

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: 6/13-14/2022 *Revelation Chapter 18*

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE STUDY!

MONDAY 7th PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN CLASSROOM HS107, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484

Join Zoom Meeting -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763?pwd=b25tUzhkaTE0UzIrSnpkVmZEWGJVQT09>

Meeting ID: 878 5864 4763 - Passcode: 087484

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,87858644763# US (San Jose) +13462487799,,87858644763# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose); +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston); +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma); +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C); +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago); +1 929 436 2866 US (New York);

Meeting ID: 878 5864 4763

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763>

TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).

THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY HAS RESUMED MEETING IN THE FAMILY ROOM, CCCM, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!

MEETING ID# - 85309150746 - Passcode: 715340

Join Zoom Meeting -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85309150746?pwd=TK5oVjN0TzdpWjE3UC9Oam05a21uQT09>

Meeting ID: 853 0915 0746 - Passcode: 715340

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,85309150746# US (San Jose) +12532158782,,85309150746# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose); +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma); +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston); +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C); +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago); +1 929 436 2866 US (New York);

Meeting ID: 853 0915 0746

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85309150746>

Phil Twente ptwente@gmail.com cell 714 425 9221 For Audio & notes from previous studies - www.ptwente.com

OPENING PRAYER

Revelation Chapter 18 – The Fall of Babylon the Great – vs. 1-8; The World Mourns Babylon's Fall – vs. 9-20; Finality of Babylon's Fall – vs. 21-24

Rev 14:8 *And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."*

Rev 16:19b *And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath.*

Rev. 17 & 18 Parenthetical on the judgment of the Babylonian system – Religious and Commercial

Rev 19:2 *For true and righteous are His judgments, because He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and He has avenged on her the blood of His servants shed by her."*

Chapters 17 & 18 are parenthetical. *Chapters 14 & 16* tell us that Babylon is judged, is destroyed. In **Chapter 19** there is praise in heaven because the Great Harlot has been judged by God.

- **We take a step backward in chapters 17 & 18 and we look at this great system that is destroyed.** Chapter 17 gives us **religious Babylon**. Chapter 18 gives us **commercial or economic Babylon**.
- **Chapter 17, religious Babylon, is destroyed by men!** Chapter 18, commercial Babylon is destroyed by God!
- **Chapter 17, When religious Babylon is destroyed, mankind rejoices!** Chapter 18, when commercial Babylon is destroyed, the entire world is mourning and weeping! Notice the priorities.

Two exhortations in Chapter 18! In the middle of all of this, there are two exhortations!

- ✓ **Rev 18:4** *And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues.* The exhortation is, get yourself out of her, My people! You do not want to partake of her sins and of her plagues. It is talking about a Babylon-ish system!
- ✓ **Rev 18:20** *"Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you holy apostles and prophets, for God has avenged you on her!"* I want you to rejoice over this destruction!
- **The two things that are said. God says there is this world system. It is filled with sin.** It is filled with crime! It is filled with hatred! It is filled with sex trafficking! It is filled with addiction. It is filled with suicide! It is filled with death! Yes, it may prosper. It might be luxurious. The rich get richer. The power brokers get tired of just having money. Then they want to live more luxuriously. When that wears out, then what they want is power! They want more and more power! But their whole system is going fall apart. In one hour, the whole thing is going to be destroyed. You and I, it says, should be willing to rejoice that, that system is going down!
- **Because we believe there is another Kingdom coming, when our Lord Jesus, the Lord of Lords and King of Kings, will set up His Kingdom in the world.** That is what we are supposed to rejoice in! The other system is deceptive and destructive. We can get blinded by that. The Lord warned the church in Laodicea, you think you are rich, that you have need of nothing, that you are rich. But, you are really blind, miserable, poor, wretched and naked. You need to buy of Me, He says. Let Me be your merchant. Buy of Me the things you need, an eye salve, so you can see clearly.
- **The church in the world needs to be warned about Babylon, as well!** The exhortation, if we take the warning, is, *Come out of her, My people.* That is a present imperative, a command! You must continually be coming out of her! It is not a suggestion. It is a command. It is an imperative! You MUST, this is for you and for me, continually, be coming out of the Babylonish system, because every day it is going to pull on us! Every day it is going to try to drag us back in! Our direction must be a direction of continually coming out of that system.
- **My people! Because He knows our destiny.** He sees what is ahead of us. This world is all junk, worthless, nothing! He knows what is ahead of us. He said, I do not want to see you partake of her sins or be in that place. *Come out of her and rejoice!* **Rejoice** is also a present imperative! You must constantly be rejoicing about the end of all this and the coming of our destiny! That is what we are longing for! So, He breaks it down and gives us an interesting picture as we come into it.

