

The People of the Apocalypse
“The Gentiles Saved During the Day of the Lord”

Although not specifically designated as Gentiles, the Lord does give a warning to a group of His people just prior to the destruction of “*Babylon the great*”:

“And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.” (Revelation 18:4,5)

The Lord in this passage uses the term “*My people*” which usually refers to His earthly people, the Jews. However, He does call Egypt “*My people*” (*Isaiah 19:25*) when they come to Him at the end of the age which also indicates His present-day title for the saints, Jew and Gentile alike, as recorded by the Apostle Peter:

“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.” (I Peter 2:10,11)

At this point, the 70th Week of Daniel has ended with the sounding of the seventh trumpet (Revelation 11:15), when: “*The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ*” and the national conversion of Israel takes place completing God’s 70 Week program for the Jews as described in Daniel 9:24.

This is followed by 75 days (Daniel 12:10,11) during which the seven vial judgments (Revelation 16), the judgment of Babylon (Revelation 17,18) and the battle of Armageddon (Revelation 19:11-21), the closing event of the Day of the Lord take place in that order.

When the Lord gives the command to come out to those in Babylon, the seven vial judgments have just ended (Revelation 16:1-21) which were focused primarily upon the Antichrist and his kingdom, followed by “*one of the seven angels which had the seven vials*” (*Revelation 17:1*) talking with the apostle John.

The angel explains to him the circumstances of the coming judgment of Mystery Babylon in great detail, unfolding the specific description of certain kings and kingdoms which have crossed the stage of history and also those who will eventually come including the Antichrist and the ten horns. (Revelation 17:1-17)

It is in this explanation that the identity of “*MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH*” (*Revelation 17:5*) is given.

The detailed description given to John indicates that at the end of the age, Romanism/Roman Catholicism may well be “*the whore*”. She is the embodiment of false religion and has been responsible for shedding “*the blood of the saints and...the martyrs of Jesus.*” (*Revelation 17:6*)

The city of Rome is alluded to which has seven hills: “*The seven heads are seven mountains [hills], on which the woman sits,*” (*Revelation 17:9*). She is in fact the time of the end representative of all organized false religion which has held sway over mankind throughout the past 16 centuries of world history.

The earliest records of false religion begin with the humanistic bent of Adam and Eve which was concocted and offered to Eve by Satan, then Cain who practiced his own brand of neo-orthodoxy, and Nimrod who is the first to be connected with Babylon/Babel (Genesis 10:8,9).

It became the birthplace of the Satanic Babylonian cult which merged with a false form of Christianity during the early centuries after the Lord’s ascension as false religion continued it’s monstrous growth throughout the church age and will continue to mushroom into this “*MOTHER OF HARLOTS*” one-world organization.

Recently the head of the United Nations stated that the future of the world is in the hands of those women who gathered from all so-called religions of the planet to unite in an effort to bring world peace. Under the support and auspices of the U.N. which is the political organ of the devil, this gathering took place providing the Bible believer with indications of the nearness of the end of this age.

The Lord Jesus Christ told us that many false Christ's will appear as a sign of His coming and the end of the age (Matthew 24:5,24). We are living within the realization of this prophecy as many of the major cults with their false Christ's have risen during the past few centuries.

The Mormons, the Seventh Day Adventists, the Jehovah's (false) Witnesses, and Christian Science have all surfaced and grown during this time period. But the most notorious cult to date is Roman Catholicism, even though Islam is now competing for this title. It could well be that Islam, the fastest growing false religion of our day, will become the source of the martyrdom among God's people during the end of the age.

Revelation 20:4 tells of the beheading of "*the witnesses of Jesus*" which is the preferred method of execution used by the radical Islamists even at this present hour! Therefore, it is likely that Islam will replace Roman Catholicism after she, the great whore, is destroyed by the ten kings (Revelation 17:16,17).

With these facts in mind, the 19th and 20th centuries could be designated the period of time which the Lord referred to when He spoke the prophetic warnings concerning false Christ's and false prophets during His most informative discourse on the end of the age, Matthew 24:3-31.

And so, here in Revelation 17 and 18 and the beginning of chapter 19, the Lord deals with the judgment of this, the greatest force for evil in the history of the world! It is this system of false religion that receives the most descriptive and complete judgment in the book of the Revelation.

Two full chapters and part of a third are dedicated to the past, present and future of Mystery Babylon, including the cataclysmic judgment of Roman Catholicism this great enemy of God. This mighty judgment brings forth the most powerful occurrence of praise to God in all of Scripture!

The famous Hallelujah Chorus where heaven sounds forth "*Alleluia*" on three occasions in chapter 19, is the response to God's full and complete judgment upon this notoriously wicked and false religious system which has been the corrupter of the earth from the beginning!

The prophet Isaiah refers to this judgment of Babylon on a number of occasions beginning in chapter 13:1-22 showing it's occurrence at the end of the age during the Day of the Lord, and again in (Isaiah 21:9) where the fall of Babylon is proclaimed and repeated by the prophet Jeremiah in Jeremiah 51:8 about 150 years later with the Revelation documenting this same refrain on two occasions (Revelation 14:8, 18:2).

Revelation 17:1-17 sets the stage describing "*Babylon...the whore*" and the succession of kings past, present and future including the ten kings who will eventually be used of God to destroy her. But, just before God physically destroys her, He calls to His people who are in the path of His coming judgment to physically get out. That these are Gentile believers is likely because Gentiles make up the majority of Roman Catholicism.

That some of these people who remain within this wicked false religious system are saved is definite because of the command made by the Lord. Therefore the Lord's command to those believers within Roman Catholicism reveals certain end of the age Gentiles who will be saved during the Day of the Lord after the rapture has occurred.

