

Sunday, September 8, 2024

1 Timothy 4:13, "Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching."

Title: Fallen, Fallen is Babylon the Great

Series: Revelation ... 24

Text: Revelation 18

Purpose: I want to INFORM my congregation of the ANNOUNCEMENTS against Babylon and why God is going to judge it!

Introduction:

- ~ In chapter 17 of Revelation we observed the destruction of Babylon the Great Prostitute:
- ~ The Great Prostitute Revealed; The Prostitute Compared to Israel; The Great Prostitute Judged
- ~ Here in chapter 18 we witness the demise of Babylon the great! That is her commercial power!
- ~ "Babylon was not only an ancient city and a powerful empire, but also the symbol of mankind's rebellion against God."
- ~ "God clearly indicates here his hatred for business and governments founded on greed and oppressive power."
- ~ Three key words that aid our understanding of chapter 18:
 - ~ "merchants" vs. 3, 11, 15, 23
 - ~ "single hour" or day vs. 8, 10, 17, 19
 - ~ "no more" vs. 20, 22, 22, 22, 23, 23
- ~ This purging is in preparation for the 1,000 year kingdom!

1. Announcement of Condemnation:

- ~ vs. 1-3
- ~ vs. 1, "After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was made bright with his glory."
- ~ vs. 2 informs us of one of the reasons for this judgment
- ~ "She has become a dwelling place..."

~ "The church, the bride of the Lamb, is the habitation of God (Eph. 2:22); Babylon, on the other hand, is the habitation of Satan (Revelation 18:2).

~ Remember the parable of the sower and the seeds in Mark 4?

~ Revelation 14:8, "Another angel, a second, followed, saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, she who made the nations drink the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality."

~ vs. 3 compared with 2 Timothy 3:2 – 5 and 1 Timothy 6:3 - 10

2. Announcement of Separation:

- ~ vs. 4 – 8
- ~ vs. 4 "sometimes described as the last generation of believers."
- ~ vs. 6 – 7 give at least two more reasons for God's judgment:
 - ~ the sin of pride which is the original sin; James 4:6 – 8 and 1 Peter 5:5
 - ~ worship of worldly pleasures 1 John 2:15 - 17

3. Announcement of Lamentation:

- ~ vs. 9 – 19
- ~ notice verses 9, 11, 15, 18, 19
- ~ vs. 13 In the Roman Empire it is estimated that 1/3 of the population (60 million) were slaves; some daily slave auctions would sell as many as 10,000 slaves.
- ~ according to the Global Slavery Index there were an estimated 50 million slaves in 2021

4. Announcement of Praise:

- ~ vs. 20 – 24
- ~ "no more" vs. 20, 22, 22, 23, 23
- ~ vs. 24 another reason of God's judgment on 'Babylon the great;' "And in her was found the blood of prophets and of saints, and of all who have been slain on earth."

Conclusion:

Revelation 19:1 - 5