

## JOHN'S REVELATION 18

### NLET

A HEAVENLY MESSENGER ANNOUNCES THE FALL  
OF BABYLON THE GREAT AND THE REASONS FOR IT

1 And,<sup>1</sup> after these things I saw another messenger,

- One who was coming down from out of the Heaven,
  - One who was having authority – great *authority*!
- And, the Earth was illuminated by the Glory *that was* His.

2 And, He shouted with a forceful sound, saying,  
“She has fallen! Babylon the Great has fallen!  
She became

- a dwelling place of demons. and
- a post for every spirit – unclean *ones, that is*, and
- a post for every bird – unclean *ones, that is*, and
- a post for every beast – unclean *ones, that is* – and ones which have been lastingly hated.

3 Because,

- from the passion for the wine<sup>2</sup> of sexual immorality *that is* hers all the ethnicities have lastingly become drunk, and
- the masters – *that is*, the *masters* of the Earth – have committed sexual immorality with her, and
- the merchants of the Earth have become rich from the power of the wantonness from her.”

JOHN HEARS A DIVINE VOICE COMMANDING HIS PEOPLE  
TO COME OUT OF HER AND THE REASONS FOR IT

4 And, I heard another sound from out of the Heaven, saying, “Come out

- from her, the people *who are* Mine,<sup>3</sup> in order that you might not participate together with the moral failures *that are* hers, and

- from the Blows against her, in order that you might not receive *them*.

5 Because,

- the moral failures *that are* hers have piled up to the Heaven, and
- the God has remembered her<sup>4</sup> *and* the unrighteous deeds *that are* hers.”

THE PEOPLE WHO ARE THE GOD'S ASK HIM TO RENDER  
TO BABYLON THE GREAT FITTING PUNISHMENT  
FOR HER DEEDS

6 “Render to her, as also she has rendered to us<sup>5</sup>!  
And, repay her<sup>6</sup> fitting *punishment*<sup>7</sup> in accord with the deeds *that are* hers!

In connection with the cup which she mixed *for us* mix double for her!

7 Inasmuch as she deemed herself<sup>8</sup> *important* and lived wantonly, to the same degree give her torture<sup>9</sup>!

Because, in the heart *that is* hers she says,

- ‘I sit as a queen!’ and
- ‘I am NOT a widow!’ and
- ‘I should by no means see grief!’

8 For this reason in one hour the Blows *that are* hers –

- death and
- grief and
- famine –

shall come.

And, with fire she shall be burned up *completely*.  
Because,

- YaHWeH<sup>10</sup>,
- the God,
- the One Who judged her,

<sup>1</sup> f35 include the conjunction ‘And,’ here. The NU omits it.

<sup>2</sup> f35 has ‘the passion for the wine’ here. The NU has ‘the wine of the passion’.

<sup>3</sup> f35 has the word order ‘from her, the people *who are* Mine,’ here. The NU has ‘the people *who are* Mine, from her,’.

<sup>4</sup> f35 includes the possessive pronoun ‘her’ here. The NU omits it.

<sup>5</sup> f35 includes the dative pronoun translated as ‘to us’ here. The NU omits it.

<sup>6</sup> f35 has ‘her’ here. The NU has ‘the (things)’.

<sup>7</sup> The Greek text literally has ‘render double for double.’ In other words, if the ungodly give double trouble to God’s people, they should receive double punishment.

<sup>8</sup> f35 has ‘herself’ (a reflexive pronoun) here. The NU has ‘her’ (a personal pronoun).

<sup>9</sup> f35 does not include the words ‘and mourning’ here. The NU includes them.

<sup>10</sup> ‘YaHWeH’ – The Greek has the word ‘Lord’ (Κύριος) without a

is STRONG!

GOD'S PEOPLE DESCRIBE THE REACTION OF THE  
MASTERS OF THE EARTH AND THE MERCHANTS OF THE  
EARTH  
TO HER FALL

9 And, the Masters of the Earth – the ones

- who committed sexual immorality with her and
  - who lived wantonly –
- shall lament and shall beat themselves over her whenever they might be seeing the smoke from the burning of her.

10 Having lastingly stood at a long distance away because of the fear of the torture *that was* hers, they keep on saying, “Woe! Woe!

- The City – *that is*, the Great City!
- Babylon!
- The City – *that is*, the Strong City!

Because, *in* one hour the condemnation of you has come!”

11 And, the merchants of the Earth are weeping and lamenting over her. Because, no one is any longer buying the cargo *that is* theirs *in the market* – 12 cargo *consisting*

- of gold, and
- of silver, and
- of stone – *that is*, precious *stone*, and
- of pearl<sup>11</sup>, and
- of fine linen<sup>12</sup>, and
- of purple *cloth*, and
- of silk, and
- of scarlet cloth, and
- of every wood of a tree, and
- of every *kind of* ivory, and

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definite article here. John and other New Testament writers often use this unarticulated word to indicate a reference to YahWeH, the eternally existing God of the Old Testament. This is especially clear in New Testament quotations from the Old Testament where the name YahWeH appears.

<sup>11</sup> f35 has ‘pearl’ here. The NU has ‘pearls’.

<sup>12</sup> f35 has ‘fine linen’ (a noun) here. The NU has ‘a linen thing’ (an adjective).

<sup>13</sup> f35 does not include the words ‘and spice’ here. The NU includes them.

