

Daniel 5

Love and Humility

- Nebuchadnezzar's Second Dream
- Daniel Explains the Second Dream
- Nebuchadnezzar's Humbled
- Nebuchadnezzar Praises the Living God
- Reigned 43 years. Nebuchadnezzar gone. With Abraham?

I. Presumptuous Sin

Psalm 19:13 "Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins."

ALL SINS are great sins, but yet some sins are greater than others. Every sin has in it the very venom of rebellion, and is full of the essential marrow of traitorous rejection of God. But there be some sins which have in them a greater development of the essential mischief of rebellion, and which wear upon their faces more of the brazen pride which defies the Most High.

1 Belshazzar the king made a great feast for a thousand of his lords, and drank wine in the presence of the thousand.

- **Belshazzar**
 1. Grandson of Nebuchadnezzar [Son meaning grandson}
 2. King of Babylon
 3. 66th year of Babylon's Empire. Last year.

- Nebuchadnezzar dies after a 43-year reign

- His son, **Evil-Merodach** (described in 2 Kings 25:27-30 and Jeremiah 52:31-34) rules for only two years when he is assassinated by his brother-in-law Neriglassar, because his rule was arbitrary and licentious

- **Neriglassar** (mentioned as Nergal-sharezer in Jeremiah 39:3, 13) rules for four years until he dies a natural death

- His son, Labo-ro-so-archod, only a child and of diminished mental capacity, rules for only nine months when he is beaten to death by a gang of conspirators

- The conspirators appoint Nabo-nidus, one of their gang, to be king. He rules until Cyrus the Persian conquers Babylon.

- **Time of our text:**
 1. Nabo-nidus is co-regent with eldest son Belshazzar at this time.
 2. Babylon is surrounded as Nabo-nidus goes to battle and leaves Belshazzar

Nabonidus had gone out to fight the Medo-Persian army, and had been already captured. Those armies now surrounded Babylon, and were looking for a way into the strongly defended city. [Guzic]

Babylon's time is up...Head of gold will now become...

Chest and Arms of Silver; i.e. Medo-Persian Empire

2 While he tasted the wine, Belshazzar gave the command to bring the gold and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken from the temple which had been in Jerusalem, that the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them.

- **Now Drunk:**

1. "Bring the Gold and Silver Cups"
 - Taken from God's Holy Temple in Jerusalem by his grandfather
2. "Let 'my people' drink from them"
 - King
 - His lords
 - Wives
 - Concubines

- **Belshazzar not afraid of being surrounded:**

1. The outer walls of Babylon were 17 miles long
2. These walls were 22 feet thick and 90 feet high
3. The outer walls had guard towers another 100 feet high
4. The city gates were made of bronze
5. A system of inner and outer walls and moats made the city very secure
6. He's drunk

3 Then they brought the gold vessels that had been taken from the temple of the house of God which had been in Jerusalem; and the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines drank from them. 4 They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze and iron, wood and stone.

- 2X: Gold vessels taken from the Temple of the house of God...

"...which had been in Jerusalem"

- Remembering previous victor over [the God of?] Israel
 1. Drank wine
 2. Praised gods of gold, silver, bronze, wood and stone: Idols

"The Rabbi's have a tradition, that Belshazzar, seeing the seventy years spoken of by Jeremiah expired, and the Jews by the coming on of another monarch, not delivered, kept this feast in contempt of that prophecy and people." [Trapp]

Psalm 19:12 Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults. **13 Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins;** Let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, And I shall be innocent of great transgression.

It is a great but temporary party and excitement to presume God will not judge...to believe that you are defying a Holy God and getting away with it! [NJC]

- **Presumptuous sin:** Def. A sin that is committed willfully against manifest light and knowledge

1. Not a sin of ignorance
2. Sin against conscience: Sinning against the voice of God in the heart
3. Sin against light; i.e. sin against what has been revealed as good/right/natural

E.g. Trespassing on someone's property without seeing a sign is still a trespass. Seeing a sign and brazenly walking across the property is a grievous sin...presumptuous sin

- Presume that you can break the law and get away with it because
 1. You are above the law
 2. Do not respect the law
 3. Have enmity toward the lawgiver
- More light...greater the responsibility
- More knowledge... greater the responsibility

It is remarkable, that though an atonement was provided under the Jewish law for every kind of sin, there was this one exception: "But the soul that [sins] presumptuously shall have no atonement; it shall be cut off from the midst of my people." And now, under the Christian dispensation, although in the sacrifice of our blessed Lord there is a great and precious atonement for presumptuous sins, whereby sinners who have sinned in this manner are made clean, yet, without doubt, presumptuous [unbelievers], dying without pardon, must expect to receive a double portion of the wrath of God, and a more wonderful manifestation of the unutterable anguish of the torment of eternal punishment in the pit that is [dug] for the wicked. [Spurgeon]

- Insult to God's kindness toward man:

Hebrews 10:28 Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29 Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?

- **Belshazzar knew where the vessels of God came from**
 1. Presumed God would not judge for his evil intention
 2. Presumed God would not for mixing Holy with Unholy
 3. Presumed that he could go further
 - Not only disrespecting the True God
 - But worshiping false gods of gold, silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone

He committed the sin of *sacrilege*, something few people are concerned with today. [Guzic]

- We know why our country flourished:
- Last words of the Star-Spangled Banner
 1. Oh! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand
 2. Between their loved home and the war's desolation!
 3. Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven rescued land
 4. Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation.
 5. Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
 6. And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."
 7. And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
 8. O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

- How much Light and Knowledge do possess regarding the perverted moral/spiritual direction we are going and the consequences of continuing on that path...yet we press on?

It is a great but temporary party and excitement to presume God will not judge...to believe that you are and can defy a Holy and Righteous God and getting away with it! [NJC]

SUMMARY: Presumptuous Sin: Knowingly sinning against God and believing you are getting away with it.

II. Party Over

5 In the same hour the fingers of a man's hand appeared and wrote opposite the lampstand on the plaster of the wall of the king's palace; and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote.

- Same hour

1 Thessalonians 5:1 But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. 2 For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. 3 For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. [Day of the Lord is the judgment of God; i.e. Great Tribulation]

- Finger's of a man's hand appeared
- Wrote on the plaster wall
- King saw "the part of the hand" that wrote. Party over!

6 Then the king's countenance changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his hips were loosened and his knees knocked against each other.

- Things began to change quickly for Belshazzar:
 1. **Face** Changed: Big smile to gaping quivering mouth
 2. **Thoughts** changed from Carefree to Petrified
 3. **Pants** needed to be changed: Joints of his hips were loosened. Lost control
- **Judgment will come:**
 1. Entitlement mentality
 2. Arrogance
 3. Presumption that defiance of a Holy God will go unpunished

No more "big shots"

Jeremiah 30:5 "For thus says the Lord: 'We have heard a voice of trembling, Of fear, and not of peace. 6 Ask now, and see, Whether a man is ever in labor with child? So why do I see every man with his hands on his loins Like a woman in labor, And all faces turned pale? 7 Alas! For that day is great, So that none is like it; And it is the time of Jacob's trouble, But he shall be saved out of it.'

- Near prophesy to Jews concerning Nebuchadnezzar

- Far prophesy to those who would deny God and worship the Beast

Luke 23:29 For indeed the days are coming in which they will say, 'Blessed are the barren, wombs that never bore, and breasts which never nursed!' 30 Then they will begin 'to say to the mountains, "Fall on us!" and to the hills, "Cover us!"' 31 For if they do these things in the green wood, what will be done in the dry?"

