

*Yesterday I went to town, I was able to measure the sentiment of America from the pit, the bottom. One of the most impoverished cities in the USA, yet faithful to FEMA and the Homeland Security Militaristic New World Order, the governmentals taking over. Understand Merced is a perfect stereotype of what is happening in America. America is a corporate beast persecuting the poor and the Latino Catholic Church where we have 12 million people being falsely accused of being illegals (as if it were possible to declare a human being illegal, for that would be the same as comparing humans to rats, as it was done in the NAZI Germany of Prescott Bush and Hitler. Yet, America is a land that persecutes, just like the fundamentalist in Middle East nations persecute Christians, so does the USA government persecute Catholics that adhere with the teachings of the Church. However, the ones that persecute us think they act of their own mind, not realizing they are being brain washed by Mass Media, and the TV, of course, the Image of the Beast that was given the power to speak and subdue nations. But, enough introductions, let's go to the topic at hand: I put a thermometer in the butt of America, and was able to sense its fears.*

*Why is everybody playing country music? Are we like a tourist attraction, a Disneyland selling Americana, or, is there something spooky and creepy behind that facade?*

### **America is suffering an identity crisis**

**By Juan Eduardo Alvear Fuentes**

**Apaxim**

America is suffering an identity crisis. It appears a certain form of exacerbated nationalism inspired by the establishment who has taken a hold of the land. The marketing ruling elite that erected the bipartisan political system under the presumption of a democracy spreads its world domination doctrine amongst the masses.

#### **1. A democracy, America, really?**

As a matter of fact, we live a society ruled by industrial militaristic complex, a fascist regime ran by those that posses energy. Him whom possesses the energy makes the oil wars. It is a battle for the oligarchic mandate of families fighting to control the world. In America there is also the elite of the so called Anglo-Saxon economic monetary system, which is ran in reality by the Royal House of Britain.

So, what about the Independence Declaration signed in 1776, where we gain independence from the Brits...? Well, not quite yet, I am afraid to reveal to you, American. We tested to see if the Declaration of Independence from the Brits had really taken place. We did so in January 20, 1961. The Declaration of

Independence ended abruptly in November 22, 1963. The mirage of "Independence" ended with the assassination of John F. Kennedy by the Good Oil Boys from Texas, the ones that endorsed Hitler (Prescott Bush), the British Petroleum Royal House of England, and the Royal House of Saud, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

## **2. The Declaration of Independence from the Brits is but a mirage**

The Declaration of Independence from the Brits is but a mirage, product of Neuro Linguistic Programming, a mass media frenzy carried by the tube, television, the image of the beast foresaw by John in the Book of Revelation, when he referred to Television as the image of the beast that had been given the power to speak and subdue the nations, by the Elites and the marketers and merchandisers, advertisers and pharmaceutical corporations poisoning our minds with mind altering drugs, such as Television.

The owners of America are not Americans. Americans are not even the owners of their History, which is a fairy tale founded on the false notion that we are independent from the "mark of the Beast" which is also known as the British/Saudi Anglo Saxon Industrial Militaristic Monetary System, Complex and New World Order. John also foresaw this beastly kingdom 2000 years ago in the book of revelation. Money, paper money, is the mark of the beast in your minds and heads. The US Dollar is the mark of the Beast. It's been here for so long, but only a few had seen the deception, but until now.

Make no mistake, we have front row seats to see the collapse of an evil system ruled by television and the US dollar, the image of the beast and its mark, it is already here. America is the Apocalyptic Beast!

Americans are discovering the truth, little by little, partially, of those things that were revealed thousands of years ago. I personally received the interpretation of the Book of Revelation when I read it, more than 30 years ago. Finally, after thirty years, I see how America is awakening. It took me thirty years of waiting to see my vision of the world become not only my reality, but the reality of many more like I, who see what really is happening.

