

Zechariah Chapter 5:5-11 The Vision of the Woman in the Ephah

Part 2 The Babylonian System

Frank G Warbuton / General Adult

Zechariah / Zechariah 5:5–11

Zechariah Chapter 5 is divided into two parts. The Eighth vision; the vision of the flying Scroll; Chapter 5 verses 1 to 4. And the ninth vision; the Vision of the woman in the Ephah Chapter 5 verses 5 to 11.

Last time we began looking at the ninth vision that was to Zechariah; The Vision of the Woman in Ephah. Just as GOD demonstrated in the Eighth vision; that is going to deal with sin and remove it from our lives. The same is true for the ninth vision.

[Zechariah 5:5–11](#)

“5 Then the angel who talked with me came out and said to me, “Lift your eyes now, and see what this is that goes forth.”

6 So I asked, “What is it?” And he said, “It is a basket that is going forth.” He also said, “This is their resemblance throughout the earth:

7 Here is a lead disc lifted up, and this is a woman sitting inside the basket”;

8 then he said, “This is Wickedness!” And he thrust her down into the basket, and threw the lead cover over its mouth.

9 Then I raised my eyes and looked, and there were two women, coming with the wind in their wings; for they had wings like the wings of a stork,

and they lifted up the basket between earth and heaven.

10 So I said to the angel who talked with me, “Where are they carrying the basket?”

11 And he said to me, “To build a house for it in the land of Shinar; when it is ready, the basket will be set there on its base.”

(summarize the vision: and explain

the ephah and the talent

the woman sitting in the basket and wickedness

the Levitical Significance of the two women

geographical location)

Turn to [Genesis 10:8–9](#)

“8 Cush begot Nimrod; he began to be a mighty one on the earth.

9 He was a mighty hunter before the Lord; therefore it is said, “Like Nimrod the mighty hunter before the Lord.”

Nimrod’s name means rebellion. (describe the difference between vs 7 (Cush’s son’s compared to verse 8 — two generations after the flood)

This will have an ultimate conclusion in the Book of Revelation. During the Millennial Kingdom, JESUS will be physically reigning on the Earth. Satan will be bound for the entire 1,000 years. There will be no temptation. (describe the children who will be born and the end of the Millennial Kingdom.)

[Jeremiah 17:9](#)

“9 “The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?”

(describe mighty hunter)

Last time we saw that in Genesis we see the start of two cities. We see foundations of what will become Jerusalem; which is the only city that GOD has put HIS name on. We also see the start of another city. Babel or Babylon, which literally means: Confusion by mixing.

in Genesis Chapter 11 we see the start of the city of Babel/ Babylon. Genesis Chapter puts the timing of the Tower of Babel two generations after the flood. Nimrod would have been Noah's Great Grandson.

Explain what they commanded to do after the flood, and the type of structure that was built, a ziggurat.) (Rebellion)

Babylon was so large that chariot races could be held on top of its walls 6 wide. The city inside the walls occupied an area of 200 square miles, roughly the size of Chicago today.

Babylon was a major commercial center in the ancient world.

There are three sets of Chapters that deal with Babylon and its Future:

Isaiah Chapters 13 & 14

Jeremiah Chapters 50 & 51

Revelation Chapters 17 & 18

We looked at several examples of the fall and destruction of Babylon from Isaiah Chapter 13 & 14 and Jeremiah Chapter 50 & 51 last time. We will explore this more shortly. We will see that Babylon is not only a literal city; but it also a commercial and religious system.

[Genesis 10:8–9](#)

“8 Cush begot Nimrod; he began to be a mighty one on the earth.

9 He was a mighty hunter before the Lord; therefore it is said, “Like Nimrod

the mighty hunter before the Lord.”

Nimrod’s wife name is not found in Scripture but she has title that we will look at shortly. Semiramis has a son named Tammuz) (Explain history of Nimrod and Semiramis)

(Spring feast — how celebrated) (How Semiramis became pregnant)
(Death of Tammuz near the winter solstice)

Nimrod - “The LORD of Heaven” Sun God

Tammuz - “The Son or savior”

Semiramis - “The Queen of Heaven” - Moon God

Here is the start of un holy trinity.

(Start of Mother / Child Cult) Various Names

(the sun beam)

Satan is a counterfeiter. He steals from what is real and true.