- Jesus near prophesy for fall of Jerusalem [70ad]
- Jesus far prophesy for demise of Babylon; i.e. AC world system

Revelation 12:1 I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood. 13 And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind. 14 Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place. 15 And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains, 16 and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! 17 For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"

- Don't mistake longsuffering of God for "getting away with" sin

2 Peter 3:3...scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, 4 and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation." 5 For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, 6 by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. 7 But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. 8 But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

- Will not strive with man forever. Done striving with Belshazzar
- Habakkuk and Jeremiah: After God uses Babylon to judge Israel...I will judge Babylon

Jeremiah 51:24 "And I will repay Babylon And all the inhabitants of Chaldea For all the evil they have done In Zion in your sight," says the Lord. 25 "Behold, I am against you, O destroying mountain, Who destroys all the earth," says the Lord. "And I will stretch out My hand against you,

7 The king cried aloud to bring in the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers. The king spoke, saying to the wise men of Babylon...

- **King cried aloud:** Bring in the wise men of Babylon:

7b..."Whoever reads this writing, and tells me its interpretation shall be clothed with purple and have a chain of gold around his neck; and he shall be the third ruler in the kingdom."

- **Whoever can read this?** Could not read

- **Whoever can tell me what it means;** i.e. interpret the words
 1. Clothed with purple
 2. Gold chain
 3. Third ruler of Babylon: Short lived

8 Now all the king's wise men came, but they could not read the writing, or make known to the king its interpretation. 9 Then King Belshazzar was greatly troubled, his countenance was changed, and his lords were astonished.

- Wise men could not read or interpret
- **Belshazzar:**
 1. Greatly troubled; i.e. Troubled on steroids
 2. Countenance changed again
 3. Lords were astonished [baffled, perplexed, confused]

10 The queen, because of the words of the king and his lords, came to the banquet hall. The queen spoke, saying, "O king, live forever! Do not let your thoughts trouble you, nor let your countenance change.

- **Queen** [Queen mother?] enters
 1. Live forever
 2. Don't be troubled
 3. Don't look that way

A unstable leader is a dangerous leader their people. Moral/ Strength comes from the top down. A leader's countenance is contagious. Strength/Weakness...Righteousness/Lawlessness. Top down.

For our sake..."Do not let your thoughts trouble you, nor let your countenance change"

- Queen continues...

11 There is a man in your kingdom in whom is the Spirit of the Holy God. And in the days of your father, light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, were found in him...

- There is a man in your kingdom:
 1. Spirit of the HOLY God is in him
 2. Grandfather Nebuchadnezzar looked to him for:
 - Light
 - Understanding
 - Wisdom of deity [higher] wisdom humans

11b ...and King Nebuchadnezzar your father—your father the king—made him chief of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans, and soothsayers.

- **King Nebuchadnezzar: Remember?**
 1. Your father

2. Your father the king?
3. Made Daniel chief of the wise men

12 Inasmuch as an excellent spirit, knowledge, understanding, interpreting dreams, solving riddles, and explaining enigmas were found in this Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar, now let Daniel be called, and he will give the interpretation."

- **Call Daniel ... he has...**
 1. An Excellent spirit
 2. Knowledge
 3. Solves riddles
 4. Explains mysteries

Why does the queen know all this but King Belshazzar seems to be ignorant of Daniel?

- **He's a punk...**not like his Grandfather
 1. Not teachable
 2. Not respectful
 3. Not wise

SUMMARY: Party Over: Things changed quickly for a man who thought all would remain the same because he was who he was.

III. Daniel Called Out of Retirement

13 Then Daniel was brought in before the king. The king spoke, and said to Daniel, "Are you that Daniel who is one of the captives from Judah, whom my father the king brought from Judah?14 I have heard of you, that the Spirit of God is in you, and that light and understanding and excellent wisdom are found in you.15 Now the wise men, the astrologers, have been brought in before me, that they should read this writing and make known to me its interpretation, but they could not give the interpretation of the thing. 16 And I have heard of you, that you can give interpretations and explain enigmas. Now if you can read the writing and make known to me its interpretation, you shall be clothed with purple and have a chain of gold around your neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom."

- If you read the writing and interpret the meaning I will reward you Daniel!

17 Then Daniel answered, and said before the king, "Let your gifts be for yourself, and give your rewards to another; yet I will read the writing to the king, and make known to him the interpretation.

- Daniel seems Indignant: Different tone than to Nebuchadnezzar
- Daniel loved Nebuchadnezzar
- Dan 4: Daniel troubled to give Neb the bad news. Belshazzar...not so much!

18 O king, the Most High God gave Nebuchadnezzar your father a kingdom and majesty, glory and honor. 19 And because of the majesty that He gave

him, all peoples, nations, and languages trembled and feared before him. Whomever he wished, he executed; whomever he wished, he kept alive; whomever he wished, he set up; and whomever he wished, he put down.

- **This is who your grandfather was:**
 1. Man the Most High God gave:
 - A Kingdom
 - Majesty
 - Glory
 - Honor
 - People, Nations, Kingdom feared him
 - Power over life and death
 - Power to bestow honor or shame

20 But when his heart was lifted up, and his spirit was hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him. 21 Then he was driven from the sons of men, his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling was with the wild donkeys. They fed him with grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven...

- **But...**
 1. Heart was lifted up
 2. Spirit hardened with Pride
- **God who gave now took away...**
 1. Throne
 2. Glory
 - "They" drove him from people to the wilderness
 - "They" made him become like an animal
 - "They" fed him grass

21b...**till he knew that** the Most High God rules in the kingdom of men, and appoints over it whomever He chooses.

- God gave Nebuchadnezzar back his kingdom, majesty, glory and honor
- Till he knew: After he cried "uncle" and "**looked up to Heaven**"

22 "But you his son, Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, although you knew all this.

- **Owie! You his son:**
 1. Have not [present tense] humbled your heart

...although you knew all this.

- How many opportunities to see results of sin? Blessing for obedience/Cursing for disobedience. PERIOD!

Romans 1:28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; 29 being filled with

all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, 30 backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, 31 undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; 32 who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.

Pride: I know better than God. Expect misery.

He presumed God's patience/longsuffering was weakness...He was wrong

Mixing the Holy with the Unholy

- **Vessels of Gold:** Holy unto the Lord
- We are all "vessels" [pots, bowls, cups etc.] to be filled:

2 Timothy 2:19 ...the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Let everyone who names the name of Christ **depart from iniquity.**" [Repent] 20 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor.

- Name the name of Christ? **Depart from sin**
- Vessels: Many purposes but two categories:
 1. **For Honor:** Filled with finest wine
 2. **For Dishonor:** Used as a chamber pot

21 Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work. 22 Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

- A vessel of God should not be used as a "chamber pot"
- We are to be Holy and Separate unto God that we may be:
 1. **Sanctified:** Becoming more like Jesus
 2. **Useful:** Able to be used to accomplish God's purpose in others
 3. **Prepared:** To do good work; i.e. Build up not tear down
 - Fleeing from sexual sin
 - Pursue righteousness, faith, peace, and love with our brothers/sisters

**We are to be an honorable vessel ready to be filled with Living Water...
Not mixing the Holy with the Unholy**

1 Corinthians 6:12 All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. 13 Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them.

- God created our bodies for a purpose; i.e. function of each part is determined by Him

Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. 14 And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. 15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?

- Church is the body of Christ

1. Not for sexual immorality
2. But the our body is "for the Lord"
3. Subject to the head Jesus Christ. We are one with Him

15b Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! 16 Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For "the two," He says, "shall become one flesh."

- Jesus is with us wherever/whatever we are doing

17 But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. 18 Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.

- Sexual immorality in a category of sin by itself

19 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? 20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

- Holy/Separated unto God areas of life: Temple surrounded by rooms filled w/ idols?

