

COMING OUT OF BABYLON

by John W. Trescott

You need to know what this means, for you certainly do not want to be a partaker with her sins and suffer the plagues which will be poured out upon this wickedness. Read and study every word. And may Yahweh give you understanding.

Appreciation is extended to Yahweh for His revealing to me the Scriptures which prompted the writing of the book, and the inspiration of His Kodesh Spirit of Truth, which is love.

Appreciation is also extended toward Jean Zachary who helped so much in the historical aspect of Babylon and encouragement for me to write this treatise.

Halley's Bible Handbook also came in for some very good use.

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INTRODUCTION

How does a person come out of Babylon? There is a movement going on now which says that a person has to rescind all so-called contracts. These so-called “contracts” are supposedly the same thing as the “covenants” which were not to be made with the heathen. So the teaching goes that to rescind these “contracts” made with the heathen is obeying Yahweh.

Some of these so-called “contracts” or “covenants” are the social security number, birth certificate, driver’s license, fishing and hunting licenses, and even your citizenship in the United States of America. Of course the saying is you are only rescinding your 14th Amendment citizenship, and thereby automatically become a “Preamble” Citizen and supposedly free.

This teaching also goes so far as to say that a person cannot be a public school teacher and still be a Believer. Or if the teacher is a Believer and remains a public school teacher, then that person will not escape the sins of Babylon, but be punished with Babylon, and not go to a place of protection.

More of this deceptive teaching says that the Constitution of the United States, the Republic, was divinely inspired, or virtually Kodesh writ. This is absolutely false. The Preamble itself starts out, “We the people...” The Constitution was man’s best attempt to create a government as close as possible to his imperfect understanding of the Kodesh Bible. But that does NOT make it divinely inspired. In fact, Abraham Lincoln, in his famous Gettysburg Address, mentioned the government of the people, by the people. Therefore it is NOT OF YAHWEH! A government of the people and by the people CANNOT be for the people. Yahweh is the only Sovereign, and only He knows the best form of government and the best way to implement it. He DOES NOT HAVE AND NEVER WILL HAVE a Republic as His government with our Constitution as its foundational document. NO WAY. Yahweh’s government, the government of Yahshua Messiah, if you please, is not devised of men as our Constitution is.

What, then, is the answer to coming out of Babylon? Does it mean we give up all of our “privileges” under the evil democracy into which we have been legislated? Did Yahshua say we had to “fight” the system? Should Believers fight for their “Constitutional rights”? In this booklet we will explore some vital Scriptures on this subject. You will find that those promoting the false concept mentioned above are in grave danger of losing out on the Kingdom, for that doctrine, if followed, breaks down righteous character.

COVENANTS WITH THE HEATHEN

When the children of Israel were to go into the promised land, Yahweh told them they were to displace the heathen that were there. They were to drive them out, and, actually, He would help by using hornets. However, the Israelites were not to make any agreements with these heathen people. Notice the instruction in context in Exodus 23:27-33, especially verses 32-33. “You shall make no covenant with them (heathen), nor with their gods. They shall not dwell in your land, lest they make you sin against me: for if you serve their gods, it will surely be a snare unto you.”

Please note carefully the reasons. The heathen were not to dwell in the land of the Israelites. Secondly, the Israelites would fall into sin if they served the gods of the heathen.

Further instructions are found in Exodus 34:12-16. As Yahweh would drive out the heathen, the Israelites were to not make any covenant with them. “Take heed to yourself, lest you make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land where you go, lest it be for a snare in the midst of you: But you shall destroy their altars, break their images, and cut down their groves: For you shall worship no other god: For Yahweh, whose name *is Jealous, is a jealous Mighty One*: Lest you make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, and they (Israelites) go a whoring after their (heathen) gods, and *one* call you (an Israelite), and you eat of his sacrifice; And you take of their daughters unto your sons, and their daughters go a whoring after their gods, and make your sons go a whoring after their gods.”

Consider the instruction. They were not to make any covenant with them because of religious reasons. They were not even to make marriages (a type of covenant) because Yahweh knew the Israelites were so spiritually weak that they would succumb to the worship of their (heathen) gods. But what else?

The Israelites were to destroy the places of heathen worship. Those who say we are not to make contracts with the heathen, and apply that to birth certificates, social security, income tax, drivers licenses, etc. are NOT OUT DESTROYING the heathen places of worship. Besides, until recently, as far as I know, those who work in the banks, the IRS, the motor vehicle departments, to whom we go for licenses, are other Israelite peoples. Of course, nowadays, some are Gentile. If we are not to borrow or sign our name to some so-called contract with the heathen, then we should be out destroying all the places of false heathen worship which are seen so numerous in our country, namely nearly all of western Christianity, plus all of the eastern religions in our nation.

FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS

In Deuteronomy 7 we find even further instructions, very forceful ones. Verse 2, “And when Yahweh your Almighty shall deliver them (heathen) before you; you shall utterly destroy them; you shall make no covenant with them, nor show mercy.

Honestly now, what covenant were they NOT TO MAKE? The Israelites

were not to agree to let these heathen live. No covenant for life. They were to be destroyed. Yet, Yahweh knew Israelites were too soft hearted for the most part, and thought Yahweh was too harsh. He knew they would not listen to Him (Deut. 31:16) and so He went on to tell them not to intermarry. But the basic covenant they were not to enter into with the heathen was a covenant to let the heathen live. Once the heathen were destroyed, the Israelites were to break down all the places of heathen worship and their idols.

The “covenant” or “covenants” had nothing whatever to do with business activities. Today, there are those who say the “contracts” we sign are with the heathen, and are forbidden by Yahweh in these above stated Scriptures. Yet these people are not obeying the other instructions given in these verses. They are not destroying the so-called “heathen”, neither are they destroying the places of worship.

CONTRACTS OF DECEPTION

What if you were deceived into making a covenant or a contract. Should you then rescind that contract after you find out you were deceived? Let us take an example.

You want to buy a house. You go to a bank, and ask for a loan to buy the house. They loan you the money and you buy the house, although the deed remains with the bank. But you get the house (substance) for your loan and begin to pay off the loan.

A few years pass and you enjoy living in the house. But then you find out that the bank deceived you. The bank loaned you credit, which is unlawful. You were only given Federal Reserve Notes (called FRN’s or ferns) which is debt and not real “money” in any sense of the word. Money is substance such as silver and gold.. Not only did the bank loan you credit, but also charged you interest on that credit. That, too, is not lawful, but they did it anyway and you had signed the contract under this deception and unlawful practice. In fact the loan showed [\$] signs which represent debt (FRN’s) and not money. Money is represented by two vertical strikes down the [\$]. All those signs [\$] have been removed from typewriters, computers, and is never used any more.

Now, what are you to do since you found you had been lied to, cheated, and deceived by the bank? Are you to rescind your contract and not pay it? Of course you also found out you CANNOT pay for your house, only discharge a debt. But you do live in that house. Are you to rescind the contract and try to get the house for nothing? Are you to go back on your word because it was a supposed “contract with the heathen”? After all, you never paid anything, only FRN’s. You never really paid money on your debt-credit loan. But what are you to do? Are you to keep the contract even though you were lied to and deceived when you made it? What are Yahweh’s thoughts concerning these contracts, these covenants?

FAMINE ON DAVID'S KINGDOM

There was a famine for three years during the reign of King David. II Samuel 21:1... “Then there was a famine in the days of David three years, year after year; and

David inquired of Yahweh...” Interesting that David realized something was wrong and it wasn't with Yahweh. Too bad our people today cannot seem to realize the drought and natural disasters are a signal to seek Yahweh to find out what we are doing that is contrary to Him and His way.

Why was this famine on King David's kingdom? Same verse... “And Yahweh answered, *it is* for Saul (on account of Saul), and for *his* bloody house, because he slew the Gibeonites.” Think! Here was David's kingdom suffering from what Saul did that must have been a great sin in Yahweh’s sight. Saul, in his nationalistic, but misguided zeal for Israel, slew the Gibeonites. Why did he do it, and how is it the Gibeonites were being destroyed by Saul?

To atone for this unjustified slaughter, some of Saul’s posterity had to be slain, two of his sons and five of his grandsons. But Mephibosheth, son of Jonathan, a grandson of Saul, was not slain because David had made a covenant with Jonathan. After the hanging and burial of Saul’s sons and grandsons, the rains came and the famine ended (v-14). This sin of Saul was so drastic that Yahweh brought a famine on David's kingdom and it had to be atoned for with Saul’s descendants. That is a pretty stiff sentence for someone trying to be patriotic for national Israel. Yet, there are some who have a zeal for Yahweh, but not according to knowledge.

What had Saul done? Where is the record of Saul killing some Gibeonites? Look at I Samuel 21 and 22. David had fled from Saul. He came to Nob, a city of the priests. Ahimelech, the priest, served David and his servants and provided David with the sword of Goliath. This is where David and his men ate of the shewbread which Yahshua did not condemn. Doeg, an Edomite, observed this and squealed to King Saul. Saul came to Ahimelech at Nob accusing the priest of conspiracy against Saul. The priests knew nothing about it and Saul told his men to put the priests to death. They refused, yet Doeg, not only put the priests to death, but all the people in the city of Nob. Why was this so evil?

JOSHUA'S COVENANT

We find the answer to it in Joshua 9. When the Gibeonites heard of the victories against the heathen given by Yahweh to Joshua and Caleb, they decided to disguise themselves as from afar off and save their lives by so doing. (Joshua 9:1-6) In verses 7-13 these heathen told a good-sounding story, but it was a deception. Then they noted the physical evidence and Joshua and the men of Israel made a covenant with these heathen to let them live. Verse 15... “So Joshua made peace with them, and made a covenant with them to let them live; and the rulers of the congregation swore to them.”