The first reference to the Virgin Birth happens in the Garden of Eden; immediately after the fall.

[Genesis 3:15](#)

“15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.””

Here are there names in various nations:

Israel / Greece/ Rome/ Egypt / India

Nimrod — Baal / Zeus / Jupiter /Ra / Visnu

Tammuz — Tammuz / Dionysius/ Attis/ Osirus or Horus / Krishna

Semiramis - Ashtoreth / Aphrodite /Diana / Isis / Devaki

In Catholicism typically only two would be present. Mary and JESUS.
Sometimes Joseph will be included. (Explain about Joseph)

Judges 10:6

“6 Then the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the Lord, and served the Baals and the Ashtoreths, the gods of Syria, the gods of Sidon, the gods of Moab, the gods of the people of Ammon, and the gods of the Philistines; and they forsook the Lord and did not serve Him.”

Here we see the Children of Israel beginning to serve pagan deities instead of the true and living God. But did they serve the queen of heaven?

Turn to Jeremiah Chapter 7. GOD is jealous for HIS people. He takes idolatry very seriously.

Remember Babylon means — confusion by mixing. This worship evolved into the worship of a mother/child deity.

Jeremiah 7:16–18

“16 “Therefore do not pray for this people, nor lift up a cry or prayer for them, nor make intercession to Me; for I will not hear you.

17 Do you not see what they do in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem?”

“18 The children gather wood, the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead dough, to make cakes for the queen of heaven; and they pour out drink offerings to other gods, that they may provoke Me to anger.”

Turn to Jeremiah Chapter 44. (In Chapter 7 we see God reaching a point is unbelievable — that HE tells Jeremiah to stop praying for the Children of Israel.)

[Jeremiah 44:15–19](#)

“15 Then all the men who knew that their wives had burned incense to other gods, with all the women who stood by, a great multitude, and all the people who dwelt in the land of Egypt, in Pathros, answered Jeremiah, saying:

16 “As for the word that you have spoken to us in the name of the Lord, we will not listen to you!

17 But we will certainly do whatever has gone out of our own mouth, to burn incense to the queen of heaven and pour out drink offerings to 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 we had plenty of food, were well-off, and saw no trouble.

18 But since we stopped burning incense to the queen of heaven and pouring out drink offerings to her, we have lacked everything and have been consumed by the sword and by famine.”

“19 The women also said, “And when we burned incense to the queen of heaven and poured out drink offerings to her, did we make cakes for her, to worship her, and pour out drink offerings to her without our husbands’ permission?””

[Jeremiah 44:25](#)

“25 Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, saying: ‘You and your wives have spoken with your mouths and fulfilled with your hands, saying, “We will surely keep our vows that we have made, to burn incense to the queen of heaven and pour out drink offerings to her.” You will surely keep your vows and perform your vows!’

Just as Jeremiah was faced with the Children of Israel not wanting to listen to the Word of the LORD; Paul wrote to Timothy that the same would be true in a yet future time.

[2 Timothy 4:2–4](#)

“2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke,

exhort, with all long suffering and teaching.

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;

4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.”

Turn to Ezekiel Chapter 8

Babylon means confusion by mixing. Jeremiah wrote the moral state of the Nation of Israel before the Babylonian captivity. Fathers were complicit in the worship of the Queen of Heaven. They did not forbid their wives from serving the pagan deities. If this worship is not of God then it must be demonic. This making of cakes is present in some religious systems today.

(encourage the men to be men and the leaders of their families)

[Ezekiel 8:12–14](#)

“12 Then He said to me, “Son of man, have you seen what the elders of the house of Israel do in the dark, every man in the room of his idols? For they say, ‘The Lord does not see us, the Lord has forsaken the land.’”

13 And He said to me, “Turn again, and you will see greater abominations that they are doing.”

“14 So He brought me to the door of the north gate of the Lord’s house; and to my dismay, women were sitting there weeping for Tammuz.”

Here we see the leaders of the Nation of Israel worshipping idols instead of follow the LORD. They thought their deeds were hidden, but the sees all.

As we seen how the nation of Israel fell into idolatry. The mother/child came from Babylon. As we looked at last time; Babylon was saturated with idolatry and idols. Babylon means confusion by mixing.

