



Revelation 18—part 3
Verses 20-24

Read *Revelation 18:20-24*

Questions, Answers, and Review of Sunday's sermon: this section concludes the judgment on Babylon's economic aspect. Heaven (believers) is told to rejoice at the end of the system. Her judgment is completely, suddenly, and violently fulfilled. God's judgment is shown to also be based on how the world treated His beloved (Israel & the Church)

Homework: Study Guide Question 9 (page 113) & Hebrews 11

9. What gives you hope, knowing that so great a judgment of God will come in the future? Various personal answers. The Word. The Promises of God. The History of God in my life....

What is the main theme of Hebrews chapter 11? Faith. Those who were granted it and how they exercised it in Biblical History. Through it all, it is God who is faithful.

Going Further

How is faith defined in *Hebrews 11:1*? The substance of things hoped for. The evidence of things not seen. How does this definition apply and help in studying Revelation? Our hope in not in this world. In fact, we are told to separate from its influence. Even though we cannot see (visually) the coming victory, God grants us the faith to continue in Him.

Why do you think the Holy Spirit included a chapter like this (Hebrews 11) in Scripture? Various answers. To insure and secure our hope and that of end-times Christians
See also *Romans 15:4*

We have clearly seen that Revelation shows God's judgment on all sin and on all idolatry (false religion & the worship of stuff). From Sunday, what other act from the world stirs God's righteous wrath? How they treat His children (Israel & the Church), His messengers (Apostles, Prophets, witnesses), & His Son.
See also *Zechariah 2:8, 2 Chronicles 36:16, 2 Thessalonians 1:6-8, & John 12:48-49*

Keeping all this in mind, consider the following: In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said to love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who treat you spitefully. Discuss both the obvious and deeper meaning of this command. Obvious: In His earthly ministry, Jesus did not respond with evil, violence toward His enemies. Part of our Christians witness is to love all and not respond like the world. Deeper: the person who just persecuted, mocked, or injured us (for being a Christian) just, right then, added to their own judgment on the Day of the Lord. See also *Romans 12:19-21*

What does the Revelation text keep reminding us about the comfort, joy, and peace of this world vs. the comfort, joy, and peace of eternity? The worldly one's are fake, empty, often lies, and so very temporary. The eternal ones, in Christ, are forever and complete. We are not home yet. We will not be problem, turmoil free until heaven.

Input: Please take some time to share what parts of the Revelation study have been the most challenging. Where would our review time best be spent?