

The previous chapter told us of the seven angels and their seven bowls of wrath that affected the entire world. This chapter through part of chapter 19 focuses on what the world powers are doing during those final bowls of wrath.

¹ 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, ² 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."

Revelation 17:1,2 The introduction to the harlot here in verses 1 and 3 parallel the introduction to the bride in 21:9,10ⁱ. An angel shows John the prostitute. In 21 an angel shows John the bride. In 17 he is carried into the wilderness. In 21 he is carried to a high mountain. 17:4 describes the outwardly adorned prostitute. 21 reveals the city adorned with God's glory. Finally, the name of each is revealed: Babylon and New Jerusalem. The ending of each section is similar as well (19:9,10ⁱⁱ and 22:6ⁱⁱⁱ,8,9^{iv}). We can see that the language is meant to contrast the two. That helps us identify the harlot as this world's system of greed and worldly pleasure as opposed to those who humbly follow Jesus. This world tempts people to be spiritual adulterers offering their heart to the world instead of faithfulness to Christ as the groom. God made us for Himself. Satan wants to tempt us just as he did Jesus by offering us the world (Matthew 4:8,9^v). **The world's outward adornment hides its inner rot. Jesus is all glorious within and without.**

"Many waters" represents the people groups in the world. Sexual immorality represents the idolatry of physical things, putting them before/above God as the desire of our heart. That term idolatry is used because we are meant to be lovers of God. Most entertainment is about things people desire, the perfect vacation, the perfect house, or the perfect person to satisfy us. They appeal to the idolatrous nature of the human heart to set our affections on them. Most advertising entices us to do the same. We are inundated with tempting images of spiritual adultery. When we set our hearts on what the world offers, we become drunk with wine of sexual immorality which is seeking satisfaction in the things of the world. That results in us being senseless and careless. That is why Paul exhorts us to set our hearts and minds on things above and not on things of the earth (Colossians 3:1,2^{vi}).

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. Revelation 17:3 Carried away in the Spirit happened to Ezekiel (Ezekiel 8:3^{vii}; 11:1^{viii}, 24^{ix}). Enoch and Philip were physically moved from one location to another. The wilderness is a comparison to the journey of the Israelites to the Promised Land which is analogous to our journey through life. We are making an exodus from this world to heaven, but we must go through the wilderness. There in this wilderness journey we encounter a woman on the scarlet beast. The scarlet color probably represents the blood of the martyrs. The seven heads and ten horns are the rule of men opposed to God.

⁴ 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. Revelation 17:4 Purple and scarlet, gold, jewels and pearls all indicate extravagant wealth, the vanity of this world. The cup in her hand is full of abominations, which shows us she is drunk on her evil deeds. The splendor of the

world is contrasted with the splendor of the heavenly woman clothed with the sun (12:1^x) who is the bride (21:9-14^{xi}). The passing beauty of idolatry is really a finely arrayed whore on a scarlet beast. There is no similarity between the two, only contrast. The whore has no relational intimacy like the bride of Christ does with her perfect groom. She will destroy her followers instead (Proverbs 5:3-5^{xii}).

⁵ *And on her forehead was written a name of mystery: "Babylon the great, mother of prostitutes and of earth's abominations."* Revelation 17:5 Of all the idolatry in the world, Babylon was the worst. The Tower of Babel was man saying, "We can make it to God on our own." The forehead is where the mark of the beast is displayed. It is a brazen statement of whom one belongs. That is why the servants of God have the name of Jesus and God's name on their foreheads (3:12^{xiii}). In the case of the whore, it is a symbol of defiance (13:16^{xiv}; Jeremiah 3:3^{xv}). She offers a way for people to pay to find pleasure in the things of the world as substitute gods, things like lust, money, fame, power, entertainment, etc. She encourages taking God's good gifts and using them perversely, even to the point of devoting their lives to those things. She is the mother of prostitutes in that people sell their time to earn the income to obtain those things they worship. In chapter 12 the beast goes after the children of the woman, those called to be holy. Here Babylon is the mother of prostitutes. This is another stark contrast that is meant to for us to seriously consider which side we are on, holiness or wickedness!