The Fall of Babylon

Rev 18:1 *After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory.*

- **Angels are interesting and impressive beings.** The Bible gives us a little insight into this realm of spirit beings that are called angels, created by God and created in various rankings and orders and some of them, being very powerful. We know that Lucifer, himself, at one time was an angel of God. He was the anointed cherub. A cherub is one of the high orders of angels. The anointed cherub who covers, perfect in wisdom, perfect in beauty in all of his ways until the day that iniquity was found in him. (*Eze 28:12-15*) So these impressive, created beings called angels. Here is one that comes down, evidently an extremely powerful angel having great power and the whole earth is lighted. We remember in the pouring out of the bowls, one was the darkness that covered the earth. Now the earth is lightened with his glory, so that we can see it right now.

Rev 18:2 And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird!

- ***Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen!*** Like Joseph said to Pharaoh about his two dreams, the thing is established by God, Who will soon bring it to pass. (*Gen 41:32*) *And the dream was repeated to Pharaoh twice because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass.*
- **The unclean birds, hateful birds, in the Scriptures are emissaries of Satan.** Birds in the scripture are a type of something that is evil, of Satan's work. When you find birds used in a symbolism, it is always the work of Satan. Here, the evil hateful birds, unclean birds inhabiting, now, this system that has been destroyed, that has fallen.
- **Back in the 14th chapter, in verse eight, there was an angel** that went around declaring Babylon is fallen, is fallen, the great city because she made all of the nations to drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. (*Rev 14:8*) *And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."* The announcement of the fall of Babylon comes back in the 14th chapter.
- **Here in the 18th chapter is an amplification** of what was announced in the 14th chapter. The Book of Revelation does not always run in a consecutive order. It will carry you through a period, and then it will go back, and it will give you greater detail of an earlier period that has already transpired.

Rev 18:3 For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings (power brokers of the earth) of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury.

- ***All the nations!*** Note the completeness of the Babylonian system being throughout the whole earth!
- **Now, again where this Babylon is, is yet to be determined.** Whatever becomes the major commercial center once the Antichrist has taken control, which will be the city, that commercial city, which represents the commercialism of the world is the one that is coming in for judgment and for utter destruction that we read here in Revelation. "*All of the nations have drunk of the wine of her fornication, the kings, the merchants.*" We see the direction of all the nations here, the new world order there, that is where the globalism is headed! That is the direction! We see the power on the earth still be demonstrated by the antichrist, seducing and drawing people in *becoming rich through the abundance of her luxury!* (*1Jn 5:19*) *We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.*

Rev 18:4 And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues.

- ***Come out, a present imperative!*** To continually come out and keep coming out of her! The context is to the Tribulation saints from the Babylonian system but is also applicable to us today!
- **Babylon, a city** (*polis* - a town, properly with walls, of greater or less size, city. Used 4X in this chapter). Rome? New York is the best Babylon going right now, but that is not what it is talking about here, but about what will be in the Great Tribulation. Is it Jerusalem?
- **Is it ancient Babylon on the Euphrates, rising miraculously?** (*Zec 5:5, 10,11*) *Then the angel who talked with me came out and said to me, "Lift your eyes now, and see what this is that goes forth [10] So I said to the angel who talked with me, "Where are they carrying the basket?" [11] And he said to me, "To build a house for it in the land of Shinar; when it is ready, the basket will be set there on its base."* The plains of Shinar, clearly Babylon, Iraq! The picture in Zechariah is that it will be established there.
- **For us, the religious system is broader than just a city. It has affected the whole world!** There is a turning away from the truth of God's word for a compromised religious system, where everybody is willing to believe whatever they want to believe. All getting along with nobody having any standards. That religious system is going to be destroyed.
- **Then there is commercial Babylon.** When we read about it here. It is the kings of the whole earth. It is the merchants of the whole earth. It is the shipmasters of the whole earth. This is a global picture. Whatever this singular city is, her influence is global. It responds to that globalism, that influence. God

says to you and to me. ***Come out of her, My people!*** God is speaking. I do not want you to be part of this!

