

Morning Sermon December 12, 2021

“Hark, the Herald Angels Preach: Angel #2 Babylon is Fallen...”

Revelation 14:8

<sup>8</sup> 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.” Revelation 14:8 (NKJV)

I. *O.T. Babylon’s actions fit the type –*

1. *Babylon was the Old Testament City that destroyed Jerusalem, destroyed Solomon’s Temple, took its gold, took its children –*

A. *Besieged Jerusalem -*

**1 In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. Daniel 1:1 (NKJV)**

B. *God gave / the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand Daniel 1:2 A and -*

C. *Some of the articles of God’s house -*

<sup>2</sup> ... with some of the articles of the house of God, which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the articles into the treasure house of his god. Daniel 1:2 B

D. *And some of the children, the best of the best -*

<sup>3</sup> Then the king instructed Ashpenaz, the master of his eunuchs, to bring some of the children of Israel and some of the king’s descendants and some of the nobles, <sup>4</sup> young men in whom *there* was no blemish, but good-looking, gifted in all wisdom, possessing knowledge and quick to understand, who *had* ability to serve in the king’s palace, and whom they might teach the language and literature of the Chaldeans. Daniel 1:3–4 (NKJV)

2. *Why did God allow Jerusalem to be taken? The hearts of the people were ALREADY TAKEN, this was spiritual fornication -*

**<sup>17</sup> Do you not see what they do in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem?** <sup>18</sup> The children gather wood, the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead dough, to make cakes for the queen of heaven; and *they* pour out drink offerings to other gods, that they may provoke Me to anger. <sup>19</sup> Do they provoke Me to anger?” says the LORD. “*Do they not provoke themselves, to the shame of their own faces?*” <sup>20</sup> Therefore thus says the Lord God: “Behold, My anger and My fury will be poured out on this place—on man and on beast, on the trees of the field and on the fruit of the ground. And it will burn and not be quenched.” Jeremiah 7:17–20 (NKJV)

3. *Yet, Daniel and his friends, even while captive children, resisted Babylon’s persuasions and persecutions / her temptations and tortures -*

A. *Wining and Dining –*

... because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.” Revelation 14:8 B (NKJV)

<sup>8</sup> But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king’s delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself. Daniel 1:8 (NKJV)

B. *They resisted peer pressure, music, and fire, ... All nations bowed / All nations drank / All nations were deranged; they all gladly bowed to Nebuchadnezzar’s false god, but –*

<sup>16</sup> Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. <sup>17</sup> If that *is the case*, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver *us* from your hand, O king.

<sup>18</sup> But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up.” Daniel 3:16–18 (NKJV)

II. *O. T. Babylon’s two kings personify the type –*

1. *Nebuchadnezzar was exceedingly PROUD –*

<sup>28</sup> All *this* came upon King Nebuchadnezzar. <sup>29</sup> At the end of the twelve months he was walking about the royal palace of Babylon. <sup>30</sup> The king spoke, saying, “Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for a royal dwelling by my mighty power and for the honor of my majesty?” Daniel 4:28–30 (NKJV)

A. *Nebuchadnezzar saw Babylon as his, as something he built, by his mighty power and for the honor of his majesty ...*

B. *Pride made him distort God’s revelation and build the idol he did in Daniel 3. In the dream the statue had a head of gold, in Nebuchadnezzar’s reimagination of God’s revelation, the entire statue is gold...*

2. *For Nebuchadnezzar “death” was a solution –*

A. *It was a solution too often ...*

<sup>12</sup> For this reason the king was angry and very furious, and gave the command to destroy all the wise *men* of Babylon. <sup>13</sup> So the decree went out, and they began killing the wise *men*; and they sought Daniel and his companions, to kill *them*. Daniel 2:12–13 (NKJV)

*B. It was a solution even when he started to recognize God –*

<sup>28</sup> Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying, "... <sup>29</sup> Therefore I make a decree that any people, nation, or language which speaks anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made an ash heap; because there is no other God who can deliver like this." Daniel 3:28–29 (NKJV)

*C. This is one of the ways of ungodly men, man, man, man –*

<sup>12</sup> There is a way *that seems* right to a man, but its end is the way of death. Proverbs 14:12 & 14:25 (NKJV)

- *It was the "way" of pharaoh –*

<sup>22</sup> So Pharaoh commanded all his people, saying, "Every son who is born you shall cast into the river, and every daughter you shall save alive." Exodus 1:22 (NKJV)

- *It was the way of Hitler, his solution for the Jews*
- *It is the way of our government, since we have taken God out of our schools and rules, abortion has become the solution, allowing fornication, without responsibility –*

3. *Nebuchadnezzar's son / grandson - Belshazzar- is worse than his father in arrogant pride, idolatry and atheism, for him the handwriting was on the wall, his kingdom was judged –*

<sup>25</sup> "And this is the inscription that was written: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN <sup>26</sup> This is the interpretation of *each* word. MENE: God has numbered your kingdom, and finished it; <sup>27</sup> TEKEL: You have been weighed in the balances, and found wanting; <sup>28</sup> PERES: Your kingdom has been divided, and given to the Medes and Persians." Daniel 5:25–28 (NKJV)

III. *Before Babylon there was Babel, and before even that ... Lucifer / Satan – Genesis 11 / Isaiah 14*

1. *The attempt to build a tower to Heaven was rebellion against God, Who had commanded that they to fill the earth ...*

<sup>9</sup> So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth. Genesis 9:1 (NKJV)

*They did not want to fill the earth, they wanted to build a tower to heaven -*

<sup>4</sup> And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth." Genesis 11:4 (NKJV)

2. *God frustrated this attempt –*

<sup>9</sup> Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth. Genesis 11:9 (NKJV)

3. *Why was Babel and why is Babylon wrong?*

1. *Babel was a 666 effort, a man, man, man against God effort!*

<sup>18</sup> Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number is 666. Revelation 13:18 (NKJV)

2. *Babylon, the historical city, had Nebuchadnezzar as its greatest king, he was a beast of a man, a proud man, until God humbled him –*

A. *Pride was Nebuchadnezzar's downfall, it is true of all men -*

<sup>30</sup> The king spoke, saying, "Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for a royal dwelling by my mighty power and for the honor of my majesty?"

B. *Seven years Nebuchadnezzar was insane and yet MAN, MAN, MAN without God is already insane -*

<sup>32</sup> And they shall drive you from men, and your dwelling *shall be* with the beasts of the field. They shall make you eat grass like oxen; and seven times shall pass over you, until you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses." <sup>33</sup> ... Daniel 4:28–33 (NKJV)

3. *Various kings / rulers / politicians have been humbled and defeated in various ways – Revelation 6:3-8*

4. *Revelation 13, 666 represents the height of man's / Satan's accomplishments without God, a one world government, with no mere human successor –*

<sup>4</sup> So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?" Revelation 13:4 (NKJV)

*Arnold Brevick*