

- Worship in Fellowship
- Worship in Music
- Worship in Message
- Worship in Giving

Jeremy Mikeska

Babylon

Revelation 17-18

“As We See the Day Approaching” Series

Life Change: We live as ones called, chosen, and faithful.

On this day...

TODAY is the day of salvation

2 Corinthians 6:2

The prostitute and the beast

17

Names of those making this decision:

Prayer Request/Praise

The Conquerors: called, chosen, and faithful

17:14

Draw me close to You

*You're all I want
 You're all I've ever needed
 You're all I want
 Help me know You are near¹*

Your Request will be added to our email prayer chain unless specified otherwise (below).

CONFIDENTIAL (Staff and Elders only)

¹ Carpenter, Kelly. *Draw Me Close* lyrics. Mercy Vineyard Publishing. azlyrics.com



AS WE SEE
THE DAY
APPROACHING

Please Silence Your Phone



August 6, 1806, After a thousand years the Holy Roman Empire came to its official end, with the secession of its confederated states, when Emperor Francis II of Austria put down the imperial crown.



August 6, 1809, English poet Alfred, Lord Tennyson, often regarded as the chief representative of the Victorian Age in poetry, was born in Somersby, Lincolnshire.



August 6, 1825, Bolivia declared its independence from Spain.



August 6, 1890, Convicted murderer William Kemmler became the first person to be executed by electric chair; he was put to death in Auburn State Prison, New York.



August 6, 1911, American radio and motion-picture actress and television comedian Lucille Ball, who was best remembered for her classic television comedy series I Love Lucy, was born in Celoron, New York.



August 6, 1926, Gertrude Ederle, age 19, of New York became the first woman to swim the English Channel, breaking the men's record by nearly two hours.



August 6, 1940, Estonia lost its independence when the Soviet Union annexed the country.



August 6, 1945, The United States dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan—the blast killed more than 70,000 people and destroyed most of the city—in an effort to hasten the end of World War II.



August 6, 1962, After 300 years of British rule, Jamaica became an independent country within the Commonwealth of Nations.



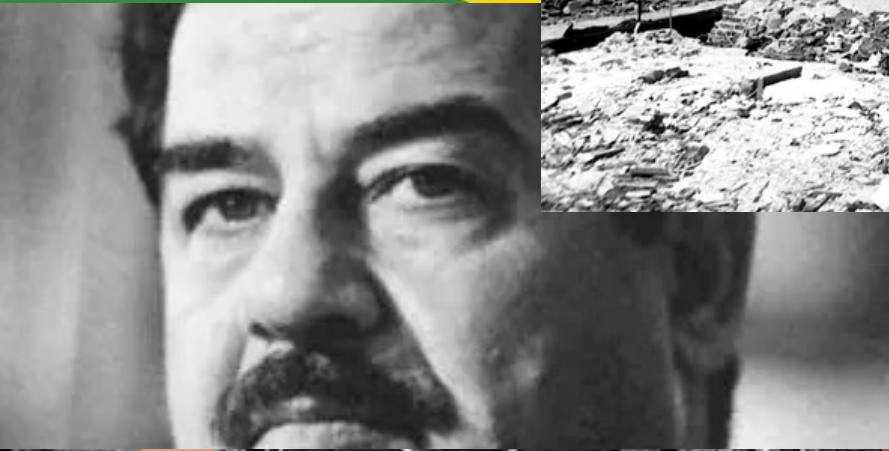
August 6, 1965, U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act, which sought to overcome legal barriers at the state and local levels that prevented African Americans from exercising their right to vote.



August 6, 1990, The UN Security Council imposed economic sanctions on Iraq, ruled by Saddam Hussein, for its invasion of Kuwait four days earlier.



August 6, 2012, NASA's robotic vehicle Curiosity (also called Mars Science Laboratory) landed on Mars and soon began transmitting images of the planet's surface.





August 6, 2023, is International Hangover Day. Since yesterday was apparently International Beer Day, today is hangover day. A day to learn about hangover remedies.



Photo courtesy JTeach.org



AS WE SEE
THE DAY
APPROACHING

Revelation 16:9

19 The great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. Babylon the Great was remembered in God's presence; he gave her the cup filled with the wine of his fierce anger.

