

Doom of commercial Babylon

Revelation 18

Religious Babylon of ch 17, called Great Harlot, apostate one world religious system--blaspheming the true God—now destroyed by the Beast – it happens w/in 3 1/2 years of 7 year tribulation. Afterward Antichrist sets up image in Holy of Holies to be worshiped.

This religious system, absent of any born again Christians (**Raptured**) has it's headquartered in Rome & helped Antichrist gain power—after serving it's purpose Antichrist utterly destroys.

1 After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illumined with his glory. 2 And he cried out with a mighty voice, saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! And she has become a dwelling place of demons and a prison of every unclean spirit, and a prison of every unclean and hateful bird. 3 "For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the passion of her immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed acts of immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich by the wealth of her sensuality."

1-3) Fallen, fallen-**arist, sudden, complete** – religious *fallen*, now political, commercial (**prior 2nd coming**). Veil is pulled back to see driving force behind the system—evil spirits, fallen angels, demons, hateful bird. **Matt 13 seed-sower**. Literal Babylon?—many millions \$\$ given to rebuild as cultural, architectural, tourism phenomenon.

4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, "Come out of her, my people, that you may not participate in her sins and that you may not receive of her plagues; 5 for her sins have piled up as high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities."

Worldly system under Antichrist w/ wealth, sensuality, power—all captivating to flesh. So God warns & calls tribulation saints to guard against & be separate. We picture sins of S/G in Lots day sins grievous-God came down from heaven Gen 18,19. Lots righteous soul vexed—get up, get out angels ordered.

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Sins *pilled* to heaven-glued, welded together, lay one upon another as *bricklayer*. Wall to heaven-allusion to tower of Babel Gen 11

God remembers-no escape, no reprieve to this judgment—Self indulgence, consumed w/ materialism **1Jn 2:15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.** No one can serve two masters...God & Mammon Matt 6:24

6 “Pay her back even as she has paid, and give back to her double according to her deeds; in the cup which she has mixed, mix twice as much for her. 7 “To the degree that she glorified herself and lived sensuously, to the same degree give her torment and mourning; for she says in her heart, ‘I SIT AS A QUEEN AND I AM NOT A WIDOW, and will never see mourning.’ 8 “For this reason in **one day her plagues will come, pestilence and mourning and famine, and she will be burned up with fire; for the Lord God who judges her is strong.**

Law of retribution (**eye for eye**) Pay back what is due—Double because of severity of sin. OT Ex 22:4-9 double restitution in cases of theft. Maybe hint of how Babylon became rich--Gouged took advantage of the people.

Three fold sin **Pride**-glorified herself; **immorality**-lived sensually, **untouchable**-out of reach of God. Sit as Queen, not widow-never see mourning—In total denial, delusional. Words indicate willful sin against God--hard heated—**Pr 29:1 He who is often rebuked, and hardens his neck, Will suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.**

Judgment comes in *one day* sudden & complete—**Belshazzar** Dan 5, **Rich fool** Lk 12 – payback: plagues, pestilence, mourning, famine, burned w/ fire

9“And the kings of the earth, who committed acts of immorality and lived sensuously with her, will weep and lament over her when they see the smoke of her burning, 10 standing at a distance because of the fear of her torment, saying, ‘Woe, woe, the great city, Babylon, the strong city! For in one hour your judgment has come.’

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Standing at distance because of heat, burning, destruction, intense fire—

Nuclear blast ?—at distance *radiation*. **Is 13:6-11,19-22; Jer 51:24-26; 61-**

64 A literal destruction of Babylon-city rebuilt? or metaphorically

Political/commercial center of world—Brussels, NY-wall street. Final world ruling empire known in Daniel 10 toes that stone not cut w/ hands destroys.

