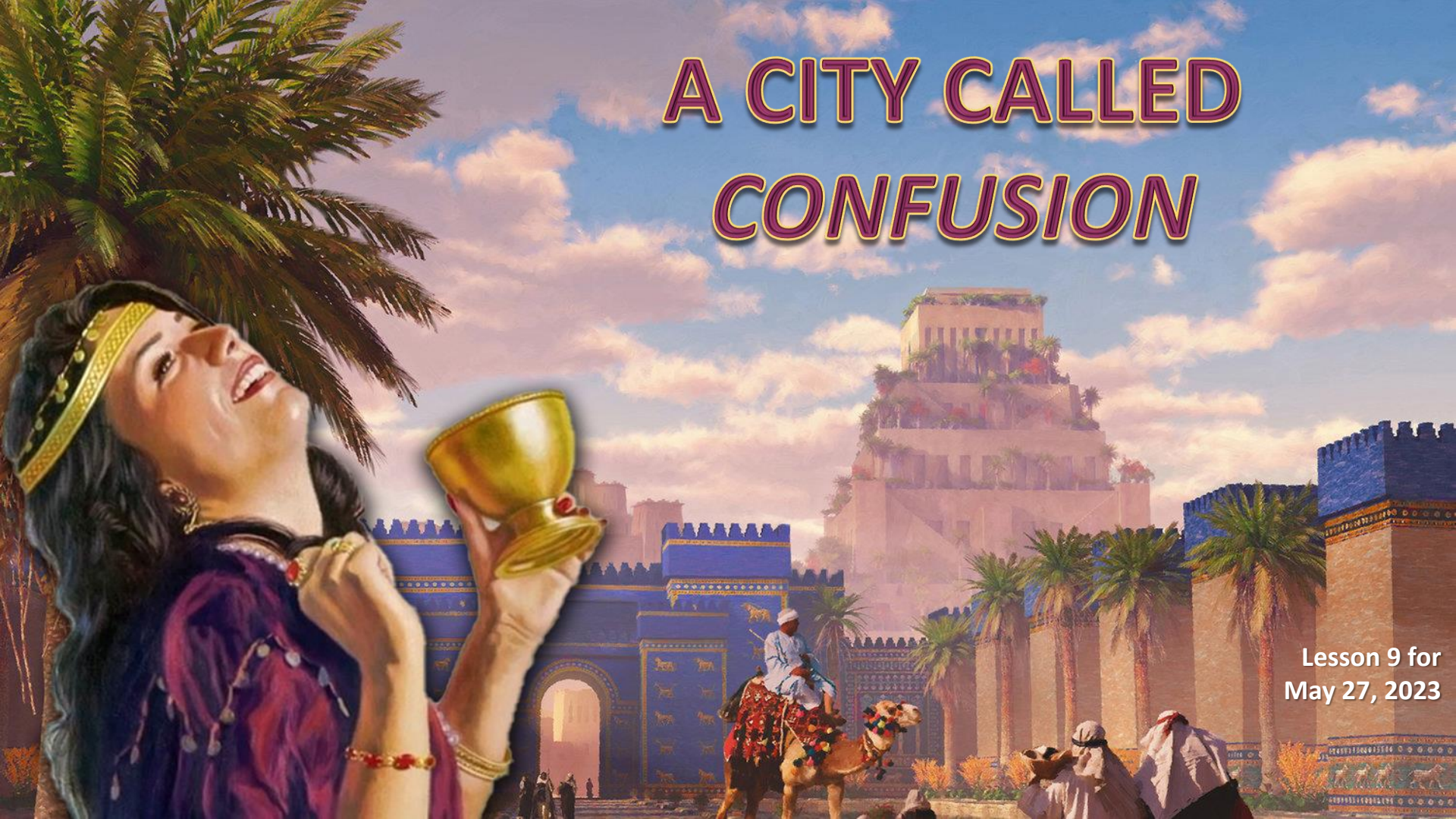


# A CITY CALLED *CONFUSION*



Lesson 9 for  
May 27, 2023





“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)

There are two women in the vision around the conflict between Christ and Satan:

1. A woman clothed in white and standing who is persecuted by Satan (Revelation 12)
2. A woman clothed in scarlet and seated who is supported by Satan (Revelation 17-18)

The message of the second angel refers to the second woman: “Babylon [*Confusion*] is fallen, is fallen” (Revelation 14:8).

- ↔ Two opposite systems
- ↔ Two types of wine
- ↔ Two ways of thinking
- ↔ Two different leaders
- ↔ Two ways of worshipping





# TWO OPPOSITE SYSTEMS

*"And another angel followed, saying, 'Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.'"*

*(Revelation 14:8)*



The Roman emperor Trajan visited Babylon in 116 AD, soon after John wrote Revelation. He found only ruins. Therefore, John was not talking about the literal city of Babylon.

