



Revelation 18—part 1
Verses 1-5

Read *Revelation 18:1-5*

Questions, Answers, and Review of Sunday's sermon: the chapter addresses God's judgment on the economic sin of Babylon. Heaven first pronounces judgment on commercial Babylon, and then calls on God's people to flee ahead of the wrath. We need to take very practical and serious warning about the danger of the world's system drawing us in today.

Homework: Study Guide Question 11 (page 114)

11. If the current world system is doomed and destined for destruction, what practical steps can you take to make sure you and your family can live "in the world" and become ensnared by its values? Various personal answers. Include in discussion: saturate your mind with the truth of the Word. Check our giving and its priority...where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Keep myself free of consumer debt, so that I become a slave to no one. See also *Psalm 119:9-11, Matthew 6:19-21, Proverbs 22:7*

Going Further

Re-read verse 4. What are the two most viable options for understanding verse 4? 1) a call to physically leave the city. 2) a spiritual call to not participate in the sins of Babylon/world
See also *Isaiah 48:20, Jeremiah 49:18, 50:8 & 40, 51:6 & 45*

What are some other instances where God called his people out prior to judgment? Various answers: Noah story, Lot—Sodom/Gomorrah, Revelation Jewish remnant.
See also *Genesis 19:12-14 & Revelation 12:6*

Verse 5 read: Babylon's sins had "reached to heaven". What are the other English terms used to describe this? Heaped up. Piled up. Joined together. Glued together.
What will they have symbolically built? A Spiritual _____. (= living bricks of sin)

*Interesting: What does the Bible call us/believers? See *1 Peter 2:4-5*

What was mentioned as things that draw us into living like the world? Consumerism, materialism. Not just places we go & people we hang out with, but what we let in our homes: tv, books, internet, movies, music... Can you think of other traps?

One of the very real dangers, today and in the future, is to be sucked in to the world's system/values. Discuss. What Biblical truths must we remember to avoid this? _____

Read *2 Corinthians 6:14-17*. What does it mean to be yoked/unequally yoked with unbelievers? [to be in intimate relationship with them. They have influence over us. to be partners—dating, marriage, business, ...]