These Gibeonites were made up of Amorites and Hivites, the heathen that were to be destroyed and not allowed to live. But Joshua did not ask counsel of Yahweh and was deceived into making this covenant which was a direct violation of the will of Yahweh. Were the men of Israel to break this now, after they found out they had been tricked?

When the children of Israel found out three days later.. .verse 18, “And the children of Israel smote them not, because the princes of the congregation had sworn unto

them by Yahweh Almighty of Israel. And all the congregation murmured against the princes.” Now notice the next 3 verses, 19-21...”But all the princes said unto all the congregation, we have sworn unto them by Yahweh Almighty of Israel: now therefore we may not touch them. This we will do to them; we will even let them live, lest wrath be upon us, because of the oath which we swore unto them. And the princes said unto them, let them live; but let them be hewers of wood and drawers of water unto all the congregation; as the princes had promised them.”

Did you notice that the princes of Israel had made this covenant in the very name of Yahweh of Israel? And were they to honor this covenant? YES THEY WERE!! If they did not, wrath would be upon them. Verse 27 shows that Joshua made them servants of the Levites. As such they dwelt in the cities of the priests. Nob was one of those cities. When Saul, in his mis-guided zeal, slew all the people of Nob, he murdered all these heathen Amorites and Hivites. YAHWEH DID NOT APPROVE, even though the covenant had been made under great deception. Saul even had to get an Edomite to do his killing, for Saul’s own men knew better and would not do it.

Joshua had not only allowed these Gibeonites to live, but he also furnished them with protection from their enemies. Read about it in Joshua 10:6-11. The need to protect them was so great, that the wrath of Yahweh came on those who would think to go up against those protected by this covenant.

What is the meaning of all this? Simply this. Once you have given your word, you are held strictly accountable. When you sign a contract, you are held strictly accountable to Yahweh, who knows about it. You must not go back on your word. If you do, you cannot be trusted and your entrance into the Kingdom of Yahweh is in jeopardy. Psalms 15:1-4 says this. “Yahweh, who shall abide in your tabernacle? Who shall dwell in your Kodesh hill? He that walks uprightly, and works righteousness, and speaks the truth in his heart... .He that swears to his own hurt, and changes not.” Yes, even if it hurts, you must do according as you have said you would do. YOU MUST KEEP THE COVENANTS YOU MAKE and not give an excuse that to “come out of her my people” gives you license to break your contracts! If you want to be in the Kingdom, you had better back up your word. To break your word is to tear down your character! To break your word makes you just like the world. To represent the Almighty, we must keep our word as He does His word. The Almighty never breaks His word, and if we are to be like Him, and have His character built in us, then we need to KEEP OUR WORD!

DANIEL AND BABYLON

When Judah was taken captive into Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar, Daniel and his three companions, all of whom were of the tribe of Judah, were chosen to be taught “the learning and the tongue (language) of the Chaldeans.” (Dan. 1:5b)

Did Daniel, and his three companions, immediately resist and “fight the system” of his day? NO! The only thing they adamantly refused to do was to go along with the false Babylonian religion including the wrong foods.

In fact, Yahweh gave these four men of Judah knowledge and skill in all learning

and wisdom. They were ten times better than the magicians and astrologers in the king's realm. (Dan. 1:17-20) Daniel stayed on with the Babylonian kingdom until the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia. Verse 21. In Daniel 2:48-49, all four were set over the affairs of Babylon with Daniel right in the gate of the king himself. This is certainly not “fighting the system” as some would want others to do today. Daniel was a sojourner in Babylon, and we, if we are true servants of Yahshua Messiah, are sojourners in the nation where we were born and/or reside.

INSTRUCTION TO THE CAPTIVES

What were the instructions given by Yahweh to the captives in Babylon who had been taken there out of Judah and the environs of Jerusalem? Read about it in Jeremiah 29:4-7. “Thus says Yahweh of hosts, the Almighty of Israel, unto all that are carried away captives, whom I have caused to be carried away from Jerusalem unto Babylon; build you houses, and dwell *in them*; and plant gardens, and eat the fruit of them; take you wives, and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons, and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; that you may be increased there, and not diminished. And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray unto Yahweh for it: for in the peace thereof shall, you have peace.”

Think of it. Yahweh is certainly not telling them to fight against the system. They were in their predicament because it was the judgment of Yah upon them, and He said, make the best of it. We are partially “slaves” today in our own land as a result of our sins and Yahweh’s light judgment upon us. We are also sojourners, if we are true servants of the Almighty, and as such, in no way are we to fight or take up arms against the system.

