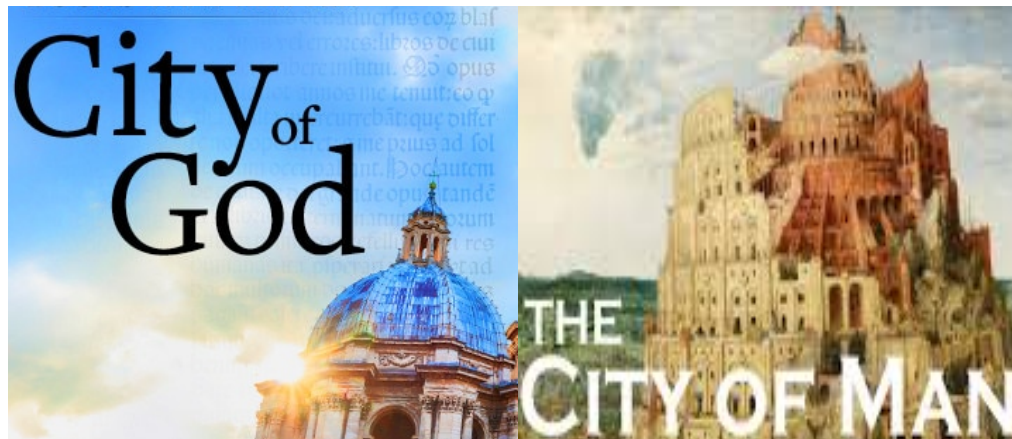


# THE STORY OF DAVID CONTINUES



## SEIZING JERUSALEM; SURVIVING BABYLON

The greatest danger in this or any other election season is buying in to the snare of Babylon—*The City of Man*. It is a danger posed by the Right and the Left. It has seduced the Church throughout the ages. It is preparing Evangelicals for the Great Babylon Apostasy. Lessons learned by David seizing Jerusalem are critical for surviving what is to come.

1. **The Tale of Two Cities: **Babylon** [Genesis 11] and **Jerusalem** [2 Samuel 5]. They stand in opposition to each other as the two world systems vying for control of the earth and its inhabitants.**
  - **Babylon.** From Hebrew word *baphel* which means “confusion” of languages; Akkadian language of Mesopotamia, *bab* which means “gate” + *ilun* which means “gods” = gateway to the gods. Literally, Babylon is, in and of itself, the place you go to enter a heavenly existence. Contrast this to Christ’s words: “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” [John 14:6]

- **Jerusalem.** Hebrew *Yerushalayim*—combination of two words, *yerah* which means “he threw or cast” or “laid a foundation” or “established” + *shalom* which means “peace” = the foundations of peace, or the place that establishes peace.

2. **Babylon: *The City of Man [De Civitati hominum]* that stands in opposition to *The City of God [de Civitati Dei]* as described by St. Augustine in his masterpiece, *The City of God*. Two world systems at war with each other until Jesus returns to rule over heaven and earth.**

- Called **Tower of Babel** [Genesis 11], **Babylon the Great** [Daniel 4:30], **The Mother of Prostitutes** [Genesis 17:5], **The Beast from the Sea** [Revelation 13:1 ff.], **The Mother of Prostitutes** [Rev. 17:5], **Babylon, the Fallen** [Rev. 18&19].
- Its ruler is Nimrod, the gatherer of people and prototype of Anti-Christ to come. [Genesis 10:8-11; 11:1-5; 2 Thessalonians 2; Matthew 24].
- It has a tower [ziggurat] at its center to unite people around creation rather than Creator worship—one language, one religion, one culture, one-world government. [Genesis 11:1-5]
- It dies again and again, but rises again and again {Revelation 13:3}: Babylon, Egypt, Assyria, Nebuchadnezzar, Persia, Greece, Rome, Holy Roman Empire, Ottoman Empire, Napoleon, Nazi Empire, Communist empires, etc. Babylon on the Potomac?

- Its number is 666, and every Cristian should understand it—lest they fall into Babylon’s snare [Revelation 13:18]. Six is the number of man, and 3 is the number of God in Hebrew numerology. Therefore 666 is man making himself God. It’s a reflection of the Dragon [Satan] who gives birth to the Beast [The City State, Babylon] in Revelation 13. The Dragon also tried to make himself the God of heaven when he was the archangel Lucifer.
- Those who give themselves body and soul to Babylon can be sure that their names are not written in the book of life [Revelation 13:8].
- Babylon will face the judgment of God, it will get its power by promising to solve the ecological [i.e. global warming and its consequences], economic meltdowns, and global terrorism. Like ancient Egypt, the anti-Christ Pharaoh of the end days will think he can withstand the God of heaven and the plagues he sends as final judgments on earth—but he will be defeated along with his world system. [Revelation 19].
- The false prophet and Beast will all be thrown into the Lake of Fire. [Revelation 19:19-21]
- For those fighting the culture wars, only Jesus can ultimately defeat Babylon and its evil. [Revelation 19:11]

### 3. **How do we then survive Babylon?**

- **We remember that the City of God [the Spiritual Jerusalem] dwells within the City of Man [Babylon]. Augustine's *City of God*. Jesus describes it in Matthew 5:14-16.**
- **We do not depend on the City of Man to protect the City of God or accomplish its ends. [Matthew 6:9-13 & 33]**
- **We do not enter into unholy unions with secular princes or governments, nor should our spiritual leaders endorse them. [Matthew 22:21—Certain things belong to Caesar, and others to God alone]. Remember Charlemagne and the Pope.**
- **We should not find our security in who governs in Babylon on the Potomac, but in who sits on the Throne [see Rev. 4—Only around the throne is there a crystal sea of utter calmness, in contrast to the seas out of which the beast arises in Revelation 13].**
- **We should live in Babylon, and work for its good for the sake of our families. [Jeremiah 29:1-14]**
- **We should pray for the rulers of Babylon. [I Timothy 2:2]**

- **We should work for better government in Babylon, and influence it for good, but never compromise our Savior and God [the Story of Daniel].**
- **We should see Babylon as the place where we fulfill the Great Commission. Remember, Abraham was redeemed from a city in the Babylonian empire.**
- **As Americans, our *Caesars* are not the governors, president, or other civic authorities, but the U.S. Constitution [when it comes to Romans 13]. Yet, even our Constitution is in second place to the Bible, which is our final authority of faith and practice.**
- **Our Citizenship is in heaven, not Babylon. We belong to the *Spiritual* Jerusalem, and look forward to the *New* Jerusalem that will come down out of heaven [Revelation 21]. Our Savior and King is Jesus—not Trump, Biden, Republicans, Democrats, or whoever gets on the Supreme Court. We do not belong to Babylon, and must never let it put its mark of ownership on us.**

Next Time: **Seizing Jerusalem** [Part Two of our Study]