



# ~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing



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Lord, I thank You that because Your Spirit lives in me, I have everything I need to overcome any attack the devil would try to orchestrate against me. Because Your resurrection power resides in me, I am stronger than the devil; I am tougher than any problem; and I can outlast any time of difficulty. It is not a question of IF I will win, but of WHEN I will win the victory! I thank You for giving me the power of the Holy Spirit to outlast every attack and to persist until I have accomplished what You have asked me to do, in Jesus' name. Amen

Scripture

Revelation 17

Revelation 17:1-18 (AMP)

1 ONE OF the seven angels who had the seven bowls then came and spoke to me, saying, Come with me! I will show you the doom (sentence, judgment) of the great harlot (idolatress) who is seated on many waters, 2 [She] with whom the rulers of the earth have joined in prostitution (idolatry) and with the wine of whose immorality (idolatry) the inhabitants of the earth have become intoxicated. 3 And [the angel] bore me away [rapt] in the Spirit into a desert (wilderness), and I saw a woman seated on a scarlet beast that was all covered with blasphemous titles (names), and he had seven heads and ten horns. 4 The woman was robed in purple and scarlet and bedecked with gold, precious stones, and pearls, [and she was] holding in her hand a golden cup full of the accursed offenses and the filth of her lewdness and vice. 5 And on her forehead there was inscribed a name of mystery [with a secret symbolic meaning]: Babylon the great, the mother of prostitutes (idolatresses) and of the filth and atrocities and abominations of the earth. 6 I also saw that the woman was drunk, [drunk] with the blood of the saints (God's people) and the blood of the martyrs [who witnessed] for Jesus. And when I saw her, I was utterly amazed and wondered greatly. 7 But the angel said to me, Why do you wonder? I will explain to you the [secret symbolic meaning of the] mystery of the woman, as well as of the beast having the seven heads and ten horns that carries her. 8 The beast that you saw [once] was, but [now] is no more, and he is going to come up out of the Abyss (the bottomless pit) and proceed to go to perdition. And the inhabitants of the earth whose names have not been recorded in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world will be astonished when they look at the beast, because he [once] was, but [now] is no more, and he is [yet] to come. 9 This calls for a mind [to consider that is packed] with wisdom and intelligence [it is something for a particular mode of thinking and judging of thoughts, feelings, and purposes]. The seven heads are seven hills upon which the woman is sitting; 10 And they are also seven kings, five of whom have fallen, one still exists [and is reigning]; the other [the seventh] has not yet appeared, and when he does arrive, he must stay [but] a brief time. 11 And as for the beast that [once] was, but now is no more, he [himself] is an eighth ruler (king, head), but he is of the seven and belongs to them, and he goes to perdition. 12 Also the ten horns that you observed are ten rulers (kings) who have as yet received no royal dominion, but together they are to receive power and authority as rulers for a single hour, along with the beast. 13 These have one common policy (opinion, purpose), and they deliver their power and authority to the beast. 14 They will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will triumph over them; for He is Lord of lords and King of kings—and those with Him and on His side are chosen and called [elected] and loyal and faithful followers. 15 And [the angel further] said to me, The waters that you observed, where the harlot is seated, are races and multitudes and nations and dialects (languages). 16 And the ten horns that you saw, they and the beast will [be the very ones to] hate the harlot (the idolatrous woman); they will make her cheerless (bereaved, desolate), and they will strip her and eat up her flesh and utterly consume her with fire. 17 For God has put it into their hearts to carry out His own purpose by acting in harmony in surrendering their royal power and authority to the beast, until the prophetic words (intentions and promises) of God shall be fulfilled. 18 And the woman that you saw is herself the great city which dominates and controls the rulers and the leaders of the earth.

Worship Music

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[Fight Another Day-Brandon Heath](#)

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**Revelation 17. Babylon, the Great Prostitute** Chapter 17 and chapter 18 are again somewhat of an interlude or parenthetical section and give us more information about the fall of Babylon. Chapter 17 provides greater insight into and more detail regarding the demise of the religious system called Mystery Babylon the Great ( v. 5 ; 14:8 ). Chapter 18 provides us with more information about the destruction of the political/military/economic system represented by the city of Babylon ( 16:19 ). These two systems are run by the false prophet (lamb beast) and the Antichrist (leopard beast) respectively.