- **You, My people must continually be coming out of her! That is so important!** We are supposed to be separate! The world is supposed to know that Jesus is real! That we are His disciples by the love that we have one for another! What we have together in the body of Christ and enjoy here, the world knows nothing about. We are to be separate. We are not to be like them. Notice this, the Lord does not say to His people, be like them! He says, **do not be like them!! Come out from among them!**
- **There is a whole part of the church today that has decided that it has to be culturally relevant.** If it can be like them, it can win them over in evangelism, because it is looking and acting like them. But that is being like Babylon. No, we are to be separate from them! We are to come out from among them! (**Mat 6:19, 20**) *"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; [20] but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. Do that because where your treasure is, that is where your heart will be also. (Col 3:2-4) Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. [3] For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. [4] When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.*
- **Throughout the Scriptures the people have been called to come out of this** Babylonian system. (**Isa 48:20**) *Go forth from Babylon! Flee from the Chaldeans! With a voice of singing, Declare, proclaim this, Utter it to the end of the earth; Say, "The LORD has redeemed His servant Jacob!"*
- (**Isa 52:11**) *Depart! Depart! Go out from there, Touch no unclean thing; Go out from the midst of her, Be clean, You who bear the vessels of the LORD.*
- (**Jer 50:8-9**) *"Move from the midst of Babylon, Go out of the land of the Chaldeans; And be like the rams before the flocks. [9] For behold, I will raise and cause to come up against Babylon An assembly of great nations from the north country, And they shall array themselves against her; From there she shall be captured. Their arrows shall be like those of an expert warrior; None shall return in vain.*
- (**Jer 51:6-8**) *Flee from the midst of Babylon, And everyone save his life! Do not be cut off in her iniquity, For this is the time of the LORD's vengeance; He shall recompense her. [7] Babylon was a golden cup in the LORD's hand, That made all the earth drunk. The nations drank her wine; Therefore the nations are deranged. [8] Babylon has suddenly fallen and been destroyed. Wail for her! Take balm for her pain; Perhaps she may be healed.*
- (**Zec 2:6-7**) *"Up, up! Flee from the land of the north," says the LORD; "for I have spread you abroad like the four winds of heaven," says the LORD. [7] "Up, Zion! Escape, you who dwell with the daughter of Babylon."*
- **In 2 Corinthians Paul said (2Co 6:17-18) Therefore "COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM AND BE SEPARATE, SAYS THE LORD. DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN, AND I WILL RECEIVE YOU."** [18] *"I WILL BE A FATHER TO YOU, AND YOU SHALL BE MY SONS AND DAUGHTERS, SAYS THE LORD ALMIGHTY."*
- **The worldly system, God calls His people out of it. (1Jn 2:15-17) Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. [16] For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. [17] And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.**
- **This is a timeless exhortation.** It is in the present tense, so it is applicable to us right now! What is God, by His Holy Spirit saying to us today? If we are just concentrating on acquiring earthly possessions and living in this world, we are missing our calling. Our lives are to be recognizable that we are not of the world but have come out of it! Our purpose is not amassing earthly possessions, but to show the love of Christ and the gospel to help bring unbelievers to Christ! Every single saved soul changes eternity!

Rev 18:5 For her sins have reached (glued and piled up!) to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities.

- (**Heb 8:12**) **FOR I WILL BE MERCIFUL TO THEIR UNRIGHTEOUSNESS, AND THEIR SINS AND THEIR LAWLESS DEEDS I WILL REMEMBER NO MORE.** It seems that God never forgets,

but He does choose not to remember.

