

# Lessons From Revelation

---

## The End Of Babylon

(Rv 18:1-3)

### INTRODUCTION

1. Good Evening,
  - a. Greeting...
2. Series of “Lessons From Revelation.”
  - a. Last week we examined “The Seven Bowls.”
    - i. This was the curtain call for Babylon (Rome).
    - ii. They were without excuse and they had incurred the wrath of God.
  - b. This week we will look at “The End Of Babylon.”
    - i. **Rv 17-20**
3. Rome has suffered greatly at the hand of God as He disciplined them hoping for their repentance.
  - a. The Roman Empire however had no intentions of repenting.
    - i. **Rv 9:20-21** “The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands nor give up worshiping demons and idols of gold and silver and bronze and stone and wood, which cannot see or hear or walk, 21 nor did they repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.”<sup>1</sup>
    - ii. **Rv 16:9, 11** “They were scorched by the fierce heat, and they cursed the name of God who had power over these plagues. They did not repent and give him glory... 11 and cursed the God of heaven for their pain and sores. They did not repent of their deeds.”
4. Though patiently God desires all to repent and be obedient to Him there is always a time when His patience ends and judgment takes place.
  - a. Today we will witness through John this judgment on the largest and most powerful empire the world has seen.
5. With that in mind let us examine our text today.

### I. The Scene

- A. One of the angels with the plagues show John the prostitute & beast
  1. John sees a woman seated on a scarlet beast.
    - i. The woman...
      - a. Was arrayed in purple and scarlet.
      - b. Was adorned with gold and jewels and pearls.
      - c. Had a golden cup in her hand.
        1. The cup was full of abominations and impurities.
      - d. Had on her forehead the name of mystery.
        1. “Babylon the great, mother of prostitutes and of earth’s abominations.”

---

<sup>1</sup> All Scriptures are taken from the ESV unless otherwise noted. If other translations are used this is not necessarily an endorsement of the translation.

## Lessons From Revelation

---

- ii. The beast...
  - a. Was scarlet red.
  - b. Was full of blasphemous names.
  - c. Had seven heads and ten horns.
- B. The angel tells John not to marvel at the scene he will reveal the meaning
  - 1. We will look at this more during the 2<sup>nd</sup> point “The Message.”
- C. John then sees another angel from heaven come down
  - 1. This angel has authority.
  - 2. This angel brightens up the earth with its glory.
  - 3. This angel had a great message for John to hear.
    - i. Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great!
  - 4. This angel goes on to tell why Babylon the great has fallen.
    - i. She is the home for demons.
    - ii. She is the home for every unclean spirit.
    - iii. She is the home for every unclean and dateable beast.
    - iv. She is the prostitute to the inhabitants of the earth.
      - a. The nations
      - b. The kings
      - c. The merchants
- D. John hears another voice from heaven
  - 1. “Come out of her my people lest you take part in her sins.”
  - 2. This voice John hears goes on to tell of Babylon’s destruction.
    - i. The kings weep and wail at seeing the smoke of her burning.
    - ii. The merchants weep and mourn knowing there is none to buy their products anymore.
    - iii. The shipmasters and seafaring men who trade cry out upon seeing the smoke of her demise.
- E. John then sees a mighty angel
  - 1. This angel takes a mill stone and throws it into the sea.
    - i. He tells of how Babylon the great will be nothing more now.
- F. John then hear the cry of a loud multitude rejoicing over Babylon’s fall
  - 1. “Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, 2 for his judgments are true and just; for he has judged the great prostitute who corrupted the earth with her immorality, and has avenged on her the blood of his servants...3...Hallelujah! The smoke from her goes up forever and ever.”
- G. John hears the multitude rejoicing over the supper of the Lamb
  - 1. “Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. 7 Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; 8 it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure”