**The great prostitute** ( 17:1 ) who sits on many waters is the worldwide ecumenical religious system that develops during the tribulation period and is led by the false prophet (who receives his power from Satan). Her name is Mystery Babylon the Great ( v. 5 ). The many waters are the multitude of people on the earth who are deceived and led into spiritual adultery through this worldly religion, which requires worshiping the Antichrist instead of the one true Christ. The angel makes this clear in v. 15 : "the waters you saw, where the prostitute sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations and languages." (Keep in mind that the futurist interpreters believe that the true church, those who accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior, were taken out of the earth before the tribulation; 4:1.) She (the false prophet and the entire ungodly religious system) is seated on a scarlet beast (the Antichrist), with seven heads and 10 horns, covered with blasphemous names ( v. 3 ). Remember that Satan is the power behind these two beasts and that they are working in partnership. John explained his vision of the lamb beast "who exercised all the authority of the first beast on his behalf, and made the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast" ( 13:12 ). The false prophet, and her idolatrous religious system—Mystery Babylon—is dressed in purple and scarlet and fine jewels, the pay received for her prostitution ( v. 4 ). Purple and scarlet are often the colors worn by rulers and religious leaders, and the fine jewels likely represent the wealth the false religion collects and lavishes selfishly on the false prophet. She is holding a golden cup filled with abominations and filthiness. She is the mother of all abominations, and is drunk with the blood of the saints ( vv. 5–6 ). Here again we see Satan, the great imitator, at work trying to make his lamb beast look and act like Jesus ( Luke 22:17–22 ). John later describes another woman—the New Jerusalem, God's Holy City with all its inhabitants—as the "bride, beautifully dressed for her husband" (Christ), who is the true Lamb. Two broadly contrasted women are identified with two broadly contrasted cities. One woman belongs to the beast, the other to the Lamb. One is foul, the other is pure. One is clothed in scarlet, the other in fine linen. One is headed for doom, the other is headed for eternal glory.

**Revelation 17:8–17** gives us more information about the political beast, the Antichrist, and are similar to some of the visions regarding the beast that John described in chapter 13 . Here the angel unfolds the mystery of the woman and the beast she rides ( Revelation 17:7 ). First we hear again that the beast "once was, now is not, and will come up out of the Abyss and go to his destruction." This is similar to the previous account, which explained that the beast lived, was fatally wounded, and then brought back to life by the false prophet ( 13:3 , 12 )—a mockery of Christ's death and resurrection. The seven heads are seven kings or kingdoms, five of whom have fallen ( Revelation 17:10 ). These are thought to be the world empires; the five fallen kingdoms are the Egyptian, Assyrian, Babylonian, Persian, and Greek empires. The sixth and seventh empires refer to the old Roman Empire, which lost its place of world power long ago but was never conquered, and finally the new revived Roman Empire. It is interesting to note that Rome sits on seven hills: Aventine, Caelian, Capitoline, Esquiline, Palatine, Quirinal, and Viminal. "The beast who once was, and now is not, is the eighth king" ( v. 11 ). He was originally the seventh king, but he died and was brought back to life as the eighth king. The 10 horns are 10 kings who have not yet received their kingdom ( v. 12 ). These 10 kings, with the Antichrist beast at the helm, will receive their power and authority from Satan during the "final hour," which we understand from previous chapters to be the last 3½ years (42 months) of the seven-year tribulation period. As discussed earlier, the first half of the seven-year tribulation period will be "the beginning of sorrows" and less horrible than the latter 3½ years, which are referred to as the period of Great Tribulation. In Daniel 7:8 , 24 we learn that the Antichrist will "uproot" three of the original kings and replace them. Perhaps the original three were unwilling to yield their power and wealth to him, for John tells us that the resultant 10 kings have one mind and give all their power (wealth) and authority to the Antichrist ( Revelation 17:11 ). We are also told that God "put it in their [the kings'] hearts to accomplish his purpose by agreeing to give the beast their power to rule until God's words are fulfilled" ( v. 17 ). Isn't it interesting that it took an act of God for these selfish men to submit their power and authority to the beast? Even Satan's influence was not strong enough to ensure that this sleazy coalition would remain faithful to the Antichrist. The solidarity of this demonic leadership team must have been important to the fulfillment of God's final plan of judgment. In the end, the religious Babylon will fall because the Antichrist and his committee of 10 kings will turn their backs and betray the false prophet by usurping all power and authority from the world religion. The false prophet himself will not be destroyed until later ( chap. 19 ), but the religious system is dismantled and left powerless. The kings prepare to make war against the Lamb (Christ), and the Lamb will overcome them—"and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers" ( Revelation 17:14 ). We see this prediction fulfilled in Revelation 19:14 . Other New Testament passages, such as 2 Thessalonians 2:3–10 ; 1 Timothy 4:1–3 ; 2 Peter 2 ; and Jude 18 , also predict the rise and temporary ascendancy of an apostate power. To the futurist interpreter, Babylon, among other things, is a literal city of the future, where the Antichrist will set up his headquarters. Perhaps this will be the ancient city of Babylon rebuilt or an existing city in that area, such as Baghdad. Some think this city will be the capital city of a revived Roman Empire, a confederacy of 10 Western countries or world powers that will conspire together to rule and control the world in the end times. It is thought that this city will be the headquarters for the Antichrist's political system as well as the worship center for the worldwide religious system established by the false prophet, who convinces the world's people to worship the Antichrist.