The name of God on His servants' foreheads is one of submissive obedience (7:15^{xvi}). In the Old Testament, Jews were to wear phylacteries on their foreheads, little boxes that contained Scripture regarding loving God with our all (Exodus 13:16^{xvii}). It is referred to as a mark. Phylacteries boldly declared that loving God was the wearer's priority in life. What a contrast!

Cain went out from the presence of the Lord and built a city (Genesis 4:16,17^{xviii}). Ever since then, man has looked for satisfaction in what cities offer to temporarily satisfy the soul without God (Hebrews 11:10^{xix}). John wrote in his first letter, ¹⁵ *Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.* ¹⁶ *For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world.* ¹⁷ *And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.* 1 John 2:15-17 Those verses could be a summary of Revelation.

⁶ *And I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. When I saw her, I marveled greatly.* Revelation 17:6 Rome entertained the masses with the arena. The bloodshed was frequent and copious. Just as the media offers violent entertainment today, and the public is addicted to watching the horror. That the woman could be so cold and ruthless caused John to marvel. There is something evil in the old nature that is attracted to blood and death. You see it when people slow down to gawk at a car accident.

Governments have persecuted Christians since the church began. We are the ones thrown to the lions for entertainment. In North Korea you can be executed on the spot for having a Bible. In China churches are torn down and pastors are put in labor camps. Muslims enjoy beheading what they call apostates. It sends a chilling message to anyone who would consider converting. Man's kingdoms will always be anti-Christian. The unified governments of the end-time will join in exterminating Christians from this world (13:7^{xx}) similar to the way Hitler tried to exterminate the Jews.

⁷ *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.* Revelation 17:7,8 We should not marvel at the beauty of man’s systems, but rather at the glory of God. Here the angel begins to describe the outcome of the harlot described in the first six verses. There is a comparison with God in the wording. The beast was and is not and is yet to come whereas God was and is and is to come. The beast is playing god. Perhaps he is imitating Jesus in that Jesus died came back to life and will return. The beast resembles the dragon who has the same seven heads and ten horns (12:3^{xxi}; 13:1^{xxii}). It could be that the dragon has so possessed the beast that you could say the two are one. That is an imitation of the Father and the Son.

Heads and horns represent leaders and power. Most commentators agree that they represent the kingdoms of the world in contrast to the kingdom of Christ. Whether they only include representatives as human leaders or include fields of influence like media, internet, AI, and education I cannot say for certain. My guess would be that the number seven indicates that it includes all influences that berate and demean Christians and the gospel. We see it today in various segments of society. The anti-Christian movement is becoming bolder and certainly has much more influence than in the recent past.

The beast was: we saw in 11:7^{xxiii} the beast rise from the bottomless pit to kill the two witnesses at the end or their 1260-day ministry. Then in 13:1^{xxiii} he rises from the sea to receive the world’s worship and conquer the Christians. Now in 17:8 we read again that he rises from the bottomless pit. The passage in 13:8^{xxiv} refers to “*the dwellers on the earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world,*” just as we read here in 17:8. 11:7^{xxiv} and 13:7^{xxi} use the phrase, “make war and conquer them.” This seems to connect the three mentions of the beast, killing the witnesses, conquering the church, drunk on the blood of the martyrs as different perspectives of the same event.

Then he goes to destruction. It sounds very similar to Daniel 7:11. ¹¹ *“I looked then because of the sound of the great words that the horn was speaking. And as I looked, the beast was killed, and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire.* We will see the beast thrown into the lake of fire in 19:20^{xxv}.

