# **UNVEILED!**

# The Ancient Secrets of Daniel &

## The Revelation of Jesus Christ

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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 illuminated from his glory. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> For all the nations have fallen because of the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed *acts of* sexual immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich from the excessive wealth of her luxury."

<sup>4</sup> I heard another voice from heaven, saying, "Come out of her, my people, so that you will not participate in her sins and receive *any* of her plagues; <sup>5</sup> for her sins have piled up as high as heaven, and God has remembered her offenses. <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> To the extent that she glorified herself and lived luxuriously, to the same extent 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.' <sup>8</sup> For this reason in one day her plagues will come, plague and mourning and famine, and she will be burned up with fire; for the Lord God who judges her is strong.

<sup>9</sup> "And the kings of the earth, who committed *acts of* sexual immorality and lived luxuriously with her, will weep and mourn over her when they see the smoke of her burning, <sup>10</sup> 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.'

<sup>11</sup> "And the merchants of the earth weep and mourn over her, because no one buys their cargo any more—<sup>12</sup> cargo of gold, silver, precious stones, and pearls; fine linen, purple, silk, and scarlet; every *kind of* citron wood, every article of ivory, and every article *made* from very valuable wood, bronze, iron, and marble; <sup>13</sup> cinnamon, spice, incense, perfume, frankincense, wine, olive oil, fine flour, wheat, cattle, sheep, and *cargo* of horses, carriages, slaves, and human lives.<sup>14</sup> The fruit you long for has left

you, and all things that were luxurious and splendid have passed away from you and people will no longer find them. <sup>15</sup> 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, <sup>16</sup> saying, 'Woe, woe, the great city, she who was clothed in fine linen and purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold, precious stones, and pearls; <sup>17</sup> for in one hour such great wealth has been laid waste!' And every shipmaster and every passenger and sailor, and all who make their living by the sea, stood at a distance, <sup>18</sup> and were crying out as they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, 'What city is like the great city?' <sup>19</sup> And they threw dust on their heads and were crying out, weeping and mourning, saving, 'Woe, woe, the great city, in which all who had ships at sea became rich from her prosperity, for in one hour she has been laid waste!' <sup>20</sup> Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets, because God has pronounced judgment for you against her."

<sup>21</sup> 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. <sup>22</sup> 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; <sup>23</sup> 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. <sup>24</sup> And in her was found the blood of prophets and of saints and of all who have been slaughtered on the earth." (Revelation 18:1-24 NASB)

#### Insights

The angel coming down from heaven with great authority, illuminating the earth, shows that angels are appointed to serve the messengers who prophesy to the world. This one strengthens the second messenger in 14:8.

Mystery Babylon's effects are evident when the throne of the dragon is in the kingdom of the beast. By her seductions, sexual sins, deceptions, and fears abound. Alcohol and narcotics destroy human lives; profiteers exchange cash for souls—victimizing all 208

races, genders, and tribes. She condones genocide, euthanasia, human trafficking, and infanticide, pornography—all that is evil: violence, bloodshed, injustice, idolatry, and murder are hers. We must come out of Babylon; but how did she take us in?

The church has been living like the world whose desires are carnal. We haven't thought its ways are evil, because its ways are common to us all. God calls us to repent and die to the world to live for the Savior we say we believe. We've turned people to the faith who have no idea about enduring great tribulation. It's better not to know the gospel than to afterward prefer the world. (Jn. 12:39-46; Heb. 6:4-12; 10:26-36; 2 Pet. 2:20-22; Deut. 5:6-21)

#### The Mother of Harlots

God called Abram out of Ur, but Israel served Baal. Have we also returned to false gods? Loving this world and its stuff as if we belong to it, we're spiritually poor, but God sent His Son to take away sin and to destroy the works of the devil. (1 Jn. 3:4-10)

If we don't come out of Babylon, we'll share her plagues. She seduces humanity by materialism, mind-altering drugs *pharmakeia*—sorcery, deceit, slander, pride, lust, greed, hatred, envy, and thievery. Her culture had also affected Jerusalem:

<sup>21</sup> How the faithful city has become a whore, she who was full of justice! Righteousness lodged in her, but now murderers.
<sup>22</sup> Your silver has become dross, your best wine mixed with water.
<sup>23</sup> Your princes are rebels and companions of thieves.
Everyone loves a bribe and runs after gifts.
They do not bring justice to the fatherless, and the widow's cause does not come to them. (Is 1:21-23 ESV)

