

the book of

REVELATION

sermon series



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Tribulation Judgments





Seven Bowls

(Revelation 16)



1st Bowl (16:1-2) – Boils

2nd Bowl (16:3) – Sea becomes blood

3rd Bowl (16:4-7) – Freshwater destroyed

4th Bowl (16:8-9) – Sun scorches man

5th Bowl (16:10-11) – Darkness

6th Bowl (16:13-16) – Euphrates dried

7th Bowl (16:17-21) – Greatest earthquake

7. The Seventh Bowl

Revelation 16:17-21

- a) 7th angel pours out the bowl (17)
- b) Lightning & thunder (18a)
- c) Greatest earthquake (18b)
- d) Jerusalem destroyed (19a)
- e) **Babylon destroyed (19b)**
- f) Every mountain & island moved (20)
- g) 100-pound hailstones (21a)
- h) Man's sinful reaction (21b)



Revelation 16:19

“The great city was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. Babylon the great was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath.”



Revelation 17:1

“Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, “Come here, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters.”



5 Non-Chronological Parenthetical Insertions

Seals (Rev 7) 144,000 JEWS

1 2 3 4 5 6 ↓ 7

Trumpets (Rev 10–11) No Delay; 2 Witnesses

1 2 3 4 5 6 ↓ 7 (Rev 12–14) Israel's flight

Bowls (Rev 16:13-16) Armageddon

1 2 3 4 5 6 ↓ 7 (Rev 17–18) Babylon falls

5 Non-Chronological Parenthetical Insertions

1. Rev 7 – 144,000 Jews
2. Rev 10:1-11:13 – Announcement of no more delay and the two witnesses
3. Rev 12-14 – Israel's flight, two beasts, six scenes of hope
4. Rev 16:13-16 – Gathering of the nations to Armageddon
5. **Rev 17:1-19:6 – Babylon's fall**

The Woman Rides the Beast

Revelation 17

- I. The Vision Concerning Babylon (1-6a)
- II. The Interpretation Concerning Babylon (6b-18)



The Great City of Babylon

Revelation 18

- I. The Prediction of Babylon's Fall (18:1-3)
- II. The Appeal to Separate From Babylon (18:4-8)
- III. The Reactions to Babylon's Fall (18:9-20)
- IV. The Description of Babylon's Fall (18:21-24)



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I. The Prediction of Babylon's Fall

Revelation 18:1-3

A. Proclamation (1-2a)

B. Reasons (2b-3)

1. Demonic Involvement (2b)

2. Corruption of Nations (3a)

3. Corruption of Kings (3b)

4. Corruption of Merchants (3c)



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Two Babylons View

BABYLON	Ecclesiastical	Commercial
Chapter	Revelation 17	Revelation 18
Literalness	Not literal	Literal
Time of Destruction	1st half of Tribulation	Second Advent
Emphasis	Religion	Commercial & Political



John F. Walvoord

The Revelation of Jesus Christ: A Commentary
(Chicago: Moody, 1966), 267.

“Babylon, ecclesiastically symbolized by the woman in Revelation 17, proposes a common worship and a common religion through uniting in a world church. This is destroyed by the beast in Revelation 17:16 who thus fulfills the will of God (Rev. 17:17). Babylon, politically symbolized by the great city of Revelation 18, attempts to achieve its domination of the world by a world common market and a world government. These are destroyed by Christ at His second coming (Rev. 19:11–21).”



John F. Walvoord

The Revelation of Jesus Christ: A Commentary
(Chicago: Moody, 1966), 257, 263.

“The city here according to verse 5 is a mystery, **not a literal city**...The ultimate decision depends upon the judgment of the expositor, but in many respects it is simpler to postulate a rebuilt Babylon **as fulfilling literally** the Old Testament prophecies as well as that embodied in this chapter.”

Two Babylons View?

	TWO BABYLON'S ARGUMENT	SINGLE BABYLON RESPONSE
1. Chapter division	Different prophetic subject	Non-inspired chapter divisions
2. "After these things" (18:1)	Takes place later chronologically (1:19; 4:1b; 9:12; 20:3)	Sequence in which visions were shown to John (4:1a; 7:1, 9; 15:5; 19:1)
3. "Another angel" (18:1)	A new vision (10:1; 14:6, 8, 9)	Same vision (7:2; 8:3; 14:15, 17, 18)

Two Babylons View?

