**The False Religious System (symbolized by a woman in scripture)**

The scriptures show us a false religious system that started out in Babel with Nimrod as recorded in the book of Genesis, chapter 11. It continued in Babylon and passed through the conquering Empires of Medio- Persia, Greece, and settled in Rome. The entity, which appears as a woman has shown itself in apparitions throughout history all around the world.

When studying the scriptures we take note that a woman in scripture many times represents either a nation, a city, or a church. In the study following we see the beginning of the false religious system portrayed as a woman. We start out in the book **of Zechariah chapter 5:1-11.**

**The Woman in a basket.**

**v-6-**the angel identifies a basket in the air. -(the Hebrew says it’s an ephah which is a container of measurement of approximately 10 gallons.)

The angel says "this is the iniquity of the people throughout the land."

**v-7-says** ‘the cover of lead was raised and there in the basket was a woman”

-(now an actual woman wouldn’t be in a small 10 gallon basket.) So since this would be much too small a container to enclose a woman, the ephah was apparently greatly enlarged in the vision, as the scroll was in the previous vision.

-(the cover was lead indicating ‘heaviness’), so the cover is lifted to introduce a woman sitting in the center of the basket.

**v-8** the angel says ‘this is wickedness’ and pushed her back into the basket and pushed the lead cover down over the mouth to contain her.

**v-9-11 -** we see two more women with wings like a stork, (an unclean bird), who come and pick up the basket containing wickedness. (they are agents of evil or wickedness that seek to protect the women of wickedness, (the one in the basket), and enshrine her for worship.

**v-11-** shows its destination, ‘to Babylonia’, the land of **Babylon** where a house will be built for it and the basket will be at home there. It will be the center of its base.- Babylon was conquered by Medio/Persia who was conquered by the Greeks and the Greeks were conquered by Rome. This spirit came through these empires and settled in Rome, where the Vatican established itself as the center of control. (the Vatican is the base of all idol worship that was settled from Babylon.)

So today we find its base ,(Babylon), centered in Rome, which is in accordance with the prophet Daniels vision of the Babylonian Empire, then the Medio/Persian, then the Grecian, and finally it settled in Rome.

**Revelation 17 further identifies the woman as 'Mystery, Babylon the Great, The Mother of Prostitutes and of the Abominations of the Earth'.** As previously stated in Zechariah she iscentered in the false religious system, (wickedness). Here she is riding the Beast, (Satan). As the text continues this woman is identified as the Catholic Church, centered in Rome.

**There was another spirit that entered this church, the spirit of Jezebel.**

Jezebel’s story is found in 1 and 2 Kings. She was the daughter of Ethbaal, king of Tyre/Sidon and priest of the cult of Baal, a cruel, sensuous and revolting false god whose worship involved sexual degradation and lewdness. Ahab, king of Israel, married Jezebel and led the nation into Baal worship ([1 Kings 16:31](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/1%20Kings%2016.31)). Ahab and Jezebel’s reign over Israel is one of the saddest chapters in the history of God’s people.

There are two incidents in the life of Jezebel that characterize her and may define what is meant by the “Jezebel spirit.” One trait is her obsessive passion for domineering and controlling others, especially in the spiritual realm. When she became queen, she began a relentless campaign to rid Israel of all evidences of Yahweh worship. She ordered the extermination of all the prophets of the Lord ([1 Kings 18:4](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/1%20Kings%2018.4), [13](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/1%20Kings%2018.13)) and replaced their altars with those of Baal. Her strongest enemy was Elijah, who demanded a contest on Mount Carmel between the powers of Israel’s God and the powers of Jezebel and the priests of Baal ([1 Kings 18](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/1%20Kings%2018)). Of course, God won, but despite hearing of the miraculous powers of the Lord, Jezebel refused to repent and swore on her gods that she would pursue Elijah relentlessly and take his life. Her stubborn refusal to see and submit to the power of the living God would lead her to a hideous end ([2 Kings 9:29–37](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/2%20Kings%209.29%E2%80%9337)).

The second incident involves a righteous man named Naboth who refused to sell to Ahab land adjoining the palace, rightly declaring that to sell his inheritance would be against the Lord’s command ([1 Kings 21:3](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/1%20Kings%2021.3); [Leviticus 25:23](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Lev%2025.23)). While Ahab sulked and fumed on his bed, Jezebel taunted and ridiculed him for his weakness, then proceeded to have the innocent Naboth framed and stoned to death. Naboth’s sons were also stoned to death, so there would be no heirs, and the land would revert to the possession of the king. Such a single-minded determination to have one’s way, no matter who is destroyed in the process, is a characteristic of the Jezebel spirit.