In Isaiah God loves Jerusalem but purges her dross and turns His hand against her until He restores her judges as at the first, and [her] counselors, as at the beginning: afterward [Jerusalem is] called the city of righteousness, the faithful city. Zion [is]

*redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness. (from Is. 1:26-27)* 

<sup>19b</sup> Babylon the great <u>was remembered</u> in the sight of God, to give her the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath.
(Rev. 16:19b NASB) [At the seventh bowl of wrath.] Also ...
<sup>5b</sup> ... God hath remembered her iniquities. (Rev. 18:5b)

In chapter 18 Mystery Babylon is a prosperous city on the seacoast that will never be redeemed. Tyre prospered in trading on the Mediterranean, but Mystery Babylon, the greatest consumer of all, purchases about 30% of the world's merchandise.<sup>214</sup> Nations depend on her wealth for their support, but now she is facing her judgment: *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)* 

Noah crossed the waters by faith in God for a new world. In time God confused and scattered the wicked for their pride. Like Babel our nation fell into pride and is now divided and confused, fallen from faith in God who spoke by His apostles and prophets as they wrote His inspired words.

Taxpayers support the UN as the leopard that undergirds the nations, bolstering terrorist states and dictatorships that profit by her sins. 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 cargo of horses and chariots <u>and slaves and human lives</u>! (Rev. 18:13)* 

The one that restrains him is taken *out of the way* to expose the man of sin who fulfills the prophecy of the God he hates. All who deny God will worship him while God calls us to repent of the harlot's lifestyle. If we love God, we seek and obey Him, and He gives us eternal life whose words and actions prove our faith as the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

September 11, 2001, prophecies rushed to mind as I watched the news.<sup>215</sup> Then a second plane burst into her sister skyscraper, and thousands perished in minutes. The Revelation struck me like electric jolts as smoke billowed from the first tower. Cloaks of ash covered her people who wailed aloud in the streets. Merchant ships watched as her distant smoke rose. *Babylon is* 

fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication! (14:8) Its words kept coming. The harlot was a marked woman.

The merchants wept, not for the souls who died, but for their lost wealth: greed, lust, and materialism, her own great sins, had ruined them by her seductions. The alarm sounded across the globe. At sunset we knew our land would never be the same:

<sup>19</sup> 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 from her prosperity, for in one hour she has been laid waste!' (Rev. 18:19 NASB)

On August 2, 2012, the president wrote on the final beam of the One World Trade Center: "We remember. We rebuild. We come back stronger."<sup>216</sup> What did he mean? I wasn't sure.

<sup>15</sup> He also said to me, "The waters you saw, where the prostitute was seated, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and languages. ...<sup>18</sup> And the woman you saw is the great city that has an empire over the kings of the earth." (Rev. 17:15, 18 HCSB)

America's first capital and home of the Constitution was New York City.<sup>217</sup> Prophetically relevant, some eight hundred languages are spoken in perhaps the most linguistically diverse city of all.<sup>218</sup> International lawmakers work inside the UN with abusers of humanity who malign Israel, the pupil of God's eye.

Her foundations are crumbling; her infrastructure is frail.<sup>219</sup> Will they sustain her weight when the rocks beneath her quake? If she were to strengthen her foundations and fortify her walls, could they save her? But the LORD will destroy the city whose seductions and bloodlust have corrupted the world.

Manhattan is locally known as "New York City," a seaport with one of the largest natural harbors on earth.<sup>220</sup> New York is the site of the prophecy: ... Alas, alas that great city, <u>wherein</u> were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her <u>costliness</u>! for in one hour is she made desolate. (Rev. 18:19)

The city of the nations is an island of many hills with many ambassadors, seated in a tower but spreads beyond her borough's boundaries as Greater New York City. She seduces the kings of the earth, aligning Israel's adversaries against their host. One

World Trade Center flaunts her defiance: towering over Ground Zero, she's the highest structure New York City has ever seen and represents wealth as the source of her power.<sup>221</sup>

 $^6$  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 earth with fornication, murdering infants and selling the body parts—shamelessly, celebrating their deaths!

- <sup>9</sup> "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'?
- <sup>10</sup> 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)

Her epithet, the "<u>Empire State</u>," affirms her role in history.<sup>222</sup> In 2016 New York City received a replica of the Arch of Bel [Baal].<sup>223</sup> By the church's inattention, her enemies indoctrinated her own children. Her Constitution is tattered by her nation's corruption with an empire that is about to devour all the earth.

