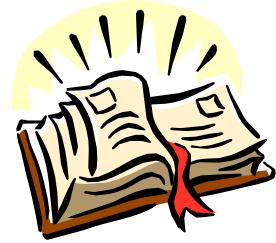


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Various information and topics that help the reader of the Bible understand the apostles and the Lord Jesus Christ's teachings.

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## **Jeremiah 51.**

(2010).

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## **Jeremiah 51.**

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The following is an overview of the main topics.  
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### **I will Stir up the Spirit of a Destroyer against Babylon.**

Jeremiah 51:1-4 ----- <sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD: "Behold, I will stir up the spirit of a destroyer against Babylon, against the inhabitants of Leb-kamai (a destroying wind in the KJV) <sup>2</sup>and I will send to Babylon winnowers, and they shall winnow her, and they shall empty her land, when they come against her from every side on the day of trouble. <sup>3</sup>Let not the archer bend his bow, and let him not stand up in his armor. Spare not her young men; devote to destruction all her army. <sup>4</sup>They shall fall down slain in the land of the Chaldeans, and wounded in her streets.

**I will stir up the spirit of a destroyer against Babylon refers to Cyrus the King of Persia (v11, 28) the Lord: -**

- Called Cyrus His Anointed Shepherd and held Cyrus right hand while he subdued all nations and their kings.
- Was with Cyrus while he opened doors that no man could shut and called Cyrus by Name.
- Went before Cyrus and broke in pieces gates of iron and levelled the exalted places.
- Gave Cyrus the treasures of darkness and the hordes hidden in secret places.
- Called Cyrus by his name even though Cyrus did not know God.
- Equipped Cyrus and gave him power and would cause people to say, "The LORD is in Cyrus" (Isaiah 45:1-3) (Isaiah 45:5-6) (Isaiah 45:14, 28).

Cyrus defeated the entire empire of Babylon and its allied nations and gave the people of Israel written permission to return to their beloved city Jerusalem and rebuild the LORD'S Temple.

### **Israel and Judah have not been forsaken by their God.**

Jeremiah 51:1-4 ----- <sup>5</sup>For Israel and Judah have not been forsaken by their God, the LORD of hosts, but the land of the Chaldeans is full of guilt against the Holy One of Israel. <sup>6</sup>"Flee from the midst of Babylon; let every one save his life! Be not cut off in her punishment, for this is the time of the LORD'S vengeance, the repayment he is rendering her. <sup>7</sup>Babylon was a golden cup in the LORD'S hand, making all the earth drunken; the nations drank of her wine; therefore the nations went mad. <sup>8</sup>Suddenly Babylon has fallen and been broken; wail for her! Take balm for her pain; perhaps she may be healed. <sup>9</sup>We would have healed Babylon, but she was not healed. Forsake her, and let us go each to his own country, for her judgment has reached up to heaven and has been lifted up even to the skies.

### **The following words apply to Babylon in the days of Jeremiah: -**

- Flee from the midst of BABYLON (v6).
- BABYLON was making all the nations drunk with her wine (v7).
- Suddenly BABYLON has fallen (v8).
- Forsake her (BABYLON) (v9).

But the prophetic words of Jeremiah are spoken by an Angel of LORD to a godly man named John on an island called Patmos in the book of Revelation, but this time the name BABYLON is not a single city in the Middle East, but a title given to the entire world's system of Government, Trade and Money.

The following verses show that BABYLON is used symbolically in the book of Revelation to portray the collapse of the Global World System of Government, Trade and Money.

Revelation 14:8 ----- <sup>8</sup>A second angel, followed, saying, "FALLEN, FALLEN IS BABYLON THE GREAT

Revelation 18:2 ----- <sup>2</sup>And he (an Angel) called out with a mighty voice, "FALLEN, FALLEN IS BABYLON THE GREAT! <sup>3</sup>For all nations have drunk the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have grown rich from the power of her luxurious living."

