Mystery...a "woman"/"stone" Babylon the Great & The End the 7th A



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Is America in the Bible? Are there prophecies in the Bible pointing to America being the last great empire before the Beast (Satan), arrives at the very end? Can we trust the Bible? The most convincing arguments for trusting the Bible come right out of the Bible itself (**the prophecies**). There are about 3,850 verses directly, or indirectly, concerned with prophecy in Scripture—300 concerning Jesus alone (which were all fulfilled).

The Bible is the most scrutinized and authenticated historical document in all of human history. Thousands of manuscripts have been analyzed and compared, from a variety of languages and countries, which provide the basis for our being able to accept the authority of the Bible. Further, Jesus quoted from the Old Testament, which provides us with direct evidence from God Himself of its truth. Additionally, despite the fact that we have very little first century New Testament documents, about 97% of the New Testament can be reconstructed from the writings of the early church fathers, as they quoted the Bible in their writings.

The archeological evidence (especially the Dead Sea Scrolls, which were discovered in 1948, and have been shown scientifically to pre-date the birth of Jesus by hundreds of years), is overwhelmingly in support of the Bible's accuracy.

Many of the Bible's prophecies were fulfilled at the time of Christ's arrival 2,000 years ago, and many more are being fulfilled today, as a prerequisite to the return of Christ. Let us examine just a few of the more prominent ones.

The Prophecy of Jesus' arrival 2,000 years ago:

<u>Genesis 49:10</u> – The scepter (authority to administer justice and punishment), was removed from Judah just before the arrival of Jesus. Rome removed this authority from Judah, and gave it to Herod (an Edomite, not a Jew). Therefore, the arrival of the Messiah (Shiloh, the Messiah, "God in their presence"), was at hand at the time of Herod, and fulfilled.

Isaiah 7:14 – The Virgin Birth was fulfilled, as recorded in Matthew 1:22-23.

Micah 5:1-5 – Jesus was born in Bethlehem, as recorded in Matthew 2:1-6.

Jeremiah 31:15 – Herod called for the massacre of all infants in an attempt to kill the baby Jesus, as recorded in Matthew 2:17-18.

<u>Hosea 11:1</u> – Jesus was taken out of harm's way to Egypt, and after the death of Herod, God called Jesus out of Egypt, to return to Israel, as recorded in **Matthew 2:15**.

Daniel 9:24-26 – Jesus was made known to all, as the Messiah (the long-awaited King), upon His arrival at Passover (when He was to be killed). This occurred exactly, *to the very day*, as recorded here in Daniel 9, over 500 years before Jesus was born, and confirmed by science in writings dating to 200 years before Jesus was born (the Dead Sea Scrolls). In 1894, Sir Robert Anderson, in his work "*The Coming Prince*," calculated the exact number of days in the 69 weeks of years in this prophecy of Daniel (69x7 years—the Hebrew prophets used a day to refer to a year in God's prophecies—**Num. 14:34; Ezek. 4:6**). The number of days as calculated

from knowing the date of the decree to rebuild Jerusalem (**Dan. 9:25; Neh. 2:1-10**, which dates to March 14, 445 B.C., per the decree of Artaxerxes), to the Passover week at which Jesus was killed, including all the leap years and leap days, etc., totals 173,880 days. This prophecy was fulfilled *exactly*, to the very day, when Jesus entered Jerusalem on the 10th of the Jewish month of Nisan, which is the exact day the lamb to be sacrificed is to be selected (**Ex. 12:3-6**--see *Feasts of Israel* Study – Target Truth Ministries.com).

Jesus, at His "triumphful" entry, claimed to be the awaited King, sitting as a king on a donkey (**Zech.9:9**), on Saturday (the 10th of the month on the *Jewish* calendar—April 8th on our *modern* calendar), the *exact day* the lambs were selected for the Passover sacrifice (**Ex. 12**). When Jesus arrived that day, He wept over Jerusalem (**Luke 19:41**), because, as He said in **Luke 19:44**; "*You did not recognize the time of God's coming to you*." Do you think this was just a coincidence? Note in **Luke 19:37-40**, that the song the disciples were singing (**Psalm 118**), was a reference to the coming "King," and also, note that the Pharisees wanted Jesus to rebuke His disciples for blasphemy (**Luke 19:39** -declaring Jesus as the Messiah—the Christ). Seventh Day Adventists and Jehovah's Witness (who came out of the Seventh Day Adventists), mistakenly use the rebuilding of the *temple* in 457 B.C./455 B.C. respectfully, as their starting point to count the days in the Daniel 8 and 9 prophecies. But, rebuilding the *temple* does not agree with Daniel 9, which states the rebuilding of the *city*, which began in 445 B.C.