#### **Retrospect and Foresight**

As plagues, hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, infestations, earthquakes, volcanoes, droughts, and events that had never occurred before strike our land, we suffer for the nation's sins. We listen to experts, distanced from the catastrophes till our families are trapped in disasters. The pummeling hand of judgment strikes, yet we don't understand. We fault sinners for not fearing God whose church hasn't feared Him either. Lacking wisdom, we curse the leaders by whom God sends His judgments, and we try to fix the judgments, but all our efforts are futile. God is calling His church to truth, faith, and holiness:

25 Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet

the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup> And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. <sup>3</sup> They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: <sup>4</sup> But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. (Mat. 25:1-4)

God prefers love to hatred but exercises both. If He *scourges every son He receives,* what happens to the sinner? (Heb. 12:6) But the church has trusted another gospel and another Jesus who is always gentle and never judging; why fear a god like that?

<sup>12</sup> They have belied the LORD, and said, *It is* not he; neither shall evil come upon us; neither shall we see sword nor famine: <sup>13</sup> 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) [He is the never-changing God, *the same today, yesterday, and forever. (Heb. 13:8)]* 

Babylon's impact has taken our children from kindergarten to college; she has replaced God with lawlessness, targeting their minds, yet we deny the nation is under judgment. God's hand is raised to forcefully fall on our enemies immediately after the church is purified by great tribulation. (Mk. 13:24-27) The day of Christ does not come without a falling away first. (2 Thes. 2:3)

3 Yes, <u>in those days and at that time</u> , when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem,
<sup>2</sup> will gather all the nations
and take them to the Valley of Jehoshaphat.
I will enter into judgment with them there
because of My people, <u>My inheritance Israel</u> .
The nations have scattered the Israelites
in foreign countries
and <u>divided up My land</u> .
<sup>3</sup> 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)

Is His church separated from God by excluding Him from her lifestyle? He warns us against sodomy [perversion, even in heterosexual marriage]; fornication [sex apart from marriage], and lasciviousness [sexual immorality].

Unable to judge or discern between simple matters, many of us have believed a glass of wine is sinful but neglect gluttony. Jesus, who turned water into wine, judges words, actions, and the

secrets of our minds and hearts, correctable by repentance. (Gal. 5:19-26; Rev. 20:11-15; 21:4-8; 1 Cor. 6:9-11)

<sup>2</sup> For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, <sup>3</sup> 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*, <sup>4</sup> 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 writer of the epistle told the Hebrew believers that Jesus Christ led the way and is crowned with glory and honor after tasting death for us all. God perfected Him by sufferings to bring many sons to glory. (Heb. 2:10-13; Phil. 3:8-21; 1 Pet. 4:12-19)

#### America the Beautiful

America was founded by the biblical principles of imperfect men, aiming for a more perfect union. Slavery filled the world, but the church rose, a light in the darkness. Livingston, Newton, and Wilberforce led abolitionists in the 18<sup>th</sup>–19<sup>th</sup> centuries.<sup>224</sup> The holiness movement decried slavery till it ended in England; next Spain ended it; then President Lincoln abolished it in America after men bled and died in a war to free the slaves.

At a time when the whole world is precarious, churches are turning away from the Spirit and the cross. Only those with ears can hear the forewarning: "Come out of Babylon!" Either we renew our minds or are left behind. When Babylon entered Jerusalem by Antiochus, many Jews lived like Greeks. She plays the harlot in the nation's capital and seduces the leaders of our land.

<sup>3</sup> O LORD, do not your eyes look for truth? You have struck them down, but they felt no anguish. You have consumed them, but they refused to take correction. They have made their faces harder than rock; they have refused to repent.
<sup>4</sup> Then I said, "These are only the poor; they have no sense; for they do not know the way of the LORD, the justice of their God. <sup>5</sup> I will go to the great and will speak to them, for they know the way of the LORD, the justice of their God."
But they all alike had broken the yoke; they had burst the bonds. (Jer. 5:3-5 ESV)

The city that was once a beacon of hope is condemned. For generations America strained to reach her goal. Blood was spilt for freedom, but in the end, Babylon the Great turns to dust in the wind because her blessings became her gods. (Dan. 2:34-35)

The New World Order was announced by President George H.W. Bush in 1989. <sup>225</sup> "A thousand points of light," he declared, "with law and order under one world government."—chilling words for us who voted only to realize our place in prophecy!

