

1 **A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF REVELATION**

LESSON 58

2 **REVIEW**

- We are continuing with our Bible study in chapter 18 of the Book of Revelation
- We finished last week studying in chapter 18 verses 4 through 8
- The material covered included Antichrist's work and the fall of Babylon, the false religion and commercial system that was part of Antichrist's empire
- The fall of Babylon consisted of the sudden destruction of both the city and the religion
- Chapter 18 deals with the final destruction of the city that Satan has ruled and of the false religion that was also ruled by his powers
- Here we are seeing the destruction of a religious system that has a long history

3 **REVIEW cont.**

- We been able to see how this false, counterfeit religion has gone back all the way to the beginning of the Old Testament
- This false religion started with the Tower of Babel and Nimrod (Genesis chapters 10 and 11)

4 **HER TORMENT**

Revelation 18:9-11

9 And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning,

10 standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come.

11 And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more:

- We have seen who it is, what this is, and what she pertains to already, now we're in the final and end part of her destruction

5 **HER TORMENT cont.**

- The destruction of Babylon comes about suddenly
- Notice in verse 10 it says the world and businessmen who see her destruction are standing afar off because of the fear of her torment
- We can look at this torment that's spoken of her, the burning of the city that houses this false and cruel religion
- The burning of a city and its total destruction would cause anyone to feel awe and fear, but there is more to this
- There is considerable evidence that the destroyers of Babylon are the soldiers of Antichrist

6 **BABYLON DESTROYED**

- Babylon will not be destroyed by some stroke from heaven or God's power, except as He puts it in the hearts of others to do
- The destruction will be by armies that are on this earth

Revelation 17:16

16 And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.

- The 10 horns are the core countries of Antichrist's empire so it is Antichrist who is destroying this city
- Here we see who it is destroying Babylon

7 **BABYLON DESTROYED cont.**

- What Scripture shows that it is Antichrist doing the destroying?
Revelation 17:16
- We must be able to find these Scriptures for ourselves by studying and learning
- Verse 12 in chapter 17 tells us who these 10 horns are
Revelation 17:12

12 And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

- We know who it is that's going to destroy the city and we know who these kings (countries) are serving as they are doing this at Antichrist's command

8 **BABYLON DESTROYED cont.**

Revelation 17:16

16 And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.

17 For God hath put in their hearts to fulfill his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.

- "These" that hate the whore are the 10 countries from the old Roman Empire that are the core of Antichrist's empire
- The destruction of Babylon by Antichrist's forces is a political event

9 **BABYLON DESTROYED cont.**

- God does not bring down this destruction Himself
- On this false religion God reaches over and uses Antichrist and his false empires, the ten horns or countries
- When it gets to the end of time, the period we are studying, the political side destroys the religious side
- Why is this? An angel has said it is good enough for them (Revelation 16:6)
- God is giving to this false religion, which He hates even more than the political, double what she has given to His people
- We see from verse 10 that all of the world is standing off while this city burns because of the fear of her torment

10 **BABYLON DESTROYED cont.**

- The merchants of the earth, all of them, are watching the destruction

of this great, mighty city

- At the heart of this city is the false religion of the world
- The Antichrist, politically, is finished with her so he going to destroy her
- How is this city destroyed since it does not come from God?
- The angel tell us in chapter 18 verse 21 that it will be done with great violence and will be found no more
- It is not the great stone that destroys this city as we have already discovered that it is Antichrist and his army that destroys Babylon

11 **BABYLON DESTROYED cont.**

- Antichrist does not want any powers on the earth other than his own so it is God who puts it in his heart to destroy those other powers
- Sometime we wonder why we do things; if God puts it there, you do it
- God does not put it in our heart to serve Him; He will only call us but the choice is ours
- This sudden destruction could be the result of a nuclear bomb and the torment feared by the kings of the earth could be nuclear fallout
- Notice that the kings of the earth are standing afar off, as far away from the city as is possible

12 **BABYLON DESTROYED cont.**

- This is the one place, maybe the only place, in the Scripture we can see where great action is being taken that is not being done by God himself in the supernatural way
- As we have built up to this point in chapters 17 and 18 we find that nothing like this has ever happened before; no city like this has existed before
- We also see that God put it in their hearts to do this destruction for Him

Revelation 18:21

21 And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon

be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.

