

## Doctrinal Summary of The Tribulation-The Judgment of Babylon, the Great Harlot

In Revelation 16:19, amidst the judgment of the seventh bowl judgment the wrath of God is poured out on the earth culminating in the destruction of Babylon, the great harlot.

“The great city was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. Babylon the great was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath.”

The word “remembered” is translated from the Koine Greek word ἐμνήσθη (“em-naes-thae”) which literally means, “it really was acted upon in a point in time to be recalled to the forefront of one’s thought process.” It is in the seventh bowl judgment that God places the full attention of His judgment upon Babylon for its egregious campaign against His kingdom. As is well documented in both Scripture and history, God’s wrath is slow but certain. There is perhaps no greater expression of His righteousness’ demand for justice and His love’s expression of grace than is found in His patience in judging Babylon.

While debated hotly in end times theology circles, Babylon is a reference to the ruling city of a coalition of nations which are united in human secularism under the antichrist’s deceptive religious system during the tribulation. It is the seat of power in the united coalition of nations who cooperate under the leadership of the ruler of Babylon. Having had its origins in Babel where man attempted to save themselves from God’s judgment (cf. Gen. 11:1-9, esp. v.4), Babylon has not always been geographically fixed to one specific city or region. This is due to the fact that Babylon has become a title used to represent the physical foothold of Satan & Company’s religious, economic, and political system on earth through human government. According to Daniel’s vision (cf. Dan. 7:2-7) there would be four specific kingdoms on earth prior to the establishment of the Lord Jesus Christ’s eternal kingdom.

Each of the kingdoms in Daniel’s vision possessed a religious humanism that operated under the basic premise that man does not need God, but can himself be a god. This perspective is the same lie which caused the fall of Lucifer and has been utilized by Satan & Company from the beginning of human history (cf. Gen. 3:4-5) to convince man that he could be free from the authority and judgment of God. The first kingdom is the Babylonian Kingdom, the second is the Medo-Persian Kingdom, the third is the Greek Kingdom, and the fourth is the Roman Kingdom. Each of these kingdoms have risen and have fallen, yet one of the kingdoms, the Roman Kingdom, continues to influence world religion, economy, and politics to this day. Based largely on harmonization of Scripture’s accounts of the empire ruling under Satan & Company’s direct leadership during the tribulation, the Roman Kingdom will be revived to reign over the world as the Babylon of the tribulation.

John identifies Babylon as “the great harlot...with whom the kings of the earth committed acts of immorality (cf. Rev. 17:1-2). All throughout human history, Satan & Company have attempted to deceive and motivate man to bypass the authority of God and attempt to fill God’s throne with himself. However, as man follows Satan & Company’s leadership and thought process, the great deception is that man is merely propping Satan himself up onto a throne which he is attempting to build.

Thus, it is fitting that the final component of the final judgment of the tribulation is the final destruction of Babylon, the great harlot and the house of Satan’s religious, economic, and political activity through human government as seen in Revelation 17 and 18.