

# **Revelation 16**



#### The Great Prostitute and the Beast

17 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great prostitute who is seated on many waters, <sup>2</sup> with whom the kings of the earth have committed sexual immorality, and with the wine of whose sexual immorality the dwellers on earth have become drunk." 3 And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness, and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns. <sup>4</sup> The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and jewels and pearls, holding in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the impurities of her sexual immorality. <sup>5</sup> And on her forehead was written a name of mystery: "Babylon the great, mother of prostitutes and of earth's abominations." 6 And I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of the martyrs of Jesus.

<sup>12</sup> "The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast. <sup>13</sup> These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast. <sup>14</sup> These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful."

<sup>15</sup> Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues. <sup>16</sup> And the ten horns which you <sup>[g]</sup>saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire. <sup>17</sup> For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled. <sup>18</sup> And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth."



# Zachariah 5

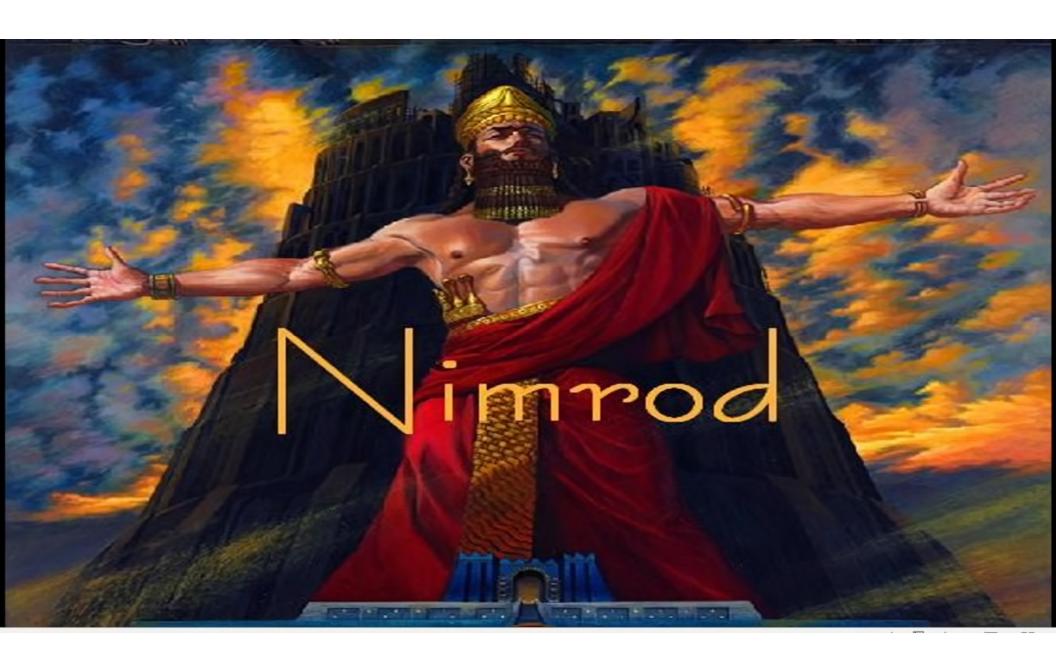
### A Vision of a Woman in a Basket

<sup>5</sup> Then the angel who talked with me came forward and said to me, "Lift your eyes and see what this is that is going out." <sup>6</sup> And I said, "What is it?" He said, "This is the basket<sup>[c]</sup> that is going out." And he said, "This is their iniquity<sup>[d]</sup> in all the land." <sup>7</sup> And behold, the leaden cover was lifted, and there was a woman sitting in the basket! <sup>8</sup> And he said, "This is Wickedness." And he thrust her back into the basket, and thrust down the leaden weight on its opening.