⁹ *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.* Revelation 17:9,10 Rome sits on seven hills. It was a common expression and was on Roman coins. There was even a festival for the seven hills called *Septimontium*. In verse 18 John says this city reigns over the kings of the earth. Rome destroyed Jerusalem. Because Rome had done what Babylon did in the past, Jewish interpreters looked at Rome as the New Babylon. The merchandise in 18:12,13^{xxvi} was part of its trade. But verse ten gives another interpretation. The seven heads or hills are kings. Mountains often represented kingdoms. Five had fallen, one is, and one is to come but only to remain for a short while. It may be that John is referring to the seven kingdoms of Daniels prophecies or it could be seven Caesars of Rome, or perhaps it refers to future end-time kingdoms.

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.* 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.* Revelation 17:11,12 Ten kings would be analogous to the ten toes in the vision of Daniel chapter 2^{xxvii}. The first readers might have thought of them as Rome's ten eastern client states (17:2). Daniel gives us what I believe is some clarity on this one. In Daniel 7:7,8^{xxviii} the beast that represents Rome has ten horns. Three are plucked up by a little horn. That leaves seven and the little horn which is the eighth and belongs to the seven. Many commentators identify the little horn as Antiochus Epiphanes. By saying he was and is not and is to come John may be conveying that someone like him will arise in the future, the larger fulfillment of the prophecy.

¹³ *These are of one mind, and they hand over their power and authority to the beast.* Revelation 17:13 The seven nations will be on board with the beast's agenda to annihilate Christians. The beast will lead these end-time rulers in a battle against Almighty God. It sounds crazy, but when you think it is satanically inspired, it makes sense. This worldwide revolt against God and their sudden defeat is a part of Jewish expectation (Psalm 2:2^{xxix}; 83:5^{xxx}).

¹⁴ *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.* Revelation 17:14 King of kings was a title applied to the leading ruler in the East. The Parthian king had the title when Revelation was written. It was the biggest threat to the Roman empire. But Jews applied the title to God (Deuteronomy 10:17^{xxxi}; Daniel 2:47^{xxxii}). The expression "make war with the Lamb" is intended to show the contrast between the beast and his proclivities and Jesus and His gracious kindness. It is not a good idea to attack the Almighty. Those who are with Jesus are the believers (called, chosen, and faithful) who will follow Him to the battle of Armageddon (Jude 14,15^{xxxiii}). And just as the Egyptian army followed Pharaoh into the Red Sea, the followers of the little horn are led into the Valley of Megiddo.

Those who are with him are *called, chosen, and faithful*. These expressions are applied to all believers. We are called. The voice of the Holy Spirit called us to repent and invited us to receive forgiveness. We are chosen because we chose to be chosen (Matthew 22:14^{xxxiv}). We chose to accept the free gift of grace. We put the grace that helped us choose rightly into action. And grace upon grace, we are called faithful because we are in the faithful One. The Holy Spirit directs our lives into His Word that transforms our thoughts and behavior so that we follow the Lamb wherever He goes.

Some people interpret this to apply only to 144,000 Jews who accept Jesus as their Messiah. Since the descriptive words are used to describe the entirety of believers, I lean toward the interpretation that it is all people of faith. We will go over this battle in chapter 19. Spoiler alert. We are going to be riding white horses as we follow Jesus into battle (19:14^{xxxv}).

Here is the good news: **the Lamb always wins!** The battle of good versus evil will be no contest. After thousands of years of evil seeming to always come out on top, there will be a resounding victory by the power of the King of kings! We will read in chapter 19 that those gathered against him are slain by the sword that comes from His mouth (19:15^{xxxvi}), which is the Word of God. His words created them. His mere words can conquer them. The same verse in chapter nineteen tells ends by telling us, *He will tread*

the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. Revelation 19:15b That is the winepress mentioned at the end of chapter 14^{xxxvii}.