2 Corinthians 6:14 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? 15 And what **accord has Christ with Belial**? Or what part has a **believer with an unbeliever**? 16 And what agreement has the **temple of God with idols**? For you are the **temple of the living God**. As God has said: "I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people." 17 Therefore "Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you." 18 "I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the Lord Almighty."

- **We are to be Holy:** Separated unto God for His purpose. He owns us.
- **1 Peter 1:** End time instructions...**Be Holy as we wait!**
 1. V1 Peter calls us pilgrims
 2. V3 We have a Living Hope for our eternal future
 3. V4 We have a place reserved in heaven
 4. V6 We will have trials but just for "a little while"
 5. V9 The end of our faith/endurance/patience is the "salvation of our souls"

1 Peter 1:13 Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; 14 as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; 15 but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, 16 because it is written, "**Be holy, for I am holy.**"

- We are not to mix the Holy with the Unholy
 1. Not unequally yoked marriage/contracts/partnerships with non-believers
 2. Not to watch things that offend God
 3. Not to conduct business unethically
 4. Not to allow darkness into our homes
 5. Not to say things that offend the Lord

6. Not to compromise the Holy with the Unholy, light with darkness

- If we know Jesus we are children of the Light

1 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

- Daniel continues his rebuke against Belshazzar...

23 And you have lifted yourself up against the Lord of heaven. They have brought the vessels of His house before you, and you and your lords, your wives and your concubines, have drunk wine from them. And you have praised the gods of silver and gold, bronze and iron, wood and stone, which do not see or hear or know...

- **Daniel was not there but retells evening events: Demonic Ritual**
 1. You have lifted yourself up against the God of Heaven
 2. You have ordered you servants to bring out the Holy things
 3. You are responsible for heathens drinking from them praising demons

23b...and the God who **holds your breath in His hand** and owns all your ways, you have not glorified.

- Do we know God "**holds our very breath**"

Colossians 1:16 For by [Jesus] all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. 17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

- Glorify the God who "**owns all our ways**"
- Bought by Jesus. Owned by Jesus

1 Peter 1:17 ...if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the **time of your stay here** in fear; 18 knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, 19 **but with the precious blood of Christ**

Acts 20:28 ... take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God **which He purchased with His own blood.**

- Response: Offer ourselves to God and others

Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

Romans 13:8 Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.

- Pagan King did not Glorify the God of Heaven

"If God held Belshazzar responsible, my friend, for the ray of light which shone across his

pathway, what will He say to men living in the blaze of light which illuminates the world today? Every unconverted man in this country has more light than Belshazzar had." [Talbot]

- **Daniel continues:**

24 Then the fingers of the hand were **sent from Him**, and this writing was written. 25 "And this is the inscription that was written: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN.

- Sent from Him; i.e. The God who hold your breath in your hand; owns all your ways

SUMMARY: Enter Daniel: I knew Nebuchadnezzar...and your no Nebuchadnezzar!

IV. Babylon's Fall

26 This is the interpretation of each word. MENE: God has numbered your kingdom, and finished it; 27 TEKEL: You have been weighed in the balances, and found wanting; 28 PERES: Your kingdom has been divided, and given to the Medes and Persians."

- **Each of these three Aramaic words** [Mene,Tekel,Peres] has a double meaning:
 1. **Mene:** [To number] God has numbered your kingdom and your numbers up! Repeated for emphasis
 2. **Tekel:** [To weigh] God had done an audit on your Kingdom. It seems you owe with regard to giving God glory!
 3. **Peres:** *Upharsin* plural of Peres [To divide] derivative of word "Persians"; i.e. your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians

29 Then Belshazzar gave the command, and they clothed Daniel with purple and put a chain of gold around his neck, and made a proclamation concerning him that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom.

- **Command:**
 1. Purple clothes
 2. Gold Chain [Italian]
 3. Third ruler: Belshazzar was co-regent with his father making Daniel third.

30 That very night Belshazzar, king of the Chaldeans, was slain. 31 And Darius the Mede received the kingdom, being about sixty-two years old.

A mighty army and brilliant tactics overcame The Babylonian Empire, yet it still fell from within. The armies of the Medes and Persians could only conquer because Belshazzar and his kingdom were found lacking in spiritual and moral value. [Guzic]

- That very night God let go of Belshazzar's "breath" which God held in his hand
 1. Slain
- **NOTE: Darius the Mede ruled under Cyrus the Persian**
- Ancient Greek historian Herodotus explains "how Persian King Cyrus conquered Babylon that night"
 1. Diverted the flow of the Euphrates into a nearby swamp
 2. Lowered the level of the river

3. His troops marched through the water and under the river-gates
4. Bronze gates of the inner walls been left unlocked
5. Prophesied 200 before the event:

Isaiah 44:28 [God] says of Cyrus, called by name 100 years before his birth], 'He is My shepherd, And he shall perform all My pleasure, Saying to Jerusalem, "You shall be built," And to the temple, "Your foundation shall be laid."

Isaiah 45:1 "Thus says the Lord to His anointed, To Cyrus, whose right hand I have held—To subdue nations before him And loose the armor of kings, To open before him the double doors, So that the gates will not be shut:2 'I will go before you And make the crooked places straight; I will break in pieces the gates of bronze And cut the bars of iron.

Jeremiah 51:57 [Of Babylon God says...] "... I will make drunk Her princes and wise men, Her governors, her deputies, and her mighty men. And they shall sleep a perpetual sleep And not awake," says the King, Whose name is the Lord of hosts.58 Thus says the Lord of hosts: "The broad walls of Babylon shall be utterly broken, And her high gates shall be burned with fire; The people will labor in vain, And the nations, because of the fire; And they shall be weary."

"In October 539 B.C., Cyrus advanced into lower Mesopotamia and, leaving Babylon till last, conquered and occupied the surrounding territory. Seeing which way the wind was blowing, Nabonidus of Babylon deserted his city, leaving it in the charge of his son Belshazzar ... the taking of Babylon was as bloodless and effortless as Daniel 5 implies." [Motyer]

- **Medes and Persians:** Silver Chest and Arms predicted in Daniel 2 take what was once Babylon...the Golden Empire. Medes and Persians will reign 208 years.

SUMMARY: Babylon's Fall: Judgment for pride leading to presumptuous sin and an unrepentant spirit. Like being invaded by a "Thief in the night"...everything changed in a Babylonian Minute! Mystery Babylon [Religious World System] will fall the same way when Jesus returns.

Babylon: Picture of False Man-Made Religion. Presumption/Arrogance toward the Living God

Jeremiah 51:44 I will punish Bel in Babylon, And I will bring out of his mouth what he has swallowed; And the nations shall not stream to him anymore. Yes, the wall of Babylon shall fall.45 "My people, go out of the midst of her!

Isaiah 48:20 Go forth from Babylon!

Jeremiah 50:8 "Move from the midst of Babylon..."

Jeremiah 51:6 Flee from the midst of Babylon, And every one save his life!

Two Babylons

Revelation Chapter 17

- **2 Babylon's** in the Book of Revelation:

A. Ecclesiastical or Mystery Babylon [Ch. 17]

Jeremiah 51:7 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.

- Worldwide False-Religious System first 3 ½ years of Tribulation
- Used by Anti-Christ
- Later [Mid-Tribulation] Hated and Destroyed by the Anti-Christ

B. Commercial Babylon [Ch. 18]

Revelation ...the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath.

