

The Fall of Babylon Mourned

Revelation 18 : 9 - 24

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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. Pastor Joe's personal commentary is in brackets modifying the biblical text underlined with dots. The abbreviation "NIV84" stands for the NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION of the Holy Bible published in 1984. You can find this passage in your Pew Bible on page 1203.

THE FALL OF BABYLON WAS MOURNED...

1. By the _____ of the Earth.

Revelation 18:9–10, NIV84 -⁹ "When the kings of the earth who committed adultery with her and shared her luxury see the smoke of her burning, they will weep and mourn over her. ¹⁰ Terrified at her torment, they will stand far off and cry: " 'Woe! Woe, O great city, O Babylon, city of power! In one hour your doom has come!'

2. By the _____ of the Earth.

Revelation 18:11–17, NIV84 -¹¹ "The merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her because no one buys their cargoes any more— ¹² cargoes of gold, silver, precious stones and pearls; fine linen, purple, silk and scarlet cloth; every sort of citron [“Citrus” wood—a fine, expensive wood used by the Greeks and Romans to make fine furniture] wood, and articles of every kind made of ivory, costly wood, bronze, iron and marble; ¹³ cargoes of cinnamon and spice, of incense, myrrh and frankincense, of wine and olive oil, of fine flour and wheat; cattle and sheep; horses and carriages; and bodies [cf., prostitution] and [the lost] souls of men. ¹⁴ "They will say, 'The fruit you longed for is gone from you. All your riches and splendor have vanished, never to be recovered.' ¹⁵ The merchants who sold these things and gained their wealth from her will stand far off, terrified [GK: φόβον, *pho-BON*, Eng., "Phobia"—Intimidation to the point of panic] at her torment. They will weep and mourn ¹⁶ and cry out: " 'Woe! Woe, O great city, dressed in fine linen, purple and scarlet, and glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls!' ¹⁷ In one hour such great wealth has been brought to ruin [lit., destroyed]!"

3. By the _____ on the Sea.

Revelation 18:17b–19, NIV84 -^{17b} ... "Every sea captain, and all who travel by ship, the sailors, and all who earn their living from the sea, will stand far off. ¹⁸ When they see the smoke of her burning, they will exclaim, 'Was there ever a city like this great city?' ¹⁹ They will throw dust on their heads, and with weeping and mourning cry out: " 'Woe! Woe, O great city, where all who had ships on the sea became rich through her wealth! In one hour she has been brought to ruin!

4. But *not* by _____ and His people.

Revelation 18:20, NIV84 -²⁰ Rejoice over her, O heaven [a colloquialism for "Holy God"! Rejoice, saints [Important: "That's us!"] and apostles and prophets!

5. Why was she (Babylon) destroyed?

Revelation 18:20b–24, NIV84 -^{20b} Rejoice over her, O heaven! Rejoice, saints and apostles and prophets! God has judged her for the way she treated you. ²¹ Then a mighty angel picked up a boulder the size of a large millstone and threw it into the sea, and said: "With such violence the great city of Babylon will be thrown down, never to be found again. ²² The music of harpists and musicians, flute players and trumpeters, will never be heard in you again. No workman of any trade will ever be found in you again. The sound of a millstone will never be heard in you again. ²³ The light of a lamp will never shine in you again. The voice of a bridegroom and bride will never be heard in you again. Your merchants were the world's great men. By your magic spell! [GK: φαρμακεία, *pharm-a-KEE-a*, Eng: pharmacy, lit., sorcery exercised through drugs] all the nations were led astray. ²⁴ In her was found the blood of prophets and of the saints, and of all who have been killed on the earth."

Heaven rejoices, not over the damnation of the sinners, but because of the triumph of righteousness, the exaltation of Jesus Christ...and the arrival of this kingdom on the Earth." - Dr. John MacArthur

★ **She condemned _____ that was HOLY!**

What we need to know:

What makes *the world* rejoice makes *Heaven* mourn;
what makes *Heaven* rejoice makes *the world* mourn.