

Revelation 18

Pastor Jim Thomas

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SERMON NOTES

Revelation: The Hope of Glory

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The Ultimate Doom of Babylon

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1. A pronouncement of Babylon's doom (v. 1-3)
2. A call to holiness for God's people (v. 4)
3. A city obsessed with the self (v. 5-19)
4. A reason for God's people to rejoice (v. 20)
5. A sudden and certain judgment (v. 21-24)

Revelation 18 teaches us that God's triumph over evil will be swift and scrupulous; it is a *fait accompli*. All of Babylon's corrupted culture, commerce, craft and celebration will be shut down suddenly. The symbol of its finality is that the lights of Babylon will be turned off.

Revelation 18 calls for two responses from God's people:

1. Come out (v. 4)
2. Rejoice (v. 20)

"It is dangerous to be found in the company of God's enemies, and it is our duty and interest to come out from among them, lest we share in their sins and plagues."

- Matthew Henry

*"The exercise of justice is joy for the righteous,
But is terror to the workers of iniquity."*

- Proverbs 21:15

"All Joy reminds. It is never a possession, always a desire for something longer ago or further away or still 'about to be.'"

- C.S. Lewis, *Surprised by Joy: The Shape of My Early Life*

“Rejoicing and repentance must go together. Repentance without rejoicing will lead to despair. Rejoicing without repentance is shallow and will only provide passing inspiration instead of deep change.”

- Tim Keller, *Counterfeit Gods*

“To exult in God is to rejoice not in our privileges but in his mercies, not in our possession of him but in his of us.”

- John Stott