Revelation 18:4 ----- <sup>4</sup>Then I heard another voice from heaven saying, "COME OUT OF HER (BABYLON), my people, lest you take part in her sins, lest you share in her plagues

Revelation 18:9 ----- <sup>9</sup>And the kings of the earth, who committed sexual immorality and lived in luxury with her (BABYLON), will weep and wail over her

Revelation 18:11-12 -- <sup>11</sup>And the merchants of the earth weep and mourn for her (BABYLON), since no one buys her <sup>12</sup>cargo of gold, silver, jewels, pearls and fine linen

Revelation 18:15-16 -- <sup>15</sup>The merchants of these wares, who gained wealth from her (BABYLON), will stand far off, in fear of her torment, weeping and mourning aloud, <sup>16</sup>"Alas, alas, for THE GREAT CITY that was clothed in fine linen, in purple and scarlet, adorned with gold, with jewels, and with pearls!

Revelation 18:19 ----- <sup>15</sup>And they threw dust on their heads as they wept and mourned, crying out, "Alas, alas, for THE GREAT CITY (BABYLON) where all who had ships at sea grew rich by her wealth!

**For further information see the following two titles: -**

- Cyrus and Babylon foreshadow the World System and Christ.
- Babylon and the World System of Money.

Both titles are found at the end of Jeremiah chapter 50.

The LORD has stirred the Spirit of the Kings of the  
Medes, to Destroy Babylon.

Jeremiah 51:10-11 --- <sup>10</sup>The LORD has brought about our (Israel's) vindication; come, let us declare in Zion the work of the LORD our God. <sup>11</sup>"Sharpen the arrows! Take up the shields! The LORD has stirred up the spirit of the kings of the Medes, because his purpose concerning Babylon is to destroy it, for that is the vengeance of the LORD, the vengeance for his temple.

**Zion;** (Citadel) is the ancient name for Jerusalem, primarily used in poetic and prophetic passages. It can refer to an ancient castle, a fortress or stronghold of Jerusalem or the Hill Jerusalem sits on or the whole city itself and sometimes refers to the Temple of God. By extension the name can apply to the people of Judah and is used figuratively for heaven or the Jewish Church, meaning the religious and political aspect of society that is seen as an entity oriented to politics and government.

**Medes;** the people of Media were warlike and skilful in their use of the bow. They were linked very closely in their background, linguistically and religiously, to the Persians whom they antedate by several centuries and with whom they eventually united. Isaiah and Daniel tell of their power against Babylon.

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## **A Brief History of the Medes, Persia and Cyrus.**

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The Iranian plateau was settled about 1500 B.C by Aryan tribes, the most important of whom were the Medes. The Medes occupied the North-Western portion, and the Parsa (Persians), who emigrated from Parsua, a land west of Lake Matianus (now Lake Orūmīyeh), into the Southern region of the plateau, which they named Parsamash or Parsumash.

**The first prominent leader of the Persians was the warrior chief Hakhamanish (or Achaemenes);** he lived about 681 B.C. The Persians were dominated by the Medes until Cyrus's accession to the Persian throne in 558 B.C.

**Cyrus;** (Cyrus the Great) king of Persia toppled the Median rulers and turned Media into the Kingdom of Persia. He then conquered the Empire of Babylon in 539 B.C., and established the Persian Empire as the pre-eminent power of the region. He gave the Jews written permission to return to their Homeland and rebuild Jerusalem and the LORD'S Temple earning the respect and goodwill of the Jews.

**Next to take the Persian throne was Cambyses II.** Cyrus Son and successor, Cambyses II, took the throne and following the kingship of his father Cyrus the Great was tolerant of other religions, and earned the respect and goodwill of the Jews, whom he permitted to continue rebuilding Jerusalem and the Temple of God. He extended the Persian realm even further by conquering the Egyptians in 525 B.C.

**Next to take the Persian throne was Darius I,** (Darius the Great) (a member of a royal Persian family). He ascended the throne in 521 B.C., and reorganized the entire Persian Empire, earning the title Darius the Great. Following the kingship of Cyrus and Cambyses II (previous kings of Persia) he also earned the respect and goodwill of the Jews and allowed them to complete the Temple of God in 516 B.C. He launched a campaign against the Greeks of Greece, but his forces were defeated in the Battles in 490 B.C. Darius was in the middle of preparing a third expedition against the Greeks when he died.

**Next to take the Persian throne was Xerxes 1** (the son of Darius I) king of Persia and the son and successor. Like his father Darius the Great, Xerxes I, also attempted to invade Greece but met defeat in (480 B.C.) (479 B.C.), keeping Greece from Persian rule.

