

Mt. Pleasant Bible Institute

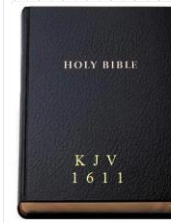
www.kjbstudy.com

Study to shew thyself approved unto God" (2 Tim 2:15)

Dr. Joseph Speciale, Instructor

A ministry of the
Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church

Lee Swor, Pastor

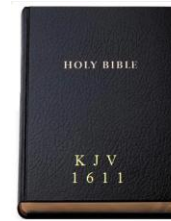


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Bible Prophecy

Mystery, Babylon The Great

Mystery, Babylon The Great

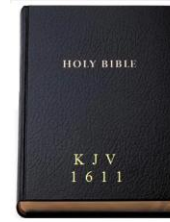


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- 6) Babylon the Great is **Pagan Rome** (this is the preterist view)



Mystery, Babylon The Great



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- Those who favor this view believe the book of Revelation has already been completely fulfilled
- Most who favor this view believe the book of Revelation was written BEFORE the destruction of the temple in 70 AD during the reign of Nero
- They see Babylon the Great as Pagan Rome and the Beast as the emperor Nero or the succession of Roman emperors leading up to fall of Rome in 476 AD
- The colors of Pagan Rome were purple and scarlet

Matt 27:28

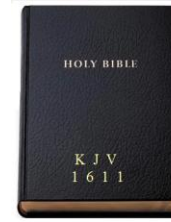
And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe.

John 19:2,5

2 And the soldiers platted a crown of thorns, and put *it* on his head, and they put on him a purple robe,

5 Then came Jesus forth, wearing the crown of thorns, and the purple robe. And *Pilate* saith unto them, Behold the man!

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- Rome killed all the apostles (except John) and many saints, most notoriously through the 10 Imperial Roman persecutions
 - 1) Nero (67-70 AD)
 - 2) Domitian (81-96 AD)
 - 3) Trajan (108-138 AD)
 - 4) Marcus Aurelius (162 AD)
 - 5) Severus (192-232 AD)
 - 6) Maximinus (235-238 AD)
 - 7) Decius (249-253 AD)
 - 8) Valerian (257-260 AD)
 - 9) Aurelian (274-287 AD)
 - 10) Diocletian (303-313 AD)

Rev 17:6

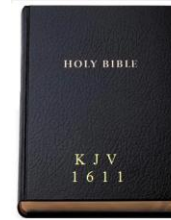
And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.

Rev 18:20,24

20 Rejoice over her, *thou* heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her.

24 And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth.

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- Rome is located on seven hills (i.e.- Quirinal, Viminal, Capitoline, Esquiline, Palatine, Caelian, Aventine)

Rev 17:9

And here *is* the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.

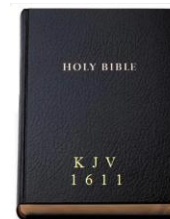
- Rome was a city-state that was THE world power when Revelation was written

Rev 17:18

And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.

- Rome destroyed Jerusalem and the temple in 70 AD just as the Babylonians did in 587 BC

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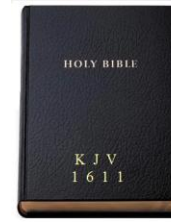


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7) Babylon the Great is **Papal Rome** (this is the Protestant view)



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- Those who favor this view believe the book of Revelation has been, and is in the process of being, completely fulfilled
- They see Babylon the Great as the Roman Catholic Church and the Beast as the Papacy (the entire succession of popes and not any single pope at the exclusion of others)
- The colors of the Roman Catholic Church are purple and scarlet just like pagan Rome

Matt 27:28

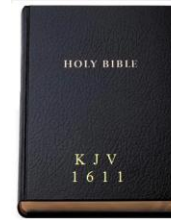
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- The Roman Catholic Church has killed tens of MILLIONS of true born again Christians through the centuries, most of them during the Dark Ages and the Spanish Inquisition