Rev 18:6 *Render to her just as she rendered to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her.*

- (Exo 22:4,7,9) *If the theft is certainly found alive in his hand, whether it is an ox or donkey or sheep, he shall restore double. [7] "If a man delivers to his neighbor money or articles to keep, and it is stolen out of the man's house, if the thief is found, he shall pay double. [9] "For any kind of trespass, whether it concerns an ox, a donkey, a sheep, or clothing, or for any kind of lost thing which another claims to be his, the cause of both parties shall come before the judges; and whomever the judges condemn shall pay double to his neighbor.*

Rev 18:7 *In the measure that she glorified herself and lived luxuriously, in the same measure give her torment and sorrow; for she says in her heart, 'I sit as queen (she is not a queen, but a harlot!), and am no widow, and will not see sorrow.'*

Rev 18:8 *Therefore her plagues will come in one day—death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong is the Lord God who judges her.*

- **So, this great commercial system, called Babylon, is to be destroyed.** It falls! The seven last plagues will occur very speedily and very quickly, one after another, in one day! We read here of the announcement, sort of a prayer, and we are not told who declares it.
- **Now, there are commercial interests, there are men who control the banking of the world.** They are power brokers, and their whole purpose is to bring you under their control and power. They use commercialism to do it. They are sinister forces that are there. They are the power brokers. They are the ones who put our political leaders into office. They are the ones who pour the money into the elections, and they are the ones who really are in control.
- **Do not think that President Biden is in control.** He is not even in control of his own emotions. But he is a pawn as are all of the world leaders. These men are behind the scenes controlling the issues, and God calls for judgment upon them. Reward her even as she has rewarded you, double according to her works, the cup, which she has filled to the double. Now, that is from the divine side that we view the destruction of Babylon. She is getting what she has coming.

Rev 18:9 *"The kings of the earth (first lamentation is by the kings) who committed fornication and lived luxuriously with her will weep (*klaio* – sob, wail aloud) and lament (*koptō* - to “chop,” to beat the breast in grief) for her, when they see the smoke of her burning,*

Rev 18:10 *standing at a distance for fear of her torment, saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one hour your judgment has come.'*

- **Standing at a distance** - Beholding her desolations with wonder, fear and astonishment, utterly unable to afford her any kind of assistance.
- **Whatever city it is, it could possibly be New York,** but whatever city it is, it will be a great city. It will be the center of the commercial interests of the world. Wealthy. But the destruction will come in *one hour*.
- **Now three time in this chapter, we are told that they stand afar off for fear of the torment,** which may indicate that the city may be destroyed by a nuclear bomb. The fear of the radiation causes people not to approach it but to stand back and to marvel that *in one hour* it was devastated. Three times we find that they are *standing at a distance* because of the fear of the torment.

Rev 18:11 *"And the merchants of the earth (second lamentation is by the merchants) will weep and mourn over her, for no one buys their merchandise anymore:*

Rev 18:12 *merchandise of gold and silver, precious stones and pearls, fine linen and purple, silk and scarlet, every kind of citron wood, every kind of object of ivory, every kind of object of most precious wood, bronze, iron, and marble;*

Rev 18:13 *and cinnamon and incense, fragrant oil and frankincense, wine and oil, fine flour and wheat, cattle and sheep, horses and chariots (*rheda* - a four wheeled carriage; wagon for riding) and bodies and souls of men (think of the sex trafficking).*

