

Message #55

Jeremiah 51:1-64

We are in the section of Scripture that clearly deals with God's judgment against Babylon. There are prophecies made in Jeremiah 50-51 that not only have to do with the Babylon that was in existence at the time Jeremiah lived, but also have to do with prophecies in the Tribulation just before the Second Coming of Jesus Christ (Revelation 17-18).

Dr. John Walvoord wrote: "In this prophecy the complete destruction of Babylon was described in detail. As this and the preceding prophecies of the destruction of Babylon did not occur when the Medes and the Persians conquered Babylon, there seems to be another reference here to the final destruction of Babylon at the time of the Second Coming" (*The Prophecy Knowledge Handbook*, p. 152).

As we said, Babylon is used in four different ways in the Bible:

- 1) A nation - modern day Iraq.
- 2) A literal city - located 55 miles south of Baghdad, Iraq.
- 3) A political power headed by one leader who militarily dominates God's people.
- 4) A false system of religion.

There are 25 specific prophecies that are in this one chapter.

PROPHECY #1 – God will Personally send a destructive spirit against Babylon. **51:1**

The word "Leb-kamai" means those who "rise up against Me" or the "heart of My attackers." Babylon has been at the heart of everything that has risen up against God and attacked God. It all started with them. Carefully observe that the judgment will be aimed at the inhabitants, it will be aimed at the people. This will be a specific angelic being with an assignment.

PROPHECY #2 – God will send enemies from all directions to destroy Babylon. **51:2**

Foreigners will come from all directions. More than likely, the Antichrist will be part of this and will be used by God to destroy all Iraqi and Islamic people. We think this is part of the Antichrist movement described by Daniel in Daniel 11:44.

PROPHECY #3 – God will destroy all who try to defend Babylon. **51:3**

The object of this judgment is her destruction and any who try to defend her will be destroyed.

PROPHECY #4 – God's judgment will be so devastating that dead bodies will lie in the streets. **51:4**

Chaldea was land in the southern part of Iraq around the Persian Gulf. It includes Kuwait. There will be dead bodies all throughout the land and streets of all the 126 cities.

PROPHECY #5 – God’s judgment will show God does not forsake Israel or Judah. **51:5**

God will make a statement to this world and that is even though He is destroying Babylon, He will not destroy Israel. Even though Israel is guilty before God, the LORD of hosts and the Holy One, God will still preserve her when He is destroying the rest of the world.

PROPHECY #6 – When God judges Babylon, any who want to live need to flee. **51:6**

Any who do not flee will be destroyed. More than likely, many Jews will have moved to this part of the world due to the fact that the Antichrist created some phony peace agreement between the Arabs and Jews. God warns Jews when the Judgment starts, flee the area or they, too, will be destroyed.

PROPHECY #7 – God has always sovereignly controlled Babylon. **51:7; 25:12-29**

Babylon has been used by God for His purposes. God has permitted her to intoxicate the nations to the point that they are theologically insane. Most people in the world would rather believe in their works or their religion rather than God’s grace found in Jesus Christ. Notice carefully, “all the earth” has been intoxicated with false religion. The Babylonian way is we will build our own tower to God. God will target Babylon and destroy her.

PROPHECY #8 – God’s judgment against Babylon will not be halted or healed because it is judgment out of heaven. **51:8-9**

God’s judgment will come fast and furious. No military on this earth will be able to stop this. **Verse 9** says that there have been times when God’s word has reached out but she would not be healed. She will not listen to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and heaven will judge her.

PROPHECY #9 – God’s judgment of Babylon will vindicate Israel and prompt her to worship God. **51:10**

There are many references in this chapter to Israel: **51:5, 10, 19, 24, 33, 35, 49, 50.**

Undoubtedly, when God destroys the Arab world right in front of Israel’s eyes, it will become a key moment when Israel will worship God in Zion and nationally realize that God is on our side. There will be rejoicing in Israel and in heaven (Rev. 18:20).

PROPHECY #10 – God’s judgment of Babylon will be in part due to the treatment of His Temple. **51:11**

The Medes lived in land which today is northern Iran. The Medes and Persians were used to overtake Babylon, but not to the extent of what is prophesied. It has been the Arab world that has demolished Temple worship in Jerusalem and God has kept the records. From the destruction of the Temple to the idolatrous and demonic Dome of the Rock Shrine that sits on Temple acreage, God has kept track.

He will pour out His vengeance and wrath on the place where this started and He will use other forces of the world to destroy Babylon.

PROPHECY #11 – God’s judgment against Babylon has been purposed by God and will be performed by God. **51:12**

God’s word guarantees that Babylon will be destroyed by forces God will direct. He has purposed it and He will perform it.

PROPHECY #12 – God’s judgment will destroy Babylon’s beauty and wealth. **51:13; 50:29**

After Cyrus overthrew Babylon in 539 BC, the city remained populated and productive. Not much information is available during the Middle Ages, but there is evidence that since the 1700’s this part of the world has been inhabited. Dr. Koldewey, a German archeologist in the 1900’s, claimed that there were people living within the ancient city limits of Babylon when he was doing his research.

