

HEALING STREAM MINISTRIES presents the full strength
THREE ANGELS' MESSAGES AS GOD'S MEDICINE
with enough power to...

- cleanse from all sin
 - set us free from all bondage
 - break all the power of the enemy over us
 - restore us to total spiritual health
 - develop immunity to all last-day deceptions
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#71 - Babylon, the Beast and the Commandments

Are you ready to engage in some detective work in the Book of Revelation? Would it surprise you to discover that the first four of the Ten Commandments are subtly embedded beneath the surface in the symbols of both Babylon and the beast?

Babylon as Idolatry – the breaking of the 1st commandment.

The Bible describes Babylon as a harlot (Revelation 17:1,2). What does a harlot do? She looks for or offers love in all the wrong places. The Old Testament describes such harlotry as a breaking of the 1st commandment. Idolatry is harlotry.

“And the Lord said to Moses: ‘Behold, you will rest with your fathers, and this people will rise and play the harlot with the gods of the foreigners of the land, where they go to be among them, and they will forsake Me and break My covenant which I have made with them’” (Deuteronomy 31:16).

The symbol of ‘Babylon’ thus stands for the covetous pursuit of any object or activity, which is not ‘god,’ in order to satisfy the covetous desires of our hearts because we do not believe that our God is BIG enough or good enough to satisfy the needs of our hearts.

The Beast – the breaking of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th commandments.

The Book of Revelation portrays a very close relationship between Babylon and the beast – Babylon rides a beast (Revelation 17:3). Experientially, all covetousness, [the breaking of the 1st commandment through idolatry (see Ephesians 5:5, Colossians 3:5)] needs idols for the expression of its idolatry and spiritual harlotry. Such idols are always made in the image of something that is created, and such images [not necessarily religious art] are custom-designed ...

- in the image of our own unmet needs (the violation of the 2nd commandment)
- in order to make a name for ourselves (the violation of the 3rd commandment)
- and thus the worshiper receives the number of the idol/beast he worships (the fourth commandment); he has no rest day or night.

Notice also how the victorious people, standing on the sea of glass, have won a victory over the image, name, and number of the beast (Revelation 15:1,2).

To seek salvation through our own works and righteousness is the principle of the antichrist. The antichrist principle is the replacement of the work of Jesus, the Messiah, with trust in our own works as the basis of our salvation. God rates such works with the grade of a “six,” whereas He always rates His own perfect work with the grade of “seven” (see Genesis 1:31).

Is it at all possible that the while we possess great certainty about the religious/political applications of both Babylon and the beast, that the enemy may subtly have blinded us from seeing the experiential application of these symbols right in our own lives.

What is God’s cure for discontent, covetousness and the resulting idolatry? An unshakeable trust in the covenant-faithfulness of our Creator-God. *“Hear, O My people, and I will admonish you! O Israel, if you will listen to Me! There shall be no foreign god among you; nor shall you worship any foreign god. I am the Lord your God, who brough you out of the land of Egypt; Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it” (Psalm 81:8-10).*