

HEBREW & GREEK ANNOTATION
of selected
Daughter of Babylon Verses
by John Price
as a Supplement to
The End of America

This Annotation of selected verses from the Bible's 223 Daughter of Babylon verses, explores the original Hebrew (OT) and Greek (NT) key words for deeper insight into what God said to His Prophets through His Angels and His Holy Spirit. The full text of the 223 verses may be found at the end of this Annotation. This Annotation is not exhaustive, and is primarily meant to highlight key words and concepts used by the Prophets. For this purpose, *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*, which contains a number for each Hebrew or Greek word, is used. These basic identifier numbers are used in other Biblical reference works. By looking at how the specific word being examined has been used and translated in other verses, one can decide if the interpretation being placed on a word by an author is doing so consistent with sound Biblical scholarship.

Psalm 137:8

*O Daughter of Babylon, doomed to destruction,
happy is he who repays you
for what you have done to us--*

The Psalmist, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, points to a specific nation, Babylon (Strong's#894 – *Babel*), and adds the modifying words “Daughter of.” Daughter, used 327 times in the Bible, is Strong's number 1323 (*bath*) and has the obvious meaning of a female child born to her parents. It also can refer to: *(e) all the population of a place, taken collectively, especially in Prophets and poetic books (Psalms 9:14; Isaiah 23:10; Jeremiah 46:24; Matthew 21:5) – International Standard*

Bible Encyclopedia (ISBE). An example of such a use in scripture:

Isaiah 37:22 “This [is] the word which the LORD hath spoken concerning him; The virgin, the daughter of Zion, hath despised thee, [and] laughed thee to scorn; the daughter of Jerusalem hath shaken her head at thee.”

Isaiah 13

1 *An oracle concerning Babylon that Isaiah son of Amoz saw:*

2 *Raise a banner on a bare hilltop,
shout to them;
beckon to them
to enter the gates of the nobles.*

3 *I have commanded my holy ones;
I have summoned my warriors to carry out my wrath—
those who rejoice in my triumph.*

4 *Listen, a noise on the mountains,
like that of a great multitude!
Listen, an uproar among the kingdoms,
like nations massing together!
The LORD Almighty is mustering
an army for war.*

5 *They come from faraway lands,
from the ends of the heavens—
the LORD and the weapons of his wrath—
to destroy the whole country.*

In these initial verses of Isaiah 13 the Prophet describes the warriors that will come forward to destroy Babylon. “Warriors” (#4421 – *gibbowr*) means what it says—ones who wage war. “Holy ones” (#6942 – *qadash*) are those who are set apart, to ‘show oneself to be sacred.’ Muslims would assert that these phrases apply to them. Where will they come from? From “faraway” (#4801 – *merchaq* - remote, distant) “lands” (#776 –

- *erets* - earth, surface of the earth), that is they will not be home-grown terrorists, but will come against Babylon from distant lands.

14 *Like a hunted gazelle,
like sheep without a shepherd,
each will return to his own people,
each will flee to his native land.*

As we read in Chapter 12, God warns His people, Christians and Jews, *nine separate times*, to flee the Daughter of Babylon. This verse tells us that God's people will listen to His numerous warnings, and actually flee, using the picturesque language of a fleeing Gazelle. Troubling is His description of His people as "*a sheep without a shepherd.*" This may imply a lack of strong spiritual leadership in the days in which His people flee for their lives out of Babylon.

17 *See, I will stir up against them the Medes,
who do not care for silver
and have no delight in gold.*

18 *Their bows will strike down the young men;
they will have no mercy on infants
nor will they look with compassion on children.*

The Medes (#4074 – *Maday*) were descended from Madai, a son of Japheth, one of Noah's three sons (Genesis 10:2) and lived in the area that became Persia, which we now know as Iran. The Medes will ally themselves with Russia to invade Israel (Ezekiel 38 and 39). They are also used by God to come against the Daughter of Babylon, which nation will betray Israel in the Russian-Muslim invasion. On October 17, 2007 the *New York Times* carried a picture of Russian President Putin and President Ahmadinejad conferring as they walked before bas relief carvings of the Medes. Chilling.

19 *Babylon, the beauty of kingdoms,
the glory of the Babylonians' pride,*

*will be overthrown by God
like Sodom and Gomorrah.*

20 *She will never be inhabited
or lived in through all generations;
no Arab will pitch his tent there,
no shepherd will rest his flocks there.*

Babylon (#894), the world's "beauty" (#6643 – *tsebiy*) will be "overthrown" (#3782 - fall, cast down, ruin) like or similar to the destruction of "Sodom" (#5467 - *Cedom*) and "Gomorrah" (#6017 - *Amorah*). Though Sodom and Gomorrah are mentioned frequently in scripture, often in the same verse, this verse, Isaiah 13:19, is the only verse in scripture in which they are linked in this phrase "Sodom *and* Gomorrah." God also tells us in Jeremiah 50:40 that the method of destruction will be the same as the method used to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah. How were Sodom and Gomorrah overthrown? A spontaneous nuclear explosion fits well the verses that are given us as to how Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed. Those verses are detailed in Chapter 9 of *The End of America*.

Isaiah 21:1-10

2 *A dire vision has been shown to me:
The traitor betrays, the looter takes loot.
Elam, attack! Media, lay siege!
I will bring to an end all the groaning she caused.*

"Elam" (#5867 - *Eylam*) was a province of Persia, now present day Iran. The Persian capital city of Susa (Shushan), mentioned in Daniel 8:2, was located in Elam. This verse gives further confirmation that attacks on the Daughter of Babylon will come, in part, from the Muslim nation of Iran, the leader of which has vowed to wipe Israel off the map, and in October, 2005, called for the complete destruction of America.

9 *Look, here comes a man in a chariot
with a team of horses.*

*And he gives back the answer:
'Babylon has fallen, has fallen!
All the images of its gods
lie shattered on the ground!' "*

What are the “*images*” (#6456 – *peciyl* - visible representations of supposedly supernatural or divine beings or powers) of America? “*When an image became the object of worship or a means by which a false god was worshipped, it became antagonistic to the First and Second Commandments respectively.*” (ISBE) The First Commandment prohibited having other gods, such as money, the government, movie or sports stars, in place of the only God. The Second Commandment prohibits “*servng*” these other “small g” gods. All of the “*images*” or “*idols*” of the Daughter of Babylon will be “*shattered*” (# 7665 – *shabar* - broken) when the nation is destroyed. Hollywood will be no more. The all powerful United States Federal Government will be no more. The “Almighty Dollar” will be no more.

Isaiah 47

- 1** *"Go down, sit in the dust,
Virgin Daughter of Babylon;
sit on the ground without a throne,
Daughter of the Babylonians.
No more will you be called
tender or delicate.*

- 2** *Take millstones and grind flour;
take off your veil.
Lift up your skirts, bare your legs,
and wade through the streams.*

- 3** *Your nakedness will be exposed
and your shame uncovered.
I will take vengeance;
I will spare no one."*

4 *Our Redeemer—the LORD Almighty is his name—
is the Holy One of Israel.*

5 *"Sit in silence, go into darkness,
Daughter of the Babylonians;
no more will you be called
queen of kingdoms.*

This section of prophetic scripture should be a sufficient, and persuasive proof to the contrary, for anyone who argues that the Daughter of Babylon verses refer *only* to historical, ancient Babylon. “*Virgin*” (#1330 – *bethuwlah* - one with no history of sexual relations). Historical, ancient Babylon fought many wars and suffered invasions on its land. Apart from the very short War of 1812, Pearl Harbor (not then a State in the U.S.) and the brief attacks of 9/11, America has not suffered any significant invasion from abroad, nor war initiated by foreigners on its shores. The several references to the Daughter of Babylon in scripture, including this one, confirm the previously uninvaded nature of this end times nation.

6 *I was angry with my people
and desecrated my inheritance;
I gave them into your hand,
and you showed them no mercy.
Even on the aged
you laid a very heavy yoke.*

Besides God’s expressed anger with his people, the most relevant portion of this verse is that God hands His people over to—to whom? The Daughter of Babylon, whom, He prophesies, will “show them no mercy.” “Mercy” (7356 – *racham* – mercy, compassion). Actually, as with many things in life, this tribulation has a positive practical purpose. Human nature, being what it is, who really wants to pull up roots, and move out of one’s native land to a foreign country? Though hundreds of thousands did leave, several million Jewish residents of Europe in the last century, rejected leaving their homeland, and died as a result. So, being persecuted for being a Christian, or an observant Jew, will not be the curse

that some may at first think. It will be the stimulus needed to get God's people *moving*, literally.

9 *Both of these will overtake you
in a moment, on a single day:
loss of children and widowhood.*

The Hebrew words for "one day" are without any dispute. One (#259 – *echad* – one) is used 952 times, meaning simply, "one," that is the number before "two." The word for "day" (#3177 – *yowm* – a single day) is used 2287 times in the Bible, and *always* meant a single day. For example, *yohm* is the word used in Exodus 3:18: "Let us take a three-day journey into the desert to offer sacrifices to the Lord our God." The destruction of the Daughter of Babylon will take place in *one day*. Nations don't normally fall in one day, but this end times nation will.

9 b *They will come upon you in full measure,
in spite of your many sorceries
and all your potent spells.*

12 *"Keep on, then, with your magic spells
and with your many sorceries,
which you have labored at since childhood.
Perhaps you will succeed,
perhaps you will cause terror.*

13 *All the counsel you have received has only worn you out!
Let your astrologers come forward,
those stargazers who make predictions month by month,
let them save you from what is coming upon you.*

Sorceries (#1051 – *kespeph* – witchcraft, sorceries, incantations) won't do this nation any good in warding off its destruction. This reference is a humorous side comment on this nation's 'gods,' who won't do it any good.

Isaiah 48

- 1** *"Listen to this, O house of Jacob,
you who are called by the name of Israel
and come from the line of Judah,*
- 3** *I foretold the former things long ago,
my mouth announced them and I made them known;
then suddenly I acted, and they came to pass.*
- 5** *Therefore I told you these things long ago;
before they happened I announced them to you*
- 14** *"Come together, all of you, and listen:
Which of the idols has foretold these things?
The Lord's chosen ally
will carry out his purpose against Babylon;
his arm will be against the Babylonians.*
- 15** *I, even I, have spoken;
yes, I have called him.
I will bring him,
and he will succeed in his mission.*
- 20** *Leave Babylon,
flee from the Babylonians!
Announce this with shouts of joy
and proclaim it.
Send it out to the ends of the earth;
say, "The Lord has redeemed his servant Jacob."*

This section of Isaiah 48 contains one of the nine warnings to flee from Babylon. Two of those nine, including these verses from Isaiah 48, are directed at God's Jewish people. The Hebrew word (*barach* - #1272) translated 65 times in the KJV as "flee" is used in scripture to mean: "to go through, flee, run away, chase, drive away, put to flight...hurry away." The word is not translated in any other manner that fits the context of the verses, so it clearly means to leave the land for a different location.

