholicism was transmitted into the hearts of Protestants, Pentecostals and Charismatic believers. Those same traits are manifested from those who can not exclusively attach themselves to God's Word.

CAN YOU SEE HER?

She has found an especially fertile ground within the United States and it's religious denominations, institutions and creeds: Catholic, Protestant, Charismatic-Pentecostal, luke-warm Pentecostals, and etc. The Harlot Spirit is upon all religious people who say they love the Lord Jesus Christ, but are entrapped and ensnared by Mystery Babylon Religion. They either can not OR, will not come to the same gospel and "the faith which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 3) of the New Testament.

The day is rapidly approaching when voice and light of the Christ's good news is withering away from the Great Harlots religious system. Mystery Babylon has fallen. She is the cage of every unclean and hateful thing which God & the Lamb abhor. The nations of the world are drunk and intoxicated by her fornicating unfaithfulness. God's present cry is "Come out of her my people, that you be not partakers of her sins and her plagues." Rev 18:4 Sometime in our

immediate future his time of patience will cease. The light and voice of the bridegroom and the bride (Christ and his true children) will be turned off and the light of God turned out. He will no longer be spiritually speaking and working in their religious systems. God did it in the O. T. unto his natural seed Israel. (Jer 7:34, 25:10) Shortly, He will do the same to all those who are His Spiritual seed in Christ by new birth (His Spiritual Body) and to those who portray themselves as members of his called out body. He knows them who are truly his.

We do not insinuate that these people do not love Jesus. They do! However, they are just like a woman who loves her husband; but, if another man makes advances upon her she will climb in bed with him, too. She just can't seem to be 100% of the time faithful and true to her husband. And so is it with this Harlot daughter spirit; it just can't be TRUE to the HUSBAND ALONE,... to JESUS CHRIST alone, ...to the WORDs OF GOD alone. SHE KEEPS HAVING RELATIONS WITH OTHER "WORDS" which are not GOD'S WORDS. She keeps deviating from the spoken and written WORD of GOD, ...fornicating a little here and a little there. If they could only imitate their 1st century brethern who "continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine". (Acts 2:42) We are speaking of the 12 New Testament apostles, not those who came years later and called themselves apostles.

Therefore, it becomes more clear why God has spoken, "Come Out of THAT Spirit....COME OUT OF HER *MY PEOPLE*!" (Rev.18:4)

We encourage you to read: Chapter 6: "Two Cities: Two Women"



Mystery Babylon <u>Chapter 6</u> "Two Cities" "Two Women"

prepared by LandMark Ministries

IT'S A TALE OF TWO CITIES

Let's compare and contrast the TWO WOMEN, the TWO CITIES which the book of Revelation sketches. One is a whore (Rev.17-18), while the other is a Bride. (Rev.21:9-27)

Neither city, *Mystery Babylon* nor *Heavenly Jerusalem* politically existed as literal cities in the past, ...nor in the present. (Take note that Babylon and Jerusalem were both literal cities at one time, but neither is Mystery Babylon nor Heavenly Jerusalem.) Both are spiritual habitations and are called by the names of historical earth cities, which once did literally exist, so that we might understand somewhat of their natures. (Iraq is not Mystery Babylon any more than present Jerusalem, Israel, is Holy unto the Lord!)

THE CITY OF JERUSALEM

Holy Jerusalem (not in Palestine), is the Bride, the Lamb's wife and she is a spiritual city from "above" and "is the mother of us all." (Gal. 4:26) She is not a

natural city. Spiritually she is described with streets of gold, gates of pearl and foundations of precious stones which contain the names of the twelve Apostles of the Lamb. This wife is adorned with glory, as a bride for her husband, as she descends from heavenly places in God. (Rev.21:2,9,10-21)

The adorning of Holy Jerusalem, the Bride, includes a great, high wall which encloses Her. Each of the four walls that surround her, have three definite entrances, which gives Her 12 Gates. Besides walls and gates the Bride has measurable qualities; such as 12,000 furlongs and four-square. (Babylon has nothing measurable about her; no walls, no gates, no boundaries, no limits, wide open to any creature who wishes to pass through.)

This holy bride represents those who have been espoused unto Christ (2Cor.11:2), who have made themselves ready to be clothed with the fine linen of the righteousness of saints (Rev.19:7-8) and who have built upon the foundation of the 12 apostles of the Lamb (Rev.21:14). Being espoused to Jesus Christ, ...whose "name is called THE WORD OF GOD" (Rev.19:13), means that the church or bride of Christ is married unto the WORD OF GOD. This does not happen physically. Nor does it happen by scholarship or theology. It is a spiritual relationship.

Being married to Jesus, the Word of God, is to be "members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones." (Eph.5:30) "He that is joined unto the Lord is ONE Spirit" with him. (1Cor.6:17) Since Christ is the Word he will not join himself or become one with anyone or anything which is not The Word.

Consider this illustration. The *Word of God* will not marry a *Comic Book, ...* an *Encyclopedia, ...a Dictionary,* nor even a *Denominational Articles of Faith Handbook* -- even though all are filled with words. He will only become joined to that which is like or one with him, ... the Words of God. Thus those believers who become truly married to Jesus Christ in faithfulness and chastity are MARRIED UNTO THE WORD OF GOD. The Bride, Heavenly Jerusalem, clothes herself with His Word. This is a spiritual clothing. Much study does not clothe. It is a spiritual clothing of the heart. This spiritual bride is pure and does not accept any man's or churches' word ABOVE HER HUSBAND'S WORD....the Bible. The Bride of Christ does not accept the Word of Another AS THE BRIDE OF ADAM DID, when "the serpent beguiled (wholly seduced) Eve through his subtlety (shrewdness)". (2Cor.11:3)

She is a WORD BRIDE! She adorns herself in the simple Word of God and will not allow Satan to corrupt her as he did Eve when he changed God's Word by simply adding one word, ... "Ye shall NOT surely die"! (Gen.3:3-4) The Bride of Christ, Heavenly Jerusalem, are the undefiled, who neither work abominations or lies (Rev.21:27), and who have a right to "the tree of Life".

This is not accomplished by scripture memorization, Hebrew & Greek grammar expertise, nor exhausting theological studies of details. His words are spiritually discerned. His word is never learned by the mind or man's intellect. His "words are Spirit" and "they are Life". Religion always twists things by focusing upon the letter rather than the Spirit of the author. It is a new birth relationship.

THE CITY OF BABYLON

Mystery Babylon is the other city in Revelation. The Mother of all Whoredoms and Abominations, murders, and lies upon the earth. (Rev.17:5,18:24) She is drunk with the blood of saints and prophets. Her intoxicating wine has made the nation peoples of the earth drunk with her unfaithful, fornicating spirit. She deceived the earth with her sorceries, her religious witchcraft, and sins of rebellion as she took on the hew and scarlet color of the Devil himself,.... that great 7 headed, 10 horned dragon. (Rev.17:2-4,12:3) She became Satan's expression of pride and rebellion, bewitching God's people and merchandising the souls of men away from God.

Yes, she is a royal looking lady (Rev.17:4), garnished with gold, pearls, and precious stones. She has embellishments which are similar to Holy Jerusalem, that other city of Revelation; **but,** this Harlot has not the glory of God, nor the adorning of a virtuous Bride. She is described as a prostitute, drunk with martyrs blood (Rev.17:6), whose fornication filth is intoxicating to the kings and nations of earth. (Rev.17:2) She is a dwelling place for devils and every foul, ugly spirit and "a cage of every unclean and hateful bird". (Rev.18:2) This is not Satanism, or Witch-craft or New Age or the Occult. This is how God describes the unfaithful religious and christian church systems and those who are faithful to these systems at the time of the end! It is not a pretty picture is it.

As an unfaithful woman, her relationships **are not bound** by vows of covenant, consecration, and separation. She relates with whom she pleases,as it pleases and satisfies her. Any man or king can come unto her. She has no walls,no standardsno boundaries.

The Harlot city lies outside the boundaries of Holy Jerusalem. This identifies all those "outside" peoples, nations, and cultures, as people who spiritually live their lives on a spiritual level as "dogs, sorcerers, whoremongers, murderers, idolators, and lovers of lies" (Rev.22:14-15).

Of course, we know He is speaking religiously of "church folk" who confess one thing and live another. They said they would be faithful to Christ but their spiritual walk with God is like,a dog, which returns to its vomit to eat again that from which it was once delivered and sexual immorality of homosexuality.

....sorcery and witchcraft, which is rebellion against God's divine way (1 Sam. 15:23),a whoremonger is a spiritual adulterer and fornicator without faithfulness to God (James 4:4) and who aremakers and lovers of lies, those who love lies about God and have not the love of the truth. (2 Thess.2:10)

SPIRITUAL FORNICATION

As a fornicator, Mystery Babylon represents, religiously and spiritually, those people who fail to keep their marriage vows with Jesus Christ. They are so unlike the Bride. Of course, by now you should have realized that the nature of this Mystery Babylon Religion is found within the hearts of everyday, up-standing church members, deacons, sunday school teachers, singers, missionaries, theologians, ministers, priests, preachers, and all unbelievers who reject Jesus Christ. It is not our place to judge any individual, but to reveal the spirit which is working among those people who call themselves christian.

These fornicating worshipers of the one true God can not be recognized outwardly. But, they can be recognized spiritually by the Holy Ghost. Spiritually, they are as a woman who can't keep herself from the advances of other men, these people can't keep themselves TRUE to Jesus, true to the Word of God. They honor part of God's Word. They see no harm in mixing the Words of traditions, creeds, and doctrines of men into their worship of God. They are like a woman who is sexually immoral with other men, while her husband is at work! What's the harm? Her lusts compel her. They have a mingled, mixtured spirit.

James spoke to some of these very believers in 4:4, "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God."

To be married or espoused to Jesus, the WORD OF GOD, is to cleave to the Words of God and to shun all others.

Natural fornication and adultery speak to having physical sexual relations with someone OTHER THAN the one to whom you are married. God is the Word (John 1:1) and his people are to have an ear to hear His Words and keep his Commandments and not make the word of God of NONE EFFECT by esteeming our traditions or words, ...as the Jews did, above His Written Word. (Mrk.7:13)

Spiritual fornication is simply having a relationship with religious words, traditions, and doctrines IN THE NAME OF GOD, which did not COME FROM GOD! IT IS FORNICATION for a child of God to accept, keep, esteem, honor, and OBEY THE DOCTRINES OF MEN above the WORDS OF GOD as revealed, preached, and interpreted by the 12 apostles of the New Testament.