Funny thing, for Americans and the world, had been lead into believing that the US dollar actually belonged to America; when it is actually a foreign speculative currency intimately tied to OIL and Ponzi Scheme at the Wall Street Casino. The Anglo Saxon World Order, a conglomerate of multinational corporations ran by the god of profit, and not by the welfare and good of mankind. It is also known as

the Industrial Military Complex. However, this economic system, the US dollar, is not there to help us. On the contrary, they exploit us, war us, assassinate us, and our characters, our children, our countries. It is a beast.

The Desolate Abomination, the woman nation that exploits the whole world, filled to the rime is her cup with the blood of all the innocent and martyrs. She, the nation, commerces and sells with all the nations. Lo and behold, for in one single day she will fall, said the prophecy of John in the Apocalypse, and in truth, it all happened! All the ships in the ocean will look at the great and fallen city, the Statue of Nebuchadnezzar hit by a stone thrown with no hand. Here is the story of Great Britain, the USA and OPEC.<sup>i</sup>

'Mourn, mourn for this great city whose lavish living has made a fortune for every owner of a sea-going ship, ruined within a single hour. Revelation 18:19

### **3. The Beast deceiving the world**

They prostrated themselves in front of the dragon because he had given the beast his authority; and they prostrated themselves in front of the beast, saying, 'Who can compare with the beast? Who can fight against it?' Revelation 13:4

So, the world is divided, yes indeed: It is divided in between the Axis of Evil, the Profit Worshiping Anglo Saxon Economic Monetary System, and us, the People of the world. The beast has enchanted them with her charms, and they worship the beast, the Almighty Corporate State, the Empire of the New World Order, the Anglo Saxon Empire, for they truly believe it is going to win. Yet, it is unbeknown to them the tragic end. They worship the New World Order because they truly see it as an Empire that cannot be subjugated by anyone.

(Note to the reader: You must remember that the ones following the Evil Empire State God, DO NOT believe in God, or in the Magnificat. Freemasonry beyond 33 is a stage in which the members realize there is n God and that they should play the role of God to the people. They are also called the ruling Elite, or the dictatorship of ideological relativism.)

I pray to God one day we be independent form the tyranny of the oligarchs and those that bewitched, under the spell of witchcraft, work for them. Comprehend that their collective identity is similar to a CULT, It is a whole nation under the influence of a destructive cult and sect. It is like a massive Jim Jones, the Guyana incident; but at a super macro level. People call them the illuminati, and there is a lot of confusion to see where they are, who they are, for the BEAST has many servants at all levels of society. You can be sitting besides one of them, as we speak. It is the New World Order of Bush, one leader nation taking the whole world to the apocalyptic nightmare. It is one nation leading ashtray all the nations of the world.

#### **4. Money, paper currency at the center of it all.**

Money and its propaganda machine at the center of it all: the Movie and Television Industry. The Beast is Television, for the perceptual value of the US dollar, and the Nations endorsing it, must be inseminated in the minds of individuals via subliminal neuro linguistic programs via Mass Media, including TV and movies, its most powerful preacher. It also helps to create the sensation that there is war, that they have weapons capable of destroying the world. If necessary, they will inflict war and havoc to rule with dominance persecuting us, the ones that are telling on them. They are extremely frightened of the truth, for their kingdom is built on a charade of enormous dimensions. It's all but a deception. They, the rulers, are not gods. They are men like you and I. And yes, they have SEEN the writing on the wall, yet they continue to deny it. Regardless, history repeats itself, and they have fallen. So, in a way, this words you are reading is but a story of the late 20<sup>th</sup> century and the fall of the US of A and the Anglo Saxon Economic Empire.

It's time this oligarchy form a foreign currency, the so called US dollar, a so called Federal institution that actually belongs to the Royal British and Saudi Houses ends. Some say: Federal Reserve go back to Britain and Saudi Arabia, and leave the world alone and in peace. We DO NOT NEED MONEY, but we need the goods and services that money claims to buy. Money does not buy us a thing; our work searching for the Kingdom of God is what provides us with food and shelter. God is the one providing for us, and you are the one stilling from the collection, Judas, betrayer!

