UNVELLED!

The Ancient Secrets of Daniel & The Revelation of Jesus Christ

JOAN H. RICHARDSON

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The Revelation of Jesus Christ

CHAPTER 18

18 After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illumined with his glory. ² And he cried out with a mighty voice, saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! She has become a dwelling place of demons and a prison of every unclean spirit, and a prison of every unclean and hateful bird. ³ For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the passion of her immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed *acts of* immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich by the wealth of her sensuality."

⁴I heard another voice from heaven, saying, "Come out of her, my people, so that you will not participate in her sins and receive of her plagues; ⁵ for her sins have piled up as high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities. ⁶ Pay her back even as she has paid, and give back *to her* double according to her deeds; in the cup which she has mixed, mix twice as much for her. ⁷ To the degree that she glorified herself and lived sensuously, to the same degree give her torment and mourning; for she says in her heart, 'I SIT as A QUEEN AND I AM NOT A WIDOW, and will never see mourning.' ⁸ 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.

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

¹¹ "And the merchants of the earth weep and mourn over her, because no one buys their cargoes any more—
¹² cargoes of gold and silver and precious stones and pearls and fine linen and purple and silk and scarlet, and every *kind of* citron wood and every article of ivory and every article *made* from very costly wood and bronze and iron and marble, ¹³ and cinnamon and spice and incense and perfume and frankincense and wine and olive oil and

fine flour and wheat and cattle and sheep, and cargoes of horses and chariots and slaves and human lives. 14 The fruit you long for has gone from you, and all things that were luxurious and splendid have passed away from you and men will no longer find them. 15 The merchants of these things, who became rich from her, will stand at a distance because of the fear of her torment, weeping and mourning, 16 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; ¹⁷ for in one hour such great wealth has been laid waste!' And every shipmaster and every passenger and sailor, and as many as make their living by the sea, stood at a distance, ¹⁸ and were crying out as they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, 'What city is like the great city?' ¹⁹ And they threw dust on their heads and were crying out, weeping and mourning, saying, 'Woe, woe, the great city, in which all who had ships at sea became rich by her wealth, for in one hour she has been laid waste!' 20 Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets, because God has pronounced judgment for you against her."

²¹ Then a strong angel took 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 not be found any longer. ²² And the sound of harpists and musicians and flute-players and trumpeters will not be heard in you any longer; and no craftsman of any craft will be found in you any longer; and the sound of a mill will not be heard in you any longer; ²³ and the light of a lamp will not shine in you any longer; and the voice of the bridegroom and bride will not be heard in you any longer; for your merchants were the great men of the earth, because all the nations were deceived by your sorcery. ²⁴ And in her was found the blood of prophets and of saints and of all who have been slain on the earth." (Revelation 18: 1-24 NASB)

Insights

Mystery Babylon's effects are most evident when the throne of the dragon settles in the kingdom of the beast. In her lands alcohol and drugs divide families and destroy lives. Her leaders

are profiteers, exchanging cash for human souls, victimizing the races, genders, and ages. Violence and bloodshed, injustice and cruelty indicate her presence. Her worshipers support infanticide, genocide, and euthanasia. Her "peace-loving" nations are bloodthirsty and disregard killings and kidnappings. God calls us out; how did she take us in?

The Great Whore

If we don't come out of Babylon, we'll be guilty of her sins: of her mind-altering drugs [pharmakeia]; of sorcery, witchcraft, greed, drunkenness, false witness, immorality, thievery, idolatry, covetousness, human trafficking, the blood of innocents and of saints and prophets—even dividing His nation. Jerusalem fell into the same sins by Baal worship:

²¹ How is the faithful city become an harlot! it was full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers. ²² Thy silver is become dross, thy wine mixed with water. ²³ Thy princes are rebellious, and companions of thieves:

²³ Thy princes are rebellious, and companions of thieves: everyone loveth gifts and followeth after rewards: They judge not the fatherless, neither doth the cause of the widow come unto them. (Is 1:21-23)