Spiritual fornication is to declare the salvation of Jesus Christ using a mixture *of God's words with the teachings or words of men.*

The Apostles and preachers of the Bible did not allow for many ways or other gospels which were different from theirs. The Holy Spirit instructs us through John, prior to Patmos. "We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us." (1 John 4:6) The Spirit of God also stated through Apostle Paul;"Though we or an angel from heaven preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed". (Gal.1:8)

Fornication is spiritual unfaithfulness in some measure to God's Word as preached by the 12 apostles. Israel worshipped Jehovah with a fornicating spirit upon her as the people attempted to have a spiritual religious relationship with Jehovah AND with Baal. They served God a little and Baal a little. If a woman loves her husband a little and other men a little, ...she is a whore. Quibbling whether she receives financial gain from it or not is irrelevant. She does it because she likes it. If a people serve God a little according to HIS WORD and serve God a little according to MEN'S WORDS AND TRADITIONS which the apostles did not preach, they are attempting to worship Jesus from under the influence of a seducing spirit. They are not completely true to their God!

This can not be decided by the eye or the natural mind -- for only Jesus Christ knows clearly and truly how much unfaithfulness is within any believer. It is not our place to judge our brother, But, it is our place to "try the spirit" and to judge a system or organization, or denomination by the gospel message of it's ministers. The Lord Jesus is compelling us to proclaim the reality of the existence of this Mystery of Iniquity among Catholics, Protestants, Pentecostals and Charismatics. The forewarning of the existence of this present condition provides each HEARING child of God and minister with the opportunity to seek God and become sensitive to the Lord's voice concerning areas of our Christian walk which may have become influenced by this spirit.

The Harlot city is described as, ...(1) the Mother of All Abominations of the Earth (Rev.17:5), ...(2) a reigning queen over the kings of the earth (Rev.17:18), ...(3) she who intoxicated All nations with the wine of her fornications (Rev.18:3), and ...(4) she who deceived All nations with her sorceries (a spirit of rebellion is witchcraft, 1 Sam. 15:23, Rev.18:23).

This language by the Holy Spirit does not describe one church, nor ...one city, nor ...one nation, nor ...one generation, nor ...one culture upon one continent during any one period in history. It describes the immeasurable evil and religious wickedness which originated with Lucifer and was conceived within Her spiritual

womb at the tower of Babel. Over time She, a spirit, manifested herself in an ever increasing degree, within each of the seven great civilizations which came upon the earth's political scene. From the days of the tower of Babel, through-out the Old and New Testamental periods unto the present time, ...this religious Harlot has increased in religious wisdom, accumulated knowledge, matured, and exerted greater power as the centuries unfolded.

LOOK AT THE BEAST IN OUR DAY.

We've looked at Satan's vehicles from one civilization to another as it was revealed to Daniel. The Lion (Babylon), the Bear (Media-Persia), the Leopard (Greece), and the Strong, Diverse, Dreadful and Terrible 4th Beast from Daniel 7.

We've looked at how John saw the Devil channeling his will through a seven headed - ten horned Dragon-like Beast (Rev. 13 & 17) which carried the Mother Harlot throughout her journey across the 7 great civilizations of humanity. The 1260 year reign of torture by the 7th head of the Beast, Roman Catholicism, is over. Remember that the Beast was wounded, but did not die -- its life-blood still flows. The Beast's 7 kingdoms have all had their turn upon the world scene. Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Media-Persia, Greece and Rome are all gone. However, the 7th, Roman Catholicism is still around.

But, where are we now? If each of the seven heads of the beast of Rev. 13:1-8 have all flowered and faded, what are we to look for? Where is the deception now? Deception now lies within Satan's best!

The Devil's most subtle creation of deception! There is one more beast! **The Eighth!**

We encourage you to read Chapter 7: "Unveiling the 8th Beast-Kingdom"(The Lamb-Dragon & False Prophet)



Mystery Babylon

Chapter 7

"The 8th Beast Kingdom"

The Lamb-Dragon – The False Prophet

"The Beast that was, and is not, and yet is." "And I beheld <u>another beast</u> coming up out of the earth," (Rev. 13:11)

John saw the 7 Headed Ten-Horned Beast phase pass into another. John witnessed the Roman Catholic 7th head, of the Dark Ages, change into that of another beast, ...an EIGHTH beast kingdom. It was exactly as the angel said in Revelation 17:9-11 when he said there would be 7 kingdoms and yet *an eighth kingdom at the end.* "And the beast that was, and is not, even he is *the eighth,* and is of the seven and goeth into perdition."

At this present time, mankind is facing the EIGHTH MANIFESTATION OF THE BEAST, ...OF MYSTERY BABYLON, ...THE FULLNESS OF DECEIT, ...THE FULNESS OF COUNTERFEIT, ...THE FULNESS OF RELIGIOUS CONFUSION. (Rev.13:11-17, 17:11) Satan's Harlot-Beast's ... Last and Greatest & most subtle Deception!

THE EIGHTH MANIFESTATION

Presently the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ and the whole earth is confronting the Great Whore Spirit in a manner somewhat different than our New Testament forefathers did when they fought to serve God in the face of the 6th Roman Head, and the 7th Roman Catholic Papacy Empire head. We are now facing the fullness of the Seven previous mountain kingdoms and the combined religious iniquity developed over all these centuries. As we uphold and "contend for the faith which was once delivered to the saints," the overcomers are battling all the accumulated religious knowledge, false doctrine, corruption, and subtle deception that Satan has refined to a high level of efficiency, ... during the course

of the previous 7 kingdoms. As we look out upon the religious systems of this world we are beholding the complete fullness of the Great Whore. Apostasy at its Best! The EIGHTH, "which is of the Seven."

As one looks out upon the religious systems of this earth and Christianity, ...he does not see a clumsy, antiquated, fumble-bumbling religious system. Now one witnesses Satan's proud off-spring, ...his greatest creation, ...his most elaborate, deceptive earth-wide religious system EVER. Today we are witness to the devil's finest work of art by which he captures the minds and souls of all those whose names are not written in the Lamb's *Book of Life.* Satan even has captured multitudes of the Church of the living God and holds them by deception within his Mystery Babylon Religious System. These believers are convinced they are OK. in their relationship with God thru their faith in Jesus Christ. BUT, GOD IS NOT PLEASED and Says "COME OUT OF HER MY PEOPLE". (Rev.18:4)

Satan has so many off guard. This last beast does not come from the sea of peoples, languages and nations of the earth. It is not a civil political entity as the others in Daniel 7:3 and Rev.13:1. Now men must turn, and look in a different direction, for the beast comes from another location, "out of the earth". It comes out a religious spirit rather than a political one.

It seems that most are still watching the 7th head, Roman Catholicism, while this new beast is crawling quietly and harmlessly out of the Christianitiy's religious systems of confusion. This religious conglomerate spirit we see today is composed of endtime Catholicism, the Harlot's Protestant daughters, {...the non-Holy Ghost filled believers}, Charismatics, and luke-warm Pentecostals. It is even making alliances with other Pagan religions of the earth. They all have an inspiration and relationship with God but can not come to "the faith that was once delivered unto the saints": the same gospel preached by the 12 apostles of the New Testament. From among these religious and christianism factions another beast has risen.

A LAMB - DRAGON MIXTURE

"He had two horns like a lamb and he spake as a dragon." (Rev.13:11)

A new image, never seen before, has emerged. It looks as innocent as a LAMB, but when it speaks, it will speak like the DRAGON, ...just like the Devil himself, ...just like the Beast-Harlot spoke through the Roman Catholic church (Rev.13:11-17) during the dark ages when they tortured and "wore out the saints." Yes, this religious system of Harlotry is Satan's last attempt to once more annihilate the Bride of Jesus Christ by using all religions, ...Pagan, Judaism, and Christianism.

No longer are many horns needed, ...only two, ...those of church and state, ...political and religious. The state has always worked hand in glove with the church when the Mystery Whore began to exert her influence upon the affairs of men. That's how millions of believers were martyred. Her well-meaning, but carnal-minded preachers influenced, ...coerced, ...and demanded, that certain people be classified as "heretics," and should be eliminated or brought in line with the religious norms of that day. Consequently the sheriffs, the governors, the kings, and the armies were at that time directed to take care of the so-called heretics. Studying the Dark Ages and Medieval history reveals this all too clearly. Foxes Book of Martyrs by John Foxe is an eye-opener.

A minister was put in jail in our city for displaying a banner for the Lord which said "HOLINESS OR HELL" from the courthouse during a March for Jesus Rally (which was nothing more than a parade by believers who reject the gift of the Holy Ghost and worldly Charismatics.) The preachers were offended and signed a petition to have the police put him in jail for breach of peace. Thus again the STATE did the bidding of the CHURCH. Of course you should realize that the TRUE Bride of Christ would never behave itself in this manner,only the Harlot Church Spirit acts that way. **Only she is offended by THE WORD.** The judge threw it out in this case.

A Lamb and Dragon.

What a deceptive combination. The mixing of two incompatible natures is surely a deceptive ploy to get close to the victim before revealing it's true intentions and character. The Lamb-Dragon, with the appearance of a lamb and yet the voice of a (the) dragon, is the same Harlot-Beast as before, ...only in her Eighth manifestation costume. The deadly wound is healed and the devil knows to not manifest himself as that heavy-handed Roman Catholic head which was wounded. She would be too easily recognized. Thus satan uses a new manifestation, a new face, a new beast which looks so innocent. It even comes from a new source, the earth, (out earthy-minded, carnal minded believers) not the sea as the previous beast. Nevertheless, it works! Great wonders are accomplished so that AGAIN the earth dwellers are deceived in their worship.

"And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him: and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed". (Rev.13:12)

Quietly as we speak, without fanfare, Mystery Babylon, is forming another beast system among the religious communities of the earth. Never before has their been such unity of purpose and efforts to look for common ground among <u>all</u> the religious systems of the earth. *In fact, they really do have a lot of common ground.* Just as Herod and Pilate. They became friends in the midst of Jesus'

trial and condemnation. The uncircumcised and stiff-necked always resist the Holy Ghost. Yes, there is a lot of common ground for them. But, the true Bride of Christ is pure and will have no part in any of it!

These similarities have created a formal Ecumenical move among all the denominations and religions of the earth to establish grounds of fellowship and cooperative endeavors between the Jews, Protestants, Catholics, Pentecostals, Charismatics; ...in fact, all of the world's religions. The National Council of Churches. The World Council of Churches. Even bringing in non-Christian religions. And believe it or not, even Bible believing Holy Ghost filled fundamental and evangelical churches are sending representatives to these conclaves of the blind. "Unity in diversity" some called it.

Informally, (in everyday life where people live, work, and play) Satan has used the spirit of religious apathy in the earth as an opportunity to bring the minds of all peoples, all religions, Protestants and Catholics into a greater spirit of unity and fellowship. The general consensus is that people feel that we are all God's children and religious affiliations are just our preferences in worshipping God and ...affect very little, now or in eternity. City-wide ministerial associations, pulpit-swapping, community issue involvement, special ecumenical services, inter-denominational conferences, and pulpit sermonizing have created a mental attitude of acceptance of most religious faiths as legitimate forms of worship. Both the secular and religious world, sayWe are all on different roads heading for the same destination, ...ie....all roads lead to God. (they say) All of these efforts are a work of the Mystery Babylon spirit of religious confusion to promote spiritual fornication all nations and peoples and among Christ believers.