MONEY IS A MIRAGE, a piece of paper with the signatures of those that claim to owe the whole world. But wait! Don't we, all of us humans, owe the planet? I thought it all belongs to everybody, and that God created the whole world for us, because he loves us, to give us everything. However, a bunch of crooks pretended they are the owners, and write little pieces of papers that claim to be endorsed by all the goods and services the planet produces. They claim to owe us, and that our work, and all goods and services have a monetary value. That precisely is the MARK OF THE BEAST, without it nobody can buy or

sell anything. The Anglo Saxon Economic Monetary system. A slave system, very elaborate, but demanding to enslave all of us.

It compelled everyone -- small and great alike, rich and poor, slave and citizen -- to be branded on the right hand or on the forehead, and made it illegal for anyone to buy or sell anything unless he had been branded with the name of the beast or with the number of its name.  
Apocalips/Revelation 13:16-17

I am not a slave. Money DOES NOT OWE ME. I owe me, God owe me. I am a child of God endowed with the full dignity of a child of God, just like any other human being. Money and profit are not my God. I refuse to prostrate myself before it!

Freedom!!! Liberty, Equality, Peace, Good. No more clowns and puppets, bullies and assassins running the show.

## **5. Thesis: The Elite has sequestered the world**

The Elite has sequestered the world, giving its "citizens" a false sense of identity, a Nationalistic Religion, if you will. They are an exceptional Fascist State that believes it is above any other nation and culture, the so-called Exceptionals. They are a nation of idiots ruled by profit, war, greed, under the spell of Satan.

We are amongst them, and live amongst them who worship the US dollar (a foreign currency made by the Lords of Darkness). But please, do not confuse us with the Whore of Babylon, and the Beast (the son/daughter born of the whore). The Whore of Babylon, the Apocalyptic Nation called a murderous and satanic destroyer of the world is Britain, the offspring, the USA, who is the Beast. Now, the Beast of Seven Heads is OPEC, the other conglomerate that will destroy the whore, the Anglo-Saxon economic model. The Beast of Seven Heads, OPEC, has come to the party and will destroy the whore. Yes, the Beast of Seven Heads and Ten Horns (OPEC) will destroy the whore: the Anglo-Saxon economic empire. Why, because they are persecuting us, the Lamb, the Church of Christ. The following verses tell you what happened as foresaw 2000 years ago by Saint John. (please note that history repeats itself, and in the 20<sup>th</sup> century the nations portraying these characters at a global level are the ones mentioned in this personal interpretation of the Book of Revelation).

They are all of one mind in putting their strength and their powers at the beast's disposal, and they will go to war against the Lamb; but because the Lamb is Lord of lords and King of kings, he will defeat them, he and his followers, the called, the chosen, the trustworthy.' The angel continued, 'The waters you saw, beside which the prostitute was sitting, are all the peoples, the populations, the nations and the languages. But the ten horns and the beast will turn against the prostitute, and tear off her clothes and leave her stark naked; then they will eat her flesh and burn the remains in the fire. In fact, God has influenced their minds to do what he intends, to agree together to put their royal powers at the beast's disposal until the time when God's words shall be fulfilled. The woman you saw is the great city which has authority over all the rulers on earth.' Apocalypse/ Revelation 17:13-18

