By Irvin Baxter Revelation Commentary Manual

Revelation 17 contains one of the most incredible prophecies in the entire Bible. Revelation 17:1 says, "AND there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saving unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters." Now this is outstanding because it is foretelling judgment. This prophecy we are studying in this lesson is one of the most dramatic judgments in all of prophecy. There is a specific something or someone that Almighty God, 2,000 years, ago foreknew would be a recipient of His hot judgment. So there is going to be judgment upon someone and I am sure you are interested in knowing who it will be. You are going to find in this lesson, that someone is on the earth right now and we will see this judgment poured out in the very near future. Revelation 17:2-3 continues, "With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. 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." Our first question is, who is the harlot that will receive this horrible judgment? We don't have to guess. You will find in this prophecy that the explanations are given for us in the very same chapter where the prophecy is given. Revelation 17:18 says very clearly, "And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth." Clue

number one, the woman is a city. There is a city on this earth right now, that 2,000 years ago through the

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"Mystery Babylon"

foreknowledge of God, God said, I will show you the judgment that will come in the endtime on this great city. You don't have guess about it. You don't have to question it. In plain language here in verse 18 it says, "...the woman

is that great city that reigneth over the kings of the earth."

Question number two. In verse one it says that the woman sat upon many waters. All of the things in this prophecy are symbols that are interrupted for us. Revelation 17:15 tells us what the waters are, "And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues." Now let's see if we can reconcile this. First we are told the woman is a city. Then we are told that she sits on peoples, multitudes, nations and tongues. How do we pull these two things together. Well, when you look at it right, it is simple. The woman is a city which is the headquarters for an international system that actually presides over peoples, multitudes, nations and tongues. So we see that the woman is a city, but a city which has authority over a vast international system.

Finally in verse three we see the seven headed, ten horned beast which we have studied about before. However, in this passage it says the beast had seven heads as it did before, but in Revelation 17:9 it says, "And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth." Now what is the woman? It is a city, right? So we can read this, the seven heads symbolize seven mountains on which the city sitteth. I have been taught all of my life that Rome was the city of seven hills, but when I begin to try to understand this passage, I didn't want to teach something irresponsibly, I wanted to make sure I did my homework. So, I went to Morrison Reeves Library ready to dig in for weeks if necessary to find out if I could prove that Rome was the city of seven hills. As I entered the library, I will never forget that day, because I had spent many long weeks in the library before looking for one thing. So I didn't know how long I was going to be there for, but the most logical place to begin in my mind

was the encyclopedia. So I went to the encyclopedia, thinking this would be too easy, but I was pleasantly surprised, because when I opened the encyclopedia to Rome and in big bold letters it said, "Rome, the city of seven hills." I couldn't believe my eyes. Now in case you would like to look this up for yourself, I have recently looked this up again and found it in, Collier's Encyclopedia, Volume 20, page 168 tells you that Rome is the city of seven hills. I was standing in Rome, I think it was 1993 that we went there with our prophecy tour. As we were standing at the base of the Roman Coliseum, our Roman Catholic guide proudly said to us, "From here, you can see several of the famous seven hills of Rome." and my ears perked up. He said, "There is Palatine Hill, there is Avignon Hill ..." and he went around and he started to name all the hills that surrounded the Roman Coliseum and I thought to myself, if you knew who you were talking to, you wouldn't be saying this to me, because I am going to go tell it.

These hills are so famous that every single one of them have a name. So the seven hills of Rome have been famous for a long, long time. Now let's pause before we go too fast here. Do you understand if we would stop right here that you are right now thinking about absolutely supernatural material. This prophecy was written before Rome was the headquarters of the Roman Catholic Church. It was written before Rome ever became a vast international organization and yet Almighty God explicitly stated that there would be an international power which would rule over multitudes, nations, and kings. You say now, hang on just one minute. Does Rome, in fact, rule over kings of the earth? In 1951 the Roman Catholic Church passed a Cannon Law which stated, that the Pope has the right to guide the political thinking of any and all of its members and it has been a long standing doctrine of the church that spiritual should always rule over temporal. When the Pope is crowned, I have a biography of one of the Popes and I read the