TRUE FELLOWSHIP

There can be no fellowship outside the principles of the WORD OF GOD. Unity comes as we come to Christ and the light of his word, ...not as we come in unity with one another. "If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another." (1 Jn.1:7) This is God's program for building unity. We come into unity with one another (not with the Harlot church system) as we come into unity with the Lord Jesus Christ. Each individual believer's unity with the Head, Jesus Christ, ...brings individual members in unity with one another in the body of Christ.

One Bible teacher said, "Unity in spite of differences,... It must be done in such a way that the Baptists still have the liberty to be Baptists, the Pentecostals still have the liberty to be Pentecostals, and so forth. God wants His people to unite in warring against evil, with the peace to allow the differences to remain. This way the various segments of Christianity can work cooperatively to stop the attacks of Satan's hoardes in the areas of murder, rape, youth gangs, drugs,

pornography, abortion, and accusing the brethern."

On the surface, it seems so INNOCENT for all forms of Christianity to work together to combat social issues and sin. However, cooperative efforts between the Bride of Christ and those who resist the word of God, ...has never been part of God's program. PREACHING THE SAME NEW TESTAMENT GOSPEL THE 12 APOSTLES PREACHED IS THE ONLY WEAPON OF THE CHURCH OF GOD.

Presently the innocent Lamb phase is still being projected. However, the Great Whore spirit is working behind the scenes to quietly use her Church and State energies to lay legislative and religious programs in place formally, ...and informally within the hearts and minds of people,so that the VOICE mechanism will be in place when the Devil is ready to speak again as a tyrant.

Excesses and abuses have created an ever tightening grip of restrictions, codes, and legislation by the local and federal governments to hobble the work of God, from prohibitions and taxation to licensing. The prying eyes of the federal government (we are not excusing abuse) want to know more and more about the financial practices of churches as it limits and directs the how, when, and the where of churches. It has been happening gradually. Slowly our religious freedom to preach the gospel as the Holy Spirit directs is becoming limited.

Consider the difficulties ministers encounter in your area as they attempt to do the work of God. God's Word reveals that at the Endtime, these legislative restrictions will become so tight that doing the work of **the true ministry** of Christ will be illegal.

Buying and Selling (preaching the good news of Jesus Christ) of Jehovah's Truth in Christ will be forbidden unless one receives the mark of approval by the beast system in their hand of fellowship or in their intellectual thinking.

Our senses are being bombarded by the media in every form available to brain wash the true children of God from standing rigidly upon the same gospel as our New Testament forefathers preached. Anyone who stands for absolutes and righteousness are treated as a joke and intimidated. Those with actual Born Again experiences are being seduced from their dedication into life-styles of the worldly as though they never experienced the power of the "gift of the Holy Ghost". An ecumenical spirit has taken hold of the minds and hearts of multitudes. Preachers are preaching peace to their members and "healing the hurt of the daughter of my people". God's judgment upon their lives is and will be manifested.

It's no wonder that abortion has taken over the social landscape.

Preachers have been aborting believers for years.

They preach a little bit of the gospel to their churches and then refuse to allow them to come to birth! Preachers will plant the seed of the Word of God, but will not let them be "born again of the water and the Spirit". (John 3:3-5) Even churches who claim to be Holy Ghost baptized are filled with believers who have never "received the Holy Ghost since they believed." (Acts 19:2) They can't bring them to birth! So people learn to live in a state of spiritual limbo. Still-born in the womb. "Ever learning (ever preaching) and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth." (2 Tim 3:7) Never able to come to birth!

Shortly the Beast's New Image System will begin to exercise more power and speak just as Roman Catholicism spoke in it's persecution of the saints. Which saints? Those who will refuse to cooperate. Those who refuse to let go of the true worship and word of God. How innocent it all looks now. The Protestants will yet manifest clearly that many of them have that same murdering nature of their Mother, the Roman Catholic church. This subjugating and controlling spirit by the church systems and denominations (of course it all comes about via politics) will actually be causing the whole earth to worship the 1st beast of Rev. 13:1-7, ...The Roman Catholic Church. It all has its roots in the pagan religious confusions of Babylon.

What is also disturbing is that multitudes of the Pentecostals and Charismatics have been seduced from God's word because they were carriers of the genes, of the spiritual DNA of Rome. Elevating spiritual experience above the Truth. Believing lies.

HE MAKETH FIRE TO COME DOWN

"And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, and deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast;" (Rev.13:13-14)

One of the greatest deceptions today lies right in the heart of the christian community. God has poured out His Spirit upon all flesh. This century has seen the Holy Ghost poured out in a latter day rain of Pentecost. Now even toward the end of the century, the Spirit has fallen right among the mainline denominations. The power of the Holy Ghost and a Pentecostal experience (receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost after believing) has been received by multitudes of Catholics, Anglicans, Episcopalians, Lutherans, Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists, etc. The older Pentecostal denominations have been eclipsed by the move of the Holy Ghost among the Harlot's Protestant Daughters. This is where the Charismatic movement originated.

However, the deception that Satan has put off on the Holy Ghost believers of **all** denominational affiliations is;that their experience with the Holy Spirit supersedes the Word of God. They have the attitude that having a spiritual relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ is more important than keeping the vows of covenant. So many today have more confidence in their Holy Ghost experience than they do in the Word of God. Thus, if the Word teaches one thing and they feel that the spirit is leading them contrary to the Word,they follow their spirit.

(Can you imagine that the same Holy Ghost/Spirit which wrote the scriptures also leads believers contrary to His own Word.!? ...that's what they say!) Many feel that the Word of God does not matter, as long as the anointing is with me -- that is how many feel. They think: ...I know I feel something...I know the Holy Spirit with me, ...so I am not alone, ...so everything is ok. between me and the Lord.

That is not a good basis to rely on, any more than feeling ok. in your physical body means everything is in fine physical condition. We know that the body does not always reveal, until often too late, that cancer has devoured the body.

Being born again of the water and the Spirit, receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost after we have believed, makes us a new creature or new creation because of a spiritual birth. We become alive after a spiritual manner. But, this new life of Christ on the inside does not in any way relieve us of the responsibility of following after God's word. Much of Pentecost and the Charismatics have received an attitude of deception. They depend more on feeling the Spirit move... than they do upon the Word of God. They have received the Holy Ghost and fire; yet, somehow, they stay under the influence of the nature of the Beast, and will not become subject to God completely as a Bride should.

Receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost does not give one the right to resist God's Word. That is why deception runs deep within the church today. The temptation is to rely upon experience rather than upon the Word of God. Yet we should remember. "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." (Matt.24:35) "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." (Matt.4:4) He didn't say by every move of the Spirit or anointing that proceeds from God. That is why Jesus said in Matthew 7:22; "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity (or lawlessness)."

Why will Jesus say that? Because they relied more upon the manifestations and power of the anointing than they did in cultivating a relationship with Jesus Christ, the Word. Of course, Jesus knows everyone. But the knowing Christ is

speaking about refers to how a husband and wife know one another. Remember, the scripture says that Joseph **knew** not Mary until the child was born. There are degrees of knowing.

"Ye Adulterers and Adulteresses", ...is what James called the born again believers he was speaking to in James 4:4. James was speaking to their born again relationship or being filled with the Holy Ghost when he said "Ye adulterers and adulteresses". He was speaking to their unfaithful, fornicating spirit. Yes, they were born again children of God, just as Israelites were physically born children of Israel. A child's birth experience is in no way related to whether or not that child will be obedient and bring honor unto the Father! Just as it is in the natural, so it is in the spirit. We live in the Spirit, so walk in the Spirit.

How did these members of the christian faith become spiritual adulterers and adulteresses? James answered it when He said, "know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God." (James 4:4) Yielding to the Harlot-Beast's fornicating and unfaithful spirit is easy to do. Satan is always there to draw us away from the what God has said. As he told Eve, "Yea Hath God Said". (Gen.3:1) Satan is continually placing questions and reasonings in our hearts and minds about what God has really said. That is the Beast.

The deception is that people think they are above the Harlot-Beast's influence because they are Pentecostal or Charismatic or Fundamental or Evangelical. Not so. That is why God says, "Come out of Her My People". Come away from the Harlot and her ways. Stop walking in the nature of the Beast. Come unto me and walk with me as a Bride, pure and white. You are mine, but you must come out....or you will be destroyed when I judge the Harlot for her ways. It is truly dangerous to be anointed of God and yet walking in the falseness of the Beast-Harlot's ways.

ANOINTED BUT FALSE

Balaam prophesied in Numbers 23 & 24. The anointing upon him was truth and no lie. Read the passages and you will see. Everything he said was exactly correct. Yet, Jesus said in Rev. 2 that Balaam "taught Balak how to cast a stumbling block before the children of Israel" in causing them "to commit fornication"; ...causing about 24,000 of God's people to die from God's judgment. Jesus called it the "doctrine of Balaam" and he held it against those believers he was speaking to in Revelation 2. Thus, Jesus was not letting it slide. Balaam's anointing was true, but his doctrine was false and damnable. God makes a point to insert in Joshua 13:22 how the children of Israel brought God's judgment upon Balaam for his acts. Israel slayed him. Thus shall be the end of all who are anointed,but false in their teachings. Watch the WORD as you watch

them! Try them with the WORD! Come out of Her MY people! Or be destroyed as Balaam was.

UNFAITHFUL ADULTERERS

Being able to confess that a believer has a spirit-filled life or is "born again" is not a cure-all. A spiritual birth experience simply makes one a member of the church family of God; ...just as a natural birth experience makes us a member of our physical family. Only God knows the number of genuine red-blooded Hebrews who confessed Jehovah, ...and yet worshiped Baal. Israel was full of them. "All of them were baptized unto Moses in the cloud and the sea, and did all eat of that same spiritual meat; and did all drink of that same spiritual drink," ...the Rock, (1 Cor 10:2-4) BUT, many were overthrown and destroyed in the wilderness by God. (v.5) Why? Because God was not pleased with their unclean, lustful, fornication, idolatrous, murmuring and tempting spirit. "Now all these things happened unto them for examples: and they are written for our admonition," (1 Cor.10:11) You should remember my brother or sister, "that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not." (Jude 5)

Yes,today multitudes have sold their birth-right and experience with God for the rewards of the flesh. Each shall receive of their deeds just as our Old Covenant fore-fathers did for their wickedness. Destruction is being reserved for multitudes who confess Christ, but walk in the flesh and serve sin,no matter the depth of their religious anointing or fire-baptized experience. A Strong delusion has taken many who had rather believe a lie and be damned. (2 Thess.2:11-12) They have been overcome by a fornicating and unfaithful spirit. Come out of Her MY people! The Holy Ghost fire has fallen upon the Beast system and multitudes are staying with the Beast!