## **6. The Great Identity Crisis unfolds, the awakening takes place: The Antithesis**

We are just watching a war of identities unfold. The biggest identity crisis any organized society has ever had is happening, here and now, in America! Americans are discovering their brains were brainwashed, and their identity is but a mirage, a shadow. A Nation founded on sand, as well as Britain. The misinterpretation of the Book of Revelation, as per Luther, Knox and Calvin is nothing but a lie against the Catholic Church. Everybody knows the truth, their failed plot is revealed. Satan has lost, and his deception works no more on us, the chosen ones, written on the Book of Life. We know the foundation of this global empire and kingdom of lies is theft, murder, persecution of the innocent, and all sorts of evil things. That is what the architects devised since its very inception. It is the Freemasonic Founded Nation, and behold, for the Head of Freemasonry is the Monarchies of Britain and Saudi Arabia. This is as old as the Templar Knights, and it comes from Jerusalem, the place where "Mohamed" ascended to heaven riding his White Horse, the DOME OF THE ROCK. (That is what the Templar brought to the North of England, a secret society, a hidden religion, incompatible with the Catholic Faith.) A system perverted with a bad clone a replica of the truth. They want to make their own religion and see if it catches the synergy of the only one Kingdom of God. They all like to emulate, copy, clone, modify a good thing and make one for their own, so that they can rule. The appetites of some humans for world domination and power, even if it means prostrating themselves before Satan, who will at the end deceive them as well. Such a sarcasm!

## **7. SOME OF ITS SECRETS: Behind Stage, or Stage Pass, or "Tras Bambalinas" as we say in Spanish.**

Did you know that in order to reach the top in the elite military command posts you need to be a freemason? You would then get to know the VIPs, or foreign dignitaries that enjoyed mingling at the top posts in the Pentagon, the Royal Houses of Britain and Saudi Arabia.

The Pentagon is the official headquarters, Embassy, representing the powers of the British Monarchy, and Saudi Monarchy. KGB, the old KGB, the one of Stalin, had one of the Wings at the Pentagon, for they were partners and allies since Yalta 1945. However, with the Saddam Hussein incident, they were expelled from the 1945 Yalta Agreement and the British ruled Pentagon. Russians, Orthodox Christians, were expelled, and the Apocalyptic Whore of Babylon (The Queen of England), The Good Oil Boys from Texas (US Government since the assassination of Kennedy), and the Saudi forces of the Seven Nation in the middle East producing Oil countries, OPEC, have their seat at the table in one of their headquarter offices: Pentagon. So, yes, indeed, the Declaration of Independence, 1776, was never implemented. It was a façade.

America is most certainly NOT what it seems to be. Very few have wonder inside her corridors and gone to their secret meetings. There are a lot of insiders telling, even inside their Royal Houses. They are fed up with so much hypocrisy and murder. Lady Di was assassinated for exposing the secrets, that the Saudi's had inherited the Royal House of England by offspring.

There are many secrets, and the bloodlines are what matters for the REAL ROYALS..., right? However, if you dig a little in both Royal Houses, Saud and British, you find that there is no Royal lineage; for envies and greed crimes of their Royal Courts ended their lineage. They ate their very own sons and children, their bloodlines. Thus, their actual lineage is but greed, adultery, murder, lies, and all sorts of evil things unimaginable, fruit of the mind of their god: PROFIT. They worship Profit. Profit us their god, believe it or not!

**8. I am an American. I have an Identity Crisis. I do not want to worship the Beast, this false State, a Fascist Empire, assassin and murderous. That which I was taught to hate is that which my nation is. Who am I? The Synthesis.**

So, now, American, you know the truth, and you feel alone. You are left with no identity of your own. You no longer know who you are, who your parents are, where your county is. And that is precisely where America is at now, at the Crossroads.

America has a tremendous identity crisis. America is losing its identity and they are grabbing to whatever they can in order to keep on existing. We are witnessing the Fall of the Empire. It is ironic. Some Americans that came from Europe are even claiming to be American Indians. That is how bad it gets!

As for us, the persecuted ones, victims of "Saul of Tarsus," we are Catholics, of the Pope and the Magisterium, of course. We are not the American Catholic church that lost its compass and persecuted herself, when she persecuted us, Latin American Catholics. All the armies sent by CIA, the State Department, the Global Bureau of Indoctrination sent to poison all Latin American Catholics. We, Guadalupanos, are cemented on the Rock. Protestantism does not really have a place to stand firm upon, once you know history. For, those that study history and are protestant or Brits, are forced to return to the catholic faith, as it happened in 1992 when dozens of Anglican Bishops left the Whore and became Catholics, as Cardinal John Henry Newman predicted it would happen.