Jeremiah 50

1 *This is the word the LORD spoke through Jeremiah the prophet concerning Babylon and the land of the Babylonians :*

2 *"Announce and proclaim among the nations,
lift up a banner and proclaim it;
keep nothing back, but say,
'Babylon will be captured;
Bel will be put to shame,
Marduk filled with terror.
Her images will be put to shame
and her idols filled with terror.'*

Jeremiah addresses the "Daughter of Babylon," a nation identified by name, in both Chapters 50 and 51. In addition to his use of the title, *the Daughter of Babylon*, the contents of these two chapters confirms that the nation being described is not ancient Babylon. Verse two is an interesting verse, since idols (#6091 – *atsab* – idol, image), as inanimate objects, can't be "*filled with terror.*" Idols who are public officials or entertainment stars, etc. could easily be filled with terror as they see their worshippers destroyed.

3 *A nation from the north will attack her
and lay waste her land.
No one will live in it;
both men and animals will flee away.*

Prophets always describe directions and locations of enemies in relation to Israel. Present day Russia, along with several Muslim nations, for example, are located north of Israel.

4 *"In those days, at that time,"
declares the Lord,
"the people of Israel and the people of Judah together
will go in tears to seek the Lord their God.*

5 *They will ask the way to Zion
and turn their faces toward it.*

*They will come and bind themselves to the Lord
in an everlasting covenant
that will not be forgotten.*

These verses dramatically show how Jewish persons will react to the loss of the nation that had been Israel's main ally in the world, that is, prior to the Russian-Muslim invasion of Israel, when the nation betrays Israel. They will seek God, since they will have no worldly help.

8 *"Flee out of Babylon;
leave the land of the Babylonians,
and be like the goats that lead the flock.*

This is another one of the nine specific warnings to God's people to flee from this rich, powerful end times nation. Normally, one would not want to leave the world's richest, most prosperous, most militarily powerful and strong nation. That is, unless it is destroyed and loses its wealth and its power, which is what these verses are all about. The Hebrew word (*barach* - #1272) translated 65 times in the KJV as "flee," is again used by Jeremiah and again means: "to go through, flee, run away, chase, drive away, put to flight...hurry away."

9 *For I will stir up and bring against Babylon
an alliance of great nations from the land of the north.
They will take up their positions against her,
and from the north she will be captured.
Their arrows will be like skilled warriors
who do not return empty-handed.*

Arrows (#6271 – *chets* – Arrows of God -- God's lightnings, evils, calamities inflicted upon men – *Gesenius Lexicon*) quite clearly means more than a physical shaft and pointed weapon. The Daughter of Babylon could not be destroyed in a moment by literal arrows, so Jeremiah's use of the word has the broader meaning that the *Gesenius Lexicon* cites.

12 *your mother will be greatly ashamed;
she who gave you birth will be disgraced.*

Jeremiah 50:12 is an important verse. Ancient Babylon had no “mother,” i.e., another nation that birthed Babylon. On the other hand, Great Britain is clearly the “mother” of the United States of America. In 1776 we had to separate from our colonial relationship. The word that Jeremiah used, which is translated in the NIV as “*ashamed*” and in the KJV as “*confounded*” (#954 – *buwsh*) also has the meaning of “*paleness and terror*” and “*to men overwhelmed with unexpected calamity*” and to be “*troubled, disturbed, confused.*” (Gesenius Lexicon) These words would certainly describe the reaction of America’s “*mother*” and closest ally when the nation is destroyed in a surprise nuclear attack.

*She will be the least of the nations—
a wilderness, a dry land, a desert. (NIV)*

*Behold, the hindermost of the nations shall be a
wilderness, a dry land, and a desert. (KJV)*

The King James Version translation is interpreted more clearly to show that Jeremiah is saying that the “*least*” or “*hindermost*” nation will some day *become* a wilderness, not that the nation is the least nation *because* it is a wilderness. Least or hindermost (#319- *achariyth*) means “*end, latter, last.*” Isaiah used the word in Isaiah 2:2 (“*It shall come to pass in the last days...*”). America, of all of the great nations of the world, is one of the latest to be formed. Israel came into being later than America, but Israel was re-born, obviously, from its earlier existence. Ancient Babylon could never be described as a last or end times, hindermost, nation.

13 *Because of the Lord’s anger she will not be inhabited
but will be completely desolate.
All who pass Babylon will be horrified and scoff
because of all her wounds.*

14 *“Take up your positions around Babylon,
all you who draw the bow.
Shoot at her! Spare no arrows,
for she has sinned against the LORD.*

15 *Shout against her on every side!
She surrenders, her towers fall,
her walls are torn down.
Since this is the vengeance of the LORD,
take vengeance on her;
do to her as she has done to others.*

16 *Cut off from Babylon the sower,
and the reaper with his sickle at harvest.
Because of the sword of the oppressor
let everyone return to his own people,
let everyone flee to his own land.*

Jeremiah 50:16 is a chilling verse. It confirms what will happen when the Daughter of Babylon/America is attacked with weapons that destroy the nation in one day/hour/moment. Agriculture will effectively cease. No sowing or reaping or harvests. Why? With the destructive effects of EMP and with no gasoline, no electricity, and no acceptable currency, who will raise food for *others*?

This verse also confirms that the Babylon being described is a land of immigrants, otherwise, why would the residents be told to “*return*” to their “*own people*” to their “*own land*”? Ancient Babylon was not a nation of immigrants from distant lands.

18 *Therefore this is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel,
says:
"I will punish the king of Babylon and his land
as I punished the king of Assyria.*

This is not a good verse for those who refuse to believe that the Daughter of Babylon/America will suffer widespread death and destruction. God says He will punish Babylon’s leader and his land the same way He punished the King of Assyria. How did He punish the King of Assyria, who had attacked Israel?

“That night the angel of the LORD went out and put to death a hundred and eighty-five thousand men in the Assyrian camp. When the people got up the next morning—there were all the

dead bodies! So Sennacherib, King of Assyria broke camp and withdrew. He returned to Nineveh and stayed there. One day, while he was worshiping in the temple of his god Nisroch, his sons Adrammelech and Sharezer cut him down with the sword, and they escaped to the land of Ararat. And Esarhaddon his son succeeded him as king.” (II Kings 19:35-37) There is no historical battle recorded in the Bible with a larger loss of life, and one would search in vain, prior to Hiroshima and Nagasaki, to find a single battle/day loss larger than 185,000 people. Assyrian King Sennacherib, who had “*blasphemed*” God and bragged that the Lord could not save Israel from his attack, not only lost his full army, he was cut down when he returned home, just as Isaiah had prophesied. The Daughter of Babylon/America will face the same punishment for its treatment of Israel.

21 *"Attack the land of Merathaim
and those who live in Pekod.
Pursue, kill and completely destroy them,"
declares the LORD.
"Do everything I have commanded you.*

Merathaim (#4850 – a symbolic name of Babylon) and Pekod (#6489 – an allegorical name of Babylon) - Gesenius Lexicon. Both are references confirming, in a chapter in which Jeremiah specifically says that his words are aimed at the “*Daughter of Babylon,*” the identity of the target, as well as Who orders the destruction.

22 *The noise of battle is in the land,
the noise of great destruction!*

23 *How broken and shattered
is the hammer of the whole earth!
How desolate is Babylon
among the nations!*

Jeremiah 50:23 is a major indicator of the identity of the Daughter of Babylon. “*Hammer*” (#6360 – *pattiysh* – from a root word meaning “to pound”) is used seven times in

scripture in its traditional meaning. Isaiah in 41:7 refers to “*the goldsmith... who smooths with the hammer.*” Jeremiah, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, informs us that the Daughter of Babylon will be “*the hammer of the whole earth.*” Not of a region of the world, but the entire world. In our time, in the time of the rebudding of Israel, the fig tree era Jesus spoke of, there is only one “*hammer of the whole earth.*” It’s not France, or Germany, nor even Russia or China. Only one nation has hundreds of military bases located around the globe. No other nation even comes close to the power of the superpower, America.

24 *I set a trap for you, O Babylon,
and you were caught before you knew it;
you were found and captured
because you opposed the Lord.*

25 *The Lord has opened his arsenal
and brought out the weapons of his wrath,
for the Sovereign Lord Almighty has work to do
in the land of the Babylonians.*

26 *Come against her from afar.
Break open her granaries;
pile her up like heaps of grain.
Completely destroy her
and leave her no remnant.*

Jeremiah quotes God as saying the destruction of the Daughter of Babylon will be like a “*trap*” which will spring “*before (she) knew it.*” (#3369 – *yaqash* – to lay snares for, to plot against anyone – Gesenius Lexicon). The trap will be sprung, without warning, “*because you opposed the Lord.*” Verse 50:26 confirms, again, that the attack on the Daughter of Babylon will be from “*afar*” (#7093 – *qets* – from the farthest). Note also that the food supply is again referenced, as the granaries of the Daughter of Babylon will be broken open, and thus, soon empty.

28 *Listen to the fugitives and refugees from Babylon
declaring in Zion
how the LORD our God has taken vengeance,
vengeance for his temple.*

At first glance, the phrase in this verse, “*vengeance for his temple,*” appears to pose a problem. There is no temple in the nation of Israel today. More than that, there will not likely be a temple until, that is, there are major political/military changes in modern day Israel. Any attempt today to begin the construction of a temple on the ancient site of Israel’s Temples, the Temple Mount, would ignite widespread riots that would halt any new construction. The word for temple used in the Old Testament is *heykal* (#1964 and 1965) and the same word is translated 70 times as “temple” and ten times as “palace.” Gesenius’s Lexicon describes *heykal* as meaning a “*large and magnificent building, a palace,*” referring to Daniel 1:4, which includes the phrase that Daniel and the other young men brought from Israel were found to be “*qualified to serve in the king’s palace.*” The word in Daniel translated as “palace” is *heykal*. This is the same word, *heykal*, used in the original text of Jeremiah 50:28 in the phrase “*vengeance for his temple.*”

Because we know from Ezekiel, that after Russia, Iran and their allies invade Israel unsuccessfully, the very next chapters, 40-47, outline in architectural detail, a future Temple of Israel, not the same as its prior two Temples. It doesn’t take a lot of heavy analysis to conclude that once Israel has been defended by God directly, destroying the invading armies, with damage back home in the invading nations, Israel will have a free hand to build the Ezekiel Temple described in Chapters 40-47. It would amount to a tribute to God for His defense of Israel, or much like a war memorial. That all will come *after* the Daughter of Babylon/America betrays Israel. Thus, the reference in Jeremiah 50:28 and 51:11 to “*vengeance for his temple.*” So, the word used in these two Jeremiah verses, *heykal*, must be translated as palace or large and magnificent building, as

heykal is frequently translated in scripture, and not the Temple of God, because that Temple won't be in Israel until *after* the Russian-Muslim invasion. The obvious candidate for a building to be destroyed in the Russian-Muslim invasion (for which God takes His vengeance on the Daughter of Babylon/America for not coming to Israel's defense) would be the Knesset Building in Jerusalem, the primary government building in Israel, in which the 120 members of the Knesset meet.