BUILDING AN IMAGE

"And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should **make an image** to the beast, which had the wound by the sword and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast that the image of the beast should both speak and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed." (Rev.13:14-15)

Make an image! Make an image! Satan has been speaking this idea for years through the mouths his religious servants and civil leaders. They do not know the source of their religious philosophy and political solutions. It started not long after the fires of the Protestant Reformation began to cool. Make an image to the Beast,to the 1st Beast of Revelation 13:1-8,to the Devil's Image in the

earth during the Dark Ages,to The Roman Catholic Church System. Make an Image! Yes, it is forming as we speak.

God made an image of himself when he created man,Adam and Eve. Of course, man was not and still is not God. But since we are the creation of Jehovah, ...we do reflect in a human way, his character, personality, mind and other attributes in our emotional, social, mental, and spiritual make-up. We have been created in his image.

All the driving forces of hell have been laboring on all battle-fronts of evil to make an image, copy or representation of the 1st Beast system **which had the wound by the sword** (the Word of God) and yet still lives. Satan yearns to have another religious-political system similar to the one which oppressed and dominated the earth with an iron hand for over 1200 years. This new image would help him express his rebellion and evil against God's creation -- man.

Jesus Christ has his image in the earth through his many-membered body, ...the church. It is the image of Christ in the earth. Satan desires, as all devils do, to have a body or vessel by which he can express his character and nature of lying and murder, ...which has been from the beginning. Thus, Satan has been plotting for centuries to bring into existence another many-membered religious-political system which is similar to or an image of, ...that *full of wonder* Roman Catholic Church System by which Satan oppressed and murdered millions. This new image system is being formed now under the careful eye of Satan and the Beast.

A NEW IMAGE

Many are watching intently for the Pope and the Catholic church to be the prime movers in persecuting the saints again. But not so. The Devil is wise.

Now Mystery Babylon the Great Whore Spirit is moving deceptively with a new beast,a new face,a new image, ...a new system,in a new way. They should be watching the Ecumenical spirit that has invaded the mind-set of the "Christian community". Look at the miraculous unifying forces which are at work among the Catholics, Protestants, and Pentecostals. The same religious forces are at work among Paganism, Judaism, and Christianism. Truly there are some amazing changes taking place within the religious systems of the earth. All of these center-stage events have created a Smorgesboard Christianity; ...all under the direct oversight of the Lamb-Dragon,the False Prophet Spirit. If you think that the winds blowing today in the mainline denominations and Charismaticism -- are of Jesus Christ, --- you need to watch the fruit on the tree.

Genuine born again believers are fellowshipping believers and ministers from

other "Christian" factions who have never known repentance. They just joined a church. Born again Bible believing ministers fellowship preachers who resist the very power of the Holy Ghost. They ignorantly acknowledge in their hearts and accept on an equal basis those whose **tenets of faith are contrary to** "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever", ...to save, fill with the Holy Ghost, heal, and deliver from sin and oppression.

Years ago, prior to the time it happened, the Holy Ghost spoke concerning a popular Holy Ghost filled minister. The Spirit <u>Called aloud "his name"</u>.... is going back into the Harlot Church System. He has been overtaken by a wealthy spirit." First reaction was to resist this as from God. However, within two years it was manifested openly that he had indeed joined himself to a non-Pentecostal denomination. Yes, that wealthy spirit drove him to acquire a great college campus and hospital and to become weaker and weaker in holiness. Today we can see in part where this road has led. One who was once a great deliverer for God's people became of a mixtured spirit as he was overcome with Mystery Babylon's Harlot ways.

As you read this, the hearts and minds of Your community are being shaped and molded by churchmen from pulpits and by the media. An image, a likeness, a copy, a system is being set up which resembles the one that devoured the earth and saints during the Beast's 7th Head's bloody war against the saints of the Dark Ages. The Ecumenical, lamb-like, innocent cry for Christian Unity and brotherhood is simply the erecting of the 8th Beast, a Church-State system similar to the 7th Beast's Catholicism. It will shortly shed it's outward trappings of innocence and harmlessness.

When it does, it will no longer operate as a Lamb, but will act as the Beast which truly it is. Life will be given to this NEW BEAST system so that it will begin to speak. It will subjugate the inhabitants of the earth unto death if they will not worship according to the New Image, according to the New System. At that time the two horns of the Lamb will reveal openly their Political-Religious character.

The Devil through the Dragon is about to speak again as he did through the 7th head, ...Roman Catholicism. Protestants, Pentecostals, and Charismatics alike are subtly being turned sub-consciously in their hearts and minds gradually back to the spirit of Mystery Babylon. People are caught in religious confusion and spiritual fornication. The Prostituting Spirit of Satan has been patiently manipulating events, creating circumstances of abuse, legislating a web of restrictions, weakening religious barriers, solidifying a mind set that we are all God's children and building cooperative ecumenical bridges. Consequently, a warming-up attitude has replaced the separatist attitude between Catholicism, Protestantism, and Pentecostalism. Of course, their are issues to resolve. But, it matters not. They will unite and are united. Everybody thinks they are a

Christian. Moreover, the Ecumenical push does not have to be coercive or forceful, because the church systems and denominations HAVE and ARE backsliding into the Devil's plot and schemes. Minds and hearts have been deceived by a false gospel. Remember the daughter of a Whore is a virgin until she comes of age and defiles herself, too.

The spirit of Ecumenicalism upon the Catholic and Protestant denominations coupled with the Lukewarm Pentecostals helped incubate the Charismatic movement which revitalized the Ecumenical movement and the informal grass-roots ecumenical spirit among the common church members.

DWELL ALONE OR A MIXTURE

The old timers used to say, "You can't tell anymore where the church ends and where the world begins." Can you?

God said that His "people shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned (woven or plaited) among the nations." (Num.23:9) Which thread is the Holiness thread? Which thread is the true Church, the Bride? Woe unto to those born again members of the Church of God who have lost their UNIQUENESS, DISTINCTIVENESS, AND SEPARATION UNTO GOD. It is most difficult to be set apart for God within the boundaries of the religious confusion upon our world today.

Isaiah said it this way, "Woe unto them that join house to house, that lay field to field, till there be no place that they may be placed alone in the midst of the earth." (Isa.5:8) Woe unto to those religious leaders who labor to combine all the Christian factions and denominational houses together. It does not have to happen formally. Informally, the spirit is taking over the philosophies and beliefs of people. It is the consequence of preachers failing to cry out for righteousness and holiness. Failing to cry, "come out from among them and touch not the unclean thing....be ye separate saith the Lord." (2Cor.6:17)

When ministers stop standing as Watchmen and fail to cry, "...Be not as the heathen...," they usher their churches right into the hands of the Devil's devices. Woe to that Harlot-Beast spirit which will not relent until it has joined all the religious fields together. Woe to those Ecumenical minded folk who will take away the right and privilege of the Church of Jesus Christ to dwell alone unto her God. Woe to those who attempt to prohibit the church from being separated unto Christ in faithfulness and holiness.

The religious confusion which has saturated the Christian community has given rise to a quiet, refined and dignified form of worship. They are not led by the Spirit of God. This type of ministry is showy and feeds pride and intellect; ...but

does little, if anything, to feed the flock of God and to heal them. "The Holy Spirit spoke that the Beast would 1st begin walking in a Methodist-type church spirit; ...where much ritual and form exist, but little life changing power of the Holy Ghost." Even Pentecostals who have been TRULY BORN AGAIN are being influence by the religious harlot spirit of this age. In fact, the Spirit said that "Many prominent ministers will fail to distance themselves from this religious-type spirit and will be defiled and overcome."

The religious confused climate of this endtime is creating a religious image which shortly will be infused with life from the church and state's two horns of power. When it does, the nominal church member, who has refused to walk out of the doctrinal and spiritual clutches of Mystery Babylon's Spirit,will be turned over to the power of Satan. Satan will enter them as he did Judas and will begin to manifest a betrayal spirit toward other Holy Ghost filled believers in Christ who refuse to submit to this religious conglomerate system's image erected to the Mystery Harlot.

A powerful religious system is taking over the hearts and minds of all men and women who do not seek the Lord Jesus Christ with all their heart. This religious spirit condones many alternative paths to God. Very little is sin. Haven't you noticed how the religious spirit of so-called Christians have made them into advocates of everything from abortion to homosexuality. The religious timidity of this ecumenical Lamb religious spirit will become less and less innocent and more and more harsh and will eventually manifest the nature of the dominating Devil-Dragon upon mankind and the Bride of Jesus Christ. (The Bride are those who preach Bible salvation and refuse to knuckle under to this ecumenical mind-set and refuse to consent that these people are true brethren).

Even now, many preachers and laity confess that they are not pleased or in agreement with their church organization's present ideology, tendencies, and actions. However, though displeased, they do not remove themselves from their present religious affiliation. *They do not run for safety!* (Ask the Lord Jesus for how to create spiritual distance within your heart and life.) They remain in a religious House that is on fire and continue to watch as it burns around them without making the effort to escape. Fellow believer in Christ, don't tarry too long or you will be destroyed as the religious systems are consumed, "becoming the habitations of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and the hateful bird." (Rev 18:2)

Almighty God loves his people and his sheep of every church affliation, BUT, ...he does not love the system of unfaithfulness from which they worship God. Thus, God has decreed that Mystery Babylon must be destroyed. He has warned his church, his people, which find themselves within these religious systems, which REJECT HIS WORD in some measure, ...to COME OUT before

they are destroyed with the System when God's spiritual bomb is dropped. Sadly, multitudes have already sealed their fate by adamantly opposing all rescue attempts by the Holy Spirit.

You are hearing the Trumpet of God NOW as you read!

Stop listening with your
Those who refuse to run for
own religious system more than

Remember, the saving of souls Jehovah God in every endtime of the age, God places



prejudices and natural ears. safety show that they love their they love God.

has always been important to generation. Now in the much emphasis upon Endtime

Events and the completion of God's Program of revelation in the earth. The prophecy books of Daniel and Revelation were written for us upon whom the ends of the world are come. Look out upon the religious endtime landscape with the eyes of the Spirit. Let the Holy Ghost speak to you of what His books of Prophecy say.

The Eighth Beast is being formed now upon the earth and is maturing to the age when it will be given truly a voice of power and authority. Once he begins to speak, it will be that old lying murderer again,He will "cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast ... should be killed". (Rev.13:15)

We encourage you to read Chapter 8: "Overcoming The Mark of the Beast".

Mystery of Iniquity

"The Mark of the Beast"

Mystery Babylon
Chapter 8

"And he causeth all both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.(Rev. 13:16, 17)

Natural – But the Essence of a Life in Christ is Spiritual

I wish to share with you **why** the mark of the beast **is not** a colossal computer, nor invisible numerals upon people's foreheads or hands, nor the use of optical scanners, nor implanted computer chips, nor buying and selling with "plastic cards", nor 'EFT" (electronic funds transfer), and not even worshiping on Sunday. There are a multitude of ideas. We must remember the real essence of a person's walk with God in Christ is spiritual, ...not physical.

Our focus will be somewhat different. We are going to approach the understanding of the mark from a Biblical or spiritual standpoint,rather than a literal one. We will attempt to look at Scripture in maybe a different way to reveal the Mark of the Beast, than the more popular and accepted dispensational one. The understanding that lies within the Bible.

