

The Fall of Babylon

Revelation 18:1-24

Series: Christ Revealed

Two Views of Interpretation

First, some commentators believe that Babylon represents an actual city upon earth. The city is said to be either Rome or else the city of Babylon that will be rebuilt close to where it existed in ancient history.

Second, there are commentators who believe that Babylon represents all the political, commercial, social, and cultural systems of the world. They believe that it symbolizes the godless and secular societies of this world.

1. Judgment Pronounced

² He cried in a mighty voice: It has fallen,
Babylon the Great has fallen! She has become
a dwelling for demons, a haunt for every
unclean spirit,

Babylon will be destroyed because the city will corrupt
people through secularism (Rev. 18:4-5). One of the
easiest things in the world is to become influenced
by secularism. A secular society offers comfort,
health, education, possessions, pleasures, time,
recreation, culture, and art.

2.The World Cries Over the Judgment

¹⁰ They stand far off in fear of her torment, saying: Woe, woe, the great city, Babylon, the mighty city! For in a single hour your judgment has come.

The pitiful scene is one of no repentance.

They will be desensitized to sin.

2.The World Cries Over the Judgment

¹¹ The merchants of the earth will also weep and mourn over her, because no one buys their merchandise any longer—

¹² merchandise of gold, silver, precious stones, and pearls; fine fabrics of linen, purple, silk, and scarlet; all kinds of fragrant wood products; objects of ivory; objects of expensive wood, brass, iron, and marble;

2.The World Cries Over the Judgment

¹³ cinnamon, spice, incense, myrrh, and frankincense; wine, olive oil, fine wheat flour, and grain; cattle and sheep; horses and carriages; and human bodies and souls.

Humanism and secularism at its best

3. Vengeance is Mine

²⁰ Rejoice over her, heaven, and you saints, apostles, and prophets, because God has executed your judgment on her!

Compare to verse 19

Heaven will have quite a different perspective on Babylon's judgment than that of Antichrist's earthly followers.

4. The Judgment is Complete

²¹ Then a mighty angel picked up a stone like a large millstone and threw it into the sea, saying: In this way, Babylon the great city will be thrown down violently and never be found again.

²² The sound of harpists, musicians, flutists, and trumpeters will never be heard in you again; no craftsman of any trade will ever be found in you again; the sound of a mill will never be heard in you again;

4. The Judgment is Complete

²³ the light of a lamp will never shine in you again; and the voice of a groom and bride will never be heard in you again. [All this will happen] because your merchants were the nobility of the earth, because all the nations were deceived by your sorcery,
²⁴ and the blood of prophets and saints, and all those slaughtered on earth, was found in you.

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4. The Judgment is Complete

'Just so shall Babylon sink down and not rise again because of the calamity that I am going to bring upon her; and they will become exhausted.'" (Jer. 51:64)

God judges and rewards completely

Close with a Parable

Luke 12:16-21

And He told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man was very productive. And he began reasoning to himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones,

Close with a Parable

Luke 12:16-21

and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come; take your ease, eat, drink and be merry." But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?'

Close with a Parable

Luke 12:16-21

So is the man who stores up treasure for himself,
and is not rich toward God.”

How rich are we toward?