Please note what Yahweh says of those who would tell you that you must fight against the wicked system you live under. verse 8-9... “For thus says Yahweh of hosts, the Almighty of Israel; let not your prophets and your diviners, that *be* in the midst of you, deceive you, neither hearken to your dreams which you cause to be dreamed. For they prophesy falsely unto you in my name: I have not sent them, says Yahweh.”

Yes, there are some who even claim to be prophets of the Most High, but the supreme Sovereign of the Universe says He did not send them. What are you to do when you see such a statement? How can you know who is and who isn't a true minister of Yahshua Messiah? [Send for our free tape called STAYING POWER and find out.] After all, some of these self-styled prophets may well be Believers, may be trying to serve Yahweh to the very best of their understanding, no matter if they do misunderstand some things. But they simply have not been called of Yahweh to be His prophet.

INSTRUCTION OF YAHSHUA

What did Yahshua instruct His disciples regarding this world? Does He tell them to fight against it? Does he tell them to try to bring about government reform through some sort of remnant resolutions? We must go to the instructions He gave.

In Matthew 25:14-23, Yahshua talked of a man who went into a far country [His going to heaven]. He left instructions for his servants so that they took the talents and went and traded, increasing. They were in this worldly system, trading under its mercantile system. He praised them for increasing what they had been given.

But one was afraid. He had little and buried it. Perhaps he was afraid that he was in Babylon and must come out, thus do nothing with what Yahweh had given. He was reprimanded for not working in the system. He was even told he should have put the money in the bank to draw interest at the very least. But he had not done even the least.

Yahshua, in His prayer, recorded in John 17, said in verse 15, "I pray that you should take them NOT out of this world, but that you should keep them from the evil [one]." Later in verse 18, "As you have sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world." Yahshua sends us into a worldly system. We don't fight against it, we use it. Yet we are not of the world, verse 17. Verse 20 shows He was praying for us in our day.

Why did Yahshua leave these examples and instructions for us? Because He, as a carpenter, like a modern owner of a construction outfit, worked within the Roman system. He even went so far as to pay unjust taxes. In Matthew 17:24-27 Yahshua clearly instructs His disciples the correct thing to do even if the tax was not according to the way of Yahweh. They were to pay the taxes required by the beast government of their day. Nowhere did Yahshua ever tell His men to fight against the Roman mercantile system of His day. We are to strive NOT to offend, He said they should by all means live at peace with all men, if at all possible. Romans 12:18..."If it be possible, as much as lies in you, live peaceably with all men."

FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS

What were some of the other instructions Yahshua gave to those who would be His servants? Were His ministers and disciples to go "above and beyond" the call of duty in the Roman system they live in? They were in Babylon then as much as we are today.

Yahshua said out of His own mouth, "If any man will sue you at the law, and take away your coat, let him have your cloak also." Today, people would try to get the jump on the one who sues, and sue first to keep the coat and the cloak. Yahshua continued, "Whosoever shall compel you to go a mile, go with him two." This type of instruction doesn't set well with those who would try to claim their "rights" under our Constitution. If they falsely claim divine inspiration for the Constitution of our United States [and they use a small u], let them profess that these instructions of Yahshua are divine writ and far above our Constitution or any other man-made government. These instructions are found in Matt. 5:40-41. In verse 39, He says we are not to resist evil [him that is evil]. Yet I have heard of those who would resist officers when asked to see a driver's license, or any other kind of license.

How obvious it should be to anyone with an honest and open mind that we are NOT to fight against the present system! We are to be in the world, use the world, but not be OF the world. After all, we are sojourners and our citizenship is in heaven, not in any

permanency of any man-made government on this earth. The REPUBLIC and the CONSTITUTION are definitely man-made. Incidentally, if coming out of Babylon means to get back to our Constitution, what do the poor people in other countries do who have no republic, and no constitution to go back to?

JOSEPH AND MARY

In Luke 2:1-5, you can read how the people in Judea and Galilee, among others, were taxed. Joseph and Mary went to Bethlehem and were also to be taxed. Here we see a righteous young man, and the mother of Yahshua Messiah paying taxes to a Roman Babylonian type government which they were living under. Were they sinning? NO!

Yahshua was brought up under the guidance of Joseph and Mary. Even Yahshua paid taxes! In the KJV Bible, taxes are often called tribute money. Let us notice Yahshua's answer. Matthew 17:24-27, "And when they were come to Capernaum, they that received tribute *money* came to Peter, and said, does not your Master pay tribute? He said, Yes. And when he was come into the house, Yahshua prevented him, saying, What think you, Simon? Of whom do the king of the earth take custom or tribute? Of their own children, or of strangers? Peter said to Him, Of strangers. Yahshua said to him, then are the children free. Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them, go you to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first comes up; and when you have opened his mouth, you shall find a piece of money: that take, and give unto them for ,Me and you."

