

LOYAL TO THE LAMB



EXPLORING THE TIMELESS TRUTH OF REVELATION



The Harlot (Revelation 17)

- has “Babylon the Great” written on her head
- rides on the back of the beast
- kings of the earth are her lovers
- people of the earth are drunk on her immorality
- adorned with gold, jewels, and pearls
- drinks from a cup of abominations and impurities
- is drunk on the blood of the saints
- seated on **seven mountains**

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“A yearly festival in the capital commemorated Rome’s expansion to enclose **the seven hills within the city limits**. On this basis, both Christian hearers and outsiders would immediately connect Babylon with Rome.”

- David A. DeSilva, *Unholy Allegiances: Heeding Revelation's Warning*

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Revelation 17:17-18

English Standard Version

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.

18 And the woman that you saw is **the great city** that has **dominion over the kings of the earth.**”

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Revelation 18:1-2

English Standard Version

¹ After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was made bright with his glory. ² 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.

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Revelation 18:3

English Standard Version

³ For all nations have drunk 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.”

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Revelation 18:4-5

English Standard Version

⁴ Then I heard another voice from heaven saying, “**Come out of her, my people, lest you take part in her sins, lest you share in her plagues;** ⁵ for her sins are heaped high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities.

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“The angelic voice beckons them to dissociate themselves from the **infidelity** and **materialism** that were the hallmarks of the great city’s trade, following instead in the ways of the Lamb.”

Source: Craig R. Koester, *Revelation and the End of All Things*

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Revelation 18:6-7

English Standard Version

⁶ Pay her back as she herself has paid back others, and repay her double for her deeds; mix a double portion for her in the cup she mixed. ⁷ As **she glorified herself and lived in luxury**, so give her a like measure of torment and mourning, since in her heart she says, 'I sit as a queen, I am no widow, and mourning I shall never see.'

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Revelation 18:8-10

English Standard Version

⁸ For this reason her plagues will come in a single day, death and mourning and famine, and she will be burned up with fire; for mighty is the Lord God who has judged her.” ⁹ And the kings of the earth, who committed sexual immorality and lived in luxury with her, will **weep and wail over her when they see the smoke of her burning.** ¹⁰ They will stand far off, in fear of her torment, and say, “Alas! Alas! **You great city,** you mighty city, Babylon! For in a single hour your judgment has come.”

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Revelation 18:11-13

English Standard Version

¹¹ And **the merchants of the earth weep and mourn for her**, since no one buys their cargo anymore, 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.**

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“His point is that **slaves are human beings, not objects**. By concluding the list in this way, John underscores the brutality of a commercial system that reduces people to trade items like wood or livestock in order to supply the luxury needs of the empire”

Source: Craig R. Koester, *Revelation and the End of All Things*

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Revelation 18:14-16

English Standard Version

¹⁴ “The fruit for which your soul longed has gone from you, and all **your delicacies and your splendors are lost to you**, never to be found again!” ¹⁵ The merchants of these wares, who gained wealth from her, will stand far off, in fear of her torment, weeping and mourning aloud, ¹⁶ “Alas, alas, for the great city that was clothed in fine linen, in purple and scarlet, adorned with gold, with jewels, and with pearls!

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Revelation 18:17-19

English Standard Version

17 For in a single hour all this wealth has been laid waste.” And all shipmasters and seafaring men, sailors and all whose trade is on the sea, stood far off ¹⁸ and cried out as they saw the smoke of her burning, “What city was like the great city?**” ¹⁹ And they threw dust on their heads as they wept and mourned, crying out, “Alas, alas, for the great city where **all who had ships at sea grew rich by her wealth!** For in a single hour she has been laid waste.**

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Revelation 18:20-21

English Standard Version

²⁰ **Rejoice** over her, O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets, for **God has given judgment for you against her!** ²¹ Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, “So will Babylon the great city be thrown down with violence, and will be found no more;

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Revelation 18:22-23

English Standard Version

22 and the sound of harpists and musicians, of flute players and trumpeters, will be heard in you no more, and a craftsman of any craft will be found in you no more, and the sound of the mill will be heard in you no more, 23 and the light of a lamp will shine in you no more, and the voice of bridegroom and bride will be heard in you no more, for your merchants were the great ones of the earth, and **all nations were deceived by your sorcery.**