**Next to take the Persian throne was Alexander the Great;** the Persian Empire was torn by numerous revolts in the 4th century, but the final blow was struck by Alexander the Great, who added the Persian Empire to his Mediterranean realm by defeating the troops of Darius III in a series of battles between 334 and 331 B.C. After Alexander death in 323 B.C a long struggle among his generals for the Persian throne followed, the victor in this contest was Seleucus I. He conquered the kingdom of Babylon in 312 B.C., making Persia a subordinate unit within the great realm of the Seleucids until they were overthrown by the Parthians in the 2nd century B.C.

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The LORD'S vengeance for His Temple; (v11) refers to when Babylon invaded Jerusalem it pillaged the LORD'S Temple taking all the sacred furniture and the holy items back to Babylon.

### **Babylon is Warned, Multitudes of Warriors are Coming.**

Jeremiah 51:12-14 --- 12"Set up a standard against the walls of Babylon; make the watch strong; set up watchmen; prepare the ambushes; for the LORD has both planned and done what he spoke concerning the inhabitants of Babylon. 13O you who dwell by many waters, rich in treasures, your end has come; the thread of your life is cut. 14The LORD of hosts has sworn by himself: Surely I will fill you with men, as many as locusts, and they shall raise the shout of victory over you.

The LORD warns Babylon that warrior's as many as locusts are coming to Battle against Babylon and they will have the victory over the great city.

Locusts are a perfect analogy for an Invading Army; The locust will eat almost anything; they travel in huge numbers capable of destroying entire fields of cultivated plants and any nearby vegetation. Approaching swarms create an ominous hum and sometimes are large enough to block out sunlight. A swarm of locusts is an unstoppable moving cloud of flying grasshoppers that may number in the millions. Their wings make a clattering sound as they travel and in swarms they become a menace, capable of stripping fields of crops in a matter of hours.

### **The Power and Might of God.**

Jeremiah 51:15-16 --- 15<sup>"</sup>It is he who made the earth by his power, who established the world by his wisdom, and by his understanding stretched out the heavens. 16When he utters his voice there is a tumult of waters in the heavens, and he makes the mist rise from the ends of the earth. He makes lightning for the rain, and he brings forth the wind from his storehouses.

#### **Jeremiah glorifies God saying He: -**

- Made the earth by His power.
- Established the world by His wisdom.
- Stretched out the heavens by His understanding.
- Causes a tumult of waters in the heavens when He utters his voice.
- Makes mist rise from the face of the earth.
- Creates lightning for the rain.
- Brings forth the wind from His storehouses.

### **The Foolishness of Idols.**

Jeremiah 51:17-19 ---- 17Every man is stupid and without knowledge; every goldsmith is put to shame by his idols, for his images are false, and there is no breath in them. 18They are worthless, a work of delusion; at the time of their punishment they shall perish. 19Not like these is he who is the portion of Jacob, for he is the one who formed all things, and Israel is the tribe of his inheritance; the LORD of hosts is his name.

Every man is stupid and without knowledge; in this context applies to those who make idols and those who worship them. Babylon had more than fifty religious Temples dedicated to various gods, there was even a Temple built for the goddess of the underworld.

#### **Habakkuk gives a good example of the stupidity of worshipping idols: -**

Habakkuk 2:18 ----- 18<sup>"</sup>What profit is an idol when its maker has shaped it, a metal image, a teacher of lies? For its maker trusts in his own creation when he makes speechless idols!

The Living Bible; says something like this a man cuts down a tree and chops some of it up to build a house, some he uses for furniture, some for cooking and some for fire wood to keep himself warm, and then from the same wood makes an idol and bows down and worships it, "O Stupid man can't you see its just a block of wood."

### **You are my Hammer and Weapon of War.**

Jeremiah 51:20-24 --- 20<sup>"</sup>You (the Kings of the Medes) (v11, 28) are my hammer and weapon of war: with you I break nations in pieces; with you I destroy kingdoms; 21with you I break in pieces the horse and his rider; with you I break in pieces the chariot and the charioteer; 22with you I break in pieces man and woman; with you I break in pieces the old man and the youth; with

you I break in pieces the young man and the young woman; <sup>23</sup>with you I break in pieces the shepherd and his flock; with you I break in pieces the farmer and his team; with you I break in pieces governors and commanders. <sup>24</sup>"I will repay Babylon and all the inhabitants of Chaldea before your (the Kings of the Medes) (v11) very eyes for all the evil that they have done in Zion, declares the LORD.

