



“The Political and Economic Fall of Babylon”

Part 4

Rev. 18:19-24

Jan. 13, 2019

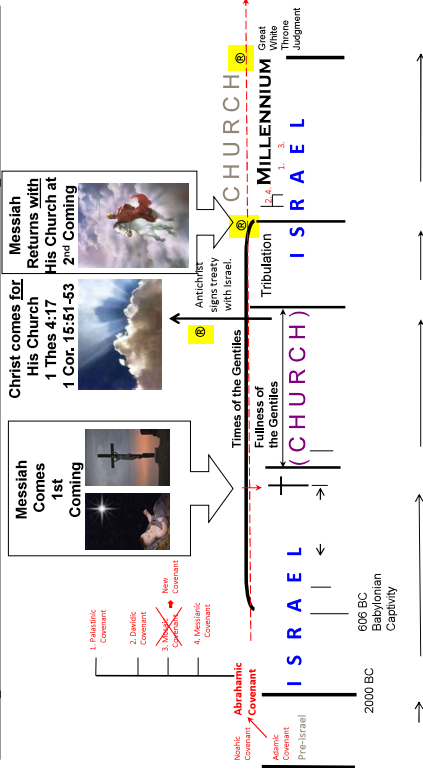
Looking Ahead –

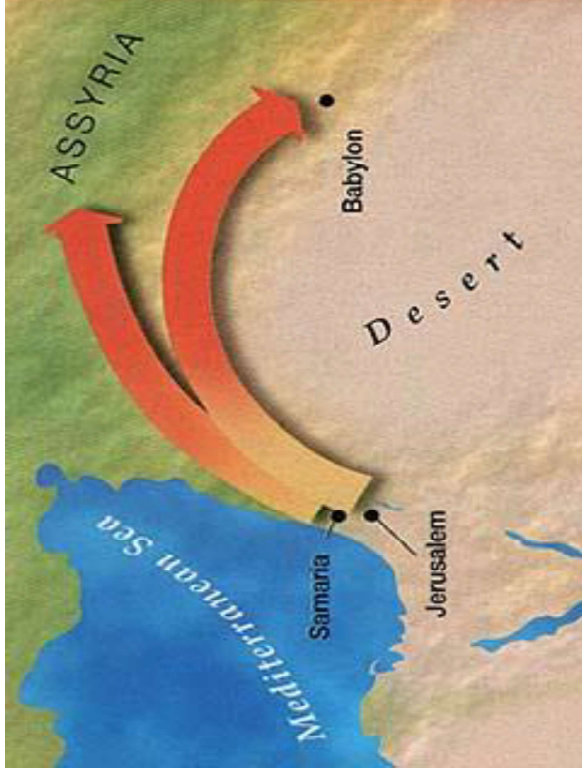
Feb. 3 – No Class – Eden Prairie Community Center is closed for the Super Bowl.

Quiz

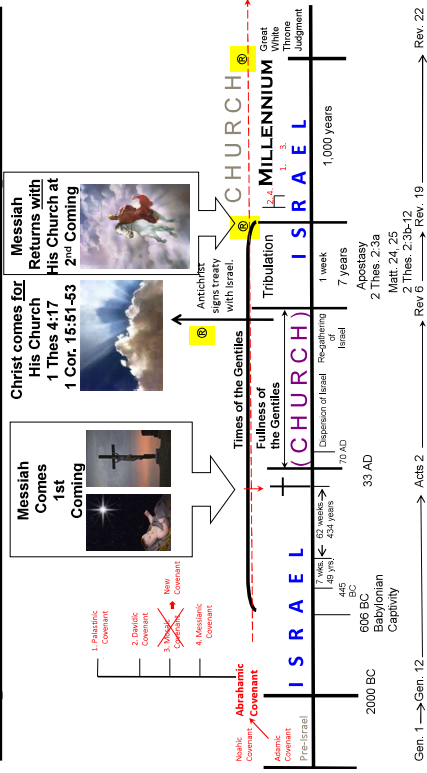
Fill in the timeline.

Comprehensive Biblical View of Future Prophetic Events





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Rev 18:19-24

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3. Daniel 9 Prophecy

Daniel 9:24-27

(24)

70 Weeks

(25b) (26) (27)

March 14, 445 BC

396 BC

April 6, 32 AD

7 Weeks

49 Years

62 Weeks

434 Years

1 Week

69 Weeks

483 Years

173,880 Days

?

7 Years

Decree from Artaxerxes to rebuild Jerusalem

Rebuilding complete

Christ enters Jerusalem as King, lighting the fuse of passion week.

Antichrist signs covenant with Israel.