<sup>9</sup>Then I lifted my eyes and saw, and behold, two women coming forward! The wind was in their wings. They had wings like the wings of a stork, and they lifted up the basket between earth



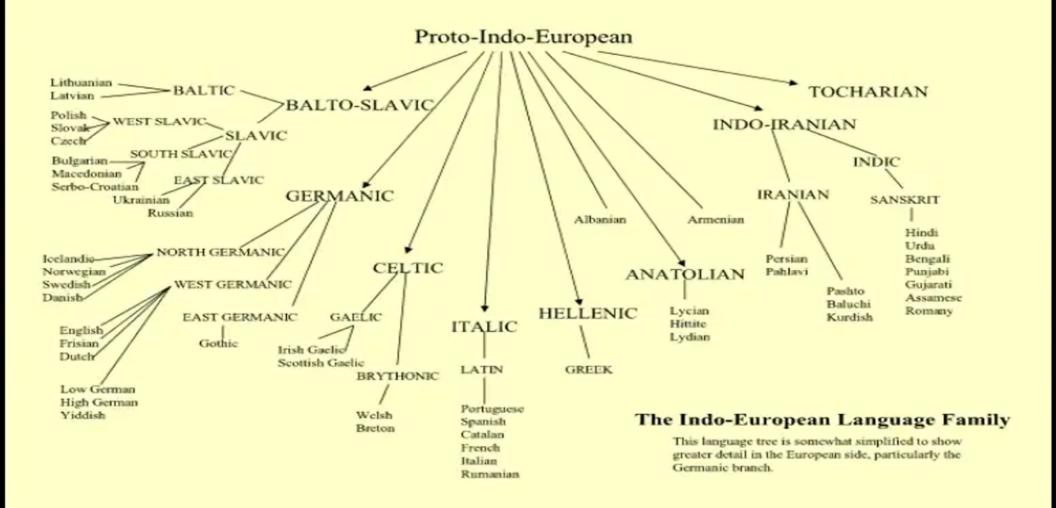
and heaven. <sup>10</sup> Then I said to the angel who talked with me, "Where are they taking the basket?" <sup>11</sup> He said to me, "To the land of Shinar, to build a house for it. And when this is prepared, they will set the basket down there on its base."

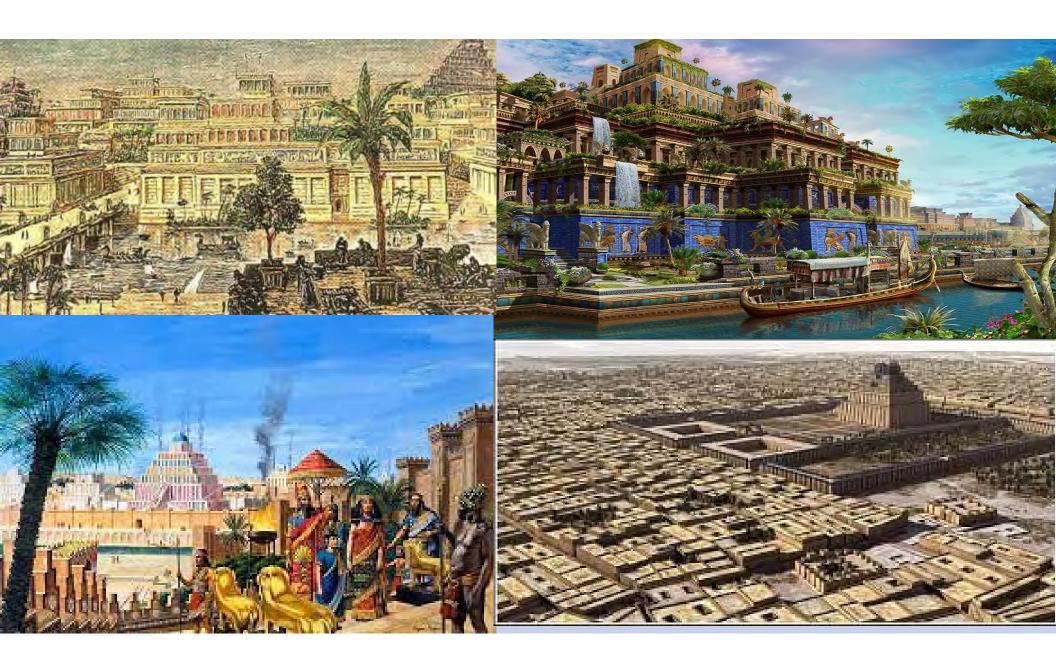


### **Genesis 11:1-9**

- 11 And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech.
- 2...they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there...
- <sup>4</sup>And they said, let us build us a city and a tower, ...and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth...
- And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, ...
- <sup>7</sup>Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.
- 8 So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city.
- <sup>9</sup> Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth; and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.





