

## ~BABYLON THE GREAT (903)

### .. Characteristics Of Ancient Babylon

### .. Distinguishing Features Of Mystic Babylon

- Among John's visions recorded in the book of Revelation appear pronouncements of judgment against Babylon the Great, as well as a description of her and of her downfall.
- And another, a second angel, followed, saying; She has fallen! **Babylon the Great** has fallen, she who made all the nations drink of the wine of the anger of her fornication! (**Revelation 14:8**)
- And the great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell, and **Babylon the Great** was remembered in the sight of God, to give her the cup of the wine of the anger of his wrath. (**Revelation 16:19**)
- And the great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell, and **Babylon the Great** was remembered in the sight of God, to give her the cup of the wine of the anger of his wrath. (**Revelation 16:19**)
- After these things I saw another angel descending from heaven, with great authority, and the earth was lighted up from his glory. (**Revelation 18:1**)
- And he cried out with a strong voice, saying; She has fallen! **Babylon the Great** has fallen, and she has become a dwelling place of demons and a lurking place of every unclean exhalation and a lurking place of every unclean and hated bird! (**Revelation 18:2**)
- For because of the wine of the anger of her fornication all the nations have fallen victim, and the kings of the earth committed fornication with her, and the traveling merchants of the earth became rich due to the power of her shameless luxury. (**Revelation 18:3**)
- And I heard another voice out of heaven say; Get out of her, my people, if you do not want to share with her in her sins, and if you do not want to receive part of her plagues. (**Revelation 18:4**)

- For her sins have massed together clear up to heaven, and God has called her acts of injustice to mind. (**Revelation 18:5**)
- Render to her even as she herself rendered, and do to her twice as much, yes, twice the number of the things she did. In the cup in which she put a mixture put twice as much of the mixture for her. (**Revelation 18:6**)
- To the extent that she glorified herself and lived in shameless luxury, to that extent give her torment and mourning. For in her heart she keeps saying; I sit a queen, and I am no widow, and I shall never see mourning. (**Revelation 18:7**)
- That is why in one day her plagues will come, death and mourning and famine, and she will be completely burned with fire, because Yehowah God, who judged her, is strong. (**Revelation 18:8**)
- And the kings of the earth who committed fornication with her and lived in shameless luxury will weep and beat themselves in grief over her, when they look at the smoke from the burning of her. (**Revelation 18:9**)
- While they stand at a distance because of their fear of her torment and say; Too bad, too bad, you great city, **Babylon** you strong city, because in one hour your judgment has arrived! (**Revelation 18:10**)
- Also, the traveling merchants of the earth are weeping and mourning over her, because there is no one to buy their full stock anymore. (**Revelation 18:11**)
- A full stock of gold and silver and precious stone and pearls and fine linen and purple and silk and scarlet, and everything in scented wood and every sort of ivory object and every sort of object out of most precious wood and of copper and of iron and of marble. (**Revelation 18:12**)
- Also cinnamon and Indian spice and incense and perfumed oil and frankincense and wine and olive oil and fine flour and wheat and cattle and sheep, and horses and coaches and slaves and human souls. (**Revelation 18:13**)
- Yes, the fine fruit that your soul desired has departed from you,

and all the dainty things and the gorgeous things have perished from you, and never again will people find them. (**Revelation 18:14**)

