BOOTCAMP

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WHO REALLY IS MYSTERY BABYLON?

She is a spiritual city founded by people with hearts and minds that resist truth and have based their existence, lifestyle and religions on the lies of Satan. As descendants of Adam and Eve, her citizens eat from the tree of good and evil and bear its fruit. These people may appear quite Godly, and even be a charitable people that look righteous on the surface. But, as they spread their false doctrines, lies, traditions and culture to God's sheep, they become a part of those Jesus said are the blind, leading the blind into the pit! They are the lawless that hate to be told what to do and resist authority. They are residents of Babylon, Satan's city, and enemies of God.

Babylon is a huge world wide city, alluring and seductive, a complete counterfeit of all that is of God. In fact, Babylon's light and direction comes directly from the angel of light that is her covering.

2 Cor. 11:14

14 And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.

Babylon is owned by Satan. He personally has prepared his people for himself, they are both his bride and his city. They are the perfect counterfeit of God's city, New Jerusalem, the Bride of Christ. Here is the Biblical description of Babylon.

Rev. 17:4

4 The <u>woman</u> (Babylon) was <u>arrayed in purple</u> and <u>scarlet</u> (purple stands for royalty and she appears Godly as she is wearing the color of the blood of Christ), and <u>adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls</u>, having in <u>her</u> hand a <u>golden cup</u> full of <u>abominations</u> and the <u>filthiness</u> of her <u>fornication</u>.

Those that dwell within this city are a part of the body of Antichrist. She looks beautiful, prosperous, religious and regal, but inside she is filthy, cruel, immoral and wickedly clever. Many are fooled that live within her walls. Outside, as stated before, she is the bride of Satan. Inside she harbors the one that is Antichrist.

On the other hand we see the Lord's Bride as described in Revelation 21:9-12.

Rev. 21:9-12

- 9 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife."
- 10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a **great and high mountain** (Sion), and showed me the **great city**, the **holy Jerusalem**, descending out of heaven from God (She is dwelled in by the obedient that live by spiritual laws and Kingdom principles),
- 11 <u>having the glory of God</u>. Her light was like a **most precious stone**, like **a jasper stone**, **clear as crystal** (Her people are innocent and transparent, and the light of God shines through them).
- 12 Also she had a **great and high wall** with <u>twelve gates</u>, and <u>twelve angels</u> at the gates, and <u>names written on them</u>, which are the <u>names of the twelve tribes of</u>

 the children of Israel (her people are born through God, [the lion of Judah] and are true Israel):

New Jerusalem is the home of Israel, the sacred seed, the army of God. On the outside as they unite they form God's Bride, on the inside the body of Christ.

IT IS YOUR CHOICE

Anyone that chooses to do so however, can remain and live in Babylon. I say remain, because we all lived there before we are born again. She is the dwelling place of Adam. All you have to do is accept the lies and deceptions of the world's religions, and continue to be a part of her morals and lifestyle, whereas God demands change and is selective and particular about who enters New Jerusalem. Jesus said:

Rev. 3:12

12 "He who <u>overcomes</u> (<u>resists</u> the world and the wiles and seductions of Babylon), I will make <u>him</u> a <u>pillar in the temple</u> of My God, and <u>he</u> shall go <u>out no more</u>. And I will write on <u>him</u> the <u>name of My God</u> and <u>the name of the city of My God</u>, the <u>New Jerusalem</u>, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And <u>I</u> will <u>write</u> on <u>him</u> My <u>new name</u>.

So you see, if your companions are found among the sexually immoral that prefer and love the things of the world, or are still promoting false doctrines even after hearing truth, then my friends, because of your connection to them, <u>you</u> are in Babylon! New Jerusalem is constructed of truth, peace and Godly principles. Her

people walk in purity and love, whereas Babylon is happily filled with every abomination, lie and deception, and she will self-righteously defend her residents' actions. The choice is yours, you have a free will. New Jerusalem is further described below.

Rev. 21:2-4

- 2 Then I, John, saw the <u>holy</u> city, <u>New Jerusalem</u>, coming down out of heaven from God, <u>prepared as a bride adorned for her husband</u>.
- 3 And I heard a <u>loud voice</u> from <u>heaven saying</u>, "<u>Behold</u>, the <u>tabernacle of God</u> is <u>with men</u>, and <u>He will dwell with them</u>, and <u>they shall be His people</u>. <u>God</u> <u>Himself</u> will be <u>with them</u> and <u>be</u> their <u>God</u>.
- 4 "And <u>God</u> will <u>wipe away every tear</u> from their <u>eyes</u> there shall be <u>no more</u> death, <u>nor sorrow</u>, nor <u>crying</u>. There shall be <u>no more pain</u>, for the <u>former things</u> have <u>passed away."</u>

Now let us take a look at Babylon as she is seen through God's eyes.