With one hundred ninety-three member states, nearly all the world is in the UN. Allegedly for peace, most of her nations are at war but agree to destroy the chosen people of God.<sup>226</sup> They'll rule the world but will never change the impact of His Word.

New York City and the UN are marked for destruction, and America is about to fall but may be ours to rescue. Her founders had godly principles and dedicated our land to God, her hope in an hour when our sacrifice could restore whatever remains.

Not many years after World War Two, the differences were palpable. Some of us recall the helpless feeling as America began her descent. We'd lacked a relationship with God and had neither known the power of prayer nor imagined our country could fall till then. Some remain in disbelief, turning away from reality just as they turn from the prophecies. But if we only believe what we want to believe, we'll never find the truth.

America was the lighthouse of liberty, and she was Israel's sisterland, but the wicked prevail by her dismissal of God in an hour when the church is divided by lies that obfuscate the truth of Christianity. In the past, revivals had awakened the national conscience; she'd repented by reforms. After decades of separation from God, can she return?

#### Songs Angels Sing

As children we sang, "Jesus loves me ...;" our hearts still recall its lyrics. Out of the mouths of babes thou hast perfected praise. (Mt. 21:16) 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)

<sup>21</sup> 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. (Rev. 18:21 NASB)

America has sinned, and we must confess it to God without pointing fingers; then move forward by faith in Him. In 1962 the Supreme Court broke the Ten Commandments, denying the God who endowed us with rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; in 1973 the same court approved abortion. <sup>227</sup> Roe v. Wade has been overturned by the Supreme Court, but who will stand in for the babies in states where abortions continue?

Before He returns, (in 16:17) ten kings destroy the harlot city at **the last bowl of wrath**, and yet her people refuse to repent:

<sup>19</sup> The great city was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. <u>Babylon the great was remembered in</u> the sight of God, to give her the cup of the wine of His fierce wrath. <sup>20</sup> And every island fled, and no mountains were found. <sup>21</sup> And huge hailstones, weighing about a talent each, came down from heaven upon people; and people blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, because the hailstone plague was extremely severe. (Rev. 16:19-21 NASB) [100 pounds ~ 1 talent]

Like a millstone, she plummets into the sea. Its repercussions echo her destruction: tsunamis flood coastlines; the oceans cover islands, and mountains disappear from their foundations. The signs are all around us; His judgment is at hand.

<sup>7</sup> Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire: your land, strangers devour it in your presence, and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers. ...<sup>9</sup> Except the LORD of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, we should have been like unto Gomorrah. (Is. 1:7, 9)

When all nations serve the dominion of the evil one, they will war against the saints and overcome us; then the true mettle of our faith will be tested. Only a remnant will survive. We all want to reign with Jesus Christ, but we must be willing to share in His sufferings if we would share His glory. Joel sees powerful people, the Lord's immortals, when His army returns to the earth to destroy the wicked. In the Great Day of the LORD, it's clear: no one can thwart the victories of God:

2 Blow ve the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand; <sup>2</sup> A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong: there hath not been ever the like, neither shall there be any more after it, even to the years of many generations. <sup>3</sup>A fire devoureth before them: and behind them a flame burneth: the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them.<sup>4</sup> The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses, and as horsemen so shall they run. <sup>5</sup>Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devoureth the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array. <sup>6</sup> Before their face the people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather blackness. <sup>7</sup> They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march every one on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks: 8 Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk every one in his path: and when they shall fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded.<sup>9</sup> They shall run to and fro in the city: they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief.<sup>10</sup> The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining; <sup>11</sup> And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; and who can abide it? (Joel 2:1-11) [They are mightier than men.]

A strong command sends out His wrath from the Temple in 16:1. Seven angels pour the contents of their bowls onto the earth until, at the last bowl, Babylon the Great is destroyed. As 18 ends, heaven rejoices over and over again in 19:1-6 because the harlot is gone; her smoke rises forever! And there's even more rejoicing: the time has come for the wedding of the Lamb.

At last His Bride is prepared when Yeshua returns to her and reigns from Jerusalem.

The next two chapters frame the order of events after the fall of Babylon the Great. Chapter 19 has heaven's **Hallelujahs!** as the saints repeatedly rejoice with shouts at her destruction. Their praises repeat at Yeshua's return, victorious over His enemies.