<u>Leviticus 23 – The 7 Feasts of Israel</u> – Jesus has fulfilled each of these seven "feasts" (actually the word in Hebrew means "*appointments*"), which were given to Moses 1,500 years before Jesus was born, and Jesus fulfilled each one of them <u>to the very day</u> (see the Study on **The 7 Feast of Israel** – <u>Target Truth Ministries.com</u>). These predicted the exact days of the coming of the Messiah, which Jesus fulfilled at His first coming, and it is expected that these also foretell of Jesus' second coming as well (see <u>2068</u> at Target Truth Ministries.com).

The Prophecy of Jesus' ministry and death :

Isaiah 29:18-19 – Jesus healed the blind and the deaf, as recorded in Matthew 11:5; Mark 7:37; John 9:39.

Zechariah 11:12-13 – Jesus was betrayed for 30 pieces of silver, and that money was used to buy a potter's field, as recorded in **Matthew 26:14-15, 27:9-10**.

Zechariah 9:9-10 – Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey, as recorded in Matthew 21:4-5.

Isaiah 50:6 – Jesus was scourged, and spat upon, on His way to death, as recorded in Matthew 26:67, 27:26, 30.

Isaiah 53:7 – Jesus was the Lamb slaughtered - a sacrifice for those who trust in Him - recorded in John 1:29, 36.

Numbers 21:8-9; Deuteronomy 21:23 - Jesus was killed upon a tree (wooden pole), as recorded in John3:14-15; Galatians 3:13.

Isaiah 53:5; Zechariah 12:10; Psalm 22:16 – Jesus' hands and feet were pierced, as recorded in John 19:34-37; Matthew 27:31, 35-36; Romans 4:25, 5:6, 8. Archeologists tell us that when these prophecies were made, that the punishment of crucifixion had not even been invented yet.

Isaiah 53:12 – Jesus was killed along with criminals (transgressors), as recorded in **Mark 15:27-28**.

Psalm 69:21 – Jesus was given gall and vinegar, as recorded in Matthew 27:34, 48.

Psalm 22:18 – Jesus' garment was gambled over, as recorded in Matthew 27:35.

Exodus 12:46; Numbers 9:12; Psalm 34:20 – Jesus died with no broken bones, as recorded in John 19:36.

Isaiah 53:9 – Even though condemned as a criminal, Jesus was buried in a rich man's tomb, as recorded in **Matt. 27:57-60**.

Psalm 16:8-10, 49:15, 86:13 – Jesus rose from the dead, as recorded in Acts 2:27, 13:35; Matt. 28:1-10.

Psalm 68:18 – Jesus ascended into heaven, as recorded in Ephesians 4:9; Acts 1:9-11.

<u>Leviticus 23 – The 7 Feasts of Israel</u> – Jesus has fulfilled each of these 7 "Feasts" (actually the Hebrew word means *appointments*), given to Moses 1,500 years before Jesus was born, and Jesus fulfilled each one of them to the very day (see the Study on **The 7 Feasts of Israel** – <u>Target Truth Ministries.com</u>).

The Prophecy of Israel's Restoral:

Ezekiel 4:1-8; Jeremiah 25:8-12; Leviticus 26:1-18; 2 Kings 24 & 25 – Chuck Missler, in 1998, determined that this great prophecy of Ezekiel 4:1-8, had been fulfilled by the restoration of Israel as a nation, once again, after almost 2,500 years of being under other nation's control. In Ezekiel 4:1-8, God commands Ezekiel to lay on his side, as a prophecy against Israel for their iniquity. In verse 5, the 390 "days" are to represent years of oppression they will have to endure, and in verse 6, another 40 more "days" (years - Ezek. 4:6; Num. 14:34), are added, because of iniquity, for a total of 430 "days" (or years). God is telling Israel that they face 430 years of judgment for their disobedience.

In Leviticus 26, God tells Israel that: <u>1</u>) Verse 16 - if they disobey Him, they will suffer their enemies ruling over them (this happened beginning with the 70 years of captivity by Babylon prophesied by Jeremiah (Jer. 25:8-12, 29:10), which happened in 605 B.C., with the first siege of Israel, and then, <u>2</u>) Verse 18 - if they still do not obey, He will increase the punishment *seven times* for the remaining punishment yet to be served. Israel served 70 years punishment (a fulfillment of Jeremiah's prophecy), and yet, they still failed to worship God. Therefore, the remaining 360 years of punishment would now be multiplied by seven, resulting in another 2,520 years of punishment (390+40=430, -70=360, x 7=2,520 years, or 907,200 days). Accounting for the Jewish 360 day years, all the leap years, and days, etc., this amounts to 2,483 years, 9 months, and 21 days (on our 365-day calendar), that Israel must serve in oppression under other nations' rule (on top of the first 70 years they served in oppression under Babylon).

