

THE DESTRUCTION OF THE ECONOMIC SYSTEM Studies in the Revelation

Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy,
and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near.

Revelation 1:3

TWO BABYLONS: THE RELIGIOUS AND THE ECONOMIC

The religious aspect of the kingdom of the antichrist:

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters, with whom the kings of the earth committed acts of immorality, and those who dwell on the earth were made drunk with the wine of her immorality."

And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness; and I saw a (what) woman sitting (where) on a scarlet beast, full of blasphemous names, having seven heads and ten horns.

The woman was clothed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a gold cup full of abominations and of the unclean things of her immorality, and on her forehead a name was written, a mystery, "BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH."

Revelation 17:1-5

The economic / political aspect of the kingdom of the antichrist:

After these things (Rev. 4:1; 7:9; 15:5; 19:1) I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illumined with his glory. And he cried out with a mighty voice, saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! She has become (1) a dwelling place of demons and (2) a prison of every unclean spirit, and (3) a prison of every unclean and hateful bird.

"For (who) all the nations have (what) drunk of the wine of the passion of her immorality, and (who) the kings of the earth have (what) committed acts of immorality with her, and (who) the merchants of the earth have (what) become rich (how) by the wealth of her sensuality."

Revelation 18:1-3

"Fallen, Fallen..."

And another angel, a second one, followed, saying, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, she who has made all the nations drink of the wine of the passion of her immorality."

Revelation 14:8

"Now behold, here comes a troop of riders, horsemen in pairs." And one said, "Fallen, fallen is Babylon; and all the images of her gods are shattered on the ground."
Isaiah 23:9

THE CALL OF GOD TO HIS PEOPLE:

I heard another voice from heaven, saying (what), "Come out of her, (who) my people, (why) so that you will not participate in her sins and receive of her plagues; for her sins have piled up (lit. to glue together, to join) as high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities."

Revelation 18:4-5

Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever? Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, "I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE." Therefore, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE," says the Lord. "AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN; and I will welcome you."
2 Corinthians 6:14-17

Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to (1) visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to (2) keep oneself unstained by the world.

James 1:27

You adulteresses, do you not know that (what) friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

James 4:4

Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

For all that is in the world, the (1) lust of the flesh and the (2) lust of the eyes and the (3) boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.

1 John 2:15-17

Question

What happens when the Word of God confronts the very core values of our society... and our own sincerely held beliefs?

For Example

**The history and founding of our Nation
Capitalism and the accumulation of wealth**

Come now, you rich, weep and howl for your miseries which are coming upon you. Your riches have rotted and your garments have become moth-eaten. Your gold and your silver have rusted; and their rust will be a witness against you and will consume your flesh like fire. It is in (when) the last days that you have stored up your treasure. Behold, the pay of the laborers who mowed your fields, and which has been withheld by you, cries out against you; and the outcry of those who did the harvesting has reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. You have lived luxuriously on the earth and led a life of wanton pleasure; (meaning) you have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter.
James 5:1-5

"To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God, says this:
'I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot. So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth. (why) Because you say (your perspective), "I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing," and you do not know that (God's perspective) you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked."
Revelation 3:14-17

But godliness actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment. For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either.

If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content.

But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the (what) love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

But flee from these things, you man of God, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness.

1 Timothy 6:6-11

And He told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man was very productive. And he began reasoning to himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come; take your ease, eat, drink and be merry."

"But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?'

So is the man who stores up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."
Luke 12:16-21

The relationship between husband and wife
The responsibility of parents to their children
The concept of "success" in our culture