## Lessons From Revelation

---

- H. John then sees heaven open up and a rider on a white horse with an army are visible
  - 1. The one sitting on the horse...
    - i. He is called Faithful & True.
      - a. He has a name only he knows.
      - b. Others call him The Word of God.
    - ii. He is righteous in his decisions.
      - a. He will rule with an iron rod.
    - iii. His appearance is magnificent.
      - a. He has eyes like flames of fire.
      - b. His head has many diadems upon it.
      - c. He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood.
        - 1. On this robe and thigh there he has a name written “King of kings and Lord of lords.”
      - d. He has a sword coming out of his mouth.
  - 2. The army
    - i. They are arrayed in fine linen.
      - a. It is white and pure.
    - ii. They are riding white horses as well.
- I. John hears and angel that is standing in the sun call out those in Armageddon
  - 1. He calls for the birds to gather and eat upon the army of Satan and gather them for the great supper of God.
  - 2. John then sees Satan’s army fall before the rider and his army.
    - i. The beast and the false prophet are captured and thrown to the lake of fire.
- J. John then sees another angel come down from heaven
  - 1. This angel is holding a key to the bottomless pit and a great chain.
  - 2. This angel then seizes the dragon (Satan), binds him, and throws him into the pit for 1000 years.
- K. John then sees the first resurrection
  - 1. The dead martyrs who had not worshiped the beast came to life to reign with Christ for that 1000 years.
- L. John then witnesses the 1000 years ending and Satan being released for “a little while.”
  - 1. Satan rises and gathers Gog & Magog to battle again against God.
    - i. Satan’s army marches up and surround the camp of the saints and the beloved city.
  - 2. Satan, Gog, and Magog find themselves again in a losing battle.
    - i. Fire from heaven comes down and consumes Gog & Magog.
    - ii. Satan is then thrown into the lake of fire with the beast and false prophet.

## Lessons From Revelation

---

- M. John then turns to see a great white throne and one seated upon it and the second resurrection.
  - 1. No one was hidden from the presence of the one on the throne.
  - 2. John sees all the dead stand before the throne and be judged.
    - i. Those not found in the book of life were thrown into the like of fire.

### II. The Message

- A. The prostitute and the beast
  - 1. The prostitute and her fornication.
    - i. This represents the third and final way in which Satan was striving to cause mankind to sin and disobey God.
      - a. He had used the sea beast (brute strength).
      - b. He had used the land beast/false prophet (intellectual force ie false teachings).
      - c. He now was using the harlot (lustful force).
    - ii. Here we find Satan's most trusted tactics at work.
  - 2. The angel's revealing of the message is that Rome (seven mountains) would fall along with its seven kings.
- B. The fall of Babylon
  - 1. This is without the need for much explaining.
  - 2. This was the prophecy of the "Dark Ages" to come.
    - i. With the fall of the world empire "world" commerce came to a basic stop.
    - ii. Many economies fell apart.
- C. The Army of God
  - 1. The rider on the white horse, his army, and the beast & false prophet.
    - i. This represents Christ and His followers against Satan's followers.
  - 2. Notice Christ & His followers are victorious.
    - i. The beast and false prophet/land beast are defeated.
    - ii. Rome falls.
- D. The thousand year reign
  - 1. Here we find an angel binding Satan and throwing him into the pit for a thousand years.
    - i. This represents Satan's end to worldwide persecution through Rome.
      - a. Satan will not "for a time" have the chance to dominate like this again in the realm of persecution.
        - 1. This is not a new concept but one of consistency throughout Scriptures.
          - i. **Gn 3:15; Lk 10:17-18**
  - 2. What about Satan's release for "a little while."
    - i. This represents a call to Satan to realize he will never have a dominance over Christianity like he had before.

## Lessons From Revelation

---

### III. The Implication

- A. God is the final judge over all the earth and has the authority and power over all the earth
  - 1. **Ro 12:19** “Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.”
  - 2. **He 10:30** “For we know him who said, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay.” And again, “The Lord will judge his people.””
  - 3. **II Th 1:8** “in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.”

### CONCLUSION

- 1.