The Hammer and Weapon of the LORD; refers to the kings of the Medes, their governors' deputies, and every nation under their dominion.

**With this hammer the LORD is going to break in pieces Babylon's:** -

- Cities, nations and kingdoms and their governors and their commanders.
- War horses and their riders, their chariots and the charioteers.
- Young and old men and women.
- Shepherds and their flocks and their farmers and their labours.

The LORD is going to use Kings of the Medes to bring Babylon to total ruin because of the evil they did in Jerusalem.

**Medes;** (Media) the Medes were inhabitants of the land of Media (a country of central Asia). The people of Media were warlike and skilful in their use of the bow. They were linked very closely in their background, linguistically and religiously, to the Persians whom they antedate by several centuries and with whom they eventually united. The people of Media were warlike and skilful in their use of the bow and became famous for their horses.

**The first dominant leader of the Medes Chief Hakhamanish.**

The Iranian plateau was settled about 1500 B.C by Aryan tribes, the most important of whom were the Medes. The Medes occupied the NORTH-Western portion, and the Parsa (Persians), who emigrated from Parsua, a land west of Lake Matianus (now Lake Orūmīyeh), into the Southern region of the plateau, which they named Parsamash or Parsumash. The first prominent leader of the Persians was the warrior chief Hakhamanish, or Achaemenes, who lived about 681 B.C. The Persians were dominated by the Medes until Cyrus's accession to the Persian throne in 558 B.C.

**Cyrus;** (Cyrus the Great king of Persia toppled the Median rulers and turned Media into the Kingdom of Persia. He then conquered the Empire of Babylon in 539 B.C., and established the Persian-Media Empire as the pre-eminent power of the region. He gave the Jews written permission to return to their Homeland and rebuild Jerusalem and the LORD'S Temple earning the respect and goodwill of the Jews.

**The LORD is against Babylon the Destroying Mountain.**

Jeremiah 51:25-29 --- <sup>25</sup>"Behold, I am against you (Babylon), O destroying mountain, declares the LORD, which destroys the whole earth; I will stretch out my hand against you, and roll you down from the crags, and make you a burnt mountain. <sup>26</sup>No stone shall be taken from you for a corner and no stone for a foundation, but you shall be a perpetual waste, declares the LORD. <sup>27</sup>"Set up a standard on the earth; blow the trumpet among the nations; prepare the nations for war against her; summon against her the kingdoms, Ararat, Minni, and Ashkenaz; appoint a marshal against her (Babylon); bring up horses like bristling locusts. <sup>28</sup>Prepare the nations for war against her, the kings of the Medes, with their governors and deputies, and every land under their dominion. <sup>29</sup>The land trembles and writhes in pain, for the LORD'S purposes against Babylon stand, to make the land of Babylon a desolation, without inhabitant.

**Ararat;** the land is correctly called Armenia in KJV, following the LXX of (Isa 37:38). (Jer 51:27) associates the kingdoms of Ararat, Minni and Ashkenaz with the kings of the Medes as prophesied conquerors of Babylon. The region is now part of Turkey.

**Minni**; is a kingdom associated with Ararat and Ashkenaz as instruments or agents for the destruction of Babylon, it was in what was later called Armenia and some think that the word *Armenia* is from *har-minni*, i.e. the mountain of Minni.

**Ashkenaz**; a tribe or nation associated with Ararat and Minni as an instrument of wrath in the hands of God against Babylon.

### **The LORD is against Babylon the Destroying Mountain.**

Babylon destroys the whole earth; (v25) refers to the land of Judah, Jerusalem and all the nations they have plundered and brought to ruin in warfare and by their oppression and their gods. The LORD is calling the kings of the Medes and all their allied nations to destroy Babylon.

### **The City of Babylon is Taken.**

Jeremiah 51:30-32 -- <sup>30</sup>The warriors of Babylon have ceased fighting; they remain in their strongholds; their strength has failed; they have become women; her dwellings are on fire; her bars are broken. <sup>31</sup>One runner runs to meet another, and one messenger to meet another, to tell the king of Babylon that his city is taken on every side; <sup>32</sup>the fords have been seized, the marshes are burned with fire, and the soldiers are in panic.

