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Ancient city of Babylon designated Unesco World Heritage Site

There are those who believe that the prophecy of Jeremiah (and other similar prophecies) given in Jeremiah 13:19-22, were fulfilled in the days of Daniel.

Here is what Jeremiah said of the fate of Babylon at the hands of the Lord in judgment.

"And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency, shall be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah. It shall never be inhabited, neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation: neither shall the Arabian pitch tent there; neither shall the shepherds make their fold there. But wild beasts of the desert shall lie there; and their houses shall be full of doleful creatures; and owls shall dwell there, and satyrs shall dance there. And the wild beasts of the islands shall cry in their desolate houses, and dragons in their pleasant palaces: and her time is near to come, and her days shall not be prolonged."

In Daniel 5:30-31 we read:

"In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain. And Darius the Median took the kingdom, being about threescore and two years old."

The date of that event was 538 BC (Ussher's Chronology)

If Daniel 5:30-31 is a fulfillment of Jeremiah 13:19-22 then Babylon should be as "when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah. It shall never be inhabited, neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation: neither shall the Arabian pitch tent there; neither shall the shepherds make their fold there."

Many of us believe that the judgment of Babylon in the days of Daniel were but a foreshadowing of a judgment to come and that Babylon was not utterly wiped out as was Sodom. Indeed, we believe that the "Babylon" referred to in the Book of the Revelation is the Babylon of Daniel's day rebuilt!

"And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning, standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come. And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more: the merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and fine linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble, and cinnamon, and odours, and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts, and sheep, and horses, and chariots, and slaves, and souls of men. And the fruits that thy soul lusted after are departed from thee, and all things which were dainty and goodly are departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more at all. The merchants of these things, which were made rich by her, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing, and saying, Alas, alas, that great city, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls! For in one hour so great riches is come to nought. And every shipmaster, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off, and cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city! And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas, that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate. Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her. And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all," Revelation 18:2, 9-21.



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What is stated in the above verses from Revelation 18 is entirely in keeping with the words of Jeremiah's prophecy. There will be a future rebuilding of Babylon, for it was not utterly destroyed in Daniel's day, and then there will be an ultimate destruction of the same, even as God's Word states.

Evidence to support our understanding of God's Word on this matter has recently been reported in the news.

An article titled, Ancient city of Babylon designated Unesco World Heritage Site, has appeared on the BBC website. You may view the news report [here](#).

It is stated in the BBC report that:

"Iraq had been lobbying since 1983 for the 4,000-year-old site to be added to the United Nations' prestigious list. The city was famous for its Hanging Gardens, which were among the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. The site has suffered in recent years - first from the construction of a palace for Saddam Hussein, and later from being used as a base for US troops."

It is clear then that the Word of God, spoken by Jeremiah and other prophets on Babylon's absolute destruction has not taken place and that destruction lies in the future as recorded in Revelation 18.

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