



Second Angel:

1. The Second message accompanies the first one.
2. The second message was not originally given with a loud voice like the first and third, but will be repeated with a mighty voice in the future.
3. Babylon spoken of is not the literal city built by Nimrod or the one ruled by Nebuchadnezzar. The Literal city of Babylon no longer exists and will never be re-built.
4. Babylon is symbolic of a harlot from Rome; a mother who has harlot daughters.
5. Papal Rome is the mother harlot and apostate protestant churches are her harlot daughters.
6. Papal Rome fell centuries before the time of the second angel message so the message 'Babylon is fallen, is fallen' describes the rejection of the first angels message by apostate protestant churches.
7. Papal Rome and her daughters, apostate Protestant churches, will work together with the state to enforce their religious decrees.

It is clear that this prophecy of the fall of Babylon finds its last-day fulfillment in the departure of Protestantism at large from the purity and simplicity of the gospel as given by the first angel. This message was first preached by the advent movement in the summer of 1844, and was applied to the churches that rejected the first angel's message concerning the judgment. The message will have increasing relevance as the end draws near, and will meet its complete fulfillment with the union of the various religious elements under the leadership of Satan (the Dragon) who gives his power to the beast. The third angels message gives clarity to the final conflict as we will see in our next lesson.

Is it your desire to follow the true God and obey His commandments, thus rejecting the wine of Babylon?

ANSWERS: 1) A second angel with another message. 2) The message was not given with a loud voice hence not all heard the message. 3) The rejection of the first angel's message did not reach it's complete fulfillment as it was primarily given in the U.S. 4) Babylon is fallen. 5) It derives from Nimrod. To the Babylonians it meant 'gate of the Gods'. To the Hebrews it meant 'to confuse by mixing'. Revelation defines it as the Hebrews did. 6) No. 7) An apostate church from Rome. 8) A delicate and comely woman. 9) Marriage. 10) Persecuted God's people and it has daughters. 11) As a harlot! 12) An illicit bond between the church and the world or state. 13) Unbiblical connection with the world and it's leaders. 14) Yes, or they will receive the mark of the beast!

Bible Glances



Lesson 19 "The Second Angel's Message"



Last time we learned that Revelation 14 describes three angels with messages for the world. It was to separate the church of Christ from the corrupting influence of the world that the first angel's message was given. Did the first message do it's work? Yes! There was indeed a separation that took place and the second angel now makes a solemn proclamation that goes along with the first angels message. Let's see what that second message is and discover what it means...

1. **What followed the first angel and his message?**

Revelation 14:6-8

The Greek word for "followed" is "*akoloutheo* (ak-ol-oo-theh-o)" which means "*to be in the same way with*" or "*to accompany*" or "*to follow.*" Also, some Greek manuscripts read "*a second angel*" instead of "*another angel.*" The second angel's message "accompanies" the first angel's message. The first angel continues his ministry when the second angel joins him. In this sense the second angel's message accompanies that of the first. As stated previously, these messages were first preached in the summer of 1844 by Adventists. (See Lesson 11 concerning the second Advent movement).

"...seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness." Matthew 6:33

2. What difference is there in the way the second angel gives his message as compared to the first and third angels?

Revelation 14:6-9

The first and third angels' messages are proclaimed with a "loud voice," yet the second angel's message isn't, at this time.

3. Why isn't the second angel's message proclaimed with a loud voice?

Revelation 18:1, 2



"The second angel's message of Revelation 14 was first preached in the summer of 1844, and it then had a more direct application to the churches of the United States, where the warning of the judgment [first angels message] had been most widely proclaimed and most generally rejected, and where the declension in the churches had been most rapid. But the message of the second angel did not reach its complete fulfillment in 1844. The churches then experienced a moral fall, in consequence of their refusal of the light of the advent message; but that fall was not complete. As they have continued to reject the special truths for this time they have fallen lower and lower. Not yet, however, can it be said that "Babylon is fallen,... because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication." She has not yet made all nations do this. The spirit of world conforming and indifference to the testing truths for our time exists and has been gaining ground in churches of the Protestant faith in all the countries of Christendom; and these churches are included in the solemn and terrible denunciation of the second angel. But the work of apostasy has not yet reached its culmination." White, *The Great Controversy*, p.389.

"Thus the substance of the second angel's message is again given to the world by that other angel [Revelation 18:1-4] who lightens the earth with his glory. These messages all blend in one, to come before the people in the closing days of this earth's history." White, *Selected Messages*, Volume 2, p.116.



