

**‘The Mystery of Babylon’
(Revelation 17:3- 6)**

Intro: There is a book written by Author: Alexander Hislop, ‘The Two Babylons’ which answers many questions as where the practices and beliefs of Roman Catholicism came from? (In this scholarly classic, first published over eighty years ago, Alexander Hislop _____ that many Roman Catholic teachings did not originate with Christ or the Bible, but were adopted from ancient _____ Babylonian religion, and given Christian names.)

There are _____ Babylons mentioned in the Bible,

1. The first Babylon is revealed in the book of Genesis – **Genesis 10:8 – 10**.
 - a. The plain of Shinar is where _____ built his empire.
 - b. The historic account of this building of a tower that would reach to heaven followed the record of the _____ in which all the human race was of one language - **Genesis 11:1 – 9**.
 - c. Their incentive was two-fold,
 - (1). To make a _____ for themselves – **Genesis 11:6**.
 - (2). The motive in making a name for themselves was to _____ any need they might have for God – **Genesis 11:4**.
 - d. God seeing their pridefulness came down and _____ their language which means to mix, mingle or confuse.
 - e. This caused them to _____ off their rebellious act as communication was nixed.
2. The second Babylon is mentioned in the book of Revelation and is comprised of two entities - **Revelation 17:3 – 18**
 - a. The _____ Babylon – the leading religious & political powerhouse of the world.
 - b. The _____ Babylon – the financial headquarters of the world.

I. The mystery of Babylon.

- A. What is in mind here is the _____ organization with the ability to conduct worldwide programs meant for one purpose – that of _____ all true believers (those who come to a saving faith in the Tribulation – **Revelation 7:1 - 8**, the 144,000 & **13 - 17; 20:4 & 5**.
 1. These are those who have never _____ the Gospel prior to the rapture.
 2. **II Thessalonians 2:7 – 11**. Those _____ the rapture will buy into Satan’s lie.

- B. This religious Babylon will be a world-wide religious system – **Revelation 17:1**.
1. It will also be a _____ system – **Revelation 17:2**.
 2. She will be known for her _____ – **Revelation 17:4**.
 3. She will be a _____ of all true believers – **Revelation 17:6**.
 4. Her location geographically is the seven hills of _____ – **Revelation 17:9**.
 5. More specifically her headquarters is a city there – _____ – **Revelation 17:4, 18 – 16**.
- C. Preachers have for centuries interpreted this section of Scripture as having described the _____ Church.
- D. And it would be helpful to get the book by Alexander Hislop – ‘The Two Babylons’ as he lays out a number of facts that are eye openers concerning the Catholic Church.
1. While there are similarities the meaning and defining of those similarities are _____
 - a. And some of their doctrine is borrowed from the old empire of _____ 1.
 - b. The _____ of heaven worship under Nimrod and Samiramis.
 - c. _____ is the study and worship of Mary, mother of Christ as the queen of heaven.
 - d. They teach that she is able to save souls which she cannot. (Co-_____)
 2. The more one knows about the history of the Roman Catholic church the less one wants to _____ up to them as though they were a lot like evangelicals.
 3. The reality is that this church will be the _____ means by which the antichrist will rise to power and through whatever means, a means to unite all religions through ecumenicism.
- E. The point being that the Catholic Church which down through the centuries from about 312 AD has sought and held great power over nations, kings and people’s lives. She will do so again in the Tribulation. And it will be every bit, if not as costly as it was in the past for anyone unwilling to submit to her power.