

Revelation 18
Rootwork
The Drug of Materialistic Babylon

- (Everyday) Before you begin your study time - spend time in prayer, preparing your heart and surrendering your will to the Spirit of God! Allow Him to have full access by not withholding anything He wants to do in and then do through you!!
- (Everyday) Remember, the enemy is going to try to keep you from being in the Word, he hates when we worship our God- Worship breaks his bondages over believers, so resist him and he will flee!!
- (Everyday) Spend time in adoration and worship daily after you have cleansed your heart and before you dive into the scriptures!! Proclaiming who God is and adoring Him lifts our eyes up and keeps our focus on what really matters...putting God in His rightful place and putting us in ours!
- BONUS- (If you have not done this already) if you were at the “Digging Deeper” conference and you would like to structure these scriptures, Copy and paste Revelation 17 into a word/pages document or write it out verse by verse, following the structuring handouts you received! If you were not and want to watch it, search “Digging Deeper” on our website and watch the mini conference. If you the handout, please email me and I will send it to you.
- Review chapter 17 and what you have learned about Babylon so far! Then read quickly through chapter 18 (you will dive deeper throughout the week) to get an overview and reminder of what it contains.

- After reading and hearing both chapter 17 and chapter 18, what is Satan's goal for each and every believer? How does he try to entice our flesh? Revelation 18 deals with a political economic system rooted in Babylon! Materialism, and the worship of worldly possessions is the enemy's attempt to convince the world that the accumulation of stuff is where the purpose and meaning of life is found!
- As we talked about in class briefly, the biggest question that arises among scholars and Bible study teachers is, "Is Babylon a city or a system? Or both?" Good scholars see the issue differently. Some believe that Babylon is only a city and others it is only a system and some believe it is both, a city and a system, I shared my view and why, but if you're curious and want to dig through that, please do! Just do not forget to keep the main the main thing, and not get lost in details that ultimately do not matter and do not have any bearing on the heart! It is fun to see the differing ideas- I think as we look at Babylon, we see so much that we can learn from and be warned of!
- Ok, let's look at verse 1 of chapter 18! After what things? Look at the end of chapter 17 and record where we left off and what happened.
- Read verse 2, We have another messenger on the scene, what is the message that he is wanting to bring?
 - If you want to dig deeper into this- Go through just the book of Revelation and pull out each messenger and write down what each one had to say! Just a short note on what their message was! Are there any similarities among all of them? What are the differences? By doing this, you are going to see God's heart and God's message that He will bring to the people during this time! Don't forget to record what you find about the character of our God in your, "who is God" journal!!
- What does the name, "Babylon" mean? What does "dwelling place" mean? Look them up in your Blue Letter Bible app and record! (If you need help navigating this app please let me know! It is a wonderful resource that can help in your study time and it is easy to use!!)

- What does verse say about the demise of Babylon? Why do you think “fallen” is in past tense?
- What has she become?
- Isn't that the case for us -when we make the world or things that are not of God our “dwelling place”? It quickly becomes a prison doesn't it?
 - How in your life currently, or in the past, have you let things of this world, your fleshly desires creep in and encapsulate you in a prison?
 - How did you get out?
 - If you are still in that season, it is time to list them out, it is time take stock of what is going on in your heart that is captivating you and stealing the freedom and joy you have in Christ!
 - List everything that comes to your mind, pray over and surrender each one to the Lord, get back to spending time with the Lord in study, in prayer, in fellowship among the body of Christ and start walking in obedience to Him! You will then find your heart softening and your love rekindled for the things of the Lord! (If you need help surrendering, I have some tools I can give you! Please send me an email)
- Read verse 3, how many nations are intoxicated by this worldly, materialistic system?
- Look up any words in this verse to find more clarity and depth on their meanings! This gives us such deeper insight into how horrible this Babylon is and how it truly is something we need to be careful of!
- In Bible study we talked about our sin nature- wanting what we do not have....curly hair, straight hair 😊 etc...is there an area in your life right now where you are struggling with coveting? Where you are consumed by what you do not have? Spend some time searching scriptures on coveting, see what the Word of God has to say and why! The Lord is so good and His Word is so perfect for us as we seek to

honor and obey! Walking away from sins that so easily entangle us! Do not rush this if this something you are struggling with! Spend time, pray, seek the Lord and enjoy your time of repentance, restoration and freedom through this!

- Read verse 4, who is speaking here?
- What is He saying? And to whom is He saying it?
- Look up the words, “Come out of her” and record what you find!
- Why does He say to “come out of her”?
- Look up the word, “participate” and record what it says! How does this give more insight into this verse? Ever struggled with this? Are you struggling with this? This week we are going to walk through and walk out of this for good! All you need is a willing heart, so take your time this week in answering all the questions, looking up the verses, and sitting before the Lord! You will not regret the time invested here ladies, it is the most important thing you will do!
- In Bible study we discussed how if you are a born again believer, you have surrendered your heart to Jesus Christ and you have dedicated to follow Him...you are a vessel of the Holy Spirit! By being this vessel, we as believers have a high calling and a very serious responsibility to take!
- Look up the following verses and record what the Lord says about your vessels and the what dwells in you! How are you to conduct your life? How are you to walk? How does this change the way you operate day in and day out?
 - 1 Corinthians 6:19
 - Acts 2:38
 - Romans 8:9-14

