

Babylon Is Fallen

Dr. Ronnie Wolfe – Isaiah #8 – Isaiah 13:1-22

October 12 , 2016 – Wednesday

- I. THE BURDEN OF BABYLON, 13:1-5
 - A. Calming Of The Bound-up Hearts, 1-2
 1. Isaiah sees now nearly 200 years before it happens the fall of Babylon
 2. Israel are to rejoice, or lift up the banner upon the high mountain, which is Jerusalem.
 - B. Commanding Of The Enemies, 3-5
 1. The “sanctified ones” and the “mighty ones” in verse three are the Medes and Persians, who are the kingdoms who will overtake Babylon.
 2. When Belshazzar was drinking from the vessels of the temple, which Nebechadnezzar had put away, he saw, as you recall, the handwriting on the wall.
 - a. Daniel 5:5 *In the same hour came forth fingers of a man’s hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaister of the wall of the king’s palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote.*
 - b. Daniel 5:22-23 *And thou his son, O Belshazzar, hast not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this; 23 But hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou, and thy lords, thy wives, and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know: and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified:*
 - c. Daniel 5:25-31 *And this is the writing that was written, MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN. 26 This is the interpretation of the thing: MENE; God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it. 27 TEKEL; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. 28 PERES; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians. . . . 30 In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain. 31 And Darius the Median took the kingdom, being about threescore and two years old.*
 3. Darius the Mede came and took away Babylon from Belshazzar. These “mighty ones” came from a far country to destroy the whole land of Babylon.
- II. THE DAY OF THE LORD, 13:6-18
 - A. The Day Of The Lord Is Coming, 6-8
 1. This is primarily in these verses pointed to Babylon, whose destruction will lead the children of Israel back into the land of Israel, back to Jerusalem, and to a new temple. They should rejoice because of this, as we have already considered.
 2. This day of the Lord will affect people with fear with pangs and sorrows, etc., 8
 3. The day of the Lord is mentioned several times in the New Testament:
 - a. Acts 2:20 *The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come:*
 - b. 1 Corinthians 5:5 *To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.*
 - c. 2 Corinthians 1:14 *As also ye have acknowledged us in part, that we are your rejoicing, even as ye also are ours in the day of the Lord Jesus.*

- d. 1 Thessalonians 5:2 *For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.*
- e. 2 Peter 3:10 *But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.*
- 4. The day of the Lord here in Isaiah is a preview and a portent of the day of the Lord that is coming yet on the earth for sinners, which will have fear, pangs and sorrows. It will come, Peter says, “as a thief in the night.”
- 5. The picture we see of Babylon’s destruction parallels the destruction of the world, mystery Babylon, at the end of this age.
 - a. Revelation 17:5 *And upon her forehead [was] a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.*
 - b. Revelation 14:8 *And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.*
- 6. This is the final Babylon, the sinful world, the wicked world, which will one day be destroyed and never rise again in its present form.
- B. The Day Of The Lord Will Destroy The Sinners, 9-10
 - 1. The local fulfillment of this passage speaks of the sinners of Babylon, which there were many.
 - 2. The day of the Lord at the end of this age is a day when all the sinners on the earth will be destroyed by God’s fierce anger.
 - 3. This is the “wrath to come” in Matthew 3:7.
 - 4. Revelation 6:17 *For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?*
 - 5. Revelation 11:18 *And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.*
 - 6. Revelation 16:1 *And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth.*
- C. The Day Of The Lord Punishes The World For Their Evil, 11-12
 - 1. Matthew 13:49 *So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just,*
 - 2. Romans 3:19 *Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.*
 - 3. 1 John 2:17 *And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.*
 - 4. Revelation 11:18 *And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth.*
 - 5. Verse 12 says that a man will be more precious than find gold. I believe this is a saved man who has fled from the wrath to come and is precious in the sight of the Lord, a righteous remnant.

- D. The Day Of The Lord Will Have Horrible Manifestations, 13-18
 - 1. Shake the heavens, 13
 - 2. Everyone who is found will be killed, 14-15
 - 3. Even the children will be killed, 16
 - 4. The Medes shall destroy Babylon and not for money, 17
 - 5. The Medes will not spare, 18

III. THE DESOLATION OF BABYLON, 13:19-22

- A. Babylon Is A Glorious Land, 19
 - 1. One of the seven wonders of the ancient world is the hanging gardens of Babylon.
 - 2. Babylon was a wonderful place for worldly living.
 - 3. But this caused much sin to develop in Babylon; therefore, God destroyed it as he did Sodom and Gomorrah, 19
- B. Babylon Shall Not Be Inhabited, 20
 - 1. This is said by many historians to be true, that Babylon has not been inhabited since it was destroyed by the Medes and Persians.
 - 2. There is a Babylon now, but it is in a different place and is not the same Babylon we are reading about in this passage.
- C. Babylon Inhabited With Beasts and Birds, 21
 - 1. Many commentaries try to list some of the modern names for these animals which will inhabit the once great kingdom of Babylon, but no one knows for sure what kind of animals all of these are.
 - 2. It must, however, be a doleful place, for it says in verse 21 speaks of “doleful creatures.”
 - 3. It will be pleasant palaces only for these doleful creatures but not for human beings ever again.
 - 4. Beauty is turned to ashes and will not rise as the Phoenix but will lie dead and doleful forever.
- D. Babylon Had But A Short Time, 22
 - 1. Historians and Bible scholars tell us that it was yet about 200 years before Babylon would be destroyed from the time of this prophecy, but that was a short time in the mind of God.
 - 2. And our own end, the end of this world may be for many years yet, but it will be a short time for God.
 - 3. We must be ready, for Babylon is going to fall, our Babylon, the wicked world.