

# 1 ☐ The Revelation

Study of John's Revelation

Chapter 18

2 ☐

## 3 ☐ Chapter 18 - Economic Babylon

### ► Facts to Remember

- The second half of the Tribulation is known as the **Great Tribulation**.
- Chapter 17 described the doom of Religious Babylon (At mid Trib)
- Chapter 18 describes the doom of Economic Babylon (At end Trib)
  - In this chapter, the Beast is not once named, nor do we find the ten kings mentioned. The chapter is given over entirely to the destruction of Babylon. Human agents disappear; the ruin of that awful system of corruption is the predominating theme of the entire chapter. Oliver B. Greene

## 4 ☐ Chapter 18 - Economic Babylon

- These two Babylons are not the same.
  - They share similar names, power, leaders, hatred for saints, doom
  - But, one is a harlot the other a city, one is religious the other economic, the first is destroyed by Antichrist, the second by God.
- It is amazing that in the midst of terrible judgments, the Antichrist builds an empire. Satan is powerful!
- Babylon the Great may be a city and a system.

## 5 ☐ Chapter 18 - Economic Babylon

- Babylon's Fall Announced (Re 18:1-3)
  - After these things (Re 17), John saw another angel.
  - The earth was lightened by this very powerful angel's glory.
  - He cried mightily, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen..."
    - This may be a fulfilment of Isaiah 13:9-13.
    - This may be the 7<sup>th</sup> Bowl judgment (Revelation 16:17-21).
- Babylon the Great is guilty before God (v.3)
  - She has infected all nations with her Antichrist worship and greed.
  - She has also corrupted the kings of the earth.
  - Fornication will likely be literal and symbolic.
  - She has enriched the merchants of the world by her influence.

6 ☐

## 7 ☐ Chapter 18 - Economic Babylon

- Another Angel Calls for Separation (Re 18:4-5)
  - God calls his people to come out of her.
  - Her sins were Antichrist worship, greed, materialism, luxury, and sensuality.
  - God gives us two reasons for separation.
    - Separation is for sanctification.
    - Separation is for protection.
  - Man's sins never escape God's watchful eyes.

## 8 ☐ Chapter 18 - Economic Babylon

- The Voice Asks God to Reward Babylon Justly (Re 18:6-8)
  - Reward her as she rewarded God (v.6).
  - Double her punishment.
  - Torment her according to her pride and luxury (v.7).
  - Her judgment will be sudden (in one day) (v.8).
  - She will be burned with fire.
  - This will be the worst economic crash the world has ever known.
  - "For strong is the Lord God who judgeth her."

## 9 ☐ Chapter 18 - Economic Babylon

- Kings and Merchants Grieve over her (Re 18:9-19)
  - Kings bewail her and lament (v.9-10)

- ▶ Merchants weep and mourn (v.11-14)
  - ▶ These descriptions described the wealth and prosperity of John's day.
  - ▶ These items may be illustrative of riches in general.
  - ▶ Wealth and prosperity today are in different forms, but we get the picture.
- ▶ Merchants stand afar off in fear and cry (v.15-19)

10 ☐11 ☐ **Chapter 18 - Economic Babylon**

- ▶ All Heaven will Rejoice (Re 18:20)
  - ▶ Heaven will rejoice.
    - ▶ This likely includes the persecuted and martyred saints in heaven (cf., v.24 and Re 19:1).
    - ▶ The last phrase of the verse implies this.
  - ▶ The holy apostles will rejoice.
  - ▶ The prophets will rejoice.
  - ▶ God has avenged them on her.
    - ▶ God will pay her back for all she had done to His saints.

12 ☐ **Chapter 18 - Economic Babylon**

- ▶ The Great Millstone Illustration (Re 18:21-24)
  - ▶ The millstone violently splashed into the sea and sank forever.
  - ▶ The parties of Babylon will be gone forever.
  - ▶ Darkness will cover Babylon forever.
  - ▶ Marriages in Babylon will end forever.
  - ▶ This Babylonian System is responsible for the blood of prophets and saints and all that were murdered.

13 ☐ **Personal Application**

- ▶ We must be careful not to allow materialism become our god. Life is about glorifying God not self!
- ▶ God is calling Christians to separation.
- ▶ God is taking note of all that we do, good and bad.
- ▶ All that men value and prize will one day sink forever.
- ▶ Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.
  - ▶ Where is your treasure?
  - ▶ What are you living for?
  - ▶ Who does your life glorify?