According to Genesis 11:9, Babylon means "confusion." In the End Time, a religious system will mix truth and lies, thus causing confusion.



On the other hand, the pure woman is a symbol of a religious system based on the truth. In the End Time, the world will follow Babylon and will harass the faithful remnant. But Babylon will fall.



# TWO TYPES OF WINE

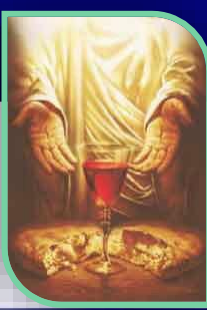
“For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury.” (Revelation 18:3)

Babylon has “fornicated” with kings and merchants. The church has abandoned her true husband (Jesus) and has illicitly joined with civil powers.

She has adulterated the pure wine of the Gospel and has given the wine of her own thoughts to the nations. She no longer follows Christ in order to get the support of the State.

However, the pure church has remained faithful to her Husband. She only serves pure wine, the precious blood of Christ that washes away sin (Mt. 26:28).

God calls His children in Babylon to come out of it (Rev. 18:3-4).





# TWO WAYS OF THINKING

“And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.” (Revelation 17:5)

The original Babylon was founded after an open rebellion against God (Gn. 11:1-4), like the figurative Babylon.

The figurative Babylon and her “daughters” changed the Word of God for human thoughts and traditions.



There are two types of religion: The one that follows God’s Word and trusts Jesus, His grace, His sacrifice, and His salvation. And the one that follows its own philosophies and trusts human authority, leaders, and traditions.



Babylon has always tried to destroy those who keep the pure faith (Rev. 17:6).

# TWO DIFFERENT LEADERS

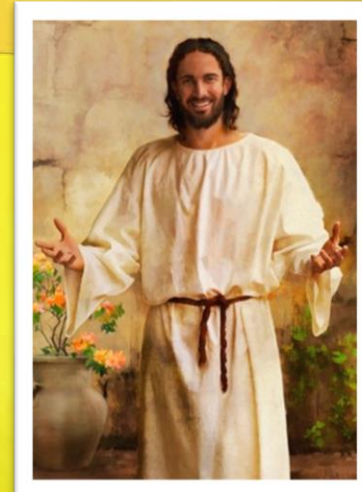
**"So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns." (Revelation 17:3)**



**Babylon is seated on many waters (Rev. 17:1, 15), and her foundation is a scarlet beast (Rev. 17:3). It's based on a human system, so her leader is also a person or a human institution (2Ths. 2:4).**

**However, the pure church is founded on the Rock, the Messiah, Jesus Christ our Savior (Mt. 16:16-18; 1Co. 3:11). Her leader is Jesus (Col. 1:18).**

**In the last days of our history, a Church-State system will arise again, the spiritual Babylon. It will have a spiritual leader that will claim to speak in God's name and will try to take His place.**





# TWO WAYS OF WORSHIPPING

"A drought is against her waters, and they will be dried up. For it is the land of carved images, and they are insane with their idols." (Jeremiah 50:38)

Idolatry was one of the causes of Babylon's fall. Worshipping images was also introduced early in Church history (4th Century), moving Christians away from true worship.



However, the pure church obeys all of God's commandments (Rev. 12:17), including the second one which prohibits creating and worshipping images (Exodus 20:4-6).

When people worship images, they're reducing God's majesty to a lifeless statue. They degrade themselves, making themselves similar to the objects they worship (Ro. 1:23; Ps. 115:4-8).





**Both the pure church and Babylon claim that they serve God and believe in Jesus Christ.  
How can we tell them apart?**

**The pure church**

**Clothed in the sun and decorated with the righteousness of Christ**

**Decorated with a garland of stars, based on Christ and the teachings of the apostles**

**Standing on the Moon, she gets her power from God's Word**

**Babylon**

**Clothed in purple and scarlet, decorated with human falsehood and tradition**

**Decorated with gold, gems, and pearls. She trusts her own power and she's based on human reasoning**

**Seating on a scarlet beast, she gets her power from the political powers of Earth**

**Jesus and His Word are our only safeguard in the crisis to come. The forgeries will be so close to the truth that we'll only be able to discern them by filling our minds with the Word of God daily and living in communion with Jesus.**

**“The fallen denominational churches are Babylon. Babylon has been fostering poisonous doctrines, the wine of error. This wine of error is made up of false doctrines, such as the natural immortality of the soul, the eternal torment of the wicked [...] These and kindred errors are presented to the world by the various churches.”**

**E. G. W. (Evangelism, cp. 10, p. 365)**

**“Notwithstanding the spiritual darkness and alienation from God that exist in the churches which constitute Babylon, the great body of Christ's true followers are still to be found in their communion.”**

**E. G. W. (Last Day Events, cp. 14, p. 198)**