¹⁵ *And the angel said to me, “The waters that you saw, where the prostitute is seated, are peoples and multitudes and nations and languages. ¹⁶ 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,* Revelation 17:15,16 Evil usually turns on its own. The fight for power had Rome's allies and even some of Rome's armies fighting Rome. We see Israel embracing those who would destroy her in the Old Testament (Jeremiah 4:30^{xxxviii}; Lamentations 1:2^{xxxix}; Ezekiel 23:9^{xl}). (For burning see Daniel 7:11^{xli}.) God uses the animosity and duplicity of His enemies to bring judgment on their own. It reminds me of banks in our day built and dependent on capitalism embracing ideas that are anti-capitalism. There are also the corporations that support rioters that burn their stores down. It seems that God throws them into such confusion that they cannot reason. Hamilton puts it this way, *The harlot is destroyed by her customers in 17:16. The world self-destructs because evil is self-defeating. But this isn't blind fate. This is God's justice,*^{xlii}

¹⁷ *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.* Revelation 17:17 As seen in the Old Testament, God raises up nations to do His bidding in judgment. His purposes go beyond their own ideas and plans (Jeremiah 51:11^{xliii}; Proverbs 21:1^{xliv}). They will be in total unity destroying the very thing that gave them power, this world's system of worshiping things rather than God. What that will look like we can only guess, but it would result in massive loss of lives. Since the beast is doing the dragons bidding, in other words the Antichrist is controlled by Satan, he would love to see such loss of life as he has come to kill, steal, and destroy (John 10:10^{xlv}). He would destroy the world's idolatry of things in the hope that he alone would be worshiped. But he would be fulfilling the words of God and in doing so bringing judgment on his own. It was the case in the crucifixion. Satan wanted nothing more than to kill the Messiah, but in doing so he brought about God's will.

¹⁸ *And the woman that you saw is the great city that has dominion over the kings of the earth.”* Revelation 17:18 To the original readers, the woman would have meant Rome. The final fulfillment may mean one similar city from which the Antichrist reigns or more likely she is symbolic of the cities of the world and their idolatry. The next chapter describes her destruction, but then then in chapter 19 we go to the glorious union of Jesus as His bride. What we are reading about had to come first, for heaven would not be heaven if it was in a world full of idolatry and wickedness.

Revelation is a revelation of Jesus (1:1^{xlvi}), but it is also a revelation of the world system in which we live. We can easily be drawn into the mindset that it is all about me, that the things of the world are all I need for satisfaction and fulfillment. As I was working on this message our weekly Kudos paper was delivered. One article invited people to a film that defined “love as a noun describing all of us, despite the most heinous acts, we are divine.” In other words, no judgment or Judgment Day. Nothing is evil, all is good. No need for a Savior. But Jesus' revelation pulls the blinders off and shows us what is happening in the spiritual realm and warns us of what is to come so we can live for what is eternal. He exposes the world system to be a prostitute riding a beast. She tells us she can satisfy our souls, and she can momentarily, with pleasures that enslave us

(Hebrews 11:25^{xlvii}). But **only God can truly satisfy our souls and set us free for eternity to be what He made us to be.** When Joshua brought Israel into the Promised Land, he challenged Israel. “Choose this day whom you will serve” and here I insert, the prostitute and the beast or the Lord who gave Himself for you “but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord” (Joshua 24:15^{xlviii})! By the grace of God may we make the right choice!

Questions:

- 1 What did John see?
- 2 What is the symbolism in the vision?
- 3 What is the contrast between the two women?
- 4 How does 1 Jn 2:15-17 and Col. 3:1,2 sum up the message of Revelation?
- 5 What does 11:7, 13:7, 17:7,8 similarity tell us?
- 6 What are the various interpretations for the seven heads?
- 7 Why do they make war with the Lamb?
- 8 Go over the description of those who are with the Lamb?
- 9 Who destroys the prostitute? Lesson?
- 10 What does Revelation show us of the spiritual battle?
11. What two choices are set before us?