	TWO BABYLON'S ARGUMENT	SINGLE BABYLON RESPONSE
4. Different Destructions	Destroyed by the kings (Rev. 17:16) vs. destroyed by God (18:9)	Destroyed by God (17:17; 18:9) and by fire (17:16; 18:8-9, 18)
5. Different reactions	Kings hate Babylon (17:16) vs. kings weep over Babylon (18:9)	Kings united with the Beast (17:16) vs. kings united with Babylon (Rev. 18:9)
6. Different symbols	Woman (17:3) vs. a city (18:10)	Woman called a city (17:18; 18:10)

OT Descriptions of Babylon in Rev 17–18

	Revelation 17–18	Old Testament
Waters	17:1	Psalm 137:1
Babylon the Great	17:5	Daniel 4:30
Mother harlots	17:5	Genesis 11:1-9
<u>Fallen, fallen is Babylon</u>	<u>18:2</u>	<u>Isaiah 21:9</u>
Will not see widowhood	18:7	Isaiah 47:7-9
Colorful attire	17:4; 18:16	Daniel 5:7, 16, 29
Sorcery	18:23	Isaiah 47:9-13
Destroyed in a day	18:8, 10	Daniel 5:30

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Parallels Between Jeremiah 50-51 & Revelation 17-18

	Jeremiah	Revelation
Associated with a Golden cup	51:7a	17:3-4; 18:6
Dwelling on many waters	51:13	17:1
<u>Intoxicating the nations</u>	<u>51:7b</u>	<u>17:2</u>
Same name	50:1	17:5
Persecution of the saints	51:49	17:6; 18:24
Stone sinking into Euphrates	51:63-64	18:21
Sudden destruction	51:8	18:8
Destroyed by fire	51:30	17:16
Final, uninhabitable	50:39	18:21
Deserved	50:29	18:6
God's people flee	51:6, 45	18:4
Heaven rejoices	51:48	18:20

Dyer, "The Identity of Babylon in Revelation 17–18 (Part 2)," 441-43.

ONE BABYLON

	Rev. 17	Rev. 18
Same name	17:5	18:2
City	17:18	18:10
Same clothing	17:4	18:16
Holding a cup	17:4	18:6
Fornicating with Kings	17:2	18:3
<u>Drunk with wine of immorality</u>	<u>17:2</u>	<u>18:3</u>
Persecuting believers	17:6	18:20, 24
Destroyed by fire	17:16	18:8, 18
Destroyed by God	17:17	18:5, 8

Dyer, "The Identity of Babylon in Revelation 17–18 (Part 1)," 311-13.

Genesis 11:1-4

¹ Now the whole earth used the same language and the same words. ² It came about as they journeyed east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. ³ They said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks and burn them thoroughly.” And they used brick for stone, and they used tar for mortar. ⁴ They said, “Come, let us build for ourselves a city, and a tower whose top will reach into heaven, and let us make for ourselves a name, otherwise we will be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.”



Spread of the Mother-Child Cult

	Mother	Child
Assyria	Ishtar	Tammuz
Phoenicia	Astarte	Baal
Egypt	Isis	Osirus/Horus
Greece	Aphrodite	Eros
Rome	Venus	Cupid
Asia	Cybele	Desius
India	Isi	Aswara
Roman Catholicism	Mary	Jesus
Israel	Queen of Heaven (Jer. 7:18; 44:17)	Tammuz (Ezek. 8:14-15)

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II. Appeal to Separate From Babylon

Revelation 18:4-8

A. Appeal (4)

B. Reasons (5-8)

1. Her Sins (5)

2. Her Retribution (6)

3. Her Arrogance (7)

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Jeremiah 50-51

- Sudden destruction (51:8)
- Complete destruction (50:3, 13, 26, 39-40; 51:29, 43, 62)
- No reuse of building materials (51:26)
- Believers flee (50:8; 51:6, 45)
- Israel's regeneration (50:2, 4-5, 20; 51:50)