- Godless Economic System controlled by Anti-Christ
- Loved by the World
- Destroyed by/at the Return of Jesus Christ

Interpretation of Ecclesiastical [Mystery] Babylon [Chapter 17]

1. **The Beast is the Anti-Christ**; i.e. Satan possessed man who will seemingly die and come "back to life"; i.e. false **resurrection**:v8
2. **Seven Heads of the Beast** are **both SevenMountains AND Seven Kings**: v9
 - a) **5** Past Kingdoms
 - b) **1** Present Kingdom [Rome]
 - c) **1** Kingdom to come [Earth divided into 10 sectors]]
 - d) **The Eighth King**, Anti-Christ will rise from the Seven, v.11 and he will crown 10 kings over the 10 sectors of the earth [revived Rome]
3. **Ten Horns of the Beast** are **Ten Kings** having no authority at the time of John's writing Revelation. They will be given power and authority by Anti-Christ to "be kings" with him. They will be of "one mind" with the Anti-Christ, set on making war the Harlot and with Jesus Christ [Both A.C. Competition]. Hating the Religious System, they will eventually give all power back to the Anti-Christ: vv 12-14
4. **The Woman [Harlot] Riding the Beast is the Great City** ; the epicenter of the false religious system which reigns over the "kings" of the earth. The 10 kings will hate the woman:v18
5. **The Water that the Woman [the Harlot] is sitting on** are peoples, multitudes, nations and tongues:v15

Revelation 17: Ecclesiastical [Mystery] Babylon

I. Scarlet Woman on the Scarlet Beast:

- **Symbiotic Relation: Mutually beneficial relationship:** a cooperative, mutually beneficial relationship between two people or groups: [gr. *sumbiōsis* , literally "a living together"]; i.e. "Nobody rides for free"
- Anti-Christ and False Religious System of the first 3 ½ years of Tribulation

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."**

- **One of the Seven Angels:** Individual Angels [c.f. Revelation 1:20, 17:1, 21:9]
- After John is shown the overview of the 7 Bowl Judgments in Ch. 16 and Angel comes and talks with John
- John is shown details concerning judgment of:
 1. **GreatCity**
 2. **Sits on many waters**
 3. **Kings of the earth commit fornication with her**
 4. **Made drunk by her fornication**
- **Harlot** [Whore]: gr. *porne* and related to *porneia*; lit. fornication. Also related to *pornos*; lit. fornicator/whoremonger
- Def. *Any* who commit fornication; here: **Spiritual**; i.e. unnatural intimate union:

1 Corinthians Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make *them* members of a harlot? Certainly not! ¹⁶ Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body *with her*? For "*the two,*" He says, "*shall become one flesh.*" ¹⁷ But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit *with Him*.

- Prophesied in the to happen before Jesus 2nd Coming:

2 Thessalonians 2:3 Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first*, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, ⁴ who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God...⁹ The coming of the *lawless one* is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, ¹⁰ and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. ¹¹ And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they

should believe the lie, ¹² that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

I will show you the judgment of the great city which controls the false religious system and reigns over the kings of the earth, peoples, multitudes and tongues. These kings use the Spiritual Harlot for what they can get from her, but are deceived and under the influence of her religious spell which keeps them and their people from the Truth of Christ.

- The city is **Rome** [v9]

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**.

- John is again “**in the Spirit**”

Revelation I was **in the Spirit** on the **Lord’s Day**, and I heard behind me a loud voice...

- “One” of the Seven Angels “carries John away” **in the Spirit to the wilderness**:

Matthew 4:1 Then [directly after baptism] Jesus was **led up by the Spirit into the wilderness** to be tempted by the devil.

- **In the Spirit:**

Revelation I was **in the Spirit on the Lord’s Day**, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet,

Revelation 4:2 Immediately **I was in the Spirit**; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and *One* sat on the throne.

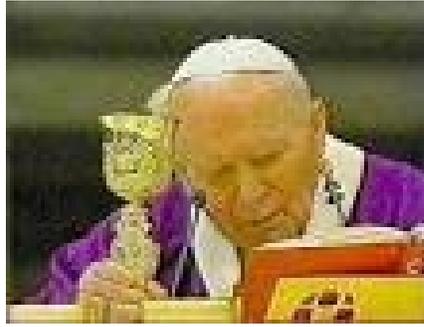
- **Wilderness:** After the deluge; i.e. Babylon’s beginnings at the **Tower**
- John sees the **Harlot “riding” the Beast**:
 - Harlot is *sitting on a Scarlet Beast*
 - Scarlet Beast is “**full of names of blasphemes**” and is Anti-Christ

Revelation 13:1 Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads **a blasphemous name**.

- Scarlet Beast has **Seven Heads and Ten Horns** as does **Satan**:

Revelation 12:3 And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having **seven heads and ten horns**, and seven diadems on his heads.

- Harlot is also *arrayed in purple and scarlet*
- Harlot is *adorned with Gold, Precious Stones and Pearls*
- Harlot has a *golden Cup of "full of" Abominations* mixed with the *filthiness of her fornication in her hand*



I saw Religious Rome embracing and empowering all forms of Satan-inspired, man-made religions and religious practices working together with the Anti-Christ to deceive the world through a devilish and perverse doctrines of "tolerance" during the first 3½ years of Tribulation as both profited from the partnership. The Beast was dressed in purple as a King and has 10 Kings waiting for a Kingdom that he will give to them after he uses this Apostate Church to attain power for the first 3 ½ years of the Tribulation. The Vatican and its citizens were also arrayed in scarlet as the colors of a kingdom. Competition is unavoidable as the Beast [Anti-Christ will demand worship]



Katie Perry at Superbowl 2014

II. Mystery Babylon

5 And on her **forehead a name** was written:

MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

- **Mystery Babylon Beginnings:**

1. **Plains of Shinar** [Babylon] after the Flood

2. **Nimrod:** First World Dictator and builder of Babylon, Assyria, etc

Genesis And the beginning of his [Nimrod's] **kingdom was Babel**, Erech, , and Calneh, in the land Shinar. ¹¹ From that land he went to **and built Nineveh...**

3. **Superintendent of the Tower Babel project:** A tower built to withstand God's Judgment [again causing doubt /questioning of God's Word that He would not flood the earth again]; Study of the Stars and the basis for Astrology
4. **Semiramis:** Nimrod's wife

Legend: Semiramis conceived a son named **Tammuz** miraculously by a "sunbeam" He was later killed by a wild boar but after **40 days of Semiramis weeping was "raised for the dead"**

5. **Semiramis and Tammuz:** Cultic worship of "mother and child"
6. **Nimrod's Babylon**, not Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon, has made the "inhabitants of the earth drunk with the wine of her fornication through the dispersion and scattering of people to all nations":

Genesis 11:9 ...its name is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD *scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth*

- **Later, Semiramis** alias "Ashtoreth" alias the "Queen of Heaven" alias "Jezebel" of Revelation 2 alias "Mary"... **would continue to be worshiped:**

Jeremiah 44:15 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?"

- **Feast of Lent:** Remembering *40 Days of weeping over Tammuz*

Ezekiel 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.**

- **Feast of Ishtar** [Easter] celebrated the "resurrection" of Tammuz; exchanging of eggs symbolizing "new life" was [is] part of the "festivities"
1. From Babylon it spread to Phoenicia under the name of Ashteroth and Tammuz.