The Holy Spirit's method of revealing understanding and knowledge is quite different than the usual educational methods. God's word has been written as a puzzle. It is not always sequential or in A. B. C. or 1. 2. 3. order.

God's way of teaching knowledge is mentioned in Isaiah 28:9-10, "Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine: them that are weaned from the milk and drawn from the breasts. For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little. When God teaches us by the Spirit, ..it is in this fashion. It is a revealing by his Spirit. If it weren't that way, then the theologians and language experts would have an edge over the common believer. The church is built upon the revelation of the Spirit; not degrees, ... not grammar expertise and ...not theology.

Since God wrote the Bible and gave the visions of Revelation; **He** knows, better than anyone else, what the symbolic language means, ...and in what order or sequence it all fits together. If we simply look further into the scripture, God usually tells us what the language he uses means,because he has usually expressed the same idea before, to some other people at some other time.

So we will let the Bible interpret Scripture. It will give you a completely different

picture of the Mark of the Beast than the popular one found in Bible Book Stores. So prepare yourself for maybe a more unusual look at this passage.

"And he causeth all both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond."

It is obvious the Mark affects All people at all levels of society over the whole earth. No one is exempt because of class, economic status, nor political influence.

"To receive a mark in their right hand or in their foreheads: ".

This is very similar language to that found when Jehovah instructs Moses and Israel in the keeping of the Feast of Unleavened Bread in Exodus 13:9, "And it shall be for a sign unto thee upon thine hand and for a memorial between thine eyes ...that the Lord's law may be strong in thy mouth. God shows us that when his people keep his Word, or commandments concerning this Feast, they would be marked in their hand and between their eyes (the middle of the forehead). (A spiritual mark invisible to the eye)

Another example of Marking is given in Ezekiel as the LORD is pronouncing judgments against Israel. In Ezekiel's vision he saw men walking through Jerusalem with weapons following another man who had an ink marker. The man with the inkhorn was to "set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and cry, for all the abominations that be done. (Ezk.9:4) The other 6 men were to follow the marker, killing everyone without a mark. Those that were marked by the angel in Ezekiel's vision were to be preserved in the midst of God's judgments which were to later come upon Israel during that generation. The coming judgments would effect and destroy those not marked.

Neither of the previous two Biblical examples spoke of marks or signs upon the **literal** forehead and hands. Both were of a spiritual nature, unseen to the human eye or senses, ...the results of obedience and a godly life.

In Exodus; ... keeping God's law and Word marked a person in God's eyes. **In Ezekiel**; ... the righteous people were marked with ink. Neither of these marks could be seen by people in a mirror. They were of a spiritual nature. The angels knew who to send destruction upon in Ezekiel's time. The common man could not see that mark by the ink writer. The Mark was a Spiritual Mark and Invisible to the Natural Eye.

Let me ask you a question? When God marked you as his own, how did he do it? Did he do it physically or literally? During the times of the Old Testament, men were circumcised literally, ...a mark in their flesh to show they belonged to Jehovah and were in covenant with Him. But in the New Testament, men are

circumcised or marked spiritually in their heart, without hands, ... an operation of the Spirit of God. "In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ, ... the operation of God." (Col. 2:11-12)

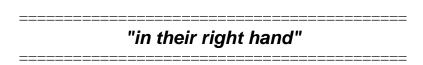
You may be aware that the scripture also says that each believer is or was sealed with God's seal or mark when each receives the Holy Spirit of promise, the gift of the Holy Ghost? (Eph. 1:13) And "The foundation of God standeth sure,the Lord knoweth them that are his." (2 Tim. 2:19) God can see the seal or mark he's placed upon his own.

In Ezekiel 9:4 the "mark' was a mark or scratching,which assured **that individual's** preservation and sealing **from** a time of judgment,the "mark' in Rev. 13:16 is also a mark, an imprinting, an etching, ...which identifies **that individual** as ...one who is linked with an unfaithful whore and sealed unto judgment and destruction. Two marks! One blesses. The other curses.

At the Endtime, those who serve God and keep his Word are sealed with the Father's Name in their foreheads. "...Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads." "And I looked, and Io, a Lamb stood on the mount Zion and with **him** a hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads." (Rev. 7:3,14: 1)

Unfaithful Religious folk are sealed with *their father's* Name *in their foreheads,* ...the Devil's Name, ..the Beast's Name, ..the Harlot's Name. Rev. 13 speaks of it; "And he causeth all both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that, had the mark or the name of the beast or the number of his name. " (Rev. 13:16-17) "And they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name " (Rev 14:11)

It does seem appropriate that God marks and seals the righteous, while the Devil marks and seals the unfaithful. **Both groups are sealed! Both groups are marked!**



In scripture, the right hand numerous times represents "strength', "power", and the "authority' of God. "Thy right hand, O LORD, is become glorious in power." (Ex.15:6) "Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand_of power," (Matt. 26:64) "and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly

places, far above all principality, and power, and might," (Eph. 1:20-21)

In Deuteronomy 33:2 the right hand represents the place from which came God's Law..."from his **right hand** went a fiery law .." <u>Jacob's right hand</u> was the instrument of divine ordination as he laid his hands upon his two grandsons and prayed for them. The right hand was upon Ephraim. (Gen. 48:13-18) The right hand (thumb, toe & ear) were anointed during rites of consecration, sanctification, and cleansing of the Old Testament priesthood. (Ex.29:20, Lev 23..)

The Right Hand is also referred to when "the **right hands** of fellowship' (Gal. 2:9) were given to Paul and Barnabus by James, Cephas, and John to acknowledge their ministry to the Gentiles. Scripture speaks of **the right hand** in relation to strength, power authority, God's Law, divine ordination, anointing for consecration, and brotherly fellowship.

"in the forehead"

The forehead, the prominent part of the head, or amid face, is spoken of in scripture as the place **where God** seals his saints for security and preservation. (Ezek.9:4, Rev.7:3) In Exodus 28:38 the High Priests mitre says "Holiness To The LORD" and was to be worn upon the Priests **forehead..** (Ex.28:38) The forehead also speaks of unholy desires and an unfaithful spirit when Jeremiah 3:3 states to God's people, that "the showers have been withholden and there hath been no latter rain; and thou hast <u>a whore's forehead</u>, thou refusedst to be ashamed."

Within the forehead of a Whore exists a pattern of values, thought-life, and a mind-set that is much different than God. In fact, that mind-set is just the opposite and is opposed to the thought-life and mind of holiness in a virtuous woman. An unfaithful woman's forehead or mind is driven by Satan's word (which is simply a perversion of God's Word) while the Holiness forehead or mind operates from God's principles.

The forehead in scripture speaks righteously to us of: ...sealing, ...preservation, ...and Holiness unto the Lord. The forehead also reveals an ungodly character; such as: an unfaithful, ...unvirtuous, ... and a whorish spirit.

Isaac's bride Rebekah was marked as His bride in her Hand and Forehead or face. "At the time of the evening" Eleazar found a bride for the Master's son, Isaac, and gave Rebekah "a golden earring" (a jewel for the forehead-see Bible margin) "and two bracelets for her hands" (Gen.24:11,22) Eleazar relates this to Rebekah's brother in Gen. 24:47 when he said "I put the earring upon her face."

and the bracelets upon her hands." The son's Bride was **marked at evening time** upon her forehead and hands. It would not be surprising if Jesus' Bride does not become marked in their forehead and hands at **evening time also**. (at the end of the age)

It becomes clear from looking into the scriptures that **what God means** by **a mark in the forehead and hand** means something entirely different than what the natural, book-store prophet mind thinks. Spiritually, **a mark in the forehead**, refers to a person's values, virtues, thoughts, character, will, mind and understanding. We are what we think.

Spiritually, **a mark in the right hand** refers to a person's anointing, consecration, and fellowship. We can disagree with someone but have fellowship for a common goal or purpose.

With the religious Ecumenical attitude of universal unity within the religious and christian community today, one can see why God warns us about getting our thinking straight, and to be mindful of our fellowship. God is concerned about His church at the Endtime. God knew that many believers would become interwoven into the religious fabric of a confused corrupt religious system, ...Babylon.

(Babylon represents religious confusion which covers the whole earth and even within Christianity.)

The word Whore was the best term God could use to describe the religious apostasy of many His people. (Whore represents a female who can't be faithful to one man. This represents those believers within Christianity who can't be faithful to God's Word.) The Spirit of God condemns the religious confusion of this earth and especially of Christianity at the endtime and calls unto his people to separate themselves in thought and fellowship.

Listen to God's voice in Revelation 18: 2, 4; "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.' "I heard another voice from heaven saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues." We should see that the Endtime is a time when separation from the spirit of religious ecumenical confusion is most important for God's church. It will decide if we will be judged with the foolish virgins and the worldly confused religious spirit which works today within Christianity.

"that no man might buy or sell, .. "

A mark is given in the forehead or in the right hand to prohibit something ... **that no man might buy or sell, ..** " When we look into the Scriptural meaning of **buying and selling**_in the scriptures we again come upon a quite different merchandizing concept than that of groceries, clothing, or hardware. Watch.

Proverbs 23:23 speaks of buying and selling the truth, "Buy the truth and sell it not." Isaiah spoke of buying in 55:1, "Ho, everyone that thirsteth come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye buy and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price." What kind of water, wine and milk does God speak of that can be bought without money or price? Jehovah was **speaking of salvation** being for sale without price for all who would come and buy. A buying and selling of the truth of God is the only thing which can satisfy man's thirsty and hungry soul.

Jesus spoke of buying and selling oil in Matthew 25:9 when the five foolish virgins were told, "but go ye rather to them that sell and buy for yourselves" The foolish virgins took their lamps but no extra oil. It is understood that the oil represents the Holy Spirit and Light in scripture. In 1st Samuel 10 when Saul is anointed with oil, the Spirit of God comes upon on him. It is even clearer in 1st Samuel 16:13 that the oil represents the anointing of the Spirit. "Then Samuel took the, horn of oil arid anointed him in the midst of his brethren and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from day forward."

The Lord Jesus made it clear in Matthew 24 and 25 that right in the middle of all the endtime events leading up to the 2nd return of Jesus Christ; ...that a portion of God's people would not have enough oil for **spiritual light**. Not enough Spiritual enlightenment to keep shining brightly so they could go out to meet the Bridegroom at midnight. Due to this lack, the five foolish are instructed to "go ye rather to them that **sell and buy** for yourselves." They need something greater than kerosene lamp oil. It is Holy Spirit Oil which can not be bought at any brick & mortar store. It is that born again new creation life, which is only "sold" without price during the preaching of the gospel and is "bought" with repentance and submission to the Word of God; all without the transaction of money, ...paper or coin.