We see many signs today that suggest that the governance of our world is becoming more and more global. Financial systems are essentially global today, commerce with the introduction of the internet and expanding free-trade agreements is global, and we are even seeing a convergence in the world's political governance, such as the European Economic Community and the increasing power and jurisdiction of the United Nations. We are also sadly seeing many signs of growing spiritual idolatry in our world. The New Age movement that encourages "spiritualism" of the kind that teaches that we are all our own gods. The many churches that leave Christ out of the center of their teaching and assure their congregations that living a good life is all it takes to get to heaven. The growing mandate for "tolerance" of immoral behavior while there is an equal growth of intolerance for Christian values like abstinence from sex before marriage, the sanctity of traditional marriage and family, and overall sexual purity. We are surely near the appointed time! (Halley's Bible Handbook; Henry Halley; 2000; Zondervan; Bible History & Commentaries; pages 952-955)



The Pulling Down Of Babylon: V1 The "whore" is the false church system that was very powerful and ruled over many nations ("many waters"). V3 The "seven heads and ten horns" describe the Antichrist. V5 Suggested reading for history students. The Two Babylons by Alexander Hislop. This book connects ancient Babylon with the corrupt church. V6 "Admiration" here means wonderment. V7 This church system will help the beast gain power. V9 The seven heads are the seven mountains upon which the city of Rome is built. The "woman" (false church) is based there. V10-11 When John was writing, the sixth king was on the throne of the Roman empire; five had died and one was yet to come. The beast will be one of the seven. Caesar Nero was the fifth emperor of Rome and was called "The Beast" by the early Church. After he rejected Paul the Apostle's witness, his actions were those of a demon-possessed man. In my opinion, the demon who possessed Nero will possess the Antichrist. V12 The "ten kings" are nations of the European Community (see Daniel 7) V13 The European Community will need a strong leader, and will give their power to the Antichrist. V18 Rome will come to prominence again during the reign of the Antichrist.

(New Testament Study Guide; The Word For The Day; Chuck Smith; 2005; commentaries; page 199-200)



Daniel 7:1-28 (AMP) ..1 IN THE first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions in his head as he was lying upon his bed. Then he wrote down the dream and told the gist of the matter. 2 Daniel said, I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of the heavens [political and social agitations] were stirring up the great sea [the nations of the world]. 3 And four great beasts came up out of the sea in succession, and different from one another. 4 The first [the Babylonian empire under Nebuchadnezzar] was like a lion and had eagle's wings. I looked till the wings of it were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand upon two feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it. 5 And behold another beast, a second one [the Medo-Persian empire], was like a bear, and it raised up itself on one side [or one dominion] and three ribs were in its mouth between its teeth; and it was told, Arise, devour much flesh. 6 After this I looked, and behold, another [the Grecian empire of Alexander the Great], like a leopard which had four wings of a bird on its back. The beast had also four heads [Alexander's generals, his successors], and dominion was given to it. 7 After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast [the Roman empire]—terrible, powerful and dreadful, and exceedingly strong. And it had great iron teeth; it devoured and crushed and trampled what was left with its feet. And it was different from all the beasts that came before it, and it had ten horns [symbolizing ten kings]. 8 I considered the horns, and behold, there came up among them another horn, a little one, before which three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots; and behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth speaking great things. 9 I kept looking until thrones were placed [for the assessors with the Judge], and the Ancient of Days [God, the eternal Father] took His seat, Whose garment was white as snow and the hair of His head like pure wool. His throne was like the fiery flame; its wheels were burning fire. 10 A stream of fire came forth from before Him; a thousand thousands ministered to Him and ten thousand times ten thousand rose up and stood before Him; the Judge was seated [the court was in session] and the books were opened. 11 I looked then because of the sound of the great words which the horn was speaking. I watched until the beast was slain and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire. 12 And as for the rest of the beasts, their power of dominion was taken away; yet their lives were prolonged [for the duration of their lives was fixed] for a season and a time. 13 I saw in the night visions, and behold, on the clouds of the heavens came One like a Son of man, and He came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before Him. 14 And there was given Him [the Messiah] dominion and glory and kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion which shall not pass away, and His kingdom is one which shall not be destroyed. 15 As for me, Daniel, my spirit was grieved and anxious within me, and the visions of my head alarmed and agitated me. 16 I came near to one of those who stood there and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of the things. 17 These four great beasts are four kings who shall arise out of the earth. 18 But the saints of the Most High [God] shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever. 19 Then I wished to know the truth about the fourth beast—which was different from all the others, exceedingly terrible and shocking, whose teeth were of iron and its nails of bronze, which devoured, broke and crushed, and trampled what was left with its feet— 20 And about the ten horns [representing kings] that were on its head, and the other horn which came up later and before which three of [the horns] fell, the horn which had eyes and a mouth that spoke great things and which looked greater than the others. 21 As I looked, this horn made war with the saints and prevailed over them 22 Until the Ancient of Days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the Most High [God], and the time came when the saints possessed the kingdom. 23 Thus [the angel] said, The fourth beast shall be a fourth kingdom on earth, which shall be different from all other kingdoms and shall devour the whole earth, tread it down, and break it in pieces and crush it. 24 And as for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings shall arise; and another shall arise after them, and he shall be different from the former ones, and he shall subdue and put down three kings. the interpreting angel's information] in my heart and mind.

