

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: Goodbye to Babylon

SERMON REFERENCE: Revelation 18

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #2359

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) Babylon is mentioned more than any other city in the Bible, except for Jerusalem.
- b) Ancient Babylon will rise from the dust to meet her doom at the hand of the judgment of Almighty God.
- c) Babylon was built by a man named Nimrod.
 - i) Genesis 10 - 11
 - ii) Nimrod is a type and prophecy, an Old Testament picture, of the antichrist who is to come.
 - iii) The name Nimrod means “rebel.”
 - iv) He built a city-state that was the capitol of the world.
 - v) Babylon is both the cradle and the grave of false religion.
- d) Ancient Babylon was one of the 7 Wonders of the Ancient World, and there is coming a time in the future when the world, once again, will wonder at Babylon.
- e) Revelation 18:1-2
 - i) In the Bible, cities are sometimes renamed symbolically.
 - (1) Revelation 11:8
 - (a) Jesus was crucified in Jerusalem.
 - (b) Sodom and Egypt are used symbolically in this passage.
 - ii) It is possible that Revelation 18 speaks of literal Babylon.
 - (1) Revelation 17 refers to the symbolic, ecclesiastical or religious Babylon.
 - (2) Revelation 18 speaks of commercial Babylon.
 - iii) Revelation 18:2 speaks of a double fall.
 - (1) There is the fall of ecclesiastical Babylon that we see in Revelation 17.
 - (2) In Revelation 18, we see the fall of political and commercial Babylon.
 - (3) In Revelation 17, the kings of the Earth turned on ecclesiastical Babylon, destroyed her and judged her.
 - (4) In Revelation 18, it is God who will judge the kings.
- f) We learn in Revelation 18 at least four things about the Babylon to come, when we say goodbye to Babylon.

2) BABYLON IS DOMINATED BY DEMONS (Revelation 18:1-6)

- a) The word “devils” in the Bible means “demons.”
 - i) There is one devil; many demons.
- b) Babylon will be the seat and the throne of the antichrist during the Great Tribulation.
 - i) Ancient Babylon will rise from the dust.
 - ii) In the end times, it is believed that there will be a war between the East and the West, in which the West will win.
 - (1) This will make the antichrist the world ruler.
 - iii) There will be a vacuum of power in the Middle East, and the antichrist will move in to fill it.

- (1) This is also the principle of the criminal returning to the scene of the crime.
 - (a) Ancient Babylon has been the center of demonism.
 - (i) Daniel 1 - 2
 - (b) Revelation 18:2
 - (i) Babylon will be fully given over to demonism.
 - (ii) During the Great Tribulation, the world will be infested with and led by demonic spirits.
 - c) Even today, our world is haunted by the ghost of Babylon.
 - i) Revelation 18:3
 - d) Revelation 18:6
 - i) Babylon has been building a system of iniquity in this world.
 - ii) As we get closer to the Great Tribulation and the second coming of Christ, we can expect to see a tidal wave of sin and demonism.
- 3) BABYLON IS DEFIANT IN DEPRAVITY (Revelation 18:7-8)
- a) The devil will strut through the Earth through his servant, the antichrist, and will look over his kingdom in Babylon.
 - i) Why will the devil be so defiant and arrogant in this day?
 - (1) Ecclesiastical Babylon has been destroyed.
 - (a) The antichrist will destroy the world's religions and will confiscate all of their wealth.
 - (2) The acquisition of wealth will be great and every luxury will pour into Babylon.
 - (a) Global corporations will make their headquarters in Babylon.
 - ii) Coming events cast their shadows ahead of time.
 - (1) Today, sin that used to slink down back alleys now struts down main streets.
 - (2) Satan becomes more and more bold because he thinks he will actually overcome in this battle.
 - b) Revelation 18:8
 - i) In spite of the defiance of the beast, he cannot hold back the judgment of Almighty God.
 - ii) Satan's doom is announced and will be carried out.
 - iii) Sin cannot win, and faith cannot fail.
- 4) BABYLON IS DESTINED FOR DESTRUCTION (Revelation 18:8-11)
- a) Babylon will be quickly and completely destroyed.
 - i) Revelation 18:8
 - (1) The destruction will come in one day.
 - ii) Revelation 18:10
 - (1) This verse says that the destruction will come in one hour.
 - (2) The destruction will not be gradual.
 - iii) Revelation 18:9-10

- (1) It will be a fiery destruction.
 - b) Revelation 18:21
 - c) The destruction will come suddenly and violently.
 - d) The sin that has been piling up for centuries will be judged.
- 5) BABYLON IS DEPRESSING IN DESOLATION (Revelation 18:11-23)
- a) Those who do not know the Lord will suffer depression.
 - i) Babylon will be wealthy beyond words.
 - (1) The wealth of the world will belong to the antichrist; he will control the world's economy.
 - (2) No one will be able to buy or sell without the mark of the beast.
 - ii) There will also be a great trade in iniquity and sin.
 - (1) Part of the merchandise will be the souls of men.
 - iii) Revelation 18:9-10
 - (1) The kings of the world will weep because all of their resources will not be able to stay the judgment of Almighty God.
 - b) There will be a great economic depression.
 - i) Revelation 18:17-18
 - c) There will be no more music, no more merchandising, no more manufacturing, no more marriage, etc.
 - i) This may be a trigger for the Battle of Armageddon.
- 6) THREE APPLICATIONS CONCERNING BABYLON
- a) Come out of her.
 - i) Revelation 18:4
 - ii) The spirit of Babylon is already in the world today.
 - iii) 2 Corinthians 6:17
 - iv) If we flirt with Babylon, even as believers, then we are headed for serious trouble.
 - (1) If you do not want the judgments of Babylon, then do not keep company with Babylon.
 - b) Don't envy her.
 - i) Only a fool envies fools.
 - ii) We need to remember all that we have in the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - c) Rejoice over her.
 - i) Revelation 18:20
 - ii) We should never let the devil get us to thinking negatively about God.
 - iii) As believers, we are on the winning side.
- 7) CONCLUSION
- a) Are you on the winning side?
 - b) Do you know that if the rapture were to occur today that you would not be left behind?
 - c) If you do not know Jesus as Lord, today is the day of salvation.

- d) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- e) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16