- The traveling merchants of these things, who became rich from her, will stand at a distance because of their fear of her torment and will weep and mourn. (**Revelation 18:15**)
- Saying; Too bad, too bad, the **great city**, clothed with fine linen and purple and scarlet, and richly adorned with gold ornament and precious stone and pearl. (**Revelation 18:16**)
- Because in one hour such great riches have been devastated! And every ship captain and every man that voyages anywhere, and sailors and all those who make a living by the sea, stood at a distance (**Revelation 18:17**)
- And cried out as they looked at the smoke from the burning of her and said; What city is like the **great city**? (**Revelation 18:18**)
- And they threw dust upon their heads and cried out, weeping and mourning, and said; Too bad, too bad, the **great city**, in which all those having boats at sea became rich by reason of her costliness, because in one hour she has been devastated! (**Revelation 18:19**)
- Be glad over her, O heaven, also you holy one's and you apostles and you prophets, because God has judicially exacted punishment for you from her! (**Revelation 18:20**)
- And a strong angel lifted up a stone like a great millstone and hurled it into the sea, saying; Thus with a swift pitch will **Babylon the great city** be hurled down, and she will never be found again. (**Revelation 18:21**)
- And the sound of singers who accompany themselves on the harp and of musicians and of flutists and of trumpeters will never be heard in you again, and no craftsman of any trade will ever be found in you again, and no sound of a millstone will ever be heard in you again. (**Revelation 18:22**)
- And no light of a lamp will ever shine in you again, and no voice of a bridegroom and of a bride will ever be heard in you again. Because your traveling merchants were the top-ranking men of

the earth, for by your spiritistic practice all the nations were misled. (**Revelation 18:23**)

- Yes, in her was found the blood of prophets and of holy one's and of all those who have been slaughtered on the earth. (**Revelation 18:24**)
- After these things I heard what was as a loud voice of a great crowd in heaven. They said; Praise Yah, you people! The salvation and the glory and the power belong to our God. (**Revelation 19:1**)
- Because his judgments are true and righteous. For he has executed judgment upon the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication, and he has avenged the blood of his slaves at her hand. (**Revelation 19:2**)
- And right away for the second time they said; Praise Yah, you people! And the smoke from her goes on ascending forever and ever. (**Revelation 19:3**)
- And he carried me away in the power of the spirit into a wilderness. And I caught sight of a woman sitting upon a scarlet-colored wild beast that was full of blasphemous names and that had seven heads and ten horns. (**Revelation 17:3**)
- And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and was adorned with gold and precious stone and pearls and had in her hand a golden cup that was full of disgusting things and the unclean things of her fornication. (**Revelation 17:4**)
- And upon her forehead was written a name, a mystery. **Babylon the Great**, the mother of the harlots and of the disgusting things of the earth. (**Revelation 17:5**)
- **Babylon the Great** is described as a woman arrayed in purple and scarlet, richly adorned, and sitting upon a scarlet-colored wild beast having seven heads and ten horns. Upon her forehead a name is written, a mystery, **Babylon the Great**, the mother of the harlots and of the disgusting things of the earth. She is also depicted as sitting on many waters representing peoples and crowds and nations and tongues.
- And one of the seven angels that had the seven bowls came and

spoke with me, saying; Come, I will show you the judgment upon the **great harlot** who sits on many waters. (**Revelation 17:1**)

- With whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, whereas those who inhabit the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication. (**Revelation 17:2**)
- And he carried me away in the power of the spirit into a wilderness. And I caught sight of a woman sitting upon a scarlet-colored wild beast that was full of blasphemous names and that had seven heads and ten horns. (**Revelation 17:3**)
- And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and was adorned with gold and precious stone and pearls and had in her hand a golden cup that was full of disgusting things and the unclean things of her fornication. (**Revelation 17:4**)
- And upon her forehead was written a name, a mystery. **Babylon the Great**, the mother of the harlots and of the disgusting things of the earth. (**Revelation 17:5**)
- And I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of the holy one's and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus. Well, on catching sight of her I wondered with great wonderment. (**Revelation 17:6**)
- And so the angel said to me; Why is it you wondered? I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the wild beast that is carrying her and that has the seven heads and the ten horns. (**Revelation 17:7**)
- The wild beast that you saw was, but is not, and yet is about to ascend out of the abyss, and it is to go off into destruction. And when they see how the wild beast was, but is not, and yet will be present, those who dwell on the earth will wonder admiringly, but their names have not been written upon the scroll of life from the founding of the world. (**Revelation 17:8**)
- Here is where the intelligence that has wisdom comes in. The seven heads mean seven mountains, where the woman sits on top. (**Revelation 17:9**)
- And there are seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, the other has

not yet arrived, but when he does arrive he must remain a short while. (**Revelation 17:10**)