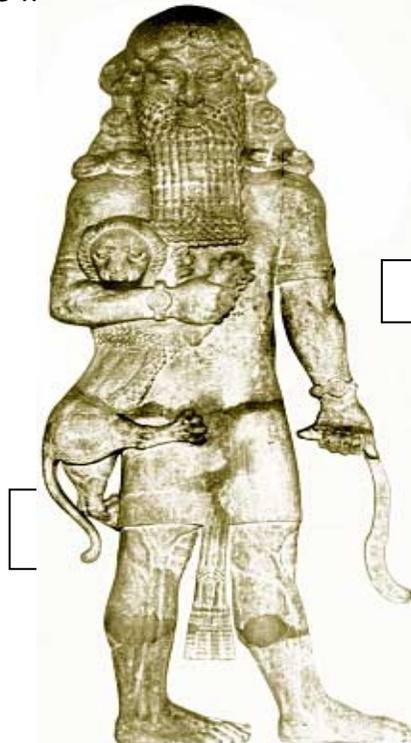
2. From Phoenicia it traveled to Pergamos in Asia Minor. This is the reason for John's admonition to the church at Pergamos in the book of Revelation: "I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is" (Rev. 2:13).
 3. In Egypt the mother-child cult was known as Isia and Horus.
 4. In Greece it became Aphrodite and Eros.
 5. In Rome this pair was worshipped as Venus and cupid.
 6. In China it became known as Mother Shing Moo and her child.
 7. In Mexico an image was found and authenticated as belonging to the period about 200 years before Christ, where it was the center of religious worship among some of the early Indians in Mexico. The image was of a mother with a child in her arms.
- **Babylon was the seat of Satan worship** until it fell, in 539 B.C., to the Persians.

Babylonian/Roman Relation and Development of Mystery Babylon

- **Mother/Child Cult embraced by Rome** as the last Roman emperor elected named *Pontifex Maximus* [the greatest high priest]
- **Subsequently the Bishop of Rome assumed all his** [emperor's] **titles** and responsibilities...**the Pope** [papa]. Dr. H.A. Ironside wrote:

When Constantine came to the throne and the first pope assumed the title Potifex Maximus, all those heathen associations and ceremonies had their beginning with Nimrod-the worship of the Queen of the Heavens, the eating of the wafer, the doctrine of purgatory, the wearing of vestments and the observance of a thousand and one lesser mysteries-all these were brought into the church, and for a thousand years they prevailed over all Europe. Thus the Catholic Church with all its doctrines and practices came into existence. [Ironside]

- Today the worship of "Mary" actually the worship of **Semiramis**



Semiramis

Mary, Co-Redemptrix, Mediatrix of All Graces and Advocate

Thus Mary, in a subordinate role to Christ, had a "part with him in the redemption of the human race."(8) She is, therefore, called by the Church the "the co-operatrix in man's redemption,"(9) "our coredemptor."(10) For at the cross, Mary triumphed "utterly over the ancient serpent."(11)

8 Pope Pius XII, *Ad Coeli Reginam*. **9** Pope Leo XIII, *Ubi Primum*. **10** Decree of the Sacred Congregation of the Holy Office, "Indulgences," June 26, 1913, published in *Acta Apostolicae Sedis*. Also refer to Henry Denzinger, *Sources of Catholic Dogma* (St. Louis, MO: Herder Book Co., 1957), p. 502, article 1978 a and footnote 2; A. Tanquerey, *A Manual of Dogmatic Theology* (New York, NY: Desclee Company, 1959), vol. 2, p. 108-109; and Ludwig Ott, *Fundamentals of Catholic Dogma* (Rockford, IL: Tan Books and Publishers, 1960), p. 212-213. **11** Pope Pius IX, *Ineffabilis Deus*.

- **Messages from Heaven?**

Guadalupe, Mexico 1531 Know and understand well that I am the ever virgin Holy Mary, Mother of the True God for whom we live, of the Creator of all things, Lord of heaven and the earth. I wish that a temple be erected here quickly, so I may therein exhibit and give all my love, compassion, help, and protection, because I am your merciful mother, to you, and to all the inhabitants of this land and all the rest who love me, invoke and confide in me.

1917

In Fatima Our Lady asked for prayer (particularly the daily recitation of the Rosary), penance, the Communion of Reparation of the Five First Saturdays, and the consecration of Russia to her Immaculate Heart. In 1917, she said: *If my request granted, atheistic Russia will be converted and there will be peace. If not, she will scatter her errors throughout the world, provoking wars and persecution of the Church. The good will be martyred, the Holy Father will suffer much, and various nations will be annihilated... But in the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph and a period of peace will be granted to the world.*

"Blessed Mother" again has some prescriptions:

My prophecy, "from now on all generations will call me blessed" will be fulfilled than ever before, once the dogma (Co-Redemptrix, Mediatrix and Advocate) has been proclaimed. When this happens - and it will be the last steep in Marian history - the Lady of All Nations will give peace, the true peace, throughout the world But the nations must say My Prayer in union with the Church.



- Mary would be **appalled**:

Luke 1:46 ...Mary said: " My soul magnifies the Lord, 47 And my spirit has rejoiced in **God my Savior**. 48 For He has regarded the **lowly state of His maidservant**; For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. 49 For He who is mighty has done great things for me, And holy is His name. 50 And His mercy is on those who fear Him From generation to generation. 51 He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the

proud in the imagination of their hearts. 52 He has put down the mighty from their thrones, And exalted the lowly. 53 He has filled the hungry with good things, And the rich He has sent away empty. 54 He has helped His servant Israel, In remembrance of His mercy, 55 As He spoke to our fathers, To Abraham and to his seed forever."

- Daniel encountered magicians, sorcerers and astrologers in Babylon as Nebuchadnezzar re-established worship of Marduk as chief god of the Babylonian pantheon
- **Marduk** also known as **Merodach**; strong probability derived from **Nimrod**
- **Harlot's union with the Beast** will embrace all man-made/Satan-inspired religion:

4/3/91 letter written by Pope John Paul II "my beloved Muslim brothers and sisters," ...*"I close my greeting to you with the words of one of my predecessors Pope Gregory VII, who in 1076 wrote to Al-Nasir, the Muslim ruler of Bijaya, present day Algeria: 'We believe in and confess one God, admittedly in a different way, and daily praise and venerate him, the creator of the world and the ruler of this world.'"*

1. **Pantheistic** Physical universe is the ultimate Reality
 2. **Polytheistic** Nature personified as various "gods" and "goddesses"
 3. **Evolutionary** Nature generates a higher order of beings
 4. **Animistic/Spiritistic** Spirits of dead continue to survive and evolve
 5. **Astrological** Higher beings inhabit/are host of heaven controlling events
 6. **Idolatry** Worship of and through Images
- **Idol/Demon Relation**
 - **Rejection of God leading to Idolatry**; i.e. the worship of demons

2 Chronicles ...the Levites left their common-lands and their possessions and came to Judah and Jerusalem, for Jeroboam and his sons had rejected them from serving as priests to the LORD. 15 Then he appointed for himself priests for the high places, **for the demons, and the calf idols which he had made.**

- **Behind every Idol worshiped is a demon:**

To the Virgin Mary they pray in these words: "**O Mother of God, Queen of heaven, command thy Son to have mercy upon us!**" and, "The right use of images," says the Council of Trent, "is to honor them, by bowing down before them." (Sess. 25, pars 2.)

1 Corinthians What am I saying then? That an idol is anything, or what is offered to idols is anything? 20 Rather, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice they sacrifice to demons and not to God, and I do not want you to have fellowship with demons. 21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the Lord's table and of the table of demons. 22 Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than He?

- **False-Prophet** [Beast of the Earth. Pope, etc] will command worship of the "image of the beast"; i.e. idolatry- which in actuality will be the worship of Anti-Christ and in turn the worship of Satan; **the end game:**

Matthew 4:8 ...the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You **will fall down and worship me.**" ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, '*You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.*'"

Revelation And he [false-prophet] deceives those who dwell on the earth by those signs which he was granted to do in the sight of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to **make an image to the beast** who was wounded by the sword and lived. ¹⁵ He was granted *power* to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed.

