

## *"THAT PURIFYING BLESSED HOPE"* REVELATION 17:1-18; PROVERBS passages *PART 3: "BEAUTY AND THE BEAST"*

I. THE TALE OF TWO WOMEN AND THE BEAST

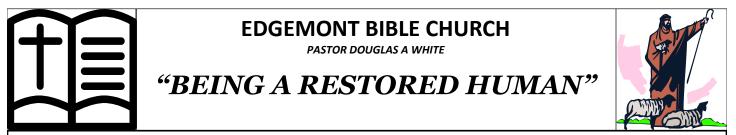
- A. The importance of <u>covenant</u> loyalty to God
- B. Marriage as a picture of covenant loyalty
- C. Wisdom: the ideal of the perfect marriage partner loyal to the covenant with each other and God
  - 1. Her marriage is to <u>God</u>
  - 2. She is not offering herself but the wisdom she has in her relationship to God; it would be disloyal and adulteress to give herself to someone else when she is in covenant with God
  - 3. She cries out to all the passersby in the market square to come attend her banquet of truth and wisdom Proverbs 1; 8; 9 and throughout
  - 4. Many <u>promises</u> are given to those who enter a learning relationship with her
  - 5. She represents man in his proper relationship to God in the fear of the LORD followed by faith in Him; she is the gift of <u>eternal life</u>
- D. The adulterous woman, the strange woman, the immoral woman, the foreign woman: the woman who wants to be <u>free</u> of her covenant to be her <u>own</u> person.
  - 1. She has a covenant to her husband but cannot stand the "slavery" it is to her; she wants adventure; she wants freedom; she wants to be in charge

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2. She too is looking for someone but she wants to commit adultery with them; she wants to use them, to get what she can from them then throw them away for another fun time 3. She is committed only to <u>herself</u> and cannot find it in her to do otherwise; she cannot be faithful to God and His covenant 4. She is *boisterous*, loud and can be obnoxious 5. She is *lustful* and *wasteful* 6. Her door leads to death and hades E. Wisdom is the gift of <u>eternal life</u> given to us in Christ F. The adulterous woman is Babylon, the Whore 1. She has <u>seduced</u> nations, kings and the peoples of the earth since her creation after the Tower of Babel 2. She has been around for <u>centuries</u> seducing people into conquest and theft of the stewardship of others; still here! Acts 17:26-27 3. She has been responsible for the <u>death</u> of millions to satisfy her lusts 4. She finds a <u>resting</u> place and names it after herself: Babylon 5. She rides the beast whom she has ridden since the days of the first conqueror, Nimrod 6. Describing the beast, the <u>satanic</u> creation of <u>empires</u>: out of the bottomless pit; he was, is not and will be; 7 head - 7 mountains, 7 kings, 5 have fallen, one is and one is to come; 10 horns - 10 kings w/o kingdoms in John's day



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