So infamous was Jezebel’s sexual immorality and idol worship that the Lord Jesus Himself refers to her in a warning to the church at Thyatira ([Revelation 2:18-29](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Rev%202.18-29)). Thyatira, of course, is the Roman Catholic Church. The church was being influenced it the same way Jezebel influenced Israel into idolatry and sexual immorality, Jesus declares to the Thyatirans that she is not to be tolerated.

**Now we see the spirit of Jezebel and the spirit of false religion have both entered the Roman Catholic Church.**

**In Revelation we see the demise of this entity.**

**Revelation 17 : l-6-**

**V-l =**John is beckoned by one of the seven angels to look at the punishment of the

great whore who sits on many waters.

Now remember a woman is **symbolic for either a city, nation or church** and

here we see from the description of the woman that **she is a church** but she is

called a "prostitute"-meaning she has sold herself. - (for luxuries, she has

compromised herself.)

**v-2-**says, "to the kings of the earth who committed adultery with her and the

habitants of the earth were intoxicated with the wine of her adulteries"

-(she outwardly seemed to be joined to the true God but **that's the outward appearance,**  **inwardly** she is full of darkness but she fools many by her religious appearance of good. ***- (she entices many through her books and good works).***

**V-1=**notice she is sitting on "many waters."

**-( the waters are explained in v-15**-as peoples, multitudes, nations and languages.)—in other words the **whole world!!** She has **control of all the people** of the world.

**V-3** she sits upon the beast. -(the beast is described in Revelation Ch. 13 as the antichrist.) Notice, they are riding along together and she has control.

In Revelation Ch 13, we also saw the False Prophet, the leader of the religious system. This man will point people to the antichrist, (the Beast). As the religious leader of the world he will be able to do this.

**The Description of the Woman.**

**V-4**- she is dressed in purple and scarlet, glittering gold, precious stones and pearls.

**Purple:—was the colors of the Roman Caesars** and consequently it **became the color** of **the Vatican** when Constantine, the Emperor of Rome became the first Pope . (he brought his colors into the church .)

**The Catholic Encyclopedia** says that the color purple is the color to be worn by

it's bishops. And it is to be displayed in her churches at Advent, Lent, Good Friday

and it's Conclaves. -(these colors without a doubt identify this church as the

Catholic Church.)

**She, (the Catholic Church), maintains an international Status. T**he Vatican is the only city which exchanges ambassadors with nations and she does with every major country on earth, including the United States. This makes the pope the most powerful ruler on the earth today. Every President goes to Rome to pay their respects to the pope.

She sold medals that supposedly had special blessings to those who wore them.

She sold rosaries, that had special blessings, and by praying on them you received

the blessings, perhaps 1000 days less suffering in Purgatory, ( purification after death).

**v-4-**notice- "she has a golden cup in her hand-filled with the abominable things and

the filth of her adulteries *"-(Jer 51:7 -Babylon has been a golden cup in the Lord's*

*hands—the nations have drunken her wine and are therefore mad.*

*--{Roman-church has taken this symbol of a woman with a golden cup' in her hand and made it an 'emblem'.) Pope. Leo.12th had a coin struck bearing his image on one side and the other was the woman with the cup saying 'The whole world is her seat.'*

**The Catholic Encyclopedia** declares **the chalice-the golden cup-** to be the most

important of the sacred vessels. The church possesses thousands of golden

chalices.

—(that of course is the chalice the priest uses to drink the water and wine, during the Catholic Mass in which they **claim is actually changed into the body and blood of Jesus Christ,** but is really **spiritual** **adultery !**—it's called **transubstantiation** , a claim to power, whereby they hold people in check by this claim.

**Mystery Explained**

y**-5** "Mystery-Babylon the Great-The Mother of Prostitutes and of Abominations

of the Earth"

-(Mystery does not mean mysterious **but rather a truth not previously revealed.**

-(by the way when the Priest pronounces the bread and wine to be the actual

body and blood of Christ- **he says the words 'Mysterium fide"-** meaning they

have this mysterious power which the faithful must believe that they have-even

though there is no evidence it actually exists!)