Jesus spoke of buying and selling again in Revelation 3:18 as he counseled the lukewarm Laodicean church beliervers to come and buy gold which he had for sale. "I counsel thee to buy of me", he said. Of course, it is plain that he was speaking figuratively of gospel righteousness. Jesus was not merchandising literal lamp oil. Christ has something to sell to the religious mind who think they have all the Godliness they need. He has "gold tried in the fire" which makes us rich in God and clothes us in righteousness so that the shame of our nakedness or carnality does not appear.

1st Cor 3:12 shows us that each believer can build spiritually upon the foundation of Jesus Christ in their lives. They can build using spiritual materials of value and preciousness to God portrayed as "gold, silver, and precious stones". A believer can also choose to build using perishable unstable materials of "wood, hay and stubble." The precious stones and metals can withstand the fires of God, while the other can't. The fire of God burns away impurities from the precious metals; yet at the same time the fire consumes everything of the "wood, hay and stubble."

Job saw this in 23: 10, "He knoweth the way that I take; when he hath tried me' I shall come forth as gold." The Spirit speaks in Zechariah 13:9 again of the fulfillment of God's divine purpose in out lives as of "gold tried in the fire. ".... "And I will bring the third part through the fire and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried."

Buying and selling in scripture refers to different facets of walking in fellowship with God, ...of eating and drinking of salvation's free eternal life, at no literal cost or charge, ...of acquiring the Truth and not letting it go, ...of possessing enough oil of the Holy Spirit for Light on our path during the midnight of time,of acquiring spiritual righteousness as impurities are burnt out of our lives.

The term "buy" in scripture means; "to go to market, to purchase, to create, to procure, to own by purchase". A deliberate decision is made by an individual before he or she can make a purchase or acquire an item.. That's true naturally in the world and it is also true in God. "Go ye rather to them that Sell and Buy for yourselves" (Matt 25:9) and "I counsel thee to Buy of Me" (Rev 3:18) Both of these statements are spoken to people who think they have enough of Holy Ghost anointing OIL for LIGHT to sustain them within the darkness. Yet the Lord makes it clear they need to go and acquire some more of God. Go get it! Buy it! Where?

Buying and Selling of the things of God takes place when we are seeking to lay hold upon the truth of God for our souls. This **does not** take place at Krogers, Winn-Dixie, Wal-Mart, or the Mall; ... does it. Buying and Selling of truth and righteousness usually takes place in an atmosphere or a place where the truth is being presented, taught, proclaimed or preached. Christ Jesus is the One element always present is the atmosphere of the preaching or teaching of the Word of God by God called ministers.

"no man might buy or sell except"

The power or ability to buy or sell is linked to a requirement. Everyone is restricted from buying or selling **except or unless** they satisfy the qualification.

If buying and selling refers to the things of Godliness and truth, then we can expect that there *will* be endtime restrictions ...upon acquiring the truth of Christ and God's Word.

This restriction upon buying and selling of the gospel truth of God will be placed upon people worldwide,but **not all people will submit to it.** Some will not accept this restriction upon their buying and selling; 'they will persist in buying and selling without the mark. They have "gotten the victory over the Beast, and over his **image, and** over his mark, and over the number of his **name.**" (Rev 15:2)

Many of the church will continue to preach and teach Bible salvation and righteousness, ...just as the Apostles did. And preach it just like the Bible says. Of course those who get this victory must go upstream against the majority. They will buck the down-stream flow of worldy religions and the popular majority opinion expressed in apostate churches. No matter how high the price they will not submit.

Most will submitt to the restrictions placed upon the church by the anti-christ spirit of Apostatsy; yet, they will continue to preach and uplift Jesus Christ. They will compromise the truth as necessary which will only dilute the power of Christ's message. What kind of truth do we have to share with a lost sinful world if our spirit seeks fellowship with the lukewarm Ecumenical Religious spirit and corrupt confusion which saturates so much of Christianity today? Will it have enough power to change lives and bring about a heavenly new birth within their inner spirit?

Satan's power ultimately wants to control the pulpit messenger. Once this occurs, the spiritual power to change lives is removed from the gospel. It becomes a religion, without a new birth. It becomes a mental decision, ...not a life changing crisis conversion experience. A restricted gospel is one that pleases the ears of man more than God. It becomes a message of mixture, of lust and pride without a crucified life.

Restrictions upon the Gospel takes various forms.

Some are Open and blatant restrictions; while others are hidden and subtle. *Open & Blatant Restrictions.* The Jews of the New Testament attempted to restrict the apostolic message in the book of Acts, ...but it was to no avail. Persecution nor death deterred them,they kept on telling the good news of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Ghost. In fact, the church has always progressed during adversity.

After the Apostles passed off the scene, believers were forced eventually to acknowledge the religious christian church system's power structure with it's doctrines or be deneid a license to preach the gospel. Ministers were not allowed to follow the Holy Spirit if it deviated in any manner from the precepts sanctioned by the Ruling Church Bishops and Hierarchy. If you kept preaching openly, you had to knuckle under. Millions were persecuted and martyred because they would not yield. Others went into hiding to keep the message alive.

During the days of the conception of the Methodist Revival in England; the Anglican Church of England closed its church doors to the Wesley brothers and George Whitefield. They were illegal preachers -- called "Irregulars'. So they preached 'illegally" to thousands in the fields of England, and often with persecution. They did not compromise the gospel message of Truth or there would not have been a great awakening and harvest of souls.

Hidden and Subtle Restrictions.

As the Apostles died and their influence waned, it was not long until the gospel message lost its power to change the sinful heart and became merely a religious persuasion. Many believers did not realize in those early centuries that the diluted gospel they were hearing was far from that which had been preached in the book of Acts in the power and demonstration of the Holy Ghost.

Churches expanded and proselytes grew in number. The faith that was once given unto the saints was being lost, although a gospel was being preached. The Holy Spirit exhorted them to "earnestly contend for the faith that was once delivered unto the saints." (Jude 3)

Over time, the salvation message lost the new birth experience of the gift of the Holy Ghost which came to Jerusalem at Pentecost, ...they lost that which came to Cornelius' home in Caesarea, ...they lost that which came to Paul in Damascus, and ...they lost that Holy Ghost experience which came to the Ephesians ...when the truth was expounded to them more perfectly. The gospel message became diluted or weakened in doctrine and power.

Yet the so called christian church kept preaching and expanding. Yet all the time, a similar gospel, yet so unlike, that of the 1st century church was being preached. Many knew there was a greater measure of original truth to preach, but they were intimidated by the dominating religious spirit of their age. People were intimidated by their peers, ...intimidated by the law and civil prohibitions, and by the overwhelming prevailing church system. So many who knew better just went along with the status quo; ... so as not to be singled out for harassment

or persecution.

During this 20th century we saw the churches of World War II Germany compromise with the Nazis to keep their doors open. They accepted restrictions upon their worship and the message expounding of truth. Communist Russia did the same with its State Churches. If preachers and ministries fell in line with the political winds and popular doctrines, ...their church doors could remain open. And many did; but their message became anemic and weak.Far from the faith that was once delivered to the saints.

We find ourselves Now living in times where it has become very subtle. The preaching of *the whole counsel of God's Truth at this present time* puts you in the place of less favor with the ecumenical winds which want to make all of Christianity into one big happy family. There is a universal unity spirit working among all that profess the name of Jesus. However, the Holy Spirit of Jehovah is not behind it. There is another spirit of darkness back-stage manipulating and controling what the audience is presented.

God is concerned and cries for his people to come out of this tidal wave of influence which carries men away from the truth of His Word.

Thus saith the Lord,ministry brother or lay-member ...the binds and restrictions will become more restrictive than just peer pressure or religious pressure. Each of you will have to choose to either compromise the preaching of the gospel or become uncooperative with the formal religious ecumenical community in Christianity.

Christianity's corrupt systems and lukewarm church folk work together formally and informally in one spirit to *wield pressure* against the true saints to relax their grip on the Truth. *Even a political sword (the eight kingdom)* will be used to bring the earth and the Bride into greater captivity. *Some will know better than to cooperate, but they will see no other alternative.* They will think that all their labors for the Lord are at stake.

Many won't be able to see any rational way out, other than adapting to the IMAGE which the majority of the christian community is agreeing to project. Pray my friend that you will have the power to make the right decision and to make it now. It will bring you victory. "Come Out of Her My People".

"gotten the victory over the Beast and over his mark "

Praise God, there will be those who will have "gotten the victory over the Beast, and over his image, and over his mark and over the number of his name." (Rev.

15:2) They will be of the caliber of Israel's 7000 group which God told Elijah about. God said ... **7000 have not kissed nor bowed their knee to the Baal of his day.** They will not bow to a lukewarm, mingled, mixed ecumenical apostate church spirit of this Endtime.

There is an **Endtime 7000 Club** who will **refuse to submit** to the pressure to compromise with the doctrines and prevailing spirit of most gospel churches majoring upon so many Spirit manifestations and religious trappings,yet lacking a holding to Truth, Separation, and a Cross with Sacrifice.

The mentality and heart of these **Endtime 7000 Club** members will be in the minority. They will at some point refuse that which preaches and teaches a gospel message that pleases the ears of the listeners, and satisfies the flesh; ... but does not proclaim the original message and faith the apostles preached in the New Testament. Some will be asked to step out openly on the front page of events as Elijah did. Others will be asked to hold their peace but to keep on holding and proclaiming the truth, ... although hidden away from popularity and notoriety as Obadiah was involved with.

"the hour of temptation to try the whole world"

Jesus said that there would come a time when a certain *trial or temptation* would face *the whole world*,not just one church, one city, or one nation. The way out of this trial or temptation would not be to manifest the power of the Holy Spirit; *but to live the truth of God's Word*. Revelation 3:10 expresses it clearly, "Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth."

Brother or Sister, we are at the Endtime. It is Harvest time. A time to return to the original seed. Each of us should have our spiritual ear open to the voice of the Spirit of God as he is encouraging his people to draw closer to the truth, doctrine, faith, and Spirit of the original New Testament church.

Remember no one has been able to improve upon the reply in Acts 2 to the question of "What Shall We Do to be saved ?" "Repent and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." (Acts 2:38)

Landmark Ministries ~ Landmark Church of Jesus ~ Landmark Christian School 1802 Lois Street ~ Cleveland, TN 37311 ~ 423-478-1545 www.landmarkchurch.com ~ www.lcjschool.com

You are cordially invited to worship with us in any of our services....

Wed 7pm. & Sun 10 am

We will help you apply the healing ointment of God's love and grace to the hurts and wounds of your soul through His Balm of Gilead, the Lord Jesus Christ.



Mystery Babylon <u>Chapter 9</u> "Come Out of Her My People"

It was God's will for His people to endure the judgment of Babylonian captivity and dominion for 70 years. In time God released His people from this bondage, yet only a minority (40,000+) were willing to suffer the hardships and return to their homeland and restore the true worship of Jehovah. A majority of Israelites were content to remain in Babylon with their families, homes, and comforts.

