# 

### A STUDY OF REVELATION

## <u>Rev. 18:1-8</u>

<u>Rev. 18:1</u> And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory.

<u>2</u> And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

<u>3</u> For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

<u>4</u> And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. <u>5</u> For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.

<u>6</u> Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double. <u>7</u> How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow.

<u>8</u> Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong *is* the Lord God who judgeth her.

### Scriptural Introduction

<u>Rev. 1:19</u> Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;

<u>Part One – THE PAST: REVEALING GOD – "...the things which</u> <u>thou hast seen...</u>" Ch. 1

Introduction: 1:1-3 I. <u>THE COURSE OF THE AGE</u>, 1:4-6 II. <u>THE CONSUMMATION OF THE AGE</u>, 1:7-8 III. <u>THE CHARACTER OF THE AGE</u>, 1:9-20 <u>Part Two – THE PRESENT: REVEALING GRACE – "...the things</u> which are..." Ch. 2-3

Introduction: The Full Churches, Ch. 2-3 I. <u>EPHESUS: THE FALLEN CHURCH</u>, 2:1-7 (A.D. 0-200) II. <u>SMYRNA: THE FEARFUL CHURCH</u>, 2:8-11 (A.D. 200-325) III. <u>PERGAMOS: THE FALTERING CHURCH</u>, 2:12-17 (A.D. 325-500) IV. <u>THYATIRA: THE FALSE CHURCH</u>, 2:18-29 (A.D. 500-1000) V. <u>SARDIS: THE FRUITLESS CHURCH</u>, 3:1-6 (A.D. 1000-1500) VI. <u>PHILADELPHIA: THE FEEBLE CHURCH</u>, 3:7-13 (A.D. 1500-1900) VII. <u>LAODICEA: THE FASHIONABLE CHURCH</u>, 3:14-22 (A.D. 1900 + )

### <u>Part Three – THE PROPHECY: REVEALING GOVERNMENTS –</u> <u>"...the things which shall be hereafter</u>;" Ch. 4-20

# I. <u>THE SUPREME SOURCE OF DIVINE GOVERNMENT</u>, 4:1-5:14 A. The Unforgettable Throne, 4:1-6 B. The Unforgettable Throng, 4:7-11 C. The Unforgettable Thrill, 5:1-14



II. THE SUBLIME COURSE OF DIVINE GOVERNMENT, 6:1-20:15 A. The World Ruined by Man, 6:1-7:17 B. The World Ruled by Satan, 8:1-13:18 C. The World Rescued by God, 14:1-20:15 1. The Formal Warnings Described, 14:1-15:8 a. The Special Commission in Heaven, 14:6-13 b. The Special Command in Heaven, 14:14-20 c. The Special Commemoration in Heaven, 15:1-8 2. The Fatal War Described, 16:1-19:21 a. The Terrible Bowls Spilled, 16:1-21 b. The Two Babylons Spoiled, 17:1-19:6 (1) The Great Babylonish System, 17:1-18 (a) The Babylonish Mother – The First Development of the System, 17:1-6 (b) The Babylonish Monster – The Final Development of the System, 17:7-18

### Tonight, we begin Chapter 18.

<u>Rev. 14:8</u> And there followed another angel, saying, **Babylon is fallen, is** fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.

<u>Rev. 16:19</u> And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath. <u>20</u> And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. <u>21</u> And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, *every stone* about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great. <u>Gen. 11:4</u> And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top *may reach* unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.

The parallels between chapters 17 and 18 are as distinctive as the differences.

• Babylon's designation (17:5, 18; cf. 18:2, 10)

<u>Rev. 17:5</u> And upon her forehead *was* a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. ... <u>18</u> And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth. <u>Rev. 18:2</u> And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, **Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen**, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

<u>10</u> Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas, **that great city Babylon**, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come.

• Babylon's description (17:4; cf. 18:6, 16)

<u>Rev. 17:4</u> And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication:

<u>Rev. 18:6</u> Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double. ...

<u>16</u> And saying, Alas, alas, that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls!

• Babylon's deeds (17:2, 6; cf. 18:3, 24)

<u>Rev. 17:2</u>, 6 With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. ...

<u>6</u> And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.

<u>Rev. 18:3</u> For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. ... <u>24</u> And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all

that were slain upon the earth.

• Babylon's destruction (17:16, 17; 18:5, 8).

<u>Rev. 17:16</u> And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire. <u>17</u> For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and

give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.

<u>Rev. 18:5</u> For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. ...

<u>8</u> Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong *is* the Lord God who judgeth her.

(2) The Great Babylonish City, 18:1-19:6

(a) The Reasons for the Fall of Babylon, 18:1-8

<u>Rev. 18:1</u> And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory.