29 *"Summon archers against Babylon,
all those who draw the bow.
Encamp all around her;
let no one escape.
Repay her for her deeds;
do to her as she has done.
For she has defied the Lord,
the Holy One of Israel.*

Clearly, Jeremiah has been given the words of warfare known to him in his time applied to a future Daughter of Babylon. Would we expect him to say "*arm the nuclear weapons*"?

30 *Therefore, her young men will fall in the streets;
all her soldiers will be silenced in that day,"
declares the Lord.*

A legitimate question in studying the prophecies concerning the destruction of the Daughter of Babylon is how will the armed forces of the "*hammer of the whole earth*" react to the coordinated sneak attack from afar? This verse tells us. A decapitated armed forces, with no effective civil government or military command structure, can not function. Besides, who would those armed forces fight? And where? As we have learned, responding effectively to terrorists is most difficult.

31 *"See, I am against you, O arrogant one,"
declares the Lord, the Lord Almighty,
"for your day has come,
the time for you to be punished.*

32 *The arrogant one will stumble and fall
and no one will help her up;
I will kindle a fire in her towns
that will consume all who are around her."*

The “*arrogant one*,” only used four times in scripture, is used *twice* for the Daughter of Babylon. (#2087 – *zadown* - pride, insolence, presumptuousness). How will the Daughter of Babylon fall? By “*a fire in her towns*.” Again, we have conclusory proof from this verse that the destruction will fall on a nation of *towns* (plural), not on a *single city*, such as a rebuilt ancient Babylon in Iraq. (#5892 – *iy*r – a city, a town, frequented by people – Gesenius Lexicon) The fire that destroys the Daughter of Babylon will not be just a burning of some buildings, but it “*will consume all who are around her*.” Only a nuclear firestorm can cause that kind of destruction.

33 *This is what the Lord Almighty says:
"The people of Israel are oppressed,
and the people of Judah as well.
All their captors hold them fast,
refusing to let them go.*

34 *Yet their Redeemer is strong;
the Lord Almighty is his name.
He will vigorously defend their cause
so that he may bring rest to their land,
but unrest to those who live in Babylon.*

These two verses inter-lock with Ezekiel 38, which describes the Russian-Muslim invasion of Israel. These verses give us a fascinating insight into that invasion. It appears that before God steps in and destroys the invading armies (Ezekiel 39) the Israelites for a time will be held captive. Joel 1 and 2 describe an invasion of Israel in the end times that takes place over a period of time.

35 *"A sword against the Babylonians!"
declares the LORD—*

*"against those who live in Babylon
and against her officials and wise men!*

36 *A sword against her false prophets!
They will become fools.
A sword against her warriors!
They will be filled with terror.*

37 *A sword against her horses and chariots
and all the foreigners in her ranks!
They will become women.
A sword against her treasures!
They will be plundered.*

38 *A drought on her waters!
They will dry up.
For it is a land of idols,
idols that will go mad with terror.*

It would be difficult to be more specific than these verses as to what will happen to the Daughter of Babylon/America. A sword is called for because of her betrayal of Israel. The Daughter of Babylon/America's leaders and false prophets will become fools. Verse 38's call for a drought on her waters may mean literal waters or may be a cross reference with Revelation 17 which describes Babylon the Great. In 17:1 Babylon the Great is described as a prostitute sitting on many waters. In Revelation 17:15 John says: *Then the angel said to me, "The waters you saw, where the prostitute sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations and languages."*

39 *"So desert creatures and hyenas will live there,
and there the owl will dwell.
It will never again be inhabited
or lived in from generation to generation.*

40 *As God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah
along with their neighboring towns,"
declares the LORD,*

*"so no one will live there;
no man will dwell in it.*

When God tells us in His word that He is doing something in a similar way to what He has done *in the past*, that revelation should command our attention, and cause us to look carefully at that to which He is calling our attention. This verse is one of the two (including Isaiah 13:20) that specifically prophesy the Daughter of Babylon/America will fall when God allows the terrorists who attack to use nuclear weapons, which will work in the same way He split the atom in the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.

46 *At the sound of Babylon's capture the earth will tremble;
its cry will resound among the nations.*

No single day news event in the history of the world will cause a bigger outcry than this: *America is Destroyed*. This verse ties to Revelation 18, which describes the kings and the merchants of the earth wailing and lamenting the fall of Babylon, which is destroyed in one hour (Revelation 18:10).

Jeremiah 51

1 *This is what the LORD says:
"See, I will stir up the spirit of a destroyer
against Babylon and the people of Leb Kamai.*

The NIV Bible notes that "*Leb Kamai is a cryptogram for Chaldea, that is, Babylon.*"

2 *I will send foreigners to Babylon
to winnow her and to devastate her land;
they will oppose her on every side
in the day of her disaster.*

3 *Let not the archer string his bow,
nor let him put on his armor.
Do not spare her young men;
completely destroy her army.*

4 *They will fall down slain in Babylon,
fatally wounded in her streets.*

5 *For Israel and Judah have not been forsaken
by their God, the LORD Almighty,
though their land is full of guilt
before the Holy One of Israel.*

These three verses again summarize that the destruction of the Daughter of Babylon occurs because of what it did to Israel, which God has not forsaken, though this future fallen nation will forsake Israel. The verses also tell us that the fallen nation's armed forces (army - #6635 – *tsaba* –host, army) also fall along with the nation.

6 *"Flee from Babylon!
Run for your lives!
Do not be destroyed because of her sins.
It is time for the Lord's vengeance;
he will pay her what she deserves.*

This verse is one of the nine specific instructions by God to His people to flee Babylon. Why? To save their very "lives"– "*run for your lives.*" He emphasizes that the residents of the Daughter of Babylon should "*not be destroyed because of her sins.*" This assumes that those who hear and heed His warning are not part of those sins. God is saying those who hear Him should not die because of the sins of the nation. The action word "flee" is #5127 - *nuwc* – which in the 161 times it is used in the Old Testament is used 157 times to mean "flee," "flee away," "flight," "hide" or "flee out."

7 *Babylon was a gold cup in the Lord's hand;
she made the whole earth drunk.
The nations drank her wine;
therefore they have now gone mad.*

Babylon "*was*" a gold cup in the Lord's hand. Past tense. This is consistent with America's early leadership role in mission activities around the world. But, Babylon made the whole

earth “*drunk*” (#7937 – *shakar* – to become drunk, intoxicated). Revelation 17:5 states that Babylon the Great is also the “*mother of abominations.*” Chapter 7 of *The End of America* explains the abominations that America is responsible for disseminating around the world, including abortion, pornography, etc.

8 *Babylon will suddenly fall and be broken.*

Wail over her!

Get balm for her pain;

perhaps she can be healed.

9 " *We would have healed Babylon,*

but she cannot be healed;

let us leave her and each go to his own land,

for her judgment reaches to the skies,

it rises as high as the clouds.'

Verses 8 and 9 again state that the fall of Babylon will be sudden, but also tell us that Babylon *could have been healed*. The primary message of *America at the Crossroads* was that if America repented of its sins, God would heal the repentant nation, just as He promised in II Chronicles 7:14. For the last several decades many called for a national awakening, a meaningful repentance, in order for our land to be healed. Sadly, God confirms in these verses that He stood ready to heal, but she could not be healed, because she *didn't repent of her sins*. It should be noted that God refers to Himself in the plural, as the Trinity.

10 " *The Lord has vindicated us;*

come, let us tell in Zion

what the Lord our God has done.'

One of many verses confirming that the Daughter of Babylon will fall because the act of allowing it to be destroyed is vengeance for what the nation did to stab Israel in the back when Israel will most need the help of its greatest worldly ally. “*Vindication*” (#6666 – *tsedaqah* – right, justice).

11 *"Sharpen the arrows,
take up the shields!
The Lord has stirred up the kings of the Medes,
because his purpose is to destroy Babylon.
The Lord will take vengeance,
vengeance for his temple.*

As previously noted, the Kings of the Medes, i.e, Iran's leaders, will participate in the attacks on the Daughter of Babylon/America. The Medes: (#4474 – *Malay* – descendants of Japheth – in the area of Persia, now Iran). The above notes for Jeremiah 50:28 discuss the prophetic meaning of the use of the word for "temple."

13 *You who live by many waters
and are rich in treasures,
your end has come,
the time for you to be cut off.*

Ancient Babylon did not "live by many waters," though America certainly does.

20 *"You are my war club,
my weapon for battle—
with you I shatter nations,
with you I destroy kingdoms,*

21 *with you I shatter horse and rider,
with you I shatter chariot and driver,*

22 *with you I shatter man and woman,
with you I shatter old man and youth,
with you I shatter young man and maiden,*

23 *with you I shatter shepherd and flock,
with you I shatter farmer and oxen,
with you I shatter governors and officials.*

24 *"Before your eyes I will repay Babylon and all who live in Babylonia for all the wrong they have done in Zion," declares the LORD.*

Though some (*Clarke's Commentary*) opine that these verses refer to Babylon, verse 24 makes it relatively clear that Jeremiah is referring to Israel as God's instrument for His purposes in the world. It is before Israel's eyes that God "repays" Babylon "for the wrong they have done in Zion."

25 *"I am against you, O destroying mountain, you who destroy the whole earth," declares the LORD.
"I will stretch out my hand against you, roll you off the cliffs, and make you a burned-out mountain.*

"The hammer of the whole earth" appears to be called out here for violence in the "whole earth."

