

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)

Jeremiah 51:1-64

18. The Lord Is Against Babylon. 51:24-26

- 24 **(Narrative begins)** "But I will repay Babylon and all the inhabitants of Chaldea for all their evil that they have done in Zion before your eyes," declares the LORD. **(Narrative ends)**
- 25 "Behold, I am against you, O destroying mountain, who destroys the whole earth," declares the LORD, "And I will stretch out My hand against you, and roll you down from the crags and I will make you a burnt out mountain.
- 26 "And they will not take from you even a stone for a corner nor a stone for foundations, but you will be desolate forever," declares the LORD.

Summary:

- 1. **Babylon is identified as a "Destroying Mountain" that has affected the entire earth with their, power, pride, wealth and idolatry.**
- 2. **The problem is that they have committed evil in Zion, namely become anti-Jew.**
- 3. **It appears that this "Mountain" will be cast into the ocean, somewhere around the beginning of the third year of the Tribulation. Rev 8:8-9**

19. Babylon Will Be Without Inhabitant. 51:27-32

- 27 Lift up **(Qal Imp NASA')** a signal in the land, blow a trumpet among the nations! Consecrate the nations against her **(Babylon)**, Summon against her the kingdoms of Ararat, Minni and Ashkenaz **(area around modern Turkey)**; appoint a marshal against her, bring up the horses like bristly locusts.

- 28 Consecrate the nations against her, the kings of the Medes, their governors and all their prefects, and every land of their **(the coalition around the Medes)** dominion.
- 29 So the land quakes and writhes **(to undulate and writhe in pain)**, for the purposes of the LORD against Babylon stand, to make the land of Babylon a desolation without inhabitants. **(This is repeated over and over.)**
- 30 The mighty men of Babylon have ceased fighting, they stay in the strongholds; their strength is exhausted, they are becoming like women; their dwelling places are set on fire, the bars of her gates are broken.
- 31 One courier runs to meet another, and one messenger to meet another, to tell the king of Babylon that his city has been captured from end to end;
- 32 The fords also have been seized, and they have burned the marshes with fire, and the men of war are terrified.

Summary:

1. **Again, this did not happen to Historical Babylon.**
2. **Babylon, who turned her back on Israel, will become the object of hatred by all the nations.**
3. **The language is in the language of the day and indicates that those around Babylon are to attack.**
4. **It also indicates that there are some warnings of what will happen.**
5. **The devastation will set off earthquakes.**
6. **The mighty warriors of Babylon will lose all courage and tremble.**
7. **The flames are so intense that they burn the swamps, so it is not normal fires that are in view.**

20. Harvest Time To Begin. 51:33

- 33 For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "The daughter of Babylon is like a threshing floor At the time it is stamped firm; yet in a little while the time of harvest will come for her."

Summary:

1. **This offspring of Babylon, the last one, is going to be destroyed. Cf Isa 47:1; Jer 50:42 cf Jer 50:12 (last)**
2. **This particular "harvest" is a preview of the removal of the wicked to leave the righteous. Rev 14:17-20**

21. Israel's Cry For Justice. 51:34-40

- 34 "Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon has devoured me **(inhabitant of Zion)** and crushed me, He has set me down like an empty vessel; He has swallowed me like a monster, He has filled his stomach with my delicacies; He has washed me away.
- 35 "May the violence done to me and to my flesh be upon Babylon," the inhabitant of Zion will say; and, "May my blood be upon the inhabitants of Chaldea," Jerusalem will say.
- 36 Therefore thus says the LORD, "Behold, I am going to plead your case And exact full vengeance for you; and I shall dry up her sea and make her fountain dry.

37 "And Babylon will become a heap of ruins, a haunt of jackals, an object of horror and hissing, without inhabitants.

38 "They will roar together like young lions, they will growl like lions' cubs.

39 "When they become heated up, I shall serve them their banquet and make them drunk, that they may become jubilant and may sleep a perpetual sleep and not wake up," declares the LORD.

40 "I shall bring them down like lambs to the slaughter, like rams together with male goats.

Summary:

1. **Judah's initial cry for justice at the time of the captivity will be answered, but not until the appointed time.**
2. **The Lord pours out fire on the earth. Rev 8**
3. **Again, the devastation promised Prophetical Babylon was not completed in the fall of Historical Babylon.**

22. Babylon's Confusion To End. 51:41-44

41 "How Sheshak (this is an "atbash," a figure of speech that reverses the letters in the alphabet. Aleph becomes a Tau, Beth become a Shin, etc. for Babel) has been captured, and the praise of the whole earth been seized! How Babylon has become an object of horror among the nations!

42 "The sea (**HAYYOM = 395x; the sea/ocean used for the Red Sea in Exo; the Mediterranean; a large body of water; not normally referring to a river, which is a NAHAR**) has come up over Babylon; she has been engulfed with its tumultuous waves.

43 "Her cities have become an object of horror, a parched land and a desert, a land in which no man lives, and through which no son of man passes.

