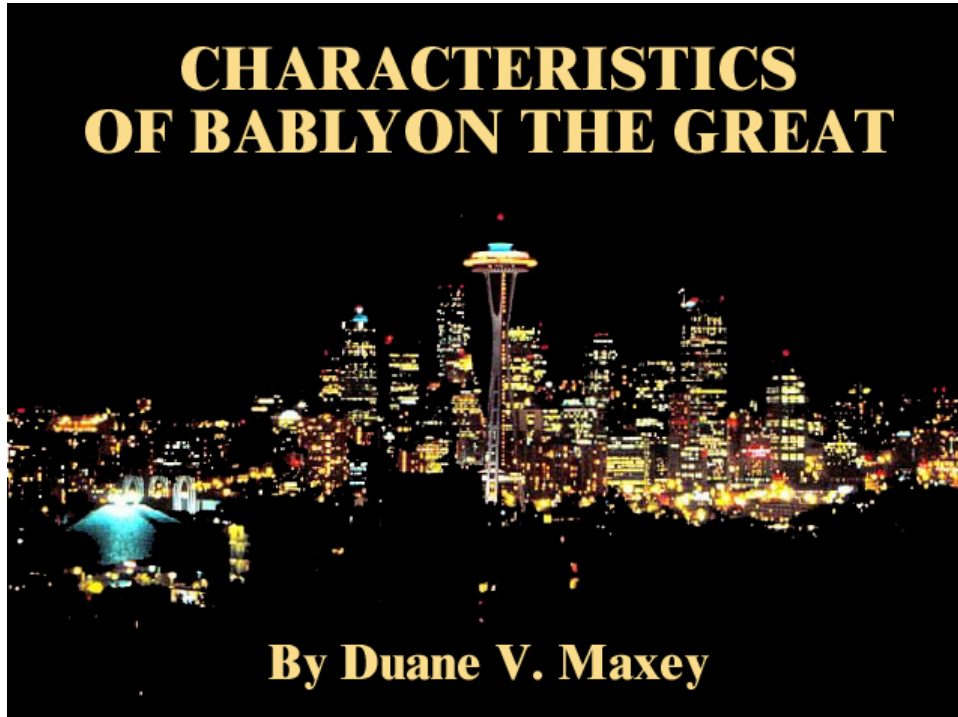


All Rights Reserved By HDM For This Digital Publication
Copyright 1993 -- 2006 Holiness Data Ministry

Duplication of this disc (CD or DVD) by any means is forbidden,
and copies of individual files must be made in accordance with
the restrictions stated in the B4UCopy.txt file on this disc.

CHARACTERISTICS OF BABYLON THE GREAT
By Duane V. Maxey



* * * * *

Digital Edition 11/12/06
By Holiness Data Ministry

* * * * *

CONTENTS

A Very Brief Introduction

- 01 -- Universal Oneness
- 02 -- Universal Commerce, Wealth, Prosperity, And Luxury
- 03 -- Universal Dictatorship And Persecution Of God's Saints
- 04 -- Universal Deception
- 05 -- Universal Indulgence In Evil

- 06 -- Universal Softness And Homosexual Daintiness
- 07 -- Universal Haughtiness And Pride
- 08 -- Universal And Eternal Destruction

In Conclusion

* * * * *

A VERY BRIEF INTRODUCTION

First, let me state that this is NOT a political article; it deals with Scriptural and spiritual truths. Biblical statements about Ancient Babylon and Prophetic Babylon the Great paint a very clear picture of that Final, Human Government that shall be overthrown by Christ at His Second Coming. Let us note some of the "Characteristics of Babylon the Great."

* * * * *

01 -- UNIVERSAL ONENESS

"And THE WHOLE EARTH WAS OF ONE language, and of one speech... And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad UPON THE FACE OF THE WHOLE EARTH" (Genesis 11:1, 4).

A spirit of Universal Oneness "upon the face of the whole earth" was that which possessed the first, would-be builders of Babylon. This same spirit of "World-Wide-Oneness" has now taken possession of many around the world. It is the spirit of anti-Christ, putting it into the minds of men in key places of power that WE MUST HAVE GLOBAL GOVERNANCE. We must all "talk the same language" and "be on the same page" about world-wide needs if we are to preserve the planet and our place in it.