Yahshua shows here that even if one considers himself a "freeman", he should pay the required taxes. This tribute He paid was for Himself, as well as for Peter. In Matthew 22:17-21, Yahshua answered a question concerning the lawfulness of paying taxes to Caesar; that is, paying taxes to a wicked Roman government which had enslaved the people of that day. Today, in our nation of the United States of America, we have been legislated out from under our constitution which formed the basis of our Republic. We no longer have a Republic. We had been legislated into a democracy long before I was born, and it has progressively become worse and worse, with more and more enslavement of the American peoples. Under this wicked government, we are required to pay taxes, just as the taxes were required in Yahshua's day. YAHSHUA DID NOT FIGHT THE SYSTEM, NOR DID HE TELL PETER, OR ANY OF THE DISCIPLES, OR THE HYPOCRITICAL PHARISEES, THAT THEY SHOULD FIGHT THE SYSTEM!

PAUL'S EXAMPLE

Paul was born a "free-born" Roman citizen. (Acts 22:28) Notice that Paul used his Roman citizenship to keep from being punished unjustly. He did not get angry that the system was about to unlawfully beat him, nor did he get angry at the centurion. He simply let them know they were about to scourge a Roman, and an un-condemned Roman. He had done nothing against the Roman government and had no legal charges against him.

Even though Paul was born a Roman under a Roman rule, he was also a Benjamite in the city of Tarsus. He even claimed he was a “Jew”! [Horrors! How could that be?] (Acts 21:39; 22:3; Phil. 3:5) At times Paul worked within this Roman system as a tent maker. He and his companions labored night and day at a job so they didn't have to beg tithes and offerings from those they served in the Assembly. (I Thessalonians 1:7-9; II Thessalonians 3:8) Paul said he and his men set an example that should be followed. Paul didn't simply work in a garden of his own so he would have bread to eat. He worked and received remuneration for his labors so he could buy and sell within the system and not be chargeable to any of the brethren for any of his needs. He knew of some who did not work at all. And some today only work in a garden rather than going out and earning a living in the system to support their families.

Let's read a very interesting Scripture in Acts 18:1-3. “After these things Paul departed from Athens, and came to Corinth: And found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla; (because Claudius had commanded all Jews to depart from Rome:) and came unto them. And because he [Paul] was of the same craft, he abode with them, and worked: for by their occupation they were tentmakers.” The word for tentmaker is #4635 indicating they were manufacturers! What is this? Could it be that Aquila owned his own business manufacturing tents? A business in this Roman mercantile system? And also a Jew?! Wow! Today some “Christians” would have nothing to do with a Jew, and especially one who owned his own business under our Roman mercantile system. But Paul, who set us a right example in this, didn't think the way too many of the Believers think today.

FEAR TACTICS

Too often there are fear tactics used by those who go off into various and sundry doctrines such as the one we have been reviewing. The general theme is to try to inject an unhealthy fear into those who don't see eye to eye on this concept being promulgated. The promoters try to instill in others that if the brethren do not do exactly as they are doing, then the brethren won't go to a place of safety. This place of safety being a place of protection during the time of great tribulation. The fear of perhaps losing out on the kingdom is also subtly introduced.

We need to look at Romans 14:1-3 and realize that not all of us will agree on peripheral concepts. In the case in Romans, one who was actually weak in the faith thought he had to be a vegetarian Another knew that clean meats could be eaten. Neither of these two had any right whatever to judge or criticize the other. They should totally refrain from putting some type of fear trip on each other They were both servants of our Master. Since, individually, they were both servants, the Scripture says.. .how dare you judge another man's servant?! We have all done this at one time or another perhaps more often than not, and we need to repent of it.

In the next part of this book, we will see what Babylon is, how and when it started, what it encompassed, and the two-fold meaning of the statement “Come out of her, My people...”

PART TWO

COME OUT OF HER, MY PEOPLE

Any average Believer, who has any desire whatever to please Yahweh must ask himself, "What is Babylon, that I must come out of her?" The answer to that question is found in the Bible and in secular history.

The first place in the bible we see the term is found in Genesis 10:10 where it is mentioned as the beginning city of Nimrod's kingdom. (The margin shows Babel should be rendered Babylon.) This began only about 200 to 250 years after the flood from which only 8 people survived. Nimrod was the son of Cush and a grandson of Ham. Ham was a son of Noah.

Nimrod was acclaimed as a "mighty hunter before Yahweh..." A careful study of those words indicate that Nimrod was a tyrant who was against Yahweh and rose up in the stead of Yahweh. He was famous for hunting wild animals and protecting or delivering the people from that danger. Thus he became a deliverer instead of the one great Deliverer--Yahweh.

