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**The  
Great Euphrates  
River And  
Babylon**

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

# The Great River Euphrates River and Babylon.

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## Topics.

- The great River Euphrates.
- The river Euphrates and four angels of God's judgment.

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## THE GREAT RIVER EUPHRATES

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The name Euphrates in Greek means, sweet water, and in Assyrian means, the stream, or the great stream. In the Bible it is called, the river (Exod. 23:31), or the great river (Deut. 1:7), because of its vast size, and because it is one of the boundaries of the land of Israel on the east of Palestine.

- **Deuteronomy 11:24:** Every place on which the sole of your foot treads shall be yours. Your territory shall be from the wilderness to the Lebanon and from the River, the river Euphrates, to the western sea.
- **Joshua 1:4:** From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun shall be your territory.

Being 2,800 km long (1,740 miles), it is the longest river in southwest Asia. It runs through Mesopotamia and Chaldea, and by the walls of Babylon. Historians tell us that its depth was about two men's height and that it could be rightly said, Babylon was situated on the Euphrates River. The Atatürk Dam is one of the largest dams in the country and ranks sixth amongst the largest earth-and-rock fill embankment dams in the world is located on the Euphrates River in Bozova, south-east Turkey, and built to supply water for irrigation and power generation.

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Satellite images reveal that a large part of the Euphrates River has dried up, areas that were once a source of life for the region have now become arid lands. Due to the Middle Eastern country suffering the effects of increasing heat for several years, government reports warn that the Euphrates and Tigris rivers could go completely dry by 2040.

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## THE RIVER EUPHRATES AND FOUR ANGELS OF GOD'S JUDGMENT

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- **Revelation 9:14:** Then the sixth angel blew his trumpet, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar before God, <sup>14</sup> saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates."

The great visible ancient city of Babylon was built along the great River Euphrates. At God's appointed time it was overthrown by Cyrus king of Media Persia who the LORD through Isaiah's prophetic prophecies said:

- God took Cyrus by the right hand to subdue nations and kings and to open doors before him. (Isaiah 44:28).
- God called Cyrus His anointed shepherd, to fulfil His purpose, saying, "Jerusalem shall be built and the foundation of the temple will be laid." (Isaiah 45:1).

- For the sake of God's chosen servant Israel, the LORD would equip Cyrus and take him by his right hand to level the exalted places (referring to the empire of Babylon), and give him the treasures of darkness so he would know that it is the God of Israel, who calls him by his name and Israel would know from the rising of the sun and from the west, He is the LORD their God, and that there is no other. (Isaiah 45:2-6).
- The wealth of Egypt and Cush and the Sabeans, men of stature will come to Cyrus and follow him and bow down to him confessing, "Surely God is in you, and there is no other god besides Him." (Isaiah 45:14).

Keeping this in mind and knowing that God has another who He calls His anointed shepherd who He also took by the right hand and who will return in glory to destroy the Babylon spoken of in the following verses:

- Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, for in a single hour God's judgment has come. (Rev. 18:1-2) (Rev. 18:9-10).
- Alas, alas, for the great city that was clothed in fine linen, in purple and scarlet, adorned with gold, with jewels, and with pearls! <sup>17</sup>For in a single hour all this wealth has been laid waste." And all shipmasters and seafaring men, sailors and all whose trade is on the sea, stood far off <sup>18</sup>and cried out as they saw the smoke of her burning, (Rev. 18:16-18).
- A mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, "So will Babylon the great city be thrown down with violence, and will be found no more. (Rev. 18:21).
- For in Babylon was found the blood of prophets and of saints, and of all who have been slain on earth. (Rev. 18:24).
- After these events, John heard what seemed to be the loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, crying out, rejoice over the great city Babylon, O heaven, and you saints and apostles and prophets, for God has given judgment for you against her! (Rev. 18:20).

Though the events of the seals, trumpets and woes may have partial fulfillment in the past through the Romans, the Turks and others that followed. When the verses concerning Babylon spoken of in the book of Revelation are kept in mind it is easy to accept that the ultimate fulfillment the events spoken of in the seals, the trumpets and the woes prophetically speak of events to take place in the later days. It is interesting to notice:

- These four angels are not appearing by chance, but had been prepared for this exact moment in time.
- Their sole purpose is to kill a third of mankind.
- Based on the prophetic language it appears death comes by warfare, especially modern weapons, jet fighters and missiles.

These four angels bring the wrath of God upon the ungodly Babylonian system of:

- Corrupt political rulers and governments.
- Oppressive banking system of credit and interest
- Global trade and commerce, that oppresses and underpays workers (especially in third world countries) for the sake of greater profits and bigger bank accounts.
- Idolatry and aggressive hostile spirit against the Lord Jesus Christ, Israel, and Christianity.
- Immorality, ungodliness, and wickedness.

Whoever these angels may symbolise, something was limiting and hindering them from fully achieving their purpose and holding their forces in check, until they were commanded to go forth. Whatever was restraining them (perhaps a lack of religious authority and power and a lack of military might), will be removed at God's appointed time. Some suppose that the latter-day power these four angels signify applies to:

- Rome's invasion of Judaea and destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D., the great difficulty with this idea, is that Rome's armies brought about the destruction of Rome from the West, whereas the language denotes that the power will spring up in the East, and have its origin somewhere near the river Euphrates.
- The far more likely interpretation is, that there are forces near the Euphrates which are, up to this period, restrained (perhaps, because of religious divisions, or civil wars and political upheaval in the region), but whatever it may be that is restraining them, it will be removed during the space of time this second woe covers, which allows great suffering of various kinds to spread over a considerable portion of the world.

It was on the Euphrates River that the great and ancient city of Babylon, the enemy of God's people was situated. The four angels (ministering God's judgment) that are bound at the river Euphrates, that will be released, may mean they will be:

- Released from the literal region of the Euphrates River and Babylon.
- Released from the spiritual Babylon (the apostate Church, especially the Roman Papal Church, the Vatican and its Popes and the latter-day Babylon spoken of in the book of Revelation.

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**NOTE:** it should not be supposed that the mention of the city of Babylon, built alongside the Great River Euphrates limits the events spoken of to that specific region, but rather recognise it is deliberately designed to point us forward to the city of Babylon that John saw in a vision and described as:

- A woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns. <sup>4</sup>The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and jewels and pearls, holding in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the impurities of her sexual immorality. <sup>5</sup>And on her forehead was written a name of mystery: "Babylon the great, mother of prostitutes and of earth's abominations." <sup>6</sup>And I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints, and the martyrs of Jesus. (Rev. 17:3-6).

This Babylon symbolises:

- False global religion, with its head being the Roman Papal Church.
- The secular global world government, whose influence, authority, and power will not be limited to the Middle East.

Though this battle may start in the region of the Euphrates River it will not be contained to that region only, but affect the entire world.

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*As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.*

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