

This Sunday at CMPC...

We move to chapter 17 of Revelation this Sunday as Pastor John looks at *The Glory that was Rome (Or Babylon or New York City or...)* in our ongoing series *Revelation: Strength for Today, Hope for Tomorrow*. This will be the first of a three-part series about Two Women that elaborates on the seventh bowl of judgment the angel pours out marking Armageddon and the end of history. Then we will close out the Lord's Day at 6:30 as Pastor Ben looks at Luke 11.45-54 in our series *Luke: Becoming Center About the Story*. Remember that Kids of the Kingdom is also starting up again!

Our hymns Sunday focus on our hope as over against a world that will turn against itself one day. We will gather with *We Will Glorify*, a late 20th century hymn. Our hymn of praise is the 21st century hymn by the Getty/Townend team, *Salvation's Song*. For our hymn of testimony we will go back to the 18th century and Charles Wesley's *Jesu! What a Friend for Sinners!* We will then respond to God's word with the 19th century hymn *He Leadeth Me*.

CMPC Sermon Notes ♦ **Series:** *Revelation: Strength for Today, Hope for Tomorrow* ♦ **Text:** *Revelation 17* ♦ **Message:** *The Glory that Was Rome (or Babylon or New York)*

Revelation 17-18

Preliminary points

- Two women... the great prostitute and the bride of Christ
- One story/Three parts
 - Scene One: The Glory that was Rome (or Babylon or New York or...)
 - Scene Two: The Day the Music Died
 - Scene Three: Going to the Chapel
- Chapters 17-19 expand the details of the sixth and seventh bowls of wrath (16:12-21).
- Three destructions
 - Destruction of Babylon (17 & 18) goes with the destruction of the Beast and False Prophet in 19.11-21 and Satan in 20.7-10
- Babylon is the counterfeit church- it is what Satan offers so that people do not embrace the church- do not embrace the gospel
 - It is the worship of the godless world
 - Seduces the world to the worship of the counterfeit Trinity we have seen
- Seven messages of judgment on Babylon
 - Angelic doom pronouncements, 17.7-18; 18.1-3; 18.4-8
 - Laments, 18.9-10; 18.11-17a; 18.17b-19
 - Climax pronouncement, 18.21-24
- The Beast attacks the church with promiscuity/power/persecution
 - Babylon attacks the church with seduction to destroy the church's purity
 - Babylon seduces with material prosperity and sex
 - The Roman emperor attracted great allegiance not simply because of his power but because of his benefits
- Emperor worship was politically expedient
- Modern cities today offer the same seduction
- Personally, we face the same temptations
- The Beast is the Roman Empire supporting Rome's luxury
 - Also Rome's sexual immorality
- False Worship is self-destructive

An Angel Shows John "Judgement of The Great Prostitute" 17.1-6a

- Angel- a hint that judgment is coming

- The glory that was Rome
 - Babel... Nineveh, Babylon, Rome... New York, Tokyo, London
 - Why is Rome... Babylon... New York... Atlanta so attractive?
- Prostitute- worldly city, cf. 17.18
 - What is the attraction?
 - Seated on “many waters”- many nations (cf. verse 15).
 - Scope of influence in view
 - Babylon was on the water, as are most ancient great cities in the world (Jerusalem an exception)
- Sexual immorality with the kings of the earth
 - Old Testament imagery: the allure of the world
 - Dwellers on earth drunk with the wine of sexual immorality
 - Sexual immorality across history is rebellion against God, beginning with Sodom/Gomorrah
 - Ultimate form of rebellion today
- Into the wilderness, 3
 - Safe place for John
 - Woman now sitting on a scarlet Beast
 - This is the Beast we met in 13
 - Blasphemous names
 - Seven heads and ten horns- trying to identify with specific kings/kingdoms a fruitless endeavor over time.
 - Seven- the completeness of opposition?
- The woman’s clothes: dressed to grab attention
 - Opulence: power and complexity
 - Purple and scarlet
 - Pearls and jewels and gold
 - Power of the State brings wealth
 - When power of state includes brutality, people still are allegiant, hoping for a future
- Cup of sexual immorality
 - Gold on the outside
 - Hides Abominations and impurities on the inside
 - Spiritual adultery/false worship included
- Name on her forehead
 - Prostitutes wore names on ribbons on their foreheads
- Babylon the Great- the great city from Babel to Dallas
 - Mother
 - Of Prostitutes
 - Earth’s Abominations
 - America’s great cities...
- Drunk with the blood of martyrs- most notorious crime of all
- What attracts us away from God?