Thankfully, our merciful God doesn't leave it there; instead, after purging her, He restored Israel's judges as at the first, and her counselors, as at the beginning: afterward she would be called the city of righteousness, the faithful city. Zion would be redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness. (from Is. 1:26-27)

⁴I heard another voice from heaven, saying, "Come out of her, my people, so that you will not participate in her sins and receive of her plagues; ⁵ for her sins have piled up as high as heaven, and <u>God has remembered</u> her iniquities. (Rev. 18:4-5; cf. 16:19-20)

At the seventh bowl of wrath, God remembers Babylon (in 16:19). In chapter 18 she is a prosperous city on the seacoast and purchases the world's products but is thoroughly depraved. Her land is the greatest consumer of them all, buying nearly 30% of the world's merchandise. The nations rely on her prosperity.

Ancient Babylon lay inland like Rome, but this metropolis is neither of them. She's lascivious, violent, idolatrous, spreading

her sins across the world; lifting her sensualities and deceptions to the heavens, and yet she's cultured, a center of the fine arts: And the sound of harpists and musicians and flute-players and trumpeters will not be heard in you any longer; and no craftsman of any craft will be found in you any longer; and the sound of a mill will not be heard in you any longer. (18:22)

As it was in Noah's day, those who crossed the waters to take the faith of God to the New World gave what they received to those who followed. Babel's divided languages confused and separated her people. Today's churches have departed from the Scriptures and are divided and confused when faced with the truth. It's as though we speak a different language than God, but the love of the truth keeps its believers in the end.

America's taxpayers support the UN as the leopard undergirding the nations of the earth, bolstering terrorist states that profit in their sins while her consumers buy the world's *cinnamon and spice and incense and perfume and frankincense and wine and olive oil and fine flour and wheat and cattle and sheep, and cargoes of horses and chariots <u>and slaves and human lives!</u> (Rev. 18:13) [automobiles, etc.] Even some who profess the faith want the United Nations to rule the world, but we'll be deceived by our ignorance if we don't love the truth, because we won't invest the time to search it out.*

When the man of lawlessness is exposed, there's no way to stop him or to prevent his evil plans. He will lead the nations to fulfill the prophecy of the God he hates, and the world will adore him. God calls us to repent and believe His Son. Most hypocrites will deny their sins while those who refuse to worship the beast or take his mark will inherit everlasting life.

On September 11, 2001, scriptures rushed to my mind as I watched the stunning news on TV. The prophecies struck this writer like electric jolts: images of billowing smoke filled the air from the first tower when suddenly, a second plane burst into her sister skyscraper, and thousands of souls were lost. People were covered in ash as their cries resounded to heaven. Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication! (from Rev. 14:8) The alarm sounded to awaken America. At sunset we knew our land would never be the same.

Merchant ships watch as her distant smoke rises. On her last day, Babylon is razed from the face of the earth. Her merchants cry out on that terrible day—not for the souls who perish in her destruction, but greed and lust, materialism and perversions—her own great sins—have overtaken them by her seductions:

¹⁷ for in one hour <u>such great wealth has been laid waste!</u>' And every shipmaster and every passenger and sailor, and as many as make their living by the sea, stood at a distance, ¹⁸ and were crying out as they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, 'What *city* is like the great city?' ¹⁹ And they threw dust on their heads and were crying out, weeping and mourning, saying, 'Woe, woe, the great city, in which all who had ships at sea became rich by her wealth, for in one hour she has been laid waste!' (Rev. 18:17-19 NASB)

On August 2, 2012, the president wrote on a final beam of the One World Trade Center: "We remember. We rebuild. We come back stronger." What did he mean? I wasn't sure.

