

Babylon Study

William J.D. Shaw Updated: Nov 28, 2021

This study is one directed at further understanding of Bible prophecy of the end times in the destruction of “Mystery of Babylon” as described in the book of Revelations. In order to do this first one needs to separate out the Biblical prophecy of Jeremiah on the original City of Babylon itself, in what is current day Iraq.

Babel which later became known as Babylon was established by Nimrod, the son of Cush who was the son of Ham who in turn was the son of Noah. The original Babel was established some time before 2200 BC.

Gen 10:8 And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth.

Gen 10:9 He was a mighty hunter before the LORD: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD.

Gen 10:10 And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar.

The utter destruction of the original City of Babylon is described in Jeremiah chapter 51. Interesting in the description is that it will become heaps according to Jer 51:37. This will make more sense shortly.

Jer 51:37 And Babylon shall **become heaps**, a dwellingplace for dragons, an astonishment, and an hissing, without an inhabitant.

Further description of the destruction of Babylon is given as follows in Jeremiah.

Jer 51:59 The word which Jeremiah the prophet commanded Seraiah the son of Neriah, the son of Maaseiah, when he went with Zedekiah the king of Judah into Babylon in the fourth year of his reign. And *this* Seraiah *was* a quiet prince.

Jer 51:60 So Jeremiah wrote in a book all the evil that should come upon Babylon, *even* all these words that are written against Babylon.

Jer 51:61 And Jeremiah said to Seraiah, When thou comest to Babylon, and shalt see, and shalt read all these words;

Jer 51:62 Then shalt thou say, O LORD, thou hast spoken against this place, to cut it off, that none shall remain in it, neither man nor beast, but **that it shall be desolate for ever**.

Jer 51:63 And it shall be, when thou hast made an end of reading this book, *that* thou shalt bind a stone to it, and cast it into the midst of Euphrates:

Jer 51:64 And thou shalt say, Thus shall Babylon sink, and shall not rise from the evil that I will bring upon her: and they shall be weary. Thus far *are* the words of Jeremiah.

The original City of Babylon that was located in present day Iraq. Hammurabi reigned in Babylon in 1792-1750 BC. Later the Hittites sacked Babylon in 1595 BC. Then Babylon falls to Persia in 539 BC. Then later conquered in 331 BC by Alexander the Great. Finally the complete destruction occurred in the Seleucid Empire where in 305 BC, Seleucus I built a new capital city from the bricks of the ruins of Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon. So all that was left of the original city of Babylon were some heaps of bricks, never to be rebuilt again.

From that point forward where the original City of Babylon no longer exists, when reference is made to the destruction of Babylon in a future time it is a symbolic representation of an evil City and it's destruction. Babylon in today's time is a City that represents the main location or center of evil in the world. As a result of the broad extend of evil throughout the world in today's time, one must be very careful and use only scripture to identify this City.

The scriptures that follow refer to a symbolic Babylon as the City representing the main place of evil power in the world.

The following occurs with three angels messages, with the second angel telling of the future destruction of Babylon, the Great City, and it quickly follows with a warning from the third angel of not taking the mark of the beast.

Rev 14:6 And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, **having the everlasting gospel to preach** unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people,

Rev 14:7 Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for **the hour of his judgment is come**: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

Rev 14:8 And there followed another angel, saying, **Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city**, because **she made all nations** drink of the wine of **the wrath of her fornication**.

Rev 14:9 **And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,**

Rev 14:10 The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:

Rev 14:11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

Rev 14:12 Here is the patience of the saints: here *are* they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

Rev 14:13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed *are* the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.

This places the fall or destruction of the Great City, referred to as Babylon, as some time near or just before the start of the Tribulation. From previous studies the announcement by God of the start of the Tribulation is the sixth seal being broken. So the destruction of the Great City takes place during the times of sorrow in the breaking of the second, third and fourth seals where the wrath of God is underway.

The theme now changed to that of the vials or bowls which are the plagues of God taking place during the Tribulation. The seventh is the last vial or last plague that occurs at the end of the Tribulation.

Rev 16:17 And the **seventh angel poured out his vial** into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done.

Rev 16:18 And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, *and* so great.

Rev 16:19 **And the great city** was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: **and great Babylon came in remembrance before God**, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath.

Rev 16:20 And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.

Rev 16:21 And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, *every stone* about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.

