

**MAPLE GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH SUNDAY NIGHT
BIBLE STUDY - The Revelation - Sunday November 14, 2021**

“The Destruction of the World Economic System” – Revelation 18

Review & Background

Remember this chapter is really an exposition or explanation of the judgment in Revelation 16:19 – the second part of the two-fold judgment on Babylon. Chapter 17 explained the judgment on the final false religion, and tonight we’ll see the destruction of the material things of which the people have made idols. Chapters 17 and 18 are inserted into the chronological flow of Revelation.

As we discussed last week, Babylon refers to the world system. The “Harlot” is its _____ face; “Babylon” is its _____ face.” Both are being judged.

But here, in addition to symbolizing the system, Babylon is a real city – 5 times it is referred to as a city.

Judgment Pronounced (vv. 1-3)

Remember the 5th bowl will have plunged the earth into blackness (Revelation 16:10).

Remember that in Revelation 9:13 – 16, 200 million formerly bound demons were released near Babylon.

Judgment Avoided (vv. 4-5)

The Command to come out is a call for God’s people to disentangle themselves from the world system

Romans 12:2

2 Corinthians 6:14-17

1 John 2:15-17

Judgment Defined (vv. 6-8)

It’s interesting how the Old Testament carries this same thought – vengeance and recompense against Babylon:

Jeremiah 50:14 – 15

Jeremiah 50: 29

Look at her boast in v 7 – and look at Isaiah 47:7

***Judgment Lamented* (vv. 9-19)**

This section records the lament or shock over Babylon's destruction – not her sin. There are three groups of mourners:

The first mourners introduced are the _____

The next mourners to appear on the scene are the _____.

The third group that mourns for her – every _____ and every _____ and as many make their living by the _____.

Then in a typical ancient expression of grief, the sailors threw dust on their heads. See Joshua 7:6:

***Judgment Enjoyed* (v. 20)**

Heaven will have quite a different perspective on Babylon's judgment than will the AntiChrist's earthly followers.

***Judgment Completed* (v. 21-23a)**

Babylon will be so thoroughly destroyed that it will never rise again, as predicted by the Old Testament prophets:

Isaiah 13:19-22

Isaiah 14:22-23

Jeremiah 50: 13; 39

***Judgment Justified* (vv. 23b – 24)**

Another reason is that all the nations were deceived by her sorcery. The word "sorcery" is from the Greek "pharmakeia" which is the root word for pharmacy and pharmaceuticals – drugs. Babylon will have an occult influence over non-believers – like - or maybe through – drugs.

Conclusion: Revelation 19:1-9