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Statue & Stone

2. A Statue and a Stone



Statue is destroyed by a great stone, which represents Jesus Christ



HEAD
GOLD

WORLD POWER
BABYLON
608-539

CHEST AND ARMS
SILVER

WORLD POWER
PERSIA
539-331

STOMACH AND THIGHS
BRASS

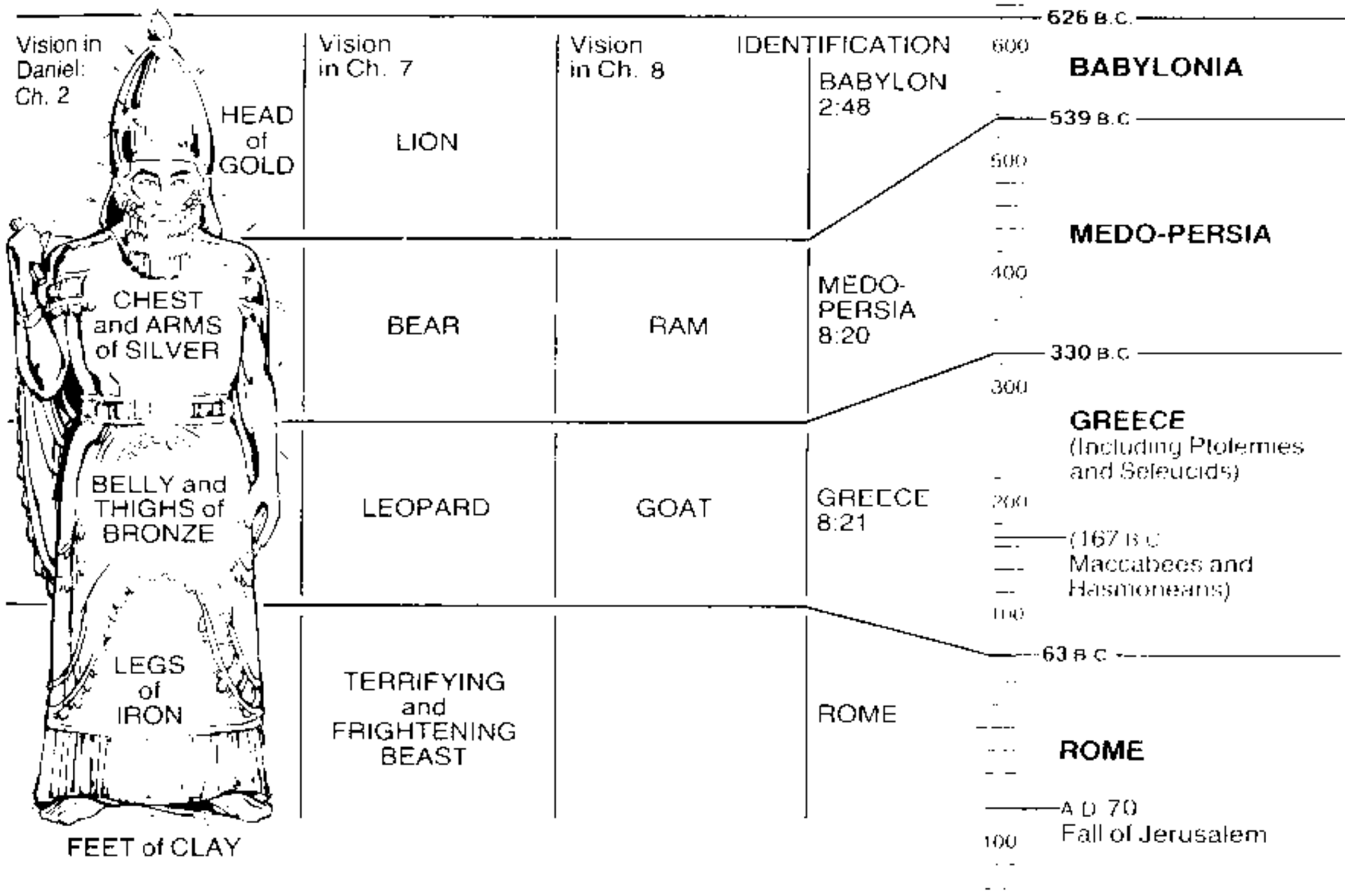
WORLD POWER
GREECE
331-323

LEGS AND FEET
IRON & CLAY

WORLD POWER
ROME
322 B.C.—A.D. 476
FUTURE

Identification of the Four Kingdoms

Chronology of Major Empires in Daniel



Daniel Interprets the Writing (5:24-28)

Mene, mene
tekel
Ufarsin



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ONE BABYLON

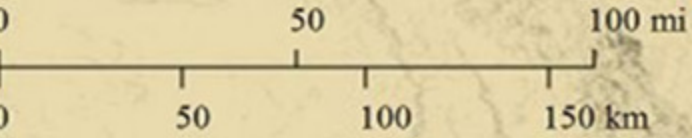
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Dyer, "The Identity of Babylon in Revelation 17–18 (Part 1)," 311-13.

Genesis 12:3

“And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.”





II. Appeal to Separate From Babylon

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Conclusion

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“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.” (NIV)