

# Getting God's Attention with Your Sins

Revelation 18:5-8

8 October 2021

**THEME:** God knows all things. But some things get His attention faster than others. He knows all our sins. But some sins get noticed faster and sometimes sin piles up so high that He responds.

## I. HER SINS ARE REVIEWED (v.5-6)

### A. The reach of her sins – unto heaven (v.5)

#### a. Our sins do not leave us unchanged.

- i. Sins affect our relationship with God and our effectiveness to serve others with the power of God.
- ii. When we sin, our testimony no longer promotes righteousness and faith in Jesus Christ.
- iii. Sin affects our family relationships and our friendships.

#### b. Biblical examples.

##### i. The wickedness of Noah's day (Genesis 6:11-13).

1. The gross corruption in the Earth got God's attention (vs 11).
2. Judgment was needed (vs 13).

##### ii. The wickedness of mankind at the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:4-5).

1. God came down to see how men were disobeying Him, trying to make a name for themselves, and leaving Him out of the picture entirely.
  - a. In the Church, Ananias and Sapphira were killed by God for the same sin. They tried to make a name for themselves in the Church by lying about their giving (Acts 5:1-11).
2. God's presence was required (vs 5).
  - a. God is present **everywhere** (Prov 15:3, Psa 139:8, Acts 17:27, Jer 23:24).
  - b. We have the presence and power of the Lord Jesus Christ dwelling **in us** (Galatians 2:20), but when we start relying on our own strength and abilities, the Lord's presence and power is not available to us.
    - i. The Lord never leaves us (Heb 13:5), but our actions can hinder the benefit of his presence in our lives.
  - c. When we **gather together**, the Lord is with us (Mt. 18:20).

##### iii. The cry of Sodom (Genesis 18:20-21).

1. The cry of Sodom was great (vs 18).
  - a. **Genesis 19:13.** This is a rebellious cry of people who want God to know they will do whatever they want to do. God destroyed Sodom BECAUSE of their cry.
  - b. **Isaiah 3:9.** This cry is a declaration of a people's intention to sin without shame and without apology.

2. How far do your sins reach?

### B. The remembrance of her sins by God (v. 5)

- a. **Jeremiah 14:10.** God never forgets. His remembrance is the sense that He is giving something His full attention and consideration and is taking action accordingly

C. The reward of her sins – double (v. 6).

- a. **Jeremiah 16:18.** There are times when a peoples' sins are so great and abominable that God rewards them double punishment for their sins.

II. **HER PRIDE IS REBUKED** (v.7) "*How much she hath glorified herself...*"

A. She glorified herself (Daniel 5:22-23).

- a. When you lift yourself up, it is against the Lord of heaven. "**He must increase, but I must decrease**" (John 3:30). If you make yourself to increase in glory, you are taking that much glory away from God.

B. She lived deliciously (Amos 6:1-7).

- a. She lived for all the joys, comforts, and pleasures of this world.
  - i. If God gives you some good things, thank Him for it, but don't make it your goal in life to obtain more of this world's goodies.

C. She spoke with herself: "saith in her heart."

- a. "**I sit a queen...**" This speaks of someone who thinks they've got it made in this life. "*I have arrived!*" In the end, they find out that they lived for the wrong things. (See **Luke 12:16-19**)

III. **HER JUDGMENT IS REAPED** (v.8)

A. Quick Judgment – "in one day."

- a. **Jeremiah 1:11-12. The lesson of the almond tree** – the first tree to bloom, it speaks of the swift approach of the judgment of God.
  - i. "**For I will hasten my word to perform it.**" Jesus Christ is the Word of God. He will take care of judgment swiftly.

B. Multiplied judgment: "*death, and mourning, and famine.*"

- a. **Amos 5:18-19.** You can't get away from God's judgment when it's time.

C. Complete judgment – "*utterly burned.*" (See **2 Thessalonians 1:7-9**).

D. Powerful judgment (v. 8) – "*strong is the Lord God who judgeth her*" (Psalm 62:11; Joel 2:11; Isaiah 26:4).

- a. God is powerful in creation (Heb 1:3, 11:3).
- b. God is powerful in salvation (Psalm 106:8, 1 Cor 1:18).

**THE RIGHT WAY TO GET GOD'S ATTENTION (Isaiah 66:1-2).** Be humble and tremble at God's word.

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