Secular history shows that Nimrod, with his mother-wife, Semiramis, organized and founded an abominable religion to undermine the true religion of Yahweh. This religion was, and still is, the anti-Messiah religion in use today the world over. These two set themselves up as gods. Nimrod became the sun god and Semiramis the Queen of Heaven. In other countries she was called Astarte, Ishtar and Easter. She claimed to have begotten a son by the sun god, Nimrod, after he died and went to the sun. This child was worshipped as the son of god and she as the madonna two thousand years before Messiah.

In various countries this same sun god was worshipped with different names and titles. Some of those titles were: The Branch, Savior, Deliverer, the one who was slain before the foundations of the earth, etc. A quick mind can easily see the heathen religion STOLE the names, titles and attributes of the true Creator and applied them to themselves. The name Nimrod means rebel. It is no wonder the Jewish Encyclopedia, Vol. 9, page 309, states of Nimrod..."he who made all the people rebellious against Yahweh."

[The reader is urged to acquire one very helpful book on this subject of Babylon. THE TWO BABYLONS, by Alexander Hislop can be had from your local Christian Bookstore. THE TWO BABYLONS, \$12.95.]

Heathen religions all over the world believed the same basic story using different names. Their perversion has survived the centuries until now. Yahweh acknowledges that the heathen have never changed their gods, but we Israelites of western Christianity have certainly departed from the true Creator, YHWH [or Yahweh], and continue to promulgate the heathen worship. We think it is being done to the true Almighty with His approval. NO WAY!

Today the birthday of Nimrod (Christmas) is observed with all the pagan trappings

of Yule logs, evergreen trees all decorated, and ornaments. Semiramis decorated an evergreen which she said sprang up overnight on Nimrod's grave on his birthday, December 25th. Easter (a goddess of fertility) continues to be lauded with Easter eggs, laid by a prolific bunny in honor of her fertility in adulterous religious rites. You should look at Deuteronomy 12:29-31 where Yahweh clearly says He does NOT accept this manner of heathen worship in honor of Him.

These heathen rites were so offensive to the true Yahweh that He went on to confound the language as they were building this great tower, the tower of Babel or Babylon. You may be surprised to find out this may have been a pagan temple being built. The people were scattered over the land. (Genesis 11:9)

CITY OF BABYLON

Besides the rank, heathen religion of worship of the sun, often with sex orgies, and the sadistic murder of children through the fire to Molech, there was also a great city called Babylon.

This city became famous under King Nebuchadnezzar. If one would go through the Ishtar Gate (pronounce Easter Gate), the eyes would behold one of the seven wonders of the world, the Hanging Gardens. Babylon was the center of commerce and trade, and was situated in the rich river valley of the Euphrates River. It was the premier city of all the world at the time just prior to the captivity of Judah. In fact, it was the "head of gold" shown in the image which was revealed to Nebuchadnezzar in a dream (Dan. 2). This city was the chief city of a vast empire which fell to the Persians after Yahweh's time came to unmake the Babylonian Empire. The city remained through the Persian reign and on into the reign of Alexander the Great, but declined steadily at that time. By the 1st century C.E it lay mostly in ruins.

The captives of Judah were sent there and Yahweh, as previously shown, told them to live and work in Babylon. It is instructive, to say the least, that there was a prophet of Yahweh, besides Daniel, yet contemporary with Daniel, who prophesied during that time period when Daniel was high up in the Babylonian government.

EARTHLY DEPARTURE

What did Jeremiah say? He said many things over a period of more than 72 years. While Babylon still stood and Daniel was there, Jeremiah predicted its downfall in Jeremiah 50. This prophecy tells the people of Judah and the children of Israel that were there in Babylon to, "Remove out of the midst of Babylon, and go forth out of the land of the Chaldeans..." But when did they actually leave Babylon? It was very shortly after it fell into the hands of the Persians. In fact, Cyrus, directly after the 70th year of captivity, pronounced liberty to the captives and allowed all who would to return to Jerusalem. They left Babylon AFTER it fell and not before, yet the instruction was to "remove out". It was an earthly, physical departure from one land to another.

What is the significance? In Revelation 18:4, we see that the call to come out is

AFTER Babylon has fallen (see v-2). When our whole Babylonian system falls at the time of the return of Yahshua Messiah in power and great glory, those scheduled for the first resurrection will be resurrected to rule with Him. We, with Him, take over world ruler-ship. We call on the Israelites, then in captivity, to come out before the plagues fall on Babylon. The punishment of Babylon is given out in the seven last plagues and the saints have the honor of executing the judgment written. (Psalms 149:6-9) This will be an earthly, physical departure.

The former departure out of Babylon was also recorded in Isaiah 48:20, which the margin in KJV refers to in Revelation 18:4. Again, it refers to an earthly departure out of Babylon just after she falls. It is a departure of Israelite peoples from their place of national captivity.

SPIRITUAL BABYLON

As there has been and is a physical, earthly Babylon, so there is a spiritual Babylon. It is a spiritual confusion spawned by our great adversary, Satan, the Devil. The unseen things of the spirit ,world are often portrayed by physical things in our earthly world.

