

Jeremiah 50

Read Jeremiah 50:1-3: The next two chapters complete Jeremiah's series on God's judgements on other nations. Chapters 50 and 51 are about **the fall of Babylon**. We have talked about how **Babylon was God's tool to break so many rogue nations**. God has been breaking idols since the beginning. God uses idol worshipers to break and humble other idol worshipers....and even to humble his own people. In those days, people would rally behind their idol and cheer like a mascot at a football game. They had banners and horns and orchestras too. The battle was thought to have been between the gods.

Then a herald cried aloud: “To you it is commanded, O peoples, nations, and languages,⁵ that at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, and psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, you shall fall down and worship the gold image that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up;⁶ and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.” (Daniel 3)

You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image.” (Exodus 20)

Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, “Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; ²³for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you: ²⁴God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. (Acts 17)

Babylon was called the **Hammer to the Nations**. This chapter is about *breaking the hammer*. God wants to declare this everywhere. God breaks idols; to show they are not even real. What you are tangling with is demons.

Babylon represents a lot more than just being God's enforcer. It also represented the **evil capital of the world**. Jerusalem is God's headquarters on earth. It lures

men. The imagery of wealth and pleasure overwhelm men's sense of morality and wisdom. It offers an opportunity for a person to exercise all of their desires. It just delivers slavery and death.

"Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! ³For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury." (revelation 18)

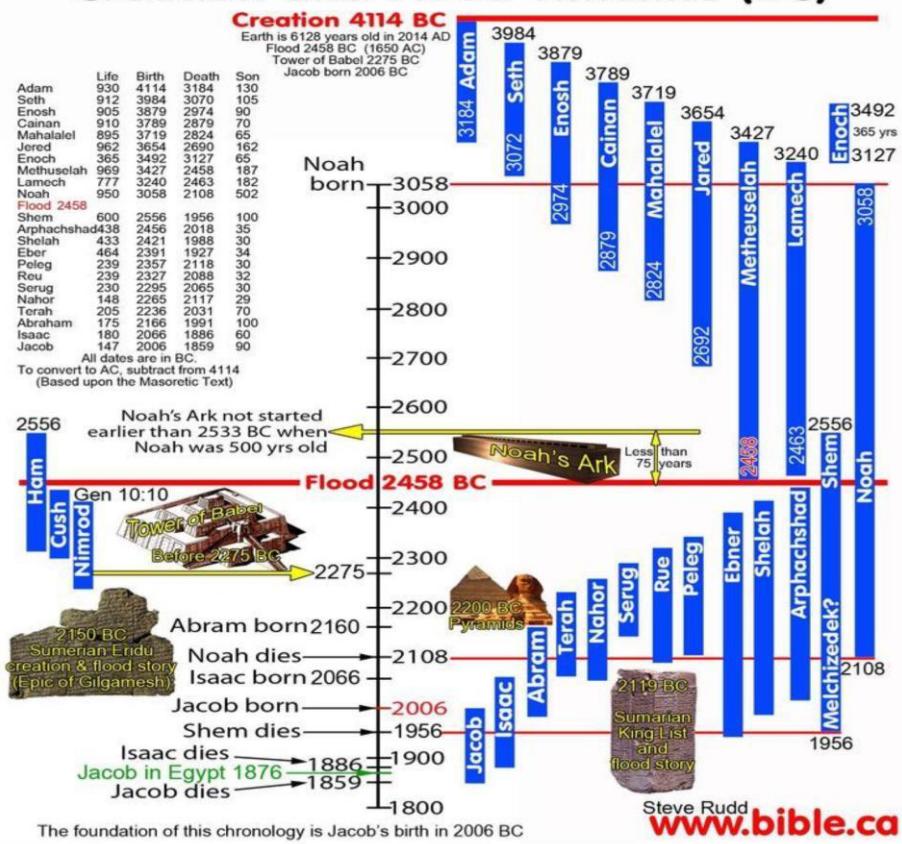
Jesus said that a kingdom cannot stand if it is divided against itself. This proves that God is just running circles around Satan's schemes.

If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? (Matthew 12)

Babylon's status as the underworld headquarters would also explain the origin of idolatry beginning at the Tower of Babel. Babylon represents a place of rebellion against God's plans for man. God told Noah (after the flood) to spread out all around the earth (fill the earth). Instead, the Tower became the rallying point for man to become equal to God and take a peek in the clouds. Satan loves centralized control. Noah lived 350 years after the flood. We do not know if Noah was alive during the disgraceful Tower of Babel.



Creation and Flood Timeline (BC)



So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth. (Genesis 9)

Ultimately, men want to be untethered to any authority over their lives. Idols are the manmade licenses to kill and partake in other taboo practices. It is an imaginary concept. There is no such thing as an idol; but demons operate within idols.... like a puppet show. Undoubtedly there were people who called themselves Babylonian priests, but most people did nothing other than to make and carry bricks. Instead of elevating God and serving each other, they were elevating themselves and exploiting each other. The Satanic Bible doesn't talk a lot about worshipping Satan; as much as it just says to do your own thing.

