

## Chapter 18

**Verse 21-** *Then a strong angel picked up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, “So will Babylon, the great city, be thrown down with violence, and will never be found again.*

*strong angel-* This is the third time the “strong angel” appears in the book (5:2, 10:1-2).

*great millstone-* There were smaller stones used by women to grind grain in making bread. This was a huge stone that needed a donkey to turn it at a grain mill.





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*great millstone-* This is a fulfillment of a prophecy in Jeremiah 51:63-64:

*"And as soon as you finish reading this scroll, **you shall 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 disaster that I am going to bring upon her; and they will become exhausted.'" To this point are the words of Jeremiah.*

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*thrown down with violence-* This will happen in two stages:

1. The global rulers will kill the prostitute so that the beast will be worshipped alone (17:16).
2. Jesus will return and destroy the religious and commercial system and all who are in it (19:11-21).



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**Verse 21-** *Then a strong angel picked up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "So will Babylon, the great city, be thrown down with violence, and will **never be found again**.*

*never be found again-* This is the first of five "never be" statements in the next verses: Never Be:

- *found in you again-* Babylon, craftsmen
- *heard in you again-* musicians, sound of a mill, voice of a groom and bride
- *shine in you again-* light of a lamp

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*never be found again-* There is an ABABA pattern in the verse:

A= *never heard again*      B= *never found again*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| A | <i>sound of harpists, musicians, flute players, and trumpeters</i> |
| B | <i>no craftsman of any craft</i>                                   |
| A | <i>sound of a mill</i>   |
| B | <i>light of a lamp</i>   |
| A | <i>voice of a groom and bride</i>                                  |



## Chapter 18

**Verse 22-** *And the sound of harpists, musicians, flute players, and trumpeters will **never be heard in you again**; and no craftsman of any craft will ever **be found in you again**; and the sound of a mill will **never be heard in you again**;*

*sound of...musicians-* What is life without music?

*craftsman of any craft-* The trade guilds who prevented Christians from working because they would not make offerings to the patron deities (e.g., Thyatira) are now gone.

*sound of a mill-* The economic system and food supply are gone.

## Chapter 18

**Verse 22-** *And the sound of harpists, musicians, flute players, and trumpeters will **never be heard in you again**; and no craftsman of any craft will ever **be found in you again**; and the sound of a mill will **never be heard in you again**;*

*sound of a mill-* The third seal: famine- Revelation 6:5-6:

*When He broke the third seal, I heard the third living creature saying, "Come!" I looked, and behold, **a black horse**, and the one who sat on it had a pair of scales in his hand. And I heard something like a voice in the center of the four living creatures saying, "**A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius**; and do not damage the oil and the wine."*



## Chapter 18

**Verse 23-** *and the light of a lamp will **never shine in you again**; and the voice of the groom and bride will **never be heard in you again**; for your merchants were the powerful people of the earth, because all the nations were deceived by your witchcraft.*

*light of a lamp-* A household lamp. When the oil supply dries up, lamps will not be needed. Those who are used to the light will be in darkness. Home life is forever changed.

*voice of the groom and bride-* A symbol for joy and gladness is silenced in contrast to the rejoicing in the Marriage of the Lamb (19:7-9).

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*your merchants were the powerful people-* The first of two reasons for the downfall of Babylon. Merchants became the most powerful people on earth as religion and commerce merged in the false religion. They worshipped money and rejected God.



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*deceived by your witchcraft-* The second of two reasons for the downfall of Babylon. The harlot deceived the nations by using sorcery (*pharmakeia*) (9:21) which is an abomination to God and punishable by death (Deut. 18:10-12). It is possible that this world system will include worldwide drug production and trafficking that will enslave and control people.

## Chapter 18

**Verse 24-** *And in her was found the blood of prophets and of saints, and of all who have been slaughtered on the earth."*

*in her was found the blood-* This last a final worldwide religion and government will be guilty of persecuting and murdering current day saints. The spirit of Babylon throughout time as been guilty of the same- killing prophets and saints.

God does not rejoice in the death of the wicked. Ezek. 33:11: Say to them, 'As I live!' declares the Lord God, '**I take no pleasure at all in the death of the wicked**, but rather that the wicked turn from his way and live.'



## Chapter 19 – Outline

### ***What John hears – Verses 1, 6***

**(Rejoicing over the destruction of the prostitute and rejoicing at the marriage supper of the Lamb)**

### ***What John sees – Verses 11, 17, 19***

**(The second coming of Jesus with the saints, the destruction of the armies at Armageddon, the punishment of the beast and false prophet in the Lake of Fire).**

## Chapter 19

**Verse 1-** *After these things I heard something like a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, “Hallelujah! Salvation, glory, and power belong to our God,*

*After these things-* (meta tauta) This introduces a seventh part of John’s vision.

