

Book of Revelation – The Second Angel’s Message (3AM Series--Revelation 14:8)

Series REV-37

Review of First Angel’s Message

Over the last several weeks we have looked at the First Angel’s Message, which comprises five parts: the **Everlasting Gospel**, **Fear God**, **Give Glory to Him**, for The Hour of His Judgment is Come, and to Worship Him that Made. We have seen that the first five churches will blow these messages of the first angel again in a contemporary setting, just as it was given in the 1840s originally (Recall Rev 10:11).

We have just two of the seven parts of the Three Angel’s Message left—which corresponds to the 6th and 7th Church, Philadelphia and Laodicea. In our study Monday evening, we will look at the Second Angel’s Message, involving the 6th Church, Philadelphia.

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BABYLON IS FALLEN, IS FALLEN (vs.8)

As part of this lesson, there is an Addendum of SOP statements concerning the Second Angel’s Message. The questions and fill in the blanks below involve reading those statements for understanding. We will then discuss these in our Bible Study Monday evening, possibly doing something similar with Zoom’s whiteboard as we did last week.

But first, some history on Babylon—

The ancient, literal city as we have seen in the book of Daniel was already a desolate ruin by John’s day (cf Isa.13:19), but for understanding the expressions used in the Revelation we must understand its role historically. {For additional study, see Isa 47:1; Jer 25:12; 50:1; Eze 26:13.}

In the Babylonian language, the name *Bab-ilu* (Babel, or Babylon) meant “gate of the gods.” {Recall, that at the time of the Tower of Babel, the descendants of Noah’s sons did not believe in God’s promise, that He would not destroy the world again by a flood. So they built a tower, to reach up to heaven. Hence, the ‘gate of the gods.’} The Hebrews derogatorily associated it with *balal*, meaning “to confuse” (cf Gen 11:9). Babylon was first founded by Nimrod (see Gen 10:10; 11:1-9).

From the very beginning the city was emblematic of disbelief in the true God and defiance of His will, and its tower a monument to apostasy, a citadel of rebellion against Him. The prophet Isaiah identifies Lucifer as the invisible king of Babylon (see Isa14:4, 12-14). In fact, it would seem conclusive Satan designed that Babylon should be the center and agency of his master plan to secure control of the human race, just as God designed to work through Jerusalem. Thus, throughout OT times, the two cities typified the forces of evil and good at work in the world.

*-An Exhaustive EGW Commentary on Revelation p. 920 {Also, the website—
Revelationbibleprophecy.org takes its comments directly from here on this subject.}*

Now with this backdrop, let us look at some SOP Statements in relation to ‘spiritual Babylon’ from the viewpoint of the Second Angel’s Message {see the Addendum}.

SECOND ANGEL'S MESSAGE

As we now are learning, this second of the three-fold message will certainly be a revelation to many when under the loud cry, the multitudes will be startled as to who constitutes Babylon and some will thus separate from its communion and join up with God's commandment keeping people.

Questions:

- What will bring God's people into unity? _____.
- What three reasons are given why Babylon cannot be God's remnant church?
{note TM stmt}
 1. _____.
 2. _____.
 3. _____.
- Something must happen before the fall of Babylon shall be complete. Also, we find in 2 Thes 2:9-11, how Satan will work. In the GC 389 statement it says {quoting the above passage} they that "received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved," will be left to receive what? _____.
_____. {Notice she says, they "will be left to receive". How is this different than the words of Paul in vs.11 of that chapter that says, "And for this cause..."? _____.
_____. What does this tell us about how God relates with 'these people' from that point forward? _____.
_____.
- What is the relationship between these two Scriptures Rev 14:8 and 18:2 in light of the GC 603 statement? _____
_____.

Lastly, the 6th Church is linked to the 6th part of the Three Angel's Message. In light of what we have been learning re. the relationship of the churches with the 3AM, what would you say or how would you describe it? {hint: think about what we presented last week with the 5th church and the 5th part of the 3AM and the relationship of the different parts. You will need to look at the characteristics of the 6th church & think about the history of when this message was first given in understanding how it will be given again and the characteristics of that church.}