25 And he shall speak words against the Most High [God] and shall wear out the saints of the Most High and think to change the time [of sacred feasts and holy days] and the law; and the saints shall be given into his hand for a time, two times, and half a time [three and one-half years]. 26 But the judgment shall be set [by the court of the Most High], and they shall take away his dominion to consume it [gradually] and to destroy it [suddenly] in the end. 27 And the kingdom and the dominion and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heavens shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High; His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all the dominions shall serve and obey Him. 28 Here is the end of the matter. As for me, Daniel, my [waking] thoughts troubled and alarmed me much and my cheerfulness of countenance was changed in me; but I kept the matter [of the interpreting angel's information] in my heart and mind.

Treasury - Rev 17:1...(Amplified Bible)...

**One...**Rev 15:1 — THEN I saw another wonder (sign, token, symbol) in heaven, great and marvelous [warning of events of ominous significance]: There were seven angels bringing seven plagues (afflictions, calamities), which are the last, for with them God's wrath (indignation) is completely expressed [reaches its climax and is ended]. Rev 15:6 — And there came out of the temple sanctuary the seven angels bringing the seven plagues (afflictions, calamities). They were arrayed in pure gleaming linen, and around their breasts they wore golden girdles. Rev 17:1-17 — ONE OF the seven angels who had the seven bowls then came and spoke to me, saying, Come with me! I will show you the doom (sentence, judgment) of the great harlot (idolatress) who is seated on many waters, 2 [She] with whom the rulers of the earth have joined in prostitution (idolatry) and with the wine of whose immorality (idolatry) the inhabitants of the earth have become intoxicated. 3 And [the angel] bore me away [rapt] in the Spirit into a desert (wilderness), and I saw a woman seated on a scarlet beast that was all covered with blasphemous titles (names), and he had seven heads and ten horns. 4 The woman was robed in purple and scarlet and bedecked with gold, precious stones, and pearls, [and she was] holding in her hand a golden cup full of the accursed offenses and the filth of her lewdness and vice. 5 And on her forehead there was inscribed a name of mystery [with a secret symbolic meaning]: Babylon the great, the mother of prostitutes (idolatresses) and of the filth and atrocities and abominations of the earth. 6 I also saw that the woman was drunk, [drunk] with the blood of the saints (God's people) and the blood of the martyrs [who witnessed] for Jesus. And when I saw her, I was utterly amazed and wondered greatly. 7 But the angel said to me, Why do you wonder? I will explain to you the [secret symbolic meaning of the] mystery of the woman, as well as of the beast having the seven heads and ten horns that carries her. 8 The beast that you saw [once] was, but [now] is no more, and he is going to come up out of the Abyss (the bottomless pit) and proceed to go to perdition. And the inhabitants of the earth whose names have not been recorded in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world will be astonished when they look at the beast, because he [once] was, but [now] is no more, and he is [yet] to come. 9 This calls for a mind [to consider that is packed] with wisdom and intelligence [it is something for a particular mode of thinking and judging of thoughts, feelings, and purposes]. The seven heads are seven hills upon which the woman is sitting; 10 And they are also seven kings, five of whom have fallen, one still exists [and is reigning]; the other [the seventh] has not yet appeared, and when he does arrive, he must stay [but] a brief time. 11 And as for the beast that [once] was, but now is no more, he [himself] is an eighth ruler (king, head), but he is of the seven and belongs to them, and he goes to perdition. 12 Also the ten horns that you observed are ten rulers (kings) who have as yet received no royal dominion, but together they are to receive power and authority as rulers for a single hour, along with the beast. 13 These have one common policy (opinion, purpose), and they deliver their power and authority to the beast. 14 They will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will triumph over them; for He is Lord of lords and King of kings—and those with Him and on His side are chosen and called [elected] and loyal and faithful followers. 15 And [the angel further] said to me, The waters that you observed, where the harlot is seated, are races and multitudes and nations and dialects (languages). 16 And the ten horns that you saw, they and the beast will [be the very ones to] hate the harlot (the idolatrous woman); they will make her cheerless (bereaved, desolate), and they will strip her and eat up her flesh and utterly consume her with fire. 17 For God has put it into their hearts to carry out His own purpose by acting in harmony in surrendering their royal power and authority to the beast, until the prophetic words (intentions and promises) of God shall be fulfilled. Rev 21:9 — Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven final plagues (afflictions, calamities) came and spoke to me. He said, Come with me! I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife.