11 “And the merchants of the earth weep and mourn over her, because no one buys their cargoes any more; 12 cargoes of gold and silver and precious stones and pearls and fine linen and purple and silk and scarlet, and every kind of citron wood and every article of ivory and every article made from very costly wood and bronze and iron and marble, 13 and cinnamon and spice and incense and perfume and frankincense and wine and olive oil and fine flour and wheat and cattle and sheep, and cargoes of horses and chariots and slaves and human lives. 14 “And the fruit you long for has gone from you, and all things that were luxurious and splendid have passed away from you and men will no longer find them. 15 “The merchants of these things, who became rich from her, will stand at a distance because of the fear of her torment, weeping and mourning, 16 saying, ‘Woe, woe, the great city, she who was clothed in fine linen and purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls; 17 for in one hour such great wealth has been laid waste!’ And every shipmaster and every passenger and sailor, and as many as make their living by the sea, stood at a distance, 18 and were crying out as they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, ‘What city is like the great city?’

29 items all luxury not necessities--mourning because financial ruin, like a stock market crash-**Suicide of Adolf Merckle worth 9.3 bill lost 536 mil.**

Trafficking in souls of men—sex traffic, drugs, pornography, kidnapping, abortion--**planned parenthood** will be judged. Luxurious apparel, extravagant home furnishings, Abundance of gourmet foods; expensive cosmetics, high end transportation.

Completely given over to materialism & luxurious living & at same time rejecting God. *Ja 1:17 Every good thing bestowed and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation, or shifting shadow. Rom 1:21 For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God, or give thanks; but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. S/G Ez 16:49,50 “Behold, this was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had arrogance, abundant food, and careless*

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ease, but she did not help the poor and needy. 50 “Thus they were haughty and committed abominations before Me. Therefore I removed them when I saw it.

Rise and fall of Roman Empire-1 Breakdown in home basis for stable society. 2 Escalating taxes w/ public money spent on welfare handouts 3 Obsession w/ entertainment w/ increasing brutal & immoral images. 4 Armament build up when real enemy is w/in rotting of social norms. 5 Failure of faith w/o a moral & religious compass.

19 “And they threw dust on their heads and were crying out, weeping and mourning, saying, ‘Woe, woe, the great city, in which all who had ships at sea became rich by her wealth, for in one hour she has been laid waste!’ 20 “Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets, because God has pronounced judgment for you against her.” 21 And a strong angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, “Thus will Babylon, the great city, be thrown down with violence, and will not be found any longer.

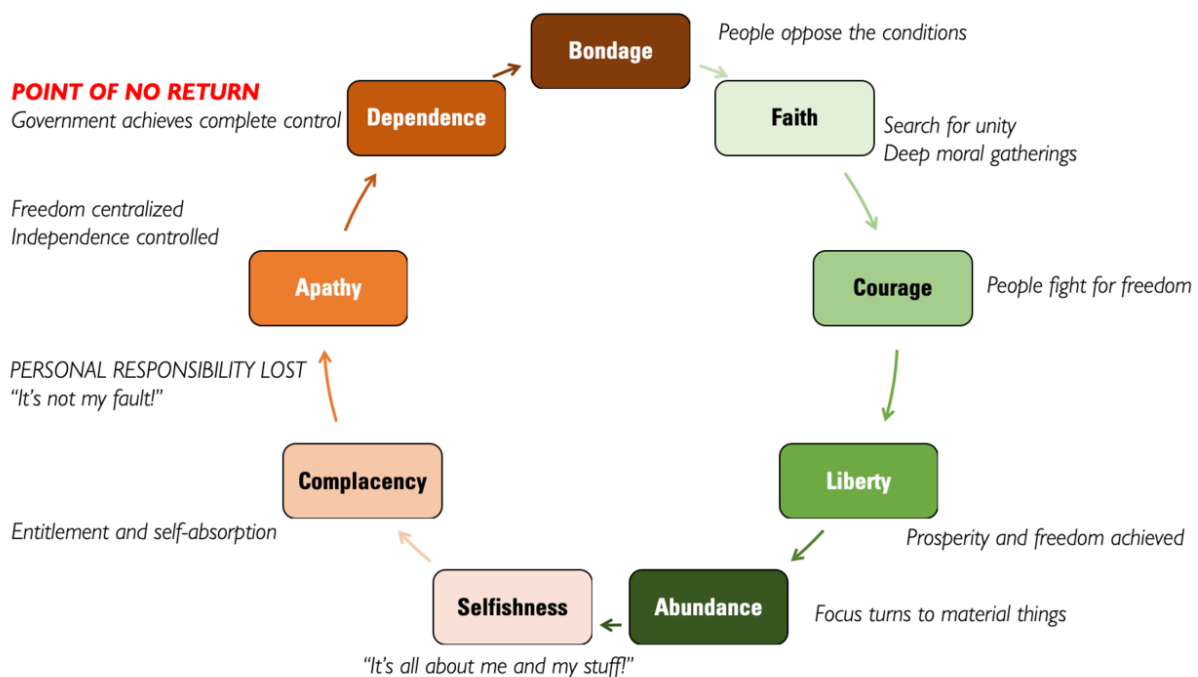
14,000 ship thru Panama Canal—canal revenue 2020 \$3.4 bil—80 countries \$270 bil yearly—now bankrupt--Contrast of greedy merchants weeping & Godly ones rejoicing—not at carnage but justice of God—at trial when perpetrator found guilty & sentenced—righteous rejoice—justice was served—*God takes no pleasure in death of wicked.*

