is to be not beyond her desert, but “according to her  
works.” Her evil works, then, are double, as her destruction is also to be. That is, Babylon has two  
forms—(1) the LITERAL BABYLON, (2) the mystic or  
ROME. Both have destroyed the temple at Jerusalem;  
both have oppressed and slain both Israel and the  
Church of God. The remnant that escapes the burning  
of Rome flees to the literal Babylon, as the vision of  
the ephah (Zech. v.) discovers. Hence the two are  
both morally, and, to a certain extent, politically,  
identified.  
 As then Babylon’s crimes are twofold, twofold is the  
stroke of God and man. The first blow came from the  
ten confederate kings of Antichrist. The second is  
given by Israel just before her swallowing up by God.  
The ten kings destroy her first form in hatred to Christ.  
Israel smites in obedience to God. The ten kings take  
vengeance for her western sins; Israel, for her transgressions in the east especially. The day is now come  
in which God renders to each “according to his works”  
(Matt. xvi. 27; Rom. ii. 6).  
 “In the cup which she mingled, mingle for her  
double.” This is a reference back to xvii. 4. Babylon  
has a golden cup in her hand full of abominations, and  
filthiness of her fornication. This she gave the nations  
to drink. She is now to drink herself. The word  
“mingle” refers to the cupbearer’s province in ancient  
times. They drank wine diluted with water. The  
servants of the master prepared it.  
  
 7. “As much as she glorified herself and lived in luxury, so  
much give her of torment and mourning: for in her heart she  
saith, ‘I sit a queen, and am no widow, and mourning shall I not  
see.’”  
  
 Bellarmine makes “temporal felicity” one of the  
marks of God’s true Church.