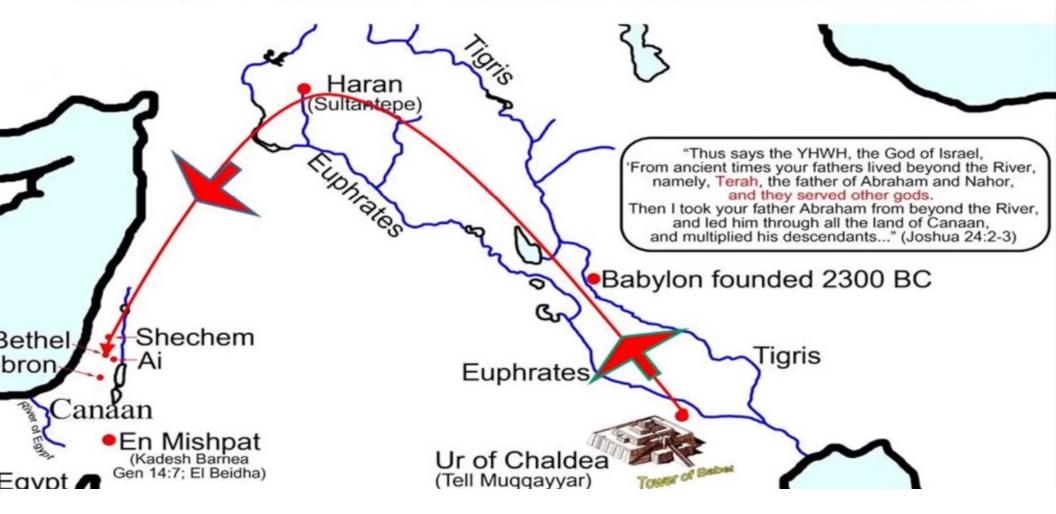






# Abraham's Camping Trek

from Ur -> Haran -> Canaan: The Promised Land



Genesis 10
English Standard Version
Nations Descended from Noah

<sup>6</sup>The sons of Ham: Cush, Egypt, Put, and Canaan. <sup>7</sup>The sons of Cush: Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah, and Sabteca. The sons of Raamah: Sheba and Dedan. <sup>8</sup>Cush fathered Nimrod; he was the first on earth to be a mighty man. <sup>9</sup>He was a mighty hunter before the LORD. Therefore it is said, "Like Nimrod a mighty hunter before the LORD." <sup>10</sup>The beginning of his kingdom was Babel, Erech, Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. <sup>11</sup>From that land he went into Assyria and built Nineveh, Rehoboth-Ir, Calah, and <sup>12</sup>Resen between Nineveh and Calah; that is the great city. <sup>13</sup>Egypt fathered Ludim, Anamim, Lehabim, Naphtuhim, <sup>14</sup>Pathrusim, Casluhim (from whom<sup>[b]</sup> the Philistines came), and Caphtorim.

# Nimrod

Josephus:

"Nimrod persuaded mankind not to ascribe their happiness to God, but to think that his own excellency was the source of it. And he soon changed things into a tyranny, thinking that there was no other way to wean men from the fear of God, than by making them rely upon his own power."

Antiquities of Jews, I.c.4.2

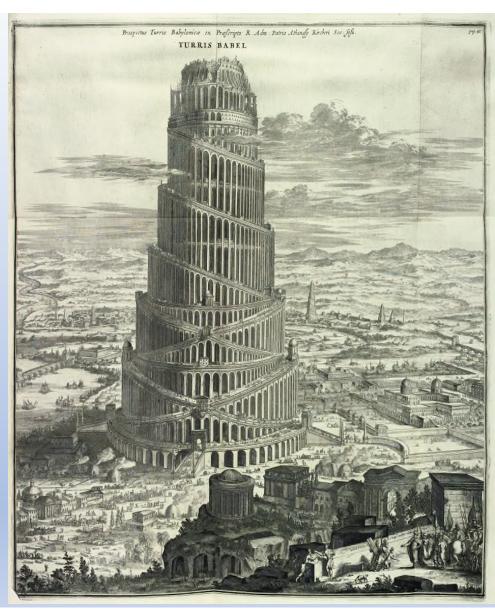
# **Nimrod**

"He was powerful in hunting and in wickedness before the Lord for he was a hunter of the sons of men, and he said to them, 'Depart from the judgment of the Lord, and adhere to the judgment of Nimrod!' There is it said, 'As Nimrod is the strong one, strong in hunting, and in wickedness before the Lord."

