

20231119 God remembers (Revelation 18:1-5)

- Back to the future Part 28 -

¹ After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven. He had great authority, and the earth was illuminated by his splendor.

² With a mighty voice he shouted:

“Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great!

She has become a dwelling for demons

and a haunt for every impure spirit,

a haunt for every unclean bird,

a haunt for every unclean and detestable animal.

³ For all the nations have drunk

the maddening wine of her adulteries.

The kings of the earth committed adultery with her,

and the merchants of the earth grew rich from her excessive luxuries.”

⁴ Then I heard another voice from heaven say:

“Come out of her, my people,’

so that you will not share in her sins,

so that you will not receive any of her plagues;

⁵ for her sins are piled up to heaven,

and God has remembered her crimes.

True marks of genuine Christian revival: Seeing Jesus (through His Word)

John 6:63

⁶³ The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you - they are full of the Spirit and life.

John 8:47

⁴⁷ Whoever belongs to God hears what God says...

Christian faith is all about knowing Jesus Christ, seeing Him as He is, and fully surrendering to His Lordship. Without Jesus, no one can know the true God. No one can come to God the Father.

John 14:6

⁶ ...I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

John 5:39

³⁹ You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me (Jesus)...

Jesus, our only satisfaction

“This desire and this inability proclaim to us, that there was once in man a true happiness of which there now remain to him only the mark and empty trace, which he in vain tries to fill from all his surroundings, seeking from things absent the help he does not obtain in things present? But these are all inadequate, because the infinite abyss can only be filled by an infinite and immutable object, that is to say, only by God Himself. He only is our true good, and since we have forsaken him, it is a strange thing that there is nothing in nature which has not been serviceable in taking His place; the stars, the heavens, earth, the elements, plants, cabbages, leeks, animals, insects, calves, serpents, fever, pestilence, war, famine, vices, adultery, incest.” - Blaise Pascal

The unified world religious organization (false religious system) during the first half of 7-year period

Revelation 17:2-6

² With her the kings of the earth committed adultery, and the inhabitants of the earth were intoxicated with the wine of her adulteries.

3 Then the angel carried me (John) away in the Spirit into a wilderness. There I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast (the Antichrist) that was covered with blasphemous names and had seven heads and ten horns.

4 The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, and was glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls. She held a golden cup in her hand, filled with abominable things and the filth of her adulteries.

5 The name written on her forehead was a mystery: babylon the great the mother of prostitutes and of the abominations of the earth.

6 I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of God's holy people, the blood of those who bore testimony to Jesus...

The destruction of the false religious system by the Antichrist in the middle of the 7-year period

Revelation 17:12-13, 16-18

¹² “The ten horns you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but who for one hour will receive authority as kings along with the beast.

¹³ They have one purpose and will give their power and authority to the beast.

¹⁶ The beast and the ten horns you saw will hate the prostitute. They will bring her to ruin and leave her naked; they will eat her flesh and burn her with fire.

¹⁷ For God has put it into their hearts to accomplish his purpose by agreeing to hand over to the beast their royal authority, until God's words are fulfilled.

¹⁸ The woman you saw is the great city that rules over the kings of the earth.”

The destruction of worldly political and commercial system by the judgement of God at the end of the tribulation

Revelation 18:15-19

¹⁵ The merchants who sold these things and gained their wealth from her will stand far off, terrified at her torment. They will weep and mourn

¹⁶ and cry out:

“Woe! Woe to you, great city,

dressed in fine linen, purple and scarlet,
and glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls!

¹⁷ In one hour such great wealth has been brought to ruin!’ “Every sea captain, and all who travel by ship, the sailors, and all who earn their living from the sea, will stand far off.

¹⁸ When they see the smoke of her burning, they will exclaim, ‘Was there ever a city like this great city?’

¹⁹ They will throw dust on their heads, and with weeping and mourning cry out:

“Woe! Woe to you, great city,

where all who had ships on the sea
became rich through her wealth!

In one hour she has been brought to ruin!’

Application

Only Jesus can meet our deepest need.

Until we find Jesus, nothing will satisfy that hunger. And He is not far away. He is right here, with us. Because He promised to be so.

1. Since Christ my soul from sin set free, This life has been a joy to me;
And 'mid earth's sorrows and its woe, 'Tis joy my Jesus here to know.

O hallelu – jah yes, 'tis joy! For it is Christ, that I enjoy!

On land or sea, what matters where? Where Jesus is, my joy is there.

2. The earth was once, a bitter place, Till Jesus showed, His smiling face;
Now joy's begun, within my soul, 'Twill last while en - dless ages roll.

3. What matters where, on earth we dwell? On mountain top, or in the dell,
In cottage or, a mansion fair, Where Jesus is, my joy is there.