In Rev 16:19 the **great city** that divides into three parts could be either Jerusalem or symbolic Babylon as both are referred to as the great city. Following that statement which is at the last plague in the Tribulation, God remembers symbolic Babylon that was destroyed before the start of the Tribulation. Logic suggests it is Jerusalem that still exists intact that is the great City referred to and that it is divided into three parts as a result of the last wrath coming upon the world. It is likely the evil Nations that followed symbolic Babylon come to mind as God pours out His final wrath undiluted. This last plague results in all of the earth being rearranged, islands and mountains are changed. The greatest earthquake the world has ever known occurs at this time. The cities of the Nations fell. The heavens also showered meteors or rocks upon the earth, these weighed 75 lbs.

Now it the theme changes to one of the angles explaining the mystery of Babylon.

Rev 17:1 And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the **great whore that sitteth upon many waters:**

Rev 17:2 With whom the **kings of the earth have committed fornication**, and the **inhabitants of the earth** have been made drunk with **the wine of her fornication.**

Rev 17:3 So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

Rev 17:4 And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of **abominations and filthiness of her fornication:**

Rev 17:5 **And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.**

Rev 17:6 And I saw the woman drunken with the **blood of the saints**, and with the **blood of the martyrs of Jesus:** and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.

Rev 17:7 And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery

of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns.

Rev 17:8 The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and **shall ascend out of the bottomless pit**, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

Rev 17:9 And here *is* the mind which hath wisdom. **The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.**

Rev 17:10 And **there are seven kings**: five are fallen, and one is, *and* the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.

Rev 17:11 And **the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven**, and goeth into perdition.

Rev 17:12 And **the ten horns** which thou sawest **are ten kings**, which **have received no kingdom as yet**; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

Rev 17:13 These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.

Rev 17:14 **These shall make war with the Lamb**, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him *are* called, and chosen, and faithful.

Rev 17:15 And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.

Rev 17:16 And **the ten horns** which thou sawest upon the beast, **these shall hate the whore**, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, **and burn her with fire.**

Rev 17:17 For God hath put in their hearts **to fulfil his will**, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.

Rev 17:18 And the woman which thou sawest is that **great city**, which **reigneth over the kings of the earth.**

First recognize from Rev 17:6 that this Babylon was drunk with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus, therefore these scriptures are directed to the end time which is a time going forth after Jesus ascended back to heaven right up to the Tribulation.

Following on the description is given of the fall of the Great City, that of symbolic Babylon.

Rev 18:1 And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and **the earth was lightened with his glory.**

Rev 18:2 And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, **Babylon the great is fallen**, is fallen, and **is become the habitation of devils**, and **the hold of every foul spirit**, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

Rev 18:3 For **all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication**, and **the kings of the earth** have committed fornication with her, and **the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.**

Rev 18:4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, **Come out of her, my people**, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

Rev 18:5 For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.

Rev 18:6 Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double.

Rev 18:7 How much **she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously**, so much torment

and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow.

Rev 18:8 Therefore shall **her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine;** and **she shall be utterly burned with fire:** for strong *is* the Lord God who judgeth her.

Rev 18:9 And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when **they shall see the smoke of her burning,**

Rev 18:10 Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas, **that great city Babylon,** that **mighty city!** for **in one hour** is thy judgment come.

Rev 18:11 **And the merchants** of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for **no man buyeth their merchandise any more:**

Rev 18:12 The merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble,

Rev 18:13 And cinnamon, and odours, and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts, and sheep, and horses, and chariots, and slaves, and souls of men.

Rev 18:14 And the fruits that thy soul lusted after are departed from thee, and all things which were dainty and goodly are departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more at all.

Rev 18:15 The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, **shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment,** weeping and wailing,

Rev 18:16 And saying, Alas, alas, that **great city,** that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls!

Rev 18:17 **For in one hour** so great riches is come to nought. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off,

Rev 18:18 And cried when they saw **the smoke of her burning,** saying, What *city is* like unto this **great city!**

Rev 18:19 And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas, **that great city,** wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate.

Rev 18:20 **Rejoice over her,** *thou* heaven, and *ye* **holy apostles and prophets;** for **God hath avenged you on her.**

Rev 18:21 And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast *it* into the sea, saying, Thus **with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down,** and **shall be found no more at all.**

Rev 18:22 And the voice of harpers, and musicians, and of pipers, and trumpeters, shall be heard no more at all in thee; and no craftsman, of whatsoever craft *he be,* shall be found any more in thee; and the sound of a millstone shall be heard no more at all in thee;

Rev 18:23 And **the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee:** for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by **thy sorceries** were **all nations deceived.**

Rev 18:24 And **in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints,** and of all that were slain upon the earth.