Message One: The Judgment, 17.6b-18

- Was, is not, will come- God: who was, who is, who is to come
- Those written in the book of life since the foundation of the world: God’s sovereignty over our salvation based on his goodness

- Rome: City on Seven Hills
 - Five –represent all who have come
 - Sixth- current
- Seventh- about to be
 - Beast- culmination of the first 7
- Ten horns- kingly confederates of the beast from outside the Roman Empire, cf. 13-14
- Details of the final battle mentioned in verse 14 will not come until 19.11-21
- Turning on the Prostitute, 17.15-18
 - Idolatry is self-destructive: those disappointed in their idols will turn on them
- God is behind the destruction, 17

So What About Us?

- Withstand the temptations of the world
- Holiness matters
- Grace and mercy
- They will destroy you/caught up in the world's destruction
- Evil will turn on itself
- God wins – the Lamb triumphs!
- The proclamation of the gospel

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude

As we quiet our hearts for worship, please
silence all phones and electronic devices.

Welcome and Announcements

Dee Hammond,
Pastor of Missions and Outreach

The Song of Ascent

God’s people sang together as they gathered and
traveled together up to Jerusalem to worship God.

Congregation

Great Is the Lord

Great is the Lord He is holy and just, by His power we trust in His love.
Great is the Lord, He is faithful and true, by His mercy He proves He is love.

Great is the Lord and worthy of glory Great is the Lord and worthy of Praise.
Great is the Lord, now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice,
Great - is the Lord. Great is the Lord.

Great is the Lord He is holy and just, by His power we trust in His love.
Great is the Lord, He is faithful and true, by His mercy He proves He is love.

Great are You, Lord and worthy of glory
Great are You, Lord and worthy of Praise.
Great are You, Lord, I lift up my voice, I lift up my voice,
Great - are You, Lord. Great are You, Lord.

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ADORATION OF GOD

Call to Worship:
“Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God! His holy mountain, beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth, Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King. Within her citadels God has made himself known as a fortress. For behold, the kings assembled; they came on together. As soon as they saw it, they were astounded; they were in panic; they took to flight. Trembling took hold of them there, anguish as of a woman in labor. By the east wind you shattered the ships of Tarshish. As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God, which God will establish forever.
- Psalm 48.1-8

Invocation

Declaration of Truth:

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*This creed traditionally dates back to the early 2nd century.
The word “catholic” means “universal”, meaning the one true church made up of all believers in Jesus Christ from every tribe, language, people and nation.*

Hymn of Praise

Salvation’s Song

Loved before the dawn of time,
Chosen by my Maker, Hidden in my Savior:
I am His and He is mine,
Cherished for eternity.

When I'm stained with guilt and sin,
He is there to lift me, Heal me and forgive me;
Gives me strength to stand again,
Stronger than I was before.

So with every breath that I am given I will sing salvation's song;
And I'll join the chorus of creation Giving praise to Christ alone.

All the chains of Satan's curse
Lifted through His offering, Satisfied through suffering;
All the blessings He deserves Poured on my unworthy soul.

So with every breath that I am given I will sing salvation's song;
And I'll join the chorus of creation Giving praise to Christ alone.

Singing glory, honor, wisdom, power
To the Lamb upon the throne.
Hallelujah, I will lift Him high.

Singing glory, honor, wisdom, power
To the Lamb upon the throne.
Hallelujah I will sing with every breath that I am given
I will sing salvation's song;
And I'll join the chorus of creation
Giving praise to Christ alone.

Stars will fade and mountains fall;
Christ will shine forever, Love's unfading splendor.
Earth and heaven will bow in awe,
Joining in salvation's song.