27 *"Lift up a banner in the land!
Blow the trumpet among the nations!
Prepare the nations for battle against her;
summon against her these kingdoms:
Ararat, Minni and Ashkenaz.
Appoint a commander against her;
send up horses like a swarm of locusts.*

28 *Prepare the nations for battle against her—
the kings of the Medes,
their governors and all their officials,
and all the countries they rule.*

Ararat and Minni are Armenia, a former Republic of the Soviet Union, that borders Turkey and Iran. Its Jewish population has dwindled to just a few hundred. Ashkenaz (#813 – *Ashkenaz* – descendants of Japheth – region in northern Asia). Ashkenaz was Gomer's first son. Gomer is listed by Ezekiel in 38:6, as one of the nations that will join Russia for the Russian-Muslim invasion of Israel, in which the Daughter of

Babylon is AWOL. The Medes and Gomer not only invade Israel, they also are part of the annihilation attack on the Daughter of Babylon. Could these verses imply that the two attacks are timed to occur simultaneously? Strategically, that could make sense. If so, waiting for America to betray Israel in the Russian-Muslim invasion may be waiting too late to avoid destruction and death.

35 *May the violence done to our flesh be upon Babylon,"
say the inhabitants of Zion.
"May our blood be on those who live in Babylonia,"
says Jerusalem.*

One more time God confirms the primary *reason* that the Daughter of Babylon is destroyed. Treachery against Israel is not a recommended course of action.

38 *Her people all roar like young lions,
they growl like lion cubs.*

39 *But while they are aroused,
I will set out a feast for them
and make them drunk,
so that they shout with laughter—
then sleep forever and not awake,"
declares the LORD.*

40 *"I will bring them down
like lambs to the slaughter,
like rams and goats.*

In picturesque language, Jeremiah describes a nation of partying people, roaring, aroused, drunk, laughing—right before they are destroyed. Not a pretty picture.

41 *"How Sheshach will be captured,
the boast of the whole earth seized!
What a horror Babylon will be
among the nations!*

Sheshach (#8347 – *Sheshak*) is a cryptogram for Babylon (NIV). Name any nation in the world today, any nation, except for America, that can be called “*the boast of the whole earth.*” The corpse of the destroyed nation among the nations will be a horror, better translated, as Dr. Scofield notes, as “*astonishment.*” (# 8047 – *shammah* – astonishment, desolation, desolate, waste)

43 *Her towns will be desolate,
a dry and desert land,
a land where no one lives,
through which no man travels.*

Towns (#5892 – *iyar* – translated over 1,000 times in KJV as “*cities*”). Need it again be said that nations have towns and cities? But Ancient Babylon was a city.

45 *"Come out of her, my people!
Run for your lives!
Run from the fierce anger of the Lord*

Are you one of God’s people? In this verse He calls His people out of the nation that He calls in this Chapter the Daughter of Babylon. Twice He says to “*run*” (#3318 – *yatsa*), not walk, out of the nation before God’s “*fierce anger*” falls on them.

46 *Do not lose heart or be afraid
when rumors are heard in the land;
one rumor comes this year, another the next,
rumors of violence in the land
and of ruler against ruler.*

This verse has been interpreted to say or imply that before the Daughter of Babylon falls, there will be a one year warning, that is, rumors of violence in the nation *before* it actually is no more. The verses don’t actually say that, but it can be read that way. However, see Jeremiah 51:28 comments above. Since the Medes (Iran) and Gomer (Russia/Turkey) are *both* involved in invading Israel *and* in destroying Babylon, how confident can one be that there will be a year to get out of

America after America betrays Israel? It is entirely conceivable that the Russian-Muslim invasion of Israel is timed to coincide with or slightly precede the destruction of the Daughter of Babylon/America. To quote Clint Eastwood, "*Do you feel lucky?*". This is especially pertinent when we study how God has timed punishment on America after it has cursed Israel, pursuant to Genesis 12:3, and as we read in Chapter 14. This is definitely something to pray about.

49 *"Babylon must fall because of Israel's slain,
just as the slain in all the earth
have fallen because of Babylon.*

"Fall" (#5307 – *naphal* – to fall, be cast down).

50 *You who have escaped the sword,
leave and do not linger!
Remember the Lord in a distant land,
and think on Jerusalem."*

The warning clearly is to God's people not to "*linger*" (#5975 – *ahmad* – to remain, to tarry). Once in a distant (safe) land God's people are told to "*think on Jerusalem,*" which would be appropriate because the betrayal of Israel will lead to the Daughter of Babylon/America's fall.

51 *"We are disgraced,
for we have been insulted
and shame covers our faces,
because foreigners have entered
the holy places of the Lord's house."*

This verse could well be a reference to "foreigners," i.e., non-members, invading churches in the Daughter of Babylon. The Hebrew word used in Jeremiah 51:51 for foreigners is not limited to persons from other countries, but is generally translated as stranger. (#2114 – *zuwr* - stranger). Those trespassers may be protesters, as the Mormon Church and the Lansing, Michigan church experienced, or they may be

government agents sent in to enforce hate crime and speech laws.

53 *Even if Babylon reaches the sky
and fortifies her lofty stronghold,
I will send destroyers against her,"
declares the Lord.*

Jeremiah 51:53 was a verse cited by C. Franklin Logsdon to confirm that the Daughter of Babylon verses are for our time and appear to apply to only a nation with a space program. No nation "*reach(ed) the sky*" in Jeremiah's time, and not until our time. Of those handful of nations that have reached into the sky with space programs, only America also fulfills the other prophetic verses describing the Daughter of Babylon.

Zechariah 2

7 *"Come, O Zion! Escape, you who live in the Daughter of Babylon!"*

8 *For this is what the Lord Almighty says: "After he has honored me and has sent me against the nations that have plundered you—for whoever touches you touches the apple of his eye-*

9 *I will surely raise my hand against them so that their slaves will plunder them. Then you will know that the Lord Almighty has sent me."*

Zechariah was a Prophet of Israel whom God gave prophecies from the restoration of Babylon through the Millennium. Dr. Scofield points out that no other Prophet "*has more prophecy concerning Christ, Israel, and the nations in so short a space than has Zechariah.*" So, it's interesting that Zechariah specifically calls out Zion, Jewish people of God, to "*escape*" from what nation? Zion is told to leave the *Daughter of Babylon*, a nation also specifically named by the writer of Psalm 137, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and John the Revelator. Zechariah confirms that Israel is the "*apple of God's eye,*" and

ties that concept to His prophecy: “*nations that have plundered*” Israel will be struck down by the Hand of God.

Revelation 17

1 *One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the punishment of the great prostitute, who sits on many waters.*

2 *With her the kings of the earth committed adultery and the inhabitants of the earth were intoxicated with the wine of her adulteries."*

Revelation, Chapter 17, begins with John the Revelator telling us that the words were given to him by an angel. The angel conveying the words is also identified by John as one of the seven angels in Revelation 15. Those seven angels are given the task of pouring seven bowls of wrath, also called “*the seven last plagues,*” on the earth in the end times. The identity of the angel does not appear to be relevant to the message in Revelation 17, for several reasons: a.) the book of Revelation is not chronological, so what is written in Chapter 15 does not necessarily occur before what is written in Chapter 17; b.) scripture tells us that God’s wrath does not fall on His people (Romans 5:9); c.) what John writes about in Chapter 17 is not related to any of the Bowls of Wrath.

The angel’s message recorded by John is about a future nation labeled a “*great prostitute*” who commits “*adultery*” with “*the kings of the earth,*” and who makes the people of the earth drunk “*with the wine of her adulteries.*” (“*Prostitute*” Greek # 4204 – *porne* –also harlot, whore) - Who is this prostitute? In 17:18 John tells us:

“The woman you saw is the great city that rules over the kings of the earth.”

What city in the world is such a “*great city*” that it “*rules over the kings of the earth*”? Paris, Beijing, Berlin, London, Moscow? Not really. To which City did the world’s leaders fly for an emergency World Summit Meeting in early 2009 to discuss the world’s financial woes? Washington, D.C. No single city, not affiliated with a nation could have such power, so the words obviously apply to a nation, headed by a powerful city. “*City*” can also apply to a throng or multitude (#4172 – *polis* – possible root word - #4183 – *polys* – multitude, number – Strong’s Concordance).

In what sense does this great prostitute nation commit “*adulteries*” with the kings of the nations of the world, and makes the residents of the world drink with “*the wine of her adulteries*”? Verse 5 tells us that this nation is also the “*mother of abominations.*” In Chapter 7 of *The End of America*, we looked in depth at how God may view America as mothering and disseminating worldwide abominations, such as abortion, same sex marriage, pornography (which comes from the root word for prostitute – *porne* - #4204), etc., that could truly be said to make the world’s kings, nations and residents drunk with the “*adulteries.*”

3 *Then the angel carried me away in the Spirit into a desert. There I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was covered with blasphemous names and had seven heads and ten horns.*

What does the “*scarlet beast*” represent?

4 *The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, and was glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls. She held a golden cup in her hand, filled with abominable things and the filth of her adulteries.*

Verse four is consistent with the other descriptions of the Daughter of Babylon from Isaiah and Jeremiah, which also describe the nation as wealthy, rich in material matters. The verse also repeats what Jeremiah said in 51:7 “*Babylon was a gold cup in the Lord's hand; she made the whole earth drunk.*”

The nations drank her wine; therefore they have now gone mad.” Revelation 17:2 and Jeremiah 51:7 thus, having been originally written by the same God, make the same point about this rich, influential, spiritually impure end times nation.

5 *This title was written on her forehead:*
MYSTERY
BABYLON THE GREAT
THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES
AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

As Dr. Gerald Nieten points out, the capitalized letters in the original Greek do not include the word “*mystery*.” He cites the Greek-English Interlinear Bible as translating verse 5:

“And on the forehead of her a name having been written, a mystery, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF THE HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.”

Thus, the word “*mystery*” is not a part of the name of Babylon the Great. The word “*mystery*” describes her name, that is, there is a mystery as to which nation this title applies. Some have speculated that the Catholic Church was MYSTERY BABYLON (not a capitalized title in the original text), but as we shall see, this traditional interpretation is not appropriate for several reasons. What we are told in this verse is that this nation is the *source*, or the “*mother*,” of “*the abominations of the earth*.” As just previously mentioned, we looked at those abominations in Chapter 7.

6 *I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of those who bore testimony to Jesus. When I saw her, I was greatly astonished.*

7 *Then the angel said to me: “Why are you astonished? I will explain to you the mystery of the woman and of the beast she rides, which has the seven heads and ten horns.*

8 *The beast, which you saw, once was, now is not, and will come up out of the Abyss and go to his destruction. The inhabitants of the earth, whose names have not been written in the book of life from the creation of the world, will be astonished when they see the beast, because he once was, now is not, and yet will come.*

Verse 6 is one of the prophecies that tell us that the Daughter of Babylon will be responsible for martyring believers in the end times. Chapter 6 of the *End of America* is a study of present and potential future persecution of the saints in America today. (Saint - #40 – *hagios* - holy, saints).

