

Revelation: The Bride and The Harlot

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Perhaps the most prominent contrast in the book of Revelation is a tale of two cities, the New Jerusalem and the spiritual Babylon, the faithful bride and the unfaithful harlot, the church and old Jerusalem. Listed below are a handful of comparisons between those who have accepted Christ, and those who rejected Him.

The Bride	The Harlot
New Jerusalem (3:12; 21:2, 10)	Spiritual Sodom and Egypt (11:8) Spiritual Babylon (14:8; 17:5; 18:2, 21)
Beloved city (20:9), the true great and holy city (21:10)	Great city (11:8; 14:8; 16:19; 17:18; 18:19, 21), holy city (11:2)
Citizens have name of God on foreheads (7:3; 14:1; 22:4)	Has her own name on forehead (17:5)
No need for physical temple (21:22)	Focal point was the temple (11:1)
Natural, inward beauty (12:1; 21:19-21)	Outward beauty (17:4)
Faithful bride (3:12; 7:15; 21:24; 22:3, 14)	Unfaithful harlot (17:1; 19:2)
Mother of the righteous (12:1; Gal. 4:26)	Mother of harlots (17:5)
The Lamb's wife (19:7; 21:2, 9)	The widow (18:7)
Positive influence (21:24-26)	Negative influence (14:8; 17:2; 18:3, 23)
God's people (21:3; 21:24-27; 22:14)	Persecutor of God's people (18:20, 24; 19:2)
Washed in the blood of the Lamb (7:14)	Shed the blood of the righteous, given blood to drink (16:6)
Avenged (18:20; 19:2)	Judged (16:5, 6; 18:6, 8, 10)
Precious (21:11, 18-21)	Worthless (18:14, 17)
Light (21:23, 25; 22:5)	Darkness (18:23)
United, one way (21:21)	Divided (16:19)
The good harvest (14:14-16)	The grapes of wrath (14:17-20)
Tree of life (22:2)	Trees burned (8:7)
Living fountains of water, river of life (7:17; 21:6; 22:1)	Water becomes bloody and bitter (8:8-11; 16:3, 4)
No tears or sorrow (7:17; 21:4)	Lamentations, mourning (18:8, 11, 15)
Gates not shut (21:25; 22:14)	Prison for the wicked (18:2)
Protected (12:6, 14; 20:9)	Destroyed (17:16; 18:8, 21)
Overcomes the beast (17:14)	Destroyed by the beast (17:16, 17)
Raised to a mountain (21:10)	Falls into the sea (18:21)
World is coming together (21:1)	World is falling apart (6:12-17; 16:20)
Abides forever (22:5)	Never again to rise (18:21)
No more curse (22:3)	Cursed (18:21-24)
Day of rejoicing (18:20; 19:1-6)	Day of wrath (6:17; 16:19)