

## Prophetical Babylon

(Isa 13:1-22; 21:1-10; 47:1-15; Jer 50; 51; Rev 18)

### b. Reasons For The Doom Of Babylon. 47:8-11

- 8 "Now, then, hear this, you sensual one (**'ADIYN = 1x**), who dwells securely, who says in your heart, 'I am, and there is no one besides me. I shall not sit as a widow, nor shall I know loss of children.'

**Summary:**

1. **This Babylon is unique in history concerning its addiction to pleasure.**
2. **It's major problem is that it knows it is the best in the history of the world.**
3. **It believes that its "husband" the king, will not die.**
4. **It has come to believe that it cannot be destroyed.**

- 9 "But these two things shall come on you suddenly (**REGA' = a wink**) in one day: loss of children and widowhood. They shall come on you in full measure in spite of your many sorceries (**KESHEPH = 6x; witchcrafts**), in spite of the great power of your spells (**CHEBER = 7x; Deut 18:11 are labeled as an abomination to the Lord; the magic arts**).

**Summary:**

1. **Other passages say, "in one hour of one day." Rev 18:10,17,19**
2. **Their hopes and dreams for a future will vanish.**
3. **They believe that they can "charm away" any evil that comes their way with their great intellect and connection to the spirit world.**

- 10 "And you felt secure in your wickedness (**RA' = evil**) and said, 'No one sees me,' Your wisdom and your knowledge, they have deluded you; for you have said in your heart, 'I am, and there is no one besides me.'

- 11 "But evil will come on you which you will not know how to charm away; and disaster will fall on you for which you cannot atone, and destruction about which you do not know will come on you suddenly.

**Summary:**

1. **Knowledge makes arrogant. 1 Cor 8:1**
2. **They believed that their evil thoughts and attitudes were undetected, especially by God.**
3. **Besides becoming anti-Jew, they became massively arrogant, much like the king they serve.**

**c. Your Gods Won't Save You. 47:12-15**

12 "Stand fast now in your spells and in your many sorceries with which you have labored from your youth; perhaps you will be able to profit, perhaps you may cause trembling.

**Summary:**

1. **This is the Lord expressing His permissive will and letting their volition function.**
2. **Even though it is in arrogant rebellion.**
3. **The arrogant rebellion may produce a profit and generate fear, but it is doomed to failure.**

13 "You are wearied with your many counsels; let now the astrologers, those who prophesy by the stars, those who predict by the new moons, stand up and save you from what will come upon you.

14 "Behold, they have become like stubble, fire burns them; they cannot deliver themselves from the power of the flame; there will be no coal to warm by, nor a fire to sit before!

15 "So have those become to you with whom you have labored, who have trafficked with you from your youth; each has wandered in his own way. There is none to save you.

**Summary:**

1. **Even though the inhabitants of Babylon seem to know and have it all, they are wearied by the forecasters.**
2. **This is a challenge to let the so-called latter day "prophets" protect them from what is coming on them.**
3. **The bottom line is that there is no one to save them, for they forsook the Redeemer of Israel.**

**Isaiah 48:1-22**

**A. Prophecies of Israel's Deliverance and the Greatness of God (40:1-48:22)**

**13. Lament For Babylon. 47:1-15**

**14. Israel's Obstinacy. 48:1-11**

1 "Hear this, O house of Jacob, who are named Israel and who came forth from the loins (**waters**) of Judah, who swear by the name of the LORD and invoke the God of Israel, but not in truth nor in righteousness.

2 "For they call themselves after the holy city, and lean on the God of Israel; the LORD of hosts is His name.

3 "I declared the former things long ago and they went forth from My mouth, and I proclaimed them. Suddenly (**PITH'OM = 25x; in an instant; suddenly**) I acted, and they came to pass.

