

# *What is Babylon?*

## *Isaiah Ch. 13-14*

*Babylon, the beauty of kingdoms, the splendor and pride of the Chaldeans, will be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah. It will never be inhabited or lived in for all generations; Arabs will not pitch their tents there, nor will shepherds make their flocks lie down there. But wild animals will lie down there, its houses will be full of howling creatures, and there the goat demons will dance. Hyenas will cry in its towers, and jackals in the luxurious towers. Her time is close at hand, and her days will not be prolonged.* Isaiah 13: 19-20

*After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illumined with his glory. And he cried out with a mighty voice, saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! She has become a dwelling place of demons, a haunt of every unclean spirit, a haunt of every foul bird, and a haunt of every foul and hateful beast.* Revelation 18:1-2

### **What's the deal with Babylon?**

- What is it?
  - Its name: Bab-elyon, The Gate of God. (Elyon = God)
  - The first great or noted city.
  - The confluence of world thought.
  - Political and military power.
  - The seat of civilization.
  - The root of western mythology and idolatry.

---

- The **literal** city and kingdom.
  - Nearly identical with Assyrian kingdom in size and brutality.
  - First king, Nabopolassar, 626 BCE
  - Last king, Nabonidus, and son Belshazzar. Kingdom ended in 539 at the Battle of Opis on the Tigris River.
  - Now a ruin (the city). \_\_\_\_\_
- The **figurative** city.
  - The seat or confluence of ideas that dominate world thought ethics, and morality.

- New mythologies:
  - Secular humanism: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Naturalistic philosophy: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Nihilism: \_\_\_\_\_
  - The deletion of God.

### **The Prophets Declaration.** Is. 13

- The Lord's Army. 1-8. \_\_\_\_\_
- The day of the Lord. 9-16. \_\_\_\_\_
- The Medo-Persian conqueror. 17-18. \_\_\_\_\_
- The eternal fate of Babylon. 19-22. \_\_\_\_\_
- The restoration of Israel. 14:1-2. \_\_\_\_\_

### **How does God accomplish his purpose?**

- By use of an outside agent, Persia, and without any effort on the part of Israel.
- The agent of ultimate judgment: Rev. 19:14, 20:9.

### **What does this mean to us today?** (This is not a "wagging" finger)

- Babylon is still here. \_\_\_\_\_
- God will render judgment. \_\_\_\_\_
- God will restore. \_\_\_\_\_

### **More to the point -----**

- We are not the army, nor the agent for God's judgment.
- We have another task.

### **Matthew 5: 38-48.**

- Do not resist the one who does evil. \_\_\_\_\_
- Correctly understanding "An eye for an eye . . ."  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Love your enemies. \_\_\_\_\_

### **Are there frightening consequences, absolutely!**

But, we do not define the boundaries of our relationship with God, we do not tell Him what we will or will not do.

### **James 4: 7-17.**

*Draw near to God and He will draw near to you . . .humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you. There is only one lawgiver and judge, the one who is able to save and to destroy; but who are you to judge your neighbor?*

***Are we listening?***

# *What is Babylon?*

## *Isaiah Ch. 13-14*

*Babylon, the beauty of kingdoms, the splendor and pride of the Chaldeans, will be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah. It will never be inhabited or lived in for all generations; Arabs will not pitch their tents there, nor will shepherds make their flocks lie down there. But wild animals will lie down there, its houses will be full of howling creatures, and there the goat demons will dance. Hyenas will cry in its towers, and jackals in the luxurious towers. Her time is close at hand, and her days will not be prolonged.* Isaiah 13: 19-20

*After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illumined with his glory. And he cried out with a mighty voice, saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! She has become a dwelling place of demons, a haunt of every unclean spirit, a haunt of every foul bird, and a haunt of every foul and hateful beast.* Revelation 18:1-2

### **What's the deal with Babylon?**

- What is it?
  - Its name: Bab-elyon, The \_\_\_\_\_ of God. (Elyon = God)
  - The \_\_\_\_\_ great or noted city.
  - The confluence of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Political and military \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The \_\_\_\_\_ of civilization.
  - The root of western mythology and idolatry.
- The **literal** city and kingdom.
  - Nearly identical with Assyrian kingdom in size and brutality.
  - First king, Nabopolassar, 626 BCE
  - Last king, Nabonidus, and son Belshazzar. Kingdom ended in 539 at the Battle of Opis on the Tigris River.
  - Now a ruin (the city). \_\_\_\_\_
- The **figurative** city.
  - The seat or confluence of ideas that dominate world thought ethics, and morality.

- New mythologies:
  - Secular humanism: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Naturalistic philosophy: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Nihilism: \_\_\_\_\_
  - The \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

### **The Prophets Declaration.** Is. 13

- The Lord's Army. 1-8. \_\_\_\_\_
- The day of the Lord. 9-16. \_\_\_\_\_
- The Medo-Persian conqueror. 17-18. \_\_\_\_\_
- The eternal fate of Babylon. 19-22. \_\_\_\_\_
- The restoration of Israel. 14:1-2. \_\_\_\_\_

### **How does God accomplish his purpose?**

- By use of an \_\_\_\_\_ agent, Persia, and without any effort on the part of Israel.
- The agent of ultimate judgment: Rev. 19:14, 20:9.

### **What does this mean to us today?** (This is not a "wagging" finger)

- Babylon is \_\_\_\_\_.
- God will \_\_\_\_\_.
- God will \_\_\_\_\_.

### **More to the point -----**

- We are \_\_\_\_\_ the army, nor the agent for God's judgment.
- We have \_\_\_\_\_ task.

### **Matthew 5: 38-48.**

- Do not \_\_\_\_\_ the one who does evil. \_\_\_\_\_
- Correctly understanding "An eye for an eye . . ."
- \_\_\_\_\_ your enemies. \_\_\_\_\_

### **Are there frightening consequences, absolutely!**

But, we \_\_\_\_\_ define the boundaries of our relationship with God, we do not tell Him what we will or will not do.

### **James 4: 7-17.**

*Draw near to God and He will draw near to you . . . humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you. There is only one lawgiver and judge, the one who is able to save and to destroy; but who are you to judge your neighbor?*

***Are we listening?***