**Notice**; Jeremiah is speaking in the present tense, as though these battles have taken place, yet they are events still to happen in the future. Prophecy is often written this way, because the prophet is seeing the vision or hearing the word of the LORD as it comes to his mind and simply speaks in the present moment as he sees the vision or hears the word of the LORD.

A second reason prophecy is often spoken this way is because the prophet is seeing a vision of the LORD or hearing the word of the LORD and therefore what they are speaking is guaranteed to come to pass. The people of the time obviously know the events are future and if those reading a prophecy put it in its entire context it becomes clear in the language and history whether the events are for the present time or future predictions.

### **Nebuchadnezzar King of Babylon has devoured the LORD.**

Jeremiah 51:33-35 -- <sup>33</sup>For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: The daughter of Babylon is like a threshing floor at the time when it is trodden; yet a little while and the time of her harvest will come." <sup>34</sup>"Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon has devoured me; he has crushed me; he has made me an empty vessel; he has swallowed me like a monster; he has filled his stomach with my delicacies; he has rinsed me out. <sup>35</sup>The violence done to me and to my kinsmen be upon Babylon," let the inhabitant of Zion say. "My blood be upon the inhabitants of Chaldea," let Jerusalem say.

### **The LORD says, Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon has: -**

- Devoured the LORD.
- Crushed the LORD.
- Made the LORD an empty vessel.
- Swallowed the LORD like a monster.
- Filled his stomach with the LORD delicacies and rinsed the LORD out.
- Done violence to the LORD and to His kinsmen.

### **The Principle.**

Is whatever deliberate harm someone does to another human, physically, financially, sexually, emotionally or spiritually it is as though they are doing it to the LORD especially when it is His own people.

### **The LORD will plead the cause of His Kinsmen.**

Jeremiah 51:36-43 -- <sup>36</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD: "Behold, I will plead your (the LORD'S kinsmen, the inhabitant of Zion and Jerusalem) (v35) cause and take vengeance for you. I will dry up her sea and make her fountain dry, <sup>37</sup>and Babylon shall become a heap of ruins, the haunt of jackals, a horror and a hissing, without inhabitant. <sup>38</sup>"They shall roar together like lions; they shall growl like lions' cubs. <sup>39</sup>While they are inflamed I will prepare them a feast and make them drunk, that they may become merry, then sleep a perpetual sleep and not wake, declares the LORD. <sup>40</sup>I will bring them down like lambs to the slaughter, like rams and male goats. <sup>41</sup>"How Babylon is taken, the praise of the whole earth seized! How Babylon has become a horror among the nations!

<sup>42</sup>The sea has come up on Babylon; she is covered with its tumultuous waves. <sup>43</sup>Her cities have become a horror, a land of drought and a desert, a land in which no one dwells, and through which no son of man passes.

The LORD is going to take vengeance on Babylon for the people of Israel, Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

The LORD tells His people He will: -

- Dry up Babylon's water supplies.
- Bring Babylon's cities to ruin.
- Make Babylon such a devastation people will look upon her in horror.
- Destroy her people so that there are no inhabitants left in the city.
- Make Babylon an example to all nations.
- Bring strong and mighty armies against Babylon so that her streets are covered in warriors (v42).
- Make Babylon's cities like a desert so that no traveller will visit her.

Babylon at this time was the glorious city of the entire earth (v41) when these events come to pass God's people will have been in captivity to Babylon and under their oppression for 70 years.

### **The LORD will Punish Bel in Babylon.**

Jeremiah 51:44-48 ---- <sup>44</sup>And I will punish Bel in Babylon, and take out of his mouth what he has swallowed. The nations shall no longer flow to him; the wall of Babylon has fallen. <sup>45</sup>"Go out of the midst of her, my people! Let every one save his life from the fierce anger of the LORD! <sup>46</sup>Let not your heart faint, and be not fearful at the report heard in the land, when a report comes in one year and afterward a report in another year, and violence is in the land, and ruler is against ruler. <sup>47</sup>"Therefore, behold, the days are coming when I will punish the images of Babylon; her whole land shall be put to shame, and all her slain shall fall in the midst of her. <sup>48</sup>Then the heavens and the earth, and all that is in them, shall sing for joy over Babylon, for the destroyers shall come against them out of the north, declares the LORD.