At the beginning of the 20th century, a spiritual cry of freedom touched the souls of multitudes of men and women from every corner of the globe. These heard the voice of God releasing them from spiritual Babylonian confusion which had enslaved them and their fathers for generations in Protestantism and Catholicism. Again only a minority were willing to endure the spiritual hardships to return and restore the true worship of their New Testament Apostolic Fathers. (Please don't think we are alluding to those men of the 1st four who the christian religion calls "Church Fathers") Again the majority of the church world chose to remain in their comfortable religious surroundings of Protestant and Catholic religious confusion. They failed to hear the cry to:

" COME OUT of HER MY PEOPLE"

God gave this same cry through the Prophet Jeremiah to His Old Covenant church people, Israel, who were captives of the then existing kingdom of Babylon. (Jer.51:6) At the end of the New Covenant age, this same cry was echoed again to His spiritual kingdom people of the church (Rev.18:4), who are a spiritual habitation (Eph.2:22) and have been held spiritually captive by Mystery Babylon's religious spirit of confusion. Just as God made a way at the appointed time for His Old Covenant sheep to leave natural Babylon and return to Israel; Jehovah God has opened a door for His New Covenant sheep to leave Mystery Babylon and return home.

Some look for Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom to be rebuilt in Iraq. However, men should remember that no longer does the physical hold the key to the kingdom of God; ...now the spiritual is the key. "The hour cometh, when ye shall neither in

this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem (physical), worship the Father,But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit (spiritual) and in truth.." (John 4:21-22) "...that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural, and afterward that which is spiritual." (1Co 15:46)

This city Mystery Babylon is not a physical place; but a spiritual one; ...thus it is a spiritual exodus. It is similar to the one each child of God made when they fled the slavery and the bondages of Sin when they accepted the blood of Jesus Christ. Remember how it was when you first heard the preached Word of God. It was truly a spiritual exodus and deliverance.

Moses physically led the children of Israel out of a natural Egyptian bondage. They walked out. A Physical Exodus!

A SPIRITUAL EXODUS BACK TO OUR ROOTS

Jesus Christ and the Apostles led the children of God spiritually out of the bondage of sin as they preached repentance, water baptism in Jesus' name, receiving the Holy Ghost, and living "soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world." (Tit.2:12) Men and women became believers when they accepted the "present truth" of the WORD OF GOD as it was preached to them in those early days of the new covenant. **A Spiritual Exodus!**

He takes us out of one to bring us into another. It was true of natural Israel and so it is today of spiritual Israel, the church. "He brought us out from thence, that he might bring us in." (Deut 6:23) To spiritually leave Mystery Babylon means to come away from Her doctrines, Her teachings, Her practices, and Her religious spirit which have all found their way into the fabric of the church. And just as Joseph ran physically from Potiphar's wife to keep himself pure, God's sheep, within the Mystery Harlot church world, may need to physically and definitely spiritually put distance between them and Her. How? Begin to pray and ask God to lead you to a church which preaches and contends for the same gospel as the Apostles preached in the New Testament.

The destination is the same for us, ...as it was for those natural Israelites who followed Ezra and Nehemiah out of Babylonian captivity. They went back to the land of Israel. They went back to Jerusalem. They returned and rebuilt the walls of the city of God, Jerusalem, and rebuilt Jehovah's house of worship, the Temple. They restored themselves to the land, to the city, to the temple, and to the worship which was given by their prophet Moses at the time of their deliverance from the land of Sin, ...Egypt.

The Israelite Babylonian Captives were to "Stand in the ways, and see, and ask

for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls" (Jer.6:16) They were to "Set thine heart toward the highway, even the way which thou wentest: turn again, O virgin of Israel, turn again to these thy cities." (Jer.31:21)

Zerubbabel, Ezra, Nehemiah, and all those who followed them, set their hearts toward the highway which returned them to the land of their **origins** and to the **ways** or **paths** of the law of Moses. Only in doing so could they find rest and security for their souls. *They went all the way home!*

In like manner, God calls for his Spiritual seed of Christ's blood bought born again church body to get out of religious harlotry and Babylonian confusion. He desires for them to go home, return to the land of their spiritual origins, to their spiritual roots.

What are the roots of the church? Where did the New Testament Church of God begin? Jesus, himself gave us that answer in Luke 24:47 when he said, "beginning at Jerusalem". "That repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem."

BACK TO "THAT" JERUSALEM GOSPEL

The preaching of salvation and the blood of Jesus Christ began at Jerusalem as the apostles began to carry out Jesus' instructions. John the Baptist began his ministry in the wilderness of Judea about Jordan. (Matt.3:1, Lk.3:3) Jesus Christ of Nazareth began his ministry in Gallilee. (Lk.4:14) The beginning of the ministry of the Church of God ...began in Jerusalem; ...not in Judea, nor in Gallilee.

This beginning was highlighted by the out-pouring of the Holy Ghost as Peter witnessed in Acts 11:15, "And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning." What beginning? The beginning of the Church. The beginning of this New Temple of spiritual habitation. That "sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind" came to bring the breath of spiritual life and birth to that engrafted word which had been sown in their hearts by Jesus' ministry.

As the noise of the Holy Ghost outpouring in Acts 2 spread across Jerusalem, men and women came to witness this amazing spectacle. Upon hearing Peter preach, they asked "Men and brethern, what shall we do?" The answer was given by Peter, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.Then they that gladly received his word were baptized, ...And they continued stedfastly in the apostles doctrine and fellowship,...". (Acts 2:38-42)

That is the origin and roots of the church. Those saints in the book of Acts, both Greek and Jew, were *the original church*. That 1st church was a Holy Ghost-Pentecost church. That 1st church was a Jesus church. That 1st church was a devil-casting out church. That 1st church was a Holy Ghost speaking in tongues church. That 1st church was a praying for the sick church. That 1st church was a Jesus Name church.

If we are the Harvest Generation, then we must return to be like the original church in Spirit and Truth. We are now in the time of the "FULL CORN IN THE EAR"; (Mrk 4) the last growth phase of the kingdom of God before the harvest sickle comes. As any good farmer, God, has patiently waited for the harvest, a restoration of the seed to the same stature as when it was originally planted. A wheat harvest is simply the receiving of a multiplication of the originally planted seed. There is no increase in QUALITY, but there is in quantity. One aspect of end-time Harvest is a return to the original WORD-seed which was sown by the 1st church in the Book of Acts.

If any of this finds shortcomings in your life, correct the situation, start preaching and living the Original Seed Truth or seek out a minister and church which does. Remember, we can't STAY IN Mystery Babylon and COME OUT at the same time. *He brings us out, ... to take us in!*

The Holy Spirit of God, the bridegroom is calling His People, ... "MY PEOPLE," ALL OF HIS SHEEP WHEREVER THEY MAY BE, out of Catholicism, Protestantism, (Harlot Daughter Churches), Pentecostalism, Charismaticism, Judaism, and etc. He's calling ALL OF HIS PEOPLE back to the spiritual land of our spiritual birth, ...back to the gospel which began at Jerusalem. He is calling us out of all dogma, denominationalism, lukewarm-ness, and unfaithfulness which has it's roots in the Beast-Harlot spirit.

Wait a minute, you might say. God does not have any of His children, any of His church, any of His body,mixed-up in the Harlot Church World. That is what you may say. But God says differently. He says, "Come out of Her my People". Whose people? God's people. Many sheep have gone astray because of false apostles, false shepherds and hirelings. God will reach for them right up to the Mid-night hour!

COME OUT OF ROMANISM

HOW TO "Come Out of Her My People" may still be vague to you in some respects. Let me explain further of one meaning of... "Come Out of Mystery Babylon".

The seed of All false religion which first manifested itself through Cain, found it's first chance of kingdom level expression at the Tower of Babel kingdom of Nimrod. From that time the Mystery of Iniquity Religion was scattered and developed, matured, and refined itself as people worshipped under a variety of idolatrous religions in all countries, ...yet in reality it was not many religions, ...but simply One System of Idolatry throughout the earth. That is crucial to the Mystery.

All that Nimrod's Babel religion became, found its first World-level unified expression in the Egyptian Dynasties when they dominated the earth. When Egypt's political reign ceased, the level which false religion had attained did not cease or die. All that Egypt had become religiously was simply transferred under different religious names, titles, etc. into the religions of Assyria. Mystery Babylon, The Great Harlot Spirit has never died. She simply adapted. Satan never gave up any of his acquired proficiency in religious rebellion and confusion.

All the Mystery Harlot was in Assyria later moved on into Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon, later into Medo-Persia, and Greece. By the age of Greece, Mystery Babylon had manipulated men's religious thinking until a "Pantheon" of numerous Gods had emerged. In time, the Roman Empire of the Caesars came along and dominated the world. Into the Pagan Roman empire, Satan's Mystery Babylon Harlot Spirit injected all of her accumulated religious idolatry, which had been developed over cultures and centuries to a much grander scale of deception than Nimrod and Semiramis could have ever imagined. And all of this was woven into the religious and political life of the Pax Romana, ...Pagan Rome's version of Peace. This is the primary explanation as to why the multitude of idolatrous deities and practices which were found in the Roman way of life, were all traceable to pagan religions and cultures which had long since disappeared from the earth.

Rome's system of military domination, enslavement of conquered souls, and poly-theistic society was a regime similar to previous civilizations. Yet it was so much more awesome and controlling than any which the world had ever seen up to that time. Into this climate came the "Word made flesh," Jesus Christ, to call out a people, a church, an elect, a remnant. It was within this atmosphere that the Church of God would have to learn to stand, walk and mature. This new church and kingdom would have to combat Mystery of Iniquity from within the Jewish religion of Judaism and from the paganism of the surrounding Gentile religions. Everywhere they turned they faced the Mother Harlot's attacks of religious confusion.

In time the Apostles passed from the scene and the restraints to the Mystery of Iniquity gradually weakened until elements of Mystery Babylon's refined system of Paganism began to establish themselves as part of the church, subsequently call itself Christian. The False religious vine was weaving itself among the true church; gaining more and more control. The Mystery Harlot Spirit transferred her nature into the fellowship of believers; just as she had done throughout all previous civilizations. She injected the church community of Jesus Christ with the best she had at that time.

The Paganism of Rome and all that went with it came into the church when Constantine declared that Christianity would no longer be persecuted and would become the state religion of the Empire.

Because of Constantine's decision, all that had been the spiritual religious life of Rome, became the life force that was brought to bear upon the church of Jesus Christ.

The true church of God before long was labeled as heretics and enemies of the state religion - Popery - Roman Catholicism. Thus, what became known as "the christian church" in history was nothing more than Satan's seat, Satan's synagogue. It was filled with those who said they were Jews, ... God's true seed, ...but they truly WERE NOT the genuine! How many of this church-state element knew true repentance and conversion? God only knows. But, because of this take-over, the true seed of God worshipped as rebels and multitudes of doctrines became labeled as Christian, ..but really had no relationship to New Testament Christianity. They were DNA strands of Paganism. The Reformation and 20th century Pentecost revealed the numerous errors and numerous DNS strands of Paganism. But, many would not come away from all of the Roman elements in spirit, doctrine and word. Therefore, many strands of Roman Paganism were carried over into the Protestants and later into the Pentecostals. Regardless to the level of sincerity, God still wants his people to come all the way home,to come completely out of Her.

