## "Babylon has fallen...Come out of her my people" (Revelation 18:1-5)

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"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. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication,.....And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities." Revelation 18:1-5

The term Babylon, derived from Babel (Genesis 11:9), and signifying confusion, is applied in Scripture to the various forms of false or apostate religion. There is "Babylon The Great The Mother of Harlots" "the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus" Rev. 17:5,6. This can only refer to the Roman Catholic church who is responsible for the deaths of over 50 million martyrs - The Other End of the World, p. 127, Roger Rusk.

Then there is Babylon that is fallen "because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication" Rev 14:8. This refers to what is now the World Council of Churches (W. C. C). The churches that make up Babylon have conflicting creeds and false doctrines, yet they put up a false united front by laying aside their differences and form the W. C. C which has other ecumenical bodies under it such as the Christian World Communion (CWC), National Council of Churches (NCC), etc... Its moral fall is here announced which is caused by their false doctrines. God is calling all His faithful people out of these apostate churches before the 7 last plagues fall. Members of the Christian World Communion are: The Roman Catholic Church, Seventh Day Adventist Church, Pentecostal, Baptist, Evangelical, Anglican, Lutheran, Methodist churches, etc. https://www.oikoumene.org/church-families

The obvious question then is, since all churches now compose Babylon, then who or where is God's church? For God has always had a church upon the earth. But before answering that question let us look at a prophecy by Isaiah that foretold the state of the churches in our day. It reads, "And in that day seven women shall take hold of one Man, saying, we will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach." Isaiah 4:1. Since this is a prophecy written in symbols, we will have to understand the symbols first and then determine when it was fulfilled.

"Seven" symbolizes wholeness or completeness or all, e.g. 7 days signifies a complete week or a whole week or all the number of days of the week. A "woman" symbolizes a church, a pure woman--a pure church, e.g. "I promised you to one husband, to Christ" says Paul, "that I might present you as a pure virgin to Him" 2 Corinthians 11:2 NIV. An impure woman an impure church, e.g. Babylon in Rev. 17:5 is called the mother of harlots, i.e. an impure church that has churches that follow after her example of impurity and corruption. The "One Man" obviously refers to Christ. "Bread" symbolizes spiritual food i.e. the Word of God, e.g. Jesus says, "I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: ... the words that I speak unto you, they are Spirit, and they are life." John 6: 51,63. "Apparel" symbolizes either righteousness or unrighteousness. Clean apparel: - the righteousness of Christ which is imparted to the saints, "And to her (the church) was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints" Rev. 19:8. And filthy apparel: - "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousness are as filthy rags" Isaiah 64:6.

So, without the symbols the text reads, "In that day all the churches will take hold of one Man, i.e. Christ, saying, we will spiritually feed upon our own doctrines (words), and be clothed with our own righteousness, only let us be called by your name i.e. Christian, to take away our shame" Isaiah 4:1

When was this prophecy fulfilled? It could not apply to the times of Isaiah because Israel was the only true church of God at that time. Likewise, it cannot be applied to the times of the early Christian church during the times of the Apostles for there was only one true church. Again, it could not be applied during the times of the great apostasy when the Catholic Church ruled supreme not allowing any dissenters to her false doctrines resulting in God's true church being persecuted and going into hiding or the "wilderness" i.e. in obscurity for 1260 years, "The woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days." Revelation 12:6. Each prophetic day represents 1 year of literal time (Numbers 14:34; Ezekiel 4:6).

We will briefly explain the 1260 years of prophecy of Rev. 12:6 in the next 2 paragraphs:

After the fall of the Western Roman Empire in the year 476, the Catholic church sought to step into Rome's place and rule over Western Europe as it was now the state religion, this being a combination of Christianity and paganism. But 3 nations i.e. the Heruli, Vandals, and Ostrogoths refused to yield to the Catholic religion and authority. Therefore, the Catholic church using the armed forces of the rest of the empire made war against these 3 nations. The last of these nations i.e. the Ostrogoths were defeated in March 538 and forced to leave Rome. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Siege of Rome (537–538)

Therefore, March 538 marks the beginning of the years of papal supremacy. And the end of this period is February 10, 1798, when the French general Louis Berthier under directions from Napoleon Bonaparte entered the city of Rome, took pope Pius VI prisoner and exiled him to France. Thus, the year of February 10, 1798 marked the end of the years of papal supremacy exactly 1260 years later as prophecy had predicted.