Jeremiah says, "The destroyer will come out of the North" (v48).

The NORTH Country refers to MEDIA-PERSIA (see the notes following (Jer 50:3-5) and the title, THE NORTH COUNTRY.

**The LORD will**; punish Bel and all its images throughout Babylon and remove from His people what they have been taught regarding Babylon's religion and Bel.

**Bel**; was the Baal of the Babylonians and the supreme ruler, the life-giver, the god of justice, he who holds society together, controller of the elements, particularly fire (Isaiah 46:1) (Jer 50:2) (Jer 51:44).

Babylon was the religious and cultural centre of the land and Bel was the supreme god of the Babylonians (Isaiah 46). Bel is the Chaldaic form of Baal and is believed by some to be identical with that god. Like the equivalent Hebrew *Baal*, the name Bel was used also in the sense of "lord" or "owner". Bel presided over the air. Each of the important deities had, in one or more of the Babylonian cities, a large temple in which he or she was worshipped as the divine civic ruler and protector. The larger cities also contained many temples and chapels dedicated to one deity or another; Babylon, for example, possessed more than 50 temples in Chaldean times (8th to 6th century B.C.).

Temple services were generally conducted in open courts containing fountains for ablution and altars for sacrifices. In the inner part of the temple, the statue of the deity stood on a pedestal in a special niche, it was the holy of holies, and only the high priest and other privileged members of the clergy and court were permitted to enter it. The clergy comprised of high priests, sacrifice priests, musicians, singers, magicians, soothsayers, diviners, dream interpreters, astrologers, female devotees, and hierodules (temple courtesans). Sacrifices were offered daily, consisted of animal and vegetable foods, libations of water, wine, and beer, and the burning of incense. Numerous annual and monthly festivals were held, including a feast to celebrate the new moon (See *Baal* in Bible Dictionary).

### **God's people are Comforted.**

The LORD'S people are given warning of the impending doom and told to leave Babylon when they hear rumours of its fall, but not to let their heart be faint or fearful because they will sing for joy when it is all over (v48).

**Notice:** "The heavens and the earth, and all that is in them, will sing for joy" (v48), heaven and Earth in this context can be taken literally or figuratively, with heaven being a figurative name for Judah (the Two Tribes) and the earth symbolising Israel (the Ten Tribes). Throughout the Bible Judah and Israel are sometimes referred to as the Heavens and the Earth.

### **An example of this is found in the following verse: -**

Deut 32:1 ----- <sup>1</sup>Give ear, O ye heavens, and I (Moses) will speak; and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth.

Moses is about to make a speech, not to the heavens or planet earth but to the people of Israel.

The following verse shows that in this context: -

**"O ye heavens" and "O earth," refers to the people of Israel.**

Deut 32:44-45 ----- <sup>44</sup>And Moses came and spake all the words of this song in the ears of the people, he, and Hoshea the son of Nun. <sup>45</sup>And Moses made an end of speaking all these words to all Israel:

### **Destroyers will come from the LORD against Babylon.**

Jeremiah 51:49-53 --- <sup>49</sup>Babylon must fall for the slain of Israel, just as for Babylon have fallen the slain of all the earth. <sup>50</sup>"You who have escaped from the sword, go, do not stand still! Remember the LORD from far away, and let Jerusalem come into your mind: <sup>51</sup>"We are put to shame, for we have heard reproach; dishonor has covered our face, for foreigners have come into the holy places of the LORD'S house.' <sup>52</sup>"Therefore, behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will execute judgment upon her images, and through all her land the wounded shall groan. <sup>53</sup>Though Babylon should mount up to heaven, and though she should fortify her strong height, yet destroyers would come from me against her, declares the LORD.

Though Babylon should mount up to heaven, and fortify her strong height means that Babylon was a glorious and mighty city, with majestic buildings, abundant water supplies and great wealth; it was strong, powerful and dominated all nations with its mighty and well trained armies, but no matter how good a nation looks to the human eye, if it denies God and builds its wealth and glory on warfare, greed, oppressing its workers and forgetting the poor, a day of judgment will come.

### To bring judgment on a nation God can: -

- Use famine or pestilence (diseases).
- Have foolish leaders placed within its governments or banking system who will lead a nation to financial ruin.
- Raise up nations greater in military might and power.

