

The

Fall of

MYSTERY

BABYLON

REVELATION

17-18

REVELATION OUTLINE BRIEF

THE REVELATION

- Chapter 1 - Prologue - Vision of the Son
- Chapter 2 - The Seven Churches, Part 1
- Chapter 3 - The Seven Churches, Part 2
- Chapter 4 - Throne in Heaven
- Chapter 5 - Seven-Sealed Scroll & Worthy Lamb
- Chapter 6 - Conditions: Seals 1-6

(PARENTHESIS 1: RESCUE BEFORE DAY OF THE LORD)

- Chapter 7:1-8 - 144,000 Sealed
- Chapter 7:9:17 - Great Multitude in Heaven

THE DAY OF THE LORD BEGINS

- Chapter 8 - 7th Seal Opens Trumpets 1-4
- Chapter 9 - 5th Trumpet (*Woe1*); 6th Trumpet (*Woe2*)

POST 70TH WEEK EVENTS

- Chapter 10 - Little Scroll; Mystery of God Completed
- Chapter 11:1-13, Ministry 2 Witnesses Completed
- Chapter 11:14-19, 7th Trumpet (*Woe3*); Kingdom Reclaimed

(PARENTHESIS 2: COSMIC CONFLICT HIGHLIGHTED)

- Chapter 12 - The Woman & the Dragon
- Chapter 13 - The Beast & False Prophet Reign Begins
- Chapter 14 - The 144,000; Impending Judgments; Harvest

THE DAY OF THE LORD COMPLETED

- Chapter 15 - Prelude to Bowl Judgments
- Chapter 16 - Bowl Judgments 1-7

(PARENTHESIS 3: DESTRUCTION HIGHLIGHTED)

- Chapter 17 - The Scarlet Woman & Beast
- Chapter 18 - The Great City Babylon Fallen

PRELUDE TO MILLENNIAL KINGDOM

- Chapter 19:1-5, Great Multitude in Heaven Rejoice
- Chapter 19:6-10, Marriage Supper of the Lamb Announced
- Chapter 19:11—20:3, 3 Adversaries of God Judged

THE MILLENNIAL REIGN OF CHRIST

- Chapter 20:4-6, Types of Resurrection
- Chapter 20:7-15, Satan and the Ungodly Perish
- Chapter 21:1-8, New Heavens & New Earth
- Chapter 21:9—22:5, New Jerusalem

THE CONCLUSION

- Chapter 22:6-21, Epilogue - The River of Life



“Mystery, Babylon the Great” (Rv.17:5)

Popular Views of “Mystery Babylon”:

3



FUTURE JERUSALEM (Beasts’ Kingdom)



- ☒ Jerusalem is specifically called a harlot on numerous occasions in Scripture in a spiritual context of following false gods and killing the prophets (Is.1:21; Ek.16:15-16,40-43)
- ☒ “And in her was found the blood of prophets...” (Rv.18:24). Jesus repeatedly calls Jerusalem that place where prophets are killed (Lk.13:31-34; 11:47; Mt.23).
- ☒ The central antichrist government described in Revelation 13 will be located in Jerusalem (Da.11:45, “between the seas”).
- ☒ Jerusalem is referred to as “the great city” (Rv.11:8; 16:19; 21:10). Other references of “great city” in Revelation are the verses in question (Rv.17:18; 18:10,16,18,19).

• *Dr. John MacArthur*

• *Dr. Charles Cooper (former professor of Hermeneutics at Moody)*

• *Hippolytus (200’s). Student of Irenaus, student of Polycarp, student of Apostle John.*

**There are also seven kings.
Five have fallen, one is, and
the other has not yet come.
And when he comes, he must
continue a short time.**

REVELATION 17:10



7 HEADS — 10 HORNS RELATIONSHIP

7 HEADS

HEADS are Kingdoms (Nations)

The 7 HEADS are historical and future ← →

(CHRONOLOGICAL KINGDOMS)