4. What was the message the second angel was proclaiming?

Revelation 14:8

With such an important message, a message that is repeated with a mighty

14. Are the nations forced to drink the wine of Babylon? Revelation 14:8

The great sin charged against Babylon is that she "*made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.*" Coercion is meant by the phrase "*made all nations drink.*" Religious elements will bring pressure to bear upon the state to enforce their decrees. This has been the policy of Papal Rome in its entire history and it hasn't changed. As we learned in Revelation 13, the substitution of human laws for the laws of God and the enforcement of religious decrees by the state will become universal and be enforced by the United States (the two-horned beast). Those who refuse to drink the wine will receive the mark of the beast. But wrath is not Babylon's object in offering the wine to the various nations. She contends that drinking of her wine will bring peace to the nations. However, the drinking of it brings down on men the wrath of God.



"Those who keep God's commandments, those who live not by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God, compose the church of the living God. Those who choose to follow antichrist are subjects of the great apostate. Ranged under the banner of Satan, they break God's law and lead others to break it. They endeavor so to frame the laws of nations that men shall show their loyalty to earthly governments by trampling upon the laws of God's kingdom... Men in authority will enact laws controlling the conscience, after the example of the papacy. Babylon will make all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. Every nation will be involved." White, *Manuscript Releases*, Volume 1, Number 65, p.296.

What we learned from the first and second angel's messages...

First Angel:



1. This is not a literal angel, but a worldwide message.
2. This message consists of the perpetual good news of salvation; that through Christ's merits we can reflect the image of God perfectly in our life here.
3. This message tells us the time of the Messiah's first Advent.
4. That His true church (the body of Christ) will be giving this message to every nation, tongue, and people.
5. This message calls people to glorify God in body and in Spirit. To follow God's health laws is an integral part of this message!
6. This message proclaims that there is a judgment that all must face on an individual basis before God.
7. This message tells us that the time of the judgment has opened, bringing to an end the longest time prophecy in the Bible (Daniel 8:14), and any further prophecies based upon definite time. On October 22, 1844 the great Court from which there is no appeal convened in the most holy place of the heavenly sanctuary.

false doctrines which she has accepted as the result of her **unlawful connection with the great ones of the earth. Friendship with the world corrupts her faith**, and in her turn she exerts a corrupting influence upon the world by teaching doctrines which are opposed to the plainest statements of the word of God. The drinking of the wine is a figure describing the acceptance of the false teachings and policies of Babylon by the nations. Here are three prominent false teachings held by both the Catholic Church and the vast majority of protestant churches. And it only takes one of a number of false teachings to qualify as a daughter to the harlot.



1—The doctrine of the natural immortality of the soul: this has opened the way for modern Spiritualism; and besides the Roman Catholic errors (purgatory, prayers for the dead, invocation of saints, Marian worship, etc.) which have sprung from this source, it has led many Protestants to deny the resurrection and the Judgment.



2—Eternal torment in hell: This false doctrine also springs forth from the false teaching of the natural immortality of the soul. It teaches that the soul of an unrepentant person goes directly to an eternally burning hell fire upon their death, to be tortured for all eternity for their sins. This error paints God as an unmerciful tyrant punishing sinners for all eternity, instead of a just God of love and mercy.



3—Sunday is the Sabbath: And this is probably the most dangerous of all the errors being taught. It is the Catholic Church that claims the authority to change the Law of God, especially declaring that the Sabbath of the fourth commandment has been changed from the seventh day to the first day of the week—SUNDAY. And Protestantism follows Rome's lead in holding the first day sacred while trampling upon God's true Sabbath, the seventh day (known today as Saturday).



“The Bible says, Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day. The Catholic church says, No! By my divine power I abolish the Sabbath day, and command you to keep the first day of the week. And lo, the entire civilized world bows down in reverent obedience to the command of the holy Catholic church!” Father Enright, C.S.S.R. of the Redemptoral College, Kansas City, Mo., *History of the Sabbath*, p.802.



“The man of sin thinks himself able to change the times and the laws of God, and the Protestant world have accepted the authority of the papal power, and in so doing have apostatized from God. All nations have been made drunk by partaking of the wine of Babylon, by accepting the presumptuous work of the man of sin, who has tampered with the law of God, and thought to change the precepts of Jehovah.” White, Signs of the Times, November 14, 1895.

voice in chapter 18, we want to make absolutely sure who Babylon is because you may be in Babylon and not even know it. It's no disgrace to be in Babylon without knowing it, in fact God has many people in Babylon, but He is now calling them out.

5. What is the term Babylon derived from and what does it mean?
Genesis 10:8-10; 11:1-9

In Babylonian the name *Bab-ilu* (Babel, or Babylon) meant “gate of the gods,” but the Hebrews derogatorily associated it with *balal* (baw-lal), a word in their language meaning “to confuse by mixing.” The rulers of Babylon doubtless called their city the “gate” of the gods in the sense that they chose to think of it as the place where the gods consorted with men, to order the affairs of earth. King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon dedicated the great Ishtar Gate to the goddess Ishtar. One of eight “gate of the gods,” it was the main entrance into Babylon. The gate was a double gate, and it was the starting point for the half mile ‘*Processional Way to the Temple of Marduk*.’ It is the very gate which the Jewish captives must have passed through, including Daniel and Ezekiel. Revelation uses Babylon as the Hebrews did—“to confuse by mixing,” such as mixing truth with error.