This Babylon is called MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT, MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH (Revelation 17:5). Mystery Babylon is pictured as a sinning, religious woman. A woman is symbolic in Scriptures of a church. Remember the children of Israel, after being formed into a nation, were called ‘THE ASSEMBLY IN THE WILDERNESS’. Ezekiel 16 clearly states that she became a harlot. We at least can see that the children of Israel today are an active part of this spiritual Babylon. All one has to do is LOOK at all the abominations going on in America today, in all the Israelite Anglo-Saxon nations, the Scandinavian nations and the nations of western Europe.

This Mystery Babylon is a heavenly power portrayed by the term “THE GREAT”, in Revelation 17:5. We don't wrestle with flesh and blood, but against wicked spirits in heavenly places of dominion. This power has set up earthly false religions (mysteries) for thousands of years. Simon Magus of Acts 8 claimed to be “THE GREAT POWER OF YAHWEH.” He was a carry over of the mystery religion of Babylon, and went right on to be the Peter [interpreter] who went to Rome. Rome became a center for the Babylonian Mysteries. These mysteries were passed on down to Europe, the British Isles, and finally on to America, as a Christian religion. Although not all of the pagan ways of worship came here at the beginning in the 1600's, by the late 1800's we were wallowing in the heathen practices of Christmas and other holidays brought in by the Roman Catholic Church.

But this ancient system affects many people, for she sits upon many waters. (Revelation 17:1) Waters is symbolic of people. Revelation 17:15 “..And he said to me, the waters which you saw, where the whore sits, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.” This false religious system is supported by most all the peoples of the earth. That is why it is said she sits on many waters.

Since this book is showing the false premise upon which a major false doctrine has been established and has taken root in our land, then most of these Scriptures will be directed at America. America has been made drunk by the wine of her fornication. (Revelation 17:2) We have swallowed the mystery religion so fast, and digested it so thoroughly, that we have become a major proponent of it. In fact, we have become so much a part of it, it is evident by our individual and national character. So the name in her forehead in verse 5 clearly shows it means she has taken on the character of this spiritual Babylon.

The major spiritual MARK of this spiritual babylonish worship is worship on SUNDAY, the venerable day of the sun. Notice these remarkable statements and see for yourself.

“Of course the Catholic Church claims that the change [from Sabbath to Sunday] was her act. ..AND THE ACT IS A MARK of her ecclesiastical power.” From the office of Cardinal Gibbons, through Chancellor H. F. Thomas, November 11, 1895.

“Of course, I quite well know that Sunday did come into use in early Christian history as a religious day, as we learn from the Christian Fathers and other sources. But what a pity that it comes branded with the MARK OF PAGANISM, and christened with the name of the sun-god, then adopted and sanctified by the Papal apostasy, and bequeathed as a sacred legacy to Protestantism.” Dr. E. T. Hiscox, author of the Baptist Manual. From a photostatic copy of a notarized statement by Dr. Hiscox.

Although we often hear of the apostasy of the Roman Catholic Church, it is a misnomer. The RCC NEVER WAS the true church of Yahweh, and therefore it never apostasized. However, the American people, who have the Bible, have taken on her MARK, as well as many other characteristics, thus playing the harlot by forsaking Yahweh of Israel.

The keeping of the commandments of Yahweh, the Kodesh Sabbath from Friday sunset to Saturday sunset, and the observance of His seven annual Kodesh Days are a sign between the Mighty One of Israel (Yahshua Messiah) and His people. But we forsook that glorious sign and traded them for the MARK OF THE BEAST which is the observance of Sunday, and the holidays of this world such as Christmas, New Years, Valentine's Day, Easter and Hallowe'en. [Write for our free tape...RELIGIOUS MARK/WORSHIP OF THE BEAST. Also ask for free reprints about Easter and Hallowe'en.]

SPIRITUAL DEPARTURE

Coming out of Babylon is two-fold in fulfillment. In Revelation 18:4 we read, “...Come out of her, My people, that you be not partakers of her sins (spiritual), and that you receive not of her plagues (physical).” We have seen Scriptures indicating the physical, earthly departure from Babylon; now we need to look at some Scriptures to show the spiritual departure.

Isaiah 52:11 states, “Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch no unclean *thing*; go you out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessels of Yahweh.” Here

is a command to come out in a spiritual sense. And notice we cannot do it of ourselves. The supernatural power of Almighty Yahweh, our Deliverer, will help us. Verse 12.. “For ye shall not go out with haste, nor go by flight: for Yahweh will go before you; and the Mighty One of Israel shall be your rearward [rear guard].”

Here we find they were not to go in haste. This means they were not to go fearfully, but in confidence. Haste is #2649, from #2648, and is used in Exodus 12:11 where the Israelites were to eat the Passover lamb in fear and awe at what was about to happen.