Rev. 17:5

5 And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF

THE EARTH. (pain, sickness, addiction, corruption, death, sin and destruction).

SHOULD WE TRY TO HELP OR RENOVATE BABYLON?

The highway leading to Babylon is covered with the blood of God's saints, ones that have already tried to rescue people from her,

Rev. 17:6

6 <u>I saw the woman</u> (Babylon), <u>drunk with the blood of the saints</u> and with the <u>blood of the martyrs</u> of <u>Jesus</u>. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.

One of the more famous people that tried to renovate her was King Josiah. You can read his story in II Chronicles chapter 34, where he tried to fix the evil religious system and save God's people even though God said very plainly He was going to destroy them.

2 Chr. 34:24-25

24 "<u>Thus says</u> the <u>LORD</u>: 'Behold, <u>I will bring calamity on this place</u> and <u>on its</u> inhabitants, all the curses that are <u>written in the book</u> which they have <u>read</u>

before the king of Judah,

25 'because they have forsaken Me and burned incense to other gods that they might provoke Me to anger with all the works of their hands. Therefore My wrath will be poured out on this place, and not be quenched."

But, like many today, Josiah tried to make things right anyway. He thought surely if he removed what God hated, God would change His mind. But God had already stated that His wrath would not be quenched and He meant it! He did not add "if they repent or change". He stated plainly that He would destroy the people and the place! But Josiah tried anyway.

2 Chr. 34:33

33 Thus <u>Josiah</u> <u>removed all the abominations</u> from <u>all the country</u> that <u>belonged</u> to the children of Israel, and <u>made</u> all who were present in Israel diligently serve the <u>LORD</u> their God. <u>All his days</u> they did <u>not depart</u> from <u>following the LORD</u> God of their fathers.

In chapter thirty five we see that he even restored the feasts of the Lord. In fact no Passover had been kept in Israel and celebrated as greatly as Josiah's feast since the prophet Samuel was alive. But guess what? Josiah died in battle defending what he

loved! Josiah you see loved his people, his country and his faith more than he loved God. He meant well, but he was disobedient and wanted to do things his way. God loved Josiah, but he was in the wrong place at the wrong time. He would pay for his disobedience with his life, if he would have left as God commanded, and separated from the sinful people and place, possibly he and his personal family at least would have been saved. It worked for Noah and God is not a respecter of persons. But Josiah did things his way and in his own strength, and the next scripture was the end result.

2 Chr. 35:23-24

- 23 And <u>the archers shot Josiah</u> and <u>the king said</u> to his servants, "<u>Take me away</u>, for <u>I am severely wounded</u>."
- 24 <u>His servants</u> therefore <u>took him out of that chariot</u> and <u>put him</u> in the <u>second</u> chariot that he had, and <u>they brought him to Jerusalem</u>. **So he died**, and was <u>buried</u> in one of the tombs of his <u>fathers</u>. And all <u>Judah</u> and <u>Jerusalem</u> mourned for <u>Josiah</u> (He was Israel, but he wouldn't separate).

CAN BABYLON BE SAVED?

Now let us investigate what God has told us about Babylon?

Rev. 14:8-10

8 And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

9 Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If <u>anyone worships</u> the beast (Satan) and <u>his image</u> (his bride, and made up of <u>evil</u> mankind), and receives his mark on his <u>forehead</u> or on his <u>hand</u> (or <u>lends</u> his <u>mind</u> and <u>hands</u> to <u>help</u>),

10 "he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation (there is our answer). He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb (We can choose to see if God really means this or not).

The facts are however, there is no forgiveness for those that are a part of Babylon, especially by choice, and no mercy will be shown to those that insist on trying to change her lifestyle or her people! Now let us look at Revelation 18:2-4.

- 2 And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird!
- 3 "For <u>all the nations</u> have <u>drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication</u>, the <u>kings of the earth</u> have <u>committed fornication</u> with <u>her</u> and the <u>merchants of</u> <u>the earth</u> have become <u>rich</u> through the <u>abundance of her luxury</u>."
- 4 And I heard <u>another</u> voice from heaven <u>saying</u>, "Come out of her, my people, lest you <u>share in her sins</u>, and lest you <u>receive of her plagues</u>.