the coronation ceremony, they say, we now crown you, as King of Kings and Ruler of Rulers of the earth. It is believed that the time will come when Roman Catholicism's influence will grow to the extent that the Pope will actually rule as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He is the vicar of the Son of God. That is the inscription on his crown—Vicarius Filii Dei. They fully believe that he should rule the world and that he will, in fact, rule the world when the kingdom of God is finally ushered in upon the face of this earth. Now, I know I am going to be very open. I made up my mind as I was preparing this lesson that I was just going to be totally open with you. I hope you love the truth, because I don't know what all of your religious backgrounds are and I certainly wouldn't want to hurt anyone, but I can't be a help to you, if I don't be just totally candid with you. So I hope that is okay with you, because this is not against Roman Catholic people or any other people. This is dealing with a system that Almighty God foresaw 2,000 years ago and He was concerned enough about it to

put two chapters at least, actually it is more than two, but two chapters are devoted in their entirety to Rome as the headquarters of the Roman Catholic Church. Out of 22 chapters in the book of Revelation, the Roman Catholic Church and its hierarchy are abhorred enough by God that He made a decision to devote two entire chapters out of the 22 chapters of His unveiling. He wanted everybody to know exactly what this powerful organization upon the face of this earth is and the role that it will play.



There is more.
Revelation
17:4 says,
"And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet

colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication." First of all, the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet. As I was trying to understand this, on a whim we toured a Roman

Missouri. It was supposed to be beautiful and someone said that we should see it. So I stopped by and while we were going through the church they had some papers there for sale on a little table and one of the papers was called, The Criterion. It was .50 cents and I thought, I can afford that. So I bought one of them. I was just curious as to what kind of literature they had, and what they had to say. Well, I got a whole lot more than I bargained for. They had an article in there titled, "More Than You Want To Know About Cardinals." This was the July 1, 1988 edition of The Criterion and there was a statement in the article, I saved the entire article, I still have it, it said, "Cardinals wear red, while non-Cardinal Bishops and Archbishops wear purple." Now Revelation 17:4 says that she would be clothed in purple and scarlet. Scarlet is red, of course, all of you are aware of that. So the scripture says she would be clothed in purple and red. The Cardinals are the senate of the Roman church and the Bishops and Archbishops are the House of Representatives of the Roman

Catholic Church in St. Louis,

Catholic Church. There are two ruling bodies of the Roman Catholic Church and the official color of the Cardinals is red and the official color of the Bishops and Archbishops is purple. Your Bible said, 2,000 years ago that when this power appeared on the earth, she would be arrayed in red and in purple and she would be headquartered in a city on seven hills and she would also sit on peoples, multitudes, nations and tongues. Right now the Roman Church claims about 800,000,000 adherents around the world. Revelation 17:6 says, "And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great

admiration." Why would it say this? Drunken with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus? It has been estimated that there have been 68,000,000 Christians that have been put to death at the hands of the Roman Catholic Church. During the Middle Ages, during the time of the Reformation, the Pope actually had standing armies, and he would send his armies into nations to fight against the enemies of the church. I read with my own eyes an order issued by one of the Popes to put 6,000,000 people to death. He actually ordered the total extermination of the nation of Norway except for 55 people specifically named. During those times of the reformation, in one six year period 6,000,000 died. Now to

get more specific. Charles Tyndale, you may recognize the name, was the translator of the Tyndale Bible. It was a crime under the Holy Roman Empire, when the Roman Catholic Church was in power, to translate the Bible. The church held, the Bible was dangerous in the hands of the common man, and so it was a crime, punishable by death, for you to put the Bible in the common language of the average person. Charles Tyndale, however, felt like every person should be able to read the Bible. Now there were several reasons why this was happening. By keeping the people in ignorance, the professional clergy was able to tell the people whatever they wanted to tell them and it kept the people under servant

hood. However, Charles Tyndale translated the Bible into the language of the common man. It so infuriated the church that they placed him on a church trial, he was found guilty and burned at the stake. Now you can go to your library and check out what I am telling you. He was on trial in a church trial, an ecclesiastical trial and burned at the stake. Now why would the church be afraid of the Bible? Because by this time every major doctrine of the Bible had been perverted and changed. By then their churches were full of statues, which was forbidden by God's Word. By then they were praying to Mary. By then they were baptizing babies. By then they were baptizing by sprinkling. All doctrines that are exactly opposite the





