

Sermon Series: Revelation - Jesus Revealed Sermon Title: The Truth Regarding False Religion

Scripture: Revelation 17

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In Revelation 17, John records the angel's description of God's final dealing with the "great prostitute" of the world, false religion.

Scriptures: Revelation 9:20; Exodus 34:14; Isaiah 42:8

False religion described (v. 3-6):

- Supported and empowered by demonic forces for satanic purposes.
- Has the deceptive appearance of grandeur and glory.
- Offers perverted worship and polluted pleasures.
- Makes great boasts which it cannot deliver.
- Opposes what is most precious to Jesus Christ, His church.

The relation and judgment of false religion & the beast explained (v. 7-18):

The people of earth will be deceived by the demonic forces of false religion. (v. 8)

Scriptures: Revelation 13:3-4, 8, 11-12; 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12

• In a final rebellion the deceived worshippers & doomed world rulers will fully ally with the antichrist. (v. 9-13)

Scriptures: Psalm 2:1-5

• The defeat of the united religious & political forces will demonstrate the security of God's kingdom and His people. (v. 14-15)

Scriptures: Matthew 10:28; Hebrew 12:28-29; Ephesians 1:3-4; Matthew 16:18b

• When false religion cannot deliver victory, the rulers of the world will be used to bring God's judgment upon false religion. (v. 16-18)

Scriptures: Proverbs 21:1; Daniel 12:7; Isaiah 46:10-11

Questions to consider:

- 1) Is immorality an accurate description of false religion? Why or why not?
- 2) Why does Satan allow for false religions that do not promote his own fame?
- 3) What are some ways that spiritual deception occurs, even among those who claim to be Christians?
- 4) How might false religion and the rulers of the world combine forces to oppose the kingdom of God and His church even today?
- 5) In what way does the phrase, "He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful" reassure you?
- 6) What does it mean that "God has put it in their hearts to carry out his purpose"? What does Scripture have to say about such things?