

Prophetical Babylon

(Isa 13:1-22; 21:1-10; 47-48; Jer 50-51; Rev 18)

Jeremiah 50:1-46

- I. Jeremiah's Call and Commission. (1:1-19)
- II. Prophecies to Judah. (2:1-45:5)
- III. Prophecies to the Gentiles. (46:1-51:64)
 - I. Prophecies Against Babylon. (50:1-51:64)

7. More Description Of The Destruction. 50:21-27

- 21 "Against the land of Merathaim (means "double rebellion,") go up against it, and against the inhabitants of Pekod (**visitation for the purpose of punishment**). Slay and utterly destroy them," declares the LORD, "And do according to all that I have commanded you.
- 22 "The noise of battle is in the land, and great destruction.
- 23 "How the hammer of the whole earth has been cut off and broken! How Babylon has become an object of horror among the nations!
- 24 "I set a snare for you (**Babylon**), and you were also caught, O Babylon, while you yourself were not aware; you have been found and also seized because you have engaged in conflict with the LORD."
- 25 The LORD has opened His armory and has brought forth the weapons of His indignation, for it is a work of the Lord GOD of hosts in the land of the Chaldeans.
- 26 Come to her from the farthest border; open up her barns, Pile her up like heaps and utterly destroy her, let nothing be left to her.
- 27 Put all her young bulls to the sword; let them go down to the slaughter! Woe be upon them, for their day has come, the time of their punishment.

Summary:

- 1. The Lord tested Babylon to take care of His people, and she failed.
- 2. Babylon was considered the "hammer of the whole earth," indicating that she was the greatest military power.
- 3. The Lord's weapons were indeed much greater.
- 4. The time of punishment will be complete, arriving in one day.
- 5. Her rebellion against the Lord was not just passive but became active, thus her title of "Merathaim."

8. Some Will Escape. 50:28

28 There is a sound of fugitives and refugees from the land of Babylon, to declare in Zion the vengeance of the LORD our God, vengeance for His temple.

Summary:

1. **Indeed, some will escape before the total destruction.**
2. **Some escapees will go to Israel and proclaim what is getting ready to happen.**
3. **About the time of the destruction of Prophetical Babylon during the Tribulation, the Antichrist will take his seat in the Tribulational temple and proclaim himself to be a god. 2 Thes 2:4**

9. Babylon's Arrogance. 50:29-32

29 "Summon many against Babylon (**Jeremiah**), all those who bend the bow: encamp against her on every side, let there be no escape. Repay her according to her work; according to all that she has done, so do to her; for she has become arrogant against the LORD, against the Holy One of Israel.

30 "Therefore her young men will fall in her streets, and all her men of war will be silenced in that day," declares the LORD.

31 "Behold, I am against you, O arrogant one," declares the Lord GOD of hosts, "For your day has come, the time when I shall punish you.

32 "And the arrogant one will stumble and fall with no one to raise him up; and I shall set fire to his cities, and it will devour all his environs."

Summary:

1. **Babylon's biggest problem is arrogance, after the pattern of the real King of Babylon.**
2. **Jeremiah, through this writing, will summon the enemies of Prophetical Babylon to totally annihilate her.**
3. **Pride is at the top of the list of the worst sins. Prov 6:16-19; 8:13**

10. Social Structures Destroyed. 50:33-38

33 Thus says the LORD of hosts, "The sons of Israel are oppressed, and the sons of Judah as well (**northern and southern kingdoms**); and all who took them captive have held them fast, they have refused to let them go.

34 "Their Redeemer is strong, the LORD of hosts is His name; He will vigorously plead (**Qal Inf Abs + Qal IPF RIYB + noun RIYB = pleading**) their case, so that He may bring rest (**Hiph RAGA'**) to the earth, but turmoil to the inhabitants of Babylon.

35 "A sword against the Chaldeans," declares the LORD, "And against the inhabitants of Babylon, and against her officials and her wise men!

36 "A sword against the oracle priests, and they will become fools! A sword against her mighty men, and they will be shattered!

37 "A sword against their horses and against their chariots, and against all the foreigners who are in the midst of her, and they will become women! A sword against her treasures, and they will be plundered!

38 "A drought on her waters, and they will be dried up! For it is a land of idols, and they are mad over fearsome idols.

