

Friday

The King of Kings

Today's Scripture Revelation 17:14

We learned of the fall of Babylon in chapter 14. Chapters 17-19 give us further details concerning its wickedness and fall. The fact that Christ's revelation spends so much time focusing on its fall, means that it is very significant. When reading chapter 17, one is struck with not only the evil of Babylon but her beauty. She was "drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus" (17:6).

I wonder if some of the Christians who first read this book thought of the blood of friends that had been shed in the great Coliseum in Rome. Babylon, the great harlot, was clothed in purple and scarlet, gold, precious stones, and pearls. Rome was a majestic city that enjoyed the wealth and culture of the world. Her power and beauty was impressive. Rome had used her power to crush God's people but judgement was coming.

Even as John wondered at the majesty of Rome, an angel began to describe her demise. He started with a reference to the destruction of the beast that she served. The one who "was, and is not" (17:8). Doom was coming. The forces of evil would wage war against the Lamb, "*and the Lamb will overcome them, because He is Lord of Lords and King of Kings, and those who are with Him are the called and chosen and faithful*" (17:14).

Recent years have been filled with stories of the atrocities of ISIS and other radical groups. There are many who would seek to destroy all that is good and holy in the world. There are nations who seek to conquer with no regard for others. People with power and money use their wealth and position to take advantage of others. At times, it seems that these forces of evil are allowed to do their will unchecked. We need to remember that there is only one true power in the universe, the King of Kings.

Today, I will...remember who is really on the throne.