The days are coming, when the LORD, will execute judgment on Babylon's gods, their images and everyone dwelling in the land will be affected.

### LORD is laying Babylon Waste.

Jeremiah 51:54-58 - 54<sup>"</sup>A voice! A cry from Babylon! The noise of great destruction from the land of the Chaldeans!

55For the LORD is laying Babylon waste and stilling her mighty voice. Their waves roar like many waters; the noise of their voice is raised, 56for a destroyer has come upon her, upon Babylon; her warriors are taken; their bows are broken in pieces, for the LORD is a God of recompense; he will surely repay. 57I will make drunk her officials and her wise men, her governors, her commanders, and her warriors; they shall sleep a perpetual sleep and not wake, declares the King, whose name is the LORD of hosts. 58<sup>"</sup>Thus says the LORD of hosts: The broad wall of Babylon shall be leveled to the ground, and her high gates shall be burned with fire. The peoples labor for nothing, and the nations weary themselves only for fire."

**A destroyer has come upon Babylon;** refers to the Medes, they were warlike and skilful in their use of the bow. They were linked very closely in their background, linguistically and religiously, to the Persians whom they antedate by several centuries and with whom they eventually united. The Iranian plateau was settled by Aryan tribes, the most important of whom were the Medes. The Medes occupied the North-Western portion. The Persians were dominated by the Medes until Cyrus's accession to the Persian throne. Cyrus the Great king of Persia toppled the Median rulers and turned Media into the Kingdom of Persia. He then conquered the Empire of Babylon in 539 B.C., and established the Persian-Media Empire as the pre-eminent power of the region. He gave the Jews written permission to return to their Homeland and rebuild Jerusalem and the LORD'S Temple earning the respect and goodwill of the Jews.

**For more see;** Media and Persia in Map Locations ((at the end of this study)).

The peoples labour for nothing, and the nations weary themselves only for fire; because the nation of Babylon is industrial, they are working and achieving great things, but their success is built on a false religious system, oppression and warfare and when a nation is built on these it is eventually destined for doom.

### All the words of Jeremiah are Written Down.

Jeremiah 51:59-64 --- 59The word that Jeremiah the prophet commanded Seraiah the son of Neriah, son of Mahseiah, when he went with Zedekiah king of Judah to Babylon, in the fourth year of his reign. Seraiah was the quartermaster. 60Jeremiah wrote in a book all the disaster that should come upon Babylon, all these words that are written concerning Babylon. 61And Jeremiah said to Seraiah: "When you come to Babylon, see that you read all these words, 62and say, 'O LORD, you have said concerning this place that you will cut it off, so that nothing shall dwell in it, neither man nor beast, and it shall be desolate forever.' 63When you finish reading this book, tie a stone to it and cast it into the midst of the Euphrates, 64and say, 'Thus shall Babylon sink, to rise no more, because of the disaster that I am bringing upon her, and they shall become exhausted.' Thus far are the words of Jeremiah.

Jeremiah tells an army officer named Seraiah who was responsible for providing soldiers with food, clothing, equipment, and living quarters when he arrives in Babylon to read the book predicting all the disaster that will come upon Babylon that Jeremiah has written, then when he has finished reading the book to tie a stone to it and throw it into the middle of the Euphrates River and say, "Thus shall Babylon sink, to rise no more."

**The words:** "Tie a stone to it and throw it into the River" immediately excite and take the mind of the enthusiastic reader of the Bible to the vision of a godly man named John on an island called Patmos.

Revelation 18:21 ----- 21 Then 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."

The Old Testament Empire of Babylon controlled the known world through military might, power, money, interest and its religion. The Babylonians were money-lenders not only out of dedicated policy but with fervour, zest, and relish. One of their proverbs expresses this outlook clearly: -

“The giving of a loan is like making love;  
The returning of a loan is like having a son born.”

They were thus a breed of happy, proud, heartless and ruthless moneylenders. Their whole world of business moved in terms of credit financing, and their whole concept of social control and of imperialism rested on usury, thus the Empire of Babylon in the Old Testament is a type of the final global world system of government, trade, money (interest and debt) and religion existing on planet earth at the end of this age and world as we know it today.

