

REVELATION – CHAPTER 18

Verses 1-3 THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FALL OF BABYLON

Vs 1 “After these things” means that the action recorded in chapter 18 takes place at a later time than the action reported in chapter 17.

Again, religious Babylon falls at the mid-point of the Tribulation while Babylon the world’s political and commercial system survives until the end of the Tribulation.

“Another angel” – in context, an angel different than the one seen in chapter 17:1.

>Being described as “another” means that this is an angel and not Christ in a different form.

>His great authority and power and the fact that the entire earth is illuminated with His glory would indicate that he is an angel of the greatest order and is about to carry out a great work on behalf of God!

Vs 2 “Fallen” is repeated; and the tense of the verb indicates that the action is completed, though the context indicates the event is yet future.

Religious Babylon’s destruction is already past. Rev 17:16

1. Completed action when describing a yet future event sometimes is used to stress the certainty of that which is being described.
2. The first “fallen” might be in reference to the fall of Religious Babylon at the halfway mark, while the second “fallen” is referencing the secular fall. Many times throughout the book, both Babylons are described as functioning together.

Rev 17:1-3,9

“She” is not referring to Religious Babylon, but rather to

“the kingdom of the world” (singular). Rev 11:15

This kingdom had Nebuchadnezzar’s empire as its head and has been progressively worse as time has passed.

It’s ultimate functioning will be seen when Satan reigns over it personally and demonic spirits permeate it.

Rev 9:1-11

(Remember that the different phases of this world’s kingdom do not stand alone, but rather, build upon the prior phases.)

The kings and the merchants of the earth mourn the destruction of political and commercial Babylon; no one mourns the destruction of religious Babylon. Rev 18:9-11

Money and power have always been the world's focus. Rev 16:19 is a short reference to this fall.

Babylon the great:

> a dwelling place of demons

> a prison of every unclean spirit

> a prison (cage) of every unclean and hateful bird.

Isa 34:8 – 15; Matt 13:32

Vs 3 Babylon has had evil relationships with all the nations.

She has committed fornication with all her kings and the merchants have become rich from these acts of immorality.

They have abandoned God and fallen in love with the world.
1 Jn 2:15-17

Verses 4-5 A Call For Separation

Vs 4 Another voice from Heaven is heard.

To the Believer, who is reading this book, come out of her!
Rev 1:3 (Gen 19:15-17; Jer 51:6-10; 42-45)

We must "come out" of her

1. so that we will not participate in her sins

(sanctification is an active choice – it does not just "happen")

2. so that we will not have her plagues inflicted on us

There is something worse than the damage she can do to us.

Matt 10:28

Vs 5 Her sins have piled up as high as Heaven and God has remembered.

1. Her tower never reached the distance – Gen 11:3-4

Her sin did!

2. When God remembers, He acts!

Verses 6-8 Her Indictment

Vs 6 The other voice continues to speak

1. pay her back – give back that which is due

Habakkuk 1:2-4; Rev 6:10

2. give back double.....mix twice as much for her

There is no mercy for the world!

- Vs 7 To the degree that she glorified herself...
 To the degree that she lived sensuously
 (are we not guilty of the same sins? Jas 4:2-10)
- To the same degree – give her (both reward and punishment are received by degree)
 1. torment Rev 20:10,15
 2. mourning Rev 14:9-11
- Her wishful thinking – “I sit as a queen, I am not a widow...will never see mourning” Rev 3:17
 She is certainly not a widow. There is no end to those who join themselves to her.
- Vs 8 For this reason – her attitude and her actions
 her judgment comes in one Day (Day of the Lord – 7 years)
 1. plagues
 2. pestilence
 3. mourning
 4. famine
 5. burned up with fire
 Luke 12:16-21
 Satan and all his forces are no contest for the Lord God.
 He is the judge. He is strong.
- Verses 9-10 The Reaction of the Kings of the Earth to Her Judgment
- All the kings of the earth, each with his place in the structure will watch at a distance out of fear.
- These kings – individuals – Dan 4:17; Rom 13:1-2
 who had the power to do good but who:
 1. committed acts of immorality with her – slept with her
 2. lived sensuously with her – they were bought by her ability to pay
 3. will weep and lament over her – when they see her burn
 2 Pet 3:7-12 remembering 2 Pet 2:4-9
- “The fear of her torment”....am I next?
 Woe, woe to the world. It’s over. It’s gone. God has put an end to it!
- Verses 11-19 The Reaction of the Merchants (People of Means) of the Earth

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The world, life is all about money 2. No one to buy verses 12-13
Vs 14	gone from you passed away no longer found
Vs 15	The merchants...who became rich...weeping and mourning Matt 6:19-21
Vs 16-17a	The world...but I thought...what happened...what will happen to me?
Vs 17b – 19	Those who delivered the goods of verses 12-13 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. throw dust on their heads 2. cry out 3. weep 4. mourn <p>That which has been built since Adam left the garden is destroyed in 7 years. There will be NOTHING LEFT!!! LAID WAIST!!!</p>
Vs 20	There will be a group of people who will be rejoicing when they hear the news. God has inflicted the judgment of the believers upon the world. The righteous triumph as victory follows suffering. For all those who are waiting for...the time of waiting has ended.
Vs 21	Babylon is a great stone. A third strong angel is up to the plan, Rev 5:2; 10:1 Just as a stone which is thrown into a body of water disappears as it sinks, never to be found again, so Babylon disappears! Jer 51:61-64
Verses 22-23	In you no longer – why – because you earned it
Vs 24	Her sin!