1. EGYPT — 2100-1400BC

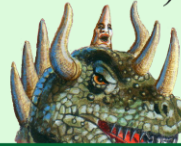
2. ASSYRIA — 1100-605BC

3. BABYLON — 605-538BC

4. MEDO-PERSIA — 538-333BC

5. GREECE — 333-146BC

“Five Are Fallen”
(Rv.17:10)



6. ROME — 27BC-1453AD “One Is” (Rv.17:10)

7. FUTURE EMPIRE “The Other Is Not Yet Come”
(Rv.17:10)

8. ANTICHRIST

7th Becomes 8th



“He is the Eighth, And
Is Of The Seven” (Rv.17:11)

10 HORNS

HORNS are Kings (Rv.17:12)

The 10 HORNS are all future →

(CONCURRENT KINGS)

- ❖ The 10 HORNS are 10 kings (Rv.17:12)
- ❖ These HORNS are Kings without a kingdom (Rv.17:12). They are not shown to ever have their own kingdom.
- ❖ There is a distinction between kings and kingdoms (Rv.17:12)
- ❖ These kings are connected to the beast (Rv.17:12-13).
- ❖ These kings only rule for “one hour with the beast.”
- ❖ The 10 HORNS give their power to the beast for this Armageddon “war” (Rv.17:13).
- ❖ Their purpose is to war against the Lamb. This is likely why they only have power for an “hour.”
- ❖ The HORNS appear to have “resources” the antichrist will utilize

**The beast that was, and is
not, is himself also the eighth,
and is of the seven, and is
going to perdition.**

REVELATION 17:11



“is himself also the eighth” (Rv.17:11)



“also the eighth”

- There will be 7 beast/kings and one will appear twice upon the earth.**

The 7th King
Prince

Becomes 8th King
Beast



**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.**




REVELATION 17:12



“who have received no kingdom as yet” (Rv.17:12)



“no kingdom as yet”

-  **Daniel shows us that 10 kings will come from the fourth kingdom (toes/horns)**
-  **In Revelation the 10 kings John saw have not yet received a kingdom.**
-  **The kings cannot be identified with any historical figures or nations because they have not received a kingdom.**

“they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast” (Rv.17:12)



“one hour as kings”

- ☞ They do not have kingdoms, but they have authority to be kings in association with the beast..
- ☞ The phrase, “for one hour” refers to an appointed time according to God (Mt.24:36,44,50; 25:13).
- ☞ This “hour” may not be merely a 60-minute time period.

**These are of one mind,
and they will give their
power and authority to
the beast.**

REVELATION 17:13



“they will give their power and authority to the beast” (Rv.17:13)



“give their power”

- 🗨️ **All that they represent is given to the beast.**
- 🗨️ **They do not have kingdoms, but they appear to have assets the beast can utilize for his goals.**

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."

REVELATION 17:14



“These will make war with the Lamb” (Rv.17:14)



“war with the Lamb”

- 🗨️ The purpose or mind of the 10 kings is to attack the Lamb.
- 🗨️ How they intend to do this is not specified.
- 🗨️ They will gather with the nations to Armageddon.
- 🗨️ The title, “Lord of lords and King of kings” is applied to the Lamb rider on the white horse (Rv.19:16). This is Jesus.

Then he said to me, "waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.



REVELATION 17:15



“The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues” (Rv.17:15)



“waters...where the harlot sits”

-  **The harlot is carried by a universal segment of population of the earth.**
-  **This idea of sitting on peoples and multitudes is a way to say that the city of Mystery Babylon rules over many people or nations.**

And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire.

REVELATION 17:16



“hate...desolate...flesh...burn” (Rv.17:16)



“hate...desolate...flesh...burn”

- 🗨️ The 10 kings have the same agenda.
- 🗨️ In Rv.17:7,9 it shows the harlot's relationship with the beast is mutual.
- 🗨️ Something will happen that will change the relationship between the harlot, the beast, and the confederate nations.
- 🗨️ The beast and the 10 horns will destroy the harlot.

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.





REVELATION 17:17



“God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose” (Rv.17:17)



“fulfill His purpose”

-  It is the judgment of God that the 10 horns and the beast executes judgment upon the harlot.
-  The reason the 10 kings are unified in purpose is because God put the desire in their hearts.
-  By giving their assets to the beast they think it will accomplish their objective of defeating the Lamb.
-  “Their kingdom”. It seems to say that collectively they have a kingdom, not plural kingdoms.

