

Overcoming Babylon Part 1
Understanding the Influence

I. Key Components of the “Reset”

A. Mary of Bethany lifestyle (Luke 10:39)

1. Leading from His Feet
2. Living from His Feet
3. Wholehearted devotion with the First commandment in First place

B. Spiritual Family (Eph 3:14)

1. Celebrating one another
2. Championing one another
3. Challenging one another
4. Comforting one another
5. Fighting for one another, looking after one another. Fighting for each other where your own ambitions don't supersede your ability to fight for each other's destiny. Fight for the dream of God for each person.

C. Forerunner Message

1. Preparing our hearts for the coming massive Revival
2. Readyng our hearts for all the drama of the Return of the Lord
3. Transitional Generations
 - a. Moses during the Exodus
 - b. Jesus and the Apostles
 - c. Church at the end of the age

II. The Unique Wickedness of the End of The Age

Revelation 17:1-6 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and talked with me, saying to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters, 2 with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication." 3 So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. 4 The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication. 5 And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. 6 I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.

A. The longest prophecies in the Old and New Testament are about Babylon

1. Jeremiah 50-51

2. Revelation 17-18

B. The picture of Revelation 17 shows us the wickedness of Babylon that will fill the earth at the end of the age. The influence of Babylon has been in the earth since Genesis 11. The spirit of it has been in the earth since Genesis 2, when Adam and Eve rebelled against God.

C. The world system is Babylon. The lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, the pride of life, those are the lusts of Babylon.

D. The story of humanity is the story of two figurative women: The Bride of Christ and the Babylonian Harlot - Jesus is raising up a bride and Satan is raising up a harlot.

E. These two women embody the spirit of each system. The Harlot embodies the spirit of Antichrist, the bride embodies the spirit of Jesus.

F. The harlot system encompasses all the false religion, world economies, all murders, and all martyrdom.

G. Satan will use the spirit of Babylon to get all the nations engaging in the spirit of the age and then at the end of the age he pulls back the curtain and then he steps up and demands the worship of the nations.

III. Selfish Ambition is the Root System of Babylon

A. The governing idea from the tower of Babel was that they want to make a name for themselves.(Gen 11:4) At the core of the Babylonian system is the concept of people living by selfish ambition rather than loving obedience

James 3:16 For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

B. All Satan needs to pull people into opposition to God is to influence them to go after their own sinful selfish ambitions.

C. In Revelation 18 we see the judgment of Babylon. The nations have become drunk on the wine of the wrath of her fornication (Rev 18:3). The earth has become rich through the abundance of her luxuries.

D. The number one thing the Lord says to the church regarding Babylon at the end of the age is, "Come out of her, My people" (Rev 18:4)

1. Selfish ambition stands in direct opposition to what Jesus calls the church to live in loving obedience to the Lord.

2. The emphasis and focus on self across the earth right now is a sign of the heightening influence of the harlot system.

E. The influence of the harlot in the earth is so pervasive that anyone who calls the people to deny self for the sake of Christ sounds absolutely crazy. Yet the call to the Christian is to deny self, take up your cross, and follow Jesus.

Matthew 16:24-25 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. 25 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.

F. We cannot invite people to Christianity without inviting them to embrace the cross. Jesus is not a self-help guru. His call to people today is the same as it was two thousand years ago - He calls us to come and die.

11:15AM Notes (Part 2) Below

Overcoming Babylon Part 2

Overcoming The Influence

Rev 2:18-23, 26-28 "And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write, ... I have a few things against you, because you allow(tolerate) that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols... 26 "And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations; 27 'He shall rule them with a rod of iron; They shall be dashed to pieces like the potter's vessels'; as I also have received from My Father; 28 "and I will give him the morning star.

I. Tolerating Jezebel

Rev 2:20 ... you allow(tolerate) that woman Jezebel, ... to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality ...

A. Tolerating Jezebel includes simple agreement with sexual immorality to physically participating in sexual immorality. In the church of Thyatira, the issue was not solely about the believers following the teachings of Jezebel, it was that they tolerated her in their midst.

B. We have not conceived of how severe the situation is regarding sexual immorality in the earth. The spirit of Jezebel has nearly overrun us and we have almost not even noticed it. In fact in many instances we have tolerated her activity in our midst.

II. Understanding Jezebel

1Ki 16:30-33 Now Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD, more than all who were before him. 31 And it came to pass, as though it had been a trivial thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took as wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal, king of the Sidonians; and he went and served Baal and worshiped him. 32 Then he set up an altar for Baal in the temple of Baal, which he had built in Samaria. 33 And Ahab made a wooden image. Ahab did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel who were before him.

A. Jezebel was married to Ahab, who was more evil than any king of Israel before him. She was the Princess of Sidon. Her father's name literally meant "with Baal." The image that Ahab setup for Jezebel was of Asherah. Asherah was the female goddess who was the counterpart of Baal.

B. There were 4 chief sins that Jezebel gave herself to:

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1. Jezebel worshipped demons (sorcery) – Baal and Asherah. She was the primary proponent of Baal worship in Israel. She supported demon worship with government funds, by taking care of the prophets of Baal and Asherah (1 Kings 18:19). Demon worship is also known as sorcery.
2. Jezebel committed sexual immorality – Asherah was the goddess of fertility and worship of her was characterized by sexual orgies. Baal worship was characterized by human sacrifice.
3. Jezebel committed murder – She hunted down and murdered all of the prophets of God except 100 that Obadiah had hidden from her (1 Kings 18:3-4).
4. Jezebel was a thief - She had Naboth murdered and stole his vineyard, giving it to her husband, Ahab (1 Kings 21).

