

**April 21, 2024**  
**The Great Unveiling...**  
**Pastor Mike Griffin**  
**Revelation 17:1-8**

<sup>1</sup>One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the punishment of the great prostitute, who sits on many waters. <sup>2</sup>With her the kings of the earth committed adultery and the inhabitants of the earth were intoxicated with the wine of her adulteries." <sup>3</sup>Then the angel carried me away in the Spirit into a desert. There I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was covered with blasphemous names and had seven heads and ten horns. <sup>4</sup>The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, and was glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls. She held a golden cup in her hand, filled with abominable things and the filth of her adulteries. <sup>5</sup>This title was written on her forehead: <sup>6</sup>I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of those who bore testimony to Jesus. <sup>7</sup>When I saw her, I was greatly astonished. Then the angel said to me: "Why are you astonished? I will explain to you the mystery of the woman and of the beast she rides, which has the seven heads and ten horns. <sup>8</sup>The beast, which you saw, once was, now is not, and will come up out of the Abyss and go to his destruction. The inhabitants of the earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the creation of the world will be astonished when they see the beast, because he once was, now is not, and yet will come.

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**Questions for Personal or Small Group Use**

Opening: What do you find most seductive about the culture and civilization in which you live?

Discussion Questions:

- What is so deceptively attractive about the evil cultures and world systems depicted here?
- Why do you think idolatry is described as adultery? Why is materialism a form of idolatry?
- What does one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls show John? Why?
- What do we learn about the woman and the beast (In terms of their identity, character, & actions)? What do you think the prostitute and the Babylon represent in John's vision? Why would the prostitute be attractive to the world?
- What is the relationship of the prostitute and Babylon (17:5)? The prostitute and the beast (17:7-8)? The ten coming kings and the beast (17:12-14)?
- What is the point of the way the beast's resurrection parodies Christ's (17:8)?
- Track the theme of astonishment in the passage. Who was astonished and Why?
- How does the angel explain the mystery of the woman and the beast she rides?
- Why do you think the beast supports the prostitute but then later attacks her? How does evil tend to fall back on itself?
- What can we learn about God and the lamb from the angel's words (17:14, 17)?
- Why is the downfall of the prostitute so certain (17:15-18)? How can we be assured that the Lamb will overcome? How is the Lamb's victory significant for you personally?
- How is it important to you that God is in complete control even when the beast & his followers think they are doing their own will (17:17)?

Application Questions: What does it mean to you to be one of the Lamb's called, chosen, and faithful followers? What are the implications of being called and chosen? How can you act faithfully this week?