"And they threw dust on their heads"

- An action indicating great mourning and grief over a great loss.
- Josh 7:6**
- 6 Then Joshua tore his clothes and fell to the earth on his face before the ark of the Lord until the evening, both he and the elders of Israel; and they put dust on their heads.
- 1 Sam 4:12**
- 12 Now a man of Benjamin ran from the battle line and came to Shiloh the same day with his clothes torn and dust on his head.
- Lam 2:10**
- 10 The elders of the daughter of Zion Sit on the ground, they are silent. They have thrown dust on their heads;
- Ezek 27:30**
- 30 And they will make their voice heard over you And will cry bitterly. They will cast dust on their heads, They will wallow in ashes.

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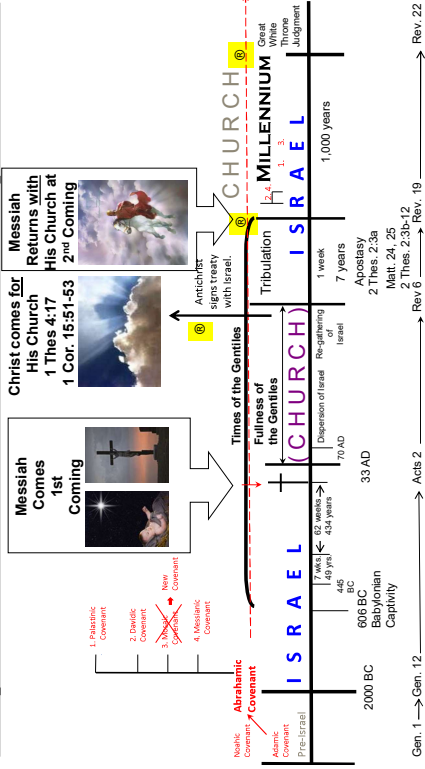
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Notice that all 3 groups have these 3 characteristics in common:

1. They all sob and wail over the loss of their city.
 2. They all declare "how horrible it will be" to live life apart from her.
 3. They are in shock that it happened so quickly.
- So why doesn't God bring judgment on these same people today?
Because today we live in a time of "Divine delayed judgment."

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But when God decides to move in judgment in the Tribulation, He will move rapidly –

1. Rapture of the Church takes place in the "twinkling of an eye."
2. The unleashing of asteroids, 100 pound hailstones fall, earthquakes level, the sun is darkened, the moon becomes like blood, mountains and islands disappear, malignant sores inflict people, the sun scorches mankind, seas, rivers, and springs become blood, and 1/2 of the world's population dies.

Suddenly, rapidly, without warning!

"rejoice" – εὐφρανῶ – to be glad, merry, to rejoice, to be gladden.

2 things are unusual about this word –

1. Most common word for "rejoice" is χαίρω – "to rejoice". εὐφρανῶ – is esp. used for festivals and celebrations of groups of people. "O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets"
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 2. This is in the passive voice –
“allow yourself to receive happiness and joy from the truth of God’s Word about Babylon and its destruction.” This is what God’s Word should do for the believer when it is known and believed.
But how can those in heaven rejoice when these people are going to be damned to hell?”
- 4 reasons: (notice the focus)**
1. They can rejoice because righteousness triumphs.
 2. They can rejoice because Christ is exalted in His wrath and judgment against them.
 3. They can rejoice because these people are receiving their rightful punishment for having rejected Christ, His Word, and every warning given to them to repent.
 4. It displays God’s justice and righteousness which are attributes which are part of His glory.

Active Voice – “John bought a car for his wife”

Middle Voice – “John bought a car for himself”

Passive Voice – “John was given a car”

Ps 96:10-13

10 Say among the nations, “The Lord reigns;

Indeed, the world is firmly established, it will not be moved;
He will judge the peoples with equity.”

11 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;

Let the sea roar, and all it contains;

12 Let the field exult, and all that is in it.

Then all the trees of the forest will sing for joy

13 Before the Lord, for He is coming,

For He is coming to judge the earth.

He will judge the world in righteousness

And the peoples in His faithfulness.

“The world weeps over the destruction of Babylon and the loss of its material luxuries. For the worldling (the one who is a part of the world system), this is all he has; he thinks of life as consisting not only in the abundance of the details of life but also in possessing the luxuries of those details. By contrast, the believer must come out of the system, that is, he must not be controlled by Satan’s system, or by his own lust patterns. We can use the world, enjoy the blessings God gives, but God forbid that such things become our source of security and happiness.”

- J. Hampton Keatherly

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• **“because God has pronounced judgment for you against her.”**

- He promised vindication against Babylon.
- He promised retribution against Babylon.
- He promised vengeance for believers against Babylon.
- This is for you (believers).