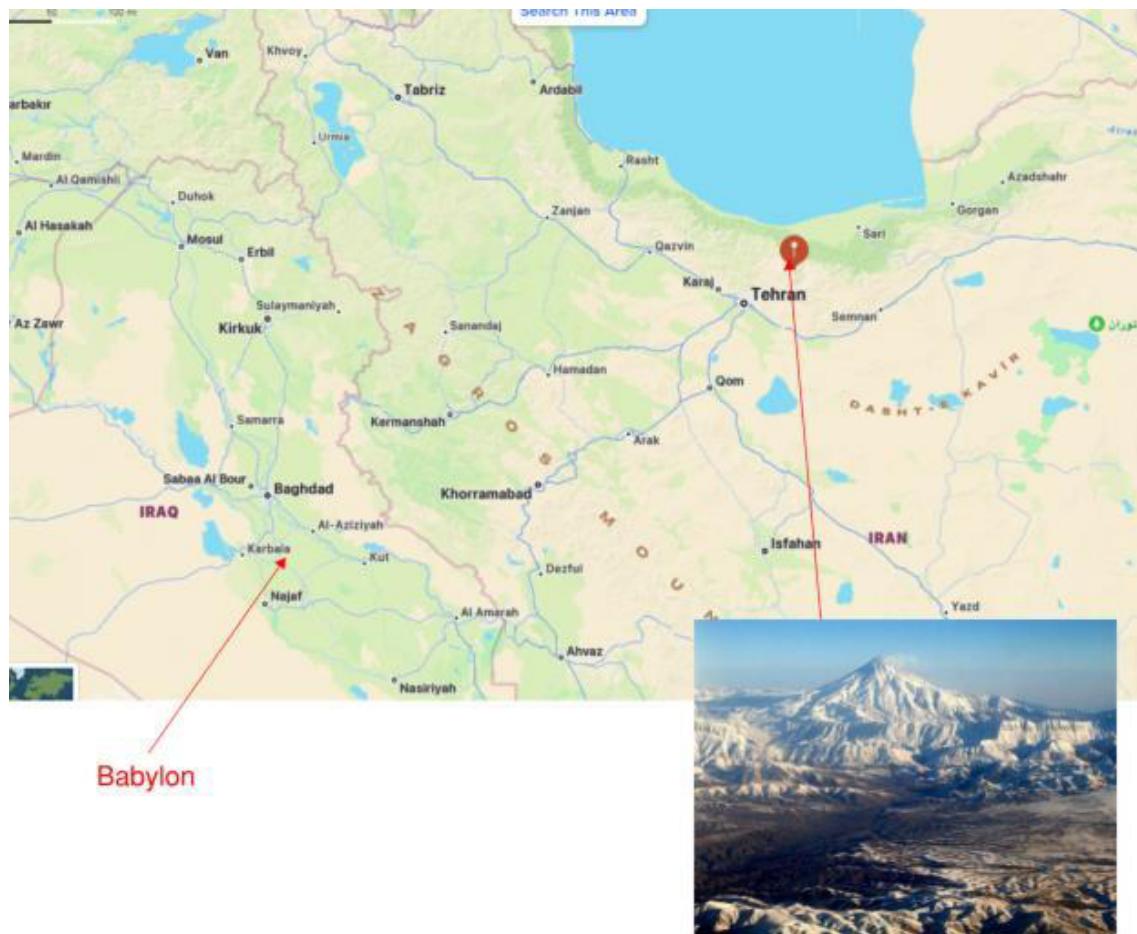
Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. 2 And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. 3 Then they said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly.” They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for

mortar.⁴ And they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.” (Genesis 11)



On a side note; notice how it says that the people journey *from the east to Babylon...not to the east.* Mt Ararat is west of Babylon, in Turkey, and was not even named until the 1800's. Besides, the Bible says the mountains (range) of Ararat...which may exists near Tehran, Iran. Perhaps it might be the 18,400 ft tall Mt. Damivand. There are not many other peaks around Mt Ararat. Noah saw multiple peaks as the water subsided.

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Babylon also represents the peak of human accomplishment. Babylon was **the most-powerful kingdom, under one man's control**. It was one uncontested man ruling the known world.

“You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome.³² This image's head was of fine gold,³⁶ “This is the dream. Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king.³⁷ You, O king, are a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory;³⁸ and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given them into your hand and has made you ruler over them all—you are this head of gold. (Daniel 2)

Babylon was given singular dominance. Its comparisons to a lion and an eagle represents its power over its domain. Indeed, Satan is called The Prince of This World. Babel was the first city built after the flood.

The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings. (Daniel 7)

Mystery Babylon represents a re-packaged modernized version of the Tower of Babel. The new Babylon is sold as a collective commitment to build the ultimate community. It is about unrestricted lifestyles, apart from God. The participants enthusiastically help to enforce its new virtues. These *new virtues* are already here. It is the prophetic backdrop for the antichrist. The antichrist is another way of saying '*anybody except Jesus*'.

