

The Book of Daniel
"The Two Babylons"
Daniel 5:1-31

Introduction

1. The Scriptures can never be broken. They are the everlasting testimony of God to a dying world.

2. The absolute credibility of the historical account in this chapter is firmly established. Some of its moral implications have been noted.

3. But Babylon's fall historically is not the full story. There is a word prophetically. The end time will unveil the final and complete overturning of this rebelliousness against God.

4. Study carefully the steps included in the fall of Babylonianism.

1. The FOUNDERS of Babylonianism.

Several factors should be included here;

a. The place.

Near the Euphrates and a literal city. Its place in history is well attested.

b. The persons.

Originated with Nimrod. His might bespeaks a rebellion against God (Gen. 10:9,10).

c. The period.

Related to the days of the flood and Noah. Its final situation is also along these temporal lines (Gen. 8; Matt. 24:37ff).

d. The program.

Etymologically the term "Babel" meant "gate to God." But the Hebrew meaning is "confusion" (Gen. 11:9).

2. The FOLLOWERS of Babylonianism.

There is a definite and clear two-fold following in this matter:

a. Politically.

Nimrod's state was a superstate without God. Federation is a necessity.

The historical and modern counterparts are patent. The future is sure to come to pass.

b. Religiously.

With Marduk Bel as the chief rallying point for worship and probably placed at the top of the tower, a religious system was established. Prior pictures on the end time are to be found in Nebuchadnezzar's image, parable of the tares, etc. A world system religiously without God's personal control is related to this same fearful system. Gen. 11:4 notes a possible anti-semitic connection (cf. shem i.e. Heb. for "name.").

3. The FALL of Babylonianism.

With a system which has two horns, political and religious, the Bible predicts the fall of both. Note these in the divine record!

a. Religious Babylon's fall.

Under the figure of a harlot (accommodated religion), the Bible outlines the world-wide influence and practical control of this religious system. In power when the Beast and ten kings come, the system is doomed to destruction by the ten kings (Rev. 17: 16. This is the coming end of the modern God-denying ecumenicalism which is sweeping the world.

b. Political Babylon's fall.

Isa. 13:6 speaks of its final complete destruction in "the day of the Lord." Not too many years ago under Turkish rule, this area paid taxes to Turkey. It has an existence today. Both Jews and Gentiles who are related to God are called out of her before the ultimate destruction (Rev. 18:4). Because of sin, the city falls (Rev. 18:5) and this opens the door for Christ's political regeneration of the world.

Conclusion. Beloved friend, here is a weighty word from the Lord. The testimony of prophecy must not be neglected. Oh, how it behooves us to be right with the Lord and therefore figure in on the blessings related to His wonderful grace and salvation.