The Catholic Church gives great reverence to Mary, the mother of JESUS. Does the Catholic Church refer to Mary as the Queen of Heaven?

On Catholic.com from their Catholic Answers section, the question is asked, “Why is Mary called the Queen of Heaven?”

Answer:

“Mary as “Queen of Heaven” is an ancient address to Mary used in prayer that dates back to at least the fourth century. The imagery of Mary as queen of heaven was very popular in the Middle Ages.

Its theological basis derives from the notion of Jesus as King. The New Testament uses the image of a king to describe Jesus ([Matt. 21:5](#); [Luke 1:32](#); [John 12:12-15](#); [Heb. 1:3, 8](#)). In Israel the mother of the king held the role of queen mother. In essence she held a role of great prominence in the court and the king would usually acquiesce to her wishes ([1 Kings 2:20](#); [Jer. 13:18](#); [29:2](#)). In 1 and 2 Kings the kings are almost always listed with their mothers and are depicted as advising their sons.

As Jesus is king that makes Mary his queen mother according to Jewish tradition. Getting to the king through the queen mother is a natural thought and spurred Christians to ask Mary to intercede with Jesus on their behalf. Mary’s queenship is a share in Jesus’ kingship.”

(explain what happened when JESUS died)

[1 Timothy 2:5](#)

“5 For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,”

(share briefly about growing up in the Catholic Church)

Most Catholic Churches are filled with statues. Do people not see that this idolatry? Well the Catholic Church changed the ten commandments. (Show or talk about the difference between the Douhy Reams Catholic Bible and the EWTN ten commandments)

The ten commandments are a mirror; to show our sinfulness.

(take myself through the commandments and share the Gospel)

[Ephesians 2:8–9](#)

“8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,

9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.”

Is this what the Catholic Church teaches? At the Council of Trent which was held in three sessions from 1545-1563 AD the doctrine of Salvation by Faith alone was rejected and condemned

CANON IX.-”If any one saith, that by faith alone the impious is justified; in such wise as to mean, that nothing else is required to co-operate in order to the obtaining the grace of Justification, and that it is not in any way necessary, that he be prepared and disposed by the movement of his own will; let him be anathema”

CANON XIV.-”If any one saith, that man is truly absolved from his sins and justified, because that he assuredly believed himself absolved and justified; or, that no one is truly justified but he who believes himself justified; and that, by this faith alone, absolution and justification are effected; let him be anathema.”

Anathema means to condemn to lowest level in hell. Some would argue the Vatican II council rejected this. Vatican II confirmed these teachings.

Babylon means confusion by mixing.

The Nation of Israel before going into the Babylonian Captivity were primarily agrarian; they were farmers. How much of the Mosaic law dealt with the planting of crops; clean and unclean animals; leprosy; etc. As they pursued pagan practices; GOD gave them over to this. When the Children of Israel left Babylon they left the practice of praying to idols or statues there. To the present day; the JEWISH do not bow down to statues.

However the gentile nations are still given over to idolatry. Paul experienced this on one of his missionary journeys to Athens.

[Acts 17:22–23](#)

“22 Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, “Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious;

23 for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you:”

While Israel was judged they were not forsaken by God. See Jeremiah Chapter 51 verse 5.

But they brought something else as they left the city. A hunger and thirst for commercialism.

[Zechariah 5:7–8](#)

“7 Here is a lead disc lifted up, and this is a woman sitting inside the basket”;

8 then he said, “This is Wickedness!” And he thrust her down into the basket, and threw the lead cover over its mouth.”

[Zechariah 5:11](#)

“11 And he said to me, “To build a house for it in the land of Shinar; when it is ready, the basket will be set there on its base.”

As we looked at these verses last time the ephah and the talent would be used in trade. They were units of measure.

In Zechariah Chapter 5 verse 11. The word house means temple. The word base means pedestal. Often nations that practice idolatry will put their idol on something higher, a pedestal. Many times through scripture when GOD

condemns Israel's idolatry; there are references to the high places.

As we discussed the fall and destruction of the literal city of Babylon last time. So shall the system be.

[Jeremiah 51:7](#)

“7 Babylon was a golden cup in the Lord's hand, That made all the earth drunk. The nations drank her wine; Therefore the nations are deranged.”

Turn to the book of Revelation Chapter 17. We discussed how metals have different symbolisms. Gold being a precious metal would refer to kings.