Americans have also take the simple way out: agnosticism and atheism, and all sorts of other religions. America is trying to find an identity. And that is precisely the American Cultural Crisis, a crisis of identity.

## **9. Conclusion: Who is America, who is Edward Snowden?**

It boils down to this: If you worship the US Dollar, (a foreign currency made in America by Britain and OPEC), you are an American. To be an American means to be a part of the culture of consumerism, a Walmart Eternal Customer and Employee, if I may indulge myself with the analogy. That is it! There is nothing else under the hood. They stripped down the American identity and brainwash them, so profoundly, they not even left the bones to sustain the meat (and I am not just talking about fluoride water poisoning).

That is America, a Branded people, slaves of Corporate and Consumerism. America has been branded by trademarks, acronyms, decomposing the language to an extent that can only be understood by the ruling elite, the one that brainwashed the whole society and turned them into puppets. They embedded us with engrams, triggers, words and sounds that enact behavioral responses. The most illuminated amongst them see themselves as freed from the influence of the conglomerate of lies, yet they are also deceived. They have no history, no knowledge, nothing, only their god: profit! They only have brands and suits, like the corporate culture of the IBM Men in Black. Everything is filled with advertisement, UFO's, and people think it is commercial advertisement, without realizing it is much more than that.



The ruling elites worshiping profit have brainwashed the minds of the American People turning them in to a militaristic fascist dictatorial state that only consumes BRANDED items, and destroy the items deemed evil. They destroy those items deemed evil or illegal, even if they are people. (Doesn't it seem so much like what Hitler did?). They give their citizens an illusion of control over their environment, government, democracy, etc. However, they are all enslaved, and they do not even know it.

**10. The Truth shall make you free. Our mission as writers, artists, poets, ideologists, liberators, preachers in the desolate desert: to expose the truth. Veritatis Splendour, the Splendor of Truth<sup>ii</sup>.**

The Truth shall make you free, not the combination of truths and lies, but the TRUTH. However, how can they find the truth, if they are persecuting killing "the truth" they are seeking? It's happening all over again, the crucifixion of Jesus, the Lamb of God, and Pilate asking what the truth is.

'Truth?' said Pilate. 'What is that?'  
John 18:38

They are instructed by their slave masters to assassinate the truth. That is precisely why America is having an identity crisis. Regardless, we are awakening them from their sleep, from the Matrix. It is hard, indeed, for they are in a very profound and deep state of subconscious subjugation of their will via neuro linguistic programming. Yet, we are sent by the Lord to harvest, separate the wheat from the chaff. We are like the Blues Brothers, on a mission from God, appointed by the Lord Almighty himself to carry out his work in the vineyard.

Well, we are here, we are the Catholic Church that follows the Christ, the Vatican, the ones that still believe in the Eucharist. We are the Religiosum Voluntatis et Intellectus Obsequium<sup>iii</sup>. We adhere to Holy Mother Church. There are so many in America that no longer believe. You will find believers only amongst the Catholic Latin Church, and we can be identified by Guadalupe, our mother. The other ones have stopped believing in Christ as God, and even in the Eucharist as the presence of God on Earth. American Catholicism at the Crossroads was a prophecy of what would happen to the nation, in its identity crisis, which if unattended has the risk of becoming an Ultra nationalistic Fascist Empire, if it was not already that. Thus, we stand like lights amongst them, the catalyst agents of change, the salt of the world, those that make change and things happen. We bring life, revolution, freedom, liberation,

healing. We pray amongst them. We enshrine and enthrone the Eucharist, the ruling throne of God on Earth.

#### **11. We are on an apostolic mission to save America from Satan, the primeval serpent.**

We are those that bring love amongst them, Catholic Charities. We are the persecuted Church of Christ, persecuted even by those that think they are of our very own: the Saul of Tarsus, the Judas Traitor, the Pontius Pilates, the crowds shouting CRUCIFY THEM!