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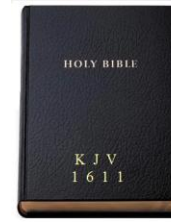
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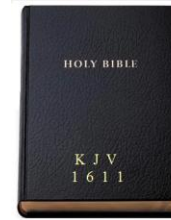
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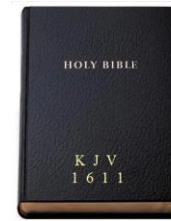
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- There are numerous fundamental, Bible-believing, godly preachers, teachers, and expositors that hold each one of these views and have scripture to support their view

Reasons For The Different Views On The Identity Of Babylon The Great

- 1) A lack of consistent application of sound Bible hermeneutics
 - 2) A specific yet incomplete perspective
- This is similar to the different details presented in two or more Gospel accounts of the same event
 - Critics falsely accuse the Bible of contradicting itself because the details regarding the same event differ when compared from one Gospel account to the other(s)
 - The details do not CONTRADICT each other but rather COMPLEMENT each other
 - For example, each of the four gospels gives a different rendering of the inscription on the cross above the head of Jesus, this is not a contradiction nor does it mean there were four inscriptions
 - The complete inscription is known by putting the details of the four accounts together

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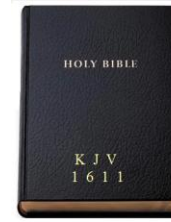


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Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS	THE KING OF THE JEWS	THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS	JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS
Composite			
THIS IS JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS			

- To the extent this is true, the identity of Babylon the Great would be a composite of the truths of each view
- 3) Misidentification of a “daughter of Babylon” for the mother
- Babylon the Great is “**the MOTHER of harlots...**” (Rev 17:5), implying she has given birth to other harlots (i.e.- daughters); and a daughter will resemble her mother in appearance and behavior

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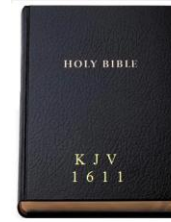
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Eze 16:44

Behold, every one that useth proverbs shall use *this* proverb against thee, saying, **As is the mother, so is her daughter.**

- It is possible that many, if not all, of the entities identified in these views as Babylon the Great are DAUGHTERS of Babylon the Great
- 4) Mistaking an APPLICATION for an INTERPRETATION
- Scripture must be correctly interpreted before it can be correctly applied
 - All of the views contain arguments suitable for APPLICATION but not necessarily INTERPRETATION
 - Components of a prophecy could apply to many individuals or nations over the course of time but that does not mean they are the interpretation or fulfillment of all or part of the prophecy (i.e.- just because the shoe FITS does not mean it is YOUR shoe)

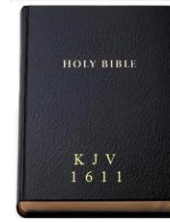
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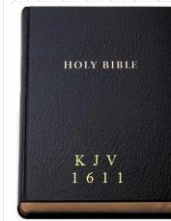
- There are truths to be found in each of the various views, at least at an application level, but which one (if any) represents the **interpretation** of the identity of Babylon the Great?
- The truth may become clearer by putting aside any pre-conceived notions and conducting a fresh and thorough analysis of the Biblical evidence
- This analysis includes: (1) a review of the 399 scripture references related to Babylon; and (2) a verse-by-verse exposition of the 7 chapters dedicated to the prophetic judgment of Babylon (the Great)
 - Isaiah 13
 - Isaiah 14
 - Isaiah 47
 - Jeremiah 50
 - Jeremiah 51
 - Revelation 17
 - Revelation 18

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- Lastly, it would also be beneficial to look at things from John's perspective as the revelation of Babylon the Great progresses through the six appearances of BABYLON in the book of Revelation
 - **Babylon** (Rev 14:8)
 - **Great** Babylon (Rev 16:19)
 - Babylon **The** Great (Rev 17:5; 18:2)
 - **That** great **city** Babylon (Rev 18:10,21)



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