Psalms 97:7 Let all be put to shame who serve carved **images**, Who boast of idols.
Worship Him, all you gods.

Revelation 14:9b...*"If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, ¹⁰ he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.*

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.

- **Drunk with the blood of the saints** and martyrs of Jesus; Hailey's Bible Handbook states that...

*...the inquisition was the main agency in the Papacy's effort to crush the Reformation. It is stated that in the thirty years between 1540 and 1570, **no fewer than nine hundred thousand Protestants were put to death**. Think of the monks and priests directing, with heartless cruelty and inhuman brutality, the work of torturing and burning alive innocent men and woman; and doing it in the name of Christ, by the direct order of the "Vicar of Christ." The inquisition is the most infamous thing in history. It was devised by the Popes, and used by them for five hundred years to maintain their power.*

- I marveled with **"Great Amazement"**

III. Interpretation of the Scarlet Woman and Scarlet Beast

7 But the angel said to me, **"Why did you marvel? I will tell you the mystery** of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the **seven heads and the ten horns.**

- **"Why do you marvel?"** Interpretation:

8 **The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit** and go to perdition. And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are **not written in the Book of Life** from the foundation of the world, **when they see the beast that was, and is not,**

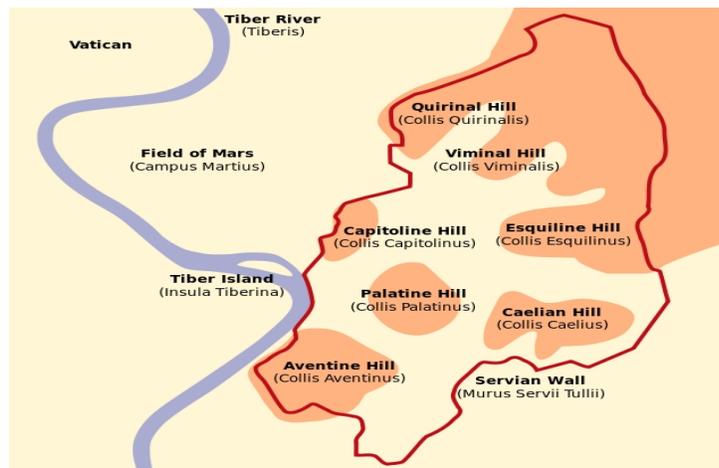
and yet is.

- **Was, is not, will ascend from the Pit:** False Resurrection
- Anti-Christ will demand worship at mid-tribulation and will be worshiped as "Christ-Rejecters" Marvel at this deception

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

- **Seven Heads:** Seven Mountains; i.e. 7 Hills of **Rome**

1. Aventine Hill
2. Caelian Hill
3. Capitoline Hill
4. Esquiline Hill
5. Palatine Hill
6. Quirinal Hill
7. Viminal Hill



10 There are **also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, and the other has not yet come.** And when he comes, he must continue a **short time.**

Seven Kings

- **Five have Fallen**
 1. Egypt
 2. Babylon
 3. Medo-Persia
 4. Assyria
 5. Greece
- **6th is:**
 1. Rome
- **7th not yet come:**
 1. Rome -Restored: 10 Sectors without kings during the first 3 ½ years

11 The **beast** that was, and is not, **is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition.**

- **Eighth Kingdom is Anti-Christ's Kingdom:** He is doomed to damnation

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.** 13 These are of **one mind, and they will give their power**

and authority to the beast. 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."

- **Ten Kings:** Not the "kings of the earth from v 2
- 10 sectors from the first half of the Tribulation now controlled by 10 Kings given **authority by the beast to be kings with the beast**

During the first 3 1/2 years of Tribulation the earth will be divided into 10 sectors with no individual king over each. After the first 3 1/2 years of Tribulation there will be Ten Kings that had no authority at the time of John's writing or during the first 3 1/2 years. They will be given power and authority by eighth king, Anti-Christ, to "be kings with the Anti-Christ" after he betrays the false-religious system at the Abomination of Desolation. They will with "one mind" give authority back to the Anti-Christ intent on following him to make war with the Lamb, Jesus Christ.

- **The Lamb will overcome them:**

Psalm 2:1 Why do the nations rage, And the people plot a vain thing? ² The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the LORD and against His Anointed, *saying*, ³ "Let us break Their bonds in pieces And cast away Their cords from us." ⁴ He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; The Lord shall hold them in derision.⁵ Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, And distress them in His deep displeasure: ⁶ "Yet I have set My King On My holy hill of Zion." ⁷ "I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.'⁸ Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession.⁹ You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.'" ¹⁰ Now therefore, be wise, O kings; Be instructed, you judges of the earth.¹¹ Serve the LORD with fear, And rejoice with trembling.¹² Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, And you perish in the way, When His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.

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

- The Harlot proselytizes the world: **Peoples, nations, tongues**

Matthew 23:15 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.

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.¹⁷ For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled.

Revelation 2:18 "...to the angel of the church in Thyatira write, 'These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass: ¹⁹ "I know your works, love, service, faith, and your patience; and as for your works, the last are more than the

first. ²⁰ Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you **allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.** ²¹ And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent. ²² Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their deeds. ²³ I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works. ²⁴ "Now to you I say, and to the rest in Thyatira, as many as do not have this doctrine, who have not known the depths of Satan, as they say, I will put on you no other burden. ²⁵ But hold fast what you have till I come. ²⁶ And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations— ²⁷ ' He shall rule them with a rod of iron; They shall be dashed to pieces like the potter's vessels'—

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

The 10 Kings who are crowned by Anti-Christ after the Abomination of Desolation will hate Anti-Christ's competition the Apostate Church [Rome/Spiritual Babylon] and God will use these Ten Kings and the Anti-Christ to fulfill his purpose; i.e. to judge this false religious system. These Kings willingly allow the Beast to rule over their 10 sectors of the world until Jesus says "no more" at the Battle of Armageddon

Revelation 18: The Fall of Commercial Babylon

Remember to Lift Up the Lord Jesus Christ

Chapter 17 Review:

"Mystery Babylon" The Left Behind Apostate Church of the Tribulation

- Scarlet Woman and Scarlet Beast: religious System and Anti-Christ Symbiotic Relationship
- Mystery Babylon: False-Prophet [Pope] embracing all but Truth
- Interpretation of the Scarlet Woman on the Scarlet Beast

Chapter 18 Introduction: The Fall of Commercial Babylon

Revelation ...the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And **great Babylon was remembered before God**, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath.

- Godless **Economic** System controlled by Anti-Christ
- Loved by the World
- Destroyed by/at the **Return of Jesus Christ**

Revelation 18

I. Call and Fall of Babylon the Great: Doom of the Worldwide Economic System Pronounced/ Warnings Given

"No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."
 [Luke 16:13]

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

- **Meta tauta;** i.e. "after these things" indicates a major **division** in Revelation:

Revelation 4:1 After these things [meta tauta] I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this."

- **After these things:**
 1. Apostate Church/Anti-Christ partnership; i.e. Woman Riding the Beast first 3 ½ years of the Tribulation period
 2. Anti-Christ throws off the woman and claims to be God and **Dictator**
- **Another Angel:** [c.f. chapter 14 for six "another angels"]
 1. **Great Authority:** Ranks higher than the other "another angels"
 2. **Illuminates** the earth with his glory; as will **Jesus Christ:**

Ezekiel 43:2 And behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east. His voice was like the sound of many waters; and the **earth shone 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!"

