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I would also encourage you to go to Amazon and pick up a copy of “**Liberating the Book of Revelation, Returning to the Source of the Message.**” This book is intended to help us all know what the Spirit said and how He said it. This book is focused not on interpreting the book of *Revelation*, that is what this podcast is for, but on accurately representing the book of *Revelation* in the manner in which the Spirit originally spoke it to John. It is available in all formats: hardback, paperback, e-book format, and as an *audible*.

In our last podcast, we discussed the judgment of the Harlot at the hands of the 10 horns and the Beast. This Harlot is the great city which rules over the Kings of the Earth, the angelic beings who have been given charge by **Yahweh** over the territories of humanity. This is **Plan-A** of **Yahweh**, for He put into the hearts of the 10 Horns and Beast to join in one purpose, and that is for the destruction of the Harlot. Yes, God uses evil to judge and destroy evil. Now, let’s pick up in *Revelation 18*.

EP148 Revelation 18 verses 1-2

Revelation 18

Overview: Destruction of the Harlot & the Impact on Those Who Loved & Used Her.

THIS IS one of the most important, yet often ignored, chapters of *Revelation*. It is not that people do not study this chapter and comment upon it, but few are now having ears to hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches. To many, the six commands in this chapter, and all their potential implications, are unthinkable, simply unfathomable. They have no place for these commands to fit it in their minds, much less their souls. Their commitment to this Harlot is overwhelming.

Think about this practically. You may be part of a church that you love. Perhaps it is the church where you “got saved,” or you love the music, the pastor, the people, or whatever. But a part of the message you receive is that you need to find your place of ministry and to serve God. To most of our ears this sounds right and like the best kind of religion. There will be those who will watch you and still others may even test you to see how you have been gifted, and then they will provide you with opportunities to serve if you are willing to submit to their leadership.

Then for those good Christians who step up to submit and serve, they caution you to not compromise your witness, you service in the church, and so on. After all, the expectation is that we live like good Christians so we can maintain an effective witness to the lost. We have been “saved by grace through faith,” so we need to make sure we are living holy lives and being holy in all our behavior to honor what God has done for us. In this regard, the scenarios can go on and on and on. What is one to do? After all, it all sounds so right, at least mostly right.

The deception is so subtle that one needs the wisdom of **Yahweh**, the fear of **Yahweh**, to discern the truth from the error, to know and separate the voice of **Yahweh** from the voice of the Harlot.

WARNING

One of the central verses in **Revelation 18** provides us with a command and a warning, but not just a warning, but with a severe threat that is wrapped around this warning. *“You are commanded, the people, **the people**, mine, to come out of her so that you **may** not participate of her the sins and **may** not receive of her plagues ...”*

This is shocking, but if we do not leave the great city of religious apostasy, if we do not divorce our lives from this great Harlot and stop guzzling down the wine of her immorality, we may receive of her plagues. And like her, we will be desolate, naked, and will have our flesh eaten and will be burned up with fire.¹ Everyone will see the shame of our nakedness.² And given the timing of when these plagues are poured out on this woman, during the Great Tribulation, which occurs during the last 3.5 years of the Tribulation, we need to heed this warning or we might be among those who are left behind when Jesus comes for those who are with Him always, the **Called and Chosen and Faithful**.

This chapter and the implications of what the Spirit is saying are so important that it warrants a bit of personalization and repetition. Hence, we will cover the fundamentals once again in the hope that we will all come to know with all certainty what it means to come out of her, **to flee Babylon**.

PLAN-A

There is a very important truth that we must accept before we can have the right response to the commands in this passage. This woman has looted the Household of God and taken captive all those who were willing to go into captivity. She did not force her way, she seduced her way, and those in the Household of God who do not travel the difficult journey through the valley of the shadow of death to be the **Called and Chosen and Faithful**, have drunk of her apostasy, her immorality, and they have loved it, and they cry out for another drink.

You might be thinking, “With such terrible consequences, why did God not protect them?” “Why did God let this happen?” “How is this fair?” “Wait, they said the prayer, they have been born again, how does this fit what we have been taught by the leaders of our day?” “Don’t they have their golden ticket to heaven? If so, then how can they be around to receive of her plagues?”