[Revelation 17:1–6](#)

“1 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and talked with me, saying to me, “Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters,

2 with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication.”

3 So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

4 The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication.”

“5 And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH

6 I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.”

The woman in the ephah is the woman riding the beast. The woman is not the beast. She has a golden cup just as in Jeremiah Chapter 51 verse 5. Here we see many aspects of commercialism.

The word abominations means a foul image; loathsome. An image of disgust. It is the same word used to describe the image that the Antichrist will set up in the Tribulation Temple. She is arrayed in purple and scarlet robes. She is described as a prostitute. Contrasted with Israel who is described as the wife of Yahweh; and the Church the virgin bride.

She is described a drunk with the blood of the saints and the martyrs of JESUS.

Just as the angel explained to Zechariah several of the visions given to him; the angel explains to John what he is seeing.

[Revelation 17:9](#)

9 “Here is the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits.”

[Revelation 17:12](#)

12 “The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast.”

[Revelation 17:14](#)

“14 These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful.”

[Revelation 17:15–16](#)

“15 Then he said to me, “The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.

16 And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot,

make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire.”

[Revelation 17:18](#)

“18 And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth.”

What city was ruling the world at the time John wrote? Rome.

Rome is situated on seven hills.

The ten horns represents a coming global government; which is the fulfillment of the Visions in Daniel Chapter 2 and 7.

It will be during the time of this kingdom that JESUS will set up HIS kingdom and return physically to the Earth. They will attempt to fight against HIS Return. While this woman will be riding the beast in an attempt to control it. It will ultimately turn on her and destroy her.

Turn to Revelation Chapter 18

[Revelation 18:1-3](#)

“1 After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory.

2 And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, “Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird!

3 For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury.”

Paul dealt with the ties to the commercial and religious system on his Missionary journey to Ephesus. We will not turn there but you can look this up later in Acts Chapter 19 verses 24-29 and 32-35. (Describe what was

happening and Demetrius the silversmith.)

Revelation Chapter 18 describes the final and utter destruction of Babylon. And while judgement is about to fall; we see the Grace and Mercy of GOD.

[Revelation 18:4](#)

“4 And I heard another voice from heaven saying, “Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues.”

GOD does not force anyone to trust in JESUS. There is always an invitation; Come.

Charles Spurgeon wrote: “Let us save men by all means under heaven; let us prevent men going down to hell. We are not half as earnest as we ought to be.”

The world is going to mourn the destruction of Babylon. First it will be the kings of the Earth

[Revelation 18:9–10](#)

“9 “The kings of the earth who committed fornication and lived luxuriously with her will weep and lament for her, when they see the smoke of her burning,

10 standing at a distance for fear of her torment, saying, ‘Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one hour your judgment has come.’”

then the merchants

[Revelation 18:15–18](#)

“15 The merchants of these things, who became rich by her, will stand at a distance for fear of her torment, weeping and wailing,

16 and saying, ‘Alas, alas, that great city that was clothed in fine linen,

purple, and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls!”

“17 For in one hour such great riches came to nothing.’ Every shipmaster, all who travel by ship, sailors, and as many as trade on the sea, stood at a distance

18 and cried out when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, ‘What is like this great city?’”

Here we see the final destruction of Babylon will take place quickly and suddenly; the way it came upon Sodom and Gomorrah.

There are those who say that America is Babylon. (describe the events of September 11th and one hour)

Babylon is a city, not a nation. America is part of the Babylonian system.

(describe our leaders ties to secret societies

masonry / skull & bones / bohemian groves in california

sex trafficking of children

religious — cults that started in America

JW’s Mormons etc.)

[Revelation 18:21](#)

“21 Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, “Thus with violence the great city Babylon shall be thrown down, and shall not be found anymore.”

Babylon will be utterly destroyed and destroyed suddenly. GOD will remove sin from the Earth.

[Zechariah 5:11](#)

“11 And he said to me, “To build a house for it in the land of Shinar; when it is ready, the basket will be set there on its base.””

GOD kept HIS Word and brought the Children of Israel back into the land HE has given to them. This will conclude the final time that has been appointed for GOD to chasten and restore Israel. While we see Babylonians aspects in the Roman system; I believe that this will ultimately move to the land of Shinar.

(Let's pray)