



The Fall of Babylon

By Jeff Bedwell on November 17, 2021

READING: Revelation 18

As we read Revelation, we note that Babylon was not only an ancient city and a powerful empire, but also the symbol of mankind's rebellion against God, a world system set against God. In this chapter, John heard three voices giving three important proclamations.

1. The Voice of Condemnation (vv. 1-3). This judgment comes as a result of the idolatry that the Babylonian system had intoxicated the world with all the riches and pleasures it had to offer in place of the worship of the one true God.
2. The Voice of Separation (vv. 4-8). God's true people are called to separate themselves from this world's system. They do this to avoid corruption and to avoid the judgment that is coming.
3. The Voice of Lamentation (vv. 9-19). Kings, merchants, and members of the transportation/shipping industry will lead the mourning at the fall of Babylon because of their own losses. A sobering reminder of how fragile the wealth of this world is.

This chapter concludes with Babylon's fall being symbolized with a "great millstone" thrown into the sea. As Jeremiah cast a stone and scroll into the Euphrates to show that ancient Babylon would "sink, to rise no more" (see Jeremiah 51:63-64), so a mighty angel threw a great millstone into the sea to illustrate Babylon's fall, to be found no more (see Ezekiel 26:21).

Christ followers in every age must heed the warning John wrote about in one of his letters: *"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. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever"* (1 John 2:15-17, ESV).

How easy it is to become fascinated by the things the world has to offer. If we are not vigilant, we can soon find ourselves loving the things of this world instead of loving God and gratefully employing and enjoying the things of this world as stewards of His abundant grace. The world system that opposes Christ has always been with us, and we must beware of its subtle influence.

PRAYER: Father, help us to *"lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted"* (Hebrews 12:1-3, ESV).

TOMORROW'S READING: Revelation 19

Copyright © 2021 First Baptist Church, Fort Mill, SC, All rights reserved.

[Visit our website](#)

First Baptist Church | (803)547-2051 | 121 Monroe White St., Fort Mill, SC 29715 | fbcfm.com

First Baptist Church Fort Mill | 121 Monroe White St., Fort Mill, SC 29715

[Unsubscribe {recipient's email}](#).

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by fbcfortmill@comporium.net powered by



Try email marketing for free today!