- **You see, this is what they do, they create in you a lust for these things.** People become controlled and ruled by their lusts, rather than by their minds. God gave you an intellect, the capacity to reason. You were created in the image of God, and God intended that you reason things out! God's given us a brain and He wants us to use it. He wants us to think things through.
- **Come now let us reason together says the Lord.** Offer your body as a living sacrifice, which is your reasonable service. But Satan seeks to control you by your lust. That is why people, even smart people, intelligent people, can do such stupid things because they do not use their minds. They are not controlled by their minds, but they are controlled by their emotions and by their lusts.
- **The advertisers create within you a lust for fancy jewelry,** verse twelve, the gold, silver, precious stones, pearls, fancy clothes, fine linen, silk. The fancy furniture's made of the most precious wood and manner of vessels of ivory, precious wood, brass, iron, and marble. The perfumes, you know, it always amazes me when they come out with these statistics, I never remember them, but of how much money is annually spent in the United States on perfume, deodorants and that kind of thing. The amount spent in 2021 was estimated at \$80 billion! The gourmet foods, the fancy cars, the horses and chariots. The chariots were the sports cars of those days.
- **But you will thirst again! That is true of every material possession.** You know it is true. Everything that you have purchased up to this moment with the hope and the thought that it is going to bring you complete satisfaction. If I just have this, I will never want anything else again. You know good and well that after you drank of that water, you thirsted again. It may have satisfied for a little while, but then you became conscious of that deep need for God once again.
- **The same is true of emotional experiences.** What a lie of Satan as he leads us from one emotional experience to another, and so many people get caught in this trap. They think that it lies with this new person that I have just discovered. And how many homes are broken? How many lives are ruined because of the lie of Satan that you can find the fulfillment in some emotional experience? **But you will thirst again!**
- **Think of the amusement parks, the thrills of the new rides** becoming more exotic all the time, but it does not satisfy. For the ninety seconds or so you are on there and you are being tossed and turned and spun upside down and everything else and you are screaming your head off, you may feel, whoa, this is great you know! But then the brakes are on, and the thing stops, and you have to get off. And where do we go now? **And you cannot satisfy that spiritual thirst with an emotional experience.** The pleasure-mania that we have in the United States.
- **You drink of the water, and you are thirsty again.** But in offering you the hope of satisfaction, they have their hand in your back pocket and you are paying dearly. You are going into debt, often times hopelessly into debt because of the promise of fulfillment. If you just had this car, this giant screen TV, or whatever they are promising you to bring you full satisfaction. And people go hopelessly in debt. It is an evil system that makes slaves of people. The banks freely offer you credit through the Visa or Master cards. They are constantly sending you out the letters that talk about your being pre-approved for the new credit card at a low interest rate to begin with, but it always raises. And people become hopelessly in debt. The credit cards are all maxed out, and you are paying humongous interest, but you are already over your head in debt. You become a slave, and God hates taking advantage of people.
- **The whole commercial system that is designed to put people hopelessly in debt** and to make them a slave to the lender, because the Scripture says the borrower is a slave to the lender. **God hates that.** And those things do not satisfy. They cannot fill the spiritual thirst in your spirit for God. They can only temporarily disguise, but the thirst is still there. **God created that thirst so that you would have to come to Him to find satisfaction.** **These substitutes are keeping you from coming to God.** They prolong your journey, and **thus God hates this crass commercialism** that has become the substitute in so many peoples' lives for the genuine article; hoping by the emotion of the night or by the possession of a thing they can find the contentment and satisfaction, but they thirst again.
- **Bodies and souls of men.** Notice what is the last item mentioned! **The position of using the bodies of man for commercial purposes! The money that is being made** in prostitution, the money that is being made in the selling of children, many times being sold for sexual purposes. A tremendous problem exists in Thailand, other places, where the merchants will go through the back country where the poverty is so great, and they will buy the little girls from the families who are nine, ten, eleven years old, and they will bring them into Bangkok for purposes of making money off of them. In Europe they have sex tours, and these men go to Bangkok in order to have sex with these little girls.

And the same is true with little boys. This merchandising even of the souls of men, this whole corrupt system, is coming down and none too soon.

Rev 18:14 *The fruit that your soul longed for has gone from you, and all the things which are rich and splendid have gone from you, and you shall find them no more at all.*

- **An impressive picture of eternal torment!** This verse is one of a most impressive picture of eternal torment found in the Bible. Here we have a description that only the Holy Spirit could give, of the bitterness of soul and the anguish of the poverty-stricken souls who have lost everything they loved.
- **God is going to wipe out this whole system. In the Kingdom Age** when Jesus comes to reign, we read in, (*Isa 55:1*) "*Ho! Everyone who thirsts, Come to the waters; And you who have no money, Come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price. Take it! It is yours! It is free! Commercialism will be gone. The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof. It will be there for men. Buy without money, it says. That whole commercial system will be gone and there will be that glorious Kingdom of God where there will be an abundance for everyone, and no one will be enslaved to debt.*

Rev 18:15 *The merchants of these things, who became rich by her, will stand at a distance for fear of her torment (for the second time), weeping and wailing (*pentheō* - to grieve, mourn),*

Rev 18:16 *and saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city that was clothed in fine linen, purple, and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls!*

Rev 18:17 *For in one hour such great riches came to nothing.' Every shipmaster, all who travel by ship, sailors, and as many as trade on the sea, stood at a distance*

- **For in one hour!** Note again the quickness of the destruction, which tells us what we should be investing in! This is given to us three times! (3X) *such great riches came to nothing.*
- **Every shipmaster.** This is the third lamentation. It is by the shipmasters. First, the kings or the puppet masters, then the merchants, now the shipmasters.