21) *Jer 51:63,64 “And it will come about as soon as you finish reading this scroll, you will tie a stone to it and throw it into the middle of the Euphrates, 64 and say, ‘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.’” Thus far are the words of Jeremiah.* Priest is commanded to bind prophecy to stone cast into Euphrates *‘thus shall Babylon sink and shall not rise from the evil that I will bring upon her...’* **Jesus Matt 18:6** *‘Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to stumble better that a millstone hung around neck an cast into deepest part of sea’.*

Because Babylon lead others astray...just punishment . One day this corrupt world system will be destroyed never to rise again at Jesus return & those who are part of the system will be judged by a Righteous God.

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Mercy says repent before it's too late. Democratic society has a 200 year shelf life according to 1700's Alexander Fraser Tytler, Lord Woodhouselee, [Alexis de Tocqueville "Fatal Sequence"](#). *History of a democracy is always temporary in nature; it simply cannot exist as a permanent form of government. A democracy will continue to exist up until the time that voters discover that they can vote themselves generous gifts from the public treasury. From that moment on, the majority always votes for the candidates who promise the most benefits from the public treasury, with the result that every democracy will finally collapse due to loose fiscal policy, which is always followed by a dictatorship. The average age of the world's greatest civilizations from the beginning of history has been about 200 years. During those 200 years, these nations always progressed through the following sequence: From bondage to spiritual faith; From spiritual faith to great courage; From courage to liberty; From liberty to abundance; From abundance to selfishness; From selfishness to complacency; From complacency to apathy; From apathy to dependence; From dependence back into bondage.*



22 “And the sound of harpists and musicians and flute-players and trumpeters will not be heard in you any longer; and no craftsman of any craft will be found in you any longer; and the sound of a mill will not be heard in you any longer; 23 and the light of a lamp will not shine in you any longer; and the voice of the bridegroom and bride will not be heard in you any longer; for your merchants were the great men of the earth, because all the nations were deceived by your sorcery. 24 “And in her was found the blood of prophets and of saints and of all who have been slain on the earth.”

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City of luxury & sin has come to a terrifying end--no merriment only mourning. No musical instruments—no craftsmen--no grinding at mill--no light--no bride & bridegroom. **Bleak depressing end.**

What began on plain of Shinar w/ Nimrod '***Let us build for ourselves a city and tower reaching the heavens and make a name for ourselves Gen 11:4*** Which continued throughout world history in one form or another, climaxing w/ Antichrist, one world government finished. Reason for destruction--killed Gods people, prophets, saints and blasphemed the true and living God—Babylon the Great representing world systems as a whole--all corrupt, all godless—influenced by prince of power of air Satan himself.

23--***All nations deceived—Sorcery*** Grk ***pharmakeia*** – taking and distribution of drugs—use of medicine—has the connotation of spells enchantment—also carries idea of poisoning, deceptions and seductions.