- And the wild beast that was but is not, it is also itself an eighth king, but springs from the seven, and it goes off into destruction. (**Revelation 17:11**)
- And the ten horns that you saw mean ten kings, who have not yet received a kingdom, but they do receive authority as kings one hour with the wild beast. (**Revelation 17:12**)
- These have one thought, and so they give their power and authority to the wild beast. (**Revelation 17:13**)
- These will battle with the Lamb, but, because he is Lord of lords and King of kings, the Lamb will conquer them. Also, those called and chosen and faithful with him will do so. (**Revelation 17:14**)
- And he says to me; The waters that you saw, where the harlot is sitting, mean peoples and crowds and nations and tongues. (**Revelation 17:15**)
- The luxury and the dominion attributed to **Babylon the Great** do not allow for simply equating her with the literal city of **Babylon** in Mesopotamia. After ancient **Babylon** fell to Cyrus the Persian in **539 B.C.E.**, it lost its position as a dominant world power, its captives, including the Jews, being freed.
- Although the city continued to exist even beyond the days of the apostles, and hence existed in John's day, it was no longer a city of world importance, and it eventually fell into decay and utter ruin. Thus, **Babylon the Great** must be viewed as a symbolic city, one of which the literal city of **Babylon** was the prototype.
- Because the ancient city gives the mystic city its name, it is helpful to consider briefly the outstanding features of **Babylon** on the Euphrates, features that provide clues as to the identity of the symbolic city of John's vision.

## •• **Characteristics Of Ancient Babylon**

- The founding of the city of **Babylon** on the Plains of Shinar was concurrent with the attempt at building the Tower of Babel.

- And it came about that in their journeying eastward they eventually discovered a valley plain in the land of Shinar, and they took up dwelling there. (**Genesis 11:2**)
- And they began to say; each one to the other; Come on! Let us make bricks and bake them with a burning process. So brick served as stone for them, but bitumen served as mortar for them. (**Genesis 11:3**)
- They now said; Come on! Let us build ourselves a city and also a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a celebrated name for ourselves, for fear we may be scattered over all the surface of the earth. (**Genesis 11:4**)
- And Yehowah proceeded to go down to see the city and the tower that the sons of men had built. (**Genesis 11:5**)
- After that Yehowah said; Look! They are one people and there is one language for them all, and this is what they start to do. Why, now there is nothing that they may have in mind to do that will be unattainable for them. (**Genesis 11:6**)
- Come now! Let us go down and there confuse their language that they may not listen to one another's language. (**Genesis 11:7**)
- Accordingly Yehowah scattered them from there over all the surface of the earth, and they gradually left off building the city. (**Genesis 11:8**)
- That is why its name was called Babel, because there Yehowah had confused the language of all the earth, and Yehowah had scattered them from there over all the surface of the earth. (**Genesis 11:9**)
- The popular cause to be advanced by the tower and city construction was, not the exaltation of God's name, but that the builders might **make a celebrated name for themselves**. The ziggurat towers uncovered not only in the ruins of ancient **Babylon** but elsewhere in Mesopotamia would seem to confirm the essentially religious nature of the original tower, whatever its form or style.

- The decisive action taken by Yehowah God to overthrow the temple construction clearly condemns it as of a false religious origin. Whereas the Hebrew name given the city, **Babel**, means **Confusion**, the Sumerian name, *Ka-dingir-ra*, and the Akkadian name, *Bab-ilu*, both mean **Gate of God**. Thus the remaining inhabitants of the city altered the form of its name to avoid the original condemnatory sense, but the new or substitute form still identified the city with religion.
- The Bible lists **Babel** first when giving the beginning of Nimrod's kingdom.
- And Cush became father to Nimrod. He made the start in becoming a mighty one in the earth. (**Genesis 10:8**)
- He displayed himself a **mighty hunter in opposition to Yehowah**. That is why there is a saying; Just like Nimrod a mighty hunter in opposition to Yehowah. (**Genesis 10:9**)
- And the beginning of his kingdom came to be **Babel** and Erech and Accad and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. (**Genesis 10:10**)
- Throughout the Hebrew Scriptures the ancient city of **Babylon** is featured prominently as the longtime enemy of Yehowah God and his people.
- Though **Babylon** became the capital of a political empire in the seventh and **Sixth Centuries B.C.E**, it was outstandingly prominent during its entire history as a religious center from which religious influence radiated in many directions.
- Professor Morris Jastrow, Jr, in his work *The Religion of Babylonia and Assyria* (1898, pp. 699-701), says regarding this; In the ancient world, prior to the rise of Christianity, Egypt, Persia, and Greece felt the influence of the Babylonian religion. In Persia, the Mithra cult reveals the unmistakable influence of Babylonian conceptions, and if it be recalled what a degree of importance the mysteries connected with this cult acquired among the Romans, another link will be added connecting the ramifications of ancient culture with the civilization of the Euphrates Valley.
- In conclusion he refers to the profound impression made upon the ancient world by the remarkable manifestations of religious thought in Babylonia and by the religious activity that prevailed in that region.