The answers are even more shocking than the questions.

Jeremiah 51:7

Babylon has been a golden cup in the hand of **Yahweh**, intoxicating all the earth. **The nations have drunk of her wine**; therefore, the nations are going mad.

In short, this has been God’s **Plan-A** all along. As we have learned, according to the **Code**, “gold” is a symbol of the divine, and this gold cup of immorality has been in the hand of **Yahweh**, intoxicating all the earth and driving the nations mad.

¹ **Revelation 17:16**

² **Revelation 3:18, 16:15**

We MUST NEVER FORGET what the **Codex** declares, “For from Him, and through Him, and to Him (or for His purposes) are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen!”³ All things have been created through Him and for Him, including that which is visible (in the earth) and invisible (in the heavens), for all things originate from God. He is the **Alpha** and the **Omega**.⁴

It has been **Yahweh’s Plan-A** all along for this woman to have her place of prominence amongst mankind, amongst the people of God, and for her to have her position on the seven heads of the Beast.

There is intention and purpose in God holding this cup. In a sense, He legitimizes her existence. This explains why this spirit of religious apostasy (*immorality*) has been able to convince peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues, the world over, that her house is where they need to be, that her house is the house of God, and that they are doing the right thing by imbibing in her cup. This is the reason why they protect her house and her ways so vigilantly and even violently.

Remember, once a person is born-again, or converted by God, they are imbued with the power or the authority to choose to become a son of God and live in unrestrained freedom, trusting **Yahweh** as their sole source of all things, or they can choose to be enslaved and held captive to this harlot. The choice is theirs to make.⁵ Without this spirit of immorality, however, there would be no choice; but there must be a choice, as choice is a fundamental aspect of God’s *agape* love. He does not force anyone to become one of His **Called and Chosen and Faithful**, rather they must choose to abandon this woman and come out of her. They must choose to love Jesus for who He says He is, not for who they have made Him to be based on what they want Him to be. They must choose Him for being the one who has been holding this golden cup in His hands, the cup which causes the nations to go mad. In effect, they must be that woman who loves her man, no matter what.

COMMANDS

Regarding Babylon, the great Harlot, there are six (6) commands given to the people, the **people** who belong to God: 1) to come out of her; 2) to pay her back as she has paid; 3) to make this payback double and double; 4) to mix twice as much for in the cup which she mixed, a cup filled with the blood of the saints; 5) to give her torment and mourning; and 6) to rejoice over her because God has pronounced judgment against her for us.

How does one even wrap their heads around such language, much less even know where to begin responding to these commands. Six commands, with six, according to the **Code**, being the number representing mankind, these six commands are for the people, **the people** who belong to God. Therefore, if you belong to God, if you are His, it is imperative to understand these commands and to receive them as part of your calling, and then, by the Spirit of God, by His leading and His grace, to walk in them.

Revelation 18:1-8

After these things I saw another angel **now** coming down from heaven, **now** having great authority, and the earth was caused to be illumined with his glory. And he cried out with a mighty voice, **now**

³ **Romans 11:36**

⁴ See **Colossians 1:16; 1 Corinthians 8:6, 11:12; Hebrews 2:10; Revelation 1:8, 21:6, 22:13**

⁵ See **John 1:12; Matthew 18:3**

saying, "Fell, fell is Babylon the great and has become by choice a dwelling place of demons and a watch {or hold} of every unclean spirit, and a watch {or hold} of every unclean bird and a watch {or hold} of every unclean beast caused to have been hating.

For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed acts of immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich by the power of her sensuality {strenuousness}"

I heard another voice from heaven, **now** saying, "You are *commanded*, the people, ***the people***, mine, to come out of her so that you **may** not participate of her the sins and **may** not receive of her plagues; for her sins have been caused to be glued up as high as heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities.

You are *commanded* to pay her back even as she has paid, and you are *commanded* to give back to her double and double according to her deeds; in the cup which she has mixed, you are *commanded* to mix twice as much for her.

To the degree that she glorified herself and lived sensuously, to the same degree you are *commanded* to give her torment and mourning; for she **now** says in her heart, 'I **now** choose to SIT AS A QUEEN AND I **now** AM NOT A WIDOW and **may** never see mourning.' For this reason, in one day her plagues will in the **future** come, death and mourning and famine, and she will in the **future** be caused to be burned up with fire; for the Lord God who has been judging her is strong."