Jerusalem Taraum

#### The Tower of Babel

Genesis 11 Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. <sup>2</sup> And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. <sup>3</sup> And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. <sup>4</sup> Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth." <sup>5</sup> And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built. <sup>6</sup> And the LORD said, "Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. <sup>7</sup> Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech." 8 So the LORD dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. 9 Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused [a] the language of all the earth. And from there the LORD dispersed them over the face of all the earth.



Possible Scenarios for "The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to rise from the bottomless pit and go to destruction":

- Antichrist is assassinated, resurrected (falsely?) at mid Tribulation and indwelt by Satan
- The Babylonian Empire that was (before John) is not (during John's Time) and will arise in end times
- Roman Empire (MUST be from a perspective future to John, but the revelations are talking about the end times)
   It WAS during John's time, IS NOT in Church Age, WILL rise from abyss and go to destruction.

#### • AND, my current opinion:

- Satan's primary weapon, accusation of saints before God, was destroyed at the cross.

  There for, what Satan was, an effective accuser, he "is not" at the time the Angel witnesses to John.

  Prior to the cross, we know God gave Satan power over the earth.
- And he lost something else a little more abstract:
   Colossians 2:15 Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

#### Between the Crucifixion and Resurrection, Jesus spent 3 days and 3 nights in sheol.

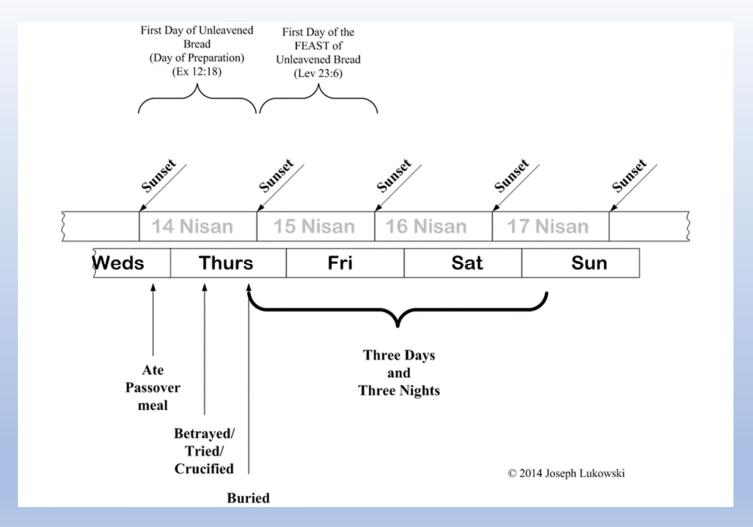
I believe *something* about Satan was bound in sheol at that time, to be released with the 5<sup>th</sup> Trumpet. Rev. 9:1 Then the fifth angel sounded: And I saw a star fallen from heaven to the earth. To him was given the key to the bottomless pit. <sup>2</sup> And he opened the bottomless pit, and smoke arose out of the pit like the smoke of a great furnace. So the sun and the air were darkened because of the smoke of the pit.

# Satan's expulsion from Heaven occurs in Chapter 12 (parenthetical) at what I consider to be midpoint and is represented on earth in Chapter 11 (parenthetical).

Rev. 12:7 And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, <sup>8</sup> but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. <sup>9</sup> So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

Rev. 11:7 When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them.