- **Babylon's** religious influence is traced eastward to India in the book **New Light on the Most Ancient East**, by archaeologist V. Childe (1957, p. 185). Among other points he states; **The swastika and the cross, common on stamps and plaques, were religious or magical symbols as in Babylonia and Elam in the earliest prehistoric period, but preserve that character also in modern India as elsewhere.** Thus, ancient **Babylon's** religious influence spread out to many peoples and nations, much farther and with greater potency and endurance than did her political strength.

- Like mystic **Babylon**, the ancient city of **Babylon**, in effect, sat on the waters, located, as it was, astride the Euphrates River and having various canals and water-filled moats.

- This is what Yehowah has said; Here I am rousing up against **Babylon** and against the inhabitants of Leb-kamai a ruinous wind. (**Jeremiah 51:1**)

- O woman residing on abounding waters, abundant in treasures, your end has come, the measure of your profit making. (**Jeremiah 51:13**)

- And one of the seven angels that had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying; Come, I will show you the judgment upon the great harlot who sits on many waters. (**Revelation 17:1**)

- And he says to me; The waters that you saw, where the harlot is sitting, mean peoples and crowds and nations and tongues. (**Revelation 17:15**)

- These waters served as a defense to the city, and they provided the thoroughfares upon which ships brought wealth and luxuries from many sources. Notably, the water of the Euphrates is depicted as drying up prior to **Babylon the Greats** experiencing the wrath of divine judgment.

- And the sixth one poured out his bowl upon the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, that the way might be prepared for the kings from the rising of the sun. (**Revelation 16:12**)

- And the great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell, and **Babylon the Great** was remembered in the sight

of God, to give her the cup of the wine of the anger of his wrath.  
([Revelation 16:19](#))

### • Distinguishing Features Of Mystic Babylon

- The symbolic woman bearing the name **Babylon the Great** is the great city that has a kingdom over the kings of the earth, a kingdom that allows her, in effect, to sit on peoples and crowds and nations and tongues.
- And one of the seven angels that had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying; Come, I will show you the judgment upon the great harlot who sits on many waters. ([Revelation 17:1](#))
- And he says to me; The waters that you saw, where the harlot is sitting, mean peoples and crowds and nations and tongues. ([Revelation 17:15](#))
- And the woman whom you saw means the great city that has a kingdom over the kings of the earth. ([Revelation 17:18](#))
- A kingdom over other kingdoms and nations is what is defined as an empire. **Babylon the Great** places herself above earthly kings, exercising power and influence over them. She rides the symbolic seven-headed beast, beasts being used elsewhere in the Bible as symbols of political world powers.

