## REVELATION: Lesson 156 Chapter 18:1-4

"After these things" See Revelation 4:1, 7:1, 7:9, 15:5, 19:1, and 20:3 for similar phrases.

"Another angel" This is a different angel from the one in Revelation 17:7 (Mystery Babylon).

- This angel announces the fall of commercial Babylon.
- This is an angel, not Jesus Christ (as some believe).
  - Jesus Christ is unique. There is not another like Him. He cannot be another angel.
- This angel has "great power." Jesus Christ has ALL power (Mt 28:18).
- The earth was lightened with his glory. This glory marks the greatness of the occasion; the fall of Babylon the Great (vs 2, vs 20).

"Is fallen, is fallen" The repeated word emphasizes the finality of this event. Babylon is down forever.

"Is become...a cage" This portrays every false religion on earth keeping a person caged, bound by the lusts of the flesh, the desires of the mind, and the pride of life. Jesus Christ is the way (John 14:6) and He is the only One who can set a person free (Jn 8:36).

Hateful birds (vs 2) Unclean birds often depict unclean spirits in the Bible. Devils have wings (not angels).

- Jeremiah 5:25-27 In this passage, God links birds with the *deception* that traps, holds, and cages men.
- Isaiah 34:11-15 After Babylon is destroyed, unclean birds of all kinds will possess it along with dragons, beasts, and the satyr; all picturing the work of devils. The satyr (half man/half beast) playing pipes pictures Satan (Ezek 28:13).
  - Babylon will be the gathering place for unclean birds before Armageddon. They will fly to Israel to feast on the carnage.
- Matt 13:3-4, 18-19 Fowls (birds) picture the wicked one catching away the good seed of the word of God from those who have received it. Satan uses his fowls to devour that seed.
  - Those fowls of the air are devils. Their job is to prevent the word of God from getting to your heart.
  - That means the devils are working in churches where the word of God is being sown. They are not working in nightclubs (that is the flesh).
- Ecclesiastes 10:20 A "bird of the air" and "that which hath wings" carries your thoughts to the Devil (the prince of the power of the air!) so that he knows exactly how to trip you up and ruin your life. (Eph 2:2) (Jer 50, Zeph 2 for more on the subj).

"Another voice" (vs 4) This voice is very likely Jesus Christ. He calls to "My people" to "come out of her."

- "Her plagues" refer to the seven last plagues (Rev 15:1, 16:1-2).
- "**My people**" refers to Jewish saints who lingered. They didn't flee. They are in Babylon or they are associated with the commercial empire of the beast.

**NOAH and LOT Noah** is a type of the Tribulation Jew who flees into the wilderness before judgment falls and makes it safely through to the other side.

**Lot** is a type of the Tribulation Jew who lingered and tarried in the accursed city until he had to be dragged out at the last minute (by God's grace). Abraham is a type of Jesus Christ who prayed for the righteous in the city (Gen 18:23-33).

- These people (Rev 18:4) of God were "righteous" in the sense that they had not taken the mark of the Beast or bowed down to his image.
- Matthew 24:15-18 is the Lord's warning to the Tribulation Jew to flee.
  - The people who see the Antichrist enter the temple and call himself God will be able to read Matthew 24 and understand. That means they have a Bible in the Tribulation time!

## COME OUT OF HER MY PEOPLE

- Isaiah 48:20 "Go ye forth of Babylon, FLEE!"
- Isaiah 52:11 "Depart ye, Depart ye...touch no unclean thing!"
- 2 Cor. 6:14-17 "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers."

"<sup>17</sup> Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*!"

**1 Tim 5:22** You cannot straighten out this world. All you can do is separate yourself from those who sin and keep yourself pure.