

# Don't Bow the Knee in Babylon

## REVELATION: YOUR STORY IN GOD'S STORY, Week 26

*Revelation 18 (NIV)*

### I. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Babylon

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

“ ‘Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great!’  
She has become a dwelling for demons  
and a haunt for every impure spirit,  
a haunt for every unclean bird,  
a haunt for every unclean and detestable animal.

<sup>3</sup>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.”

### II. A Warning to \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>4</sup>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;

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

<sup>6</sup>Give back to her as she has given;  
pay her back double for what she has done.  
Pour her a double portion from her own cup.

<sup>7</sup>Give her as much torment and grief  
as the glory and luxury she gave herself.

In her heart she boasts,  
‘I sit enthroned as queen.

I am not a widow;  
I will never mourn.’

<sup>8</sup>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.

### III. Three Cycles of \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>9</sup>“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. <sup>10</sup>Terrified at her torment, they will stand far off and cry:

“ ‘Woe! Woe to you, great city,  
you mighty city of Babylon!  
In one hour your doom has come!’

<sup>11</sup>“The merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her because no one buys their cargoes anymore—  
<sup>12</sup>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; <sup>13</sup>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 human beings sold as slaves.

<sup>14</sup>“They will say, ‘The fruit you longed for is gone from you. All your luxury and splendor have vanished, never to be recovered.’ <sup>15</sup>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 <sup>16</sup>and cry out:

“ ‘Woe! Woe to you, great city,  
dressed in fine linen, purple and scarlet,  
and glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls!

<sup>17</sup>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. <sup>18</sup> When they see the smoke of her burning, they will exclaim, ‘Was there ever a city like this great city?’ <sup>19</sup> They will throw dust on their heads, and with weeping and mourning cry out:

“ ‘Woe! Woe to you, great city,  
where all who had ships on the sea  
became rich through her wealth!  
In one hour she has been brought to ruin!’

<sup>20</sup> “Rejoice over her, you heavens!  
Rejoice, you people of God!  
Rejoice, apostles and prophets!  
For God has judged her  
with the judgment she imposed on you.”

#### IV. \_\_\_\_\_ Forever

<sup>21</sup> 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.

<sup>22</sup> The music of harpists and musicians, pipers and trumpeters,  
will never be heard in you again.

No worker of any trade  
will ever be found in you again.

The sound of a millstone  
will never be heard in you again.

<sup>23</sup> 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 important people.

By your magic spell all the nations were led astray.

<sup>24</sup> In her was found the blood of prophets and of God’s holy people,  
of all who have been slaughtered on the earth.”

### The Bottom Line

\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

...by recognizing \_\_\_\_\_ for what they are.

...by fixing your ultimate \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ upon \_\_\_\_\_.

...by using the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, so that you may love and serve \_\_\_\_\_.

*What action can you take this week to help you “come out of Babylon”?*

#### **“I Won’t Bow My Knee in Babylon”**

Behold the patience of the saints  
Behold the glory of their chains  
Behold their joy in the middle of their pain  
Behold how they love His Name  
I won’t bow my knee in Babylon  
I will bow to only One  
I won’t bow to the Devil in Babylon  
Only to David’s Son in Zion  
I won’t kneel to the Beast even though he slay me  
Only to the Prince of Peace who saved me  
The famine, the flames, the sword, and the fury,  
Cannot change the end of the story

Come what may, in this dark night  
Soon we will see the dawning Light  
Babylon, Babylon  
I won’t bow my knee to you  
We will carry on, carry on,  
Holding fast we will pass through  
Jealousy is a husband’s fury,  
He will not spare in the Day of vengeance  
Jealousy is a husband’s fury  
He will not relent  
The smoke of the whore will rise forever  
The joy the Bride will abide forever