### See Also **BEASTS, SYMBOLIC**

- Some scholars assume that **Babylon the Great** is a political empire, either Babylon or Rome. We have already seen that **Babylon** as a political empire had long since ceased to exist when John received his prophetic vision. As to Rome, the nature of its political rule does not harmonize with the description of **Babylon the Great's** course and her methods of dominating.
- She is a harlot, committing fornication with the kings of the earth, making them drunk with the wine of her fornication, misleading the nations by her **spiritistic practice**.
- And one of the seven angels that had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying; Come, I will show you the judgment upon the great harlot who sits on many waters. ([Revelation](#)

**17:1)**

- With whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, whereas those who inhabit the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication. (**Revelation 17:2**)
- For because of the wine of the anger of her fornication all the nations have fallen victim, and the kings of the earth committed fornication with her, and the traveling merchants of the earth became rich due to the power of her shameless luxury. (**Revelation 18:3**)
- And no light of a lamp will ever shine in you again, and no voice of a bridegroom and of a bride will ever be heard in you again, because your traveling merchants were the top-ranking men of the earth, for by your **spiritistic practice** all the nations were misled. (**Revelation 18:23**)
- Rome's dominion, by contrast, was gained and maintained by its iron-like military might and its firm application of Roman Law among its provinces and colonies. Recognizing this fact, **The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible** says; It is not sufficient to identify Rome and **Babylon**. **Babylon** embraces more than one empire or culture. It is defined rather by dominant idolatries than by geographical or temporal boundaries. **Babylon** is coextensive with the kingdom of that beast which has corrupted and enslaved mankind, and whom the Lamb must conquer if mankind is to be freed. (Edited by G. Buttrick, 1962, Vol. 1, p. 338)
- These will battle with the Lamb, but, because he is Lord of lords and King of kings, the Lamb will conquer them. Also, those called and chosen and faithful with him will do so. (**Revelation 17:14**)
- The symbol of a harlot or a fornicatrix is used frequently in the Hebrew Scriptures. The nation of Israel was warned against entering into covenant relations with the nations of Canaan because this would lead them to commit immoral intercourse play the harlot, **[RS]** with their gods.
- Watch yourself that you do not conclude a covenant with the inhabitants of the land to which you are going, for fear it may prove itself a snare in your midst. (**Exodus 34:12**)
- But their altars you people are to pull down, and their sacred

pillars you are to shatter, and their sacred poles you are to cut down. (**Exodus 34:13**)

- For you must not prostrate yourself to another god, because Yehowah, whose name is Jealous, he is a jealous God. (**Exodus 34:14**)
- For fear that you may conclude a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, as they will certainly have immoral intercourse with their gods and sacrifice to their gods, and someone will be certain to invite you, and you will certainly eat some of his sacrifice. (**Exodus 34:15**)
- Then you will have to take some of their daughters for your sons, and their daughters will be certain to have immoral intercourse with their gods and make your sons have immoral intercourse with their gods. (**Exodus 34:16**)
- Both Israel and Judah apostatized from the true worship of Yehowah God and were condemned by him as having engaged in harlotry, prostituting themselves to the political nations and their gods.
- O how the faithful town has become a prostitute! She was full of justice, righteousness itself used to lodge in her, but now murderers. (**Isaiah 1:21**)
- And Yehowah proceeded to say to me in the days of Josiah the king: Have you seen what unfaithful Israel has done? She is going upon every high mountain and underneath every luxuriant tree, that she may commit prostitution there. (**Jeremiah 3:6**)
- And after her doing all these things I kept saying that she should return even to me, but she did not return, and Judah kept looking at her own treacherous sister. (**Jeremiah 3:7**)
- When I got to see that, for the very reason that unfaithful Israel had committed adultery, I sent her away and proceeded to give the certificate of her full divorce to her, yet treacherously dealing Judah her sister did not become afraid, but she herself also began to go and commit prostitution. (**Jeremiah 3:8**)
- And her prostitution occurred because of her frivolous view, and she kept polluting the land and committing adultery with stones and with trees. (**Jeremiah 3:9**)