Deut 32:43

43 “Rejoice, O nations, with His people;

For He will avenge the blood of His servants,

And will render vengeance on His adversaries,

And will atone for His land and His people.”

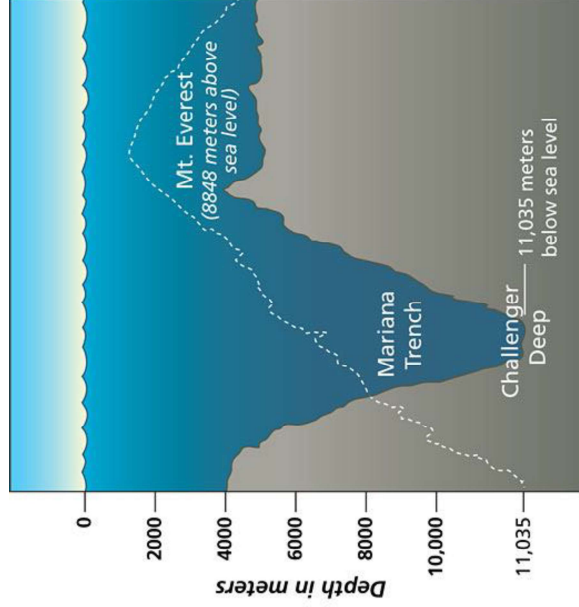
“Individual sinners have an eternity to spend under the judgment of God. Evil systems do not pass into eternity. Their judgment in its full weight falls upon them in this world.”

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Matt 18:3-6

- 3 and said, "Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.
- 4 "Whoever then humbles himself as this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.
- 5 "And whoever receives one such child in My name receives Me;
- 6 but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it would be better for him to have a heavy millstone hung around his neck, and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

Jer 51:60-64

60 So Jeremiah wrote in a single scroll all the calamity which would come upon Babylon, that is, all these words which have been written concerning Babylon.

61 Then Jeremiah said to Seraiah, "As soon as you come to Babylon, then see that you read all these words aloud,

62 and say, 'You, O Lord, have promised concerning this place to cut it off, so that there will be nothing dwelling in it, whether man or beast, but it will be a perpetual desolation.'

63 "And as soon as you finish reading this scroll, you will tie a stone to it and throw it into the middle of the Euphrates,

64 and say, 'Just so shall Babylon sink down and not rise again because of the calamity that I am going to bring upon her; and they will become exhausted.'" Thus far are the words of Jeremiah.

- "When you go to Babylon, make this prophecy: 'Babylon is going to be wiped out.' And to demonstrate it, take a stone, throw it in the middle of the Euphrates; and that's just how Babylon is going to sink down." Seraiah was a prince who accompanied Zedekiah into Babylon. And he is told after reading Jeremiah's prophecies to take the stone and throw it in the river and demonstrate the sinking of Babylon.

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"and no craftsman of any craft will be found in you any longer;"

2. The sound of commerce and industry.

- The machines that manufactured the luxurious cargos that were transported around the world have been silenced.
- The wheels that drove industry are gone.
- The pens that wrote the orders for merchandise have come to a halt.
- The hustle and bustle of a busy city has disappeared.

"and the sound of a mill will not be heard in you any longer;"

3. The sound of food production.

- Food manufacturing will stop.
- Food is already in short supply. This will further the crises.

This picture of a millstone is designed to portray the downfall of the great city and its system as:

(1) Sudden. It will be sudden as when a stone falls into the sea, suddenly, with a splash.

(2) Violent. It will be violent as it hits the water.

(3) Complete, Total. Like a stone which is cast into the sea and sinks out of sight, so the destruction of Babylon will be so complete that it will be found no more, never to rise again.

5 additional areas that were a part of the life of Babylon will be gone:

"And the sound of harpists and musicians and flute-players and trumpeters will not be heard in you any longer;"

1. The sound of music.

- Harpists.
- Musicians.
- Flute-players.
- Trumpeters.
- Satan and the Antichrist are all for music because it is such a powerful tool to influence and control people.
- Music is neutral – it can be used for good and it can be used for evil. Music's purpose is to express emotions. We use it to soothe, psych up, woo, enrage, sadden and cheer each other, or ourselves. We identify places with certain music and emotions – Orchestra Hall, Lake Harriet Bandshell, Northrop Auditorium, Target Center or New Orleans, Disney World, Williamsburg, VA, Times Square, NYC.
- Think of our current culture – what if you were to shut down all music? Music that is played on radio, TV, electronic devices (computers, ipads, ipods, iPhones, android devices) CD's, DVD's, music played in retail stores, stadiums, in advertising commercials, businesses, hotels, bars, lounges, airports, rock concerts. Music is everywhere. It is a huge industry.