The Persian cylinder of Cyrus (held in the London Museum), records the sieges of Israel and Jerusalem (the beginning of Israel's punishment, as well as the destruction of Jerusalem later). From the first siege of Israel (2 Kings 24:1 ff), to the establishment of Israel as a nation once again (which took place on May 14, 1948), this prophecy was fulfilled *exactly* to the year of the 70 years plus 2,483 years, 9 months, and 21 days. By the way, this fulfilled another prophesy as well, because Israel became a nation in one day—within a 24 hour period (Isa. 66:8).

Further, from the third siege (which was of the destruction of Jerusalem), which took place in 586 B.C. (2 Kings 25:1 ff), to the uniting of the city of Jerusalem to the nation of Israel on June 7, 1967 (the Six Day War), this prophecy of Ezekiel 4 was again fulfilled *exactly* to the year of the 70 years plus 2,483 years, 9 months, and 21 days. Do you think this is just a coincidence? History and science confirm the Bible's accuracy.

There are prophecies remaining - yet to be fulfilled. Jesus is due to return to bring an end to this earth age, and Satan's domain.

The 7 Feasts of Israel are also considered a **prophecy** of this return (the word "feasts" actually is the Hebrew word for "*appointments*"), and Jesus is expected to fulfill the last three of these Feasts one more time--to the very day--exactly! (see the Study - **The 7 Feasts of Israel**, and also <u>2068</u> at Target Truth Ministries.com).

Remember Jesus' words in **Luke 16:31**; "*If they do not listen to* **Moses and the prophets**, they will not be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead."

The Prophesy of Mystery Babylon – a "Woman" – a "Stone" - John in 70 AD was given many visions of the mystery of Babylon the Great leading up to the end of the world.

In **Revelation 17:1**, John describes a harlot – a *woman* – who sits on many waters. There are **three** *women* referred to in Revelation. In Rev. 11:8 the <u>woman is Jerusalem</u>. In Rev. 12:1-5, the <u>woman is the bride</u>. She has a crown of 12 stars. 12 is the number of fullness in Hebrew...the full number of the host of heaven betrothed to God, and $1/3^{rd}$ fell. From these fallen host comes the Savior to restore these fallen host of heaven (see book **Eden to Evil** @ Target Truth Ministries.com). In Rev. 17:18, 18:2-7, 18:16-19 the <u>woman is this great harlot</u> that sits on many waters (Rev. 17:1). If we are to understand the end of the world, we must understand who exactly is this harlot - this *woman* ?

In **Rev. 17:15**, we understand that this *woman* sits on many waters...nations. In other words, she has great power and influence over the world.

In **Rev. 17:5** we are told that this *woman* has on her forehead "Mystery...Babylon the Great." The mystery of course is exactly who she is. It would seem she is somehow related to the ancient kingdom of Babylon.

In **Rev. 17:3** we are told this *woman* sits on a **beast** who has 7 heads and 10 horns.

In **Rev. 17:7** God tells John that He is going to reveal to John who the *woman* is, as well as the 7 heads and the 10 horns.

In **Rev. 17:9** God tells John that the 7 heads are 7 mountains, or kingdoms, on which <u>the woman sits</u>. They represent 7 kingdoms throughout history. 5 have fallen before John's time. One is at the time of John, which was Rome – the Roman Empire. And, one more is yet to come (the 7th). This woman therefore sits in influence over all these kingdoms throughout history. **Now we have two mysteries**...who is this *woman* throughout all history who will influence a return to Babylon (the 7th kingdom), and what things can we look for today to identify this **7th kingdom** that John states will arise toward the end of time ?

In **Rev. 17:11** God states that this **Beast** will rise to power *after* the 7th kingdom, and that this Beast actually existed before...in other words the Beast existed before in history as part of the 7 kingdoms from the very beginning, and now comes back into power and great influence again at the very end - the end times - the 8th, or final kingdom at the very end of time **for one hour**. We, of course, know that Satan (the Beast), has existed from the very beginning having been judged by God (Gen. 3:15, Job 1:6-7). Note : a few translations today read "*one* of the 7." This is an error, as all the ancient manuscripts do not have the word "*one*."