44 "And I shall punish Bel (**the god of wind and storm**) in Babylon, and I shall make what he has swallowed come out of his mouth (**from other passages-all the luxuries of the earth**); and the nations will no longer stream to him. Even the wall of Babylon has fallen down!

Summary:

1. **Babylon is known for twisting the truth in varying degrees. Cf Isa 5:20**
2. **Prophetical Babylon is the praise of the whole earth at the time of its destruction, having become a "god" in its own mind.**
3. **This passage indicates that this Babylon will also be hit with a massive tidal wave, that when it recedes will leave a desert.**
4. **This could be the result of a combination of the 2nd and 3rd Trumpet Judgment. Rev 8**

23. Believers Are To Flee Babylon. 51:45-48

45 "Come forth from her midst, My people, and each of you save yourselves from the fierce anger of the LORD.

46 "Now lest your (**My people**) heart grow faint, and you be afraid at the report that will be heard in the land-- for the report will come one year, and after that another

report in another year (**timing of the destruction**), and violence will be in the land with ruler against ruler--

47 Therefore behold, days are coming when I shall punish the idols of Babylon; and her whole land will be put to shame, and all her slain will fall in her midst.

48 "Then heaven and earth and all that is in them will shout for joy over Babylon, for the destroyers will come to her from the north," declares the LORD.

Summary:

1. **People have more than sufficient notice to leave Prophetical Babylon.**
2. **This destruction occurs at the time of the outpouring of the "wrath of God." Cf 1 Thes 1:10; 5:9; Rev 6:16-17; 11:18 etal**
3. **Notice that there will be warnings given in different years. Rev 14:8**
4. **This could very well be on the 1st and 2nd anniversary of the Rapture, making this event close to the beginning of Year 3 of the Tribulation.**
5. **Again, judgment is for the idolatry that exists in this kingdom.**
6. **The destruction will extend to all the land.**
7. **The Church will be part of the heavenly celebration.**
8. **The attack will come from the north.**

24. Extent Of Babylon's Failure. 51:49-51

49 Indeed Babylon is to fall for the slain of Israel, as also for Babylon the slain of all the earth have fallen.

50 You who have escaped the sword, depart! Do not stay! Remember the LORD from afar, and let Jerusalem come to your mind.

51 We (**the people of that time**) are ashamed because we have heard reproach; disgrace has covered our faces, for aliens have entered the holy places of the LORD'S house.

Summary:

1. **Babylon could have stopped the slaughter of Israel and the rest of the earth.**
2. **Tribulational believers are to remember Israel while they are in their native land, for it is at the center of prophecy.**
3. **Tribulational believers are saddened by what has happened to the temple in Jerusalem.**
4. **Remember that the anti-Christ has taken his seat in the temple.**
2 Thes 2:5

25. Babylon Is Fighting The Lord. 51:52-53

52 "Therefore behold, the days are coming," declares the LORD, "When I shall punish her idols, and the mortally wounded will groan throughout her land.

53 "Though Babylon should ascend to the heavens, and though she should fortify her lofty stronghold, from Me destroyers will come to her," declares the LORD.

Summary:

1. **Remember, "Days are coming..."**
2. **The Original Babylon built a tower into heaven. Gen 11**
3. **Historical Babylon worshipped the heavens.**

4. **The Jews actually worshipped the heavens from time to time in spite of being warned against such practices. Deut 4:19; 17:3; 2 Kg 17:16; 21:3; Jer 8:2**
5. **This Babylon has actually gotten to the heavens.**

26. Babylon To Be Silenced. 51:54-58

- 54 The sound of an outcry from Babylon, and of great destruction from the land of the Chaldeans!
- 55 For the LORD is going to destroy Babylon, and He will make her loud noise vanish from her. And their waves will roar like many waters; the tumult of their voices sounds forth.
- 56 For the destroyer is coming against her, against Babylon, and her mighty men will be captured, their bows are shattered; for the LORD is a God of recompense (**GeMULAH = 3x; 2 Sam 19:36; Isa 59:18**), He will fully repay (**Piel IPF SHALAM = settle accounts**).
- 57 "And I shall make her (**Babylon**) princes and her wise men drunk (**Hiph PF + wc SHAKAR = to intoxicate**), her governors, her prefects, and her mighty men, that they may sleep a perpetual sleep and not wake up," declares the King, whose name is the LORD of hosts.
- 58 Thus says the LORD of hosts, "The broad wall of Babylon will be completely razed, and her high gates will be set on fire; so the peoples will toil for nothing, and the nations (**not GOY, but 'AM meaning "peoples"**) become exhausted only for (**because of**) fire."

Summary:

1. **Intoxication can come from things other than liquids. Rev 18:3**
2. **The people will not wake up from this drunk, showing the power of the intoxicants.**
3. **Everyone will eventually "wake up," but some will stand in front of the Great White Throne. Rev 20:11-15**
4. **The "smoke of her burning" appears to pollute the atmosphere of the world. Rev 18:8-9**