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BABYLON

SEELEY D. KINNE

THE ANCIENT CITY

One of the first cities that was built after the flood was Babylon, from Babel, meaning confusion. Babylon was so named because there Jehovah confounded the languages of men and confused the builders who proposed to build a tower that would reach as high as heaven. Nimrod was the name of their king and leader. He stood out as a man of great ability and was said to be a mighty hunter.

It is related that the tower of Babel had various rooms and altars for worship, as you ascended its climbing ascent, arranged for idol worship and demon worship and immoral practices.

THE OCCULT HUNTER

Ancient history records that Nimrod and his wife, who had a son

named Tammuz, were both idol worshippers. We do not know how, but by some means Nimrod hunted till he discovered secrets of that infamous art of consorting and communicating with evil spirits and demons. They thus became the fathers and founders of demon worship and sorcery which has ever since bewitched and deceived and destroyed multitudes. It is a thing which Jehovah holds in extreme abhorrence, for the reason that it is destructive of every good and right desire and motive in the heart of man, and makes it almost impossible for one contaminated therewith to get back to God, or to attain a good proper poise of character.

From the time that Nimrod originated demon control and obsession of men by evil spirits down to the present, the practice has grown, gaining wider scope and deeper hold and fuller possession of its victims, till our so-called civilization is honeycombed with its various forms in many styles and degrees. "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, now she is a haunt of

demons, the den of all foul spirits, a cage for every foul and loathsome bird." Rev. 18:2. (Moffatt).

THE MODERN GREAT CITY OF BABYLON

It is so named by the one who gave the revelation to John because it is the full grown perpetuation of the ancient city of that name. It has the same luxurious extravagance and demon worship and operation of evil powers and influence that originated in Nimrod's city. The description of this last day Babylon is given in Rev. 16:18, continuing through chapters seventeen, eighteen and 19:1-3. This account is described from several viewpoints.

ASPECTS, PHASES, AND CHARACTER

It is named as the great commercial system of the world and includes all the great cities of the world. It is civilization with its money, merchants, merchandise, sea traders, musicians, craftsmen, great men with riches of invention, art, education, polish, palaces, great works, delica-

cies, and "excess of luxuries." See Rev. 16:19; 18:1-23.

GOVERNMENT

In this great city Babylon, is also seen the highest rulership and exercise of governmental power and authority, extending over the kings of the earth. See Rev. 17:18.

A COLOSSAL AGGREGATION

Dr. C. I. Scofield, in his Bible notes, page 1342, says that the Greek word "Kosmos, in the sense of the present world-system, the ethically bad sense of the word, refers to the order arrangement under which Satan has organized the world of unbelieving mankind upon his cosmic principles of force, greed, selfishness, ambition and pleasure. This world-system is imposing and powerful with armies and fleets; is often outwardly religious, scientific, cultured and eloquent; but seething with national and commercial rivalries and ambitions, is upheld in a real crisis only by armed force and is dominated by satanic principles."

So we see here a vast world-system of commerce, business, fi-

nance, education, and government. This is the great Modern Babylon, the last day confederation.

MODERN CHRISTIANITY

But wait! there is more to be revealed, another angle to be observed. One of the seven angels whom John had seen pouring out the vials came to him. He was in a trance. "So he bore me away rapt in the Spirit to the desert." (Moffatt) That John may be unmolested and unaffected by anything external he is taken to the desert; away from all sights and scenes and doings, where there is nothing to divert, color, or bias the vision. Here he is shown one of those wondrous panoramic vision pictures which are often given in this book. He sees "a woman sit upon a scarlet colored beast, full of names of blasphemy." She was gorgeously arrayed, "having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness." On her forehead a placard says, "Babylon the great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth." Chapter 17.

Ah! here is a special, separate

vision to show that Babylon, that great city, has also a religious aspect. She is a woman; a religious harlot church. The beast, the governmental ruling power, in company with the harlot, persecuted the true Ecclesia. Now the harlot rides the beast and rules the kings of earth. This is an act of fornication. She is also a drunkard on the blood of the martyrs.

