

Revelation step by Step 13

Revelation 18

Some things are hard to write about, and even harder to action, so I can understand a little of what Jeremiah must have felt. Today as I write, it is the Day of Atonement – not the most pleasurable Feast Day of the Lord, but one God’s people observe every year just before the Feast of Tabernacles, which pictures the Millennium and the establishment of the Kingdom of God, here on this Earth.

It is as though God is reminding us each year that our great goal of His Kingdom must be preceded by tough times brought about by our sins as a nation and a people, and that *is* certainly the case with ‘Israel’, those descended from Ancient Israel; America, Britain, and her ‘dominions’.

So it is, that here in Revelation 18, God speaks of His people as ‘Babylon’, and, in particular, *commercial* Babylon, that Satanic world system that embodies the spirit of Anti-Christ, which it is spreading around the world. 1 John 4:3, ‘[but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.](#)’ (Read our article ‘What is Babylon?’, page 1, Articles)

We read about religious ‘Babylon’ in Rev.17, but here is a *commercial* system that has run wild over the Earth, taking advantage of the freedoms of democracy to permit the rich to dominate the poor in order to gain obscene wealth, pride, and power. We can’t miss seeing the corrupting influence of that wealth in the extreme difference between the downtrodden 3rd world masses who labour in sweatshops for them, and the extravagances of their employers, who live in luxury, travelling the world in private jets and expensive yachts.

God never intended such extremes to arise, but human nature and greed have always been seductive and eventually have led to industrial and agricultural pollution that have brought ill health and oppression, and even wars, to nations around the world.

These curses were seen at the time of the British Empire, but they are still present today, and God has had enough. The people that God chose to be His example to the world have besmirched His name, rejected His Commandments, and failed to acknowledge His blessings, so the destruction of ‘Babylon’ is here announced! Revelation 18:1-2, ‘[After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven. He had great authority, and the earth was illuminated by his splendour. With a mighty voice he shouted: “Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great!” She has become a dwelling for demons and a haunt for every impure spirit, a haunt for every unclean bird, a haunt for every unclean and detestable animal.](#)’

Here is a geographical nation which most epitomises Babylonian traits, and something very dramatic has occurred, stressed by the repetition of “Fallen”, verses 2-4, And he called out with a mighty voice, “Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! She has become a dwelling place for demons, a haunt for every unclean spirit, a haunt for every unclean bird, a haunt for every unclean and detestable beast. For all nations have drunk the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have grown rich from the power of her luxurious living. Then I heard another voice from heaven saying, “Come out of her, my people, lest you take part in her sins, lest you share in her plagues;”

The angel continues to use the picture of a great trading city whose ships travel the oceans. Ezekiel's description of Tyre's commerce and luxury (27:9-27) could almost be a substitute for New York, as fulfilling what follows, its downfall, “**broken by the seas in the depths of the waters**”.

No other city houses the United Nations building, which promotes false education (**‘fornication’** in Rev.18) and human ‘wrongs’, and gains riches from her sophisticated products, technology, world language films, pornography, evil video killing games played by children almost from the cradle, as well as by their fathers, and holographic adultery for adults? No wonder this is still the world's ‘greatest’ trading nation!

God's people are to be commanded to separate from her when God decides, by a ‘voice from Heaven’ (Revelation 18:4) which, when it occurs, will be an early warning for us of the coming fall of ‘Babylon’, because, when it happens, it will be quite unexpected by most! Verse 10, **‘They will stand far off, in fear of her torment, and say, “Alas! Alas! You great city, you mighty city, Babylon! For in a single hour your judgment has come.”**

Her sins will have come to the full as her influence and culture is exported world-wide, spreading evils like abortion, gay and trans-gender rights, and worse. Now her judgement is announced in an instruction to the angelic ministers of God's wrath, including even the Beast and his armies, which will act as the agents of God's anger in providing His punishment! Verses 6-8,

**‘Reward her even as she has done to others;
pay her back double for what she has done;
mix her a double portion in her own cup.
As much as she has glorified herself and lived in luxury,
give her the same measure of torment and grief.
In her heart she says, ‘I sit as queen;
I am not a widow and will never see grief.’
Therefore her plagues will come in one day—
death and grief and famine
and she will be consumed by fire,**

for mighty is the Lord God who judges her.”

The sins with which she filled her cup are now turned into ‘the wine of the wrath of God’. Famine follows, as the nation collapses into total chaos. Her pride and luxury deserve immediate punishment, (“in one hour”, verse 10) but this will be followed by resultant famine and eventually fire, verse 8, “Therefore, these plagues will overtake her in a single day— death and mourning and famine. She will be completely consumed by fire, for the Lord God who judges her is mighty.” NLT.

Verses 9-10 are occupied with the bewailing of the loss of their trade in her rich commerce by the sea going merchants who stand far off, for fear of possible radioactive fallout in the burning. “And the kings of the earth, who committed sexual immorality and lived in luxury with her, will weep and wail over her when they see the smoke of her burning. They will stand far off, in fear of her torment, and say, “Alas! Alas! You great city, you mighty city, Babylon! For in a single hour your judgment has come.”

Verses 11-15 detail symbolically the goods involved in that trade, and verses 15-19 describe the wealth which brings those merchants here to trade, verse 19, “And they threw dust on their heads as they wept and mourned, crying out, “Alas, alas, for the great city where all who had ships at sea grew rich by her wealth! For in a single hour she has been laid waste.” This reminds us of how we felt to see the twin towers fall, just a small forerunner of how this catastrophe will pan out, but it also reveals how much our God must abhor the oppression, violence, murder, evil and perversions we tolerate in our lands, to bring about such dreadful destruction!

All Heaven and the Saints are then called upon to rejoice, v20-24, as they are avenged upon what must be the summation of the *two* Babylons, for the blood she has shed of God’s people down the ages, from the time of Nimrod to this yet future day, after the persecution of the Beast. Verse 20, “Rejoice over her, you heavens! Rejoice, you people of God! Rejoice, apostles and prophets! For God has judged her with the judgment she imposed on you.” NIV.

We are finally given a brief picture of how this destruction is brought about, v. 21, “Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, “So will Babylon the great city be thrown down with violence, and will be found no more;” This picture of the system of destruction, matches the concern of some geologists about two gigantic caldera of magma, which they say are due to explode, one under the Yellowstone national park in North America, which could obliterate most life there, and the other in the volcanic Canary islands, opposite New York, where a large fragment of Fuego Teneguia mountain could be blown into the Atlantic, causing a giant Tsunami which would wipe out the East coast of America. Such a cataclysmic geological event *is* prophesied, just as the 1st resurrection occurs, at the 6th Seal, Revelation 6:12-14. End.