Things seen. 1

Things which are. 2-3

Things to come. 4-22

• **Introduction. 4-5**

• **Tribulation. 6-19**

1. **Seal judgments. 6**

2. **Trumpets judgments. 8-9**

3. **Bowl judgments. 16**

• **Filling info (details that can run behind or ahead of the time flow). 7, 10-15, 17-19**

• **Millennium. 20**

• **Eternal state. 21-22.**

We are here



Revelation 17:1-3

17 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me: “Come, I will show you the judgment of the notorious prostitute, who is seated on many waters. ² The kings of the earth committed sexual immorality with her, and those who live on the earth became drunk on the wine of her sexual immorality.” ³ Then he carried me away in the Spirit, to a wilderness.

Revelation 17:3-6

I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was covered with blasphemous names and had seven heads and ten horns. ⁴ The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, adorned with gold, jewels, and pearls. She had a golden cup in her hand filled with everything detestable and with the impurities of her prostitution. ⁵ On her forehead was written a name, a mystery: Babylon the Great, the Mother of Prostitutes and of the Detestable Things of the Earth. ⁶ Then I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the witnesses to Jesus.

The term [harlot] applied to Babylon matches the practice of porneia attributed to her in 14:8. It is indicative of her spiritual harlotry and representative of an ecclesiastical or religious facet that is a counterfeit of the real. In prophetic language, prostitution, fornication, or adultery is equivalent to idolatry or religious apostasy.

Thomas, Robert. (1995). Revelation 8-22 An Exegetical Commentary. p 282. Chicago, IL: Mopdy Press.

Nahum 3:1,4


3 Woe to the city of blood, totally deceitful, full of plunder, never without prey...⁴ Because of the continual prostitution of the prostitute, the attractive mistress of sorcery, who treats nations and clans like merchandise by her prostitution and sorcery,



Photo courtesy Colored version of the Whore of Babylon illustration from [Martin Luther's 1534 translation of the Bible](#)

Genesis 10:3


Come, let's make oven-fired bricks.” (They used brick for stone and asphalt for mortar.)⁴ And they said, “Come, let's build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the sky. Let's make a name for ourselves; otherwise, we will be scattered throughout the earth.”

The background features a warm, orange-toned image of a classical building facade. On the left, a large stone relief depicts a bearded man, likely a philosopher or deity, seated and writing on a scroll. To the right, a muscular figure is shown in a dynamic pose, holding a long staff or spear. The architecture includes arches and columns. A large, semi-transparent white circle is centered over the image, containing the text.

*Let's make a
name
for ourselves...*

The background features a warm, golden-brown color palette with a faint, semi-transparent image of a classical building facade. On the left, a large stone relief depicts a bearded man, likely a prophet or saint, seated and writing on a scroll. To the right, a large archway is visible, with a figure's arm and hand reaching up towards it. The overall aesthetic is that of a religious or historical monument.

***“Wanna be
famous, be
famous for God!”***

The background features a warm, golden-brown color palette with faint, semi-transparent images of classical architectural elements. On the left, a large, detailed relief sculpture of a bearded man, likely a philosopher or deity, is visible. On the right, a large archway frames a scene with a figure holding a long staff or scepter. The overall aesthetic is that of an ancient or historical setting.

*Let's make a
name
for ourselves...*



Photo courtesy Colored version of the Whore of Babylon illustration from [Martin Luther's 1534 translation of the Bible](#)

Revelation 17:2

² The kings of the earth committed sexual immorality with her, and those who live on the earth became drunk on the wine of her sexual immorality.”

The background features a warm, golden-brown color palette with faint, semi-transparent images of classical architecture and sculptures. On the left, there are columns and a pediment. On the right, a large archway is visible. At the bottom, there are several classical busts and a horse's head, suggesting a museum or historical site setting.

Revelation 17:15

¹⁵ He also said to me, “The waters you saw, where the prostitute was seated, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and languages.

Revelation 17:3

I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was covered with blasphemous names and had seven heads and ten horns.

Revelation 13:1

13 And I saw a beast coming up out of the sea. It had ten horns and seven heads. On its horns were ten crowns, and on its heads were blasphemous names.'

Revelation 17:4

⁴ The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, adorned with gold, jewels, and pearls. She had a golden cup in her hand filled with everything detestable and with the impurities of her prostitution.