ⁱ Revelation 21:9-10 (ESV)

⁹ Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, “Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb.” ¹⁰ And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God,

ⁱⁱ Revelation 19:9-10 (ESV)

⁹ And the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.” And he said to me, “These are the true words of God.” ¹⁰ Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God.” For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

ⁱⁱⁱ Revelation 22:6 (ESV)

⁶ And he said to me, “These words are trustworthy and true. And the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place.”

^{iv} Revelation 22:8-9 (ESV)

⁸ I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed them to me, ⁹ but he said to me, “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers the prophets, and with those who keep the words of this book. Worship God.”

^v Matthew 4:8-9 (ESV)

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.”

^{vi} Colossians 3:1-2 (ESV)

¹ If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

^{vii} Ezekiel 8:3 (ESV)

³ He put out the form of a hand and took me by a lock of my head, and the Spirit lifted me up between earth and heaven and brought me in visions of God to Jerusalem, to the entrance of the gateway of the inner court that faces north, where was the seat of the image of jealousy, which provokes to jealousy.

^{viii} Ezekiel 11:1 (ESV)

¹ The Spirit lifted me up and brought me to the east gate of the house of the LORD, which faces east. And behold, at the entrance of the gateway there were twenty-five men. And I saw among them Jaazaniah the son of Azzur, and Pelatiah the son of Benaiah, princes of the people.

^{ix} **Ezekiel 11:24 (ESV)**

²⁴ And the Spirit lifted me up and brought me in the vision by the Spirit of God into Chaldea, to the exiles. Then the vision that I had seen went up from me.

^x **Revelation 12:1 (ESV)**

¹ And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

^{xi} **Revelation 21:9-14 (ESV)**

⁹ Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, "Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb." ¹⁰ And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, ¹¹ having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. ¹² It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed— ¹³ on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. ¹⁴ And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

^{xii} **Proverbs 5:3-5 (ESV)**

³ For the lips of a forbidden woman drip honey, and her speech is smoother than oil, ⁴ but in the end she is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword. ⁵ Her feet go down to death; her steps follow the path to Sheol;

^{xiii} **Revelation 3:12 (ESV)**

¹² The one who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God. Never shall he go out of it, and I will write on him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name.

^{xiv} **Revelation 13:16 (ESV)**

¹⁶ Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be marked on the right hand or the forehead,

^{xv} **Jeremiah 3:3 (ESV)**

³ Therefore the showers have been withheld, and the spring rain has not come; yet you have the forehead of a whore; you refuse to be ashamed.

^{xvi} **Revelation 7:15 (ESV)**

¹⁵ "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

^{xvii} **Exodus 13:16 (ESV)**

¹⁶ It shall be as a mark on your hand or frontlets between your eyes, for by a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt."

^{xviii} **Genesis 4:16-17 (ESV)**

¹⁶ Then Cain went away from the presence of the LORD and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden. ¹⁷ Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. When he built a city, he called the name of the city after the name of his son, Enoch.

^{xix} **Hebrews 11:10 (ESV)**

¹⁰ For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

^{xx} **Revelation 13:7 (ESV)**

⁷ Also it was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them. And authority was given it over every tribe and people and language and nation,

^{xxi} **Revelation 12:3 (ESV)**

³ And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems.

^{xxii} **Revelation 13:1 (ESV)**

¹ And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, with ten diadems on its horns and blasphemous names on its heads.

^{xxiii} **Revelation 11:7 (ESV)**

⁷ And when they have finished their testimony, the beast that rises from the bottomless pit will make war on them and conquer them and kill them,

^{xxiv} **Revelation 13:8 (ESV)**

⁸ and all who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain.

^{xxv} **Revelation 19:20 (ESV)**

²⁰ And the beast was captured, and with it the false prophet who in its presence had done the signs by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped its image. These two were thrown alive into the lake of fire that burns with sulfur.