Summary:

1. During this time frame, there is a global anti-Jewish sentiment.
2. The Jews will need to get creative in their escape methods.
3. Those who oppress the Jews do not realize Who they are fighting.
4. The Lord as the Defense Attorney will plead the cause of the Jews.
5. The Lord's purpose is to settle down the animosity the earth has toward Israel.
6. Babylon though will only receive turmoil for her arrogance and anti-Jew sentiment.
7. Those who are close to Babylon will feel it as well as:
 - A. Her officials.
 - B. Her educators.
 - C. Her religious leaders.
 - D. Her warriors.
 - E. Her military equipment.
 - F. Her "mongrel races." (used for Arabs)
8. All the "elite" men of Babylon will become scared.
9. The reason is an unbridled idolatry.

11. After The Destruction. 50:39-40

39 "Therefore the desert creatures will live there along with the jackals; the ostriches also will live in it, and it will never again be inhabited or dwelt in from generation to generation.

40 "As when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah with its neighbors," declares the LORD, "No man will live there, nor will any son of man reside in it. **(Cyrus the Persian defeated the Babylonians in 538 B.C.)**

Summary:

1. This last Babylon will be destroyed forever.
2. There will be no more inhabitants, just like the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.

12. The King From The North. 50:41-43

41 "Behold (**HINNEH**), a people is coming from the north, and a great nation and many kings will be aroused from the remote parts of the earth.

42 "They (**people+great nation+many kings**) seize their bow and javelin; they are cruel and have no mercy. Their voice roars like the sea, and they ride on horses, marshalled like a man for the battle against you, O daughter of Babylon (**BAT BABEL**) .

43 "The king of Babylon has heard the report about them, and his hands hang limp; distress has gripped him, Agony like a woman in childbirth.

Summary:

1. The attack will not come from just one entity, but a group of them that are north of Israel.
2. Their "voice" will be extremely loud.
3. They are going to attack an offspring of Babylonianism, that began at the Tower of Babel. Gen 11

4. Isaiah 47:1 says “Virgin daughter of Babylon.” In that verse “virgin” is BeTULAH and is specific when compared to BAT which is generic.
5. This will happen when this final Babylon is no longer a “virgin” meaning she has been defiled, namely turned from the Lord to commit immorality with other gods.
6. The King of Babylon, namely Satan, can do nothing to stop it while the human in charge of it probably has the same reaction.

13. Someone Challenged The Lord. 50:44-46

44 (Poetry ends-Narrative begins) "Behold, one (there is no antecedent so this is probably the King of Babylon) will come up like a lion from the thicket of the Jordan to a perennially watered pasture; for in an instant I shall make them (subjects of the King of Babylon) run away from it, and whoever is chosen (looks at believers) I shall appoint over it (the pasture). For who is like Me, and who will summon Me into court? And who then is the shepherd who can stand before Me?"

45 Therefore hear the plan of the LORD which He has planned against Babylon, and His purposes which He has purposed against the land of the Chaldeans: surely they (foreigners, cf 51:2) will drag them (inhabitants of Babylon) off, even the little ones of the flock; surely He (the Lord) will make their (inhabitants of Babylon) pasture desolate because of them.

46 At the shout, "Babylon has been seized!" (TAPHAS) the earth is shaken (Niph Pf RA'ASH), and an outcry is heard among the nations. (Narrative ends)

Summary:

1. There is a challenger to the Redeemer, the Lord of Israel, who will attack like a lion.
2. This compares to a description of the Devil, looking for someone to devour. 1 Pet 5:8
3. The Lord has already formulated His battle plan.
4. This last Babylon is the leader of the rebellion against the Lord, in the Tribulation.
5. This indicates that the courtroom battle has been going on for a long period of time, and refers us to the Angelic Conflict.
6. The Babylonians will face inner turmoil before their utter destruction.
7. When Babylon falls, the entire earth is shaken. It is like a massive earthquake.
 - A. The same word is used for the shaking of the heavens at the Second Advent of our Lord.
Isa 13:13; Joel 2:10; 3:16; Hag 2:6,21; Matt 24:29 & Mark 13:25; & Luke 21:26; Heb 12:26-28
 - B. Compare the opening of the 6th Seal Judgment. Rev 6:13
 - C. And the blowing of the 2nd Trumpet Judgment. Rev 8:8