Her adornment is similar to that of religious trappings of ritualistic churches today. While purple, scarlet, gold, precious stones, and pearls can all represent beauty and glory in relation to the true faith, here they reveal a false religion that prostitutes the truth.

-J.F. Walvoord

(1985). Revelation. In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 2, p. 970). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

Genesis 3:4-6

the serpent said to the woman. ⁵ “In fact, God knows that when you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶ The woman saw that the tree was good for food and delightful to look at, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom.

Revelation 17:5-6

⁵ On her forehead was written a name, a mystery: Babylon the Great, the Mother of Prostitutes and of the Detestable Things of the Earth. ⁶ Then I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the witnesses to Jesus. When I saw her, I was greatly astonished.



Photo courtesy ebay.com

This is a vivid way of describing an unfaithfulness which is horrible. It shows us that sin is first of all a sin against love.

-Leon Morris





Vlad III Dracula—better known by the gruesome moniker “Vlad the Impaler”—was a 15th-century ruler of Wallachia (now part of Romania) who became notorious for his rampant use of torture, mutilation and mass murder. Vlad’s military exploits saw him praised by many as a hero, but his unmatched cruelty and penchant for barbaric executions—often against his own people—contributed to his reputation as one of history’s most coldblooded leaders.

Vlad's victims were supposedly killed through unspeakable means including disembowelment, beheading and even being skinned or boiled alive. Still, his preferred method was impalement, a grisly process in which the victim had a wooden stake slowly driven through their body before being left to die of exposure...According to some accounts, Vlad enjoyed dining among the thousands of impaled bodies and would even dip his bread into the blood of his victims. This bizarre practice—along with the name “Dracula” and Vlad's birthplace of Transylvania—would later partly inspire the vampire in Bram Stoker's 1897 novel “Dracula.”

Revelation 17:8-9

⁸ The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to come up from the abyss and go to destruction. Those who live on the earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world will be astonished when they see the beast that was, and is not, and is to come. ⁹ This calls for a mind that has wisdom.

Revelation 17:9-13

“The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman is seated. They are also seven kings: ¹⁰ Five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come, and when he comes, he must remain for only a little while. ¹¹ The beast that was and is not, is itself an eighth king, but it belongs to the seven and is going to destruction. ¹² The ten horns you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they will receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour. ¹³ These have one purpose, and they give their power and authority to the beast.

Revelation 17:8-9

⁸ The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to come up from the abyss and go to destruction.

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Revelation 13:3-4

³ One of its heads appeared to be fatally wounded, but its fatal wound was healed. The whole earth was amazed and followed the beast. ⁴ They worshiped the dragon because he gave authority to the beast. And they worshiped the beast, saying, “Who is like the beast? Who is able to wage war against it?”

Revelation 17:9-10

They are also seven kings: ¹⁰ Five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come, and when he comes, he must remain for only a little while.

Revelation 17:11-14

¹¹ The beast that was and is not, is itself an eighth king, but it belongs to the seven and is going to destruction.

¹² The ten horns you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they will receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour. ¹³ These have one purpose, and they give their power and authority to the beast. ¹⁴ These will make war against the Lamb,

Revelation 17:14

14 These will make war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will conquer them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings. Those with him are called, chosen, and faithful.”

Revelation 17:14

14 These will make war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will conquer them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings. Those with him are called, chosen, and faithful.”

“Called,” elect,” and “faithful” can apply only to saints, not to angels (Scott). Kletoi (called) and eklekltoi (elect) occur together in Matt. 22:14, where Jesus’ statement is, “Many are called, but few are chosen.” To be chosen by God is more than being called by Him. In order of time, kletoi comes first, but in order of moral significance eklektoi preceded kletoi (Swete). Not all who are called are chosen, but all who are chosen are called (cf. 2 Pet. 1:10) (Alford).

In Paul's writings, however, the call of God is always effectual. It amounts to an effectual call in this verse too, because "elect" applies to all the "called" in this triple designation. "Faithful" (Pistoi) indicates the fulfillment of the human response by this select group. The faithfulness of the saints climaxes the calling and election by God. It is their inevitable response to His initiative. Such a choice group will be fitting associates of the Lamb in His great victory.