Paul spoke of this spiritual departure in II Corinthians 6:14-17... “Be you not unequally yoked to unbelievers: for what fellowship has righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion has light with darkness? And what concord has Messiah with Belial? Or what part has he that believes with an infidel? And what agreement has the temple of Yahweh with idols? For you are the temple of the living Yahweh; as Yahweh has said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their Almighty and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be you separate, says Yahweh, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you.”

Paul is showing we are not to marry an unconverted person. We are not to have business partnerships with unbelievers. We are not to take communion with them. We are not to enter into their idolatry with them. Yet Paul is not saying we must avoid all contact with the people of this world. For then we would have to go out of the world. Notice his explanation in I Corinthians 5:9-10...”I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators: Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must you needs go out of the world.”

Paul is speaking spiritually. He is not speaking altogether physically. He is saying in all of this, we must come out of spiritual Babylon. Stop agreeing with abortionists; stop any sexual improprieties; stop all regular worship on Sundays and the world's holidays. We must stop backbiting; stop being covetous; stop drinking alcoholic beverages excessively; stop reviling [being abusive]. We are not to be puffed up as if the whole world and assembly must listen to us exclusively as an individual or as a prophet of the Most High Yahweh.

In short we must not be partakers of the sins of Babylon, this whorish system we live in, but are not to be of. The Almighty, the Most High, says it is a SIN TO GIVE YOUR WORD AND THEN BREAK IT! Yes, even if we have been defrauded and entered into an agreement by deception. We are to keep our word even when it hurts. Are we not to allow ourselves to be defrauded rather than fight the system and go to court? See I Corinthians 6:7b-8a. Are we not to follow the example of our Master and suffer wrongfully at times? To suffer wrongfully with patience is what Yahweh will thank you for. Read I Peter 2:19.

Is taking people to court, over supposed or real injustices done to you by this wicked system, really standing up for Yahweh and being on the front lines? NO! It takes a BIG man, one with righteous character, to accept the wrong and take it patiently, without giving some supposed warning as a threat.

Even if our Constitution of the Republic says any contract entered into by fraud

is invalid, that is NOT what the Almighty, who keeps His covenants, says. Yet why do those who say such contracts are invalid, Constitutionally, fight in the courts to retain their house or other property that was mortgaged by the contract? An invalid contract would make void the whole purchase transaction, and the property should revert to the original owner or builder. By continuing to live in the house, without paying any substance for it, these people are actually stealing the house!

WHO WILL ABIDE?

Psalm 15 shows who will abide in Yahweh's tabernacle and who shall dwell in His Kodesh hill. You can read all the characteristics but notice one very carefully, "...He that swears to his own hurt, and changes not." If a Believer makes an agreement, even a verbal one, he should not break it! If he does, it appears in this Psalm that there is a possibility he will not dwell in Yahweh's Kodesh hill.

Covenants, or contracts, or giving one's word is not wrong. But they are not to be broken. We need to ask ourselves, "Are we following Yahweh's laws?" If so, we may proceed to live and work in Babylon.

Our Creator knows we are in Babylon. His people have lived in her for as long as she has existed. What made His people different down through history was that they lived by a code of ethics He had set down, and His people never worshipped Babylon.

The one who reveals His secrets to His servants, the prophets, has revealed the truth about coming out of Babylon to me. I thank Him for that. He revealed the Scriptures to me so I could commence this book.

CONCLUSION

History has shown Babylon to be a false religious system, a great rich kingdom, and a devastated city. It included economics, religion, commerce, and all forms of trade. "Babylon" means much the same today. It includes the monetary system, and the one world government now beginning to take over. Everyone needs to guard against focusing on one narrow aspect of it. Spiritually, coming out of Babylon means trusting Yahweh and His Word, and not following after the traditions of men handed down from pagan gods and goddesses. In economics, commerce, and trade, one must avoid entanglements with banks, Wall Street, world trade, and the drug traffic. To be bilked by them is not the same as joining them in their money-making schemes.

As we guard against Babylon, we should remember she is going to come to her end. The wicked spiritual system will be brought down! We cannot come out of her physically until we are called.

Our heavenly Father, and our Savior and King, will acknowledge us wherever we are. Yahshua will never forsake us, nor leave us in any degree whatsoever. (Hebrews 13:5)

Who are the blessed who will come out of the world before the seven last plagues? Revelation 16:15 tells us, "Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watches, and

keeps his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.” We need a garment of righteousness. Righteousness means doing--keeping the laws of Yahweh (Psa. 119:172).

Colossians 3:12-13...”Put on therefore, as the elect of Yahweh, Kodesh and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a complaint against any:even as Messiah forgave you, so do you. And above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection.

YAHSHUA SAID

“My kingdom is NOT OF THIS WORLD: if my kingdom were of this world, THEN would my servants FIGHT, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom NOT FROM HENCE.” (John 18:36)

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