WE MUST BE UNITED AROUND THE GLOBE, NOT SCATTERED into individual nations with individual sovereignties. Yes, dear hearts, just at the spirit of Universal Oneness possessed the original, would-be builders of Babylon, even so it is now working, mostly behind the scenes, but very, very actively. If you are not aware of this, you had better wake up! Plans are even now being discussed in Globalist Think-Tanks, and initiated in secret. The "ONE-WORLD" MOVE IS ON! Wake up, sleeping saint! -- or the World-Wide Take-Over will happen before you Roll-Over and get out of bed!

* * * * *

02 -- UNIVERSAL COMMERCE, WEALTH, PROSPERITY, AND LUXURY

The following portions of Revelation 18 make it clear that these characteristics shall be found in the Final World Government.

Rev. 18:3 For all nations.. and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies... 12 The merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble, 13 And cinnamon, and odours, and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts, and sheep, and horses, and chariots.. 15 The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her.. 16 .. that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls! 19 ...that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness!.. 22 And the voice of harpers, and musicians, and of pipers, and trumpeters.. 23 .. and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride.. for thy merchants were the great men of the earth.."

One of the prominent ideas that the spirit of anti-Christ has placed in the heads of many Globalists today is:-- World-Wide Commerce and Prosperity will bring world-wide peace. Therefore, Money-Moguls are working behind the scenes in undemocratic ways to promote such Universal Commerce and Prosperity. However, what many of these deluded men are overlooking is this: -- When they create a One-World Economy by their own unilateral efforts -- without the vote of the people -- **THEY WILL CONTROL BOTH THAT WORLD ECONOMY AND THE WORLD ITSELF -- AND THEY WILL NOT RELINQUISH CONTROL!** Those who may now think of themselves as world benefactors will become **WORLD DICTATORS!** And that brings me to my next point.

* * * * *

03 -- UNIVERSAL DICTATORSHIP AND PERSECUTION OF GOD'S SAINTS

Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon was a Universal Dictatorship:

"There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up" (Dan 3:12).

You know what happened to Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego when they would not bow down to Nebuchadnezzar's Image. They were cast into the fiery furnace (cf. Daniel 3:3-27). Their salvation was not FROM the fire, but THROUGH the fire -- a type of the Church going THROUGH the reign of Babylon the Great and its fiery persecution, not being delivered FROM it, but OUT OF it.

Let none suppose that there shall not be Christian martyrs of the Church during the coming reign of the Man of Sin in Babylon the Great. There will be many!

The Image of Nebuchadnezzar prefigured the Image of anti-Christ:

"And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed" (Rev. 13:15).

"And upon her forehead was a name written, Mystery, Babylon The Great, The Mother Of Harlots And Abominations Of The Earth. And I saw the woman DRUNKEN WITH THE BLOOD OF THE SAINTS, AND WITH THE BLOOD OF THE MARTYRS OF JESUS.." (Rev. 17:5-6).

"And in her was found THE BLOOD OF PROPHETS, AND OF SAINTS, and of all that were slain upon the earth" (Rev. 18:24).

Be not deceived! When John the Revelator spoke of "the prayers of SAINTS" in Revelation 5:8 and 8:4, he was referring to "SAINTS" in the CHURCH. And, when he speaks of "SAINTS" in the above verses he also refers to SAINTS IN THE CHURCH, NOT the mythical "Tribulation Saints" supposedly left behind after the Church has been raptured. NAY! The SAINTS OF THE CHURCH shall pass THROUGH the fiery furnace of the Great Tribulation -- and the faithful shall be delivered OUT OF it -- not without dying physically like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego -- but without dying spiritually.

God is not going to waft off to heaven on the magic carpet of a supposed Pre-Trib Rapture, the soft, namby-pamby professors of Christianity in the Laodicean Church. Christ's counsel to the 7th Church is: "I counsel thee to buy of me gold TRIED IN THE FIRE, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see" (Rev 3:18).

Like the 3 Hebrew Children, the 7th Church will be "tried IN fire" -- not "raptured up and AWAY FROM the fire. Those who are true, though they perish physically, will come out of that fire without the smell of smoke on their spiritual garments! Those who bow to the Image of the Beast and take his mark instead of daring to die in his fire will suffer eternal damnation when Christ Returns in Judgment.