-Robert L. Thomas

(1995). Revelation 8-22 An Exegetical Commentary. (p. 303). Chicago, IL: Moddy Press.



***Are you
a Calvinist ?***

Ephesians 1:3-6

³ Blessed is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavens in Christ. ⁴ For he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless in love before him. ⁵ He predestined us to be adopted as sons through Jesus Christ for himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he lavished on us in the Beloved One.



courtesy mepaden youtube.com



courtesy Rene Mikeska

Ephesians 1:3-6

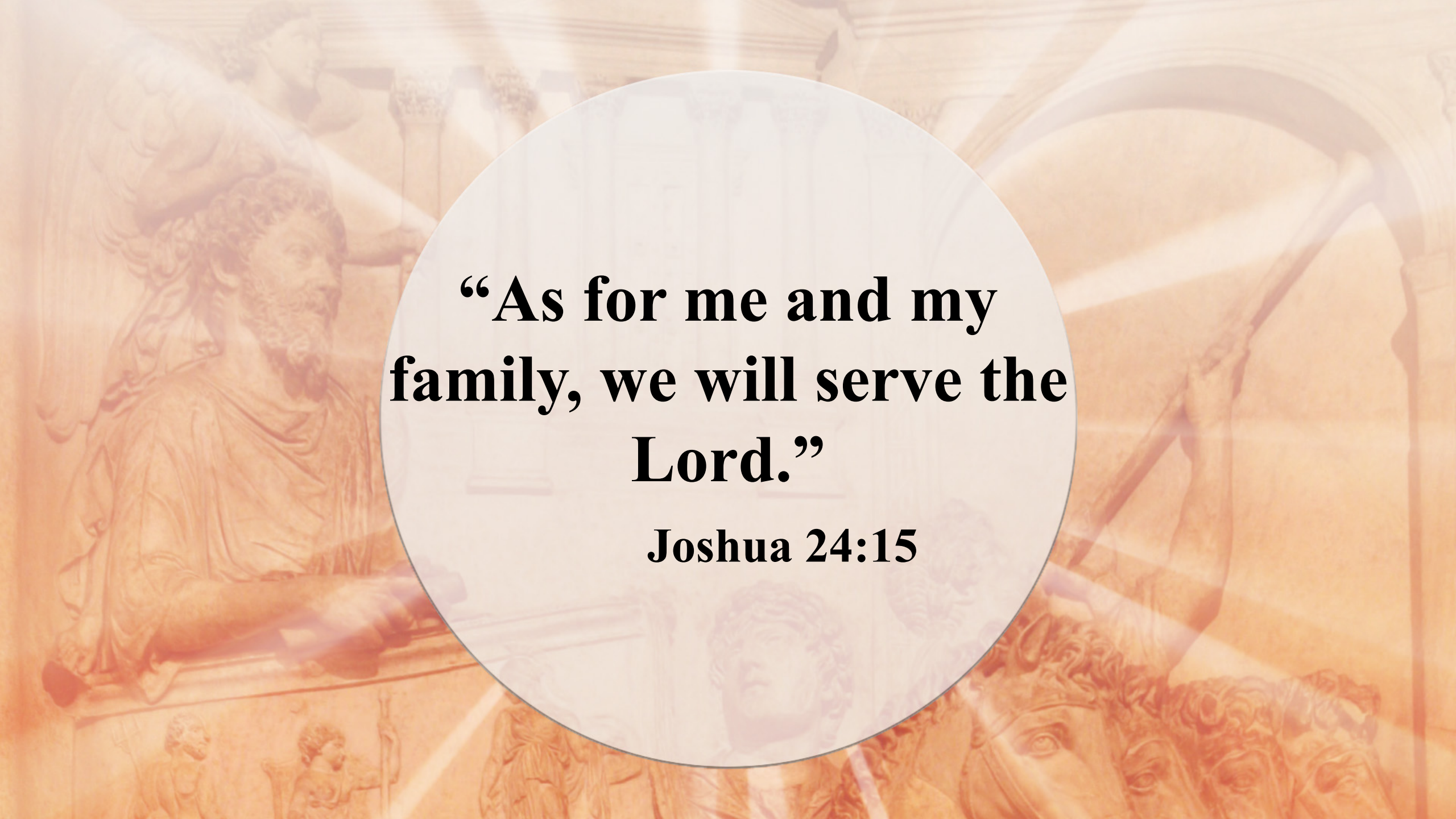
³ Blessed is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavens in Christ. ⁴ For he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless in love before him. ⁵ He predestined us to be adopted as sons through Jesus Christ for himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he lavished on us in the Beloved One.