Let us read verse four again to really establish this scripture in our spirits. "Come out of her, my people, lest <u>you</u> share in her sins, and lest <u>you</u> receive of her plagues. How plain this warning is! There is nothing symbolic or hard to understand about this command. So if God tells us to get out of Babylon, because His wrath is to be loosed on her, should we bull-headedly be determined to help her? I think not! Even if our hearts are right in just simply wanting to help people, especially our friends and family, we still would be no better than Josiah. We would be much wiser to leave in obedience to God's warning, and walk holy ourselves, so we can perhaps be a beacon or light that will draw those we love away from Babylon by our example. If they are interested, or if God can draw them out, we can show them

the way to the government of God where they will be covered and delivered from the evil ones and taught truth. In this way our lives become an example of how to enter the city of refuge (New Jerusalem). God said we are the light of the world.

Rev. 21:23-27

- 23 The city (New Jerusalem) had <u>no need of the sun</u> or of the <u>moon to shine in it</u>, for the <u>glory of God illuminated it</u>. The <u>Lamb</u> is its <u>light</u>. (<u>Jesus through</u> His <u>government</u> as the head of the body of Christ.)
- 24 And the <u>nations</u> of <u>those who are saved</u> shall <u>walk in its light</u> (be obedient to God's government), and <u>the kings of the earth</u> bring <u>their</u> glory and honor <u>in</u>to it (The Kingdoms of this world will become the Kingdom of our God).
- 25 Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there).
- 26 And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the <u>nations</u> into it.
- 27 But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

Babylon (false religion) and the Beast (man's governments) cannot enter God's city, so we have just read another reason why to be separate. Let us look at the scripture in II Corinthians that will help enforce our thinking.

II Corinthians 6:17-18

17 Therefore "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you (He doesn't receive us if we refuse to separate)."

18 "I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty (We cannot even be a part of God's family if we remain a part of the world's people and lifestyle.)

Hopefully this teaching will convince you that we are not to rescue people from Babylon. This is God's job, and if He can't draw them we surely cannot do anything. We are to depart, separate from them, come out of their culture, run!

SO AGAIN IN CLOSING, WHAT IS BABYLON?

The answer is: She is the combination of all the corrupt religious systems of this world and in her are found all the mystery religions. In fact, to sum it all up, she is any religion that does not worship the one true God, Yahweh in both spirit and in truth. She is a city of people that walk according to the world's morals and culture, bearing the fruit of Satan and yet, as in the case of the traditional church, is trying to look and talk as though they are Godly.

2 Tim. 3:1-5 speaks of this:

- 1 But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:
- 2 For men will be <u>lovers of themselves</u>, <u>lovers of money</u>, <u>boasters</u>, <u>proud</u>, <u>blasphemers</u>, <u>disobedient to parents</u>, <u>unthankful</u>, <u>unholy</u>,
- 3 <u>unloving</u>, <u>unforgiving</u>, <u>slanderers</u>, <u>without self-control</u>, <u>brutal</u>, <u>despisers of good</u>,
- 4 <u>traitors</u>, <u>headstrong</u>, <u>haughty</u>, <u>lovers of pleasure</u> rather than <u>lovers of God</u>,
- 5 having <u>a form of godliness</u> but <u>denying its power</u> (or the power of holiness and truth). And <u>from such people turn away!</u>

There it is again, the same warning! Every scripture pertaining to this wicked supernatural city and her people instructs and warns us to separate quickly! In closing, let us allow the scriptures found in Revelation 22:11-15 to conclude this lesson.

Rev. 22:11-15

11 <u>He</u> who is <u>unjust</u>, let him be <u>unjust still</u>; he who is <u>filthy</u>, let him be <u>filthy still</u>; he who is <u>righteous</u>, let him be <u>righteous still</u>; he who is <u>holy</u>, let him be <u>holy still</u>.

12 And behold, <u>I am coming quickly</u>, and <u>My reward is with Me</u>, to give to <u>every one</u> according to <u>his work</u>,

- 13 I am the <u>Alpha and the Omega</u>, the Beginning and the End, the <u>First and the Last</u> (In other words, He has all authority, do not question Him).
- 14 <u>Blessed</u> are those who <u>do His commandments</u>, that they may have <u>the right</u> to the <u>tree of life</u>, and <u>may enter</u> through <u>the gates into the city</u> (only the holy can enter New Jerusalem).
- 15 But <u>outside</u> are <u>dogs</u> and <u>sorcerers</u> and <u>sexually immoral</u> and <u>murderers</u> and <u>idolaters</u>, and <u>whoever loves and practices a lie</u>.