And the kings of the earth, who have been committing acts of immorality and have been living sensuously with her, will in the **future** weep and in the **future** choose to lament over her when they **now may** see the smoke of her burning, having been standing at a distance because of the fear of her torment, **now** saying, 'Woe, woe, the city that great Babylon the city that mighty, ***the city that great Babylon the city that mighty***, for in *one hour* your judgment has come.'

And the merchants of the earth **now** weep and **now** mourn over her, because no one **now** buys their cargoes any more — cargoes of gold and silver and precious stones and pearls and fine linen and purple and silk and scarlet, and every kind of citron wood and every article of ivory and every article made from very costly wood and bronze and iron and marble, and cinnamon and spice and incense and perfume and frankincense and wine and olive oil and fine flour and wheat and cattle and sheep, and cargoes of horses and chariots and slaves and human lives.

The fruit you long for has gone from you, and all things that were luxurious and splendid have by choice been destroyed from you and men will no longer in the **future** find them. The merchants of these things, were being made rich from her, will in the **future** choose to stand at a distance because of the fear of her torment, **now** weeping and **now** mourning, **now** saying, 'Woe, woe, the city that great one, ***the city that great one***, who chose to having been clothed, ***who chose to having been clothed*** in fine linen and purple and scarlet, and caused to having been adorned, ***caused to having been adorned*** with gold and precious stones and pearls; for in *one hour* such great wealth has been caused to be laid waste!'

And every shipmaster and every passenger **now** sailing and sailor and as many as **now** choose to make their living by the sea, stood at a distance, and cried as they are **now** seeing the smoke of her burning, **now** saying, 'What is like unto the city that great?' And they threw dust on their heads and cried, **now**

weeping and **now** mourning, **now** saying, 'Woe, woe, the city that great, ***the city that great***, in which all who are **now** having ships at sea became rich by her wealth, for in ***one hour*** she has been caused to be laid waste!'

You are *commanded* to **now** be caused rejoice over her, O heaven, and the holy ones, ***and the holy ones*** and the apostles, ***the apostles*** and the prophets, ***the prophets***, because God has pronounced judgment for you against her."

Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, **now** saying, "So will Babylon, the great city, in the **future** be caused to be thrown down with violence and may not be found any longer. And the sound of harpists and musicians and flute-players and trumpeters may no longer be caused to be heard in you; and no craftsman of any craft may be caused to be found in you any longer; and the sound of a mill may be caused to not be heard in you any longer; and the light of a lamp may not shine in you any longer; and the voice of the bridegroom and bride may be caused to not be heard in you any longer; for your merchants were the great ones of the earth, because all the nations were caused to be deceived by your sorcery. And in her was caused to be found the blood of prophets and of holy ones and of all who have been caused to being slain on the earth.

Angel of the Lord

Revelation 18:1-2

After these things I saw another angel **now** coming down from heaven, **now** having great authority, and the earth was caused to be illumined with his glory. And he cried out with a mighty voice, **now** saying, "Fell, fell is Babylon the great ..."

The last angel that John saw was one of the angels holding one of the seven bowls of wrath. But this is "another" angel, and his description is quite ominous. We are told that the angel is **now** coming down from heaven. This reminds us that John was taken away to the wilderness, the barren place of demonic habitation, where he was shown the great Harlot, mystery Babylon, and the Beast with seven heads and 10 horns. Then into this scene invades the one who is now coming down from heaven.

The use of the *present* tense tells us that this angel is even now coming down from heaven and invading the demonic haunts and making this proclamation about Babylon. It's as if, in His mercy, God is warning not just us, but even the angelic forces of wickedness, of the fate of the great Harlot with whom the Kings of the Earth commit acts of immorality and with whom those spirits who dwell on the earth get drunk with the wine of her immorality.