**Summary:**

1. **This section is sandwiched between two prophecies concerning Babylon.**
2. **It indicates that this concerns Israel of the last days.**
3. **Israel, for the most part in their history, remains hypocritical in their service to Yahweh.**
4. **Prophecy, by its very nature, indicates a proclamation about the future. It is not simply “preaching” either in the Age of Israel or the Church.**
5. **God often brings prophecies to pass without warning, to those who are not looking to Him for guidance.**
6. **In particular, judgment on Babylon will occur suddenly. Isa 47:11; Jer 51:8**
7. **One day, He will suddenly return with the “Refiner’s Fire.” Mal 3:1-6**

- 4 "Because I know that you (**Israel**) are obstinate, and your neck is an iron sinew, and your forehead bronze,
- 5 Therefore I declared them to you long ago, before they took place I proclaimed them to you, lest you should say, 'My idol has done them, and my graven image and my molten image have commanded them.'
- 6 "You have heard; look at all this. And you, will you not declare it? I proclaim to you new things from this time, even hidden things which you have not known.
- 7 "They are created now and not long ago; and before today you have not heard them, lest you should say, 'Behold, I knew them.'
- 8 "You have not heard, you have not known. Even from long ago your ear has not been open, because I knew that you would deal very treacherously; and you have been called a rebel from birth.
- 9 "For the sake of My name I delay My wrath, and for My praise I restrain it for you, in order not to cut you off.
- 10 "Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction.
- 11 "For My own sake, for My own sake, I will act; for how can My name be profaned? And My glory I will not give to another.

**Summary:**

1. **Israel of the last days is spiritually obstinate.**
2. **They have actually fallen into idol worship.**
3. **Remember that the Millennial Kingdom will not contain a mass of the world religions, “living for today, living in peace.”**
4. **The Kingdom will be to the glory of the Lord, alone.**

**A. Prophecies of Israel’s Deliverance and the Greatness of God (40:1-48:22)**

15. **Deliverance Promised. 48:12-22**
  - a. **The Messiah. 48:12-16**

- 12 "Listen to me, O Jacob, even Israel whom I called; I am He (**HU' ANIY = He am I**), I am the first (**R'SHON = 182x; first**), I am also the last. (**aCHRON = 51x; last**)
- 13 "Surely My hand founded the earth (**Qal PF YAsADH =**), and My right hand spread out the heavens; when I (**Myself**) call to them, they (**heavens and earth**) stand together (**Lit: as one**).
- 14 "Assemble, all of you (**Israel**), and listen! Who among them (**Israel**) has declared these things? The LORD loves him (**the one who listens**); he shall carry out His good pleasure on Babylon, and His arm shall be against the Chaldeans.
- 15 "I, even I, have spoken; indeed I have called him (**Jacob**), I have brought him, and He will make his ways successful.
- 16 "Come near to me (**Me**), listen to this: from the first I have not spoken in secret, from the time it took place, I was there. And now the Lord GOD (**ADONAI YAHWEH**) has sent me, and His Spirit."

**Summary:**

1. **The Lord Jesus is the "first" and "last." Rev 2:8; 22:13**
2. **He created the heavens and earth. Cf Col 1:15-20**
3. **The Father sends the Son and Spirit to carry out His will.**

**b. The Cost Of Rejection. 48:17-19**

- 17 Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel; "I am the LORD your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you in the way you should go.
- 18 "If only you had paid attention to My commandments! Then your well-being (**peace**) would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea.
- 19 "Your descendants would have been like the sand, and your offspring like its grains; their name would never be cut off or destroyed from My presence."

**c. The Lack Of Peace. 48:20-22**

- 20 Go forth from Babylon! Flee from the Chaldeans! Declare with the sound of joyful shouting, proclaim this, send it out to the end of the earth; say, "The LORD has redeemed His servant Jacob."
- 21 And they did not thirst when He led them through the deserts. He made the water flow out of the rock for them; He split the rock, and the water gushed forth.
- 22 "There is no peace for the wicked," says the LORD.

**Summary:**

1. **Once again, the Lord confronts Israel for their disobedience.**
2. **By His grace alone have they prospered, yet they have not given Him the glory.**
3. **The primary command would involve believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, their Redeemer, and being imputed with His righteousness after the pattern of Abraham.**
4. **They could have been blessed more than they were and not lost so many genetic lines of the heritage.**
5. **Didn't they remember when the Lord delivered them from Egypt??**
6. **Wickedness, a lack of obedience to God, is a primary reason that they do not have peace.**

**7. Again, a warning to flee Babylon in the last days.**