**Talked...**Rev 4:1 — AFTER THIS I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice which I had heard addressing me like [the calling of] a war trumpet said, Come up here, and I will show you what must take place in the future. Rev 21:15 — And he who spoke to me had a golden measuring reed (rod) to measure the city and its gates and its wall. Lk 9:30 — And behold, two men were conversing with Him—Moses and Elijah, Lk 24:32 — And they said to one another, Were not our hearts greatly moved and burning within us while He was talking with us on the road and as He opened and explained to us [the sense of] the Scriptures?

**I will...Rev 16:19** — The mighty city was broken into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And God kept in mind mighty Babylon, to make her drain the cup of His furious wrath and indignation. Rev 18:16-19 — Alas, alas for the great city that was robed in fine linen, in purple and scarlet, bedecked and glittering with gold, with precious stones, and with pearls! 17 Because in one [single] hour all the vast wealth has been destroyed (wiped out). And all ship captains and pilots, navigators and all who live by seafaring, the crews and all who ply their trade on the sea, stood a long way off, 18 And exclaimed as they watched the smoke of her burning, What city could be compared to the great city! 19 And they threw dust on their heads as they wept and grieved, exclaiming, Woe and alas, for the great city, where all who had ships on the sea grew rich [through her extravagance] from her great wealth! In one single hour she has been destroyed and has become a desert!

**the great...Rev 17:4** — The woman was robed in purple and scarlet and bedecked with gold, precious stones, and pearls, [and she was] holding in her hand a golden cup full of the accursed offenses and the filth of her lewdness and vice. Rev 17:5 — And on her forehead there was inscribed a name of mystery [with a secret symbolic meaning]: Babylon the great, the mother of prostitutes (idolatresses) and of the filth and atrocities and abominations of the earth. Rev 17:15 — And [the angel further] said to me, The waters that you observed, where the harlot is seated, are races and multitudes and nations and dialects (languages). Rev 17:16 —

**And the ten horns** that you saw, they and the beast will [be the very ones to] hate the harlot (the idolatrous woman); they will make her cheerless (bereaved, desolate), and they will strip her and eat up her flesh and utterly consume her with fire. Rev 19:2 — Because His judgments (His condemnation and punishment, His sentences of doom) are true and sound and just and upright. He has judged (convicted, pronounced sentence, and doomed) the great and notorious harlot (idolatress) who corrupted and demoralized and poisoned the earth with her lewdness and adultery (idolatry). And He has avenged (visited on her the penalty for) the blood of His servants at her hand. Isa 57:3 — But come close, you sons of a sorceress [nursed in witchcraft and superstition], you offspring of an adulterer and a harlot. Na 3:4 — All because of the multitude of the harlotries [of Nineveh], the well-favored harlot, the mistress of deadly charms who betrays and sells nations through her whoredoms [idolatry] and peoples through her enchantments. Na 3:5 — Behold, I am against you, says the Lord of hosts, and I will lift up your skirts over your face, and I will let the nations look on your nakedness [O Nineveh] and the kingdoms on your shame.

**that sitteth** Rev 17:15 — And [the angel further] said to me, The waters that you observed, where the harlot is seated, are races and multitudes and nations and dialects (languages). Jer 51:13 — O [Babylon] you who dwell by many waters, rich in treasures, your end has come, and the line measuring your life is cut.