



Date: 11-01-2026

What Your Soul Longs For

Text: Revelation 17 & 18

1. What your soul _____ will ultimately _____ you.

Revelation 17:1–18 NLT

Summary of Revelation 17:1-3 NLT:

Babylon seduces nations and rulers. The woman riding the beast connects seductive corruption with oppressive power.

Revelation 17:4-6 NLT

4 The woman wore purple and scarlet clothing and beautiful jewelry made of gold and precious gems and pearls. In her hand she held a gold goblet full of obscenities and the impurities of her immorality. 5 A mysterious name was written on her forehead: "Babylon the Great, Mother of All Prostitutes and Obscenities in the World." 6 I could see that she was drunk--drunk with the blood of God's holy people who were witnesses for Jesus. I stared at her in complete amazement.

Notes:

Summary of Revelation 17:7-13 NLT:

The beast and allied rulers possess temporary authority and face certain destruction.

Revelation 17:14 NLT

14 Together they will go to war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will defeat them because he is Lord of all lords and King of all kings. And his called and chosen and faithful ones will be with him."

Notes:

Summary of Revelation 17:15-18 NLT

Babylon's allies become her destroyers, fulfilling God's word.

2. What your soul _____ shapes how you _____.

Revelation 18:1–8 NLT

Summary of Revelation 18:1-3 NLT

Heaven announces Babylon's fall and exposes the corruption behind her prosperity.

Revelation 18:4–8 NLT

4 Then I heard another voice calling from heaven, "Come away from her, my people. Do not take part in her sins, or you will be punished with her. 5 For her sins are piled as high as heaven, and God remembers her evil deeds. 6 Do to her as she has done to others. Double her penalty for all her evil deeds. She brewed a cup of terror for others, so brew twice as much for her. 7 She glorified herself and lived in luxury, so match it now with torment and sorrow. She boasted in her heart, 'I am queen on my throne. I am no helpless widow, and I have no reason to mourn.' 8 Therefore, these plagues will overtake her in a single day--death and mourning and famine. She will be completely consumed by fire, for the Lord God who judges her is mighty."

Notes:

3. When evil falls, Christ's people celebrate _____; the world mourns its _____.

Revelation 18:9–24 NLT

Summary of Revelation 18:9-10 NLT

Kings mourn Babylon while standing far from her suffering.

Revelation 18:11–14 NLT

11 The merchants of the world will weep and mourn for her, for there is no one left to buy their goods. 12 She bought great quantities of gold, silver, jewels, and pearls; fine linen, purple, silk, and scarlet cloth; things made of fragrant thyme wood, ivory goods, and objects made of expensive wood; and bronze, iron, and marble. 13 She also bought cinnamon, spice, incense, myrrh, frankincense, wine, olive oil, fine flour, wheat, cattle, sheep, horses, wagons, and bodies--that is, human slaves. 14 "The fancy things you loved so much are gone," they cry. "All your luxuries and splendor are gone forever, never to be yours again."

Notes:

Summary of Revelation 18:15-19 NLT

Merchants and seafarers lament their suddenly vanished wealth.

Revelation 18:20 NLT

20 Rejoice over her fate, O heaven and people of God and apostles and prophets! For at last God has judged her for your sakes.

Notes:

Summary of Revelation 18:21-23 NLT

Babylon's overthrow is complete and irreversible.

Revelation 18:24 NLT

24 In your streets flowed the blood of the prophets and of God's holy people and the blood of people slaughtered all over the world."

Notes:

Application — Examine your loves.

- **Your heart:** What desire competes with Christ for your allegiance?
- **Your choices:** What concrete act of obedience will follow? Do you treat people as neighbors or opportunities?
- **Your response:** Can you rejoice when justice prevails, even when it costs you something?

Closing question: What will change this week because your soul longs for Christ?

Life Group Questions — Revelation 17-18

1. Get to Know You

What is a belief or opinion you once held strongly but later changed? What made you willing to reconsider it?

2. Digging Deeper

Read Revelation 17:4–6, 14; 18:4–8, 11–14, 20. How do Babylon's splendor, confidence, treatment of people, and grief expose what she truly worships? Good things—including marriage, children, convictions, political involvement, and personal freedoms—can become competing allegiances. How can we recognize when protecting something good has become more important to us than obeying Christ? Consider our reactions to disagreement, disappointment, correction, or loss: what distinguishes faithful love and conviction from a demand that something must be preserved at any cost?

3. Application

Where are you most tempted to make obedience to Jesus conditional: “I will follow You as long as it doesn’t cost me _____”? Think beyond possessions to your family’s approval, your children’s success, your spouse’s affection, your political commitments, your freedoms, or being proven right. Describe a situation where that allegiance has shaped how you treated someone or responded to God’s Word. What would putting Christ first look like in that situation this week—and who could help you discern whether you are following Jesus or defending what you want?