The spirit of antichrist is growing. You can see the reverse logic everywhere. Like communism, it sells itself on the idea of a perfect society. We seem to be trading lesser virtues for traditional virtues. We are already seeing a lot of thought control, censoring, revisionary history, gun control and an erosion of national sovereignty and voter rights. The second Babylon will result in martyrdom and massive bloodshed.

The new Babylon includes the recombination of trading and profits, with adultery and idolatry. It's the idea of selling your soul to make money and engage in pleasure. All of the allurements to men's; hearts are offered, as characterized by the wealthy prostitute. This new Babylon will be destroyed in a moment.

The new Babylon has more to do with a new international society. A 10-nation confederation will use new age religion as a tool to gain power over the masses. It is hypnotic and brutal at the same time. People will look for untethered freedom; and end up enslaved to the Beasts designs. This confederation of nations will give its shared power to one man (the Beast/antichrist); who will mock God.

It is interesting how people say that there is no God; and then they use all of their energy to mock him. Obviously, Christians and Jews are on the top of the hit list. You don't strike back at things that do not exist. In effect, God is meeting the demand for evil by giving the people what they want, with the idea that it should make them sick and become repulsed by it. God goes so far to allow demons who have been in hell (for extra bad behavior) to return to the earth. It seems like a jail break and displacement of God....up until the time that they get

thrown into the Lake of Fire. Satan is pulling on threads of men's hearts everywhere. God is sitting back and letting men show their colors.

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and talked with me, saying to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters, ² with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication." ³ So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. ⁴ The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication. ⁵ And on her forehead a name was written:

**MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT,
THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS
AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS
OF THE EARTH.**

⁶ I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement. ⁷ But the angel said to me, "Why did you marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns. ⁸ The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition. And those who dwell on the earth will marvel, whose names are not written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world, when they see the beast that was, and is not, and yet is. ⁹ Here is the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits. ¹⁰ There are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, and the other has not yet come. And when he comes, he must continue a short time. ¹¹ The beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition. ¹² The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast. ¹³ These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast. ¹⁴ These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful." ¹⁵ Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues. ¹⁶ And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire. ¹⁷ For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled. ¹⁸

And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth.” (Revelation 17)

People have wondered if the New Babylon is the United States and the woman is the Catholic church. Many of the descriptors fit.

The original Babylon was destroyed, to never be inhabited again.

And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, The beauty of the Chaldeans' pride, Will be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah. ²⁰It will never be inhabited, Nor will it be settled from generation to generation; Nor will the Arabian pitch tents there, Nor will the shepherds make their sheepfolds there. ²¹But wild beasts of the desert will lie there, And their houses will be full of owls; (Isaiah 13)



Sadam Hussein spent millions of dollars rebuilding ancient Babylon as a narcissistic tribute to Nebuchadnezzar and himself.



To fuel support for his war with Iran, Saddam turned increasingly to grand nationalist building projects like Babylon. Here, his face appears in a relief that imitates the style of ancient artworks. ALI AL-SAADI/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

When President Bush ordered U.S. forces to invade Iraq in 2003, they occupied Babylon and turned Saddam's castle into their command center. Their graffiti remains on the walls: notes of longing about faraway loved ones, reminders of soldierly protocol. The military also caused immense damage to the site, looting precious artifacts and running tanks over ancient ruins. Over 15 years after Saddam's fall from power, his palatial tribute to the emperor has become a ghostly shell. Broken glass and graffiti are scattered through the once-grand palace halls. Teenagers and families smoke shisha and listen to music on Saddam's vast balconies, overlooking the mind-boggling spread of Babylon.

The use of the original Babylon has come and gone. Now the original Babylon's purpose was completed. God is telling us here that the next successor world power would displace Babylon. They would come from the north. That is exactly what happened. In 850 BC the Medes migrated to Iran. In 727 BC, the Medes united into a kingdom. In 553 Cyrus the Great of Persia overthrows the

Medes. In 550 BC a new Medo-Persian empire is formed. In 539 BC Cyrus the Great invades and destroys Babylon.

God tells his people to get out of Babylon. It's going to be destroyed. He says the same thing in the book of Revelation. Escape God's wrath coming upon the confluence of men's religion and wealth-building strategies.

Read Jeremiah 50:4-16: When the original Babylon fell, The Medo Persians allowed the Jews to return to Jerusalem. Their 70 years of idol sterilization was now complete. The land and the people were re-set. Likewise, in the last days, God will call his people to leave this city-state of destruction.

Read Jeremiah 50:17-46: God describes a double bitterness that comes with having lost everything that has value and now becoming like vagabonds returning home. When you turn your back on God, you become a doormat and food for the powers of this world.

It really makes you think about this whole new age and polarization of good and evil becoming the next trap for evil doers.

I love the verse that says that the people of Babylon have become insane with their idols. That really explains a lot that I see today.