In 1987, Dr. Charles Dyer contacted Mrs. L. Glynne Darios, who was the assistant secretary of the British School of Archeology in Iraq, and she confirmed that there are three modern settlements inside the walls of ancient Babylon. What this means is that this area is still populated and still in existence, but it predicted here that in the Tribulation, God will bring it to its end and there will no longer be any people there.

PROPHECY #13 – God’s judgment will be a swarming locust judgment. **51:14**

Locusts are organized, unified and destructive and leave nothing in their wake. That is precisely what the judgment of God will be on Babylon.

PROPHECY #14 – God’s judgment will cause the world to acknowledge the greatness of God, and the nothingness of man and his religion. **51:15-18**

Verses 15-16 teaches God controls weather and uses it for His purposes. It will take the horrors of the wrath of God to get stupid and ignorant and arrogant man to acknowledge the truth about the greatness of God and the nothingness of himself and all his invented religions.

PROPHECY #15 – God’s judgment against Babylon will be for Israel and will preserve Israel. **51:19-24**

The whole world, and specifically the Arab world, will realize Israel is God’s nation and kingdoms are destroyed who mistreat her.

PROPHECY #16 – God’s judgment against Babylon will vindictively and eternally obliterate her. **51:25-53**

Dr. Charles Dyer said of **verse 26** that even to this day ancient stones and bricks are used on buildings and houses. This predicts a day when all of them are destroyed. Dyer said this has not happened yet.

God is going to use certain nations to obliterate this part of the world. He names several in **verse 27**. (**Ararat is Armenia; Minni is western Iran; Ashkenaz is Turkey**). According to **verse 34-35**, just as Nebuchadnezzar devoured His people, God will destroy Babylon. According to **verse 43**, when He does, no human will live in Iraq. God uses pagan nations to carry out His will.

PROPHECY #17 – God’s judgment against Babylon will completely destroy Satanic work. **51:44**

Bel was the chief demonic deity of Babylon, who is none other than Satan. Satan has done many evil things in the Arab world and God will destroy everything Satanic. Satan is behind all false religion and all man-made systems of religion and God will destroy him.

PROPHECY #18 – God’s judgment against Babylon demands God’s people flee. **51:45**

After the Rapture there will be some who will believe in Jesus Christ. There will be Jews, Arabs and others. When God starts judging, His people need to get out of there. When God pours out his fierce wrath, just like in the case of Lot, and Sodom and Gomorrah, His people need to be out of the area.

PROPHECY #19 – God’s judgment against Babylon will have a two year notice. **51:46-47**

During the Tribulation there will be 144,000 Jewish witnesses as to what is happening and there will be two prophets in the city of Jerusalem (Rev. 7; 11). They will be proclaiming what God will do for at least two years before God does it. Based on a chronology of events in Revelation, at about the four or five year point, all will be given a two year warning.

PROPHECY #20 – God’s judgment against Babylon will cause rejoicing. **51:48**

Notice there are people in heaven and there are people on earth. Since only believers are in heaven, we may assume that the reference to those on earth are also believers. When they see Babylon destroyed they will rejoice. One reason why is because this is a critical eschatological event that will lead to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. This moment coincides with Revelation 19:1-6.

PROPHECY #21 – God’s judgment against Babylon will be due to what she has done to God’s people. **51:49**

The history of Babylon and the Arabs is killing Jews and Christians. God has kept records and will fully settle the score (Rev. 19:2).

PROPHECY #22 – God’s judgment against Babylon should cause any survivor to think about God and Jerusalem. **51:50**

Now why should any survivor think about God and Jerusalem at this point? Because Jesus Christ is about to come back to Jerusalem. This judgment means the Tribulation is about over and the Second Coming of Jesus Christ is just moments away (Rev. 19:11-19).

PROPHECY #23 – God’s judgment against Babylon will cause Israel to be ashamed. **51:51**

Israel will be ashamed of what she permitted to happen to sacred worship in the Temple. She will realize what a disgrace it was for us to allow aliens to enter the LORD’s house. Certainly this has reference to the Antichrist and the False Prophet who will be there during part of the Tribulation.

PROPHECY #24 – God’s judgment against Babylon will be unstoppable and complete. **51:52-58**

There will be a great outcry, but it will not stop the judgment of God. **Verses 56-57** make it clear all military and political leaders will be brought to nothing.

PROPHECY #25 – God’s judgment against Babylon will remove her forever from existence. **51:59-64**

Jeremiah specifically went through all of these prophecies and wrote them down.

- 1) Jeremiah wanted this word of God to be read. **51:61**
- 2) Jeremiah wanted this word of God to be interpreted. **51:62**
- 3) Jeremiah wanted this word of God to be illustrated. **51:63**

The point is God’s word clearly predicts the total and complete destruction of Babylon and God will bring all judgment upon her.