- "...he cried mightily...Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen..."
- Earlier a preliminary announcement:

Revelation 14:8 ...another angel followed, saying, "**Babylon is fallen, is fallen**, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

- **Is Fallen:** Greek tense speaks of coming events *as if they have already happened*
- **Has become:**

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dwelling place of <i>demons</i> 2. Prison for every <i>foul spirit</i> 3. Cage for every <i>unclean</i> and <i>hated bird</i> | } | Demon Incarceration

During the Millennial Kingdom |
|---|---|--|

Isaiah And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, The beauty of the Chaldeans' pride, Will **be as when God overthrew Sodom** and Gomorrah. 20 It will **never be inhabited**, Nor will it be settled from generation to generation; Nor will the Arabian pitch tents there, Nor will the shepherds make their sheepfolds there. 21 But **wild beasts of the desert will lie there, And their houses will be full of owls;** Ostriches will dwell there, And wild goats will caper there. 22 The hyenas will howl in their citadels, And jackals in their pleasant palaces. Her

time is near to come, And her days will not be prolonged.”

Jeremiah 50:38 A drought is against her waters, and they will be dried up. For it is the **land of carved images, And they are insane with their idols.** 39 “Therefore the **wild desert beasts shall dwell there with the jackals,** And the ostriches shall dwell in it. It shall be inhabited no more forever, Nor shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation. 40 **As God overthrew Sodom** and Gomorrah And their neighbors,” says the LORD, “**So no one shall reside there, Nor son of man dwell in it**

- **Commercial Babylon:** Anti-Christ’s Economic Epicenter [Oil, Rebuilt, Strategic] full of wickedness.
- **This is literal Babylon** [Iraq]:

Zechariah 5:5 ...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 [Ephah]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!**” [Lit. *the 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**Shinar**; [Babylon] when it is ready, ***the basket will be set there on its base.***”

- **Ephah:** Primary measure of volume and a symbol of commerce in the ancient world
- **“The Wickedness: Covetousness;** bringing riches to Babylon [Shinar] to be set on a base; pedestal
- **Two women on an Evil Mission:** Not angels but with wings of unclean bird...a stork
- **Centers of world finance** [New York, Geneva, etc.] move to **Babylon**

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.”

- **Why** has Babylon fallen and become a *dwelling, prison* and a *cage*?
 1. **Nations** have drunk [are fallen] from the wine if the wrath of her fornication
 2. **Kings** have committed fornication with her and...
 3. **Merchants** of the earth became rich through the abundance of her luxury
- **“...become rich through the abundance of her luxury”** lit. through the “power” [gr. *dunamis*] of her “strainings” [gr. *strenos*]
- **God’s judgment is on man’s business without God** and His leading [c.f.Tower of Babel]

1 Timothy 6:10 ...the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many **sorrows.**

James Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit"; ¹⁴ whereas you do not know what *will happen* tomorrow. For what *is* your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. ¹⁵ Instead you *ought* to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that." ¹⁶ But now you boast in your arrogance. **All such boasting is evil.**

John 5:19 ...Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, **but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does**, the Son also does in like manner..."

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**." ⁵ **For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities.**

- **Another voice from Heaven: Jesus**
- **Come out of her my people** lest you:
 1. **Share** in her sins
 2. **Receive** her plagues
- **Because:**
 1. Her sins have reached to heaven
 2. God has remembered her iniquities
- **Come out:** Sodom and Gomorrah **relationship**; i.e. rationalizing our witness:

Genesis Then the men said to , "Have you anyone else here? Son-in-law, your sons, your daughters, and whomever you have in the city—take *them* out of this place! ¹³ For we will destroy this place, because the outcry against them has grown great before the face of the LORD, and the LORD has sent us to destroy it." ¹⁴ So went out and spoke to his sons-in-law, who had married his daughters, and said, "Get up, get out of this place; for the LORD will destroy this city!" But to his sons-in-law **he seemed to be joking.**

- **Some of God's people** are *still in Babylon*:
- **Mercy** to those who "come out" of the sinful place; i.e. out of sin:

2 Corinthians Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? ¹⁵ And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? ¹⁶ And what agreement has the temple God with idols? For you[a] are the temple of the living God. As God has said: " I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people." ¹⁷ Therefore " **Come out from among them And be separate**, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you."

Isaiah 48:20 Go forth from Babylon! Flee from the Chaldeans! With a voice of singing, Declare, proclaim this, Utter it to the end of the earth; Say, "The LORD has redeemed His servant Jacob!" [C.f. Deuteronomy , 31, Jeremiah 51:5, 6, 45, Isaiah 48:20]

- *Didn't Jesus eat with sinners?*

Mark Then He went out again by the sea; and all the multitude came to Him, and He taught them. ¹⁴ As He passed by, He saw Levi the *son* of Alphaeus sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, "Follow Me." So he arose and followed Him.¹⁵ Now it happened, as He was dining in *Levi's* house, that many tax collectors and sinners also sat together with Jesus and His disciples; for there were many, and they followed Him. ¹⁶ And when the scribes and Pharisees saw Him eating with the tax collectors and sinners, they said to His disciples, "How *is it* that He eats and drinks with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹⁷ When Jesus heard *it*, He said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I did not come to call *the* righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

- *Jesus ate and drank* with sinners who would **listen**
- *Jesus ate and drank* with sinners who knew their **need**
- *Jesus ate and drank* with sinners to call them to **repentance**

"For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities."

- Ancient Babylonians Kings **reached for Heaven but not God**; Their sins were not forgotten but exemplified in Babylon the Great, the Final Humanistic World System before the **Second Coming**:

Genesis 11:4 And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose **top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves**, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth."^{...} **7** Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." [Nimrod]

Daniel "The tree that you saw, which grew and became strong, whose height **reached to the heavens and which could be seen by all the earth**... [Nebuchadnezzar]

II. Imprecation Declared: Babylon Cursed

⁶ Render to her just as she rendered to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her.

1. **Render** to her as she rendered to you
2. **Repay** her double according to her works
3. **Use** the cup she mixed and mix double for her

} Poetic Justice

Obadiah 1:15 " For the day of the LORD upon all the nations *is* near; **As you have done, it shall be done to you; Your reprisal shall return upon your own head.** [C.f. Psalm 137:1-3]

Galatians 7:7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for **whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.** ⁸ For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

- **Cup of Wickedness** of which Babylon and the nations have been made drunk [C.f. Rev: 14:8, 17:2, 4, 6, 18:3, 6]

Jeremiah 51:7 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

- **Cup of Wickedness becomes the Cup of God's Wrath: Render, Repay, Use...**

Jeremiah 51:57: "And **I will make drunk** Her princes and wise men, Her governors, her deputies, and her mighty men. And they shall sleep a perpetual sleep And not awake," says the King, Whose name is the LORD of hosts.

NOTE: Jeremiah 51:7 spoke of Religious Babylon in Revelation 17 and is destroyed at Mid-Tribulation... but the wealth from her continues into Commercial Babylon

7 In the **measure that she glorified herself** and lived **luxuriously**, in the **same measure give her torment and sorrow**; for she says in her heart, **'I sit as queen, and am no widow, and will not see sorrow.'**

- Give her torment and sorrow to the same degree she glorified herself and lived in luxury ["deliciously" also v.3]
- **Sick Heart:**

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. I sit as queen2. I am no widow3. I will see no sorrow | } | Luxury, Arrogance, Pride, Self-Deception |
|---|---|--|

Proverbs Pride goes before **destruction**, And a haughty spirit before a fall.

1 Corinthians Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he **fall**.

8 **Therefore her plagues will come in one day**—death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong *is* the Lord God who judges her.