Verse 8 describes the beast upon which the Great Prostitute/Babylon the Great is sitting, resting upon, or supported by. The Beast (#2342 – *therion* - metaphorically a brutal, bestial man, savage, ferocious), we are told, came up out of the Abyss (#12 – *abyssos* –bottomless pit, the abode of demons), and is thus, Satan. Satan came up out of the bottomless pit (Revelation 9:11) and he will be thrown back into it (Revelation 20:2). Satan inhabits and empowers the Antichrist (Revelation 13:3-4).

9 *"This calls for a mind with wisdom. The seven heads are seven hills on which the woman sits.*

Verse 9 has led to misapplying the prophecy to the Catholic Church, headquartered in Rome, which has seven small hills. If you have been to Rome, you know that the Seven Hills of Rome are barely even hills, more like mounds, and certainly not mountains. The Greek word used here and generally translated as “*hills*” (#3735 – *oros* – mountains) is used 65 times in scripture, and translated 41 times as “mountain.” For example, in Matthew 4:8 the verse reads: Satan took Christ “*to a very high mountain.*” The Greek word used, *oros*, is the same word John used for the seven hills/mountains. There are seven continents on the globe. A world superpower, with military bases in nations across the globe, and financial and political influence in virtually every nation, could truly be said to “sit” on the seven continents of the world.

10 *They are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come; but when he does come, he must remain for a little while.*

Some have confused the seven heads on the Beast, which we are told are mountains, with the seven kings described in verse 10. There should be no confusion, because verse 10 is clear: “there are *also* seven kings.”

The five fallen kings may refer to the past powerful kingdoms of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Assyria and Egypt. The king in place when Revelation was written was the Roman Empire. Still to come, the seventh king, will be the Antichrist, the revived Roman Empire, described by Daniel in Daniel 2. When the seventh king comes, John proclaims he will remain in power for a “little while” (#3641 – *oligos* – small, few), that is not for a lengthy time.

11 *The beast who once was, and now is not, is an eighth king. He belongs to the seven and is going to his destruction.*

12 *"The ten horns you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but who for one hour will receive authority as kings along with the beast.*

13 *They have one purpose and will give their power and authority to the beast.*

Until these verses are near fulfillment, it will be difficult to know exactly what John is describing. What is clear, is that the Antichrist will arise from a group of kings (in other verses described as the “little horn”), and gain in power over them. The ten kings described in verse 13 would appear to be separate and distinct from the seven kings of verses 10 and 11. John emphasizes that they had no power, but in what appears to be a sudden “one hour” move, they gain power and authority. Once the Daughter of Babylon/America is destroyed, the Jihadists, who were responsible for the fall of the world’s only superpower, will obviously be in a position to demand that the other major nations of the world, at first

particularly in Europe, turn their governments over to Muslim control. That could well be what these verses are depicting. Once in power, they will be subservient to the spiritual and political leader called the Mahdi, to whom they have turned over their “power and authority.”

14 *They will make war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will overcome them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings—and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers.”*

Without this and other verses telling us that the last chapter turns out well, we would have no hope to survive anywhere in the world. Jesus said that if He would not return, no flesh would be saved.

15 *Then the angel said to me, "The waters you saw, where the prostitute sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations and languages.*

This verse simply says that the Great Prostitute/Babylon has great power over peoples, multitudes, nations and languages, i.e., a world superpower. The Greek word for Great, as used in Babylon the Great is #3173 – *megalah* – super, great, from which we get the English word “mega.”

16 *The beast and the ten horns you saw will hate the prostitute. They will bring her to ruin and leave her naked; they will eat her flesh and burn her with fire.*

This verse may give us insight into the role of the ten kings who come to power only briefly. The ten kings are allied with the Beast/Mahdi/Antichrist, to accomplish a purpose, the destruction of the Great Babylon/Daughter of Babylon/America with “fire.” No aggressor would plan to destroy a nation in these times by just setting fires. However, in our times, and since 1945, thermonuclear firestorms are an effective way to destroy with fire. Thus, we have another irrefutable indication that these verses were written for the end times, for our nuclear age.

17 *For God has put it into their hearts to accomplish his purpose by agreeing to give the beast their power to rule, until God's words are fulfilled.*

God is sovereign over the affairs of men. He includes the phrase “*Sovereign Lord*” almost 300 times in His word. An example would be Ezekiel 24:24, which He states after Ezekiel’s wife dies and the Lord tells Israel that the Temple is about to be desecrated: “*Ezekiel will be a sign to you; you will do just as he has done. When this happens, you will know that I am the Sovereign Lord.*”

18 *The woman you saw is the great city that rules over the kings of the earth.*

We looked at this verse, above.

Revelation 18

1 *After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven. He had great authority, and the earth was illuminated by his splendor.*

John’s message from God that he recorded in writing for us in what is now labeled Revelation 18, came to him from a different angel than the angel in Revelation 17 (angel - #32 – *aggelon* – messenger, envoy). What is the relevance of a second angel from heaven? (heaven - #3772 – *divine abode of God the Creator*). Some might attempt to fix the time of the fall of Babylon the Great, based on the conveying angel in Revelation 17, described by John as also having been seen by John, as carrying a bowl of wrath. When John saw the angel with the bowl is not necessarily the same time the angel gave the message John recorded. The message recorded in Revelation 17 and 18 are clearly linked, and describe the *same nation*, but come from two *different angels*. The second angel, who gives John the details of the fall of Babylon, is not recorded with a bowl of wrath; so any attempt to assert that Babylon

the Great does not fall until the bowls of wrath are being poured on the earth, is not a good interpretation of what John was given to write.

2 *With a mighty voice he shouted:*

"Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great!

*She has become a home for demons
and a haunt for every evil spirit,*

a haunt for every unclean and detestable bird.

3 *For all the nations have drunk*

the maddening wine of her adulteries.

The kings of the earth committed adultery with her,

*and the merchants of the earth grew rich from her excessive
luxuries."*

Speaking with a mighty voice, the angel proclaims that Babylon the Great is fallen. Fallen (#4098 – *pipto* – to fall from or down, to be thrust down, to be cast from a state of prosperity, to come to an end, disappear, cease, collapse). The angel further describes Heaven’s view of the fallen Babylon: a.) Babylon was inhabited by demons (#1140 – *daimonion* – devil, evil spirits, messengers and ministers of the devil); b.) Babylon was full of detestable or ‘dirty birds’ (detestable -#3404 – *miseo* – hated, detested; bird -#3732 – *orneon*); c.) Babylon supplied the “*maddening wine of her adulteries*” to all of the nations of the world, whose kings “*committed adultery*” with Babylon (adulteries - #4203 – *porneuo* – to prostitute oneself, to be given to idolatry), i.e., Babylon led the world into sin and away from God; d.) Rich Babylon made the merchants of the world rich (#4147 – *plouteo* – to be rich, to have abundance). Some have referred to what has happened in the world, in the last few decades, as the “Americanization” of the world.

4 *Then I heard another voice from heaven say:*

"Come out of her, my people,

so that you will not share in her sins,

so that you will not receive any of her plagues;

5 *for her sins are piled up to heaven,
and God has remembered her crimes.*

Here it is: a *New Testament* warning to flee from Babylon that matches the other eight warnings to flee in the Old Testament. Why is that relevant? When John wrote these words giving this strong warning to flee, Babylon no longer existed. After Alexander the Great, his empire was partitioned. Babylon was vacated as a city by 275 BC when its residents were hauled off to Seleucia, a city on the Tigris River, now in Iraq. Babylon was in complete desolation by 141 BC when the Parthian Empire (now Iran) captured the area. Revelation was written about 95 AD, more than three centuries after Babylon was no longer in existence as a community. Would God, through John, warn the residents of ancient Babylon to flee an abandoned city? Obviously not. The angelic message was clearly to a *future* Babylon the Great, a mystery as to its identity, in order to save those at that time from death and destruction.

In verse 5, we see a new element of the warning to flee Babylon the Great—God says to flee so as not to “*share in her sins.*” That’s a warning distinctly different from just running for your life. Jeremiah 51:6 gives a warning to flee and also urges: “*Do not be destroyed because of her sins.*” That’s also a different reason to flee than John’s statement. Jeremiah admonishes, ‘if you stay in the Daughter of Babylon you will be destroyed due to the sins of the nation.’ John states ‘if you stay in Babylon you may share in the sins of the nation.’ That may be a good reason to leave the Daughter of Babylon/America sooner, rather than later, to avoid *sharing in her sins.*

6 *Give back to her as she has given;
pay her back double for what she has done.
Mix her a double portion from her own cup.*

7 *Give her as much torture and grief
as the glory and luxury she gave herself.
In her heart she boasts,*

*'I sit as queen; I am not a widow,
and I will never mourn.'*

8 *Therefore in one day her plagues will overtake her:
death, mourning and famine.
She will be consumed by fire,
for mighty is the Lord God who judges her.*

Verses 6, 7, and 8 reiterate what the Old Testament prophets wrote. Five Bible authors, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, all conclude that what will happen to the Daughter of Babylon/Babylon the Great, will be God's justice for what the nation will do, even calling for a double portion. Verse 6 undoubtedly refers to Babylon's treachery against Israel, in direct fulfillment of the second part of the promise of Genesis 12:3: "*I will curse those who curse (Israel).*"

Verse 7 is a striking use of irony in scripture. John records the angel of God saying that Babylon the Great, which boastfully thinks it will never fall, will suffer as much torture (#929 – *basanismos* - torment) and grief (#3997 – *mourning, sorrow*) as the glory (#1392 – *doxazo* – glorify, honor) and luxury (#4763 – *streniao* -- to be wanton, to live luxuriously) she "*gave herself.*" Since only God deserves and merits Glory, the *self-glorification* of the Daughter of Babylon/America is repugnant to Him, who created the nation that glorifies itself.

