

In Revelation chapter seventeen and eighteen the Apostle John gives a description of the great force behind the rise of the Antichrist and the revived Roman Empire to world dominion.

Throughout history the majority of Christian scholars and reformers believed the Pope of Rome to be the Antichrist and the Roman Catholic Church the Whore of Babylon. While this view was replaced by other interpretations for a few decades, it has regained its popularity in modern times.

The reason for this is clear. The Apostle John says the “*mother of whores and of earth’s abominations,*” will be the most powerful force in the world in the last days, and that her influence will come from her complete dominance in two major areas – religion and commerce.

And as a study of both past and modern history shows, nothing else fits the description given in these two chapters of Revelation as accurately as the Roman Catholic Church does, and nothing else is ever likely to in the future! Take for example the majority of murders she has committed since her birth. In reference to it John writes:

And in you was found the blood of prophets and of saints, and of all who have been slaughtered on earth.

(Revelation 18:24)

But besides the amazing prophetic forecasts found in these two chapters from Revelation, there is also hidden some very important practical advice that most Christians seem to miss. This is actually the primary focus of our discussion. We read:

Rejoice over her, O heaven, you saints and apostles and prophets! For God has given judgement for you against her.

(Revelation 18:20-21)

This shows the complete folly of any professing believer taking justice into his own hands when persecuted or wronged in any way. In First Corinthians chapter thirteen the Apostle Paul says that true love is always "*patient.*" Patience is the quality of being self-restrained in the face of being provoked; it is the exact opposite of getting angry.

Therefore, Christians have good reason to practice it in all circumstances, because God promised the future and everything else in all creation is under His complete control, and that He will not only "*bring every deed into judgement,*" but one day destroy the wicked altogether!