**And the woman whom
you saw is that great
city which reigns over
the kings of the earth.**





REVELATION 17:18



“the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth” (Rv.17:18)







“that great city”

-  We are told by the angel that this woman is a city.
-  In Revelation 11:8 the “great city” is Jerusalem.
-  The way the woman rules over the kings of the earth is through the Antichrist. Thus, she is a harlot.
-  She prostitutes herself with the Antichrist when she rightly belongs to God.

“that great city” (Rv.17:18)



“that great city”





-  The city and its habitants will promote the Anti-Christ as the one true God, thereby committing the ultimate abomination, the ultimate harlotry.
-  We know that the Anti-Christ will choose Jerusalem as the place to declare himself to be god (2Th.2:4, Mt.24:15; Da.11:31-32)
-  We know that the greatest religious killing of all time will happen in the city of Jerusalem according to Mt.24:15-21.
-  Rv.18:24 says: “And in her was found the blood of prophets...” (Lk.13:31-34)

**After these things I saw
another angel coming down
from heaven, having great
authority, and the earth was
illuminated with his glory.**

REVELATION 18:1



“After these things I saw another angel” (Rv.18:1)

-  **Revelation 17 declares the judgment of the great harlot/city**
-  **Revelation 18 gives the reasons for the judgment of the great harlot/city**
-  **Revelation 19 gives the details for the judgment of the composite dragon/beast**
-  **“Glory” is usually descriptive of the Godhead.**

And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird!

REVELATION 18:2

“Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen” (Rv.18:2)



“prison for every foul spirit”

- 🗨️ This is an angelic commentary.
- 🗨️ “Prison” is not used in the traditional sense. It is home of the demons.
- 🗨️ Everything this city stood for has been perverted.
- 🗨️ Evil in its worst form makes its home in God's holy city.




For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury."

REVELATION 18:3

“nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication” (Rv.18:3)



“merchants of the earth”

-  The “merchants”, through buying and selling, are made rich.
-  The harlot/city convinces the world to put their trust in the dragon-beast.
-  She appears to be quite persuasive.

**And I heard another voice from
heaven saying, "Come out of her,
my people, lest you share in her
sins, and lest you receive of her
plagues.**




REVELATION 18:4



“Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins” (Rv.18:4)



“Come out of her”

-  The summons to flee the harlot/city must be taken in a literal sense because of its imminent destruction.
-  Chronologically the battle of Armageddon is imminent. The call has gone out to the kings of the earth to gather for the battle.
-  But first the battle of Jerusalem must take place. This will fulfill Zechariah 14.



“Then you shall flee through My mountain valley, For the mountain valley shall reach to Azal. Yes, you shall flee As you fled from the earthquake In the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Thus the LORD my God will come, And all the saints with You.” (Zc.14:5).

**For her sins have reached to
heaven, and God has
remembered her iniquities.**

REVELATION 18:5



“sins have reached to heaven” (Rv.18:5)



“God has remembered her iniquities”



This is a figure of speech, and illustrates God's patience.



The picture is that it would take some time for the sins to stack up to heaven.



Since knowledge is constant with God, He does not need to remember.



The point is that God will now deal with the unholy harlot/city.

Render to her just as she rendered to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her.

REVELATION 18:6



“Render to her just as she rendered to you” (Rv.18:6)



“double according to her works”

- There is no clear statement that God will employ angelic agents in the destruction of the harlot/city.
- Throughout the book of Revelation God's wrath is excuted by angelic beings.
- The voice requests that God repay the harlot/city in kind.

In the measure that she glorified herself and lived luxuriously, in the same measure give her torment and sorrow; for she says in her heart, 'I sit as queen, and am no widow, and will not see sorrow.'




REVELATION 18:7



“In the measure that she glorified herself” (Rv.18:7)



“glorified herself”

-  The height of the harlot/city's pride is to be the depth of her punishment.
-  Her prideful attitude comes because of her position seated on the seven kings.
-  As the chief city of the composite dragon-beast's empire, she is “queen” of the earth.

