

# REVELATION “The Fall of Babylon”

Revelation 18:1-24

## What voices proclaim Babylon’s destruction? vv.1-8

Who announces her doom? v.1  
How is this angel described? vv.1,2a  
What has Babylon become? Why? vv.2b,3  
To whom does a voice from heaven call? v.4  
How will Babylon be punished? Why? vv.5-7a  
How does Babylon see herself? v.7b  
How quickly does her judgment take place? v.8

“It was once considered the most luxurious, enlightened, and liberated city on the planet, having given free rein to every form of immorality and depravity. But in a single hour, the magnificence of Babylon – in all her religious, political, and economic glory - will be reduced to an ash heap, destroyed by one with greater authority and glory.”

“When Christ Appears” Dr. David Jeremiah p. 181

“. . .the destruction seems to come from an earthquake, and it is probable that this is an explanation of what was described in 16:19-21.”

“The Bible Knowledge Commentary” Walvoord & Zuck p.973

## Who weeps and mourns for her? vv.9-19

Why do the kings of the earth mourn? v.9  
How do they react to Babylon’s doom? v.10  
What astonishes them?  
Why do merchants mourn? vv.11-13  
What will they say? v.14  
How do they react to Babylon’s doom? v.15  
What astonishes them? vv.16,17  
Why do the sea captains, etc. mourn? v.17b  
Why are they astonished? vv.18,19

“The loss of this capital of sin causes the leaders of the world to weep, as much for their loss as for hers. They’ve relied on Babylon for their success and well-being, and now everything is gone. Because they benefit financially from Babylon’s power, the merchants and mariners of the earth also mourn when the economic hub of the world is destroyed. Perhaps what is most striking, though, is what they do not mourn - their sin. They are grieved to lose their lifestyle, their wealth, their society, their safety and security. But they have brought it on themselves. . . .One of their greatest sins is their inhumanity – their treatment of other human beings as commodities to be bought and sold and enslaved. Now they face God’s wrath.”

“When Christ Appears” Dr. David Jeremiah p. 182

## Who are those who rejoice? v.20

What are they told? Why? v.20

## How Complete is Babylon’s destruction? vv.21-24

How does the mighty angel illustrate it? v.21  
What will never be heard? vv.22,23  
What will never be found? v.22  
What will never shine? v.23  
How is God’s justice displayed? v.24

“There is an obvious parallel in the rise and fall of Babylon in its varied forms in Scripture. As introduced in Genesis 11:1-9, Babylon, historically symbolized by the tower reaching to heaven, proposed to maintain the union of the world through a common worship and a common tongue. God defeated this purpose by confusing the language and scattering the people. Babylon, ecclesiastically symbolized by the woman in Revelation 17, proposes a common worship and a common religion through uniting in a world church. This is destroyed by the beast in Revelation 17:16 who thus fulfills the will of God (Rev. 17:17). Babylon, politically symbolized by the great city of Revelation 18, attempts to achieve its domination of the world by a world common market and a world government. These are destroyed by Christ at His second coming (Rev. 19:11-21). The triumph of God is therefore witnessed historically in the scattering of the people and the unfinished tower of Genesis 11 and prophetically in the destruction of the world church by the killing of the harlot of Revelation 17 and the destruction of the city of Revelation 18. With the graphic description of the fall of Babylon contained in chapters 17 and 18, the way is cleared for the presentation of the major theme of the book of Revelation, the second coming of Christ and the establishment of His glorious kingdom.”

“The Revelation of Jesus Christ” John F. Wolvaard p. 267

“To the modern man. . .the Apocalypse now seems less apocalyptic than it did to his father and to his grandfather. The mysterious references to images that talked, to making fire come down out of heaven, to economic control of large populations, to compulsory obedience to a synthetic religion, to the wholesale devastation of the earth by elemental changes in the sea and by physical changes in the heat of the sun, the summoning of the kings of the earth to do battle, the leadership of the nations vested in one or two persons, and the complete collapse of the center of civilization in ‘one hour’ are not outside the reach of possibility at the present time. In many respects, the Apocalypse is the most modern book in existence.”

“New Testament Times” Merrill C. Tenney p.397

Even so, come quickly, Lord Jesus!