Descriptions of the evil of the Great City is given along with the interaction of the worlds Nations, accepting and following this manner of evil that came out of this Great city. Note the information in Rev 18:20 is particularly important.

With the destruction of the Great City, there results in a great rejoicing in heaven.

Rev 19:1 And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God:

Rev 19:2 For true and righteous *are* his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, **and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand.**

Rev 19:3 And again they said, Alleluia. And her smoke rose up for ever and ever.

Note that right after the City of symbolic Babylon was destroyed, there was celebration in Heaven. So it definitely was not Jerusalem which is said to have 7 hills in its walls.

Gathering *information* or *data* that defines the Great City is the *criteria* that defines or identifies the Great City. This information is gathered from the scriptures above and is summarized as follows;

Criteria of the specific Great City

- **A City** that is the world center of evil
- Sits on seven mountains or hills
- Reigns over the leaders of the world
- Drunken with the blood of the **Prophets**, Martyrs and Saints
- It is filled with abominations; it knows God and purposely acts against Him.
- Contains within it those who are a light to the world, the bride and the bridegroom (they are called out)
- Major fornication against God
- Merchants of the world traded with her and followed her ways
- Vatican worships Lucifer and the Vatican is included as part of the City of Rome
- Deals with sorcery ? This is the most difficult to identify as usually it is very secret (we do not know for sure if rumors are true).

The USA does not have a history of the blood of **Prophets**, Saints and Martyrs. It does not have a city that is prominent throughout the world that sits on seven mountains or high hills.

Other major countries that reign over others, such as China and Russia, are not associated with killing the **Prophets**.

The only Great City today appears to be Rome that sits on seven mountains. Within Rome is the Vatican which reigns over the kings (leaders) of the earth and which is drunken with the blood of the Prophets, Saints and Martyrs. The Vatican is a major part of this City of Rome. In addition this City promoted major fornication in the time of the Roman Empire, and it has been followed even today by other Nations. Also there were and are some contained within Rome as a light to the world and being the Bride and the Bridegroom, they are called to come out before the plagues of God come down on the City. This City is the one that directed and carried out the killing of the **Prophets** (Jesus and the Apostles) and later the Saints. The Vatican also appears to some

extent to deal with Sorcery and lately rumors are that child trafficking and Satan worship also are attached to the Vatican. Worship of Lucifer as stated by the Pope as well as a Vatican chant, has been made in our current days. Throughout the world the Catholic Church sexually abused children and also in special schools they drastically physically abused native children resulting in many deaths. Think also of the many martyrs of the Catholic Inquisitions. Even today the Pope has a major influence on the leaders of the Nations throughout the world. Most all go to pay homage to the Pope. Many of the world leaders are or have been Catholic. In earlier times Rome was the center of the world and associated as a major trading center with feed to it with sea ports. Even today it is looked upon as a major trade center for Italy and some of Europe.

Today it appears that only Rome fits the criteria from scripture that describes this Great City. Rome with the Vatican as an integral part of it would then be described as the Mystery of Babylon. There are rumors of child sacrifice in the Vatican and rituals of witchcraft with the illuminati. Some say that the Eucharist with its chants and actions are sorcery. Worship of Satan and distortion of God's word is Blasphemy but not sorcery. The criteria of sorcery or witchcraft is the only one of the Criteria that is difficult to know absolutely if it occurs in the Vatican. All of the other criteria listed above are satisfied as occurring in Rome.

The destruction of symbolic Babylon is permanent, it occurs quickly in **one hour** or within a very short period of time and the **City is utterly burned with fire** and smoke rises from her burning.

What is also important to us in recognizing end time events, as comes from verse Rev 14:9, declared by the third angel right after the announcement that Babylon has fallen. The announcement is occurring at some time just before or around the start of the Tribulation. It is a last warning to the world of the test of God coming upon the whole world. This tells us the destruction of the City occurs before the Tribulation begins. The first three plagues of God are peace being taken from the world, famine and death. We are told above that symbolic Babylon is experiencing these at the time it is destroyed, Rev 18:8, which also places it in the time of sorrows.

We need to wait and watch for the destruction of the Great City, then we will definitely know which city and then we will see the Tribulation starting shortly after.

Be careful and know how you must walk forward in order to pass the Test of God before the start of the Tribulation.

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