Worldwide: 130 billion; U.S.: 8.7 billion

23 "and the light of a lamp will not shine in you any longer;"

4. The lights go out.

- In a city that is living 24 hrs./day with only lights for them to see (5th Bowl Judgment, Rev. 16:10), God destroys even the light that they have. Symbolic: if you don't live up to the light that you have, even what you have will be taken away from you.
- No doubt Babylon with all of its wealth and opulence was at one time a bright and dazzling place.
- Now it is black with only a flicker of flame and molten ash.

“and the voice of the bridegroom and bride will not be heard in you any longer;”

- This represents several things:
 - **Happiness.** Weddings are a happy occasion. No more.
 - **New beginning.** Weddings are new beginnings for the couple. No more.
 - **Hope for the future.** Weddings look forward to a fulfilled and productive life together. No more.
- Think about it. How sad and tragic this is: God began creation with the ordinance of marriage and now because of sin and evil, that holy ordinance has been stopped.
- **Bottom Line:** People that escaped to the outside of the city will find nothing is left.

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Next week we will begin chapter 19 which will switch our focus to a praise and worship gathering in heaven, then the marriage of the Lamb, the Second coming of Christ, the War of Armageddon, and the escorting of the first 2 residents into Hell.

“for your merchants were the great men of the earth, because all the nations were deceived by your sorcery.”

Why did judgment come to Babylon?

- Because these merchants of Babylon, these great men who the world admires, honors, and looks up to, led all the world to the altar of the god of materialism.
- The world was deceived into thinking happiness, security, and the meaning of life itself would come through the accumulation of material wealth.
- Satan, the Antichrist, and False Prophet used every form of sorcery (drugs which disorient, mysticism, demonism, occult practices, signs, and wonders – see Is. 47:12,13) to deceive the world into believing utopia is just around the corner. “Only one thing is stopping it from happening – God – and we will take care of Him at Armageddon.”

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- Not only did the leaders deceive and corrupt the world through materialism but they also corrupted and deceived the world into believing that believers were the cause of much of the world's problems and they needed to be eliminated.
- **“slain”** violently murdered.
- This is identical to religious Babylon.

Rev 17:6

6 And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus."

- Tens of thousands of believers (prophets, pastors, saints, evangelists, missionaries, anyone who names the name of Christ and is a true believer) have been slaughtered by both atheistic and religious people. Religion was brought to judgment in chapter 17. Now godless people are brought to judgment in ch. 18.

- The dismantling of the world system is complete.



**Fanny Crosby
(1820–1915)**

From a young age, Fanny Crosby learned about the love of God at the knee of her grandmother, who would read to her from the Bible and taught her how to pray.

While Fanny Crosby is considered the hymn queen, she was 40 years old before she began writing hymns.

Crosby wrote this hymn in 1882.

Once she was asked, “Is there a special hymn written for your conversion experience?”

Fanny replied, “I would write many hymns to describe the joy of my salvation. The one that stands out the most to me right now is this one.” She began to sing in her beautiful soprano voice this particular hymn



**Fanny Crosby
(1820–1915)**

William J. Kirkpatrick, whom Crosby often teamed with for her songs, provided the music for this popular hymn.

The hymn originally had five stanzas, although the last stanza is often omitted from hymnals today.

Fanny Crosby embraced her blindness saying,

“When I get to heaven, the first face that shall ever gladden my sight will be that of my Savior!””

She saw the face of her Savior on February 12,

1915 at the age of 94.

However, she left a massive body of work to inspire and invoke thought and worship to God.

REDEEMED, HOW I LOVE TO PROCLAIM IT!

1. Redeemed, how I love to proclaim it!
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;
Redeemed through His infinite mercy,
His child and forever I am.

Refrain

Redeemed, redeemed,

Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;

Redeemed, redeemed,

His child and forever I am.

3. I think of my blessed Redeemer,
I think of Him all the day long;
I sing, for I cannot be silent;
His love is the theme of my song.

Refrain

4. I know I shall see in His beauty

The King in whose law I delight;

Who lovingly guardeth my footsteps,

And giveth me songs in the night.

Refrain

2. Redeemed, and so happy in Jesus,

No language my rapture can tell;

I know that the light of His presence

With me doth continually dwell.

Refrain

5. I know there's a crown that is waiting,

In yonder bright mansion for me,

And soon, with the spirits made perfect,

At home with the Lord I shall be.

Refrain