13 **BABYLON DESTROYED cont.**

- The angel (messenger) shows the apostle John, down through time, what this destruction was going to be like
- John would not have had the ability to describe the devastation or power of a nuclear weapon
- The description of this event that the messenger gives John is one of suddenness and totality
- The angel in verse 21 acts out the scene as he drops a great stone from the sky, representing the bomb, and says "This is how it will be done."
- Here we see an uncommon event in prophecy: God does not use His supernatural powers to vanquish but uses His enemies against one another to accomplish His will

14 **BABYLON DESTROYED cont.**

- Here we have the Antichrist against the False Prophet; the political destroys the religious
- This time period is past the Tribulation and well into the Judgement period leading up to the battle of Armageddon
- We have seen Babylon here as a center of world trade
- The European Common Market is known today as the European Union or EU

15 **NATO & EU Maps**

16 **WORLD POWERS**

- The European Union and NATO are forerunners and examples of the process that will lead to Antichrist's empire and one world religion
- The power that will be Antichrist's empire is political and financial
- The world religious power will be run by Babylon, the Romish church
- The political portion will be as the Common Market or European Union
- Under this common ground of powers that Antichrist has over his

- empire, Babylon becomes the center of world trade
- Babylon is not just false Christianity, it is false religion

17 **WORLD POWERS cont.**

- We saw in Zechariah chapter 5 where two religions came together to make up this Babylon (Lesson 56 – Zechariah 5:5-11)
- Babylon is not a world religious center only, she is also the world's great commercial center
- Satan has helped to make this common market or commercial union of countries
- Because of the power she wants for herself, this is the same power she wants today, God puts it in Antichrist's heart to come and to destroy her
- In Antichrist's time it will no longer be just a European commercial union, it will become a world commercial union

18 **WORLD POWERS cont.**

- We need to stop and consider this: just about every country is rich in natural resources and most of them are also rich in talent (human capital)
- A world market unhindered by tariff walls would be enough to bring about vast wealth to all peoples
- Recall that Antichrist will have a mouth speaking great things, he will show the world how to get rich
- The 10 horns destroy the woman who sits upon the beast– the political destroys the religious
- The two faction are: the religious part, the woman Babylon and the political part, Antichrist and his empire

19 **WORLD POWERS cont.**

- This time period is after the Rapture, after the beginning of Tribulation and the world has great wealth: then comes sudden destruction
- We are only in this time period as we study the Word of God, as these events are still in the future

- In our world today we are building up to the time of the Rapture
- The time before the Rapture is a time of great troubles upon the earth: earthquakes, pestilences, wars, famines, distress of nations with perplexity, etc.
- The world is building to terrible times; much worse than it is right now

20 **WORLD PEACE & PROSPERITY**

- Right after the Rapture takes place Antichrist is able to show them how he can bring peace and prosperity
- This peace and prosperity will actually come from Satan who, at this time, has taken up his abode in Antichrist
- The one world religion will stop most of the wars as most wars are because of religion; holy wars
- This peace will last only a very short while
- The wealth of the countries comes from having a common commercial system without tariffs and trading through this world religion
- Satan's great commercial empire will collapse when God takes the peace from the earth

21 **PEACE TAKEN FROM EARTH**

- For us in this day it is easy to see how this could happen because we see how the old antagonisms can come back to life with great violence such as nation against nation and race against race
- It is when they say "peace and safety" that the sudden destruction comes upon them
- Satan's false millennium will suddenly come to an end
- This all takes place after the Rapture during the Tribulation and Judgement time periods
- Antichrist is getting rid of the religion as it has become too powerful, and he hates the religion for this reason
- It is Satan and all his power and empire destroying the religious headquarters

22 **PEACE TAKEN FROM EARTH cont.**

- This world religious and commercial city can be considered the crossroads of the world at that time because that is where all the commerce is centered
- The religious faction, as usual, wants the political power
- Antichrist sets it up but then he destroys it
- He actually destroys this city as chapter 17 verse 17 says; that it is God that put it in their hearts to fulfill His will
- There has to be peace in the world for God to take the peace from it; but this peace is only for a very short while

23 **BLOOD OF MARTYRS**

- As the angel said; it is good enough for them for what they have done to God's people (Revelation 16:6)

Revelation 18:24

24 And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth.

- The "her" referred to in this verse is the false religion, the woman sitting upon the beast
- This verse may be taken 2 ways
- Rome has always been a killer of prophets and saints, but this woman represents more than Rome

24 **BLOOD OF MARTYRS cont.**

- What are some of the incidents we know of where this false church has killed God's prophets and His saints?
- The Spanish Inquisition starting in 1487 AD, those killed in the Roman Coliseum, and much more

Revelation 17:15

15 And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the

whose sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.