Retrospect and Foresight

We suffer His righteous judgments in unbelief as hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, volcanoes, infestations, droughts, plagues, and earthquakes—catastrophic events, things that had never occurred before, strike the earth. We watch the experts, removed from the stories till their realities strike our own homes. At the pummeling hand of judgment, we don't know what hit us. We find fault in sinners who have no fear of God, but the church herself doesn't fear Him. We say we believe but dare to curse our leaders whom God has chosen to bless or judge our land. How can we be silent at a time like this? the virgins are sleeping:

25 Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. ² And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. ³ They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: ⁴ But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. (Mat. 25:1-4)

God prefers love to hatred but exercises both. Are His words too difficult for politics? If He scourges every son He receives,

what becomes of the sinner? (Heb. 12:6) Did we realize we were creating another gospel and another Jesus, even another god? We may reason it should be easy for people to believe in the Savior, but He never said that. He said it's not easy. We must take up the cross and die to follow Him.

The church has been living like the world, but that's a deadly deception. He called us to repent and die to this world to believe in Him. We have turned people to the faith who have no idea about keeping it through the trials that are ahead. It would be better not to have heard the gospel than to turn away from it as many have already done. This was why Jesus spoke in parables. (Jn. 12:39-46; Heb. 6:4-12; 10:26-36; 2 Pet. 2:20-22)

As Israel served Baal, have we returned to the idols we once served? Loving this world and its stuff as though we belong to it, we waste our lives with fun and games and don't redeem the time for eternity. We stand with those who give up their children to the fire believing they're in the arms of Jesus. (See 1 Cor. 7:14)

The pervasiveness of Babylon threatens our schools from kindergarten to college with perversions as "sex education" that targets their minds; yet we wonder why so many are deceived.

America's soul has been divorced from God—immoral and reprobate. We should be repenting for a nation and a church that have fallen away from our Creator. The Bible warns us against sodomy [perversions, even in heterosexual marriages]; fornication [sex apart from marriage], and sexual immorality [lasciviousness]. Deceivers would have us believe that a fib is no worse than sexual sin or murder, but that's a lie. God will expose everything when the secrets of our hearts and minds are judged. (Gal. 5:19-26; Rev. 20:11-15; 21:4-8; 1 Cor. 6:9-11)

² For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, ³ how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard *Him*, ⁴ God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will? (Heb. 2:2-4 NKJV)

The scripture tells us that Christ went before us, leading the way, crowned with glory and honor after tasting death for us all.

God made our Captain perfect by sanctification through suffering to bring many sons to glory, sanctified in Him. Therefore He isn't ashamed to call us family. If we share His sufferings, we'll also share His comfort. (Rom. 8:18; 2 Cor. 1:5-7; Phil. 3:10-11; 1Pet. 4:12-19)

The Mother of Harlots

Consider the immigrants, entering New York Harbor out of all nations and languages, hoping for freedom and a future:

¹⁵ And he saith to me, 'The waters that thou didst see, where the whore doth sit, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues;' ... ¹⁸ and the woman that thou didst see is the great city that is having reign over the kings of the land.' (Rev. 17:15, 18 YLT) [Mystery Babylon]

America's first capital, the home of the Constitution, is New York City. International laws are being made in the chamber of the UN even now.²⁰¹ Eight hundred languages are spoken in the streets of the most linguistically diverse metropolis on earth.²⁰²

¹⁵ Shout against her round about: she hath given her hand, her foundations have fallen, her walls are thrown down: for it is the vengeance of the LORD. Take vengeance upon her; as she hath done, do unto her. (Jer. 50:14-15)

Her foundations are crumbling. Her infrastructure is frail. Will they sustain the city's weight when the rocks beneath her quake? ²⁰³ What happened to her foundations and the walls that once protected her? The LORD will destroy the harlot Babylon for her seductions and for the blood on her hands.

Manhattan is known as New York City, one of the foremost seaports with one of the largest natural harbors on the earth. She is the city of the prophecy: ²⁰⁴ ... Alas, alas that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate. (Rev. 18:19)

The city of the nations is an island of many hills, seated with many ambassadors in a tower. She seduces the kings of the earth where Israel's adversaries are aligned against the nation that warmly welcomes them. One World Trade Center is the sign of her defiance, towering over the city from Ground Zero.²⁰⁵ It's the highest structure New York City has ever seen.

The "Empire State" confirms her place in history. ²⁰⁶ In 2016 NYC welcomed a replica of the Arch of Bel [Baal] in Central Park. ²⁰⁷ At the end, she is the capital of the beast's empire.