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Revelation 18:24

English Standard Version

²⁴ And in her was found the **blood of prophets and of saints,**
and of **all who have been slain on earth.**”



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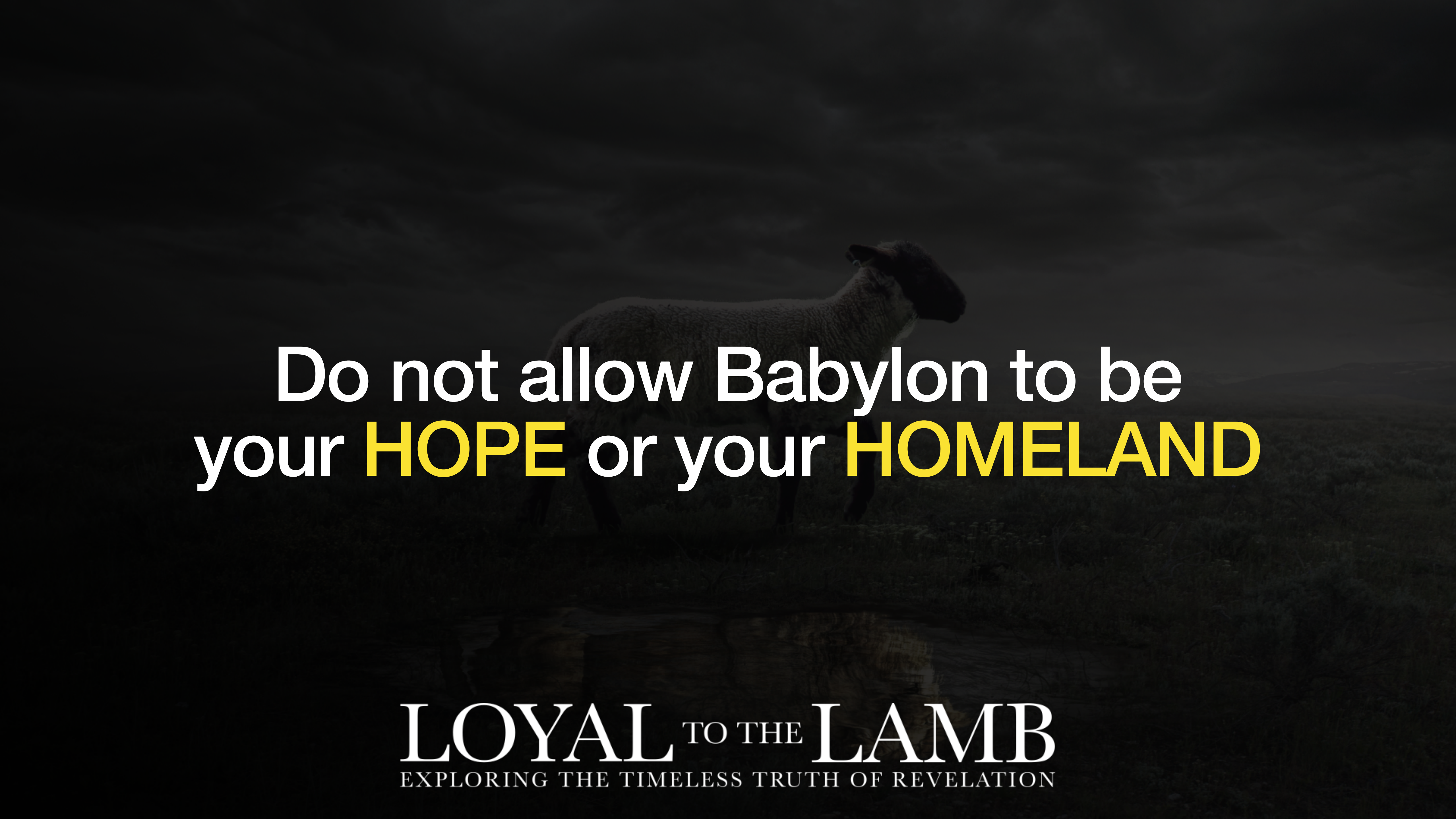
“BABYLON” is any civilization that...

becomes **GREAT** through **GREED**.

seduces neighbors into **FORFEITING** needed
resources in exchange for **FRIENDSHIP**.

ENRICHES itself at the **EXPENSE** of others.

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Do not allow Babylon to be
your **HOPE** or your **HOMELAND**

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