

## Crossing God's T's without Doubting Eyes

Revelation 17:1-19:4

### God's T \_\_\_\_\_ – will you believe it? (17:17)

- A. A puzzling text (Rev 16:9) – In the middle of the seventh bowl of wrath, there is a statement that God remembered to pour His wrath on Babylon the Great.
1. Babylon the Great is the symbolic term for the ancient Roman Empire which fell over \_\_\_\_\_ years ago.
  2. The statement of God remembering is a parenthetical statement encouraging believers to e\_\_\_\_\_ persecution knowing that God will destroy Rome.
  3. The flow of the passage
    - a. God's final bowl of wrath causes the biggest earthquake in the h\_\_\_\_\_ of mankind (16:17,18)
    - b. Parenthetical thought – God remembered to pour His wrath on Rome. He did not wait until the 7<sup>th</sup> bowl to do it (16:19)
    - c. The effect of the final bowl of wrath (16:20,21)
    - d. Unfolds the parenthetical thought in Chapters 17 and 18.
- B. An angel tells John not to wonder because he was going to tell him the meaning of the symbols (17:7) – will you accept the explanation as God's word?
1. The woman (the great harlot) – she is the great c\_\_\_\_\_ which reigned over the kings of the earth
    - a. John now knows that this city is R\_\_\_\_\_
    - b. Verse 1 – pictured as a prostitute enticing the kings of the earth to embrace paganism
    - c. Verse 6 – pictured as being drunk with the blood of saints and w\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus (Rome historically killed a massive number of believers in Christ).
    - d. Verse 9 – pictured as sitting on seven m\_\_\_\_\_ (Rome was known as the city of seven hills).
    - e. Verse 15 interprets the waters as being the various classes of people Rome ruled.
    - f. Verse 16 prophecies destruction which is fully explained in chapter 18.
  2. The beast that the woman is riding
    - a. Verse 8 – was and is not and is about to come

- b. This is the same beast of chapter 13 which had a fatal wound that was healed (was – rose to power; is not – fatal wound; about to come – rose back to power)
  - c. In chapter 13, the whole world was amazed by the beast's power and submits to its rulership.
3. The seven heads and ten horns on the beast
- a. The heads represent kings in the sense of k\_\_\_\_\_ (see Dan 7:17,23).
    - 1) F\_\_\_\_\_ have fallen
    - 2) O\_\_\_\_\_ currently exists (from John's standpoint), which would be the sixth kingdom, the Roman Empire.
    - 3) The seventh kingdom will remain for a l\_\_\_\_\_ while and then will fall
    - 4) The eighth kingdom is the seventh kingdom revived (was and is not)
  - b. The ten horns represent 10 sub-kingdoms that the beast appoints r\_\_\_\_\_ over.
    - 1) The sole purpose of these 10 is to wage war against the L\_\_\_\_\_.
    - 2) This corresponds to the sixth bowl of wrath when the Euphrates river was dried up for the great war against the A\_\_\_\_\_ (16:12-14).

**God's T\_\_\_\_\_ – will you rejoice? (18:1-19:6)**

**A. Prophecy given by God**

- 1. Is not God predicting the future but d\_\_\_\_\_ the future (Is 46:10)
- 2. God fulfills prophecy by m\_\_\_\_\_ it happen (Is 46:11).
- 3. John never saw the fall of Rome, but we have records of that fall.
- 4. God fulfills prophecy in His t\_\_\_\_\_. Will you rejoice in that?

**B. The fulfillment of this prophecy from our standpoint.**

- 1. The prophecy (v. 8) – Babylon the Great (Rome) will be burned with fire and fall in one d\_\_\_\_\_.
- 2. The fulfillment (Edward Gibbon's book, *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, Vol 3 pages 251-254)

- a. Rome fell on Aug 24, 410 A.D.
- b. The tribes of G\_\_\_\_\_ and Scythia attack at midnight and b\_\_\_\_\_ the city, stripping all its wealth.
- c. The churches of St. Paul and St. Peter were spared and all unresisting citizens.

C. Are there prophecies you would like to see fulfilled?

1. The mass conversion of E\_\_\_\_\_ (Is 19:21,22)
2. The preaching of the gospel to every class of people (Matt 24:14).
3. The coming of Christ

### God's T\_\_\_\_\_ – will you accept? (18:4)

A. The people of God are given a heavenly warning not to p\_\_\_\_\_ in the sins of Rome but to come out of her.

1. This is not a p\_\_\_\_\_ separation
2. This is a ch\_\_\_\_\_ separation

B. As believers living in America

1. Are we p\_\_\_\_\_ in the sins of our government?
  - a. Seeing s\_\_\_\_\_ immorality as acceptable
  - b. Undermining parental a\_\_\_\_\_
    - 1) Distributing contraceptives to minors without parental consent
    - 2) Performing an a\_\_\_\_\_ on a minor without parental consent
    - 3) Calling all corporeal p\_\_\_\_\_ as abuse.
    - 4) Giving hormone altering therapy and sex change operations without parental consent (that's next).
2. Are we participating in the sins of mainstream society or are we characteristically different?
  - a. In our s\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. In our c\_\_\_\_\_
  - c. In our t\_\_\_\_\_

**Conclusion** - The most exciting life is to be in the w\_\_\_\_\_ of God

1. God preserved His text for you, the Bible, - b\_\_\_\_\_ it.
2. God fulfills His prophecies according to His timing – r\_\_\_\_\_ over this.
3. God wants you to live on His terms – a\_\_\_\_\_ those terms and watch God work through you.