Preaching in America is had. I never thought the opposition and fierce persecution against us would be so tremendous. They assassinated our character thinking that way our credibility would go out the drain. That did not realize the subconscious effect it was going to have on the minds of the Nation. As a result, the US government lost all the credibility of the people in the American Establishment. That is why I prayed for them: Saul of Tarsus, open the eyes of the American People, and its leadership, so they realize that by persecuting us, they but persecute and destroy themselves. Please have mercy on them, and allow them to repent. We will clear their eyes so that they can see.

However, it was necessary for the nation to lose its faith and identity, to fall from the horse and end up blinded<sup>iv</sup>. That is the only way to program them. They needed to be de-programmed in order to be programmed once again, this time around with the option of getting the truth. Still, they have to choose, for we only program those that want to be reprogrammed. We are the Church.

#### **12. What's it worth if I win the whole world, but I lose my soul.**

Acts of Apostles - Chapter 26:12-18

12 'On such an expedition I was going to Damascus, armed with full powers and a commission from the chief priests, and in the middle of the day as I was on my way, Your Majesty, I saw a light from heaven shining more brilliantly than the sun round me and my fellow-travellers. We all fell to the ground, and I heard a voice saying to me in Hebrew, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is hard for you, kicking against the goad." Then I said, "Who are you, Lord?" And the Lord answered, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and stand on your feet, for I have appeared to you for this reason: to appoint you as my servant and as witness of this vision in which you have seen me, and of others in which I shall appear to you. I shall rescue

you from the people and from the nations to whom I send you to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light, from the dominion of Satan to God, and receive, through faith in me, forgiveness of their sins and a share in the inheritance of the sanctified."

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<sup>i</sup> Revelation chapter 18 and 19, New Jerusalem Bible.

Revelation 18

1 One of the seven angels that had the seven bowls came to speak to me, and said, 'Come here and I will show you the punishment of the great prostitute who is enthroned beside abundant waters,

2 with whom all the kings of the earth have prostituted themselves, and who has made all the population of the world drunk with the wine of her adultery.'

3 He took me in spirit to a desert, and there I saw a woman riding a scarlet beast which had seven heads and ten horns and had blasphemous titles written all over it.

4 The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet and glittered with gold and jewels and pearls, and she was holding a gold winecup filled with the disgusting filth of her prostitution;

5 on her forehead was written a name, a cryptic name: 'Babylon the Great, the mother of all the prostitutes and all the filthy practices on the earth.'

6 I saw that she was drunk, drunk with the blood of the saints, and the blood of the martyrs of Jesus; and when I saw her, I was completely mystified.

7 The angel said to me, 'Do you not understand? I will tell you the meaning of this woman, and of the beast she is riding, with the seven heads and the ten horns.

8 'The beast you have seen was once alive and is alive no longer; it is yet to come up from the Abyss, but only to go to its destruction. And the people of the world, whose names have not been written since the beginning of the world in the book of life, will be astonished when they see how the beast was once alive and is alive no longer, and is still to come.

9 'This calls for shrewdness. The seven heads are the seven hills, on which the woman is sitting.

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10 The seven heads are also seven emperors. Five of them have already gone, one is here now, and one is yet to come; once here, he must stay for a short while.

11 The beast, who was alive and is alive no longer, is at the same time the eighth and one of the seven, and he is going to his destruction.

12 'The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have not yet been given their royal power but will have royal authority only for a single hour and in association with the beast.

13 They are all of one mind in putting their strength and their powers at the beast's disposal,

14 and they will go to war against the Lamb; but because the Lamb is Lord of lords and King of kings, he will defeat them, he and his followers, the called, the chosen, the trustworthy.'

15 The angel continued, 'The waters you saw, beside which the prostitute was sitting, are all the peoples, the populations, the nations and the languages.

16 But the ten horns and the beast will turn against the prostitute, and tear off her clothes and leave her stark naked; then they will eat her flesh and burn the remains in the fire.

17 In fact, God has influenced their minds to do what he intends, to agree together to put their royal powers at the beast's disposal until the time when God's words shall be fulfilled.