Original Word: ἐξουσία Transliteration: exousia Definition: power to act, authority Usage: (a) power, authority, weight, especially: moral authority, influence, (b) in a quasi-personal sense, derived from later Judaism, of a spiritual power, and hence of an earthly power.

authority, *conferred* power; *delegated empowerment* ("authorization"), operating in a *designated jurisdiction*. <a href="https://biblehub.com/greek/1849.htm">https://biblehub.com/greek/1849.htm</a>

<u>Rev. 18:2</u> And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, **Babylon the** great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. <u>Isa. 21:9</u> And, behold, here cometh a chariot of men, *with* a couple of horsemen. And he answered and said, **Babylon is fallen, is fallen**; and all the graven images of her gods he hath broken unto the ground.

Jer. 51:8 Babylon is suddenly fallen and destroyed: howl for her; take balm for her pain, if so be she may be healed.

<u>Mt. 13:4</u> And when he sowed, some *seeds* fell **by the way side**, and **the fowls came and devoured them up**: ... <u>19</u> When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth *it* not, **then cometh the wicked** *one*, **and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart**. This is he which received seed **by the way side**. <u>Rev. 18:3</u> For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

"Three reasons are given for God's judgment of Babylon (v 3):

(a) her corrupting influence on the nations of the world,

(b) the kings of the earth fornicated with her (cf. 17:2),

(c) the merchants of the earth shared her excessive wealth (seafarers were thought to be motivated primarily by greed)." Lee, William. "The Revelation of St. John." In *The Holy Bible*. Edited by F. C. Cook. London: John Murray, 1881. 4:735; Wall, p. 205. <u>Rev. 18:4</u> And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, **Come out of her, my people**, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

**Original Word:** συγκοινωνέω **Transliteration:** sugkoinóneó **Definition:** to have fellowship with **Usage:** I am a partaker with, have fellowship with, am an accomplice in.

sygkoinōnéō (from sýn, "identified with" and koinōnéō, "share in") – properly, share with by jointly partaking; to participate with because closely identified with someone (i.e. "deeply sharing with," note the syn). https://biblehub.com/greek/4790.htm

Eph. 5:11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.

<u>Rev. 18:5</u> For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.

Jer. 51:8 Babylon is suddenly fallen and destroyed: howl for her; take balm for her pain, if so be she may be healed. <u>9</u> We would have healed Babylon, but she is not healed: forsake her, and let us go every one into his own country: for her judgment reacheth unto heaven, and is lifted up *even* to the skies.

<u>Rev. 18:6</u> Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double.

<u>Rev. 18:7</u> How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: **for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen**, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow.

Jer. 7:18 The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead *their* dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto other gods, that they may provoke me to anger.

Jer. 44:17 But we will certainly do whatsoever thing goeth forth out of our own mouth, **to burn incense unto the queen of heaven**, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, as we have done, we, and our fathers, our kings, and our princes, in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem: for *then* had we plenty of victuals, and were well, and saw no evil.

<u>18</u> But since we left off to burn incense to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, we have wanted all *things*, and have been consumed by the sword and by the famine.

<u>19</u> And when we **burned incense to the queen of heaven**, and poured out drink offerings unto her, **did we make her cakes to worship her**, and pour out drink offerings unto her, without our men? ... <u>25</u> Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, saying; Ye and your wives have both spoken with your mouths, and fulfilled with your hand, saying, We will surely perform our vows that we have vowed, **to burn incense to the queen of heaven**, and to pour out drink offerings unto her: ye will surely accomplish your vows, and surely perform your vows.

<u>Rev. 18:8</u> Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong *is* the Lord God who judgeth her.

<u>Dan. 5:1</u> Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand. ...

<u>3</u> Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which *was* at Jerusalem; and the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, drank in them.

<u>4</u> They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone.

5 In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaister of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote. ... 30 In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain.

#### **Conclusion**

We can conclude that Babylon will be destroyed for three reasons:

1. The Magnitude of Her Sins

### a. The Home of Demons

<u>Rev. 18:2</u> And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

b. The Headquarters of Depravity

<u>Rev. 18:3</u> For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

2. The Measure of Her Sins

a. The Enticement of Her Sins is Declared.

<u>Rev. 18:4</u> And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

b. The Enormity of Her Sin is Described.

<u>Rev. 18:5</u> For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.

c. The End of Her Sins is Decreed.

<u>Rev. 18:6</u> Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double.

### 3. The Madness of Her Sins

<u>Rev. 18:7</u> How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow. <u>8</u> Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong *is* the Lord God who judgeth her.