

# **GET OUT! NOW!**

Part 3 of PREPARING FOR JESUS. Revelation 18:1-8.  
Peter Foxwell. Cornerstone Church. December 11, 2022.

## **APARTMENT FIRE**

**Kim woke me up at 2:00 AM.**

**Revelation 18 rings a fire alarm for Christians - Get out! Now!**

## **DEFINING TERMS IN REVELATION 18**

### **The speaker**

- Jesus Christ - greater authority, glory, and voice than Babylon

### **Literal Babylon**

- City and empire that conquered Jerusalem in 586 BC.
- Symbolic of God-rejecting, idolatrous, oppressive nations.

### **Spiritual Babylon in Revelation 18**

- A code word for Rome and its empire.
- Also symbolic of all God rejecting nations.

### **Sexual immorality and immorality**

- Refers to spiritual unfaithfulness - spiritual adultery.
- James 4:4-5; Jeremiah 3:20; Ezekiel 16:15-19; Hosea 3:1-5

## REVELATION 18:1-8

**The Lord Jesus Christ Revealed:** After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was made bright with his glory. 2 And he called out with a mighty voice,

**True Babylon Revealed:** “Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! She has become a dwelling place for demons, a haunt for every unclean spirit, a haunt for every unclean bird, a haunt for every unclean and detestable beast. 3 For all nations have drunk the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have grown rich from the power of her luxurious living.”

**The Message to Christian Revealed:** 4 Then I heard another voice from heaven saying, “Come out of her, my people, lest you take part in her sins, lest you share in her plagues; 5 for her sins are heaped high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities.

**The Destruction of Babylon Revealed:** 8 For this reason her plagues will come in a single day, death and mourning and famine, and she will be burned up with fire; for mighty is the Lord God who has judged her.”

## HOW TO GET OUT OF BABYLON

### 1. We should get out realistically.

- It's impossible to totally, physically, geographically get out of Babylon. It's a worldwide culture.
- We can get out spiritually by faithfully following Jesus and refusing to embrace Babylon's godless values.

James 4:4 (ESV) You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God?

- In John 17, Jesus revealed the purpose for staying in Babylon:

John 17:15-19 (ESV) I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. 18 As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.

## **2. We might have to get out radically.**

- If we feel so squeezed that our faith begins to falter ...
- If we see our kids being "educated" into Babylon's values and behaviors ...
- If we are targets because we profess Christ, we have three choices: 1) accept/endure, 2) challenge/resist, 3) flee (See Acts 8:1; Matthew 10:23).
- Let me meddle for a minute:

## **3. We have to get out relationally.**

- We should do this together as a supportive church family.
- The greatest threat to the Christian faith is from inside the church; professing "Christians" who believe faithfully following Jesus is optional.
- It starts with the deadly "sin" of individualism: I don't need the church and I don't want to be taught anything or held accountable.

1 Peter 5:8-9 (ESV) Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. 9

- Either the church is teaching us or Babylon is.

## **GET OUT, NOW!**

- God tears down every "Babylonian" empire. The final destruction is coming.
- Revelation 18:8 (ESV) "... and she will be burned up with fire; for mighty is the Lord God who has judged her."

# CORNERSTONE GROUPS - TALK IT OVER

Pick one or more of these questions to discuss this week.

**Start Talking.** Get the conversation going.

- Where/when/how do you feel most vulnerable to "Babylon's" influences?

**Start Thinking.** Review Sunday's teaching on Revelation 12:7-12.

- Review Sunday's study guide or watch Peter's teaching on YouTube.
- What part of the teaching most impacted your thinking?
- Read these passages about literal and spiritual Babylon: Revelation 14:8; Isaiah 13:20-22; 34:11,14; 47:14; Jeremiah 51.
- Read these passages about spiritual adultery: James 4:4-5; Jeremiah 3:20; Ezekiel 16:15-19; Hosea 3:1-5..

**Start Sharing.** Apply Sunday's teaching.

- How urgent do you think it is for faithful Christians to get out of Babylon? What does that mean for us practically speaking?
- Nancy Guthrie writes, "Every Babylon turns violent towards those who resist and expose her true ugliness" (Blessed, p. 192). Discuss. Examples? Watch alarming video: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=hH5wxk5SnoA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hH5wxk5SnoA)

**Start Praying.** Be bold.

*Lord Jesus Christ, you are the King over all the earth. We submit to your rule over us. However, we also live in spiritual Babylon, a culture saturated by anti-God, anti-Christ ideologies and lifestyles. It is challenging to remain faithful in spiritual Babylon. Give us more grace to heed the fire alarm and get out. Show us where we're compromised and show us to remain faithful to you. We pray these things in your Name and for your glory. Amen!*

**Keep Reading/Watching for More Insights.**

- For 12/18/22 - Blessed, Chapter 9.
- For some ideas about "getting out of Baylon," watch this: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=QXiHpVrfgD4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QXiHpVrfgD4). Agree, disagree?