

THE REJOICING IN THE REVELATION

Studies in the Revelation

Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy,
and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near.

Revelation 1:3

MOURNING OVER MONEY, NOT SIN:

Group One: The Kings of the Earth

"And the kings of the earth, who (what) committed acts of immorality and lived sensuously (how) with her, will (what) weep and lament over her when (what) they see the smoke of her burning, standing at a distance (why) because of the fear of her torment, saying, 'Woe, woe, the great city, Babylon, the strong city! For (when) in one hour (what) your judgment has come.'" Revelation 18:9-10

In one day, in one hour:

"For this reason in one day her plagues will come, pestilence and mourning and famine, and she will be burned up with fire; for the Lord God who judges her is strong." Revelation 18:8

Group Two: The Merchants of the Earth

"And the merchants of the earth (what) weep and mourn over her, (why) because no one buys their cargoes any more: cargoes of

1. gold and
2. silver and
3. precious stones and
4. pearls and
5. fine linen and
6. purple and
7. silk and
8. scarlet, and
9. every kind of citron wood and
10. every article of ivory and
11. every article made from very costly wood and
12. bronze and
13. iron and
14. marble, and
15. cinnamon and
16. spice and
17. incense and
18. perfume and
19. frankincense and

20. wine and
21. olive oil and
22. fine flour and
23. wheat and
24. cattle and
25. sheep, and
26. cargoes of horses and
27. chariots and
28. slaves and
29. human lives (lit. bodies and souls of men).

Revelation 18:11-13

The merchants address Babylon:

The fruit you (Babylon) long for (or, of your soul's desire) has gone from you, and all things that were luxurious and splendid have passed away from you (Babylon) and men will no longer find them."

Revelation 18:14

The lament over Babylon:

"The merchants of these things, who (what) became rich (how) from her, will stand at a distance (why) because of the fear of her torment, (doing what) weeping and mourning, saying, 'Woe, woe, the great city, she who was clothed in fine linen and purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls; for (when) in one hour (what) such great wealth has been laid waste!'" Revelation 18:15-17a

"For what does it profit a man to gain (what) the whole world, and forfeit his soul?" Mark 8:36

Group Three: The Shipmasters, Passengers and Sailors

"And every (1) shipmaster and every (2) passenger and (3) sailor, and as many as (4) make their living by the sea, stood at a distance, and were crying out as they saw (what) the smoke of her burning, saying, 'What city is like the great city?' And they threw dust on their heads and were crying out, weeping and mourning, saying, 'Woe, woe, the great city, in which (what) all who had ships at sea became rich (how) by her wealth, for (when) in one hour (what) she has been laid waste!'"

Revelation 17b-19

REJOICING OVER JUDGMENT AND DESTRUCTION:

Rejoicing of the Eternal Damnation of the Wicked / Lost:

"Rejoice over her, (who) O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets, (why) because God has pronounced judgment (for what purpose) for you against her." Revelation 17:20

When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar (what) the souls of those who had been slain (why) because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained; and they cried out with a loud voice, saying,

Question: "How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on (who) those who dwell on the earth?"

Answer: And there was given to each of them a white robe; and they were told that they should rest for a little while longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brethren who were (future) to be killed even as they had been, would be completed also.

Revelation 6:9-11

SO WHAT ARE WE TO DO?

One, examine yourself to see if your salvation is real:

Test yourselves (why) to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves!
Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you-
unless indeed you fail the test? 2 Corinthians 13:5

Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge, and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, perseverance, and in your perseverance, godliness, and in your godliness, brotherly kindness, and in your brotherly kindness, love.

For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they render you neither useless nor unfruitful in the (what) true knowledge (vs. false knowledge) of our Lord Jesus Christ. For he who lacks (what) these qualities is blind or short-sighted, having forgotten his (what) purification from his former sins.

Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to (what) make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble; for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.

2 Peter 1:5-10

Two, choose the narrow, unpopular, intolerant gate:

"Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

"Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them (how) by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes nor figs from thistles, are they? So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. So then, you will know them by their fruits."

Matthew 7:13-20

Three, be very fearful of having this said to you:

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'

Matthew 7:21-23

The Final Judgment is Completed:

Then (who) a strong angel took up (what) a stone like a great millstone and threw it (where) into the sea, saying, "So will Babylon, the great city, be thrown down with violence, and will not be found any longer.

And the sound of (1) harpists and (2) musicians and (3) flute-players and (4) trumpeters will not be heard in you any longer; and no (5) craftsman of any craft will be found in you any longer; and the (6) sound of a mill will not be heard in you any longer; and the (7) light of a lamp will not shine in you any longer; and the (8) voice of the bridegroom and bride will not be heard in you any longer."

Revelation 18:21-23a

So Jeremiah wrote in a single scroll all the calamity which would come upon Babylon, that is, all these words which have been written concerning Babylon. Then Jeremiah said to Seraiah, "As soon as you come to Babylon, then see that you read all these words aloud, and say, 'You, O LORD, have promised concerning this place to (what) cut it off, (to what extent) so that there will be nothing dwelling in it, whether man or beast, but it will be (what) a perpetual desolation.'

"And as soon as you finish reading this scroll, you will tie a stone to it and throw it into the middle of the Euphrates, and say, 'Just so shall Babylon sink down and not rise again because of the calamity that I am going to bring upon her; and they will become exhausted.'" Thus far are the words of Jeremiah.

Jeremiah 51:60-64

Three Reasons for the Judgment:

One: Merchants were men of great wealth and power:

Two: All nations were deceived by her sorcery (*pharmakeia*)

Three: She murdered God's people

For (1) your merchants were the great men of the earth, because (2) all the nations were deceived by your sorcery. And in her was found (3) the blood of prophets and of saints and of all who have been slain on the earth."

Revelation 18:23b-24