

**Revelation**  
**The Lamb of God: On His Throne and Among His People**  
*Two Cities, Two Pursuits, Two Destinies*  
**Revelation 18**

**Study Notes**

**Quotes and Thoughts from the Sermon**

**St. Augustine:** Great are you, O Lord, and greatly to be praised; great is your power and of your wisdom there is no end. And man, being a part of your creation, desires to praise you – man, who bears about with him his mortality, the witness of his sin, even the witness that you resist the proud – yet man, this part of your creation, desires to praise you. **You move us to delight in praising you, for you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you.** Amen.

**Revelation 18** is not for the faint of heart, nor is it for those who seek to interpret Scripture through the lens of the culture, rather than interpreting culture through the lens of Scripture and a biblical worldview.

**Christophany**

In the OT, it was a pre-incarnate appearance of Christ (Daniel 3 – in the furnace with the three Hebrews; Joshua 5:13-15 – the Commander of the Lord’s Army).

In the NT – an appearance of Christ apart from his earthly life, death, resurrection, ascension. Is Revelation 18:1 a Christophany? Likely.

Ultimately it is about what you treasure most in your heart. **It is not as much about how much you have as it is about who holds your heart.**

**Tim LaHaye:** The Word-filled life *is* the Spirit filled life.”

**From the Heidelberg Catechism**

**Question 60:** *How are you righteous before God?*

Only by true faith in Jesus Christ.

Even though my conscience accuses me of having grievously sinned against all God's commandments, of never having kept any of them, and of still being inclined toward all evil, nevertheless, without any merit of my own, out of sheer grace, God grants and credits to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I had never sinned nor been a sinner, and as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me – if only I accept this gift with a believing heart.

**Question 61:** *Why do you say that through faith alone you are righteous?*

Not because I please God by the worthiness of my faith, for only Christ's satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness are my righteousness before God, and I can receive this righteousness and make it mine in no other way than by faith alone.

### **Application from the Sermon**

1. Make sure that your treasure is in heaven, not on earth, and you will be okay – Matthew 6:19-21, 33
2. Walk in the Spirit and you will not fulfill the lusts of the flesh Galatians 5:16
3. Make it your practice to glorify God with a grateful heart in all that you do Colossians 3:17

### **Scripture Associated with the Text and Message**

**Isaiah 21:9** And behold, here come riders,  
horsemen in pairs!"

And he answered,

**"Fallen, fallen is Babylon;**  
and all the carved images of her gods  
he has shattered to the ground."

**Isaiah 13:19** And **Babylon**, the glory of kingdoms,  
the splendor and pomp of the Chaldeans,  
**will be like Sodom and Gomorrah**  
**when God overthrew them.**

20 It will never be inhabited  
or lived in for all generations;  
no Arab will pitch his tent there;  
no shepherds will make their flocks lie down there.

21 **But wild animals will lie down there,**  
**and their houses will be full of howling creatures;**

**there ostriches will dwell,  
and there wild goats will dance.**

**Isaiah 23:17** At the end of seventy years, the Lord will visit Tyre, and she will return to her wages and will prostitute herself with all the kingdoms of the world on the face of the earth.

**There are repeated references to Ezekiel 26-28 in Revelation 18:9-22**, so Tyre is in mind as well as **Babylon**. The Phoenicians (Tyre) were some of the wealthiest and most successful traders in the ancient world with their location on the Mediterranean Sea (modern day Lebanon) and their magnificent ships, fitted for both war and commerce. Yet again, Babylon is seen to be representative of all earthly kingdoms that become rich and forget about their Creator God.

**Matthew 5:3** “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**Matthew 6:19** Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

**6:24** No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

**6:33** But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

**Luke 8:1** Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him, 2 and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, 3 and **Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's household manager, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means.**

**From the Parable of the Sower: Mark 4:18** And others are the ones sown among thorns. They are those who hear the word, 19 but the cares of the world and **the deceitfulness of riches** and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. 20 But those that were sown on the good soil are the ones

who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold.”

**Romans 12:4** For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, 5 so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. 6 Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; 7 if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; 8 the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; **the one who contributes, in generosity**; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

**Galatians 5:13** For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. 14 For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” 15 But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another. **16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.** 17 For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

**Colossians 3:1** If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. 3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

**3:17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.**