

Chapter 17

1. **Waters:** People under Satanic power and influence. (See ver. 15.)
2. **Fornication:** (See chap. 2:14.)
3. **Wilderness:** Place of desolation and drought where no springs of God are.
Woman: The great imperial city in her corrupt religious character. Papal Rome.
Scarlet-coloured Beast: Imperial Rome in its blasphemous form.
4. **Purple:** Imperial raiment: [Combined with scarlet a mixture of heavenly and earthly.]
Scarlet: Human glory and splendor.
Gold, Precious Stones and Pearls: Affectation of divine righteousness, glory, and beauty.
Abominations And Filthiness: Idolatry and corruption; prostitution of Christianity.
5. **Babylon:** The great licentious and idolatrous corruptress of religion; Western civilization in its religious aspect. (Jer. 51:7.)
Mystery: Pretension to truth.
9. **Seven Mountains:** Forms of government.
These, according to Livy and Tacitus, are
 1. Kings }
 2. Consuls }
 3. Dictators } “Five are fallen.”
 4. Decemvirs }
 5. Military Tribunes. }
 6. Imperial: “*One is*” administered by Domitian
in the time of John.

7. “And the other is not yet come.” [Foreshadowed perhaps by the first Napoleon.]
18. **The Great City:** Rome. (See chap. 16:19.)