

Part 11 - Bringing Justice to Our World – The Temptation of Materialism

Revelation 18:1-24

1. In what ways does money exert a powerful influence on our lives?
2. Read [Rev. 18:1-24](#). What is the message of the angel ([Rev. 18:2-3](#))?
3. What effect has Babylon had on (a) the nations (b) the leaders (kings) and (c) the businessmen (merchants)?
4. How would you summarize the message of the second voice ([Rev. 18:4-8](#))?
5. How are God's people to respond to Babylon, and why ([Rev. 18:4](#))?

Must we literally "come out" of a corrupt society, or are there other ways to avoid sharing in its sins? Explain.

6. How do various groups of people respond to the destruction of Babylon ([Rev. 18:9-20](#))?

Why do they respond as they do?

7. Look at the list of items mentioned in [Rev. 18:12-13](#). Why are the bodies and souls of people (slaves) mentioned in the list of commodities?

8. In what ways are people used like commodities in our society?

9. Why is Babylon described as a seducer ([Rev. 18:9](#); see [Rev. 17:1-2](#))?

How does wealth seduce?

10. What are the dangers of materialism mentioned in this passage?

11. What are some of the temptations we face as a rich nation?

12. What can we do as Christians (a) to resist the temptation of materialism in our personal lives and (b) to resist it as a church and a nation (see [1 Tim. 6:17-19](#))?