- **And even for all this her treacherous sister Judah did not return to me with all her heart, only falsely, is the utterance of Yehowah. (Jeremiah 3:10)**
- **Only take note of your error, for it is against Yehowah your God that you have transgressed. And you continued scattering your ways to the strangers under every luxuriant tree, but to my voice you people did not listen, is the utterance of Yehowah. (Jeremiah 3:13)**
- **But you began to trust in your prettiness and become a prostitute on account of your name and to pour out your acts of prostitution on every passerby, his it came to be. (Ezekiel 16:15)**
- **And you proceeded to take some of your garments and make for yourself high places of varied colors and you would prostitute yourself on them, such things are not coming in, and it should not happen. (Ezekiel 16:16)**
- **And you would take your beautiful articles from my gold and from my silver that I had given to you and you would make for yourself images of a male and prostitute yourself with them. (Ezekiel 16:17)**
- **And you went on to prostitute yourself to the sons of Assyria because there was no satisfying of you, and you kept prostituting yourself with them and also did not get satisfaction. (Ezekiel 16:28)**
- **So you kept making your prostitution abound toward the land of Canaan, toward the Chaldeans, and even in this you did not get satisfaction. (Ezekiel 16:29)**
- **And I will judge you with the judgments of adulteresses and women shedding blood, and I will give you the blood of rage and jealousy. (Ezekiel 16:38)**
- **In the house of Israel I have seen a horrible thing. There, there is fornication on the part of Ephraim. Israel has defiled itself. (Hosea 6:10)**
- **And Ephraim proves to be like a simpleminded dove without heart. To Egypt they have called. To Assyria they have gone.**

**(Hosea 7:11)**

- **For they themselves have gone up to Assyria, as a zebra isolated to itself. In Ephraim's case, they have hired lovers. (Hosea 8:9)**
- **Also, although they keep hiring them among the nations, I shall now collect them together, and they will be a little while in severe pains because of the burden of king and princes. (Hosea 8:10)**
- **It may be noted here that God was not viewing Israel or Judah as mere political entities entering into relations with other political governments. Instead God reprimanded them on the basis of their being in a sacred covenant with him, hence responsible to be a holy people devoted to him and his pure worship.**
- **And the word of Yehowah proceeded to occur to me, saying; (Jeremiah 2:1)**
- **Go, and you must call out in the ears of Jerusalem, saying; This is what Yehowah has said; I well remember, on your part, the loving-kindness of your youth, the love during your being engaged to marry, your walking after me in the wilderness, in a land not sown with seed. (Jeremiah 2:2)**
- **Israel was something holy to Yehowah, the first yield to Him. Any persons devouring him would make themselves guilty. Calamity itself would come upon them, was the utterance of Yehowah. (Jeremiah 2:3)**
- **Is not this what you proceeded to do to yourself by your leaving Yehowah your God during the time of his walking you in the way? (Jeremiah 2:17)**
- **And now what concern should you have for the way of Egypt in order to drink the waters of Shihor? And what concern should you have for the way of Assyria in order to drink the waters of the River? (Jeremiah 2:18)**
- **Your badness should correct you, and your own acts of unfaithfulness should reprove you. Know, then, and see that your leaving Yehowah your God is something bad and bitter, and no dread of me has resulted to you, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord, Yehowah of armies. (Jeremiah 2:19)**

- For long ago I broke your yoke to pieces. I tore your bands apart. But you said; I am not going to serve, for upon every high hill and under every luxuriant tree you were lying sprawled out, prostituting yourself. (**Jeremiah 2:20**)
- And as for me, I had planted you as a choice red vine, all of it a true seed. So how have you been changed toward me into the degenerate shoots of a foreign vine? (**Jeremiah 2:21**)
- A similar usage of this figure is found in the **Christian Greek Scriptures**. The Christian congregation is likened to a virgin espoused to Christ as her Head and King.
- For I am jealous over you with a godly jealousy, for I personally promised you in marriage to one husband that I might present you as a chaste virgin to the Christ. (**2 Corinthians 11:2**)
- Let wives be in subjection to their husbands as to the Lord. (**Ephesians 5:22**)
- Because a husband is head of his wife as the Christ also is head of the congregation, he being a savior of this body. (**Ephesians 5:23**)
- In fact, as the congregation is in subjection to the Christ, so let wives also be to their husbands in everything. (**Ephesians 5:24**)
- Husbands, continue loving your wives, just as the Christ also loved the congregation and delivered up himself for it. (**Ephesians 5:25**)
- That he might sanctify it, cleansing it with the bath of water by means of the word. (**Ephesians 5:26**)
- That he might present the congregation to himself in its splendor, not having a spot or a wrinkle or any of such things, but that it should be holy and without blemish. (**Ephesians 5:27**)
- The disciple James warned Christians against **committing spiritual adultery through friendship with the world**.
- **Adulteresses**, do you not know that the friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever, therefore, **wants to be a friend of**

