

“THE PANORAMIC VIEW OF REVELATION”

Revelation 18: 1 – 3

And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power [authority]; and the earth was lightened [illuminated] with his glory (v.1). And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird (v. 2). For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies (v. 3).

INTRODUCTION

In our previous study, we looked at the pronouncement of judgment on the **religious harlot** called Babylon (**Revelation 17: 1 – 2**). John said, “And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the grate whore that sitteth upon the many waters: With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.”

The Bible paints a horrific picture of the end of all false religion. One day, every belief system in the world that bypasses the Lord Jesus Christ will be utterly destroyed and will cease to exist. That will be a devastating day for the devil and his followers, but it will be a glorious day for the God of Heaven and for His Son Jesus.

While **chapter 17** reveals the demise of the religious system of Babylon, this chapter reveals the doom of economic system of Babylon. In **verses 1 -2a**, a mighty angel, shining with the glory of Heaven, appears on the scene. This angel comes to announce the future condition and the condemnation of the world’s economic system under the control of the harlot. Mankind will not only be deprived of the religions they preferred and favored; but do to inflation and famine they will also suffer the loss of the wealth they crave.

History for an example, tells us that nothing seems to devastate people more than destitution. Just take away a man’s money and often you have taken away his reason for living. This was the case about 88 years ago when the stock market crashed. In the month and year of October 29, 1929 the world, as we know it suffered an economic crisis known as “**Black Tuesday**”. When the stock market crashed, the world was plunged into “**The Great Depression**”. Over the next few years the

economic structure of the U.S. economy was nearly destroyed. The statistics says, that over 9,000 banks closed their doors between 1930 and 1933. Production in U.S. manufacturing plants ground to a halt, leaving millions of people unemployed. Many thousands of people lost their homes to foreclosure; and some even lost their health to malnutrition. It is a fact, that all across this nation, people waited in soup lines for their meals, just to satisfy their hungry souls. People who lived through those dark and difficult days were changed forever by the hardships they suffered.

These verses tell us of a coming future economic collapse that will make the stock market crash of 1929 seem like nothing! This economic disaster will be worldwide in its scope and it will take away mankind's favorite god: money! Our money has the words "***In God We Trust***" printed or stamped on every piece. For far too many, the "***god***" they trust is that piece of money they hold in their hands.

Look at the trend of the world that we are living in today. Just about every store you enter into today have something tied to the lotto system in which you can play lotto or buy some form of lottery ticket. It is really a spirit of enticement and temptation in our world set up by Satan, the very spirit of a harlot who tries to tempt her prey into committing immoral acts. As Christian I believe [this is my personal view according to scripture], that we should not indulge into that even though it is by the law of the land, legal to do?

The Apostle Paul said, "all things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient [beneficial]: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any" (**1 Corinthians 6: 12**). In other words, what God forbids can never be allowed! We are living it a time wherein we have to learn to trust in the testimony of God, that has been spoken to us by His only begotten Son.

However, the verses before us talk about a time when the entire economic structure of this world will come crashing down in a moment of time, as God judges the even now corrupted economic system of this world.

AFTER THESE THINGS:

V. – 1 - And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power [authority]; and the earth was lightened [illuminated] with his glory. This verse indicates by the phrase "**after these things**" that here in chapter **18**, John is still speaking about the whore or harlot in chapter **17** even though it is called Babylon the Grate, in verse **2**. It is certain that this angel with the

brightness and glory of God was sent from God with a message of what will become of the harlot's system.

WHAT IS THE SPIRIT BEHIND THE SYSTEM?

V. – 2 - And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. The angel tells us about the spirit behind the system. It will be a system energized and controlled by [demons](#) and [evil spirits](#). It will be utterly vile and corrupt.

We look at our world today and think that it can't or won't get much worse. But what this verse describes is a world that has literally gone to the devil. We have heard for ourselves and witness on the news about the Los Vegas massacre and no one has stepped up to the plate and call it what it truly is, Satan influence. The devil is influencing people by the day, as he always has done. Look at the young girl over on Miami Beach that just decided to run people over with a car, hitting a police officer and was shot and killed in the process, at 22 years old. However, we think in our mind that things can't get any worse than they are but they will! **Reader, 2 Thessalonians 2: 6 – 12.**

WHO IS BEHIND THE SEDUCTION OF THIS SYSTEM?

V. 3 - For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. The seduction behind this system will be the world system empower by Satan to seduce the entire world. Kings and merchants will all tie their futures to what happens in this economic boom. Billions of dollars will be made as the wealthy people of the earth give everything they have to get their hands on all they can get.

We live in a world obsessed with money.

How many of us have sat around and imagined what we would do if we had millions of dollars?

How many of us are spending money that we don't have buying lottery tickets to try and get rich quick?

How many of us always have some scheme cooking in our head that we think will make us rich? Remember, it is the love of money that happens to be the greatest

corrupter of mankind ever conceived, **1 Tim. 6:10**. However, money in and of itself is not evil. But, when a person loves money to the point that it controls their life and lifestyle, it becomes evil.

TO BE CONTINUED:

Therefore, as Christian, we must always bear in mind, that We will never win the world by being like them! We will impact the world the most when we separate from their ways and allow them to see Jesus living through our lives!

PRESENTED BY BISHOP PAUL MOSS, JR., PASTOR

<https://www.smfwbc.org/paulemossjr>

ST. MATTHEWS FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH, INC.

6700 N W 2ND AVENUE, MIAMI, FL 33150

Church Website: <https://www.smfwbc.org>