Tyndale was burned at the stake

doctrines that are taught in your Bible and mine. So as long as the people didn't know this, there were no problems, but they desperately feared the time, when the people would discover better. Martin Luther, the famous reformer, was also placed on trial by the church at the Diet of Worms, Germany. He was there found guilty and condemned to die. However, he escaped into the Protestant controlled portion of Germany and that sentence was never executed. Now remember this was written before any of this transpired. History only proves what Almighty

God foresaw and placed in the prophecies of the Bible, so you and I can know that in spite of prevailing opinion that we need to have some insight on how God looks at this. Sometimes we look at things and say, Oh isn't that wonderful. We see right now a tremendous harmonizing of religions and the Roman Catholic Church has become the core and the center of all that. If you want to know what God thinks of that, keep studying this lesson, we are studying what God thinks of it in this lesson. He says, I will show you the judgment of the great

whore, that sitteth upon many waters. I know this is plain language in this lesson, but it is so important, that we really teach the truth. Aren't you just hungry for people to quit beating around the bush and just lay it on the line? Wouldn't you just like to hear a preacher/teacher just lose all of his tact and just preach/teach straight from the shoulder? Now keep all of this in mind. To me just the proof I have given so far is conclusive proof. There is too much. It is too accurate. That Almighty God had the Roman Catholic Church in mind.

Now the next thing we need to see is that this prophecy also prophesies a marriage between Catholicism and Communism. Now that may startle some of you, because what has happened has been done largely under cover. Most people don't even realize what has been going on in our world. Notice that the woman is sitting on the seven headed, ten horned beast which we studied back in Revelations 13 that was the symbol of the New World Order, the one world government of the Antichrist. We talked about the mouth of the lion representing Great Britain, the feet of the bear representing Russia, the body of the leopard representing Germany, the ten horned kingdom and the seven heads. We talked about all of that in lesson? That is the unified power that will rule the world and is actually moving in to rule the world right now. Let me remind you in case you are skeptical, that all the powers symbolized in this beast were already serving in a world government force in Bosnia in 1997. We say this is a long way away. This could not happen. The truth of the matter is, is already happening and most people are unaware. Now when you move

from Revelation 13 to Revelation 17 the exact same beast is there. However, two things are added. Number one, we are told in Revelation 17 that the beast is a scarlet colored beast, a red beast. We learned, when we were studying Revelation 6 about the four horses. what the color red is used to symbolize. We studied about the white horse, the red horse and the black horse. The color red is the official color of Communism. You don't have to be a political genius to know that—Red China and Red Russia, its been used that way for many years. Now God is telling us that the endtime, one world government is going to be a Communistic government. Now I know you have been told that Communism is dead and you don't have to worry about that any more, but I just heard the unsettling news that the average American now works until the middle of July in order to pay his tax bill. Which means that over 50% of the average American's income now goes to pay taxes. Now when that is true, when the government is spending half or more of your money for you, you are in a heavily socialistic state; but they are not going to tell you. As

long as you will stay happy and not cause problems, then everything is fine as far as they are concerned. Before you reject that let's do a quick poll? How many of you now, the government is taking less out of your check than they were ten years ago? How many of you is the government taking more out of your check than they were ten years ago? It has been said between city tax, county tax, state tax, federal tax, excise tax, sales tax, property tax, gasoline tax and a bunch of others I don't even know about and you don't either probably, hidden somewhere in the prices that we pay, that right at 50% of the income of the average American goes in tax to the federal government. Now that is America and we are one of the best case scenarios. In Great Britain it is 65%, in Sweden it is 75% and so whoever told you that socialism is dead has the wool pulled over their eyes. Now if this beast is a world socialistic government and if the woman is Catholicism the woman is riding the beast. Which means that there will be a coalition in the endtime between Catholicism and Communism. It already has occurred.