C. At the end of the age there are 4 chief sins that the people of the earth will refuse to repent of because these sins will have completely possessed the hearts and minds of the masses. We find these sins identified in Revelation 9:21.

Rev 9:21 And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.

D. These four sins are the specific sins that Jezebel practiced and each of these sins is specifically related to the reign of Antichrist in the earth.

E. I am convinced that the primary battle at the end of the age is a showdown between the spirit of Jezebel and the spirit of Elijah. God is sending for the spirit of Elijah in order to raise up a pure and spotless Bride. Satan is sending forth the spirit of Jezebel in order to raise up the Babylonian Harlot and ultimately the worship of Antichrist.

III. Sin at the end of the age – the Harlot System

Rev 9:20-21 But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk. 21 And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts.

A. The specific things that people refuse to repent of at the end of the age are found in vs. 21. They are:

1. Murder (Hatred)
2. Sorcery (False Religion/Drug Addiction)
3. Sexual Immorality
4. Theft (Love of Money/Greed) - 1Ti 6:10

B. These 4 sins: hatred, false religion/drug addiction, sexual immorality, and greed are a doorway into the worship of demons (vs. 20).

C. These 4 sins constitute the 4 chief sins of the Babylonian Harlot system. In Rev. 17:5 The Babylonian Harlot is described as “the mother of abominations.” In other words, every abomination in the history of mankind was birthed through the influence of the Babylonian system, beginning with Cain in the first murder.

D. She is pictured as drunk on the blood of the saints & the martyrs of Jesus (Rev 17:6). The spirit of Babylon is responsible for the blood of all who have been murdered on the earth, including the blood of every martyr(Rev 18:24).

E. The Babylonian Harlot will be a literal city and also speaks figuratively of a system at the end of the age. The influence of the Babylonian Harlot has been in the earth since the fall of man. We see and feel the influence of the Babylonian Harlot in our society today. It comes across very alluring and in many ways, sins that are accepted as “normal” in the earth is a result of the influence of this Harlot System.

F. In Revelation we see the Harlot carried by the Beast (17:3). In other words the Spirit of Antichrist is carrying and empowering the Babylonian Harlot System in the earth. The influence of the Babylonian system is therefore actually the influence of the Spirit of Antichrist.

G. At the end of the age, Antichrist will personally take over the leadership of the Babylonian system. He will absorb all of its economic, religious and political influence. He will then “rebrand” the system and overnight it will re-emerge as Beast worship.

H. In other words the Babylonian system that was once based in 4 chief sins: 1) false religion/drug addiction, 2) greed, 3) murder/hatred and 4) sexual immorality will become worship of the devil. The Babylonian Harlot is therefore the setup for Antichrist to gain the worship of all the earth.

IV. The Harlot System in the Earth Today (I initially wrote this in 2009. I have left the language “as is” to illustrate the dramatic shift in the world in just the last 10 years)

A. This Harlot system appears in our society today in four distinct ways:

1. False Religion is seen in Religious Pluralism

a. Promotes the idea that all paths lead to God. Jesus said, “I am the Way, the Truth and the Light and no man can come to the Father but by me.”

b. There is a counterfeit Christian reality that is gaining a lot of momentum in the earth today. It seeks to redefine Christian orthodoxy based on the norms of the society. It is very alluring, especially to the postmodern generation. The message of the cross, the blood of Christ, holiness, and the kingdom are de-emphasized and instead friendship and community are exalted.

c. I believe if we water down the gospel to make it more palatable to the unsaved masses we are being influenced by the Babylonian religious system.

2. Sexual Immorality is seen in Sexual Tolerance

a. In our nation today homosexuality is considered an alternate lifestyle and is promoted through our media, entertainment, politicians and businesses.

b. Homosexual marriage is legalized in two states. Sex before marriage is practiced as the norm among the young generation. Pornography is a multi-billion dollar industry and extra-marital relationships are glorified by mass media.

3. Greed is seen in Economic Security

a. In the name of economic security, people will totally jeopardize their standards. If it means that they will benefit financially, most people will bend their convictions.

b. Ultimately, the promise of prosperity controls people. People love money more than God.

4. Hatred is seen in Contempt for Holiness/Resentment

a. There is a broad acceptance of virtually every type of lifestyle except those who take a stand for righteousness and truth. There is widespread contempt for anything that is not open-minded.

b. Acceptance of Pluralism and Tolerance is the standard in our society. This is where the concept of being politically correct was formed.

V. Come Out of Her

Rev 18:4 And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues.

A. The Lord is calling to His people right now and at the end of the age to "Come out of her!" Coming out of her includes not practicing the sins of the Harlot System, but also not tolerating those sins in our lives in any way.

B. We must resist the influence of the Harlot system through our actions, but also by not "sharing in" sin, by tolerating it or approving of it in our lives.

C. Many actually welcome the influence in their lives through the entertainment they embrace. The sway of the Harlot system through the entertainment industry is a brilliant strategy. The enemy can get people to tolerate, approve, participate and rejoice in sin through the vehicle of entertainment, in the arena of their minds, while never lifting a finger in the flesh. (example: not engaging in a pre-marital sexual relationship but watching movies that promote and glorify it).

D. In Rev 2:20 Jesus was clear that He considers those who tolerate sin in their midst the same as those who practice it.