

# How The Bible Was Put Together and Why It Is (Still) Our Book

[Week 32]

*\*(Revelation)\**

- Opening Scripture:
  - **Revelation 17 & 18 – Babylon’s Destruction**
    - **The harlot & the beast she rode, worldly governments, corrupted religious institutions, Babylon’s fall.**

## ONGOING FOCUS: Symbolism in Prophetic & Apocalyptic Literature

- ✓ This week: Who is the “prostitute”? What is the meaning of the beast she rides? People turn against one another & GOD. Poetic descriptions of why & how “Babylon” will come to destruction.

### ○ Chapter 17

- Discussion of the use of the word “harlot” (“whore”, “prostitute”).
- Collusion of worldly powers.
- The significance of how the Scarlet Beast is described.

#### □ **The Woman & The Beast**

- Woman - Dressed in purple & scarlet, had a lot of jewelry, held a cup (meaning)
- Beast -Color, covered in blasphemous names, number of heads & horns (meaning)

#### □ **Those who followed/accepted The Beast are surprised**

- 7 hills/heads (numerology regarding a collection of earthly political/military powers)
- Those who take advantage of awful circumstances (10 horns/kings)

#### □ **Prostitute & Beast betray one another**

- Religion taking advantage of political influence & vice-versa

### ○ Chapter 18

- Poetry/song depicting the final fall of “Babylon”
- Consequences for the destruction of worldly systems that people have been enslaved to
- Rejoicing in Heaven/promise of new life.
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- **CONTINUING KEY WORDS:** *Hermeneutic; Semiotics; Transmission; Transliteration (vs. translation &/or paraphrase); Psuedopigrapha; Inspiration; Divine Superintendence; Textual Reliability; Exogesis/Isogesis; Anthropomorphism, Polytheism/Henotheism & Monotheism; Eschaton &/or Parousia; Millennialism/PRE-Millennialism/POST-Millennialism/ A-Millennialism; Dispensationalism; Covenant Theology; Type, Archetype & Metatype. Antagonist & Protagonist*

**NEXT SESSION : Revelation 19 – More rejoicing over Babylon’s defeat, Christ’s return, & Armageddon (plus the fall of The Beast, The False Prophet & those who sided with them).**