John notices this is an angel who is **now** having great authority and the earth was caused to be illumed with his glory. That is some serious glory. In all probability, John might have been looking at the Angel of the Lord, the form which the pre-incarnate Jesus often took in his visible encounters with humanity.⁶ This would possibly be the 4th time we have encountered the Angel of the Lord; however, there just might be

⁶ ***Genesis 16:7-14, 22:11-15; Exodus 3:2-4; Numbers 22:22-38; Judges 2:1-3, 6:11-23, 13:3-22; Zechariah 1:12, 3:4***

a 5th in **Revelation 19** for a total of 5 gracious appearances of the Angel of the Lord.⁷

This angel cried out with a mighty or a “forcible” voice, a voice of authority, and is even **now** saying, “*Fell, Fell is Babylon the great ...*”⁸

This statement is layered in that it is prophetic as to what will be, but it is also a statement regarding Babylon the great’s state of existence: **this Harlot fell!** And since this statement is repeated and rendered in the *indicative* mood, we know this is a statement of fact beyond contestation.

This is also a statement that was prophesied in **Codex**.

Isaiah 21:8-10

O **Yahweh**, I stand continually by day on the watchtower, and I am stationed every night at my guard post. Now behold, here comes a troop of riders, horsemen in pairs. And one said, “**Fallen, fallen is Babylon; and all the images of her gods are shattered on the ground.**” O my threshed people, and my afflicted of the threshing floor! What I have heard from **Yahweh Sabaoth** (the Lord of hosts), the God of Israel, I make known to you.

Babylon will be physically destroyed by the human forces of the Antichrist, but it is also going to be spiritually decimated by the demonic forces of the Beast. All the images of her gods (that means all of them, no matter where on the face of this earth they are found) will be shattered to the ground. God has spoken and His word will be fulfilled.⁹ False apostate religion will be made desolate, stripped naked, her flesh will be devoured, and she will be burned up in the fire as God uses evil to judge evil.

YOU ARE COMMANDED, THE PEOPLE, THE PEOPLE, MINE, TO COME OUT OF HER.

The implications of this statement are beyond staggering. We will get into it its meaning in more detail, but for those who have ears to hear what the Spirit is saying, this is one of the most powerful and important statements in all of **Revelation**.

Babylon the GREAT

“*Fell, Fell Babylon the great ...*” We must not skip over the fact that the angel does not just say “Babylon,” but he says, “*Babylon the great.*” That is quite a title. This woman is not to be taken lightly. She is genuinely great. She has successfully penetrated every people, tribe, tongue, and nation on the face of this earth, and she has seduced them into idolatry and heresy. The use of “*Babylon the great*” as a descriptor fixes this picture to religious apostasy, for it was in Babylon where people first started to worship the angelic hosts of heaven, and where man believed he could create, with his own hands, the bridge, or the gateway to heaven.

⁷ The number 5 is **Code** for grace

⁸ “coming,” “having,” and “saying” are all rendered in the *present active participle*

⁹ See **Isaiah 44:6-8, 46:8-11**

In that regard, guess what is the Harlot's Mona Lisa, David, Sistine Chapel, Arc de Triomphe, her greatest masterpiece? Christianity. The other world religions were easy. She just fed the populous what they wanted, and they took it and ran with it. But the corruption of Christianity is her finest piece of work. She has masses believing they worship Jesus when all along they are worshipping false Jesus' and doing all manner of amazing things, "in His name."

This Harlot easily twisted and tortured the purity of the faith back in the first century, during the days of the Apostles, just as she had done to Judaism before that. And she continues to this day. It is far too easy to point fingers at many of the long-standing religious institutions and denominations as being spawns of this Harlot, however, the church, in all its forms, including evangelical Christianity, are addicted to her wine, and have indulged deeply in her sensuality and immorality.

Money, control, hierarchy, authority, submission, idolatry, rules, law, empire building, achievement, honor from men, and so on (all of which are tenets of 666) plague every religious institution. Therefore, the Lord is commanding His people to come out of *Babylon the great*, to come out of this *great city* of religious apostasy. Sadly, the fact that He utters such a command to His people means that far too many of His people are domiciled, and comfortably residing, in this city. As we work through this chapter, we will find out that God's people are not just passive observers of her atrocities, but willing participants and faithful devotees who benefit greatly from her intoxicating drink.