Rev 18:18 *and cried out when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, 'What is like this great city?'*

Rev 18:19 *"They threw dust on their heads and cried out, weeping and wailing, and saying, 'Alas, alas, that great city, in which all who had ships on the sea became rich by her wealth! For in one hour she is made desolate.*

- **Now, that is the earthly view of the destruction. Weeping, wailing.** Why? Because it is over. All of the tremendous riches that have been amassed through this commercial system, is over. But from the heavenly scene, we read:

Rev 18:20 *"Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you holy apostles and prophets, for God has avenged you on her!"*

- **Rejoice is also a present imperative - rejoice and continue to rejoice!** (*Php 4:4*) *Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!* In contrast to the world, which is wailing and weeping! You must constantly be rejoicing about the end of all this and the coming of our destiny, and what we are longing for.
- **Are we rejoicing, knowing of our destiny,** because of what He had already done for us?

Rev 18:21 *Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "Thus with violence the great city Babylon shall be thrown down, and shall not be found anymore.*

- (*Mat 18:6*) *Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea.*
- (*Dan 2:45*) *Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold—the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure."*

Rev 18:22 The sound of harpists, musicians, flutists, and trumpeters shall not be heard in you anymore. No craftsman of any craft shall be found in you anymore, and the sound of a millstone shall not be heard in you anymore.

*18:23 The light of a lamp shall not shine in you anymore, and the voice of bridegroom and bride shall not be heard in you anymore. For your merchants were the great men of the earth, for by your sorcery (*pharmakeia* - medication ("pharmacy"), mind altering, sorcery, witchcraft) all the nations were deceived.*

Rev 18:24 And in her was found the blood of prophets and saints, and of all who were slain on the earth."

- **We see how that the commercial and the advertisers promote so much evil in the world today.** How people are being made rich through pornography, the merchandising of pornography. How people are being made rich by these ungodly forces and how that so many of them are being taken over by ungodly people, who then use the profits for ungodly purposes. (*Eze 16:49*) *Look, this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom: She and her daughter had **pride, fullness of food, and abundance of idleness**; neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. This is what the world is pushing out toward. How close to that is our nation today?*
- **There is a war against God, and the commercial interests are at war against God.** Many companies withdraw support from any organization that does not support homosexuality or other Biblical positions. They use their profits to fight against the righteous principles that God has established and should be represented in His church and by God's people.
- **The Babylon system has been cooking for a long time!** It is interesting to read the Communist Rules for Revolution, about 100 years ago, all the way back to 1919. Like the present-day globalists, here are the objectives **to get control over** America and then the world:
 - ✓ **Corrupt the young**, get them away from religion. Get them interested in sex. Make them superficial. Destroy their ruggedness.
 - ✓ **Get control of all means of publicity.** (Consider where our media is now!)
 - ✓ **Get people's minds off their government** by focusing their attention on athletics, on sex and other trivialities.
 - ✓ **Divide the people into hostile groups** by constantly harping on controversial matters of no importance.
 - ✓ **Destroy the people's faith in their natural leaders** by holding the latter up to contempt, ridicule and obloquy (strong public criticism or verbal abuse).
 - ✓ **Always preach true democracy but seize power** as fast and as ruthlessly as possible.
 - ✓ **By encouraging government extravagance, destroy its credit and produce fear of inflation** with rising prices and general discontent.
 - ✓ **Foment unnecessary strikes in vital industries, encourage civil disorders, and foster a lenient and soft attitude on the part of government** toward such disorders.
 - ✓ **By specious argument cause the breakdown of the old moral virtues, honesty, sobriety, continence, faith in the pledged word, ruggedness.**
 - ✓ **Cause the registration of all firearms on some pretext, with a view to confiscating them and leaving the populace helpless.**
- **In 1969, about fifty years ago, the national director of Planned Parenthood, who was in that position for a number of years, made a speech.** These are some of his points made toward what will be happening in the future in this country.
 - ✓ **Homosexuality will be promoted as no longer considered to be abnormal behavior.**
 - ✓ **Hard to cure diseases will be created.**
 - ✓ **Hard to detect means will be developed for inducing heart attack assassinations.**
 - ✓ **Drug addition will be promoted so the unfit will die.**