Verse 8 repeats that Babylon will fall by "*fire,*" all in one day. As noted, a nation cannot be *destroyed by burning* by normal fires in one day, in one hour, in one moment. Only thermonuclear firestorms can do that. The three listed "*plagues*" (#4127 – *pege* – a blow, public calamity, heavy affliction) are death, mourning and famine. Though the fires will strike in one day, famine (#3042 – *limos*– famine, hunger, dearth, scarcity of harvest) takes a while to strike down its victims. This word in this verse confirms Jeremiah 50:16 (same idea from two writers, centuries apart):

*“Cut off from Babylon the sower,
and the reaper with his sickle at harvest.”*

Famine could easily claim as many people as those who die in nuclear explosions. A nation with no currency, no effective government, no petroleum, and millions suffering from radiation poisoning will not have available food supplies to feed those who remain, as these two verses confirm.

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!"*

“Woe, Woe” (#3759 –ouai – alas, woe, exclamation of grief). These two verses describe the terror, tears, and mourning of the leaders of the other nations of the world, when Babylon the Great is destroyed. These leaders, and their nations, John tells us, had a history of spiritual adultery and sharing her luxury, which leads them to *really mourn* her loss. It’s a little like the fellow who said he wasn’t going to leave anything for his family when he died, because “he *really* wanted them to *miss* him.” The Daughter of Babylon/America is an irreplaceable element of the global economy, military stability, and political power. The day the nation is no more, destroyed “*in one hour,*” the world’s leaders will truly be full of terror (#5401 – *phobos* – fear, terror, dread), for quite obvious reasons. Whether these world leaders like America or not, they know that the world’s only superpower maintains a certain level of stability in world affairs. Once America is off the chess table, so to speak, the remaining pieces will be terrified, as to what will next happen to their nations at the hands of the Jihadists who will undoubtedly proudly claim responsibility for America’s death. They cried “*Death to America*” in their

streets and mosques for decades; it will come as no surprise to many Muslims when it actually happens.

As terrified will be the world's leaders at the fall of Babylon the Great/America, the angel gives to John a lengthy description, from verse 11 through 19, of the reaction of the merchants of the world to the destruction of the world's biggest customer for their many goods.

11 *"The merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her because no one buys their cargoes anymore—*

12 *cargoes of gold, silver, precious stones and pearls; fine linen, purple, silk and scarlet cloth; every sort of citron 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 and souls of men.*

Using the description of the broad variety of goods then widely traded, John tells us that the businessmen of the remaining nations in the global economy will "*weep and mourn*" over the loss of their biggest source of consumers for those goods. Many of the listed items were goods that only the wealthy then could afford to buy.

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 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!*

*"Every sea captain, and all who travel by ship, the sailors,
and all who earn their living from the sea, will stand far off.*

John said in verse 8 that Babylon the Great would fall in one day. In verses 10, 17, and 19, he writes, the fall that will take place in just *one day*, will also be in just *one hour*.

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!

Verses 17-19 are verses confirming that the Daughter of Babylon/ Babylon the Great cannot be ancient Babylon. It is impossible for sea captains, and those who travel by ship, to stand off from ancient Babylon and “*see the smoke of her burning.*” There are no oceans, seas or even large inland bodies of water near ancient Babylon, which is in Iraq today.

20 *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.*

Verse 22 is as clear as it could be. Babylon the Great will not have an economy after its destruction. “*No workman of any trade will ever be found in you again,*” says it all. No workman, (#5079 – *technites* – craftsman, builder), no trade (#5078 – *techne* – art, occupation, craft). No economy. For those still alive, a future of only famine and death.

23 *The light of a lamp will never shine in you again.
The voice of bridegroom and bride
will never be heard in you again.
Your merchants were the world's great men.
By your magic spell 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."*

A nation that no longer has artificial light, no electricity (lamp - #3088 – *lychnos* – candle, light) won't even be up to 'third world' status. It also will not enjoy even the most basic of joys, such as weddings.

John, by the words given to him from the angel of God, observes that the (former) merchants of Babylon the Great were “*the world's great men*” (Great men - #3175 – *megistan* – great men, lords, chief men). American corporate leaders, from Henry Ford, Thomas Edison, to Walter Chrysler, Steve Jobs, Bill Gates, etc., are known around the world as ‘great men’ of commerce.

John also notes that the nations of the world “*were led astray*” by the “*magic spell*” of Babylon the Great. The magic spell (#5331 – *pharmakeia* – sorcery, witchcraft, the deceptions of

idolatry) of Babylon the Great, John says, led the nations of the world “*astray*” (#4105 – *planao* – deceive, seduce, to be led away from the truth). Hollywood, Washington, DC, New York City, have been the locations for the preparation of the magic spell then disseminated around the world.

Verses 20 and 24 tell us a truth that is difficult to hear. The nation that is described in great detail throughout scripture will shed the blood of God’s saints. In Revelation 19:2, the many voices from heaven, upon the fall of Babylon the Great, are joyful that the “*blood of His servants*” was avenged.

Congratulations. You have now earned one credit hour in Greek and Hebrew Studies.

Attachment A

The Bible’s Daughter of Babylon Verses

(New International Version)

Five Prophets – 223 Verses

Psalm 137:8

O Daughter of Babylon, doomed to destruction,
happy is he who repays you
for what you have done to us-

Isaiah 13

1 An oracle concerning Babylon that Isaiah son of Amoz saw:

2 Raise a banner on a bare hilltop,
shout to them;
beckon to them
to enter the gates of the nobles.

- 3** I have commanded my holy ones;
I have summoned my warriors to carry out my wrath—
those who rejoice in my triumph.
- 4** Listen, a noise on the mountains,
like that of a great multitude!
Listen, an uproar among the kingdoms,
like nations massing together!
The LORD Almighty is mustering
an army for war.
- 5** They come from faraway lands,
from the ends of the heavens—
the LORD and the weapons of his wrath—
to destroy the whole country.
- 6** Wail, for the day of the LORD is near;
it will come like destruction from the Almighty.
- 7** Because of this, all hands will go limp,
every man's heart will melt.
- 8** Terror will seize them,
pain and anguish will grip them;
they will writhe like a woman in labor.
They will look aghast at each other,
their faces aflame.
- 9** See, the day of the LORD is coming
—a cruel day, with wrath and fierce anger—
to make the land desolate
and destroy the sinners within it.
- 10** The stars of heaven and their constellations
will not show their light.
The rising sun will be darkened
and the moon will not give its light.
- 11** I will punish the world for its evil,
the wicked for their sins.

I will put an end to the arrogance of the haughty
and will humble the pride of the ruthless.

12 I will make man scarcer than pure gold,
more rare than the gold of Ophir.

13 Therefore I will make the heavens tremble;
and the earth will shake from its place
at the wrath of the LORD Almighty,
in the day of his burning anger.

14 Like a hunted gazelle,
like sheep without a shepherd,
each will return to his own people,
each will flee to his native land.

15 Whoever is captured will be thrust through;
all who are caught will fall by the sword.

16 Their infants will be dashed to pieces before their eyes;
their houses will be looted and their wives ravished.

17 See, I will stir up against them the Medes,
who do not care for silver
and have no delight in gold.

18 Their bows will strike down the young men;
they will have no mercy on infants
nor will they look with compassion on children.

19 Babylon, the jewel of kingdoms,
the glory of the Babylonians' pride,
will be overthrown by God
like Sodom and Gomorrah.

20 She will never be inhabited
or lived in through all generations;
no Arab will pitch his tent there,
no shepherd will rest his flocks there.

21 But desert creatures will lie there,
jackals will fill her houses;
there the owls will dwell,
and there the wild goats will leap about.

22 Hyenas will howl in her strongholds,
jackals in her luxurious palaces.
Her time is at hand,
and her days will not be prolonged.

Isaiah 21:1-10

1 An oracle concerning the Desert by the Sea:
Like whirlwinds sweeping through the southland,
an invader comes from the desert,
from a land of terror.

2 A dire vision has been shown to me:
The traitor betrays, the looter takes loot.
Elam, attack! Media, lay siege!
I will bring to an end all the groaning she caused.

3 At this my body is racked with pain,
pangs seize me, like those of a woman in labor;
I am staggered by what I hear,
I am bewildered by what I see.

4 My heart falters,
fear makes me tremble;
the twilight I longed for
has become a horror to me.

5 They set the tables,
they spread the rugs,
they eat, they drink!
Get up, you officers,
oil the shields!

6 This is what the Lord says to me:
"Go, post a lookout
and have him report what he sees.

7 When he sees chariots
with teams of horses,
riders on donkeys
or riders on camels,
let him be alert,
fully alert."

8 And the lookout shouted,
"Day after day, my lord, I stand on the watchtower;
every night I stay at my post.

9 Look, here comes a man in a chariot
with a team of horses.
And he gives back the answer:
'Babylon has fallen, has fallen!
All the images of its gods
lie shattered on the ground!' "

10 O my people, crushed on the threshing floor,
I tell you what I have heard
from the LORD Almighty,
from the God of Israel.

Isaiah 47

1 "Go down, sit in the dust,
Virgin Daughter of Babylon;
sit on the ground without a throne,
Daughter of the Babylonians.
No more will you be called
tender or delicate.

2 Take millstones and grind flour;
take off your veil.
Lift up your skirts, bare your legs,
and wade through the streams.

- 3** Your nakedness will be exposed
and your shame uncovered.
I will take vengeance;
I will spare no one."
- 4** Our Redeemer—the LORD Almighty is his name—
is the Holy One of Israel.
- 5** "Sit in silence, go into darkness,
Daughter of the Babylonians;
no more will you be called
queen of kingdoms.
- 6** I was angry with my people
and desecrated my inheritance;
I gave them into your hand,
and you showed them no mercy.
Even on the aged
you laid a very heavy yoke.
- 7** You said, 'I will continue forever—
the eternal queen!'
But you did not consider these things
or reflect on what might happen.
- 8** "Now then, listen, you wanton creature,
lounging in your security
and saying to yourself,
'I am, and there is none besides me.
I will never be a widow
or suffer the loss of children.'
- 9** Both of these will overtake you
in a moment, on a single day:
loss of children and widowhood.
They will come upon you in full measure,
in spite of your many sorceries
and all your potent spells.

- 10** You have trusted in your wickedness
and have said, 'No one sees me.'
Your wisdom and knowledge mislead you
when you say to yourself,
'I am, and there is none besides me.'
- 11** Disaster will come upon you,
and you will not know how to conjure it away.
A calamity will fall upon you
that you cannot ward off with a ransom;
a catastrophe you cannot foresee
will suddenly come upon you.
- 12** "Keep on, then, with your magic spells
and with your many sorceries,
which you have labored at since childhood.
Perhaps you will succeed,
perhaps you will cause terror.
- 13** All the counsel you have received has only worn you out!
Let your astrologers come forward,
those stargazers who make predictions month by month,
let them save you from what is coming upon you.
- 14** Surely they are like stubble;
the fire will burn them up.
They cannot even save themselves
from the power of the flame.
Here are no coals to warm anyone;
here is no fire to sit by.
- 15** That is all they can do for you—
these you have labored with
and trafficked with since childhood.
Each of them goes on in his error;
there is not one that can save you.