18 The woman you saw is the great city which has authority over all the rulers on earth.'

Revelation 19

1 After this, I saw another angel come down from heaven, with great authority given to him; the earth shone with his glory.

2 At the top of his voice he shouted, 'Babylon has fallen, Babylon the Great has fallen, and has become the haunt of devils and a lodging for every foul spirit and dirty, loathsome bird.

3 All the nations have drunk deep of the wine of her prostitution; every king on the earth has prostituted himself with her, and every merchant grown rich through her debauchery.'

4 Another voice spoke from heaven; I heard it say, 'Come out, my people, away from her, so that you do not share in her crimes and have the same plagues to bear.

5 Her sins have reached up to the sky, and God has her crimes in mind: treat her as she has treated others.

6 She must be paid double the amount she exacted. She is to have a doubly strong cup of her own mixture.

7 Every one of her pomps and orgies is to be matched by a torture or an agony. I am enthroned as queen, she thinks; I am no widow and will never know bereavement.

8 For that, in one day, the plagues will fall on her: disease and mourning and famine. She will be burned to the ground. The Lord God who has condemned her is mighty.'

9 'There will be mourning and weeping for her by the kings of the earth who have prostituted themselves with her and held orgies with her. They see the smoke as she burns,

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10 while they keep at a safe distance through fear of her anguish. They will say: Mourn, mourn for this great city, Babylon, so powerful a city, in one short hour your doom has come upon you.

11 'There will be weeping and distress over her among all the traders of the earth when no one is left to buy their cargoes of goods;

12 their stocks of gold and silver, jewels and pearls, linen and purple and silks and scarlet; all the sandalwood, every piece in ivory or fine wood, in bronze or iron or marble;

13 the cinnamon and spices, the myrrh and ointment and incense; wine, oil, flour and corn; their stocks of cattle, sheep, horses and chariots, their slaves and their human cargo.

14 'All the fruits you had set your hearts on have failed you; gone for ever, never to return again, is your life of magnificence and ease.

15 'The traders who had made a fortune out of her will be standing at a safe distance through fear of her anguish, mourning and weeping.

16 They will be saying: Mourn, mourn for this great city; for all the linen and purple and scarlet that you wore, for all your finery of gold and jewels and pearls;

17 your huge riches are all destroyed within a single hour.' All the captains and seafaring men, sailors and all those who make a living from the sea kept a safe distance,

18 watching the smoke as she burned, and crying out, 'Has there ever been a city as great as this!'

19 They threw dust on their heads and said, with tears and groans: 'Mourn, mourn for this great city whose lavish living has made a fortune for every owner of a sea-going ship, ruined within a single hour.

20 'Now heaven, celebrate her downfall, and all you saints, apostles and prophets: God has given judgement for you against her.'

21 Then a powerful angel picked up a boulder like a great millstone, and as he hurled it into the sea, he said, 'That is how the great city of Babylon is going to be hurled down, never to be seen again.

22 Never again in you will be heard the song of harpists and minstrels, the music of flute and trumpet; never again will craftsmen of every skill be found in you or the sound of the handmill be heard;

23 never again will shine the light of the lamp in you, never again will be heard in you the voices of bridegroom and bride. Your traders were the princes of the earth, all the nations were led astray by your sorcery.

24 In her was found the blood of prophets and saints, and all the blood that was ever shed on earth.'

<sup>ii</sup> Veritatis splendor, Encyclical Letter, John Paul II

[http://www.vatican.va/holy\\_father/john\\_paul\\_ii/encyclicals/documents/hf\\_jp-ii\\_enc\\_06081993\\_veritatis-splendor\\_en.html](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/encyclicals/documents/hf_jp-ii_enc_06081993_veritatis-splendor_en.html)

<sup>iii</sup> American Catholics at the crossroads, By Regis Scanlon [http://www.jeaf.com/help/american\\_catholicism.htm](http://www.jeaf.com/help/american_catholicism.htm)

<sup>iv</sup> Acts of Apostles - Chapter 26