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# Identification & Destruction of the Great Prostitute in the Endtimes

## *The First Endtime Event*

Revelation 17-18

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### Identification of the Great Prostitute

Macro-view: The anti-God *World* and particularly its Money

- World wide: 17:1, 15; 18:3, 11, 18-19, 23-24.
- NT uses the word world to describe *the systems and institutions inspired by Satan and empowered by humanity's sinful nature to oppose and be independent of God.* (1 John 5:19; John 15:19, 17:9, 25; Jam 1:27; 4:4; Rom 12:2; Matt 4:8-9)
- It is perhaps the *economic* systems of the *World* that illustrate its attributes and affects the most. (Matt 6:24; 1 Tim 6:10; Rev 17:4; 18:11-17, 23)

Micro-view: An endtime city/nation that is the center of the *World's* power and once served God but has abandoned Him.

- Compared to city/nations of Babylon and Rome, former centers of the anti-God *World*.
- Would be a nation that once served God but has abandoned Him (Prostitute), instead of a thoroughly demonic nation like Rome and Babylon (beasts in Dan 7).
- If Jesus Christ is to return in this generation, it seems clear that the Great Endtime Prostitute is the United States of America.

### U.S. spiritual prostitution

- Dec. 2013: President Vladimir Putin, in annual state of the nation address, claimed that Russia is now the moral leader of the world because other nations, (e.g. U. S.) promote homosexuality. His country has essentially outlawed it. (<http://www.thenewamerican.com>)
- Sept. 2014: U. S. Supreme Court struck down a law in Texas that had forced most of its abortion clinics to close. (<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2014/10/14/supreme-court-texas-abortion-clinics/16992029>).

### Worldly powers

- No other nation today, or ever in the history of humanity, has even been close to rivaling America in the powers of the anti-God World.
- U.S. GDP is double the 2<sup>nd</sup> wealthiest country which is China.
- In 2011, the *Washington Post* reported that almost 99% of Americans are among the 1% most wealthy people in the world. (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/post/2011/10/12.html>)
- *No nation* has ever spread paganism world-wide like America (e.g. pornography).

## A powerful city

- Described 6 times in Rev 17-18 as a “*great city*.”
- What city today is the center of particularly the political, cultural, and economic power of the *World*? New York City. 2010 Citibank study: New York City was deemed “the richest and most influential city in the world.” (<http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/photo/2010-03/25>) In 2012, New York City topped the first *Global Economic Power Index* . . . New York City has been ranked first among 120 cities across the globe in attracting capital, business, and tourists. ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New\\_York\\_City](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_York_City)).
- In fact, there is a suburb of NYC on Long Island called Babylon, NY with a population of over 200,000.

## Other views of what the Great Prostitute is

- Catholicism or Islam. Perhaps most popular view. But money is a much more powerful religion (cf. Matt 6:24). And these religions are not responsible for the slaughter of every person (Rev 18:24).
- A rebuilt city of Babylon in Iraq (Supported by many founding professors of Dallas Theological Seminary and popularized by Tim Lahaye, co-author of the *Left Behind* series). But God said the city would never be rebuilt (Isa 13:19, Jer 50:13) and it is difficult to imagine it becoming what NYC is today.
- Preterists and Amillennialists claim this prophecy was fulfilled in the ancient Roman Empire. But it would not match the world-wide descriptions of the Great Prostitute. And they ignore the double fulfillment nature of biblical prophecies. These include 1) Comings of Christ, 2) Virgin births (Isa 7:14-16; Matt 1:22-23), 3) Comings of antichrist (cp. fulfillment of Dan. 8 in Antiochus Epiphanes c. 170 B.C. and future antichrist in Matt 24:15, 2 Thess 2:1-3).
- America, Edward Tracy, *The United States in Prophecy*, 2009, \$5 Kindle ed. on Amazon. A view perhaps growing in popularity.

## Destruction of the Great Prostitute

- Antichrist and very temporary and loose coalition of 10 nations will destroy the Great Prostitute. (Rev 17:16; cf. Dan 2:42-43)
- Note formation of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) led by Russia. Like “iron mixed with clay” and not noticed by most.
- It will be consumed by fire in one day (Rev 17:16; 18:8). Repeated 3 x’s it will be destroyed in 1 hour (Rev 18:11, 15-19; cf. 17:12-13). No one will be able to live there after it is destroyed (Rev 17:16; 18:21-23; cf. Jer 50:12-13, 39-40; Isa 13:20)
- A very temporary and loose military alliance will attack the center of worldly economic power and make it uninhabitable in one hour by a consuming fire. That is nuclear warfare. (cf. Rev 6:4, 8; Jer 51:1; Dan 8:24)
- Nuclear destruction may not just be the central city but many cities of the Great Prostitute. “*I will kindle a fire in her towns that will consume all who are around her*” (Jer 50:32). This prediction was not fulfilled in previous destructions of Babylon.
- “The threat of devastating nuclear attack by Russia against the United States has not diminished,” warns former Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara (*Los Angeles Times*, 2004; *Jon E. Dougherty*, “McNamara: Nuclear War Still Possible; NY No. 1 Target,” Tuesday, Apr. 27, 2004; online at NewsMax.com.)
- Europe and Russia will also be destroyed, ending current economic powers. This is why Battle of Armageddon seems to be primarily with armies from the East (China, etc.) (Rev 16:12-16) and how the antichrist can economically rule the world (Rev 13:16-17).

# Timing of the Destruction of the Great Prostitute

It is the first Endtime event

- See cycle #4 in “Understanding Revelation”
- World economy still operating before its destruction.
- No indication that water has been turned to blood yet.
- It surprises like the “Beginning of Birth Pains” (Isa 13:9; 47:8-11; Jer 51:8)
- Currently the Great Prostitute “rides” and rules over the beast antichrist (Rev 17, 3, 7). She must be destroyed before:
  - Before antichrist can begin military campaigns (*Seal 1*, Rev 6:1-2).
  - Before Israel needs a peace treaty (Dan 9:27)
  - Before antichrist can demand the worship of all people and prohibit anyone from buying or selling without his mark (Rev 13:3-8, 16-17).
  - Before antichrist can begin killing Christians (Rev 13:7).
  - All of this points to the destruction of the U.S.

## Really Hard Questions

- Does God really expect us to interpret what the Great Prostitute is, with enough clarity, confidence, and conviction, to physically leave her? (Rev 18:4) *“Then I heard another voice from Heaven say: ‘Come out of her, My people so that you will not share in her sins, so that you will not receive any of her plagues’* (cf. Jer 51:6, 45-7).
- Is there a reward for surviving the destruction of the Great Prostitute and being killed during the Great Persecution? Perhaps the only Christians who reign with Christ for 1000 years are Endtime martyrs who lived and died during the Great Persecution. (Rev 20:1-6).

## What should we do now?

- Repent and be saved. (Matt 3:7-12).
- Do not be afraid (most repeated command in the Bible).
- Have compassion on evil people and Presidents (Ps 37:1-21)
- Store up treasure in Heaven (Matt 6:19-34).
- Do not be idle but keep working (2 Thess 3:1-18).
- Do not be afraid to die (Phil 1:23; Ps 139:16; Rev 13:9-10).
- Remember where everything is headed: the new, perfect, and eternal Earth (Rev 21:1-5).