Isaiah 48

- 1** "Listen to this, O house of Jacob,
you who are called by the name of Israel
and come from the line of Judah,
you who take oaths in the name of the LORD
and invoke the God of Israel—
but not in truth or righteousness-
- 2** you who call yourselves citizens of the holy city
and rely on the God of Israel—
the LORD Almighty is his name:
- 3** I foretold the former things long ago,
my mouth announced them and I made them known;
then suddenly I acted, and they came to pass.
- 4** For I knew how stubborn you were;
the sinews of your neck were iron,
your forehead was bronze.
- 5** Therefore I told you these things long ago;
before they happened I announced them to you
so that you could not say,
'My idols did them;
my wooden image and metal god ordained them.'
- 6** You have heard these things; look at them all.
Will you not admit them?
"From now on I will tell you of new things,
of hidden things unknown to you.
- 7** They are created now, and not long ago;
you have not heard of them before today.
So you cannot say,
'Yes, I knew of them.'
- 8** You have neither heard nor understood;
from of old your ear has not been open.
Well do I know how treacherous you are;
you were called a rebel from birth.

- 9** For my own name's sake I delay my wrath;
for the sake of my praise I hold it back from you,
so as not to cut you off.
- 10** See, I have refined you, though not as silver;
I have tested you in the furnace of affliction.
- 11** For my own sake, for my own sake, I do this.
How can I let myself be defamed?
I will not yield my glory to another.
- 12** "Listen to me, O Jacob,
Israel, whom I have called:
I am he;
I am the first and I am the last.
- 13** My own hand laid the foundations of the earth,
and my right hand spread out the heavens;
when I summon them,
they all stand up together.
- 14** "Come together, all of you, and listen:
Which of the idols has foretold these things?
The LORD's chosen ally
will carry out his purpose against Babylon;
his arm will be against the Babylonians.
- 15** I, even I, have spoken;
yes, I have called him.
I will bring him,
and he will succeed in his mission.
- 16** "Come near me and listen to this:
"From the first announcement I have not spoken in secret;
at the time it happens, I am there."
And now the Sovereign LORD has sent me,
with his Spirit.
- 17** This is what the LORD says—
your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:

"I am the LORD your God,
who teaches you what is best for you,
who directs you in the way you should go.

18 If only you had paid attention to my commands,
your peace would have been like a river,
your righteousness like the waves of the sea.

19 Your descendants would have been like the sand,
your children like its numberless grains;
their name would never be cut off
nor destroyed from before me."

20 Leave Babylon,
flee from the Babylonians!
Announce this with shouts of joy
and proclaim it.
Send it out to the ends of the earth;
say, "The LORD has redeemed his servant Jacob."

21 They did not thirst when he led them through the deserts;
he made water flow for them from the rock;
he split the rock
and water gushed out.

22 "There is no peace," says the LORD, "for the wicked."

Jeremiah 50

1 This is the word the LORD spoke through Jeremiah the prophet concerning Babylon and the land of the Babylonians:

2 "Announce and proclaim among the nations,
lift up a banner and proclaim it;
keep nothing back, but say,
'Babylon will be captured;
Bel will be put to shame,
Marduk filled with terror.
Her images will be put to shame
and her idols filled with terror.'

- 3** A nation from the north will attack her
and lay waste her land.
No one will live in it;
both men and animals will flee away.
- 4** "In those days, at that time,"
declares the LORD,
"the people of Israel and the people of Judah together
will go in tears to seek the LORD their God.
- 5** They will ask the way to Zion
and turn their faces toward it.
They will come and bind themselves to the LORD
in an everlasting covenant
that will not be forgotten.
- 6** "My people have been lost sheep;
their shepherds have led them astray
and caused them to roam on the mountains.
They wandered over mountain and hill
and forgot their own resting place.
- 7** Whoever found them devoured them;
their enemies said, 'We are not guilty,
for they sinned against the LORD, their true pasture,
the LORD, the hope of their fathers.'
- 8** "Flee out of Babylon;
leave the land of the Babylonians,
and be like the goats that lead the flock.
- 9** For I will stir up and bring against Babylon
an alliance of great nations from the land of the north.
They will take up their positions against her,
and from the north she will be captured.
Their arrows will be like skilled warriors
who do not return empty-handed.

- 10** So Babylonia will be plundered;
all who plunder her will have their fill,"
declares the LORD.
- 11** "Because you rejoice and are glad,
you who pillage my inheritance,
because you frolic like a heifer threshing grain
and neigh like stallions,
- 12** your mother will be greatly ashamed;
she who gave you birth will be disgraced.
She will be the least of the nations—
a wilderness, a dry land, a desert.
- 13** Because of the LORD's anger she will not be inhabited
but will be completely desolate.
All who pass Babylon will be horrified and scoff
because of all her wounds.
- 14** "Take up your positions around Babylon,
all you who draw the bow.
Shoot at her! Spare no arrows,
for she has sinned against the LORD.
- 15** Shout against her on every side!
She surrenders, her towers fall,
her walls are torn down.
Since this is the vengeance of the LORD,
take vengeance on her;
do to her as she has done to others.
- 16** Cut off from Babylon the sower,
and the reaper with his sickle at harvest.
Because of the sword of the oppressor
let everyone return to his own people,
let everyone flee to his own land.
- 17** "Israel is a scattered flock
that lions have chased away.
The first to devour him

was the king of Assyria;
the last to crush his bones
was Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon."

18 Therefore this is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says:

"I will punish the king of Babylon and his land
as I punished the king of Assyria.

19 But I will bring Israel back to his own pasture
and he will graze on Carmel and Bashan;
his appetite will be satisfied
on the hills of Ephraim and Gilead.

20 In those days, at that time,"
declares the LORD,
"search will be made for Israel's guilt,
but there will be none,
and for the sins of Judah,
but none will be found,
for I will forgive the remnant I spare.

21 "Attack the land of Merathaim
and those who live in Pekod.
Pursue, kill and completely destroy them,"
declares the LORD.
"Do everything I have commanded you.

22 The noise of battle is in the land,
the noise of great destruction!

23 How broken and shattered
is the hammer of the whole earth!
How desolate is Babylon
among the nations!

24 I set a trap for you, O Babylon,
and you were caught before you knew it;
you were found and captured
because you opposed the LORD.

- 25** The LORD has opened his arsenal
and brought out the weapons of his wrath,
for the Sovereign LORD Almighty has work to do
in the land of the Babylonians.
- 26** Come against her from afar.
Break open her granaries;
pile her up like heaps of grain.
Completely destroy her
and leave her no remnant.
- 27** Kill all her young bulls;
let them go down to the slaughter!
Woe to them! For their day has come,
the time for them to be punished.
- 28** Listen to the fugitives and refugees from Babylon
declaring in Zion
how the LORD our God has taken vengeance,
vengeance for his temple.
- 29** "Summon archers against Babylon,
all those who draw the bow.
Encamp all around her;
let no one escape.
Repay her for her deeds;
do to her as she has done.
For she has defied the LORD,
the Holy One of Israel.
- 30** Therefore, her young men will fall in the streets;
all her soldiers will be silenced in that day,"
declares the LORD.
- 31** "See, I am against you, O arrogant one,"
declares the Lord, the LORD Almighty,
"for your day has come,
the time for you to be punished.

- 32** The arrogant one will stumble and fall
and no one will help her up;
I will kindle a fire in her towns
that will consume all who are around her."
- 33** This is what the LORD Almighty says:
"The people of Israel are oppressed,
and the people of Judah as well.
All their captors hold them fast,
refusing to let them go.
- 34** Yet their Redeemer is strong;
the LORD Almighty is his name.
He will vigorously defend their cause
so that he may bring rest to their land,
but unrest to those who live in Babylon.
- 35** "A sword against the Babylonians!"
declares the LORD—
"against those who live in Babylon
and against her officials and wise men!
- 36** A sword against her false prophets!
They will become fools.
A sword against her warriors!
They will be filled with terror.
- 37** A sword against her horses and chariots
and all the foreigners in her ranks!
They will become women.
A sword against her treasures!
They will be plundered.
- 38** A drought on her waters!
They will dry up.
For it is a land of idols,
idols that will go mad with terror.
- 39** "So desert creatures and hyenas will live there,
and there the owl will dwell.

It will never again be inhabited
or lived in from generation to generation.

40 As God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah
along with their neighboring towns,"
declares the LORD,
"so no one will live there;
no man will dwell in it.

41 "Look! An army is coming from the north;
a great nation and many kings
are being stirred up from the ends of the earth.

42 They are armed with bows and spears;
they are cruel and without mercy.
They sound like the roaring sea
as they ride on their horses;
they come like men in battle formation
to attack you, O Daughter of Babylon.

43 The king of Babylon has heard reports about them,
and his hands hang limp.
Anguish has gripped him,
pain like that of a woman in labor.

44 Like a lion coming up from Jordan's thickets
to a rich pastureland,
I will chase Babylon from its land in an instant.
Who is the chosen one I will appoint for this?
Who is like me and who can challenge me?
And what shepherd can stand against me?"

45 Therefore, hear what the LORD has planned against
Babylon,
what he has purposed against the land of the
Babylonians:
The young of the flock will be dragged away;
he will completely destroy their pasture because of them.

46 At the sound of Babylon's capture the earth will tremble;
its cry will resound among the nations.

Jeremiah 51

- 1** This is what the LORD says:
"See, I will stir up the spirit of a destroyer
against Babylon and the people of Leb Kamai.
- 2** I will send foreigners to Babylon
to winnow her and to devastate her land;
they will oppose her on every side
in the day of her disaster.
- 3** Let not the archer string his bow,
nor let him put on his armor.
Do not spare her young men;
completely destroy her army.
- 4** They will fall down slain in Babylon,
fatally wounded in her streets.
- 5** For Israel and Judah have not been forsaken
by their God, the LORD Almighty,
though their land is full of guilt
before the Holy One of Israel.
- 6** "Flee from Babylon!
Run for your lives!
Do not be destroyed because of her sins.
It is time for the LORD's vengeance;
he will pay her what she deserves.
- 7** Babylon was a gold cup in the LORD's hand;
she made the whole earth drunk.
The nations drank her wine;
therefore they have now gone mad.
- 8** Babylon will suddenly fall and be broken.
Wail over her!

