



# The Canadian *Lord's Day* Association

**Bible Course**

**Acts to Revelation**

**Lesson 85**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*Read Revelation 17*

**Vision #6:**  
**The Mystery  
Woman**

The entire book of Revelation is a series of visions. Chapters 17 – 19 include the 6<sup>th</sup> of 7 visions. This is the vision of the “Mystery Woman.” Chapter 17 describes her; Chapter 18 tells of her downfall; and Chapter 19 is the resulting rejoicing and worshipping. The word “mystery” is used in the New Testament sometimes as a technical term referring to “God’s open secret.” God reveals the mystery to His people. Think of Matthew 13:11, where Christ responds to the disciples question of why He spoke in parables, “...Because it is give unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given.” Another passage says, “Behold, I show you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed...” (I Corinthians 15:51).

1. So who is this woman?

- a. I will show you the judgment of the great \_\_\_\_\_.  
She is sitting upon a scarlet colored \_\_\_\_\_, full of  
the names of \_\_\_\_\_. She was the mother of  
harlots, a prostitute.
- b. She was dressed in \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_ color, and decked with  
\_\_\_\_\_ and precious stones and  
\_\_\_\_\_, having a golden cup in her hand full of  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of her  
fornication.

This woman has sometimes been wrongly defined as the church, the Roman Catholic Church, or the apostles. This is not the same woman as the one in chapter 12. She is a prostitute not an adulterer. She has never been married to Christ. She is an immoral woman and also representative of a city at the same time. The best way to gain insight regarding her is to stay with Scripture (don't speculate outside of Scripture) and go to the Old Testament for insight.

2. First from Revelation 17:5, ...upon her forehead was a name written, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ the great, the Mother of Harlots and Abominations of the Earth.
3. Now look at Daniel 4:30. The king spake, and said "Is not this great \_\_\_\_\_, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power and for the honor of my majesty?" Babylon is a symbol of 'this world' in opposition to God. The lust of the flesh, lust of the eye, and pride of life is the world and it is in each of us. The woman represents worldly pleasure around and in us.
4. The woman has a double strategy. Her main strategy is to destroy Christ's kingdom through worldliness. Rev. 17:2 says, "with whom the \_\_\_\_\_ of the earth have committed fornication, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of the earth have been made drink with the wine of her fornication. No part of society is save, not even the church. All will be tempted: rich, poor, leaders, workers, male, female. The devil even attempted to get Christ to fall to the temptation for possessions and pride ("All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me" Matt. 4:9).

*Those drunk with the wine of the woman constantly seek for more – they are not satisfied. However, Christ has said, "Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst."*

5. The woman's second strategy is persecution. "And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the \_\_\_\_\_ and with the blood of the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus (v. 6).
6. The woman has support – note that she is sitting upon seven \_\_\_\_\_, many \_\_\_\_\_, and a strange beast. (She will have worldwide influence over peoples, nations, tongues).
7. Yet, the woman is really frail, she is not loved, but used. Behind her flashy clothes and painted face is emptiness, a wilderness. When the devil has no more use for her, he will "make her \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, and shall eat her flesh and \_\_\_\_\_ her with fire (v. 16). Infatuation with worldly pleasure leads to destruction.

Evaluator \_\_\_\_\_

## **Meditation**

*He that endureth to the end shall be saved.* Matt. 10:22 and 24:13

We have now reached the end of another year. Look back with humility: look up with hope: look forward with joy: for consider what great things God had done for us: "Now is our salvation nearer than when we (first) believed" Rom. 13:11.

Salvation, O the joyful sound!

But, before the Sun of Righteousness arose upon us and displayed the glory of his finished salvation to our hearts, alas! What dark, proud, ignorant notions of salvation did we did we entertain! Instead of seeing righteousness as a gift by Jesus Christ, and justification of life coming by free gift, and eternal life the gift of God through Jesus Christ, Rom. 5: 17, 18; 6:23—we vainly thought that salvation was to be procured by some deeds or righteousness of our own. In our natural state of blindness, before we saw Jesus, we thought enduring to the end might give us a claim to be saved; now we see that we are "saved in the Lord with an everlasting salvation." Isa. 45:17.

We began the year seeing Jesus. O, in this blessed sight let us endure to the end. In Him we see a complete salvation. We hear and believe his cry from the cross, "It is finished." We hear him proclaim from his throne in glory, "It is done." Rev. 21:6. In him we are "chosen to salvation, through sanctification of the Spirit, and belief of the truth." 2Thess. 2:13. He "of God, is made unto us wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption." 1.Cor. 1:30. In the faith of this we persevere. By faith we endure (every fight of affliction) seeing him who is invisible." Heb. 11:27. We "run with patience the race set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith." Heb. 12:2 Consider these precious words, ye who tremble lest your faith shall not endure to the end: the same Jesus who is the author is also the finisher of your faith. It is the glory of gospel faith to live upon Jesus who is our life and salvation; and to enjoy life and salvation in Christ where in spite of all the deceitfulness of sin, and the art and malice of Satan, we will "receive the end of our faith, the salvation of our souls." 1 Peter 1:9

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Now, Christian reader, I commend thee to God, and to the work of his grace, wishing thee sweet comfort in perusing these daily meditations. If our Lord give thee as much in reading as I have found in writing, them, thou wilt have great cause for love and praise. Accept them, as the labour of one who is "no prophet, neither a prophet's son," but who would glory in being a saved sinner, by the cross of Jesus.

Glory be to God in the highest. Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus in sincerity. Amen.

*A Spiritual Treasury of the Children of God, William Mason*