**the world is constituting himself an enemy of God. (James 4:4)**

- If you were part of the world, the world would be fond of what is its own. Now because you **are no part of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world**, on this account the world hates you. **(John 15:19)**
- The fornications of **Babylon** the Great and her daughters are of a similar nature and not some unique exception. The term daughters at times is employed in the Bible to refer to the suburbs or surrounding towns of a city or metropolis, as the dependent towns, literally, daughters in **Hebrew**, of Samaria and Sodom.

### **See Also DAUGHTERS**

- And your older sister is Samaria herself with her dependent towns, who is dwelling on your left, and your sister younger than you, who is dwelling on your right, is Sodom with her dependent towns. **(Ezekiel 16:46)**
- And it was not in their ways that you walked, nor according to their detestable things that you did. In a very little while you even began to act more ruinously than they did in all your ways. **(Ezekiel 16:47)**
- As I am alive, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah, Sodom your sister, she with her dependent towns, has not done according to what you did, you and your dependent towns. **(Ezekiel 16:48)**
- An additional significant factor is that when **Babylon the Great** goes down under the devastating attack of the ten horns of the symbolic wild beast, her fall is mourned by her companions in fornication, the kings of the earth, and also by the merchants and shippers who dealt with her in supplying luxurious commodities and gorgeous fineries.
- While these political and commercial representatives survive her desolation, notably no religious representatives are depicted as still on the scene to share in mourning her downfall.
- And the ten horns that you saw, and the wild beast, these will hate the harlot and will make her devastated and naked, and will eat up her fleshy parts and will completely burn her with fire.

**(Revelation 17:16)**

- For God put it into their hearts to carry out his thought, even to carry out their one thought by giving their kingdom to the wild beast, until the words of God will have been accomplished. **(Revelation 17:17)**
- And the kings of the earth who committed fornication with her and lived in shameless luxury will weep and beat themselves in grief over her, when they look at the smoke from the burning of her. **(Revelation 18:9)**
- While they stand at a distance because of their fear of her torment and say; Too bad, too bad, you great city, **Babylon** you strong city, because in one hour your judgment has arrived! **(Revelation 18:10)**
- Also, the traveling merchants of the earth are weeping and mourning over her, because there is no one to buy their full stock anymore. **(Revelation 18:11)**
- A full stock of gold and silver and precious stone and pearls and fine linen and purple and silk and scarlet, and everything in scented wood and every sort of ivory object and every sort of object out of most precious wood and of copper and of iron and of marble. **(Revelation 18:12)**
- Also cinnamon and Indian spice and incense and perfumed oil and frankincense and wine and olive oil and fine flour and wheat and cattle and sheep, and horses and coaches and slaves and human souls. **(Revelation 18:13)**
- Yes, the fine fruit that your soul desired has departed from you, and all the dainty things and the gorgeous things have perished from you, and never again will people find them. **(Revelation 18:14)**
- The traveling merchants of these things, who became rich from her, will stand at a distance because of their fear of her torment and will weep and mourn. **(Revelation 18:15)**
- Saying; Too bad, too bad, the **great city**, clothed with fine linen and purple and scarlet, and richly adorned with gold ornament and precious stone and pearl. **(Revelation 18:16)**

