

I. Introduction

The harlot represents the entire system of society that opposes God and causes Christians to turn away from and leave God. It will surely be destroyed on the last day. Rather than focusing on the difficult terms that appear frequently in today's passage, let us focus on the lessons that God wants to teach us.

II. Main Body — Five Lessons from Today's Passage

1. No matter how powerful and impressive this world may appear, do not be amazed or intimidated.

Everything in this world will exist only for a short time and will eventually be destroyed. Therefore, be strong and courageous.

1) The angel tells John, who was amazed when he saw the harlot, not to be amazed (vv. 6-7).

"Why are you amazed?" This means that there is no reason to be amazed. Once we understand who the harlot and the beast really are, there is no reason to be amazed by them.

2) The beast that John saw is destined for destruction—it will be thrown into the lake of fire (v. 8).

3) There are seven kings, but five have fallen, and the others remain only for a short time (vv. 9-10).

4) The eighth king will also go to destruction (v. 11).

The main emphasis of today's passage is that all worldly powers will ultimately be destroyed. Therefore, as those who have been saved, we should not be frightened when we see this evil world, but should remain strong and courageous (John 16:33).

2. Evil forces always cooperate and unite with one another in order to oppose God.

Why does the angel, who says that he will explain the mystery of the harlot and the beast, spend so much time talking about the beast? It is because the harlot and the beast become one and work together.

1) The fact that the harlot rides on the beast (v. 3) means that the world and political powers have a mutually beneficial relationship: the world uses political power, and political power uses the world.

2) The harlot sits on seven mountains, and the seven mountains represent seven kings (vv. 9-10).

The world continually unites with political powers in opposition to God.

3) The ten kings who will appear in the future will give their power and authority to the beast (vv. 12-13). Even political powers unite with one another in order to oppose God.

4) The harlot rules over and manipulates the peoples and nations of the world (v. 15).

An example of this is seen in the prayer of the believers in the Jerusalem church concerning Peter and John (Acts 4:26-28). Another example is the alliance of evil forces seen at Jesus' trial (Luke 23:12). Even today, these things happen in many places throughout the world—even within the church.

3. Although evil forces unite as one, they will eventually turn against one another, fight, and destroy each other.

The beast will hate the harlot, bring her to ruin, strip her naked, and burn her with fire (v. 16). Political powers use everything in the world to maintain their power, but eventually they destroy the very things they have used. Because there is no love in the alliances of evil people, they eventually turn against one another, fight, and bring about their own destruction. The church, however, is a community united by love (John 13:34-35; 1 John 2:9-10).

4. God uses His absolute sovereignty to guide history according to His will (v. 17).

God uses the hearts and intentions of evil people to accomplish His own good purposes.

5. Because Jesus will be victorious, we must follow Jesus alone and remain close to Him (v. 14).

Jesus' victory is our victory (Romans 8:37; 1 Corinthians 15:24-25).

III. Conclusion

Bible Memorization	A VERSE FOR THIS WEEK “They will wage war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will triumph over them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings—and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers.” (Revelation 17:14)																				
Bible Reading	Bible Reading Passage <table><tr><td>8/31(Mon)</td><td>9/1(Tue)</td><td>9/2(Wed)</td><td>9/3(Thur)</td><td>9/4(Fri)</td><td>9/5(Sat)</td><td>9/6(Sun)</td></tr><tr><td>Jeremiah 37-39</td><td>Jeremiah 40-42</td><td>Jeremiah 43-46</td><td>Jeremiah 47-49</td><td>Jeremiah 50-51</td><td>Jeremiah52 Lamentations1</td><td>Lamentations 2-3</td></tr></table>							8/31(Mon)	9/1(Tue)	9/2(Wed)	9/3(Thur)	9/4(Fri)	9/5(Sat)	9/6(Sun)	Jeremiah 37-39	Jeremiah 40-42	Jeremiah 43-46	Jeremiah 47-49	Jeremiah 50-51	Jeremiah52 Lamentations1	Lamentations 2-3
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Sharing Questions																					

1. Through today's sermon, if you have come to understand something new or received special grace or encouragement from God, please share it with one another.
2. At the beginning of the sermon, the pastor encouraged us not to focus primarily on what the difficult words in today's passage mean, but rather on the lessons the passage teaches us. As the first lesson, he encouraged us to be strong and courageous rather than fearful or intimidated, no matter how powerful and impressive the world may appear. What are the reasons and foundations for why we should not be afraid, but instead remain strong and courageous? Please share your thoughts with one another.
3. We learned that evil people and forces in the world unite and cooperate with one another in order to oppose God and persecute believers, but once their goals are achieved, they turn against one another, hate one another, fight, and fall into conflict. In that case, how should the church and those who have been saved be different from them?
4. Jesus will certainly be victorious because He is the Lord of lords and the King of kings. In what ways does Jesus achieve His victory? Please share your thoughts with one another.