Brethern are not necessarily living hypocritical or insincere lives because they continue to carry within their hearts and minds the seeds of Mystery Babylon's system of religious confusion, spiritual adultery, and slavery. Operating under this system which the Mother Harlot has fostered onto the church, ...ministers and brethern unknowingly worship God from a religious framework which is *unfaithful* in some manner to Jehovah God and to their spiritual husband Jesus Christ and His Word.

Friend, brother or sister, as you read this today, ask the Lord Jesus if he finds any elements of the Romanish Spirit in you. Ask him to reveal to you any of these Romanish strands which are keeping you from preaching or living it just like the BIBLE SAYS? *Mystery Babylon is still taking captives of the unsuspecting.* But the captivity and slavery is on a spiritual level within the spirits and minds of men. Save yourself! Pull yourself away from any religious system of thought, attitude, creed or doctrine which Jesus Christ and the Original

12 Apostles did not preach INTO the foundation of the original Bible Church in Acts.

Deliver yourself and others by obeying the cry of the Holy Spirit of God to COME OUT OF HER MY PEOPLE!!

The Spirit of God years ago said of me; **Thus saith the Lord** ..."You are a Roman slave! You wear the Roman Slave Collar. You wear the metal slave collar which reveals that the Roman Empire has enslaved you!"

As Mary, I pondered this in my heart. How could this be? I lived in the United States of America, over 1500 years separated me from the Roman Empire of the Caesars. A political empire long-since dead. How could I, an American citizen, be in bondage to a political and religious culture which had long since passed from the earth? I did not understand.

Much time went by before I came to understand that civilizations go through a life and death cycle; ...but, that is not true of religion. Civilizations and Kingdoms die Politically,but Religiously they simply adapt. The Demonic Spirits which drive them never die! Political Rome had been defeated; but, the religious Spirit of Rome HAD NOT been defeated!!

Somehow I was Religiously A SLAVE to Pagan Rome! The **Spirit of Pagan Rome** had somehow infused itself into my walk with the Lord Jesus Christ,...thus he revealed,Rome has her slave collar on you. Later, as I searched out what Rome stood for in a religious sense, I found that much of Pagan Rome's philosophy, idolatry, and spirit, had been infused into the "professing Christian church" and in time this became known as ... Roman Catholicism. That explained why so much of Roman Catholicism's practices are traceable to Paganistic origins and cultures.

That much understanding helped, but did not give me full understanding of what the Lord had meant! How was I a slave of Rome?? I was not a practicing Roman Catholic. I had never been in a Catholic church. I attended a Protestant Pentecostal church in Cleveland, Tennessee. How could I be under the domination and bondage of Rome's paganism,while I was Protestant Pentecostal?? The churches I attended were far from what I considered to be Pagan or Catholic,in practice, doctrine, or experience.

In time I came to realize that I was in bondage to a **religious system** and **religious spirit** which had much in common with ancient Rome and Roman Catholicism. After much research, prayer, and worship, it was made clear to me that many of my Protestant Pentecostal church creeds and teachings were rooted in Romanism, ...rather than in Christ or Christianity.

Somehow these Protestant Pentecostal brethren I worshipped with, .. were carriers of the genes of that same religious spirit of slavery and bondage which had passed from Pagan Rome into Roman Catholicism. Those same pagan religious genes had been passed down into my Protestant Pentecostal fellowship. Moreover, I wasn't even a card-carrying member of their or any religious organization. I was merely an attender.

Of course, I was not aware of any of this during the time I was converted, worshiped, played, educated, and received the "gift of the Holy Ghost" experience while among these brethren. These brethren ministered to me, taught me the way of righteousness, and introduced me to Jesus Christ and the power of God to save, heal, and deliver.

This is not to indict; but to reveal a Religious System and a Religious Spirit which was and still is interwoven through-out all that was being done for God. This is not speculation nor guessing, ...but Thus Saith the Lord! I know this is difficult to comprehend, but the Lord will illuminate your understanding if you begin to ask him.

It was a battle to get free of that spirit of Romanism. I began to seek the Lord Jesus, study the simplicity of the scriptures, and separated myself from this fellowship. I began to accept His Word, the Bible, as the Last Word on every issue which differed with the scriptures. In time I committed myself to the same simple gospel which the twelve apostles preached in the New Testament. As I journeyed,the truth made me free; ...free from the Pagan Roman spirit which had enslaved me.

How did I do it? The same way that every child of God does it! I searched and found Catholicism's doctrines, creeds, and attitudes which I failed to find in the New Testament Bible Church of Jesus Christ. I then began to divorce myself from these doctrines, creeds, and religious attitudes which were not part of New Testament apostolic preaching. It meant practicing the scripture as best I could.

I saw much paganism and Romanism in our holidays. I stopped believing the Roman doctrine of "baptismal regeneration", ie.. That water baptism makes you a member of the church. Merely confessing faith in Jesus Christ was not scriptural. I found that the keys to the kingdom were that every man must experience being born again of water (water baptism) and of the Spirit (Holy

Spirit baptism), or he can not see nor enter the kingdom of God. (John3:3-5) That was exactly like the first and original salvation message preached by Peter who had been given the Keys to the Kingdom. The keys were revealed when he said, "Repent and be baptized (born again of water) everyone of youand ye shall receive gift of the Holy Ghost (born again of the Spirit). (Acts2:38)

Later the Nicolaitan Doctrine and Nicolaitan spirit which Jesus hates (Rev. 2:15) was unveiled. This man-made doctrine suppressed the common church members by **denominational fences** and simply put the saints back into captivity again.

As I studied further I saw that when that Pentecostal pastor under whom I was converted baptized me in water, ...he had baptized me in <u>Roman Catholic</u> <u>baptism</u>, "in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost". After checking the scripture, and finding **not one such scriptural example of practice**, ...I wondered where it came from.

This may help explain Pope John XIII remarks during the 1962 Ecumenical Council of Vatican II when he appealed to the leaders of the major protestant denominations that they may as well unite with Rome," you have our baptism."

Of course, I found that a lot of folk in those early centuries did not go along with the Catholic baptism of "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost", either. So like them, I went back to the scriptures and was baptized "in the name of the Lord Jesus" just like.

the believers in the Bible were

You might say "these are little things". You are right! A little leaven leaventh the whole lump! He was right wasn't he? For all practical purposes the whole lump has been leavened!

Later I came to the understanding that **the Trinity** – Triune Concept of God was **from pagan Greek minds** who had been converted to Christianity. It to was of Roman Catholic origins. It was easy to follow the logic and rationale of my brethren's explanation of the Trinity. However, ...once I had made that commitment to conform all my understandings to those of the New Testament writers, it was then easy to see that Trinitiarian phrases of "three persons in the Godhead", "God the Son", "God the Holy Ghost", "Co-eternal", "Co-equal", "Trinity", and etc. were all NON-Biblical and not to be found in scripture. They were from outside the Bible. These doctrines were from the minds of carnal men.

Where did I find them? Where can you find them today? They are found explained and expounded within the teachings of those early pagan converts to

Christianity who were Greek and Roman in their thinking. *Greek philosophy and Greek concepts of truth were so highly regarded within Roman Catholicism that a painting of Plato and Aristotle conversing adorns the walls of the Vatican.* (Remember these men were pagans who existed 300 years before Christ!)

As I could, I dropped each of those Romanish creeds and attitudes and attempted to bring myself into a greater harmony with the BIBLE.

It was amazing how much of my Christian "thought" and "practice" had been Roman and Roman Catholic. No wonder the Lord Jesus told me that I was wearing the Roman Slave Collar. Even now as he reveals to me, I still want to "Come Out of Romanism", ...to "Come Out of Her, ...Mystery Babylon, ...the Mystery of Iniquity!" and get back to that same pure and powerful gospel which our Apostolic forefathers of the New Testament preached in the Bible.

By no means do I insinuate that any of these Holy Ghost filled brethern were living hypocritical or ungodly lives. It was that they continued to carry within their hearts and minds the seeds of Mystery Babylon's system of religious confusion and slavery, which later became Roman Catholicism. By operating under this system which the Mother Harlot had fostered onto the church, ...these brethren unknowingly worship God <u>from a religious framework which was unfaithful in some manner to their God</u>, ..to their spiritual husband Jesus Christ and His Word.

Are you a Slave to Rome?? Are you wearing a Roman Slave Collar?? When a person teaches and believes Catholic doctrines and creeds they are still in bondage to Rome.

Let me encourage you to Come out of Her Rituals!

*Come out of Her Easy Believeing without Repentance!! Be filled with the Holy Ghost!

*Come out of Her "Father, Son, & Holy Ghost" Water Baptism !!

*Come out of Her Trinitarian God-Head!!

*Come out of Her Ecclesiastical & Organizational Structures!!

*Come out of Her Nicolaitan Spirit!!

*Come Out Brother,Sister ...so that you in this end-time harvest age will not a of Her Sins & Her Plagues!!

Friend, brother or sister, as you read this today, if you are in fellowship with a church organization or fellowship which follows any of the teachings of the Roman Catholic religious system, you are in some way a spiritual slave to Rome. Most of the preachers think that the fourth kingdom of Nebuchadnezzar's Image is gone. Some even look carnally at ancient Iraq for a restoration of that kingdom. It has not been destroyed yet. The stone has not yet hit the image! But it will soon! And all will be blown away by the Spirit of God! **Come Out of Her MY PEOPLE!!**

Save yourself! Pull yourself away from any religious system of thought, attitude, creed or doctrine which Jesus Christ and the apostles did not preach INTO the foundation of the original Bible Church in Acts.

By doing so you'll help yourself to ... COME OUT OF HER!

DO NOT WAIT FOR SOMESPECIAL ACT OF GOD TO GET YOUR ATTENTION AND TURN YOU AROUND.

GOD HAS JUST...BLOWN ANOTHER TRUMPET IN ZION,IN YOUR HEARINGWITH THIS MESSAGE!

STUDY THE WORD! PRAY! ACCEPT THE WORD IN SIMPLICITY!!

FATHER, HELP US TO GET OFF THE "ROMAN" ROAD!

CLEANSE OUR EARS OF ROMAN EAR-WAX

Landmark Ministries ~ Landmark Church of Jesus ~ Landmark Christian School 1802 Lois Street ~ Cleveland, TN 37311 ~ 423-478-1545 www.landmarkchurch.com ~ www.lcjschool.com

Visiting our website ...www.lcjendtimes.com...will expose you to other End-Time Messages and Teachings to help you to live victoriously in the days ahead as we await the coming of the Lord Jesus.

You are cordially invited to worship with us in any of our services....

Wed 7pm. & Sun 10 am

We will help you apply the healing ointment of God's love and grace to the hurts and wounds of your soul through His Balm of Gilead, the Lord Jesus Christ.