

## **THE FALL OF BABYLON REVELATION 18**

While Revelation 17 records the fall of religious Babylon, Revelation 18 records the fall of political Babylon. New Testament teachers debate the precise meaning of Babylon. Some identify it with the ancient city of Babylon. Others identify it with Rome as the seat of government in the revived Roman Empire. We do know that Babylon represents the kingdom of the Antichrist. What is described in Revelation is the collapse of the kingdom of Antichrist at the end of the Great Tribulation. This is the climax of the judgments of the tribulation with Armageddon being the next and last event of that period.

### **I. THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF JUDGMENT. 18:1-3.**

#### **A. The Description of that Judgment. 18:1-2.**

1. Birds are sometimes used to represent demons. Matt. 13:31-32.
2. This system claims to represent God but is full of demons.
3. The church is the habitation of God (Eph. 2:22), but this system is a habitation of demons.

#### **B. The Reason for that Judgment. 18:3. Cp. 17:2.**

- \* This is a system that from Babel (Gen. 11) has led man into a system that excludes the true God and build a world without him. \*

### **II. THE APPEAL TO GOD'S PEOPLE. 18:4-8.**

#### **A. The Separation of God's People. 18:4. Cp. 2 Cor. 6:14,17.**

#### **B. The Sins of the Evil Empire. 18:5-7.**

- \* Note that pride is part of that sinful empire. 18:7. See Ezek. 28:17. \*

#### **C. The Suddenness of Her Destruction. 18:8.**

1. The stage had been set for her destruction for some time.
2. The event of her destruction comes suddenly and without remedy.
3. The destruction is sudden and complete because of God's great strength.

### **III. THE AGONY OF THE WORLD. 18:9-19.**

#### **A. The Agony of the Political World. 18:9-10.**

- \* The political leaders mourn the loss of political power and luxury. \*

#### **B. The Agony of the Commercial World. 18:11-19.**

1. Note that they do not mourn for the city but for themselves. 18:11,19.
2. Note that the bodies and souls of men are among her merchandise. 18:13.
3. Note the intensity of their sorrow. 18:15,19.

#### IV. THE ATTITUDE OF HEAVEN. 18:20-24.

A. The Joy over God's Judgment. 18:20.

B. The Angelic Announcement. 18:21-24.

1. The finality of Babylon's judgment. 18:21-23a.

2. The reason for Babylon's judgment. 18:23b-24.

\* Note the repeated references to Babylon's judgment beginning in 18:3. \*

The judgments are now completed on the earth and our attention turns toward heaven as the Lord Jesus prepares to return to claim his earth.