

Q: Think of every time, every Christ-follower was ridiculed, or persecuted and suffered for standing firm with Jesus, to do the right thing. Here, they get a “front row seat” at God’s perfect justice and vindication. How would this be encouraging to persecuted Christians throughout the ages and even for you and I today?

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Q: How do these two chapters give you a new perspective on the most important things in life, our uncompromising faith in Christ, and thus avoiding the attitudes, perspectives and priorities of this godless world we live in? \_\_\_\_\_

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Q: As a member of God’s eternal family, His Kingdom, how have you felt pressure to adopt to the lifestyle (and choices/attitudes/beliefs/priorities) of today’s “kingdom of Babylon?” \_\_\_\_\_

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Q: What steps can we take now, (or continue doing), to avoid falling into the subtle traps of this world? Do your beliefs, goals and ambitions in life echo those supported by this godless world? Or do they reflect how you aim to “seek first the Kingdom of God?” \_\_\_\_\_

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*PRAY: Lord, thank you that one day, all the evil in this world will bow to your perfect justice and be eliminated. Lord, help me to stay firm each day, in Your Word, in prayer, in fellowship with other believers, in serving You, and pointing others to You. Even when ridiculed for following You, help me stand firm and do the right thing. Help me demonstrate your forgiveness, your Truth, wrapped in grace, and the hope we find only in You Jesus. In Jesus’ name, we pray, AMEN!*



HARVEST  
E-FREE CHURCH

# Growing Deeper

*A Disciplemaking Tool of Harvest Evangelical Free Church  
(for personal and/or small group study)*

Week of April 3, 2022

Revelation 17 & 18

Chapter 16 described the final plagues of God’s wrath against unrepentant, worshippers of (Satan) the beast. Instead of repenting and finding forgiveness, they “cursed God,” their focus was only on themselves. Here in chapters 17 & 18, John provides more detail on the destruction of Babylon (a symbol of the final end-time religious, economic and political system of those who reject God).

Q: Who might some say are the “most influential” people in our world today? What attracts people to follow them?

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Q: In the Old Testament, unfaithful Israel was described as a prostitute, for their rejection of God. Here, what do the symbols of “the woman” and “Babylon” represent? \_\_\_\_\_

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Q: How does this symbolic woman differ greatly from the symbolic woman described in chapter 12? \_\_\_\_\_

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Q: How might our Western culture be similar to this “Babylon” and fall for the similar seductive allure of this “woman” (false religion)?

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Q: How is the beast described here? How is this similar to the description in Rev 13?

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Q: What is so alluring about this “woman?” How does evil actually appear (subtly) attractive in your life? Give a few examples.

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Q: In Scripture, Babylon came to symbolize all evil and proud kingdoms, systems or powers, aligned against God. (starting in Gen 10-11, with the prideful attempt to build the tower of Babel, “gateway to god;” to the later nation of Babylon that took God’s people into exile). 1 Pet 5:13 equated the pagan Roman Empire with “Babylon.” Ancient Rome was called the city of “seven hills” reflecting it’s geography. Although not certain, the seven heads (kingdoms) could refer to the major empires listed in Biblical history (Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome, the future kingdom of the Antichrist yet to come). How do the descriptions here, combine the traits of the woman (false religion/immorality), the beast (antichrist) and Babylon (the entire kingdom of all evil) all coming together as one?

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Q:(vv.12-14) Why do the kings and the beast join forces? (\*Note the limited time “one hour” they are given).

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Q: Why does the beast who supported the “prostitute” (false religion) (v.3), now (v.16-17) turn against her to destroy her? What does this reveal when evil turns upon itself? \_\_\_\_\_

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Q: (vv.14, 17) How do God’s greater purposes triumph through all this? What do we learn about God and the Lamb (Jesus)? Who is in control?

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Q: How does Babylon symbolize all that is wrong in society today?

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Q: (18:1-8) A mighty angel from heaven, with great authority, shouts the final destruction of Babylon (and all it’s self-made, godlessness). How does God’s perspective of it differ from Babylon’s self-understanding?

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Q: (v.4) God calls his people to “come out of Babylon” to avoid her sins and God’s punishment of her. In what ways can Christ-followers be subtly led into the sins and godless beliefs of this world and maybe not even realize it? Why is it therefore imperative that we stay grounded in God’s Truth, in prayer and fellowship, led by His Holy Spirit, each day? \_\_\_\_\_

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Q; (vv.9-20) What specific groups of people mourn over Babylon’s destruction? Why do they mourn? \_\_\_\_\_

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Q: Based on their lack of repentance, who were all these people really only concerned for? Evil, at it’s very heart, is proud and self-focused. \_

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Q: (v.20) What are God’s people told to do!? Why?

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