She was once a fair, chaste virgin. She did not know the world. She lived in the heavenlies. She meddled not with world governments. She was despised and hated and martyred. Then she courted education and flirted with the world; dabbled in government; came down out of the heavenlies. She lost her virtue, grace, and power and became the harlot church. At the reformation she washed away her filth in the blood of Jesus and came forth again. Yet again and again virgin movements have brought great blessing to men, but soon degenerated into harlot daughters. Today we have these harlot daughters as shells of form without the kernel of life.

A DEN OF DEMONS, HOLD OF EVIL SPIRITS, CAGE OF UNCLEAN BIRDS

A mighty angel with a light that illuminates the world, and with loud cry, doubtless assisted by human heralds, penetrates the world with the message that great Babylon has fallen and become permeated with many kinds of demon powers. Spirit princes of dark principalities sit above the capitols of the world and control governments with demons of hate, war, selfishness, and aggrandizement. Business is ruled by demons of greed, covetousness, and selfishness. Society is wrecked by spirits of pride, display, voluptuousness, etc. Education is polluted by demons of evolution, false science, fiction and movies.

SORCERIES

"By thy sorceries were all nations deceived." Rev. 18:23. Sorcery and witchcraft have filled the world with myriads of familiar spirits such as Spiritualism, Christian Science, New Thought, India Mysticism of the far East, Rosicrucianism, "I Am" move-

ment, and many other cults, the essence and core of which is demon worship or consultation. Heathen worships are filled with infamous, foul, immoral demon practices. The so-called church, in its various formations, is possessed by evil powers of formality, false teachings or doctrines and the works of the flesh as enumerated in Gal. 5:19-21. Babylon the Great is the mother of the abominations of the earth. She has bred them; she has not exorcised them; she has neglected to preach the full Gospel that would prevent or deliver from them. So the Gentile Age ends with the colossal Babylon, which is rich, luxury loving, self indulgent, the bloody persecuter, abominable sorceress—the voluptuous harlot queen; she is a vile nest of demons and evil spirits and powers; “her sins have reached unto heaven.” Rev. 18:5.

ANTICHRIST

Finally out of Babylon comes the Beast, the Antichrist, upon which the fallen harlot church rides on her last trip to perdition. This discover-

ing and exposing and condemning Babylon in her various phases and manifestations, is the first step in her judgment.

The wine of the wrath of her fornications is that evil demon influence that proceeds from her and makes intoxicated those who imbibe her terrible spiritual deceptions.

DELIVERANCE OUT OF BABYLON

The second step in the judgment of Babylon is a call, “Come out of her, my people.” This does not mean merely to come out of organizations, institutions, and man’s operations; it means to stop drinking the wine of her fornication; that is: partaking of her influence, disposition, and character; delivered from all her self ways, plans and doings; brought out of human dependence and independence of God, and into devotion to Christ, into the control of the Holy Spirit, and ceasing from worships and attachments to natural things to worship of God; every Babylonish trait, tendency and influence taken away. Not alone must we come out

of Babylon, but Babylon must be taken out of us.

It is no small matter to be rid of the warps, snarls and gnarls of one's nature, or to break from the traditions believed for a lifetime, or the habits that have been riveted upon us by a thousand indulgencies. Only direct contact with the supernatural power of God can liberate us. We shall have to receive clear and direct revelation and partake of spiritual gifts and prophetic workings. The mass of God's people are enthralled. It is an heroic task to be freed from all Babylonish taint; but God is going to have such a virgin company who are undefiled with women, (Babylonish churchanity). "These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth." Rev. 14:3-5.

BABYLON DESTROYED

The third and final step is the utter desolation of Babylon; a judgment which annihilates her forever. "Great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath." Rev. 16:18-21.

Physical Babylon suffers a great convulsion. The physical earth sees thunder and hail and the greatest earthquake ever known. The cities are wrecked; islands and mountains flee away. That rich, sumptuous, luxuriously decked city of civilization with its arts, sciences, education, governments, and business, goes down under the judgments of an angry God. The civil powers over which the whore ruled, turns upon her with bitter hatred; strips her luxuriant dress from her and makes her naked; eats her flesh and burns her with fire. A sample of this has been given in Russia and is yet to follow elsewhere. There is no way of escape but to flee from her abominations. Oh! people of God! Be warned ere you are swallowed up in her judgment plagues.