This direct command by the Lord is similar to the one the Apostle Paul gave to the Corinthians:

“Wherefore come out from among them and be ye separate saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.” (II Corinthians 6:17, 18)

The Lord speaks to all believers through this pointed ultimatum requiring separation from unbelievers and any form of idolatry (I Corinthians 6:14-16) which is exactly what Roman Catholicism emphasizes.

It teaches and practices the idolatrous worship of saints with the Lord’s mother Mary being the central focus of this un-Biblical idolatry! This command to God’s people was not new with the Apostle Paul:

“Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from hence, touch no unclean thing: get ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the LORD.” (Isaiah 52:11)

Isaiah’s plain injunction given to the Old Testament priests of God is paraphrased by Paul and applied to the New Testament priests of God, that is, all the born-again Bible believers who name the name of the Lord Jesus Christ! Therefore, this clear command applies to every single child of God! The prophet Isaiah also records the conversion of other Gentiles during the Day of the Lord:

“In that day [Day of the Lord] shall Egypt be like unto a woman: and it shall be afraid and fear because of the shaking of the hand of the LORD of hosts, which He shakes over it...In that day there shall be an altar to the LORD in the midst of the land of Egypt...and He shall send them a Savior, and a Great One, and He shall deliver them. And the LORD shall be known to Egypt, and the Egyptians shall know the LORD in that day, and shall do sacrifice and oblation; yea, they shall vow a vow unto the LORD, and perform it, And the LORD shall smite Egypt: He shall smite and heal it: and they shall return even to the LORD, and He shall be entreated of them, and shall heal them. In that day shall there be a highway out of Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian shall come into Egypt, and Egyptian into Assyria, and the Egyptians shall serve with the Assyrians. In that day shall Israel be the third with Egypt and with Assyria, even a blessing in the midst of the land: Whom the LORD of hosts shall bless saying, Blessed be Egypt My people, and Assyria the work of My hands, and Israel My inheritance.” (Isaiah 19:16-25)

Although this end of the age passage also has Millennial applications, the phrase *“In that day”* referring to the Day of the Lord is found repeatedly along with definite acts of His judgment: *“The shaking of the hand of the Lord, which He shakes over it...the LORD shall smite Egypt...He shall smite”* followed by the healing and conversion of the most unlikely of peoples, the notorious age-old enemies of Israel, the Arabs of Egypt and Assyria!

Additional Gentiles will also come to the Lord when they see the many miraculous supernatural plagues/judgments from God during the Day of the Lord as the prophet Micah indicates:

“As in the days when you [Israel] came out from the land of Egypt,

I will show you miracles [miraculous plagues of judgment].

Nations will see and be ashamed of all their might.

They will put their hand on their mouth,

Their ears will be deaf.

They will lick the dust like a serpent

Like reptiles of the earth.

They will come trembling out of their fortresses;

To the LORD our God they will come in dread,

And they will be afraid before Thee.” (Micah 7:15-17) NASB

All praise to the Lord God of heaven, it appears that there will definitely be Gentiles saved during the Day of the Lord, as these passages indicate, but unfortunately, the vast majority of the earth’s inhabitants will take the mark of the beast and worship his image remaining openly rebellious and unrepentant toward God:

“And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues [seven trumpet judgments] yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.” (Revelation 9:20, 21)

Similar words describe the actions of these same people during and after the seven vial judgments:

“And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give Him glory...And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds...and men blasphemed God because of the plague of hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.” (Revelation 16:9, 11, 21)

Notice, in the verses above it is stated four times that these men would not repent indicating they had the opportunity to repent, but, they instead refused. However, the Lord will save some, in that day, for He is not a God of judgment but of mercy, for judgment is *“His strange work”* (Isaiah 28:21), but His mercy is abundantly given, and *“endures forever”*. (Psalm 136:1-26)

Although He does extend His mercy to all men, deadly judgment will come upon those who refuse to repent in that day, for the Day of the Lord will be an almost indescribable time of devastating fiery destruction upon planet earth and it's inhabitants:

“Howl ye, for the day of the Lord is at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty. Therefore, shall all hands be faint, and every man's heart shall melt: And they shall be afraid: pangs and sorrows shall take hold of them; they shall be in pain as a woman that travails: they shall be amazed one at another; their faces shall be as flames. Behold, the day of the Lord comes, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine. And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and cause the arrogance of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible.” (Isaiah 13:6-11)

“The great day of the LORD is near, it is near, and hastes greatly, even the voice of the day of the LORD: the mighty man shall cry there bitterly. That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness. A day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers. And I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the LORD: and their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh as dung.” (Zephaniah 1:14-17)

Upon some, these judgments from God will bring hardening, causing their hearts to grow even harder, as they remain blatantly rebellious and unrepentant. But, upon others, these same judgments, through the merciful grace of God, will soften their hearts causing them to turn to the Lord and be saved!

For, the Lord's mercy will continue to operate during His the Day of the Lord judgment bringing salvation to both Jew and Gentile. The Lamb will be exalted throughout eternity for His sacrifice on the cross as it provides the power to save every soul that ever enters this world (I John 2:2).

After the Day of the Lord is over, during the following 1000 year earthly reign of Christ called the Millennium (Revelation 20:1-4), multitudes will come to God's sacrificial Lamb, slain from the foundation of the world, the Lord Jesus Christ, putting their faith in His blood, repenting of their sins being saved just like all saints have been saved during the previous ages.

Therefore, it should not be surprising, that the Lord will continue to redeem many Gentiles during the time He

judges the earth for He will freely offer His greatest gift, salvation by grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8,9) to any and all who will believe and turn to Him!