



Part One: THE FALL OF BABYLON, GOD'S JUDGMENT (Rev. 18:1-8)

By Stephen Phinney

“After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illumined with his glory. And he cried out with a mighty voice, saying, ‘Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! She has become a dwelling place of demons and a prison of every unclean spirit, and a prison of every unclean and hateful bird. For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the passion of her immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed acts of immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich by the wealth of her sensuality.’ I heard another voice from heaven, saying, ‘Come out of her, my people, so that you will not participate in her sins and receive of her plagues; for her sins have piled up as high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities. Pay her back even as she has paid, and give back to her double according to her deeds; in the cup which she has mixed, mix twice as much for her. To the degree that she glorified herself and lived sensuously, to the same degree give her torment and mourning; for she says in her heart, “I SIT AS A QUEEN AND I AM NOT A WIDOW, and will never see mourning.” For this reason in one day her plagues will come, pestilence and mourning and famine, and she will be burned up with fire; for the Lord God who judges her is strong’ ” (Revelation 18:1-8, NASB).

Hopefully by now, you have a clear historical understanding of Babylon, the city of the great whore. This time, however, this city is about to face some very serious consequences; the type of consequences that will cause “her” to fall to ground in a pile of rubble.

In chapter 18, the Word does not address the Beast or any of the ten kings. This chapter is dedicated entirely to the destruction of the city and system of Babylon. The people of the earth are no longer our focus. The horrific system of corruption is brought to front and center stage.

Our next angel comes with great power and authority – the type that will literally illuminate the entire earth with his glory. The level of illumination of angels also states the level of authority and power that has been allotted to them. Some theologians believe this angel is Jesus Christ; while the majority read the manuscript and clearly see that specific times of God require special power and authority. Also, God never refers to His Son as an angel - by the way, angels are lesser than the Son of God. The angel referred to here is the one to whom God has appointed to bring/deliver the news of the fall of Babylon. Keep in mind that this city is considered the most ungodly, rotten to the bone, religious system ever to exist upon the face of the earth; it is none other than the empire of the Antichrist. With the arrival of this angel comes the light and presence of God Himself. Light chases away darkness and darkness has at this point covered

the face of the earth once again. The light of this angel alone causes the dark forces of the Antichrist to run and hide; BUT to their surprise, there will be NO place to hide.

The fall of Babylon will be IN THE NEWS, a full-on public event. The smoke of her burning (v 18) will be seen by all. This smoke comes with an announcement that the great system of the Antichrist of Babylon is being destroyed. Through the work of the majestic angel, Christ will take possession of His rightful inheritance, the earth and the sea, and all that is in them.

Needless to say, this cannot be done without a devastating act of revenge upon the most deadly and threatening enemy of God's children – the horrid system of Babylon during the last half of the Great Tribulation.

This angel cried out with a loud voice, and the cry he shouts will be the welcomed proclamation of Babylon's final destruction. The actual Greek terminology the angel is using here is past tense, which means that the Great Babylon has already fallen. I interpret this to mean that the system of the Antichrist has been on its way out for some time. This angel is simply coming to deliver the news and the final blow. The liar of all liars will no longer be able to use the name of our Savior and Lord to do his work. The city has become a habitation and prison of demons and legions of demons – unclean spirits that have been tempting and controlling the thoughts and actions of mankind since Eve took her first "bite out of crime."

I had a witch call in one time when I was conducting a radio show on the end-times. We were discussing the characteristics of the Antichrist. To my surprise, she openly stated one of the most honest statements I have ever heard roll off the tongue of an antichrist type. She said, "You keep referring to this Antichrist as a 'he' when all of us who worship Satan know that it is a 'she.' " By first impressions, this witch sounded like she was an uneducated fruitcake; BUT the truth of the matter is that she was right. In the end, Revelation clearly reveals to us that the Beast will for a season, yield power to the woman; but he becomes restless under her restraint and becomes irritated under her intolerant and constant subjective sway. The Word goes on to show us that this woman is very wealthy, and the civil and political types become jealous of her wealth. This is why the ten kingdoms, with their kings, join forces with the Beast and literally, and I mean literally, have her for lunch (*"And the ten horns which you saw, and the beast, these will hate the harlot and will make her desolate and naked, and will eat her flesh and will burn her up with fire"* (Rev. 17:16, NASB). So, you see, the witch was right. By the way, my response to the witch was, "You're correct in your statement; but she, too, will melt away like the wicked witch of the west."

Jesus most assuredly warns us not to be deceived by just anyone who comes in His name. Many of these misleading figureheads come and go; but long after they are gone, Truth remains. Every time we have a war, a rumor of war, or an earthquake, someone starts yelling, "It's the end of the world!" Well, I have news for those people. Satan loves this kind of stuff because it plants fear into the hearts of the weak. When one spends as much time as I do in studying world events, Biblical prophecies, and present-day interpretations, he can quickly develop a mindset of everything having its perfect time and place in the end-times. There is not one thing a man can do to speed things up or slow them down. They are what they are and they all have their ordained time and place.

“And Jesus answered and said to them, ‘See to it that no one misleads you. For many will come in My name, saying, “I am the Christ,” and will mislead many. You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not frightened, for those things must take place, but that is not yet the end’ ” (Matthew 24:4-6, NASB).

“ I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false; and you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary’ ” (Revelation 2:2-3, NASB).

Know this: when this angel cries out with a strong and mighty voice, there will be no question as to the authenticity of this cry. This Babylon has been a pain in the Lord's side from the day its leader (Lucifer/Satan) attempted to take over the city of Zion in Heaven. This shout will be welcomed by all who love and respect the King of kings and Lord of lords. Let's review:

“And he cried out with a mighty voice, saying, ‘Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! She has become a dwelling place of demons and a prison of every unclean spirit, and a prison of every unclean and hateful bird. For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the passion of her immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed acts of immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich by the wealth of her sensuality’ ” (Rev. 18:2-3, NASB).

What we have here is a clear description of what this whore called Babylon looked like and it is not very pretty! Her dwellings were filled with demons (legion devils), a prison to every kind of unclean spirit (following angels), known to Satan and his domain, and hostile to every form of unclean and hateful bird (Greek: domestic female). Do you remember when God said in the Proverbs regarding the dangers of an unrestrained woman?

“A constant dripping on a day of steady rain and a contentious woman are alike; He who would restrain her restrains the wind, and grasps oil with his right hand” (Proverbs 27:15-16, NASB).

This is what is being spelled out for us in the Revelation passage. It will literally take the hand of God to restrain women during this time. At the point of the great fall of Babylon, there will be so many political and religious rights given to women that men will become impotent when it comes to the political and religious affairs of the world. All of the bi-sexual religious false doctrines being planted in the “church” today are a set up for this global crisis. This dynamic is most likely what will cause the Muslim people (descendants of Ishmael) to rise up and begin their final holy war. It is probable that Satan will actually use the issue of empowering women to rid the infidels from the world.