

**“The Character of Babylon”  
Discipleship For Today, Part 20**

Revelation 17-18  
July 25, 2010

Today in the imagery of Babylon we see both our call to live faithfully in a culture which opposes God, as well as what is dangerous about such a culture. We see that ...

**The image of Babylon...**

... **has its roots in the tower of Babel**

*“let us build ... a city, with a tower that reaches the heavens, so we may make a name for ourselves.”  
(Gen. 11:4)*

... **would have been identified as Rome**

*This calls for a mind with wisdom. The seven heads are seven hills on which the woman sits. (17:9)*

.. **warns us of the danger of godless culture**

*I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was covered in blasphemous names and had seven heads and ten horns. (17:3)*

**Babylon is characterized...**

... **by sensuality (18:3)** *“her adulteries ...”*

... **by materialism (18:3)** *“excessive luxuries...”*

... **by injustice (18:13)** *“bodies and souls of men”*

... **by deception (18:16)** *“glittering with gold”*

... **by persecution (18:24)** *“blood of the prophets”*

... **by self-destruction (17:16)** *“the beast will hate the prostitute.”*

**God’s people are called ...**

... **to come out of Babylon**

*“Come out of her, my people, so you will not share in her sins, so that you will not receive any of her plagues (18:4)*

... **to focus on our true citizenship**

*But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ (Php. 3:20)*

*I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. (Rev. 21:2)*

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