I believe Rev. 11:7 follows shortly after 12:7 and that 9:1 is the same event as 12:7



https://hermeneutics.stackexchange.com/questions/2198/how-is-it-that-jesus-could-be-three-days-and-three-nights-in-the-heart-of-the-e

# The Great Prostitute and the Beast Revelation 17

(6) When I saw her, I marveled greatly. <sup>7</sup> But the angel said to me, "Why do you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman, and of the beast with seven heads and ten horns that carries her. 8 The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to rise from the bottomless pit and go to destruction. And the dwellers on earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world will marvel to see the beast, because it was and is not and is to come. <sup>9</sup> This calls for a mind with wisdom: the seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman is seated; 10 they are also seven kings, five of whom have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come, and when he does come he must remain only a little while. <sup>11</sup> As for the beast that was and is not, it is an eighth but it belongs to the seven, and it goes to destruction. 12 And the ten horns that you saw are ten kings who have not yet received royal power, but they are to receive authority as kings for one hour, together with the beast. 13 These are of one mind, and they hand over their power and authority to the beast. <sup>14</sup> They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful."

# The Great Prostitute and the Beast Revelation 17

<sup>15</sup> And the angel said to me, "The waters that you saw, where the prostitute is seated, are peoples and multitudes and nations and languages. <sup>16</sup> And the ten horns that you saw, they and the beast will hate the prostitute. They will make her desolate and naked, and devour her flesh and burn her up with fire, <sup>17</sup> for God has put it into their hearts to carry out his purpose by being of one mind and handing over their royal power to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled. <sup>18</sup> And the woman that you saw is the great city that has dominion over the kings of the earth."

#### The City of Seven Hills

There are multiple cities that have been proposed as this city. They are:

- Rome
- Jerusalem
- Mecca

However, one must consider the world view of the speaker's audience, because that is how the speaker frames the message. (We all do that naturally.)

In this case, the Angel is speaking to John, who has been persecuted exiled to a prison island by Rome. "The city of 7 hills" in John's time, ethnic and personal experience referred to, and only to Rome. With that perspective, we can extrapolate 9 and 17:

#### As:

"The woman you saw is Rome, the great city that has dominion (religious, political and social control) over the kings of the earth."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> This calls for a mind with wisdom: the seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman is seated;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> And the woman that you saw is the great city that has dominion over the kings of the earth."

Rev 17: <sup>15</sup> And the angel said to me, "The waters that you saw, where the prostitute is seated, are peoples and multitudes and nations and languages. <sup>16</sup> And the ten horns that you saw, they and the beast will hate the prostitute. They will make her desolate and naked, and devour her flesh and burn her up with fire, <sup>17</sup> for God has put it into their hearts to carry out his purpose by being of one mind and handing over their royal power to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled. <sup>18</sup> And the woman that you saw is the great city that has dominion over the kings of the earth."

So, if I am correct, "the great dragon was cast out" (12:9) and seen as "a star fallen from heaven to the earth. To him was given the key to the bottomless pit." (9:1) at about the same time as "the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them." (The two witnesses. 11:7) then "the "abomination that causes desolation" (Matt 14:15, Daniel 9:27) happens at the middle of the 7-year tribulation, then Satan has obviously, in some manner, returns to earth. (And, I believe, re-antimates and posses the body of the assassinated human antichrist. That is an opinion.) This also shed light on 17:11 "As for the beast that was and is not, it is an eighth but it belongs to the seven, and it goes to destruction." The human antichrist is of the 7 but becomes the 8<sup>th</sup> when he is possessed by Satan.

Therefore, the one who "was, (before the Resurrection) is not now (during the church age) and is to come (at the midpoint) is most likely Satan himself.

So Satan has no use for the Great Prostitute Rome, who exercises political power and directs worship to the unified world religion as he wants all power and worship. Therefore, he destroys "Rome" – be it the city or the institution – and his henchman the False Prophet now facilitates worship of the Beast.

#### Matthew 6:24

"No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

#### 1 Timothy 6:10

For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

#### Ecclesiastes 5:10-12

He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity. When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes? Sweet is the sleep of a laborer, whether he eats little or much, but the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep.

What did Israel bring back from Babylon?

The Babylonian love for money !!

### The Fall of Babylon

18 After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was made bright with his glory. <sup>2</sup> And he called out with a mighty voice,

"Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great!

She has become a dwelling place for demons,

a haunt for every unclean spirit,

a haunt for every unclean bird,

a haunt for every unclean and detestable beast.

<sup>3</sup> For all nations have drunk<sup>[a]</sup>

the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed immorality with her,

and the merchants of the earth have grown rich from the power of her luxurious living."