- ✓ **Euthanasia will be more accepted as the cost of medical care will intentionally be made burdensome.**
 - ✓ **Divorce will be made easier.**
 - ✓ **ID badges will become more prevalent, eventually being implanted under the skin or as a transmitter.**
 - ✓ **All salary payments and purchases will be conducted electronically, by computers in one banking system.**
 - ✓ **The major world religions, especially Christianity, will have to change into a new world religion and the church will help bring it about!**
 - ✓ **More airplane/rail accidents, as well as building and bridge collapses will create an atmosphere of instability.**
 - ✓ **Terrorism will be used make people demand international controls.**
 - ✓ **Economic independence will lessen national sovereignty as people will become citizens of the world!**
- **This is not just in Revelation.** It's system that has been functioning for 100 years now. We also need to recognize the intent of many "political causes" today result from the globalist objectives of **getting complete control. A one world government is to replace God! The worship and belief in God is to be eliminated! Population is to be reduced. Marriage and the family unit is to be destroyed. Sex for enjoyment only with anyone and anything is to be promoted; for procreation is to be removed. God given male/female at Creation of life is to be destroyed. All sex differences removed! Drug use to be encouraged.**
 - **We believers are not worried because, although time is winding down, we are part of a system that has been functioning from eternity! We are getting out of here soon.**
 - **What the LORD wants me to do in this mess we are in is to separate myself from it.** To do that daily and continually, realizing my own inclination to get involved in it.
 - **Secondly, we believers are to rejoice about the fact that He is going to deal** with all of this and take us to the place we were made for! We are glad to be done with Babylon!
 - **But, good news, it is almost over! Next week we enter into Chapter 19** when the kingdoms of this world become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and what a radical change is going to take place when God's kingdom comes! I can hardly wait! If the Lord tarries, we will be here next week, and if He does not, all the better! It will soon be over.

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN TOLD IN CHAPTER 18?

- **Judgment of Babylon is for certain** – Babylon the great has fallen, has fallen!
- **Two important exhortations!** – **Come out of Her, My people**
- **Rejoice over her,** Heaven, holy apostle and prophets
- **Judgment is supernaturally sudden** – **One day-** death, mourning, famine, burning: **In one hour (3X) great city-judgment has come;** smoke of city's burning; city made desolate!
- **Finality of judgment of great city of Babylon-**thrown down, not found anymore!
- **All nations deceived by her;** in her was found **blood of prophets, saints and all who were slain on earth!**

WHAT DOES THIS PROPHECY MEAN TO US, NOW?

- **We need to watch, pray and be ready!**
- **Be the witness He wants us to be – to both believers and especially unbelievers!**

CLOSING SONG:

- **Let's close singing this Revelation type song – IS HE WORTHY**

IS HE WORTHY? Chris Tomlin (4:31)

Do you feel the world is broken? (We do) Do you feel the shadows deepen? (We do)

But do you know that all the dark won't Stop the light from getting through? (We do)

Do you wish that you could see it all made new? (We do)

Is all creation groaning? (It is) Is a new creation coming? (It is)

Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? (It is)

Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? (It is)

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?

*The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave He was David's root and the Lamb who died
to ransom the slave*

Is He worthy? Is He worthy?

Of all blessing and honor and glory Is He worthy of this? (He is!)

Does the Father truly love us? (He does) Does the Spirit move among us? (He does)

And does Jesus, our Messiah hold forever those He loves? (He does)

Does our God intend to dwell again with us? (He does)

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?

*The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave He is David's root and the Lamb who died
to ransom the slave*

From every people and tribe Every nation and tongue

He has made us a kingdom and priests to God To reign with the Son

Is He worthy? Is He worthy? Of all blessing and honor and glory

Is He worthy? Is He worthy? Is He worthy of this? He is!

Is He worthy? Is He worthy? He is! He is!

He is worthy! He is worthy! He is!

CLOSING PRAYER:

Read and meditate over Chapter 19! What a great chapter!