

Life in Exile*An Addendum: The Devil and Babylon*

1 Peter tells us how to remain faithful to Christ under the mighty hand of God, whether in loving discipline or deliverance, while living as exiles in a world that is not our home and is hostile to our faith.

There are two important realities of which we must be aware as resident aliens in this world: The Devil and Babylon.

THE BIBLE PROJECT**The Satan and Demons**

Jesus gave his life on the Cross to defeat and ultimately destroy evil. (**Revelation 12:11; Colossians 2:13-15; 1 John 3:8**). However, Jesus only inaugurated his kingdom rule in his first coming. When he returns, his kingdom rule will be fully consummated and the defeat of the devil will be fully and finally enforced.

Our war is not against people, but against spiritual forces of evil in the spirit realm (**Ephesians 6:12**).

Jesus gave us authority over the devil (**Luke 10:19; Colossians 1:13; Ephesians 6:10ff; James 4:7; 1 Peter 2:9-11**).

Genesis 10**Deuteronomy 32:8, 17****Isaiah 13-14, 47; Jeremiah 50-51**

Babylon is used in Scripture like Jerusalem, with a three-fold significance—*historic, prophetic, and symbolic*.

Babylon = Rome in **1 Peter 5:13**

Revelation 16-19 Babylon is personified as the great harlot who represents an evil world system under satanic influence.

Babylon reaches its zenith just before Christ returns. Whatever governmental form the harlot takes in the future, it will be the same system in new dress.

Like an alluring prostitute, Babylon is described as seducing world leaders with money, sex and power for millennia, and most sobering of all—she accessorizes with the same kind of apparel seen on the Bride of Christ and in the New Jerusalem. Part of her seduction is false religion.

Revelation 17:16-17 that the Harlot/ Babylon is brought down by the Beast she is riding.

The whole point of **Revelation**—God wins and he wins big!

Peter taught us, as God's holy people exiled in this world system, why and how we can share the reason for the hope that is in us to our neighbors who have lost hope.

It's both Jesus' blood and our testimony as his followers that, in the end, brings down the devil (**Revelation 12:11**).