The following true account vividly illustrates this:

"A blacksmith in King Edward the sixth's time, called Richard Denon, was a zealous professor of religion, and by his Christian instructions was the happy instrument of converting a young man to the faith. Afterwards, in the reign of Queen Mary, this young man was cast into prison for his religion, who, remembering his

old friend to whom he always carried a reverent respect for the good that he had received by him, sent to know whether he was not imprisoned also. Finding that he was not, he desired to speak with him; and when he came, asked his advice whether he thought it comfortable for him to remain in prison, and whether he would encourage him to burn at a stake for his religion.

"The smith answered that his cause was good, and he might with comfort suffer for it; 'BUT, FOR MY PART,' said he, "I CANNOT BURN." He could not burn for his religion, but BY GOD'S JUDGMENT, HE WAS BURNED FOR HIS APOSTASY. Shortly after this, his shop and house caught fire, and while he endeavored to save his goods, he himself was burned." -- Burton

Just before His Return and the Rapture of the Saints, the Church shall be "tried IN the fire" prescribed by Christ. It is THIS fiery trial which shall "separate the men from the boys," and the "professors from the possessors" of real Salvation. Let those who suppose differently beware!

* * * * *

04 -- UNIVERSAL DECEPTION

"And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for BY THY SORCERIES WERE ALL NATIONS DECEIVED" (Rev. 18:23).

The Man of Sin's reign in Babylon the Great shall be "with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish" (2 Thess. 2:9-10). So strong shall the "lying wonders" be "that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect" (Matt. 24:24).

Millions will actually believe that anti-Christ is the TRUE CHRIST! But God's faithful "elect" shall be saved "through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth." Many saints will die, but they will not be deceived. Conversely, "strong delusion" shall cause millions to "believe a lie" and "be damned" while having "pleasure in unrighteousness" (2 Thess. 2:11-13) during the years of that Final, Babylon the Great. And this brings me to my next point.

* * * * *

05 -- UNIVERSAL INDULGENCE IN EVIL

Another of the prominent characteristics of Babylon the Great shall be the profligate indulgence of all sorts of evil.

"Nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do" (Genesis 11:6). Saints will be restrained in shackles, but sinners will be free to indulge their evil passions, unhindered by any moral restraints.

Rev. 14:8 says that Babylon the Great "made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

Rev. 17:5 calls this final, World-Order "BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH."

Rev 18:2 says: "Babylon the great is.. become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird."

Rev. 18:9 tells of those "who have committed fornication and lived deliciously" in that vile Babylon.

During the wicked reign of the Man of Sin, SIN will be rampant as never before, around the globe. "The voice of harpers, and musicians, and of pipers, and trumpeters" (Rev. 18:22) shall be heard in a World-Wide revelry in debauchery! "Every unclean and hateful bird" will be feasting on spiritually putrid and stinking, Carnal Carrion -- as the most delicious dainties they have ever tasted! And, that brings me to my next point.

*** * * * ***

06 -- UNIVERSAL SOFTNESS AND HOMOSEXUAL DAININESS

As we approach the end, Jesus said that it would be "as it was in the days of Lot" (Luke 17:28). This tells us that Homosexuality shall be rampant, along with an effeminate daintiness.

In Isaiah 47:1 we read: "Come down, and sit in the dust, O virgin daughter of Babylon, sit on the ground: there is no throne, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for thou shalt no more be called TENDER AND DELICATE."

This same prominence of effeminate daintiness can be seen in Revelation 18:14 -- "And the fruits that thy soul lusted after are departed from thee, and all things which were DAINY AND GOODLY are departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more at all."

God HATES HOMOSEXUALITY! Yes, he loves homosexual sinners, but he HATES their deeds, and they cannot be saved IN that filthy behavior -- only FROM it.

Proverbs 23:6 warns: "Eat thou not the bread of him that hath an evil eye, neither desire thou his dainty meats." Many today ARE partaking of the dainty and effeminate, but utterly filthy practices of homosexuals -- and during the reign of

Babylon the Great, homosexuals and lesbians will be completely unrestrained. They will "beat down the doors" of resistance to their vile lusts without the restraint of Law. It is altogether possible, if not probable, that the Man of Sin will be the Ultimate Homosexual: "Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women" (Dan. 11:37).

