

Journey Through the Bible: Revelation

Session 30: The Case Against Babylon (Ch. 18)

Remember Acts 17:11

Review of the Prophetic Image of Babylon:

- A City of Organized Rebellion Against God (Gen. 11)
- A Global Empire with a Central Ruler (Gen. 10:8-12)
- A Military Force Against the People of God (II Kgs. 24-25)
- The Birthplace and Center of Paganism (Rev. 17:4-6)
- The Lord will Destroy and Silence (Jer. 51:11&55)
- Will be Conquered by Christ (Micah 5)

Center of Paganism (Ch. 17):

- Drunk from a Golden Cup (Cf. Jer. 51:7)
 - o Enforced/Systematized Paganism
 - o “Drinking” Taking Pleasure from Rebellion
 - o Against God (Linked with Blood)
- She Enticed the Nations
 - o Addictive (Based on Circumstance)
 - o Profiting from the Death of Others
 - o Physical (Faithful)
 - o Spiritual (Citizens of Earth)
- Physical Clues to Prophetic Truths
 - o Purple: Claiming Authority
 - o Scarlett: Color of Blood/Sacrifice
 - o Precious Stones: Wealth
 - o Pearls: Unclean (Gentile: Unbelievers)
 - o Riding (Delusion of Control)

Basic Interpretation: Babylon has gained power by sacrificing the spiritual lives of the citizens of earth and the physical lives of the faithful. She is riding the dragon and in the drunkenness of her opulence, is deluded into believing that she is in control. However, the beast is using her and will dispose of her after she has outlived her usefulness.

After These Things: (v. 1-3)

- The Municipal Powers Overturned by the Enemy (Rev. 17:16-18)
- The Physical City Has Fallen (Cf. Isa. 21:9)
- Occupation by the Spiritual Forces of the Enemy
 - o Demons, Unclean Spirits, Unclean Beasts (Cf. “Birds” Mt. 12:31-32)

After These Things: (Cont.)

- Center of Humanities Denial of God’s Sovereignty
- Being Turned Over Fully to the Enemy in Judgement
- Angel Proclaims the Charges Against Her
 - o Spiritual Polygamy
 - o Persecution of the Faithful
 - o Enticing Others into the Rebellion
 - o Using Worldly Riches to Distract from Heavenly Rewards

A Warning to Any Lingering Faithful (v. 4-8):

- Issues with Chronology (Truth vs. Time)?
 - o “Then I heard...” Suggests Still in Order
 - o Self-Aware Narrators (This is Prophecy)
- Another Remnant Living & Ministering Still
 - o Echo of Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen. 19)
 - o City to Be Utterly Destroyed
 - o Faithful Must Be Evacuated
- Calls for Poetic Justice Doubled in Scope & Severity
 - o Violence, Oppression, & Death
 - o “No widow” (Cf. Jerusalem Lam. 1:1; Isa. 47)
 - o Widows and Fornicators Unable to Marry Priests
 - o The Bride of Christ will be a Virgin Before Him (Eph. 5:25-30)
- Delusion of Invulnerability
 - o Subjugated by the Enemy
 - o Obliterated by God
 - o The City (Capital) and Immediate Country

The Citizens of the World Mourn (v. 9-20):

- Kings (Political Powers)
 - o See the Results of Rebellion
 - o Realize Its Futility
 - o Mourning Loss of Unchecked Power & Wealth
- Merchants (Economic Structures)
 - o Economic Collapse
 - o Luxury Goods No Longer Demanded
 - o Precious Metals, Jewels, Building Materials, Spices, Scents, Transportation, Delicacies
 - o Slaves (Soma – Bodies), Lives (Psyche – Souls)
- All Supply Ceases
 - o Mourn Loss of Unchecked Greed

The Citizens of the World Mourn (Cont.):

- Seafarers (Infrastructure)
 - o Trade Ceased Due to No Demand or Supply
 - o Livelihoods Lost
 - o Mourning Lack of Purpose & Provision

But the People of God rejoice because justice has finally come.

The Pronouncement of Her Final Judgement (v. 21-24):

- Prophetic Image (Millstone into the Ocean)
 - o Utterly Destroyed in Violence
 - o No Trace will Remain
 - o No Replacement will be Built
 - o “Nobility of the earth” (Citizenship)
 - o Enticement/Deception to Sin
 - o Sorceries (Pharmacia) “Potion-craft”
 - o Identified as the Cause of the Death of the Martyrs as well as all Other Conflicts (Cf. Gen. 3)

Prophetic Comparison Chart on Pg. 4

For Session 31:

- Read Rev. Ch. 19
- What Do You Remember About the Ancient Jewish Wedding?
- What Do You Remember About the Preparations for Armageddon?
- Journal & Share Your Questions, Thoughts, & Discoveries.

Harmony in Prophetic Insight:	Isaiah		Jeremiah		Revelation	
	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>
Literally Babylon of the Chaldeans (Assyrian Empire, Medo-Persian Empire)	19		40			
Enticed Other Nations into Spiritual Adultery & Becomes Drunk with Pleasure from It				7	2	3-9
Descriptions: Scarlet, Purple, Golden Cup				7	3-4	6-16
Will be Judged on the Day of the Lord	6-13		25		Entire	Entire
Attacked by Many Nations	4-5	2, 26	2, 9, 41-46	7	16	
Similar to Sodom & Gomorrah	19		40			4-8 <i>Implied</i>
Utter Destruction. Never to be Rebuilt. Bricks Never Reused.	20	23	13, 26, 39	26, 29, 37		21-24 No Bricks