- Because in one hour such great riches have been devastated!  
And every ship captain and every man that voyages anywhere,  
and sailors and all those who make a living by the sea, stood at a  
distance (**Revelation 18:17**)
- And cried out as they looked at the smoke from the burning of  
her and said; What city is like **the great city**? (**Revelation 18:18**)
- And they threw dust upon their heads and cried out, weeping and  
mourning, and said; Too bad, too bad, **the great city**, in which all  
those having boats at sea became rich by reason of her  
costliness, because in one hour she has been devastated!  
(**Revelation 18:19**)
- The kings of the earth are shown as having judgment executed  
upon them sometime after mystic **Babylon's** annihilation, and their  
destruction comes, not from the ten horns, but from the sword of the  
King of kings, the Word of God.
- After these things I heard what was as a loud voice of a great  
crowd in heaven. They said; Praise Yah, you people! The  
salvation and the glory and the power belong to our God.  
(**Revelation 19:1**)
- Because his judgments are true and righteous. For he has  
executed judgment upon the great harlot who corrupted the  
earth with her fornication, and he has avenged the blood of his  
slaves at her hand. (**Revelation 19:2**)
- And I saw the heaven opened, and, look! A white horse. And the  
one seated upon it is called Faithful and True, and he judges and  
carries on war in righteousness. (**Revelation 19:11**)
- His eyes are a fiery flame, and upon his head are many diadems.  
He has a name written that no one knows but he himself.  
(**Revelation 19:12**)
- And he is arrayed with an outer garment sprinkled with blood,  
and the name he is called is The Word of God. (**Revelation 19:13**)
- Also, the armies that were in heaven were following him on  
white horses, and they were clothed in white, clean, fine linen.  
(**Revelation 19:14**)

- And out of his mouth there protrudes a sharp long sword, that he may strike the nations with it, and he will shepherd them with a rod of iron. He treads too the winepress of the anger of the wrath of God the Almighty. (**Revelation 19:15**)
- And upon his outer garment, even upon his thigh, he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords. (**Revelation 19:16**)
- I saw also an angel standing in the sun, and he cried out with a loud voice and said to all the birds that fly in midheaven: Come here, be gathered together to the great evening meal of God. (**Revelation 19:17**)
- That you may eat the fleshy parts of kings and the fleshy parts of military commanders and the fleshy parts of strong men and the fleshy parts of horses and of those seated upon them, and the fleshy parts of all, of freemen as well as of slaves and of small ones and great. (**Revelation 19:18**)
- A further distinguishing characteristic of **Babylon the Great** is her drunkenness, she being pictured as **drunk with the blood of the holy one's and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus**.
- And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and was adorned with gold and precious stone and pearls and had in her hand a golden cup that was full of disgusting things and the unclean things of her fornication. (**Revelation 17:4**)
- And I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of the holy one's and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus. Well, on catching sight of her I wondered with great wonderment. (**Revelation 17:6**)
- Yes, in her was found the blood of prophets and of holy one's and of all those who have been slaughtered on the earth. (**Revelation 18:24**)
- After these things I heard what was as a loud voice of a great crowd in heaven. They said; Praise Yah, you people! The salvation and the glory and the power belong to our God. (**Revelation 19:1**)
- Because his judgments are true and righteous. For he has

executed judgment upon the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication, and he has avenged the blood of his slaves at her hand. ([Revelation 19:2](#))

- She thus is the spiritual counterpart of the ancient city of **Babylon**, expressing the same enmity toward the true people of God. Significantly, it was to the charge of religious leaders that Jesus laid the responsibility for all the righteous blood spilled on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah.
- While those words were addressed to religious leaders from among Jesus own race, the Jewish nation, and while persecution against Jesus followers was particularly intense from that sector for a time, history shows that thereafter the opposition to genuine Christianity came from other sources, the Jews themselves suffering considerable persecution.
- Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you build the graves of the prophets and decorate the memorial tombs of the righteous ones. ([Matthew 23:29](#))
- And you say; If we were in the days of our forefathers, we would not be sharers with them in the blood of the prophets. ([Matthew 23:30](#))
- Therefore you are bearing witness against yourselves that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. ([Matthew 23:31](#))
- Well, then, fill up the measure of your forefathers. ([Matthew 23:32](#))
- Serpents, offspring of vipers, how are you to flee from the judgment of Gehenna? ([Matthew 23:33](#))
- For this reason, here I am sending forth to you prophets and wise men and public instructors. Some of them you will kill and impale, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from city to city. ([Matthew 23:34](#))
- That there may come upon you all the righteous blood spilled on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. ([Matthew 23:35](#))

- All the above factors are significant, and they must all be considered in arriving at a true picture of symbolic **Babylon the Great** and what it represents.