In **Rev. 17:12-14** God tell us that the 10 horns on this Beast represent 10 kings who receive power for just a short period of time (one hour) at the very end of the world. These world leaders will give their power to the Beast to try and overcome the Lamb at the very end. The Lamb of course represents Jesus (**John 1:29 & 36**).

In **Daniel 2:28-35**, the prophet Daniel gave us the interpretation of 5 of these kingdoms by interpreting an image given in a dream to king Nebuchadnezzar. This image begins with Babylon which is the kingdom that the king and Daniel were living in. History today tells us that the very first world kingdom was Egypt - the 1st great kingdom on earth going back to 1500 BC, from which Moses and Israel were allowed to leave after God's judgement (**Ex. 10-15**), and it was followed by Syria around 722 BC. Daniel lived during the kingdom of Babylon (the 3rd great kingdom on Earth), and he was led by God to record these last five kingdoms for us. The

kingdom of Gold is Babylon, followed by silver, followed by bronze, followed by iron & clay, **followed by a** *great stone*. So now we have identified the first 6 kingdoms. Egypt 1500 BC, Syria 722 BC, Babylon 605 BC, Medo-Persia 539 BC, Greece 334 BC, and Rome 168 BC, which existed at the time of John. But, there is still one last kingdom (*a great stone*), to arise over the nations of the earth before the Beast is exposed. This "*stone*" described by Daniel, is described by John as a "*woman*" somehow related to Babylon.

If we can identify the characteristics of what makes a nation great over other nations, perhaps we can identify a nation today who qualifies as this 7th kingdom (a *woman – a great stone*) which exists at the very end before Satan is given power for a short time. One thing we know is that God is in charge. God foretold of these 7 kingdoms before the final 8th. God will raise up a great nation before the 8th and it will have great influence over the world until, just like Babylon, it will be overcome by apostasy and evil and give way to the final end – the 8th. Babylon was wealthy...she was powerful over all nations...she was blessed...she knew of God's power...but, in the end, her pride and arrogance and rejection of God resulted in her downfall (**Dan. 5**).

To be a great nation over other nations requires God's providence to bless her. God will raise up this 7th nation...a "*woman*" over other nations (waters), a great "*stone*." This nation will proclaim God in the beginning, and then, just like Babylon, she will let arrogance and pride replace God as a priority (**Rev. 18:2**, **18:7**). This nation will possess wealth (**Rev. 17:4; 18:3**), and military power over other nations. This woman will enrich the world (**Rev. 18:11-13**). Her great seaports enriched her and the world (**Rev. 18:17-19**).

Is there a great nation today that came into power by **God's providence**? Is there a great nation today that has **great wealth** with **great seaports** and **merchants**? Is there a great nation today that has **great military influence over many nations** of the world? Is there a great nation today that all the nations of the world recognize as a great *woman* and a great *stone*? <u>YES !</u>

America was established as a nation under God – the Declaration of Independence – "One nation under God." The image on top of the Supreme Count in Washington DC is the image of Moses with the law.

America has the greatest military in the world upon which many nations either rely upon, or resist engaging.

America has the greatest of ports in the world...on both coasts, and the largest port in the world – New York, in which all the nations of the world trade.

America has a statue of a **woman** in the New York port which all nations recognize as the symbol of this great nation. This **woman** has on her head 7 spikes representing the 7 continents of the world...all nations.

America erected a great **stone** building...the Washington monument – recognized by all nations. It was the tallest building in the entire world when completed in 1884 at 555 feet tall. The **Capstone** weighs 3,300 pounds, and on the Capstone facing east toward the rising sun are the words "**Praise be to God**" in Latin.

BUT...America today is embracing inclusion, and diversity (other faiths), and abortion (as of 2020, 60 million babies killed - 10 times the # of Jews gassed by the Nazis), and also various sexualities & gay marriage, aa well as euthanasia, and has removed the Bible from public education, and in some cases has removed the phrase "under God" from oaths of office. Church attendance is at its lowest level in America's history.

Is America about to be overcome by the beast? America in 2023 is in **apostasy** and falling as a nation. She is in **great debt** and her **military** is not regarded as superior anymore. America is entering a period of **tribulation**. And, after the tribulation of those days (when Satan is allowed to rule for a short period – one hour), Jesus the Lamb will return (**Matt. 24:5-14, 27-31; Rev. 19:11 - 20:6**).

The Good News: this means Jesus is about to return to establish His Kingdom which will be an everlasting kingdom. No more suffering or death. That is good news for all those who are "born again" (John 3:1-7). For more... request Study on Queen of Heaven, or Study on the Feasts of Israel, or Study 2068 & book Revelation, Apostasy, End-Times & This Generation @ Target Truth Ministries.com.