⁶ I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement. (Rev. 17:6 NKJV)

The wine of the wrath of her fornication and the abundance of her delicacies fill the pockets of her profiteers. A habitation of devils, a hold of every foul spirit, she broadcasts her sins, filling the world with fornication, murdering the infants to sell the body parts, shamelessly celebrating their deaths. She's Satan's whore.

Woe to him who strives with him who formed him. a pot among earthen pots!
Does the clay say to him who forms it, "What are you making?"

Or 'Your work has no handles'?

Woe to him who says to a father, 'What are you begetting?' or to a woman, "With what are you in labor?" (Is. 45:9-10 ESV)

America was founded by the Biblical principles of imperfect men aiming for a more perfect union. Throughout her history she was governed with respect for God even through the years when human slavery filled the world. The church challenged its darkness with her light. William Wilberforce and John Newton lived to see slavery abolished in England. In the 19th century the Holiness Movement decried slavery till it was abolished by the Christian president Abraham Lincoln. In the 20th century, Martin Luther King opened American eyes to her injustices.

Hard times implanted the fear of God in us, and we'd esteem His wisdom and goodness. Like Israel, Americans were unable to keep His laws apart from a relationship with God. When the Bible was taken out of daily life, her children rebelled against our Creator. The depth of her sins is great. We must repent.

⁸ They were *as* fed horses in the morning: every one neighed after his neighbor's wife. ⁹ Shall I not visit for these *things?* saith the LORD: and shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this? ...

¹² They have belied the LORD, and said, *It is* not he; neither shall evil come upon us; neither shall we see sword nor famine: ¹³ And the prophets shall become wind, and the word *is not* in them: thus shall it be done unto them. (Jer. 5:8-9, 12-13)

¹³ If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people; ¹⁴ If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. (2 Chron. 7:13-14)

We must look to ourselves as the first to change, confessing our sins to Jesus who forgives and cleanses us of evil. We prove our love for the truth of His Word, shunning the lies that deny it.

³ O LORD, *are* not thine eyes upon the truth? thou hast stricken them, but they have not grieved; thou hast consumed them, *but* they have refused to receive correction: they have made their faces harder than a rock; they have refused to return. ⁴ Therefore I said, Surely these *are* poor; they are foolish: for they know not the way of the LORD, *nor* the judgment of their God. ⁵ I will get me unto the great men, and will speak unto them; for they have known the way of the LORD, *and* the judgment of their God: but these have altogether broken the yoke, *and* burst the bonds. (Jer. 5:3-5)

3 Yes, in those days and at that time,

when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem.

2 I will gather all the nations and take them to the Valley of Jehoshaphat.

I will enter into judgment with them there
My inheritance Israel.

The nations have scattered the Israelites in foreign countries and divided up My land.

³ They cast lots for My people; they bartered a boy for a prostitute and sold a girl for wine to drink. (Joel 3:1-3 HCSB)

The city that was once a beacon of hope is condemned, and few of us recall America as she used to be. Much of her blood

was spilt for liberty, but what's left at the end? an idol, crushed to dust and strewn to the wind, lost to oblivion. God calls to us, "Come out of her!" yet Babylon fills the world with her sins. We dare not walk her highway to hell; yet if we haven't shared her sins, God would not have commanded us to come out of her.

NYC and the UN have been marked for destruction, but America is ours to redeem since there's not just one government, but two in the land. Satan is the thief and the deceiver who comes to steal, kill, and destroy; that should tell us who has the microphone. As servants of God, we speak the good news of salvation with its warnings and prayers for people to return to their Creator.

Will He vomit out her church? (3:14-22; 21:24) Will we turn to our Maker or race to our extinction? We are His servants in a momentous hour. Let's not be deceived: the truth should unite us. Can two walk together except they be agreed? (Am. 3:3)

Our nation has been losing her sovereignty to the dominion of the New World Order, introduced by President George H.W. Bush in 1989. "A thousand points of light," he said, "with law and order under one world government."—chilling words for those of us who knew even a little about prophecy.