**-The Mother means-the Originator.**

Babylon **started with Nimrod,** a great ruler of the city Babel, which has come to

be known for its confusion at the Tower of Babel.

-(The tower was a Ziggurat used for astrological observation. God told Noah to

 spread out and replenish the earth,(Gen 9:1). Nimrod counters don't spread out but stay together. -(it was the 1st world government.) Nimrod was building a False Religious System but God ended it—**in Confusion**!!

The Lord disbursed the people and confused their language. But this church is once again trying to bring them all back together again under one system as Nimrod did.

**—(the Babylonian religion is imparted to the church headquartered in**

**Rome).**

**v-6** "I saw the woman was drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of those

who bore testimony to Jesus"

-(she's not drunk with an alcoholic beverage, she is drunk with the blood of the

saints'.)

This is a horrible picture she doesn't just have blood on her hands, she is drunk

with it.

-(she has murdered millions of people who did not bow down to herin the middle ages. If the people did not pledge themselves to the Roman Catholic Church they were killed as heretics.) In **Spain** alone the church killed over **3 million people that were condemned as** **heretics!** She **burned over 300,000** at the stake . The **Crusades**-millions of people killed by her!

 **Hundreds of thousands have been killed because they tried to follow the**

**teachings of Jesus Christ instead of aligning themselves with the Roman**

**Catholic Church.**

**V-9**-says "this calls for wisdom."

The 7 heads are 7 hills on which the woman sits, (Rome), actually it's the Vatican

itself that sits on the 7 hills. (These 7 hills are also 7 kings or Empires). She has

sat on both !

It's an accurate description, in fact you can't get any more precise. Now about thr 7 empires. Five have fallen,(Empires), one is, (at the time of the Apostle John, Rome was the ruling empire), the other has not yet come. That would be the 7th empire which we know will be the antichrist.

verse 9 goes on to say, "but when he does come, he must remain for a little while. -( in other words he will be killed in the middle half of the Tribulation Period.)

**V-ll- says "**The Beast who once was, now is not,( he's been killed), is the 8th king.-(comes back or is shown as the image of the Beast).

We have to this point identified the false religious system, (the woman), that began in Babylon and followed it through the last empire. Now we would like to further point out how this entity has been operating to persuade and entice people to believe in her.

**Apparitions**

An Apparition is defined as anything that appears unexpectedly or in an extraordinary way; a strange figure appearing suddenly and thought to be a ghost. -(Webster's New World Dictionary).

Over the past one hundred and fifty years we have had many of these apparitions. The one appearing calls itself the 'queen of heaven.'

**Who is the queen of heaven??**

Jeremiah 44:19 talks about the women burning incense to the “queen of heaven”- who is a false god. (actually her name was Semerimus, also known as Ashtoreth, Astarte, Ishtar, Venus and Diana.) These were her names has she came to be known through the four main empires, the Babylonian, the Medo-Persian, the Greek, and the Roman.

-(today, the Catholic Church calls ‘the Virgin Mary’ the queen of heaven', but the mother of Jesus is not this person. This person is a false god, the same one that Jeremiah talks about.)

This entity has appeared to millions of people through our history.

In 1531 this entity appeared to Juan Diego at Guadalupe, Mexico, and every year 15 -20 million people visit this shrine. Pope Paul I in 1999 declared it a holy day for the Catholic Church.

In 1981 at Medjugorje this entity appeared to 6 visionaries. Since then 30 million people have visited this site with many claiming healing and seeing signs and wonders.

In Lourdes, France another apparition site, 5 ½ million visit every year.

In Poland, the shrine of ‘Our lady of Czestochowa,’ 5 million visit every year.

In Knock, Ireland, an apparition site draws millions.

In Sabana Grande, Puerto Rico, another apparition site of 50 years ago. Thousand come from all over the world every year.

In 1917 in Fatima, Portugal, where this entity showed a sign to the people, whereby they saw the sun playing tricks. They saw it coming down than going back up. This entity gave a letter to the Pope to be read in 1960. It stated that there needs to be world peace

and that it would come through her, when ail would honor her.

In 1968 through 1973 in Egypt at the Coptic Orthodox church another apparition drew millions of Muslims, Catholics, Protestants, to adore this lady of light. Muslims chanted from the Koran, “ Mary, God has chosen thee, and purified thee, among all women.”