Hard Cold Facts About the Harlot

Revelation 18:2

... and has become by choice a dwelling place of demons and a watch {or hold} of every unclean spirit, and a watch {or hold} of every unclean bird and a watch {or hold} of every unclean beast caused to have been hating.

Babylon the great, the woman who sits on the seven heads of the Beast, has chosen to become a dwelling place for the domain of darkness. This is consistent with her being the *great city* of religious apostasy.¹⁰ She has become the dwelling place of demons, and a hold or a watch of every unclean spirit, unclean bird, and every unclean beast caused to have been hating.

Before we get into this description, let us not lose focus. These passages are addressed to believers, those in God's household. This is not addressed to those who are Satan worshipers, followers of pagan religions, or to cultic groups meeting in some candle lit curtain closed rooms. The Spirit is addressing the gatherings of those who are convinced they worship God. This is pointed at our religious institutions, schools, churches, gatherings for worship, communities, ministries, and so on.

This is shocking! The command to "come out of her" is not about a building or a geographical location, it is all about an aberrant belief system whose underpinning is mankind's perpetual quest to be good like God and his means to obtain this status through the fellowship with the angelic hosts, though admittedly, most are not aware of their relationship with the angelic.

¹⁰ "become" is rendered in the *aorist middle indicative*

Christianity: A Dwelling Place for Demons.

“... and has become by choice a dwelling place of demons ...” The harlot’s religious system is literally the domain of these strange demons: spirits, birds, and beasts. *Babylon the great* is their home. In the same way that Satan loves to disguise himself as an angel of light, an angel of God, an angel representing all that is good, so do his servants. They disguise themselves as servants of righteousness and they are the keepers, so-to-speak, of the people of God. Satan’s servants include both the demonic and the humans through which they work.¹¹

The realm of Christianity is dominated by the demonic. Even though it feels so wrong to suggest such a thing, even though people might freak out at the notion, this is a **WARNING** to those who are in the household of God and not to those who worship false gods of the pagan nations. This is a **WARNING** to those who should have ears to hear. The Spirit is saying that our churches and our religious institutions are in “*Babylon the great*” and are thereby infiltrated with the demonic; in fact, these spirits, birds, and beasts are the guardians of this system. Though the thought of this is surreal, by now, we should not be surprised. This was the core of the message in the book of *Jude*.

The Harlot has entered the Household of God and seduced those who would have ears to hear what she had to say, those who really did not want to hear what **Yahweh** had to say, and she has captured them and placed them under the management of the demonic.

Unclean

“... and a watch {or hold} of every unclean spirit, and a watch {or hold} of every unclean bird and a watch {or hold} of every unclean beast caused to have been hating.” This word we have translated as “unclean” speaks of both ceremonial and moral filth. They are defiled. They may take on an appearance of righteousness, and always speak about the things of God, but they are filthy and contaminated.

Spirits, Birds & Beasts

Throughout this study, we have generalized the spiritual realms to the common grouping of angels and demons, even though we have learned that there are so many types of creatures in the unseen realm. While convenient, this generalization does not accurately portray the nature or function of specific creatures. The angelic creatures are not homogenous. Different types of angels have different glory, different function, and different shapes or forms, with some being very human in appearance and others being described with animal characteristics.

By way of example, there are the Four who are the guardians around the throne of God protecting the true people of God. Three of the Four are described as having animal like faces: the lion, calf, and eagle, and the fourth as having a face of a man.¹² It seems that the spiritual realm provided the pattern from which our physical realm was created, even humanity is represented in the angelic.

It is also important to note that some Biblical manuscripts include “beasts” and others only include spirits and birds. So, depending on the Bible you read, it may or may not include “beasts,” it just depends on which Greek manuscripts the translators relied upon to create their version of the Bible.

¹¹ **2 Corinthians 11:14-15**

¹² **Revelation 4:5-8**

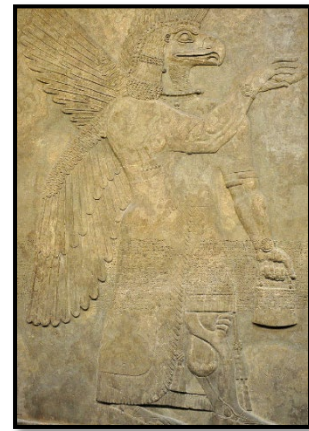
Spirits

The term “*spirit*” describes an incorporeal being or intelligence, something without a physical body. Examples of “*spirit*” would include the human soul, and God who is referred to as “spirit.” We are required to worship Him in spirit (in our soul) and in truth (in-and-through Jesus who is the truth)¹³ In this instance, “*every spirit*” refers to angelic beings, demonic beings, without a physical body, but who have intellect, purpose, and function.