With one hundred ninety-three member states, the UN holds virtually every nation, ostensibly for peace on earth, but most of them are at war today. And most are set to destroy Israel.

How did it happen? For the first time in nearly two hundred years, the nation's Supreme Court removed the Bible and prayer out of schools, and the church felt helpless when she should have prayed. As a result, our nation began her descent. Living day by day, we didn't realize how quickly she was falling.

Her sins are abominable, but in the past, revivals have ended injustices when her national conscience responded by righteous reforms. Still it takes a lot of prayer to rebuild a nation.

²¹ Then a strong angel took 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 not be found any longer. (Rev. 18:21 NASB)

We were small when we first heard Jesus loved us, and His love touched our hearts. Out of the mouths of babes ... thou hast perfected praise. (Mt. 21:16; Ps. 8:2) Whosoever shall offend one

of these little ones that believes in me, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck and he were cast into the sea. (Mk. 9:42)

In 1973 the U.S. Supreme Court broke the Ten Commandments by legalizing the act of abortion.²¹¹ God warned us: it is better to have a great stone hanging from one's neck and to be cast into the ocean than to offend or to make one of these little ones sin. He knew about the immoral, unnatural, and satanic sins that would rise against her children. Babylon's spirit has spread from her shores to the world. Now her judgment is imminent.

The great liar rose from the abyss, seeking to destroy the hope of the gospel. When Babylon is decimated, heaven breaks into song like the righteous do when the wicked are gone:

¹⁰ The righteous shall rejoice when he seeth the vengeance: he shall wash his feet in the blood of the wicked. ¹¹ That a man shall say, Verily *there is* a reward for the righteous: Verily he is a God that judgeth in the earth. (Ps. 58:10-11)

¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice in heaven saying, "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Anointed One, for the accuser of our brothers and sisters—the one who accuses them before our God day and night—has been thrown out. ¹¹ They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives even in the face of death.

(Rev. 12:10-11 TLV)

With the arrival of the duplicitous kings of chapter 13, the prostitute's city moves. Just before the Lord returns, in 17:16 the ten kings grow to hate the harlot city and give their power to the dragon to make her desolate and naked; to eat her flesh, and burn her with fire. Her judgment comes at the seventh bowl with the greatest earthquake of all:

¹⁶ And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.

¹⁷ And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven from the throne, saying, It is done. ¹⁸ And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a

great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, *and* so great. ¹⁹ And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and <u>great Babylon came in remembrance before God</u>, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath. ²⁰ And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.

²¹ And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great. (Rev. 16:16-21)

At the seventh bowl (in 16:18), God recalls Babylon while ending His wrath (in 18:21). The Almighty crushes her like chaff—threshed and blown away by the wind. (Dan. 2:35). The earth trembles as Babylon plummets like an enormous millstone fallen into the sea. Repercussions of her judgments are felt around the world: tsunamis overcome the nations' cities and islands are swallowed up. The nefarious spirit Mystery Babylon is removed from the earth as the nations bow at Yeshua's feet.

Nothing can save the great harlot, but we may save a nation that has fallen for her evil ways. It wasn't by might, by power, by inheritance, or by our own will, but by His Spirit, God in Yeshua alone saved us. Solely by His grace, He set us free forever—free to make choices that affect our destinies. The way to success is the life led by His words with thankfulness.

We who believe in the One who rose to life from death never lose hope, but repent and pray for America's salvation. When a nation is judged, she is lost or saved for eternity. We can't live by what we see, but what we don't see we receive by faith.

Lucifer was a bright light in heaven, but now he's the prince of darkness on earth. He is the archenemy of God's light-bearers because the Word of God exposes and condemns him. This is why the beast, the dragon, and the false prophet are determined to destroy every vestige of faith in Israel's God.

The beast devour the world, and when he does, we're his main targets. The body of Christ suffers all kinds of trials, but since we don't live for a material world, our greatest days are ahead. As Jesus said, when all these signs begin, look up because our redemption is near; so let's look up to our victorious King!