When Agag "came unto him delicately" (1 Sam. 15:32), the holy prophet Samuel slew him! The tables will be turned during this awful reign. When homosexuals come delicately to their targeted victims, those who resist them will be slain. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord" (Rev. 14:13) for utterly refusing their filthy overtures in those days!

In Revelation 18:4 we read of God calling his pure saints to faithfulness at this time: "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."

Fire and brimstone buried Sodom and Gomorrah directly after Lot escaped, and "fiery indignation" shall destroy Babylon the Great right after the pure and holy saints are raptured out of that world-city when Christ Returns at the end of the Great Tribulation.

* * * * *

07 -- UNIVERSAL HAUGHTINESS AND PRIDE

The Biblical picture of Babylon the Great is one of immense pride:

"Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency.." (Isaiah 13:19).

Nebuchadnezzar said, "Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?" (Dan. 4:30).

"What city is like unto this great city!" (Rev. 18:18).

But the ultimate Immensity of Fallen Man's Pride, shall be overthrown by the INFINITE INTENSITY OF GOD'S WRATH, because Proverbs 16:18 shall be fulfilled: -- "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall." And that brings me to my final point.

* * * * *

08 -- UNIVERSAL AND ETERNAL DESTRUCTION

The Bible picture of Babylon the Great is that of a city facing Universal and Eternal Destruction.

"Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency, shall be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah" (Isaiah 13:19).

Jeremiah 50:35-39 -- "A sword is upon the Chaldeans, saith the Lord, and upon the inhabitants of Babylon, and upon her princes, and upon her wise men. 36 A sword is upon the liars; and they shall dote: a sword is upon her mighty men; and they shall be dismayed. 37 A sword is upon their horses, and upon their chariots, and upon all the mingled people that are in the midst of her; and they shall become as women: a sword is upon her treasures; and they shall be robbed. 38 A drought is upon her waters; and they shall be dried up: for it is the land of graven images, and they are mad upon their idols. 39 Therefore the wild beasts of the desert with the wild beasts of the islands shall dwell there, and the owls shall dwell therein: and IT SHALL BE NO MORE INHABITED FOR EVER!"

Jeremiah 51:37 -- "And Babylon shall become heaps, a dwellingplace for dragons, an astonishment, and an hissing, WITHOUT AN INHABITANT."

Was ancient Babylon rebuilt to be destroyed again? Yes. Shall the One-World Government of Babylon the Great be built? Yes. But never doubt it -- God's Word prophesying the utter and ETERNAL DESTRUCTION of that Babylon SHALL BE FULFILLED!

So universal and eternal shall its destruction be at Christ's return that "it shall be no more inhabited FOR EVER!"

In Hell, the damned "merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over" the destroyed Babylon the Great, "for no man buyeth their merchandise any more" (Rev. 18:11)! In the Lake of Fire "the voice of harpers, and musicians, and of pipers, and trumpeters" of Babylon the Great "shall be heard no more at all" (Rev. 18:22) -- FOREVER!

Years ago I heard an evangelist tell a story much like the following: A man and his wife took their little boy to a circus-type parade. In his father's arms, with delight, the little child licked on ice-cream, ate cotton-candy, and gazed in wide-eyed wonder -- as the bands marched and played, as the floats passed by, as the elephants trudged past, and as the clowns performed -- until finally, the last band, the last float, the last elephant, and the last clown passed them by. Then, as these all disappeared in the distance, the little boy cried out: "MORE, DADDY! MORE!" But the father had to tell him, "There is no more, son. There IS no more!"

After its final "hurrah" and proud parade, "The fashion of this world passeth away" (1 Cor. 7:31). And, the entire Babylon the Great of this "world passeth away,

and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever" (1 John 2:17).

* * * * *

IN CONCLUSION

Happily, after the fall of Babylon the Great at Christ's Return, there shall also BE NO MORE of some things for His saints. Throughout Eternity in Heaven, the saints of God "shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more" (Rev. 7:16), "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away" (Rev. 21:4) -- never to return, FOREVER!

"Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into The City" -- NEW JERUSALEM. (Rev. 22:14). In complete contrast with Babylon the Great, THIS HOLY CITY shall stand and shine eternally, WORLD WITHOUT END!

* * * * *

THE END