- of every vessel or implement from
  - wood – *that is*, valuable wood, and
  - copper, and
  - iron, and
  - marble,

13 and *cargo of*

- cinnamon, <sup>13</sup> and
  - incense, and
  - perfume, and
  - frankincense, and
  - wine, and
  - olive oil, and
  - fine wheat flour, and
  - grain, and
  - herds of *cattle*, and
  - flocks of *sheep*,
- and *cargo*

- of horses, and
- of carriages, and
- of bodies, and
- *cargo which is* lives of people.”

GOD'S PEOPLE DECLARE TO FALLEN BABYLON THE GREAT  
HER FUTURE CONDITION

14 “And, the time of life’s ripeness<sup>14</sup> *which is* the desire of the psyche *that is* yours<sup>15</sup> has departed from you. And, all the luxurious and splendid things have gone to ruin<sup>16</sup>, away from you. And, no longer shall you by any means find them<sup>17</sup>.”

15 The merchants of these things, the ones who became rich from her, shall stand at a distance on account of the fearfulness of the torture *that is* hers, lamenting, and mourning, 16 and<sup>18</sup> saying, “Woe! Woe! The city –

- the great city,

<sup>14</sup> ‘time of life’s ripeness’ – The Greek word used here refers to the latter part of summer and the fall, the time when people typically gather the produce of their fields, gardens, and orchards.

<sup>15</sup> f35 has ‘which is the desire of the psyche *that is* yours’ here. The NU has ‘that is yours which is the desire of the psyche’.

<sup>16</sup> f35 has ‘have gone to ruin’ (a plural verb) here. The NU has ‘has gone to ruin’ (a singular verb). The subject is plural.

<sup>17</sup> f35 has ‘shall you (singular) ... find them’ here. The NU has ‘them shall you (plural) ... find them’.

<sup>18</sup> f35 include the conjunction ‘and’ here. The NU omits it.

- the one having been lastingly wrapped around with
  - fine linen, and
  - purple cloth, and
  - scarlet cloth, and
- one having been lastingly gilded with
  - gold and
  - stone – precious stone – and
  - pearls<sup>19</sup>!

17 Because, in one hour the wealth – such great wealth – has been stripped away!”

And,

- every steersman, and
- everyone who travels by sea on the ships<sup>20</sup>, and
- seamen, and
- such as earn a livelihood by working the Sea stood at a distance.

18 And, they were crying out, seeing the smoke of the destruction by fire that was hers, saying, “What is similar to the City – *that is*, the Great City?”

19 And, they threw dust on the heads *that were* theirs. And they were crying out<sup>21</sup>,

- lamenting, and
- mourning, and<sup>22</sup>
- saying, “Woe! Woe! The City – the Great City – in connection with which all of the ones having the ships in the Sea were enriched from the wealthiness *that was* hers!

Because, in one hour she has been stripped bare!”

GOD’S PEOPLE COMMAND HEAVEN AND GOD’S PEOPLE TO  
REJOICE IN REFERENCE TO THE GREAT CITY

20 “Be gladdened in reference to her,

- Heaven, and
- the Holy Ones, and
- the Apostles, and
- the Prophets!

Because, the God decided in favor of the judgement *that was* yours *as to what to take* from her!”

JOHN SEES

A VIVIDLY PICTURE OF THE SUDDENNESS OF THE FALL OF  
BABYLON, DESCRIBES HOW ORDINARY HUMAN ACTIVITY  
WILL CEASE, AND GIVES THE REASON FOR IT

21 And, one *heavenly* messenger – *that is*, a strong *one* – lifted a stone similar to a millstone<sup>23</sup> – *that is*, a great *one*. And, he threw *it* into the Sea, saying, “<sup>24</sup> With suddenness Babylon, the great city, shall be overthrown!

And, she should by no means be any longer found.

22 And, a sound

- of citharists, and
- of musicians, and
- of flautists, and
- of trumpeters

should by no means be heard in you any longer.

And, every craftsman of every craft should by no means be found in you any longer.

And, a sound from a mill should by no means be heard in you any longer.

23 And, a light of a lamp should not shine in you any longer.

And, a voice of a bridegroom and a bride should not be heard in you any longer.

Because, the merchants *that are* yours are the great men of the Earth.

Because, in connection with the drug-related sorcery *that is* yours all the Ethnicities have been led astray. 24 And, bloodsheds<sup>25</sup> of prophets and of holy ones were found in her – and *also blood* of all of the ones who have been lastingly slaughtered upon the Earth!

<sup>19</sup> f35 has ‘pearls’ (a plural noun) here. The NU has ‘a pearl’ (a singular noun).

<sup>20</sup> f35 has ‘on the ships’ here. The NU has ‘to a place’.

<sup>21</sup> f35 has ‘they were crying out’ (an imperfect verb) here. The NU has ‘they cried out’ (an aorist verb).

<sup>22</sup> f35 include the conjunction ‘and’ here. The NU omits it.

<sup>23</sup> f35 has ‘millstone’ (a noun) here. The NU has ‘(a thing) made of millstone’ (an adjective).

<sup>24</sup> f35 does not include the adverb translated as ‘In this way’ here. The NU includes it.

<sup>25</sup> f35 has ‘bloodsheds’ (a plural noun) here. The NU has ‘blood’ (a singular noun).