^{xxvi} **Revelation 18:12-13 (ESV)**

¹² cargo of gold, silver, jewels, pearls, fine linen, purple cloth, silk, scarlet cloth, all kinds of scented wood, all kinds of articles of ivory, all kinds of articles of costly wood, bronze, iron and marble, ¹³ cinnamon, spice, incense, myrrh, frankincense, wine, oil, fine flour, wheat, cattle and sheep, horses and chariots, and slaves, that is, human souls.

^{xxvii} **Daniel 2:41 (ESV)**

⁴¹ And as you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, it shall be a divided kingdom, but some of the firmness of iron shall be in it, just as you saw iron mixed with the soft clay.

^{xxviii} **Daniel 7:7-8 (ESV)**

⁷ After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, terrifying and dreadful and exceedingly strong. It had great iron teeth; it devoured and broke in pieces and stamped what was left with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns. 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.

^{xxix} **Psalm 2:2 (ESV)**

² The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his Anointed, saying,

^{xxx} **Psalm 83:5 (ESV)**

⁵ For they conspire with one accord; against you they make a covenant—

^{xxxi} **Deuteronomy 10:17 (ESV)**

¹⁷ For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who is not partial and takes no bribe.

^{xxxii} **Daniel 2:47 (ESV)**

⁴⁷ The king answered and said to Daniel, "Truly, your God is God of gods and Lord of kings, and a revealer of mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this mystery."

^{xxxiii} **Jude 1:14-15 (ESV)**

¹⁴ It was also about these that Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of his holy ones,

¹⁵ to execute judgment on all and to convict all the ungodly of all their deeds of ungodliness that they have committed in such an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things that ungodly sinners have spoken against him."

^{xxxiv} **Matthew 22:14 (ESV)**

¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen."

^{xxxv} **Revelation 19:14 (ESV)**

¹⁴ And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses.

^{xxxvi} **Revelation 19:15 (ESV)**

¹⁵ From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.

^{xxxvii} **Revelation 14:18-20 (ESV)**

¹⁸ And another angel came out from the altar, the angel who has authority over the fire, and he called with a loud voice to the one who had the sharp sickle, "Put in your sickle and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, for its grapes are ripe." ¹⁹ So the angel swung his sickle across the earth and gathered the grape harvest of the earth and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. ²⁰ And the winepress was trodden outside the city, and blood flowed from the winepress, as high as a horse's bridle, for 1,600 stadia.

^{xxxviii} **Jeremiah 4:30 (ESV)**

³⁰ And you, O desolate one, what do you mean that you dress in scarlet, that you adorn yourself with ornaments of gold, that you enlarge your eyes with paint? In vain you beautify yourself. Your lovers despise you; they seek your life.

^{xxxix} **Lamentations 1:2 (ESV)**

² She weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks; among all her lovers she has none to comfort her; all her friends have dealt treacherously with her; they have become her enemies.

^{xi} **Ezekiel 23:9 (ESV)**

⁹ Therefore I delivered her into the hands of her lovers, into the hands of the Assyrians, after whom she lusted.

^{xlii} **Daniel 7:11 (ESV)**

¹¹ "I looked then because of the sound of the great words that the horn was speaking. And as I looked, the beast was killed, and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire.

^{xlii} James M. Hamilton Jr., *Preaching the Word: Revelation—The Spirit Speaks to the Churches*, ed. R. Kent Hughes (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2012), 330.

^{xliii} **Jeremiah 51:11 (ESV)**

¹¹ "Sharpen the arrows! Take up the shields! The LORD has stirred up the spirit of the kings of the Medes, because his purpose concerning Babylon is to destroy it, for that is the vengeance of the LORD, the vengeance for his temple.

^{xliv} **Proverbs 21:1 (ESV)**

¹ The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the LORD; he turns it wherever he will.

^{xlv} **John 10:10 (ESV)**

¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

^{xlvi} **Revelation (ESV)**

⁰ The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John,

^{xlvii} **Hebrews 11:25 (ESV)**

²⁵ choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

^{xlviii} **Joshua 24:15 (ESV)**

¹⁵ And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."