(Mary is mentioned 34 times in the Koran, in fact the 19th chapter in named after her.

In it she is seen as “our Lady” blessed above all women by orthodox Muslims.)

 A quote from the Koran-, “the angels words to Mary they said, “Allah has chosen you, he made you to be pure and exalted above all women.”

There are interdenominational prayer groups springing up around the world praying to this entity.

In 2002 Pope Paul II proclaimed that the “queen of heaven” is the one to whom they entrust their future. This pope has declared her a ‘Co-Redeemer’ to be equal with Jesus.

**The ‘Queen of Heaven’s” message** in all her apparitions is to draw all people to unite under the Catholic Church.

**She is quoted in her messages** “I am the Mediatrix between man and God.”

 Another quote, “ the Father and Son has sent me to be their advocate.”

 Also, “ she said she is here to save the world through each of you and to place your confidence in me and you will be saved.” (This is totally against the scriptures.)

In 1854 Pope Pius IX proclaimed the doctrine of the “Immaculate Conception,” meaning Mary was born without a sin nature, the same as Jesus. This day is Dec 8th a holy day, so called by the Roman Catholic Church.

In 1870 this same pope received confirmation from this entity that he was to declare the doctrine of Papal Infallibility.

The Catholic Church celebrates another holy day called, “The Assumption,” whereby Mary was ascended into heaven. (like that of Jesus).

In 1963 at the Catholic Church Council at Rome, (Vatican II), it was decided that the Church would now recognize Protestants as having a chance to go to heaven, (whereas before in the Vatican Council I ), they were declared ex-communicated and thereby condemned to hell. But now through the Ecumenical movement of Vatican II, the Catholic Church would recognize them as having a hope. (The understanding was that they would affiliate under the new movement under the Catholic Church.) The hope of the Roman Catholic Church is to reconcile all faiths together under the Pope. In order to do this the Catholic Church would change it's Mass. Instead of saying the Mass in Latin, they would use the language of the community. They would also invite protestant churches to exchange pulpits and thereby break down their differences. It was to be a process of acceptance. This would in turn make it easy to affiliate. (under the Catholic Church of course.)

In September 2005 the Pope said “Ecumenism is obligatory for all Christians.”

In November 2005, the Pope urged a Better Doctrine with Lutherans, and the two denominations shook hands. (The understanding was that the Lutheran Church would join once again with the Catholic Church.) (They would forget Martin Luther.)

In December 2005, the Pope invited the Methodists to join the Catholic/Lutheran agreement.

In January 2006, the Pope started dialogue with the “Reformed Churches."

Lastly, the Roman Catholic Church believes that Allah and the God of the Bible are the same God. Quoting from the Catholic Catechism, it says “The plan of salvation also includes those who acknowledge the Creator, in the fist place amongst whom are the Muslims.”

The one thing they all have in common is the ‘queen of heaven.’

Pope John Paul said ‘there will come a day when the heart of Islam, already attuned to the figures of Christ and of Christ’s Mother, Mary, will receive the illumination it needs.”

There is a plan by Satan to bring all the faiths on the earth together under the Roman Catholic Church. This being the case, there would be on religious leader who would be the head of the whole movement. Of course this would be the Pope. As the head of the conglomeration of affiliated churches, he could recommend them to acknowledge the Beast of Revelation 13, called the antichrist. ( Revelation 13:11-12 says, *"I saw another beast, coming out of the earth. He had two horns like a lamb, but he spoke like a dragon. He exercised all the authority of the first beast on his behalf and made the earth and it's inhabitants worship the first beast, whose fatal wound had been healed.")(NIV)*

The true church is slowly acclimating into the movement, (the Ecumenical Movement), which has been the plan of the Catholic Church since their 1963 church council.

My friend, there is only "*One Mediator between God and man, that is the Man, Christ Jesus, Who gave Himself a ransom for all men.*" ( I Tim 2:5, NIV.)

This entity that calls herself the 'queen of heaven' is not the co-redeemer that the Catholic Church has previously claimed her to be under Pope Paul II. Do not be taken in by apparitions no matter what they claim. Hold to the Bible. It is the authority and the only authority. Keep to the theology we find in it and do not accept any other. Look out for those who want to unite under a 'banner of love', and forget theology. The Bible is our source for teaching and instruction. Allow the Holy Spirit to direct you and you will have the peace of God.