**Therefore her plagues will come
in one day—death and mourning
and famine. And she will be
utterly burned with fire, for
strong is the Lord God who
judges her.**

REVELATION 18:8



“her plagues will come in one day” (Rv.18:8)



“burned with fire”

- ☞ **“One day” is the amount of time necessary for her destruction.**
- ☞ **Death, mourning, and famine are the plagues God will use against the harlot/city.**
- ☞ **Jerusalem starts out in favor with the composite dragon-beast. She loses favor and is attacked by the beast.**
- ☞ **“Fire” is the last plague of God against the harlot/city.**

The kings of the earth who committed fornication and lived luxuriously with her will weep and lament for her, when they see the smoke of her burning,

REVELATION 18:9



“The kings of the earth who committed fornication” (Rv.18:9)



“when they see the smoke of her burning”



This is the response of the kings to the woman's demise.



“And it shall happen in that day that I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples; all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces, though all nations of the earth are gathered against it.” (Zc.12:3).



At first Jerusalem was a trophy for the beast, but she became a burdensome stone.



The kings will fear what happened to the harlot/city will happen to them.





**standing at a distance for fear of
her torment, saying, 'Alas, alas,
that great city Babylon, that
mighty city! For in one hour your
judgment has come.'**

REVELATION 18:10

“Alas, alas, that great city Babylon” (Rv.18:10)



“in one hour your judgment has come”

-  **“That great city” refers to Jerusalem (Rv.11:8; 16:19).**
-  **Why is Jerusalem called Babylon?**
-  **“Babylon” is part of the mystery of the harlot. Thus, Babylon is not literal.**
-  **“One hour” is used 4 times (Rv.17:10; 18:10, 17, 19).**

"And the merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her, for no one buys their merchandise anymore:




REVELATION 18:11



“the merchants of the earth will weep” (Rv.18:11)



“merchants...mourn”

-  The merchants is the second group who are not pleased with the destruction of the harlot/city.
-  Since buying and selling is done with the beast's permission, it is clear the merchants are beast-marked earth dwellers.
-  The destruction of the harlot/city means a loss of commerrcial opportunity.

**merchandise of gold and silver,
precious stones and pearls, fine
linen and purple, silk and scarlet,
every kind of citron wood, every
kind of object of ivory, every kind
of object of most precious wood,
bronze, iron, and marble;**

REVELATION 18:12

“merchandise...every kind of object” (Rv.18:12)



“precious”

- ☞ Gold, silver, precious stones, and pearls involve expensive metals and stones.
- ☞ Fine linen, purple, silk, and scarlet represents expensive fabrics.
- ☞ Precious wood, bronze, iron, and marble are fine building materials.





**and cinnamon and incense,
fragrant oil and frankincense,
wine and oil, fine flour and
wheat, cattle and sheep,
horses and chariots, and
bodies and souls of men.**

REVELATION 18:13

“bodies and souls of men” (Rv.18:13)



“bodies and souls of men”

-  Cinnamon, incense, fragrant oil, and frankincense are fine scents.
-  Wine, oil, fine flour, and wheat are fine foods.
-  Cattle, sheep, horses, and chariots are naturally associated.
-  Slaves and human lives are also sold at this time.

**The fruit that your soul longed
for has gone from you, and all
the things which are rich and
splendid have gone from you,
and you shall find them no
more at all.**



REVELATION 18:14



“The fruit that your soul longed for has gone from you” (Rv.18:14)



“find them no more at all”

-  **All things that were luxurious have passed away.**
-  **Things have lost their value in the face of God's judgment.**

**The merchants of these things,
who became rich by her, will
stand at a distance for fear of
her torment, weeping and
wailing,**

REVELATION 18:15

and saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city that was clothed in fine linen, purple, and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls!

REVELATION 18:16



**“clothed in fine linen, purple,
and scarlet” (Rv.18:16)**



“ clothed in fine linen”

☞ She “that was clothed in fine linen, purple, and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls!” is the same description as Revelation 17:4.