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CMPC MISSION AND FAMILY LIFE

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

The Gift of Music

No One Ever Cared For Me Like Jesus

Orchestra

Receiving God’s Tithes and Our Offering

The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise him, all creatures here below.
Praise him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE 6:30PM

Join us tonight as Pastor Ben looks at Luke 11:45-54 in our series,
Luke: Becoming Certain About the Story.

Hymn of Testimony

Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!

#498

(Children ages three through 3rd grade may be escorted to Children’s Church)

Jesus! what a Friend for sinners! Jesus! Lover of my soul;
Friends may fail me, foes assail me, He, my Savior, makes me whole.

Refrain: Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, He is with me to the end.

Jesus! what a Strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in Him.
Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing, He, my Strength, my victory wins.

Jesus! what a Help in sorrow! While the billows over me roll,
Even when my heart is breaking, He, my Comfort, helps my soul.

Jesus! what a Guide and Keeper! While the tempest still is high,
Storms about me, night overtakes me, He, my Pilot, hears my cry.

Jesus I do now receive Him, More than all in Him I find.
He hath granted me forgiveness, I am His, and He is mine.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

Reading of God’s Word

Revelation 17

(pew Bible page 1037)

All: The grass withers, the flowers fade, but the word of our God will stand forever.

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon

The Glory that was Rome (or Babylon or New York or...)

Pastor John

Series– Revelation: Strength for Today, Hope for Tomorrow

OUR RESPONSE

Prayer of Application

Hymn of Response

He Leadeth Me

#600

He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
O words with heav'nly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Refrain:
He leadeth me, he leadeth me; By his own hand he leadeth me:
His faithful foll'wer I would be, For by his hand he leadeth me.

Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom,
Sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,
By waters calm, o'er troubled sea,
Still 'tis his hand that leadeth me.

Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,
Nor ever murmur nor repine;
Content, whatever lot I see,
Since 'tis my God that leadeth me.

And when my task on earth is done,
When, by thy grace, the vict'ry's won,
E'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
Since God through Jordan leadeth me.

The Benediction and Threefold Amen

Serving Christ at CMPC February 5

Lock-up	Dave Martin and Tommy Hulsey
8:30am	
Ushers	Jason Wallis, Tommy Hulsey, Brent Booker, Andrew Booker, Will McVey, Chris Nix
Greeters	
Infants/Toddlers	Arlene and Dan Freeman
Children’s Church	Andy Jobson
Junior Assistants	William Jobson
11am	
Ushers	Jason Cunningham, Mark Rush, Jack Hutchinson, John W Batusic, Andrew Batusic, Jacob Batusic
Greeters	Sarah Booker and Linda Hutchinson
Infants/Toddlers	Greg and Rachelle Dobbins
Children’s Church	Lara Carson
Junior Assistants	Lily and Hannah Prince
6:30pm	
Nursery	
Today	This Week at CMPC
8:30am, 11am	Worship Services
10am	Sunday School
6:15 6:30pm	Kids of the Kingdom Sunday Evening Service
Wednesday	
5:30	Wednesday Night Alive Meal
6:30	Orchestra Choir WNA Classes Nursery Youth Group



**EXALT GOD
EQUIP GOD’S PEOPLE
ENGAGE GOD’S WORLD**

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John S. Batusic, *Pastor* • Ben Phillips, *Pastor of Ministries*
Kennedy Smartt, *Chaplain to the Community* • Dee Hammond, *Pastor of Missions & Outreach*
Richard MacLagan, *Minister of Music* • Mike Owens, *Minister to Children*
Travis Brown, *Pastor to Youth* • Sarah Tilley, *Youth Ministry Assistant*
Lynn Perkins, *Kitchen Coordinator* • Nancy Burkhart, *Preschool Director*
Floy Jumper, *Facility Manager* • Mindy Burch, *Church Administrator*
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Women’s Ministry Leadership Team
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Unless otherwise indicated, all missionaries are with *Mission to the World*

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Unreached Peoples
Last names and locations withheld due to the sensitive nature of their situations.
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David & Jan • Phil & Amina • Calvin & Geeta • Micah & Blair• Mark & Nathalie

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Sacred Roots Farm • Young Life