- **Therefore:** Since you are a Happily Married Queen without God your plagues will come in **one day**; **Commercial Babylon's Plagues are:**
 1. **Death**
 2. **Mourning***
 3. **Famine**

***NOTE:** Mourning is so intense it is referenced to among "plagues"

III. Worldwide Weeping and Lamentation over Economic Destruction

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.'

- **Distinction** between Religious Babylon [17] and Economic [18]
 1. **Religious Babylon:** Kings will **destroy** her
 2. **Economic Babylon:** Kings will **mourn** her...they:
 - a) Committed fornication with her
 - b) Lived in luxury with because of her
 - c) Now stand at a distance for "fear of her torment" Why?
- **Alas:** gr. *ouai*; same word translated "**woe**"; i.e. sadly, regrettably "that great city Babylon, that mighty city" has been judged in a **single hour!**
- **Chronology: Second Coming of Jesus Christ** [C.f. Revelation 19] the Kings of the earth on their way to Armageddon and see the smoke of Babylon, their beloved city:

Joel "...I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: Blood and fire and **pillars of smoke.**

¹¹ "And the **merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her**, for no one buys their merchandise anymore: ¹² merchandise of gold and silver, precious stones and pearls, fine linen and purple, silk and scarlet, every kind of citron wood, every kind of object of ivory, every kind of object of most precious wood, bronze, iron, and marble; ¹³ and cinnamon and incense, fragrant oil and frankincense, wine and oil, fine flour and wheat, cattle and sheep, horses and chariots, and **bodies and souls of men.**

- **First kings weep** and lament, now **merchants** weep and mourn because:
 1. **No one** buys their merchandise anymore [no one buys?]
 - a) Gold and silver, precious stones and pearls, fine linen and purple, silk and scarlet, every kind of citron wood, every kind of object of ivory, every kind of object of most precious wood, bronze, iron, and marble; and cinnamon and incense, fragrant oil and frankincense, wine and oil, fine flour and wheat, cattle and sheep, horses and chariots...

...and bodies and souls of men [C.f. Jeremiah 34:8-9]

¹⁴ The **fruit that your soul longed for** has gone from you, and all the things which are rich and splendid have gone from you, and you shall find them no more at all.

- Fruit [forbidden]that your flesh longs for: Garden of Eden [lust for more]
- Things Rich, Splendid, Delicious gone forever!

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!**

- **Merchants became rich** from this Humanistic Economic World System
- Fine lined, purple, scarlet, adorned with precious stones and pearls: Connection to wealth of the religious system; i.e. **the Vatican and its assets**

James 5:1 Come now, *you* rich, weep and howl for your miseries that are coming upon *you!* ² Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. ³ Your gold and silver are corroded, and **their corrosion will be a witness against you and will eat your flesh** like fire. You have heaped up treasure in the last days.

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?**'

- **Kings, Merchants, now Shipmasters weep**
- **Amazement:**
 1. **Swiftness of God's Judgment:** One hour
 2. **Thoroughness of God's Judgment:** Once great riches...now nothing
 3. **Intensity of God's Judgment:** Great [invincible?] city destroyed
- **It was never God's plan** for sinful man to gravitate/congregate in "Great Cities".
- Twice God said to "replenish" or fill the earth [Genesis 1:28 and 9:10]
- **What is like this great city:** Anti-Christ controlled/Dictator:

Revelation 13:4 So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "**Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?**"

Psalms 52:5 God shall **likewise destroy you forever**; He shall take you away, and pluck you out of *your* dwelling place, And uproot you from the land of the living. Selah ⁶ The righteous also shall see and fear, And shall laugh at him, *saying*, "Here is the man who did not make God his strength, But trusted in the abundance of his riches, And strengthened himself in his wickedness."

¹⁹ "They threw **dust on their heads** and **cried out, weeping and wailing,** and saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city, in which all who had ships on the sea became rich by her wealth! For in **one hour** she is made desolate.'

- **Mourning:** "...threw dust on their heads"? Jews?

²⁰ "**Rejoice** over her, O **heaven,** and *you* holy **apostles** and **prophets,** for God has avenged you on her!"

- **Rejoicing from:**
 1. Heaven

2. Apostles [Foxes Book of Martyrs]
3. Prophets

Romans Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. 18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. 19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. 20 Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Galatians 6:9 ...let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

2 Thessalonians 3:13 ... as for you, brethren, do not grow weary in doing good.

Hebrews 10:24 ... let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

IV. Babylon will Rise No More

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."

- **A mighty angel** with a stone like a **great millstone throws it into the sea**; i.e. Persian Gulf where the Babylonian Euphrates empties

Matthew 18:6 "Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a **millstone were hung around his neck**, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

Jeremiah 51:63 ...when you have finished reading this book, that you shall tie a stone to it and throw it out into the Euphrates.⁶⁴ Then you shall say, 'Thus **Babylon shall sink and not rise from the catastrophe** that I will bring upon her. And they shall be weary.'

- God used a similar Judgment on **His own people**:

Jeremiah 25:10 ...I will take from them the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones and the light of the lamp.

- **America? How much misery can we take?**

*"Thus with **violence** the great city Babylon shall be thrown down, and shall **not be found anymore**.*

Following from "**The Decline and Fall of the roman Empire**" Edward Gibbon written 1788

1. The undermining of the dignity and sanctity of the home, which is the basis for human society

2. Higher and higher taxes; the spending of public money for free bread and circuses for the populous
3. The mad craze for pleasure; sports becoming every year more exciting, more brutal, more immoral
4. The building of great armaments when the real enemy is within-the decay of individual responsibility
5. The decay of religion; faith fading into mere form, losing touch with life, losing power to guide people

The oft-heard warning that "history repeats itself" has an ominous meaning in the light of the above

The average age of the world's great civilizations is 200 years. These nations progressed through this sequence:

- a. From Bondage to Spiritual Faith
- b. From Spiritual Faith to Great Courage
- c. From Courage to Liberty
- d. From Liberty to Abundance
- e. From Abundance to Selfishness
- f. From Selfishness to Complacency
- g. From Complacency to Apathy
- h. From Apathy to Dependence
- i. From Dependence to Bondage

²² The sound of harpists, musicians, flutists, and trumpeters shall not be heard in you anymore. No craftsman of any craft shall be found in you anymore, and the sound of a millstone shall not be heard in you anymore.

- No music, No work
- Music and Crafts originate with descendants of Cain:

Genesis Then Lamech took for himself two wives: the name of one was Adah, and the name of the second was Zillah. ²⁰ And Adah bore Jabal. He was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. ²¹ His brother's name was **Jubal. He was the father of all those who play the harp and flute.** ²² **And as for Zillah, she also bore Tubal-Cain, an instructor of every craftsman in bronze and iron...**

²³ The light of a lamp shall not shine in you anymore, and the voice of bridegroom and bride shall not be heard in you anymore. For your merchants were the great men of the earth, for by your sorcery all the nations were deceived.

- No man-made light, no weddings [joy] because:

<p>Matthew 24:37 But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark...</p>

1. Your merchants were the *great men of the earth*: **Responsibility**
2. By your sorcery [Drug Abuse] *ALL the nations were deceived*:

"With great power come great responsibility" [P. Parker's Uncle]

24 And in her was found the blood of prophets and saints, and of all who were slain on the earth."

- In her was found the **blood of**:
 1. The Prophets
 2. The Saints
 3. All who were slain on the earth

Then Satan entered Judas, surnamed Iscariot, who was numbered among the twelve. 4 So he went his way and conferred with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray Him to them. 5 And they were glad, and agreed to give him money. 6 So he promised and sought opportunity to betray Him [Luke 22:3]