

December 25–31
Revelation 15–22

“He That Overcometh Shall Inherit All Things”



War Against the Saints of God

Rev 17:1-6

What are some of the characteristics of this “mother of... abominations?”

Stephen E. Robinson

"It appears in Revelation that the beasts, the image of the beast, and its horns represent kingdoms or governments, while the symbol of the unvirtuous woman represents false religion, false beliefs and ideologies that often capture and motivate governments." ("Warring against the Saints of God," Ensign, Jan 1988)

Hugh Nibley

“Babylon, like Zion, is a real society—a type, place, and environment of human existence, described in the scriptures with great clarity and precision... Though Babylon is vividly described by the prophets, the best way to define her is as the exact opposite of Zion in all things. Babylon is just as pure in its way as is Zion; it is pure evil...

"Babylon is the culmination of the worldly power wherever it happens. Through the ages, that power has actually culminated in just such world centers as ancient Babylon. Rome itself was entirely eligible for the name. The church of Rome called itself 'the church that is at Babylon' (1 Peter 5:13).... And in the last days we must have a Babylon, too. For the call has gone forth, 'Go ye out of Babylon' (D&C 133:7)." (Approaching Zion, pg. 16, 30)

1 Nephi 14:10-13

[10] ... whoso belongeth not to the church of the Lamb of God belongeth to that great church, which is the mother of abominations; and she is the whore of all the earth.

[12] And it came to pass that I beheld the church of the Lamb of God, and its numbers were few, because of the wickedness and abominations of the whore who sat upon many waters...

[13] And it came to pass that I beheld that the great mother of abominations did gather together multitudes upon the face of all the earth, among all the nations of the Gentiles, to fight against the Lamb of God.

Bruce R. McConkie

To a greater or lesser degree, as the case may be, all of the governments of the earth are in league with the great whore in that, from time to time, they do such things as:

- Prohibit the worship of God;
- Enact laws defining religious beliefs and prescribing forms of worship;
- Maintain state-supported, false systems of religion;
- Deny freedom of religious belief to all their citizens;
- Impose the religious beliefs of conquerors upon conquered people;
- Permit the mingling of religious influence with civil government;
- Foster one religious society and proscribe another;
- Deny to men their inherent and inalienable rights;
- Fail to guarantee the free exercise of conscience, the right and control of property, and the protection of life;
- Enact laws which curtail the agency of man;
- Require the teaching of false principles in their educational systems;
- Deny the representatives of certain churches the right to teach their doctrines or proselyte among their people; and
- Fail to punish crime and protect the rights of their citizens, particularly unpopular minority groups.

(Doctrinal New Testament Commentary, 3:553-554)

War Against the Saints of God

Rev 17:12-14

1 Nephi 14:14-15

[14] And it came to pass that I, Nephi, beheld the power of the Lamb of God, that it descended upon the saints of the church of the Lamb, and upon the covenant people of the Lord, who were scattered upon all the face of the earth; and they were armed with righteousness and with the power of God in great glory.

[15] And it came to pass that I beheld that the wrath of God was poured out upon that great and abominable church, insomuch that there were wars and rumors of wars among all the nations and kindreds of the earth.

Daniel 2:44-45

[44] And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

[45] Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold...

War Against the Saints of God

Rev 18:1-4,9

George Q. Cannon

“This chapter which I have read in your hearing (Rev 18), contains a series of important predictions concerning Babylon. It is found four chapters after another prediction concerning the restoration of the Gospel [which] says: And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth' (Rev 14:6). The next verse says—'And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication' (Rev 14:8). We would infer from this that one consequence of the preaching of the Gospel, or the declaration of it by this angel that should fly through the midst of heaven, would be the downfall of Babylon.” (JD 22:357)

The Second Coming

Rev 19:5-9

Who does the wife represent who has made herself ready and will be arrayed in fine linen?

Bruce R. McConkie

"The Bridegroom, who is the Lamb of God, shall come to claim his bride, which is the Church composed of the faithful saints who have watched for his return.... The elders of Israel are now issuing the invitations to the marriage supper of the Lord; those who believe and obey the gospel thereby accept the invitation and shall sit in due course...at the marriage feast." (DNTC, 3:563-564)

The Second Coming

Rev 19:11-16

JST Rev 19:15 - And out of his mouth *proceedeth the word of God, and with it he will smite the nations: and he will rule them with the word of his mouth...*

Why do you think that when the Lord returns
He will be clothed all in red?

Neal A. Maxwell

“Having bled at every pore, how red His raiment must have been in Gethsemane, how crimson that cloak!

“No wonder, when Christ comes in power and glory, that He will come in reminding red attire, not only signifying the winepress of wrath but also to bring to our remembrance how He suffered for each of us in Gethsemane and on Calvary!” (CR, April 1987)

The First Resurrection

Rev 20:4-6

What is meant by the first resurrection and when will it take place?

What is meant by the second resurrection and when will it take place?

Bruce R. McConkie

“Two great resurrections await the inhabitants of the earth: one is the first resurrection, the resurrection of life, the resurrection of the just; the other is the second resurrection, the resurrection of damnation, the resurrection of the unjust.... Those being resurrected with celestial bodies, whose destiny is to inherit a celestial kingdom, will come forth in the morning of the first resurrection....

“At the end of the millennium, the second resurrection begins. In the forepart of this resurrection of the unjust those destined to come forth will be ‘These are the rest of the dead; and they live not again until the thousand years are ended, neither again, until the end of the earth’ (D&C 88:101).” (Mormon Doctrine, pg. 640)

The Millennium

Rev 20:1-3,7-10

What does it mean to bind Satan? How is he bound?

1 Nephi 22:26

And because of the righteousness of his people, Satan has no power; wherefore, he cannot be loosed for the space of many years; for he hath no power over the hearts of the people, for they dwell in righteousness, and the Holy One of Israel reigneth.

Bruce R. McConkie

"During the Millennium Satan will be bound. He will still be on earth, attempting to tempt every person, as he has since the Fall of Adam, but he will be bound because no one will hearken to his temptations (1 Ne. 22:26)." (Encyclopedia of Mormonism, Vol.1, DEVILS)

The Judgment

Rev 20:11-15

What are the "books" that we will be judged from?

D&C 128:7

You will discover in this quotation that the books were opened; and another book was opened, which was the book of life; but the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works; consequently, the books which contained the record of their works, and refer to the records which are kept on the earth. And the book which was the book of life is the record which is kept in heaven

Celestial World

Rev 21:1-7

Who will be living on this earth when it has been transformed as described by John?

David O. McKay

"The city, I understood, was [the Savior's]. It was the City Eternal; and the people following him were to abide there in peace and eternal happiness. 'But who were they?' As if the Savior read my thoughts, he answered by pointing to a semicircle that then appeared above them, and on which were written in gold the words: These Are They Who Have Overcome the World--Who Have Truly Been Born Again!"

(Cherished Experiences from the Writings of President David O. McKay, pg. 60)

Next Week:

January 1–7

Another Testament of Jesus Christ,
Introductory Pages of the Book of
Mormon