Get balm for her pain;
perhaps she can be healed.

9 " We would have healed Babylon,
but she cannot be healed;
let us leave her and each go to his own land,
for her judgment reaches to the skies,
it rises as high as the clouds.'

10 " 'The LORD has vindicated us;
come, let us tell in Zion
what the LORD our God has done.'

11 "Sharpen the arrows,
take up the shields!
The LORD has stirred up the kings of the Medes,
because his purpose is to destroy Babylon.
The LORD will take vengeance,
vengeance for his temple.

12 Lift up a banner against the walls of Babylon!
Reinforce the guard,
station the watchmen,
prepare an ambush!
The LORD will carry out his purpose,
his decree against the people of Babylon.

13 You who live by many waters
and are rich in treasures,
your end has come,
the time for you to be cut off.

14 The LORD Almighty has sworn by himself:
I will surely fill you with men, as with a swarm of locusts,
and they will shout in triumph over you.

15 "He made the earth by his power;
he founded the world by his wisdom
and stretched out the heavens by his understanding.

16 When he thunders, the waters in the heavens roar;
he makes clouds rise from the ends of the earth.
He sends lightning with the rain
and brings out the wind from his storehouses.

17 "Every man is senseless and without knowledge;
every goldsmith is shamed by his idols.
His images are a fraud;
they have no breath in them.

18 They are worthless, the objects of mockery;
when their judgment comes, they will perish.

19 He who is the Portion of Jacob is not like these,
for he is the Maker of all things,
including the tribe of his inheritance—
the LORD Almighty is his name.

20 "You are my war club,
my weapon for battle—
with you I shatter nations,
with you I destroy kingdoms,

21 with you I shatter horse and rider,
with you I shatter chariot and driver,

22 with you I shatter man and woman,
with you I shatter old man and youth,
with you I shatter young man and maiden,

23 with you I shatter shepherd and flock,
with you I shatter farmer and oxen,
with you I shatter governors and officials.

24 "Before your eyes I will repay Babylon and all who live in
Babylonia for all the wrong they have done in Zion," declares
the LORD.

25 "I am against you, O destroying mountain,
you who destroy the whole earth,"

declares the LORD.

"I will stretch out my hand against you,
roll you off the cliffs,
and make you a burned-out mountain.

26 No rock will be taken from you for a cornerstone,
nor any stone for a foundation,
for you will be desolate forever,"
declares the LORD.

27 "Lift up a banner in the land!
Blow the trumpet among the nations!
Prepare the nations for battle against her;
summon against her these kingdoms:
Ararat, Minni and Ashkenaz.
Appoint a commander against her;
send up horses like a swarm of locusts.

28 Prepare the nations for battle against her—
the kings of the Medes,
their governors and all their officials,
and all the countries they rule.

29 The land trembles and writhes,
for the LORD's purposes against Babylon stand—
to lay waste the land of Babylon
so that no one will live there.

30 Babylon's warriors have stopped fighting;
they remain in their strongholds.
Their strength is exhausted;
they have become like women.
Her dwellings are set on fire;
the bars of her gates are broken.

31 One courier follows another
and messenger follows messenger
to announce to the king of Babylon
that his entire city is captured,

- 32** the river crossings seized,
the marshes set on fire,
and the soldiers terrified."
- 33** This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says:
"The Daughter of Babylon is like a threshing floor
at the time it is trampled;
the time to harvest her will soon come."
- 34** "Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon has devoured us,
he has thrown us into confusion,
he has made us an empty jar.
Like a serpent he has swallowed us
and filled his stomach with our delicacies,
and then has spewed us out.
- 35** May the violence done to our flesh be upon Babylon,"
say the inhabitants of Zion.
"May our blood be on those who live in Babylonia,"
says Jerusalem.
- 36** Therefore, this is what the LORD says:
"See, I will defend your cause
and avenge you;
I will dry up her sea
and make her springs dry.
- 37** Babylon will be a heap of ruins,
a haunt of jackals,
an object of horror and scorn,
a place where no one lives.
- 38** Her people all roar like young lions,
they growl like lion cubs.
- 39** But while they are aroused,
I will set out a feast for them
and make them drunk,
so that they shout with laughter—

then sleep forever and not awake,"
declares the LORD.

- 40** "I will bring them down
like lambs to the slaughter,
like rams and goats.
- 41** "How Sheshach will be captured,
the boast of the whole earth seized!
What a horror Babylon will be
among the nations!
- 42** The sea will rise over Babylon;
its roaring waves will cover her.
- 43** Her towns will be desolate,
a dry and desert land,
a land where no one lives,
through which no man travels.
- 44** I will punish Bel in Babylon
and make him spew out what he has swallowed.
The nations will no longer stream to him.
And the wall of Babylon will fall.
- 45** "Come out of her, my people!
Run for your lives!
Run from the fierce anger of the LORD.
- 46** Do not lose heart or be afraid
when rumors are heard in the land;
one rumor comes this year, another the next,
rumors of violence in the land
and of ruler against ruler.
- 47** For the time will surely come
when I will punish the idols of Babylon;
her whole land will be disgraced
and her slain will all lie fallen within her.

48 Then heaven and earth and all that is in them
will shout for joy over Babylon,
for out of the north
destroyers will attack her,"
declares the LORD.

49 "Babylon must fall because of Israel's slain,
just as the slain in all the earth
have fallen because of Babylon.

50 You who have escaped the sword,
leave and do not linger!
Remember the LORD in a distant land,
and think on Jerusalem."

51 "We are disgraced,
for we have been insulted
and shame covers our faces,
because foreigners have entered
the holy places of the LORD's house."

52 "But days are coming," declares the LORD,
"when I will punish her idols,
and throughout her land
the wounded will groan.

53 Even if Babylon reaches the sky
and fortifies her lofty stronghold,
I will send destroyers against her,"
declares the LORD.

54 "The sound of a cry comes from Babylon,
the sound of great destruction
from the land of the Babylonians.

55 The LORD will destroy Babylon;
he will silence her noisy din.
Waves of enemies will rage like great waters;
the roar of their voices will resound.

56 A destroyer will come against Babylon;
her warriors will be captured,
and their bows will be broken.
For the LORD is a God of retribution;
he will repay in full.

57 I will make her officials and wise men drunk,
her governors, officers and warriors as well;
they will sleep forever and not awake,"
declares the King, whose name is the LORD Almighty.

58 This is what the LORD Almighty says:
"Babylon's thick wall will be leveled
and her high gates set on fire;
the peoples exhaust themselves for nothing,
the nations' labor is only fuel for the flames."

59 This is the message Jeremiah gave to the staff officer Seraiah son of Neriah, the son of Mahseiah, when he went to Babylon with Zedekiah king of Judah in the fourth year of his reign. **60** Jeremiah had written on a scroll about all the disasters that would come upon Babylon—all that had been recorded concerning Babylon. **61** He said to Seraiah, "When you get to Babylon, see that you read all these words aloud. **62** Then say, 'O LORD, you have said you will destroy this place, so that neither man nor animal will live in it; it will be desolate forever.' **63** When you finish reading this scroll, tie a stone to it and throw it into the Euphrates. **64** Then say, 'So will Babylon sink to rise no more because of the disaster I will bring upon her. And her people will fall.' "
The words of Jeremiah end here.

Zechariah 2:7

7 "Come, O Zion! Escape, you who live in the Daughter of Babylon!"

Revelation 17

1One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the punishment of the great prostitute, who sits on many waters. **2**With her the kings of the earth committed adultery and the inhabitants of the earth were intoxicated with the wine of her adulteries."

3Then the angel carried me away in the Spirit into a desert. There I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was covered with blasphemous names and had seven heads and ten horns. **4**The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, and was glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls. She held a golden cup in her hand, filled with abominable things and the filth of her adulteries. **5**This title was written on her forehead:

MYSTERY

BABYLON THE GREAT

THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES

AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. **6**I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of those who bore testimony to Jesus.

When I saw her, I was greatly astonished. **7**Then the angel said to me: "Why are you astonished? I will explain to you the mystery of the woman and of the beast she rides, which has the seven heads and ten horns. **8**The beast, which you saw, once was, now is not, and will come up out of the Abyss and go to his destruction. The inhabitants of the earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the creation of the world will be astonished when they see the beast, because he once was, now is not, and yet will come.

9"This calls for a mind with wisdom. The seven heads are seven hills on which the woman sits. **10**They are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come; but when he does come, he must remain for a little while. **11**The beast who once was, and now is not, is an eighth king. He belongs to the seven and is going to his destruction.

12"The ten horns you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but who for one hour will receive

authority as kings along with the beast. **13**They have one purpose and will give their power and authority to the beast. **14**They will make war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will overcome them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings—and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers."

15Then the angel said to me, "The waters you saw, where the prostitute sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations and languages. **16**The beast and the ten horns you saw will hate the prostitute. They will bring her to ruin and leave her naked; they will eat her flesh and burn her with fire. **17**For God has put it into their hearts to accomplish his purpose by agreeing to give the beast their power to rule, until God's words are fulfilled. **18**The woman you saw is the great city that rules over the kings of the earth."

Revelation 18

1After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven. He had great authority, and the earth was illuminated by his splendor. **2**With a mighty voice he shouted:

"Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great!

She has become a home for demons
and a haunt for every evil spirit,
a haunt for every unclean and detestable bird.

3For all the nations have drunk
the maddening wine of her adulteries.

The kings of the earth committed adultery with her,
and the merchants of the earth grew rich from her
excessive luxuries."

4Then I heard another voice from heaven say:

"Come out of her, my people,
so that you will not share in her sins,
so that you will not receive any of her plagues;

5for her sins are piled up to heaven,
and God has remembered her crimes.

6Give back to her as she has given;

pay her back double for what she has done.
Mix her a double portion from her own cup.

7Give her as much torture and grief
as the glory and luxury she gave herself.
In her heart she boasts,
'I sit as queen; I am not a widow,
and I will never mourn.'

8Therefore in one day her plagues will overtake her:
death, mourning and famine.
She will be consumed by fire,
for mighty is the Lord God who judges her.

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!'

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 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 and 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 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!
17In one hour such great wealth has been brought to ruin!'

"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!

20Rejoice over her, O heaven!

Rejoice, saints and apostles and prophets!
God has judged her for the way she treated you.' "

21Then 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.

22The 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.

23The light of a lamp will never shine in you again.

The voice of bridegroom and bride
will never be heard in you again.

Your merchants were the world's great men.

By your magic spell all the nations were led astray.

24In her was found the blood of prophets and of the saints,
and of all who have been killed on the earth."