

**THE SECOND COMING Part 9**  
**Babylon The Great City Has Fallen**  
**Revelation 18:1-24**

**The Angelic Announcement (18:1-3)**

Another angel coming down from heaven having great authority (1) = refers to the delegated authority from God to speak on His behalf.

And the earth was illuminated with his glory = the reflective glory of God. – Compare with Luke 2:9-11 & 24:4-5

- The earth was illuminated = this would definitely not go unnoticed in a darkened Babylon – Rev. 16:10-11

And he (the angel) cried out with a mighty voice (2) = a voice that would not go unheard.

Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! = The warning given by a previous angel (14:8) is now a reality.

The moral depravity of Babylon described (2):

- Dwelling place of demons
- A prison of every unclean spirit = Babylon once considered their home is now their prison.
  - Compare with Rev. 20:1-3a
- A prison of every unclean and hateful bird = this phrase emphasizes Babylon's total destruction. The unclean and hateful birds refer to birds of prey and scavengers that circle over and feed off the dead.

The reason for the destruction = see verse 3. Compare with the harlot in 17:2.

**A Call For God's People to Leave Babylon (18:4-5)**

The warning given to "My people" could be comparable to the removal of Lot from Sodom (Gen. 19:1-17) – See also 2Cor. 6:14-18

- It could also be an evangelistic call to the elect that have not yet come to saving faith. Col. 1:13-14

For her sins have piled as high as heaven (5) = those who built the "Tower of Babel" desired its "top will reach into heaven." (Gen. 11:4)

**A Call For Judgment (18:6-8)**

Pay her back even as she has paid (6) = this statement parallels the prayers of the martyred saints recorded in Rev. 6:9-10

And give back double according to her deeds in the cup, which she mixed, mix twice as much for her. Compare with the harlot – 17:1-6.

Babylon's judgment will be swift and complete (7-8) = Compare with Isaiah 47:7-15

- In one day her plagues will come (8) = all at once

### **The World Mourns For Babylon (18:9-19)**

The kings of the earth (9-10) = the same ones spoken of in 17:2 & 18:3, and most likely include the 10 kings of the antichrist's confederacy (17:12-13).

- The kings will be "standing at a distance because of the fear of her torment."  
(10) = Unlike Belshazzar of Babylon of old these kings will understand the "writing on the wall."
- Woe, woe = is a cry of grief

The merchants of the earth (11-19)

- Slaves and human lives (13) = literally means bodies and souls of men
- For in one hour such great wealth has been laid waste (17) = the merchants cried woe, woe (16) for the loss of wealth, yet no expression of sorrow for the loss of human life.
- The shipmasters also mourned for the loss of lucrative incomes (17-19).
  - Throwing dust and ashes on their heads (19) is symbolic of severe distress. Example: Lam. 2:10

### **God's People told to Rejoice (18:20)**

Rejoice = to make merry. Same verb used in Rev. 11:10

O heaven = all of heaven, including the angels and all saints

- Apostles and prophets = who were foundational in establishing the church. – Eph. 2:19-22

### **The Second Angelic Pronouncement of Judgment (18:21-24)**

Like a great millstone (21) = 4 to 5 feet in diameter and around 12 inches thick, weighing thousands of pounds.

The total destruction of Babylon is restated – verses 22 & 23

The reasons for Babylon's destruction are restated in 18:23b-24