Ephesians 1:7-8

⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸ that he richly poured out on us with all wisdom and understanding.

Ephesians 2:8-9

⁸ For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift—⁹ not from works, so that no one can boast.



**“As for me and my
family, we will serve the
Lord.”**

Joshua 24:15

Romans 10:9-10

If you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ One believes with the heart, resulting in righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, resulting in salvation.

Revelation 17:15-18

¹⁵ He also said to me, “The waters you saw, where the prostitute was seated, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and languages. ¹⁶ The ten horns you saw, and the beast, will hate the prostitute. They will make her desolate and naked, devour her flesh, and burn her up with fire. ¹⁷ For God has put it into their hearts to carry out his plan by having one purpose and to give their kingdom to the beast until the words of God are fulfilled. ¹⁸ And the woman you saw is the great city that has royal power over the kings of the earth.”

Revelation 18:1-2

18 After this I saw another angel with great authority coming down from heaven, and the earth was illuminated by his splendor. ² He called out in a mighty voice:

It has fallen,

Babylon the Great has fallen!

She has become a home for demons,

a haunt for every unclean spirit,

a haunt for every unclean bird, and a haunt for every

unclean and despicable beast.

The background features a warm, golden-brown color palette with faint, semi-transparent images of classical architecture and sculptures. On the left, there are columns and a pediment. On the right, a large archway is visible. In the foreground, there are several classical statues and reliefs, including a prominent horse head sculpture on the right and various figures in classical attire on the left and bottom. The overall style is reminiscent of ancient Greek or Roman art.

Revelation 18:8

**plagues will come in just one day—
death and grief and famine.**

**She will be burned up with fire,
because the Lord God who judges her is mighty.**

Revelation 18

⁹ The kings of the earth who have committed sexual immorality and shared her sensual and excessive ways will weep and mourn over her when they see the smoke from her burning.

¹¹ The merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her, because no one buys their cargo any longer

¹⁵ The merchants of these things, who became rich from her, will stand far off in fear of her torment, weeping and mourning,

Revelation 18:17-19

And every shipmaster, seafarer, the sailors, and all who do business by sea, stood far off ¹⁸ as they watched the smoke from her burning and kept crying out, “Who was like the great city?” ¹⁹ They threw dust on their heads and kept crying out, weeping, and mourning,

**Woe, woe, the great city,
where all those who have ships on the sea
became rich from her wealth;
for in a single hour she was destroyed.**

Revelation 18:3

³ For all the nations have drunk the wine of her sexual immorality, which brings wrath.

The kings of the earth have committed sexual immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have grown wealthy from her sensuality and excess.

The fornication of all the nations [porneias] and of the kings [eporneusan] is of the nature set forth in the final clause of the verse. The city has promoted herself by instilling an unquestioning faith in her supposedly inexhaustible resources, thereby discouraging any sense of a deeper need for God (Caird)...The connection of fornication and luxury in this verse indicates that Babylon's fornication consists not only of idolatry, but also includes her pride in excessive wealth (Johnson). False religion often has gone hand in hand with the accumulation and abusive use of luxury.

-Robert L. Thomas

(1995). Revelation 8-22 An Exegetical Commentary. (p. 319). Chicago, IL: Moody Press.

The background features a warm, orange-toned image of classical architecture, including columns and arches, with faint, larger-scale sculptures of figures and a horse's head visible in the lower portion.

Revelation 18:21-24

21 Then a mighty angel picked up a stone like a large millstone and threw it into the sea, saying,

In this way, Babylon the great city will be thrown down violently and never be found again.



AS WE SEE
THE DAY
APPROACHING



2 Corinthians 6:2

² For he says:

***At an acceptable time I listened to you,
and in the day of salvation I helped you.
See, now is the acceptable time; now is the day of
salvation!***



Draw me close to You.

***You're all I want
You're all I've ever needed
You're all I want
Help me know You are near.***

-Kelly Carpenter



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