- The Roman Church is only the present phase of Satan's religion

25 **BLOOD OF MARTYRS cont.**

- This woman represents much more than just Rome: she represents Satan's false church of all ages
- This is why verse 24 states that "in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth."
- This is all of the false religions; the doctrines themselves, not the people that came out of them, the false religion itself
- This verse of Scripture also applies the Great Tribulation because that is the end of the ages for the martyrs
- The great numbers of Tribulation Saints are from all tongues, kindreds and nations

26 **BLOOD OF MARTYRS cont.**

- The speed and thoroughness with which Satan/Antichrist causes the Tribulations Saints to be killed is due to the fact that he has a world-wide organization already in power and in place
- The purpose and ambition of this organization is to get rid of all opposing religions
- This church will be Satan's ready and willing agent in the program of wiping out the church that is left behind after the Rapture; the woman who fled into the wilderness under God's protection
- It would be very difficult to start an organization to pursue and persecute expediently so Satan uses what he already has in hand

27 **PRE-ARRANGED BY SATAN**

- When Satan gets evicted from heaven and comes down to this world he already has his empire and his false religion set up; they are here waiting for him
- Satan knows the Word of God and the prophecies therein; he knows it's almost his time
- He already has set up the empire he's going to rule

- He has a man that is coming up through the ranks who be able to bring about the peace and prosperity through his incarnation in the man
- Satan also has his false religion established that he started way back at the Tower of Babel
- His false religion is already proficient in the execution of martyring and killing

28 **A MOST AMAZING SPECTACLE**

- Holy wars are the same thing, killing in the name of religion
- Chapters 17 and 18 should be read in their entirety as they presents a most amazing spectacle, especially chapter 18
- Nothing like it has ever happened before; no city like this has ever existed before
- The building of Babylon and the world system that comes from it fulfill such precise prophecies that one cannot help but see the truth of it
- Even the articles of trade are itemized, they come from every part of the world

29 **BABYLON**

Revelation 18:1-3

1 And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory.

2 And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

3 For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

30 **BABYLON cont.**

Revelation 18:4-7

4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

5 For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.

6 Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled, fill to her double.

7 How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow.

31 **BABYLON cont.**

Revelation 18:8-11

8 Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her.

9 And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning,

10 standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come.

11 And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more:

32 **BABYLON cont.**

Revelation 18:12-14

12 the merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble,

13 and cinnamon, and odors, and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts, and sheep, and horses, and chariots, and slaves, and souls of men.

14 And the fruits that thy soul lusted after are departed from thee, and all things which were dainty and goodly are departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more at all.

33 **BABYLON cont.**

Revelation 18:15-18

15 The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing,

16 and saying, Alas, alas, that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls!

17 For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off,

18 and cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city!

34 **BABYLON cont.**

Revelation 18:19-21

19 And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas, that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate.

20 Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her.

21 And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.

35 **BABYLON cont.**

Revelation 18:22-24

22 And the voice of harpers, and musicians, and of pipers, and trumpeters, shall be heard no more at all in thee; and no craftsman, of whatsoever craft he be, shall be found any more in thee; and the sound of a millstone shall be heard no more at all in thee;

23 and the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived.

24 And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth.

36 **REDEMPTION & REGENERATION**

- This describes the total destruction of Satan's religious and commercial system, Babylon, that takes place after the Rapture, after the Great Tribulation, during the period of Judgement
- This is part of God cleansing this world of sin and the effects of sin as we saw at the beginning of our study in parts of redemption and regeneration
- With the conclusion of our study of chapter 18 we move out of the parallel rooms section of our Floor Plan chart

37 **Floor Plan Chart**

38

2 Timothy 2:15

15 Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.