

## Revelation 18

**Read Revelation 18:1-8:** An angel announces that Babylon the Great has fallen. He is an angel who carries a lot of authority. This new Babylon is described as a headquarters for evil spirits. This new Babylon is making nations rich. The government leaders are receiving large sums of money to promote the Babylonian agenda. The original Tower of Babel was erected to bring men together and communicate with idols in the heavens. The original Babylon was in defiance to God's direction to spread out and only worship God. The new Babylon is the seat of a system of religion and finance. There seems to be a lot of money to be made by entering into the Babylonian trading agreement. This agreement includes blasphemy about who God is.

We are seeing the bandwagon interest today in items like *bit-coin* and other personal device technological interests. We are being set up for virtual economies and personal identification devices. The widespread resistance to anything righteous is also a spreading trend. The people of all nations are being moved away from any historic moral codes. The antichrist will need to have a people without any conscience. There has always been ways to make money if you have no morals. Any nation giving itself a right to steal land and assets is bound to get rich. This is how the buccaneer economy has always worked. Multi-level over rides are an effective way to get more participants.

There are also saints in this new Babylon. There is a business center there that attracts business people from all over the world. The Babylonian leaders see themselves as untouchable and safe. This place will be consumed with fire in one day.

It is interesting that these verses also state that Babylon has become a cage and prison for the demons. Somehow God has turned the tables. He has allowed Satan and his crew to establish an activity center in Babylon. Once the evil empire's plans are hatched and appear to be successful; the trap door opens. God will sit back and allow us to show our true colors. To do so requires that our intentions are allowed to surface and go into motion. No further evidence is needed. There is no speculation as to his judgement and response.

It is similar to how God allowed Satan to set up an attempt at his throne. He waited until the other team was fully formed and engaged in overthrow and insurrection strategies. It is like a cookie jar that has a hand trap inside. He is righteous by showing all concerned that this one has been caught red-handed.

**Read Revelation 18:9-20:** God takes his time before he pulls the trigger; but it comes with unstoppable force. The world's merchants and steamship shipping lines will be shocked to see the place of their income be destroyed in a day. What port fits this New Babylon? The list of items traded includes food and wine, luxury items, slaves, precious metals, fine clothing, and livestock. Most linen is made in Ireland; because of its climate. It sounds as though this New Babylon is surrounded by ports. Her items traded appear to be more common to eastern cultures. Some people have speculated that the United States is the only place that could be identified as the central trading marketplace, surrounded by oceans. These import-export items traded don't match up with current US goods bought or sold internationally. 8 out of 10 of the top world's shipping ports are in China. The ranking of the US top port (L.A.) is number 19 on the list. These eastern culture items seem to be more old-world items of trade. The UAE port is number 9 on the list; but undoubtedly is largely oil tankers. We see the migration of capital to places where there are more-friendly business environments. Singapore has transformed itself into a top world port by taking in raw products, and exporting value-added products. Singapore has a modern version of the hanging gardens of ancient Babylon. Wherever this port exists; it is a buyer for items involving all shipping lines. Imagine a place with combined trade of Singapore, China, Amsterdam and Los Angeles. Such a place is also a seat of an agreement to kill saints. It sounds like a very protectionist and exclusive reciprocity in trade agreement. This financial strength comes from pillaging and overtaking other sovereignties.

**Read Revelation 18:21-24:** The fall of Babylon brought an end to their widespread luxury and commerce. The level of merchant trading and income generation was gone violently in an instant. The music and musical instruments were destroyed in a moment. Babylon had become the financial incentive and hub for hunting saints. God is protecting us today with our President. Imagine if Janet Reno and some very liberal candidates were in charge unchallenged. Our tax deduction incentives for financial contributions to Christian activities would be

erased. Christianity might be illegal. We are living in God's grace. Think about all of the increasing numbers of *crazy* people who are opposed to using the Bible, and having public standards for what is good. We are being surrounded by people who reject our beliefs. God is protecting his minority. His protection level is increasingly obvious.

Envy and murder and the desires to be rich go together.

Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. (James 4:1-2)

It is interesting to read about Cain's family line before the flood; in Genesis 4. He was a murderer. They were people of multiple wives, livestock, music, metallurgical craftsmen and murder. Genesis 6 described these men and the society that resulted just before the flood.

Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. (Genesis 6:5)

There is really not much difference between the flood and the tribulation. The world was filled with violence. Society had gone off of its rails. It was no longer survivable.

But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. (1 Timothy 3:1-7)

"Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Then many false prophets will rise up and

deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. (Matthew 24:9-12)

And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened. (Matthew 24:22)

The blood of the saints seems to be part of the code and strong commitment of this industrial and financial city. I am not aware of any single city that can take that billing. This must be a future development. The new economic model must have a rapid success; in order to become the world shipping hub that quickly. It does not take long for change, when God allows it.

"And in the latter time of their kingdom, When the transgressors have reached their fullness, A king shall arise, Having fierce features, Who understands sinister schemes. His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power; He shall destroy fearfully, And shall prosper and thrive; He shall destroy the mighty, and also the holy people. Through his cunning He shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule; And he shall exalt himself in his heart. He shall destroy many in their prosperity. (Daniel 8:23-25)