

THE TWO CITIES: BABYLON AND NEW JERUSALEM

From: Revelation: Ranko Stefanovic.

Table 5: Parallels of the Two Cities

Babylon

New Jerusalem

The Setting of the Visions

“And one of the seven angels
who had seven bowls
came and spoke with me saying:
‘Come here, I will show you...
the great prostitute...
with whom the kings of the earth have
committed fornication...’
And he carried me away in the Spirit
into a wilderness.
And I saw...” (17:1-3)
“the great city” (17:18)
“Babylon” (17:5)

“sitting on many waters,”
“...on a scarlet beast” (17:1, 3)

“And one of the seven angels
who had seven bowls full of the seven
last plagues
came and spoke with me saying:
‘Come, I will show you
the bride,
the wife of the Lamb.’
And he carried me away in the Spirit
to a great and high mount,
and showed me
the holy city,
Jerusalem,

descending out of heaven
from God” (21:9-10)

The Description of the Two Women/Cities

“And the woman was clothed
in purple and scarlet, and adorned
with gold and precious stones and
pearls.” (17:4)

She holds a golden cup in her hand
filled with abominations (17:4)

“The dwelling place of demons

and a prison of every unclean spirit
and...of every unclean bird and...of
every unclean and hated beast” (18:2)

“Those...whose names are not written
in the book of life...

will marvel seeing the beast” (17:8)

The nations and the kings (17:15)

will “give their power and authority to
the beast” (17:13)

“Having the glory of God.

Her radiance was like

a precious stone, like a jasper stone
sparkling.” (21:11)

She offers the water of life, bright as
crystal (22:1)

“The tabernacle of God is among men”
(21:3)

“Nothing unclean will enter into it,
no one who practices the abomination
and the lie,

but only those who are written
in the book of life of the Lamb

[will enter into it]” (21:27)

The nations and the kings

“will bring their glory into it” (21:24)

The Fate of the Two Cities

“It is done” (16:17);

God will give to Babylon
the cup of the wine of fury
of his wrath (16:19)

“In one day her plagues will come,
death and mourning and famine,
and she shall be burned with fire”
(18:8).

“The light of a lamp will
never shine in you any longer” (18:23)

Babylon “adorned with gold and

“It is done” (21:6)

God will give freely to the thirsty
from the fountain
of the water of life (21:6)

“And no longer shall there be death,
neither sorrow...nor pain” (21:4)

“The nations will walk by its light”
(21:24)

“The Lamb is its lamp” (21:23)

“The Lord God will illumine them” (22:5)

Jerusalem has “the glory of God. Her
brilliance was