

The Doom of Economic and Political Babylon

Revelation 18
April 30, 2023

I. Introduction

- A. Chapter 17 and 18 both deal with the Fall of Babylon
- B. At least eight times Babylon is referred to as a city (Revelation 14:8; 17:8; 18:10, 16, 18-21)
- C. Verse 2 seems to refer to a double fall, one in Chapter 17 (religious); one in Chapter 18 (political and economic)
- D. We must be wise to the fact that the teaching of evolution leads to atheism & idolatry, which always leads to economic and political collapse, i.e., Rome and Germany
- E. Spiritual compromise leads to a moral collapse, which results in political and economic collapse.
- F. Jeremiah 50 and 51 cover some of the same events

II. Babylon's Second Fall

- A. The Condemnation of Babylon vs. 1-3
 - 1. The fifth bowl judgment (16:10) is darkness; against that backdrop this angel will appear and illuminate the earth with his glory. – v. 1
 - 2. This verse (2) goes back to 14:8 and the seventh bowl of 16:17-21. This is at the end of the Tribulation period. – v. 2
 - 3. The activities of the Great Harlot and Babylon's idolatry invite demon activity. Birds often represent Satan. – v. 2
 - a. See Matthew 13:31, 32.
 - 4. The Antichrist will use the religious system of the Great Harlot to unite people. – v. 3
 - a. Common faith
 - b. Common currency
 - c. Pseudo peace
- B. A Call for Separation – vs. 4-8
 - 1. A warning to believers – v. 4
 - a. *"come out of her my people"*-the call for separation. II Corinthians 6:14-17; I John 2:15-17

- b. Why? To avoid pollution and punishment.
 - 2. The sins of Babylon "have piled up as high as heaven." God does not remember the sin of his people. – v. 5
Jeremiah 31:34
 - 3. A cry for God's judgment on Babylon (her pride and focus on pleasure) – vs. 6, 7
 - 4. Her pride leads to her fall and it will be quick ("in one day"). – v. 8 See Jeremiah 50:31
 - 5. II Timothy 3:4 describes the kind of person who will be drawn to this system.
 - C. The Lamentations (whining) of the Kings of the Earth – vs. 9-19
 - 1. Those who committed acts of immorality with her mourn as well. They're shocked that Babylon has fallen. – vs. 9-10
 - 2. They weep for themselves because of lost revenue. – vs. 11-19
 - a. See Acts 19:23-27
 - D. The Celebration of God's People – vs. 20-24
 - 1. The people of God rejoice in God's righteousness, not their doom – v. 20
 - 2. God has no delight in the death of the wicked. Ezekiel 18:23, 32
 - 3. Babylon will sink like a rock in the sea. – v. 21
 - 4. Life on the Earth will be disrupted in every way. – v. 22, 23
 - 5. The Babylon system and the Beast will commit horrific acts of violence on God's people – v. 24
 - a. Revelation 6:10; 11:7; 13:7, 15; 17:6; 19:2
 - 6. God avenges His people and Himself in 19:2