6. Is the second angel of Revelation 14 speaking of the literal city of Babylon founded by Nimrod and ruled by Nebuchadnezzar?
Daniel 5:22-31; Isaiah 13:19-21; Jeremiah 50:13

It is interesting to note that toward the close of the first century A.D., even as literal Babylon lay desolate, that Christians were referring to the city and empire of Rome by the cryptic title of Babylon to avoid persecution. Even Peter uses the term “Babylon” as a veiled reference to Rome (1 Peter 5:13). In fact, Tertullian, who lived at the close of the second century, specifically declares that the term Babylon in the book of Revelation refers to the capital city of imperial Rome. History and the Scriptures make it very clear that the second angel's message is not speaking about the literal city of Babylon for it no longer exists, so it must be a symbolic term.



7. Who does Babylon symbolically represent?
Revelation 17:1-6, 18

The bible says that the *woman* is *that great city*. What does the second angel call that great city? *Babylon!* Babylon is here represented as a woman, a figure which is used in the Scriptures as the symbol of a church. A virtuous woman represents a pure church, a vile woman an apostate church.

8. **To what does God liken His faithful people?**

Isaiah 51:16; Jeremiah 6:2

9. **What kind of union does the Bible use to represent the relation that exists between Christ and His church?**

Jeremiah 3:14; 2 Corinthians 11:2



The close relation of the church to Christ is represented under the figure of marriage. The Lord had joined his people to himself by a solemn covenant, he promising to be their God, and they pledging themselves to be his, and his alone.

10. **How does God view His chosen people when they turn their backs on Him?** *Ezekiel 16:15, 32, 33*

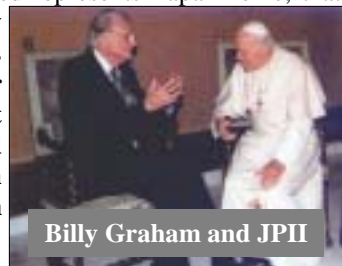


The OT prophets often compare apostate Israel, which repeatedly went “a whoring” after heathen gods, with an adulterous woman—or Harlot.

11. **What else is revealed about this ‘woman,’ or church called Babylon?**

Revelation 17:5, 6

Babylon is said to be *a harlot*—symbolic of an apostate church, and is “that great city” or Rome; and the prophet beheld her drunken with the blood of saints and martyrs. The Babylon thus described represents Papal Rome, that apostate church which has so cruelly persecuted the followers of Christ. Babylon is also said to be “*the mother of harlots.*” **Her daughters must symbolize churches that cling to her doctrines and traditions, and follow her example of sacrificing the truth and the approval of God, in order to form an unlawful alliance with the world.**



The message of Revelation 14 announcing the fall of Babylon, must apply to religious bodies that were once pure and have become corrupt. Since this message *follows* the warning of the Judgment [the first angel’s message], which must be given after A.D. 1798—the time of the end, it cannot therefore refer directly to the Roman Catholic Church [Papal Rome], for that church has been in a fallen condition for many centuries—hence the protestant reformation and deadly wound!



Furthermore, in the 18th chapter of Revelation, in a message which is yet future, the people of God are called upon to come out of Babylon. According to this scripture, many of God’s people must still be in Babylon. And in what religious bodies are the greater part of the followers of Christ now to be found? Without doubt, in the various churches professing the Protestant faith. A.D. 2006 estimates put worldwide Protestant membership at 1.9 billion while Catholic membership worldwide is around 67 million. The daughters of this “mother” thus represent the various religious bodies that constitute apostate (false, traitorous) Protestantism. The rejection of the first angel’s message—specifically the judgment—by the professed Protestant Churches in A.D. 1844 brought the second angel’s message that proclaimed their fall. A rejection of the first angel’s message, means a rejection of them all because they accompany each other!



12. **What does fornication symbolize?** *Revelation 14:8; Ezekiel 16:26, 29; Jeremiah 3:6-10*

In the New Testament, language very similar is addressed to professed Christians who seek the friendship of the world above the favor of God. James says: “*Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.*” James 4:4. In Bible prophecy, **fornication is a figure of the illicit connection between the church and the world or between the church and the state.** The church should be married to her Lord, but when she seeks the support of the state, she leaves her lawful spouse. By her new connection she commits spiritual fornication.



13. **Why has Babylon Fallen?** *Revelation 14:8*

This cup of intoxication, which Babylon presents to the world, represents the