- 1 Corinthians 3:16
 - 2 Corinthians 6:16
 - Ephesians 1:13-14
 - John 14:17
 - 1 Thessalonians 5:19
 - Ephesians 4:30
 - Ezekiel 36:26-27
- As you dive into the following verses, please take them slowly! This will be the majority of your root work- so do not rush through this!! Take time answering the heart questions below and let the Lord speak to you even if it is hard to hear and you may need to have some serious changes to your life! This is a BIG DEAL and should not be taken lightly! I want you to see God's heart and what He says about sin and surrounding yourself with sin! How truly often the Lord has warned and why! For each verse, read, structure if you want to, take it apart- read in context and always ask the Lord to reveal if He is calling you to come out of any "company", group or relationship that is pulling you away from fully following the Him wholeheartedly!! Keep in mind, there is a reason we are warned OVER AND OVER to not be deceived, to be alert, be on guard for who you surround yourself with is who you become! Babylon can rise it's ugly head in many ways- but people, and situations we find ourselves in, are our biggest influences! Look up the following verses, record in your notes what you learned and how does that verse apply to your life and speak to your heart?
- 1 Corinthians 15:33-34
 - Isaiah 52:11
 - Jeremiah 50:8

- Jeremiah 51:45
 - 2 Timothy 3:1-7
 - Romans 16:17-20
 - 2 John 1:9-11
 - 2 Corinthians 6:14-18
 - 2 Thessalonians 3
 - 1 Thessalonians 5:22
 - 1 Peter 1:15-16
 - Matthew 10:14
 - Titus 3:10
- Go through the following questions with a heart of reflection! Think about the previous verses you read and how they have spoken to you and take each question and answer honestly:
 - Are you surrounding yourself with the people that will push you towards the Lord?
 - Are you pointing others to the Lord or are you distracting them from the race marked out for them?
 - Do you find yourself tolerating sin in your life or in the lives of others around you just to avoid conflict? (This is a big one, if you struggle with this, please look up and record Galatians 1:10, Proverbs 29:25, 1 Thess. 2:4, and Romans 12:1-2)

- Are there any relationships that you need to invest more in?
- Are there any relationships that you need to invest less in?
- In class we discussed the difference between being a thermostat and a thermometer! Write that out! (If you need a refresher, go back and listen! This is VITAL in relationships)
 - After sitting before the Lord with these questions, is He asking you to be a thermostat in some of your relationships?
 - Are there some where there is no receptivity, no open and soft hearts?
 - Are there some where they are asking, willing and teachable?
 - What relationships around you do you need to spend most of your time and energy?
- In a Babylonian world it can be hard to see clearly when it comes to a biblical view of “stuff” or gifts or resources! To much is given, much is required! We discussed in length the entrustment we have been given! Read the following verses and record what you find and then how these verses challenge you! How do they give you perspective on the responsibility and privilege you have been given biblically?
 - Matthew 6:19-34
 - 1 Timothy 6:7-21
 - Luke 12:15
 - Hebrews 13:5
 - Luke 16 (go through the whole chapter- look at the entrustment and how each handled that entrustment)
 - Deuteronomy 8:18
 - 1 Sam. 2:7

- We see here- there is nothing wrong with having wealth as long as wealth does not have you! It is always about where our treasure is, it is always about our hearts! Spend time in prayer and reflecting on what the Spirit of God spoke through the Word of God to your heart! Praise Him for speaking!
- Read Revelation 18:5, contrast what happens to her sins and the sins of the redeemed! Read Hebrews 8:12!
- Read verses 6-7, what is happening here? What is God going to do to Babylon? Why?
- Look at just verse 7, this shows a three fold sin that can capture anyone's heart if we are not careful! Slowly go through this verse and compare to 1 John 2:16! How do they compare?
- Then compare this prideful statement with Isaiah 14:13! Who is this verse talking about? How does it compare to the heart of Babylon?
- Read verse 8, for what reason? What does this verse tell you about God?
- Everything she said she would endure is exactly what she will endure! Read verses 9-19! Why are the nations mourning? What did they care about? How long does it take for God to destroy Babylon and her system? Why do you think they are so marveled and shocked?
- This is a perfect example of misplaced expectations! How so much turmoil has emerged from misplaced expectations! I used an example of marriages, but this can emerge from every relationship we have! Every form of authority figure, in jobs and friendships!
 - Have you experienced misplaced expectations in your own life?
 - How has that affected you?
 - List your own experiences and struggles with misplaced expectations!

- Have you learned to take those thoughts captive to the obedience of Jesus Christ and put all your expectations on the only ONE who can not only meet but exceed them?
 - This is soo important! Jesus is the only one who can be Jesus for you, you also can not be Jesus for anyone else!
 - Do a verse search on “God is faithful” and record your favorite ones! Refer back to this list when you are tempted to put unrealistic expectations on someone who is not God!
 - Then run to Him who is FAITHFUL and ABLE to fill you to overflowing with HIM! And that is all you need!!!
- Read verses 20, contrast what is happening on earth to what is happening in heaven!
- Read verses 21-24 and look at what this strong angel pronounces! Compare this to Matt. 18:6! This is a huge deal that the Lord does not take lightly!!
- Look at vs. 24, what is the final indictment God has against them?
- Babylon- this great city -the great system’s desire is to captive the hearts, the loyalty, the affection, and the intoxication of man kind so that man will not worship the ONE TRUE GOD! We have to be so careful we do not get caught up in her subtle luring - even more so as the day of the Lord draws near - be careful how you walk!
- Finish by reading and breaking apart Ephesians 5:6-21! Then spend time in surrender to the Lord! Praising Him for taking you out of darkness and into the Light of Christ! What a JOY we have in Christ! So therefore walk in Him!!