Continuing with the prophecy of Isaiah 4:1, we come down to the time of the "Judgement message" or "Advent message" in 1844 which was sent to the world during the Protestant

era. Amongst other things, the purpose of the message was to separate God's true people from the world and unite them under one body and name, which eventually happened by the raising of the Seventh Day Adventist church (SDA), while the rest of the churches were called Babylon (Rev. 14:8) because of their rejection of the "Judgement message" (See The Judgement Hour for further details).

Again, the prophecy could not apply during this time as she was God's true church. But when the SDA church apostatized from God starting in 1932 with the introduction of the Church Manual which were "books of a new order", instead of being led by the Bible alone, thus fulfilling the satanic reformation of <u>Letter 242 paragraph 13 1903</u> and later sealing her rejection of God by officially joining Babylon led by the papacy in the Christian World Communion, then the prophecy of Isaiah 4:1 was fulfilled. As the prophecy predicted, all the churches teach their own doctrines which leads to self- righteousness and yet all want to be called by Christ's name i.e. Christian.

So, God's church is again in the "wilderness" state i.e. in obscurity but this time it is not because of the Bible being prohibited. In the past, Satan working through the Roman Catholic church, prohibited the Bible resulting in persecution for those who wanted to follow the Bible only and God's true church went into hiding i.e. the "wilderness" state. At the moment great light, intellectual, moral, and religious, is shining upon this generation. In the open pages of God's holy Word, light from Heaven has been shed upon the world. But it should be remembered that the greater the light bestowed, the greater the darkness of those who pervert or reject it.

In order to spread the spiritual darkness, and thereby "hide" the Bible as it were, Satan inspires Babylonian authors and pastors to spread many erroneous doctrines. Chief among these is the theory that Christ has nailed the 10 commandments to the cross, thereby leading men to transgress the law, which is sin (1 John 3:4), as if the Bible was not available to reveal sin. But the truth is that it's the sacrificial laws that was nailed to the cross, because Jesus the real Sacrifice was offered (Ephesians 2:15).

And again, they teach the people to cling to the papal error of natural immortality and man's consciousness in death, virtually rejecting the Bible which is the only defence against the delusions of evil spirits. The doctrine of eternal torment has led many to disbelieve the Bible. And as the claims of the fourth commandment are urged upon the people, it is found that the observance of the seventh-day Sabbath is enjoined (Saturday); and as the only way to free themselves from a duty which they are unwilling to perform, popular Babylonian teachers declare that the law of God is no longer binding, that it is only a guide for Christians and we can pick and choose which day we want to keep holy. Thus, they cast away the law and the Sabbath together.

And since those churches that claim to keep the commandments of God are in spiritual fellowship with those that do not in the W. C. C and other ecumenical movements, people are even more confused and as a result doubt the validity of the Bible.

"The papacy is well adapted to meet the wants of all these. It is prepared for two classes of mankind, embracing nearly the whole world,—those who would be saved by their merits, and those who would be saved in their sins. Here is the secret of its power." Ellen G. White, The Great Controversy 1888, p. 572

What the prophetess is saying is that there basically two classes of Babylonians over which Rome presides (1) The conservatives led by the Seventh Day Adventist church who profess to believe that the law of God is binding, but essentially teach that we as human being are able to keep the law by our own merit as demonstrated at the SDA General Conference of 1888 in Minneapolis, and finally in 1932 rejecting the Holy Spirit and instead adopting the Church Manual as the church creed (2) The liberals who are composed mostly of Pentecostals, who believe that the law of God is no longer binding, thus in essence believe that we can be saved in our sins.

Therefore, God's true church is in the "wilderness" state again where God is preparing her for the final battle. The first "wilderness" state period was 1260 years as mentioned above but in this current "wilderness" state, there is no period because all prophetic time ended in 1844 when the Bible declared that "there should be time no longer" Rev. 10:6.

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