The following verses show that Babylon is used symbolically to  
Portray the Global World System.

Rev. 14:8 ----- 8 Another angel, a second, followed, saying, "FALLEN, FALLEN IS BABYLON THE GREAT, she who made all nations drink the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality."

After the first resurrection (Rev 20:5) the LORD'S judgment comes and an Angel cries out "FALLEN, FALLEN IS BABYLON the great, she who made all nations drink the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality." Then Christ rules as KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS and a New Age begins with the eternal gospel being spread throughout the earth (Rev 14:6-8).

After Jesus returns, the kings of the earth assembled at Armageddon, and God's wrath is poured out, a voice cries out from the throne of heaven, "It is Done." There is lightning, thunder, great earthquake and severe hailstones and THE GREAT CITY OF BABYLON and the cities of the nations are destroyed.

Rev. 16:19 ----- 19 The great city (Babylon) was split into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell, and God remembered BABYLON THE GREAT, to make her drain the cup of the wine of the fury of his wrath.

Rev. 17:5 ----- 5 And on her forehead was written a name of mystery: "BABYLON THE GREAT, mother of prostitutes and of earth's abominations."

God is about to judge BABYLON who turned the kings of the earth, the nations and those who dwell on earth away from the laws of God and even against God Himself (Rev 17:1-3).

Rev. 18:10 ----- 10 They will stand far off, in fear of her torment, and say, "Alas! Alas! You great city, you MIGHTY CITY, BABYLON! For in a single hour your judgment has come."

Rev. 18:21 ----- 21 Then 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. 18:2 ----- 2 And he (the angel) called out with a mighty voice, "FALLEN, FALLEN IS BABYLON THE GREAT!

BABYLON is pictured as being a dwelling place for everything, wicked, detestable and an abode of excessive drinking and sexual immorality. The world's business men are spoken of as growing extremely rich from the money they earned from

those who lived in excessive luxury and who spent money on materialistic merchandise far beyond what is considered needed (or what they could afford) (Rev 18:2-3).

Rev. 18:7-10 ----- <sup>7</sup>As she (Babylon the great) glorified herself and lived in luxury, <sup>9</sup>And the kings of the earth, who committed sexual immorality and lived in luxury with her , will weep and wail over her when they see the smoke of her burning. <sup>10</sup>They will stand far off, in fear of her torment, and say, "Alas! Alas! You great city, you MIGHTY CITY, BABYLON! For in a single hour your judgment has come."

Kings, businessmen, governments and even some churches and religious organisations who have used the system of the world to obtain excessive riches will weep when the system collapses (Rev 18:11-19).

### **Babylon (the World System) will Collapse.**

Rev. 18:19 ----- <sup>19</sup>And they threw dust on their heads as they wept and mourned, crying out, "Alas, alas, for the great city (Babylon) where all who had ships at sea grew rich by her wealth! For in a single hour she has been laid waste.

Rev. 18:21 ----- <sup>21</sup>Then 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.

Everything that is offensive to God and destructive to humans will be destroyed (Rev 18:22-24), but the apostles, prophets and those who belong to God are told to rejoice (Rev 18:20).

**Notice;** businessmen are spoken of as being the, "Great Ones of the Earth" (Revelation 18:23).

### **For even more exciting and amazing detail see the following title: -**

- BABYLON AND THE WORLD SYSTEM OF MONEY
- At the end of Jeremiah chapter 50

**The Life of Jeremiah;** Jeremiah means, Jehovah founds, or perhaps exalts, he was one of the greatest Hebrew prophets his faithfulness to his call under the most difficult circumstances makes him a prime example of devotion to God at great personal sacrifices. He was called to prophesy in a time of decision with both hope and foreboding. His theme that Judah should submit to Babylon and would inevitably fall because of its apostasy earned him undying hostility.

Jeremiah's ministry continued through the reigns of five successive Judean kings, but looking back we can know it as the last religious awakening in a series which only slowed down the idolatry and apostasy of the Hebrews, which finally plunged Judah into destruction.

Jeremiah saw the final destruction of Jerusalem in 587 B.C. to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, the captors treated Jeremiah with kindness, giving him the choice of going to Babylon or remaining in Judah. He chose to stay behind with some of the common people who had been left in Judah and finally died in Egypt, probably a few years after the city was destroyed.

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End.