☞ The woman of Revelation 17 is Babylon the great city in Revelation 18.

For in one hour such great riches came to nothing.' Every shipmaster, all who travel by ship, sailors, and as many as trade on the sea, stood at a distance

REVELATION 18:17

“For in one hour such great riches came to nothing” (Rv.18:17)



“stood at a distance”

- 🗨️ The judgment of the harlot/city is the laying waste of her wealth.
- 🗨️ The “shipmaster” is the third category of those who respond to the destruction of the harlot/city.
- 🗨️ So the kings, merchants, and now the sailors mourn the destruction.

**and cried out when they saw
the smoke of her burning,
saying, 'What is like this
great city?'**

REVELATION 18:18

**"They threw dust on their heads
and cried out, weeping and
wailing, and saying, 'Alas, alas,
that great city, in which all who
had ships on the sea became rich
by her wealth! For in one hour
she is made desolate.'**

REVELATION 18:19

“They threw dust on their heads” (Rv.18:19)



“weeping and wailing”

- ☘ They “threw dust on their heads” is an O.T. custom for sorrow (Js.7:6; Lm.2:10).
- ☘ The sailors express deep sorrow.
- ☘ There appears to be some time to mourn prior to Armageddon.





**“Rejoice over her, O heaven,
and you holy apostles and
prophets, for God has
avenged you on her!”**

REVELATION 18:20

“Rejoice over her” (Rv.18:20)



“God has avenged you on her!”

-  The “apostles” is a technical term for the Twelve (minus Judas, plus Paul).
-  “Prophets” can refer to both Old and New Testament prophets.
-  The sense is that God judged the harlot/city because she judged the saints.
-  This clearly connects the harlot/city with Jerusalem (Mt.23:37).

Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "Thus with violence the great city Babylon shall be thrown down, and shall not be found anymore.

REVELATION 18:21



“stone like a great millstone” (Rv.18:21)



“that great city”



Jesus speaks of those who cause believers to stumble (Mt.18:6).



“Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea.” (Mt.18:6).

“Shall not be found anymore” (Rv.18:21)



“great city Babylon”

- “Shall not be found anymore” seems to say Jerusalem by name will be no more, but the land will remain.
- After the Millennium, Satan and his forces will “surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city” (Rv.20:9). The assumption is that the “beloved city” is Jerusalem.
- Later John describes “the great city, the holy Jerusalem” descending from heaven (Rv.21:10). There will be a New Jerusalem.
- Ezekiel calls the Millennial city, “The Lord is There” (Ek.48:35, last verse).



“All the way around shall be eighteen thousand cubits; and the name of the city from that day shall be: THE LORD IS THERE” (Ek.48:35).

**The sound of harpists, musicians,
flutists, and trumpeters shall not
be heard in you anymore. No
craftsman of any craft shall be
found in you anymore, and the
sound of a millstone shall not be
heard in you anymore.**

REVELATION 18:22

“shall not be heard...” (Rv.18:22)



“in you anymore”

- 🗨️ The absence of music indicates desolation.
- 🗨️ The absence of the “craftsman” indicates industrial production ceased.
- 🗨️ The absence of the “millstone” indicates no people.

**The light of a lamp shall not shine
in you anymore, and the voice of
bridegroom and bride shall not be
heard in you anymore. For your
merchants were the great men of
the earth, for by your sorcery all
the nations were deceived.**

REVELATION 18:23

“light of a lamp...voice of bridegroom” (Rv.18:23)



“shall not shine...not be heard”

- ☞ The absence of the “light of a lamp” is no home life in the evening.
- ☞ The absence of “bridegroom” indicates no marriage. The city has ceased.
- ☞ “Sorcery” (*pharmakeia*) is the ancient work of casting magic spells.

