

# THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION

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## Mission Statement

This study of the Book of Revelation gives special attention to the testimony it provides concerning our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. “The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy” (Rev 19:10; cp. 1:2), leading us to worship and serve Him in everything.

- I.** What you have seen (Rev 1).
- II.** What is now (Rev 2–3)—the seven churches of Asia Minor.
- III.** What will take place after these things (Rev 4–22).
  - A.** The Seven Seals (4:1–8:1)
  - B.** The Seven Trumpets (8:2–11:19)
  - C.** The Unholy Trinity (12:1–14:20)
  - D.** The Seven Bowls (15:1–16:21)
  - E.** The Great Harlot (17:1–18)
  - F.** The Judgment of Babylon (18:1–24)
    1. The Declaration of Judgment (18:1–3)
      - a. The Glorious Angel with Great Authority (v. 1)
        - “another” (of the same kind, cf. 17:1 and 14:8).
        - Divinely delegated authority impacting the earth.
        - Lit up the earth with his glory (cp. 16:10).
      - b. The Angel’s Proclamation (vv. 2–3)
        - Babylon the great is fallen (v. 2a; cf. Isa 21:9).
        - Babylon becomes a dwelling place of demons and unclear spirits (v. 2b; cp. Isa 13:21–22; Rev 9:1–14).
        - Babylon caused all nations to commit spiritual fornication, idolatry (v. 3a).
        - By her luxurious immoralities Babylon enriched the merchants (v. 3b).
    2. The Description of Judgment (18:4–24)
      - a. God Calls His People out of Babylon (v. 4; cf. Isa 48:20; Jer 50:8; 51:6, 9, 45; 2 Cor 6:14–18).
      - b. God Remembers Her Iniquities (v. 5; cf. Hos 8:13; 9:9; Jer 14:10).
      - c. God Repays Babylon Double Recompense (v. 6; cf. Ps 137:8; Isa 40:2; Jer 50:15, 29).

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- d. God Destroys Babylon for Her Pride (vv. 7–8; cf. Prov 6:16–17; 16:18; Isa 14:12–21; 47:5–11; Jer 50:29–32).
- e. Witnesses Lament Babylon’s Judgment (vv. 9–19).
  - Kings (vv. 9–10; cp. 17:16–17).
  - Merchants (vv. 11–17a).
  - Shipmasters (vv. 17b–19).
- f. Rejoicing in Heaven (v. 20)
  - All of heaven’s citizens, including the prophets and the apostles.
  - The saints will receive just recompense for their martyrdom.
  - Contrast the three woes (vv. 10, 16, 19) with the summons to heaven’s inhabitants to “Rejoice!”
- g. Final Pronouncement of Judgment (vv. 21–24)
  - A millstone cast into the sea (v. 21a; cf. Jer 51:61–64; Matt 18:6).
  - Total desolation (vv. 21b–23a; cf. Jer 25:10, Jerusalem; Ezek 26:13, Tyre).
  - Babylon’s sorcery (v. 23b)—*pharmakeia* associates the occult with drugs.
  - Babylon’s blood guilt (v. 24; cf. 6:10; 11:7; 13:7, 15; 16:6; 17:6)

### Questions for Discussion

- a. What are the evidences in Revelation 18 that Babylon is a literal city?
- b. Why has God given so much space in the Bible to prophecies concerning Babylon?

### Implications Regarding Jesus Christ

- ▶ Jesus is Babylon’s enemy.
- ▶ Jesus is Babylon’s judge.
- ▶ Jesus (the Lord God; 1:8) is strong/mighty.
- ▶ Jesus’ kingdom will replace the kingdoms of this world.