*something like a loud voice-* Are these angels, the redeemed of the ages, or both? Probably angels because the rest join in later.

*“Hallelujah!”-* hallel (praise) + jah or Yah (God). Heaven will rejoice in the full and final deliverance from sin.



## Chapter 19

**Verse 1-** *After these things I heard something like a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Hallelujah! Salvation, glory, and power belong to our God,*

*"Hallelujah!"*- This chapter is the only occurrence (4x) of the word in the New Testament.

- *Verse 1- Praise God for His redemption.*
- *Verse 3- Praise God for His righteous judgment on Babylon.*
- *Verse 4- Praise God (the 24 elders) for what He has done.*
- *Verse 6- Praise God for His reign on the earth (basis for Handel's Hallelujah Chorus).*

## Chapter 19

**Verse 1-** *After these things I heard something like a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Hallelujah! Salvation, glory, and power belong to our God,*

*"Hallelujah!"*- First use: Psalm 104:35: *May sinners be removed from the earth And may the wicked be no more. Bless the Lord, my soul. **Praise the Lord!***

*Hallel Psalms: 104-109, 113-118*



## Chapter 19

**Verse 2-** *because His judgments are true and righteous; for He has judged the great prostitute who was corrupting the earth with her sexual immorality, and He has avenged the blood of His bond-servants on her."*

*judgments are true and righteous-* God judges righteously. Religious and commercial Babylon had corrupted the world with her immorality, and she had slain many of God's servants.

*was corrupting the earth-* The worst sin is teaching others to sin (Barclay).

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*avenged the blood-* The prayers of the martyrs is about to be answered. The fifth seal in Revelation 6:9-11:

*When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw underneath the altar the souls of those who had been killed because of the word of God, and because of the testimony which they had maintained; and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who live on the earth?"*



## Chapter 19

**Verse 3-** *And a second time they said, "Hallelujah! Her smoke rises forever and ever."*

*smoke rises forever and ever-* God is eternal and his condemnation is also eternal. This is the second of three times In God measures out eternal punishment:

- to the followers of the beast (14:11)
- to the great prostitute (19:13)
- to the "unholy trinity" of dragon, beast, and false prophet (20:10)

## Chapter 19

**Verse 4-** *And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sits on the throne, saying, "Amen. Hallelujah!"*

*the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures* – These are the heavenly worship leaders in the book, but here they give affirmation to what has already been said by the saints in the previous verses. This is the last mention of the twenty-four elders in the book. They are part of the bride from this point on.

*"Amen. Hallelujah!"* - The only time in the New Testament this combination is found.



## Chapter 19

**Verse 5-** *And a voice came from the throne, saying, "Give praise to our God, all you His bond-servants, you who fear Him, the small and the great."*

*all you His bond-servants-* This is the third group in this chapter giving praise to God:

- the heavenly multitude (verse 10)
- the elders and living creatures (verse 4)
- the saints on earth (verse 5)

The praise and attention shifts from heaven to the earth.

## Chapter 19

**Verse 6-** *Then I heard something like the voice of a great multitude and like the sound of many waters, and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, saying, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns."*

*Then I heard something* - John's vision enters into a second phase. Babylon, the previous focus of the vision, is gone and will not appear in the book again.

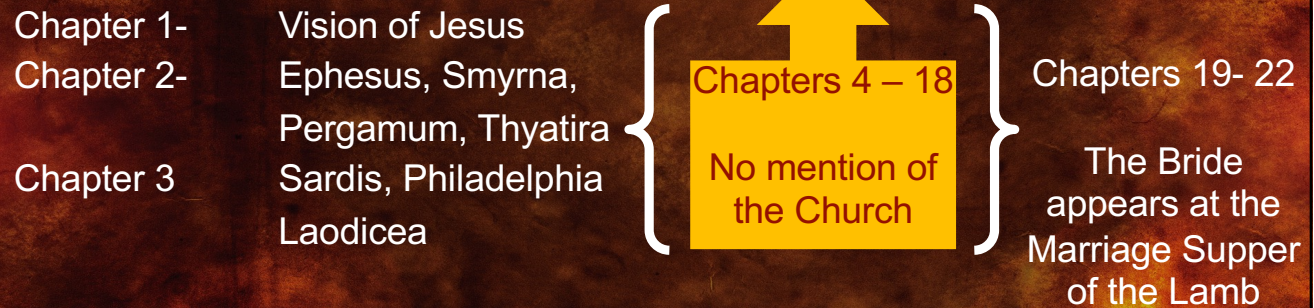
*the sound of many waters...mighty peals of thunder-* This reminds us of the 144,000 in 14:2 who will announce the union of the Lamb and the Bride.



## Chapter 19

**Verse 7-** *Let's rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, because the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His bride has prepared herself."*

*His bride- This is the first mention of the church since 3:22:*





**Next week...**

Chapter 19-  
“The Second Coming of Jesus”