**And in her was found the
blood of prophets and saints,
and of all who were slain on
the earth."**

REVELATION 18:24

“blood of prophets and saints” (Rv.18:24)

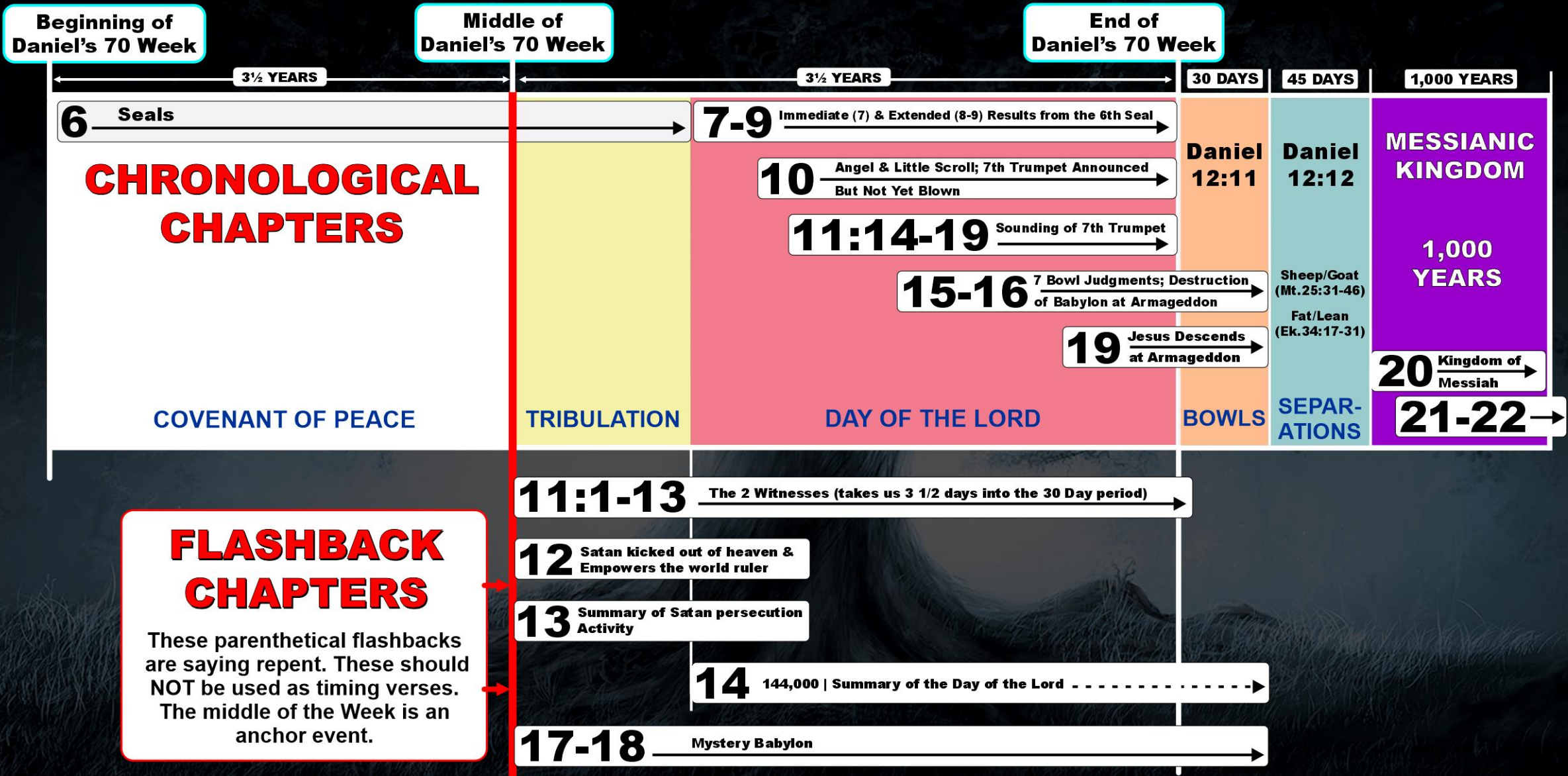


“slain on the earth”

☞ **“The blood of the prophets” is exclusively spoken of by Jesus (Mt.23:35).**

☞ **The harlot/city is condemned because she deceived the nations by sorcery and murdered the prophets and saints.**

REVELATION — CHRONOLOGICAL CHAPTERS



ETERNITY FUTURE