Birds

Birds, specifically unclean birds, represent agents of darkness. According to the **Codex**, the unclean birds were the griffon vulture (the eagle), the bearded vulture, the black vulture, the kite, the falcon, buzzards of all kinds, ravens of all kinds, the eagle owl, the short-eared owl, the seagull, hawks of all kinds, the little owl, the great owl, the barn owl, the desert owl, the Egyptian vulture, the cormorant, the stork, herons of all kinds, the hoopoe, and the bat.¹⁴ Whether in the mountains, the desert, the coastline, or the jungle, the unclean beings are found to be everywhere. It is strange, but all these animals in our physical realms have overtones of the demonic.

Most Jewish scholars understood the passages about “unclean birds and animals” to be metaphorically referring to demons. For example, in **Isaiah 34:15** it speaks of hawks. Various reliefs that have been dug up in ancient Babylon reveal that hawk-like demons were worshiped.



Beasts

As to the beasts, in **Jeremiah 50:39** it mentions screech owls and other night birds as well as jackals and wild beasts. In **Isaiah 13:21-22** it speaks of ostriches, owls, and shaggy goats. **Job 26:12, 40-41** speaks of Rahab the sea monster, the Behemoth, and Leviathan, the dragon. And **Jeremiah 34:14-15** speaks of dessert creatures that meet with the wolves, the hairy goat, the night monster, the hawk, and the tree snake. Again, the Rabbis believed

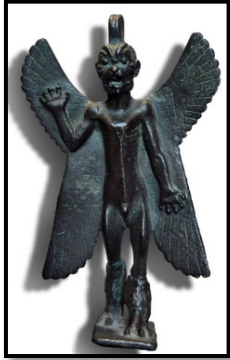


these were all references to various types of demonic spirits. The Jewish encyclopedia also mentions a demonic beast with the head of a calf, with one revolving horn in the middle, and an eye on the breast. This beast’s whole body is covered with scales, hair, and eyes. It was believed that whosoever sees him, whether man or beast, would fall down and die.

There is also a demon known as Lilith, who is believed to be the queen of demons. In a Babylonian relief she is pictured as part woman part bird. She has eagle’s feet, wings like a stork, a body of a woman, and long flowing hair. She is also pictured surrounded by owls. There is similar imagery to this in **Zechariah 5:5-11** where it pictures two woman of Lilith’s description who carries another woman of wickedness (the Harlot) in a basket and sets her down on a pedestal in a temple in none other than the land of Babylonia (Shinar).

¹³ **John 4:24; 14:6**

¹⁴ **Deuteronomy 14:11-18.** See also **Leviticus 11:13-19**



Then there is the Babylonian demon named Pazuz. It had the feet and wings of an eagle, the body of a man with claws for hands and a misshapen head. Figurines of Pazuz have been found in various archeological digs.

In other Babylonian reliefs they found demons pictured with lion heads. There was one who had horns and was thought to be a fierce female demon.

Jesus also likened serpents, scorpions, foxes, and birds to demonic spirits.¹⁵ Perhaps these demons are imaged as animals because they share a nature that is common to their animal image or vice versa. Think of the owl. It is a silent and deadly killer that comes out and attacks in the darkest of night. An owl is designed such that it can move silently through the air unnoticed by its prey until its talons are sunk deep into its prey's flesh. A hawk simply tears the meat off its prey whereas an eagle, who is pound for pound one of the strongest animals, squeezes its prey with its powerful talons and strikes its prey with its beak to kill it. These are picturesque of the type of demonic attacks that come against humanity.



Let's stop here and in our next podcast we will continue our study of the Harlot's city and these unclean spirits, birds, and beast.

I am glad you "tuned in" and have been "ready to listen."

¹⁵ See *Matthew 13:4, Luke 9:58, 10:19*