

Discussion & Application:

1. A friend says to you, “God doesn’t care what you believe, as long as you are sincere.” How would you answer that? How might you use Revelation 17 to show them God does care about the content of their faith? What other passages might you use?
2. What happened during the 5th bowl judgment in Rev. 16:10-11? Based on that, what impact would the appearance of the angel in 18:1 have? Who would be paying attention to his announcement?
3. According to 18:2, how extensive is the fall? Why mention demons and birds in the description? Cf. Is. 13:21-22.
4. In 18:3, what reasons are given for Babylon’s judgment? Why were the nations, kings, and merchants so easily intoxicated by Babylon? What examples of this do we have in the world today?
5. In 18:4-5, what does it mean to “come out of her?” What reasons are given for believers to come out of Babylon? Read John 17:14-18. Even if the world hates us for living out biblical truth, how can we be “in the world” yet “not of the world?”
6. Read Jer. 31:34; Heb. 8:12; 10:17. What does it mean to the believer that God will not remember our sins? Why does He not remember our sins, but He does remember the sins of others? How can we be sure that He won’t hold our sins against us?
7. What does it mean to pay her back “double” (Rev. 18:6)? How is that fair / just?
8. In 18:7, “sensuously” means to indulge oneself extravagantly and sensually. In what ways are we tempted to live that way? For those who believe Jesus could return at any moment, how should we be living? (2 Pet. 3:10-14; 1 John 2:15-17)
9. Even though the gospel was preached by 144,000, 2 witnesses, and an angel in the sky, Babylon arrogantly justified its sin because it was successful / prosperous. How can we avoid that kind of thinking? How can we become more sensitive to sin and repent of it quickly?

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The Bridge Bible Fellowship

Pastor Paul S. Brown

Revelation 18:1-8

“The Things Which Will Take Place” – Part 31

“Pay Back to Babylon” – Part 4

- I. The Things Which You Have Seen (chapter 1)
- II. The Things Which Are (chapters 2-3)
- III. The Things Which Will Take Place (chapters 4-22)
 - A. Vision of Heaven (chapters 4-5)
 - B. Seven Seal Judgments (6:1-8:1)
 - C. Seven Trumpet Judgments (8:2-11:19)
 - D. Interlude (12:1-14:20)
 - E. **Seven Bowl Judgments (15:1-18:24)**
 1. Preparing for the Bowls: Three Heavenly Visions – (15:1-8)
 2. Pouring out the Seven Bowls (16:1-21)
 3. **Pay Back to (Plagues upon) Babylon (17:1-18:24)**
 - a. Religious Babylon (17:1-18)
 - b. **Political / Commercial Babylon (18:1-24)**
 - 1) **Pay Back _____ (1-8)**

¹ After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illumined with his glory.

² 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.

³ “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.”

⁷ “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.’

⁴ 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; ⁵ for her sins have piled up as high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities.

⁸ “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.

⁶ “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.

So What?