



Resources

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- Find Life Group resources: abfboone.org/groups/resources

Revelation 18

1After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was made bright with his glory. **2**And he called out with a mighty voice,

“Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great!

She has become a dwelling place for demons,

a haunt for every unclean spirit,

a haunt for every unclean bird,

a haunt for every unclean and detestable beast.

3For all nations have drunk^a

the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality,

and the kings of the earth have committed immorality with her,

and the merchants of the earth have grown rich from the power of her luxurious living.”

4Then I heard another voice from heaven saying,

“Come out of her, my people,

lest you take part in her sins,

lest you share in her plagues;

5for her sins are heaped high as heaven,

and God has remembered her iniquities.

6Pay her back as she herself has paid back others,

and repay her double for her deeds;

mix a double portion for her in the cup she mixed.

7As she glorified herself and lived in luxury,

so give her a like measure of torment and mourning,

since in her heart she says,

‘I sit as a queen,

I am no widow,

and mourning I shall never see.’

8For this reason her plagues will come in a single day,

death and mourning and famine,

and she will be burned up with fire;

for mighty is the Lord God who has judged her.”

9And the kings of the earth, who committed sexual immorality and lived in luxury with her, will weep and wail over her

when they see the smoke of her burning. **10**They will stand far off, in fear of her torment, and say,





“Alas! Alas! You great city,
you mighty city, Babylon!
For in a single hour your judgment has come.”

[11](#) And the merchants of the earth weep and mourn for her, since no one buys their cargo anymore, [12](#) cargo of gold, silver, jewels, pearls, fine linen, purple cloth, silk, scarlet cloth, all kinds of scented wood, all kinds of articles of ivory, all kinds of articles of costly wood, bronze, iron and marble, [13](#) cinnamon, spice, incense, myrrh, frankincense, wine, oil, fine flour, wheat, cattle and sheep, horses and chariots, and slaves, that is, human souls.^b

[14](#) “The fruit for which your soul longed
has gone from you,
and all your delicacies and your splendors
are lost to you,
never to be found again!”

[15](#) The merchants of these wares, who gained wealth from her, will stand far off, in fear of her torment, weeping and mourning aloud,

[16](#) “Alas, alas, for the great city
that was clothed in fine linen,
in purple and scarlet,
adorned with gold,
with jewels, and with pearls!

[17](#) For in a single hour all this wealth has been laid waste.”

And all shipmasters and seafaring men, sailors and all whose trade is on the sea, stood far off [18](#) and cried out as they saw the smoke of her burning,

“What city was like the great city?”

[19](#) And they threw dust on their heads as they wept and mourned, crying out,

“Alas, alas, for the great city
where all who had ships at sea
grew rich by her wealth!

For in a single hour she has been laid waste.

Sermon Outline:

1. I. The Fall of Babylon (1-3)
2. II. The Call for Believers to Flee Babylon (4-8)
3. III. The Funeral Dirges for Babylon (9-19)





Life Group Leader Notes:

- We have been studying the judgements of God for over six months. How have these Scriptures affected your heart over time? Is it possible that God is preparing us to receive the glories of chapters 19-22 in these judgements? Encourage one another that chapter 19 is just around the corner and Christ is coming soon.
- The description of Babylon depicts irreverent pride, indulgent, independent, and grotesque. When we read the description of Babylon, representative of all cities and nations which pursue wealth, which verses remind us of the trajectory of our own country? What similarities do we see?
- Consider your own life as you meditate on this text as a group. What are some potential indicators that the pursuit of *a little bit more* has become a driving force in our lives? Have we made sacrifices to gain more wealth or things? Has the pursuit of wealth or 'just a little bit more' become too important to us?
- Consider, what would you mourn or grieve if the world and all its pleasures were to pass away today like the merchants, kings, and seafarers? Was there a time in your life when these things were your primary focus? Allow the Holy Spirit to expose, convict, and warn you in these texts as a follower of Christ.
- In Matthew 6, Jesus teaches us not to lay up treasures on earth but to lay them up in heaven. How is this teaching counter-cultural? What does it require of his followers? Think of a few ways we can do that practically this week.
- In 2 Peter, we are reminded that this Day of the Lord is coming and because of that we should be people of holy conduct and godliness, looking and longing for the glorious appearing of our Great God and Savior. Our Christ is coming to make all things right, but until that day, we are instructed to conduct ourselves as those who are set apart from the world. What helps do we have in our effort to do this? How has God graciously given us all that we need as we long for Jesus' return?

