LATTER RAIN and LOUD CRY, part 2 quotes

1) #2 – Who Is This Message To Be Preached To?

"And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen..."

What is Babylon? Babylon is depicted as being an impure woman (Revelation 17:1-5). And a woman in Scripture symbolizes a church (see Jeremiah 6:2; Ephesians 5:23-27). So Babylon represents a church that was once standing in the favor of God, but then she became corrupt and impure and fell from God's grace.

"...the message announcing the fall of Babylon must apply to some religious body that was once pure, and has become corrupt....Babylon is 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. Babylon is said to be a harlot..." Spirit of Prophecy, vol 4, p 232-233 (Great Controversy, p 381).

Babylon then represents a harlot church that was at one time pure, or at one time she was chosen and used by God and was standing by His side as His faithful bride. But then she chose to depart from Christ, committed harlotry, and therefore has become condemned as Babylon.

2) "and is become the habitation of devils..."

The fallen church is no longer the habitation of God and Jesus as she once was. But she has become the habitation of devils.

3) "And the hold of every foul spirit..."

No longer is the fallen church the place of the sweet influence of the Holy Spirit and the heavenly angels, but now she is the place of the foul influence of evil spirits.

4) "And a cage..."

A cage is a closed-in structure that prevents things from escaping it. The Greek word used for cage is "phulake", and it translates and means "a guarding of the person, or of the place, a cage, hold, prison, ward, watch, or to imprison" (Strong's Exhaustive Greek Concordance, word #5438). Hence this word for cage means a hold or prison, a ward like a jail, which is a place where people are imprisoned and are guarded and kept from escaping. We see pictured in this verse a church (see Testimonies to Ministers, p 265; Review and Herald, February 26, 1895) which has become structured or organized like a cage or a prison house to try and prevent its membership from separating and escaping her influence over them. And the type of church organization which most closely resembles a closed-in structure like a cage is a hierarchy!

"of every unclean and hateful bird."

What does a bird represent in this verse? It represents men.

"Calling a ravenous **bird** from the east, **the man** that executeth my counsel from a far country". Isaiah 46:10.

"For among my people are found wicked men: they lay wait, as he that setteth snares; they set a trap, they catch men. As a cage is full of birds, so are their houses [or churches] full of deceit: therefore they are become great, and waxen rich." Jeremiah 5:26-27.

So a cage of every unclean and hateful bird would represent a church which has adopted a hierarchical structure of organization, turning it into a prison house run by deceitful men and leadership who are trying to prevent their members from escaping.

5) "For all nations..."

Is this referring only to the various nations of the world, or is it spiritually referring to something else?

"God has a controversy with the churches of today. They are fulfilling the prophecy of John. 'All nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication." Bible Commentary, vol 7, p 979 (Letter 78, 1900).

Inspiration declares that "all nations" refer to "all churches" or all denominations – without the exclusion of a single one. All the established churches of today are represented as making up Babylon the Great, and are all included in this Loud Cry message.

6) "have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

The Greek word for "wine" used here is "oinophlugia", which translates and means "an overflow or surplus of wine, drunkenness, excess of wine" (Strong's, word #3632). This wine depicted here is not the pure juice of the vine, which would symbolize God's pure truth (see Colossians 1:5-6; Luke 5:36-39). But this wine has instead gone bad and has fermented which causes drunkenness, and which would then symbolize false impure doctrine. This means that the intoxicating wine of Babylon would represent her false doctrines.

The Greek word use for "fornication" is "porneia", which translates and means "to commit harlotry" (Strong's, word #4202). We understand this verse to be telling us that all the churches of today have accepted, embraced and become drunk upon Babylon's false doctrines. Having become drunk they then have chosen to depart from Christ their Husband and first love, have given up His pure truth, and have chosen to commit adultery against Him by uniting themselves with Babylon in harlotry. Being in connection with Babylon, they have all become a harlot of Babylon as well.

7) "And the kings of the earth..."

Does this only represent the various heads of the governments of the different nations of the world, or does it also have a spiritual meaning?

"And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, And <u>hath made us kings and priests unto God</u> and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen." Revelation 1:5-6.

"And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hastmade/materials/ and we shall reign on the earth." Revelation 5:9-10.

"And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. And they shall bring the glory and honour of the nations into it. And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life." Revelation 21:24-27.

The Bible depicts these kings of the earth in a spiritual sense: being those who have accepted Jesus and His truth and have entered into His service – being written in the Lamb's book of Life! But what have these kings done, which will rule with Jesus if faithful to the end? They have "committed fornication" with the harlot church! Or in other words, they love and are physically connected with, or united with, their Babylonian church in harlotry.

8) "And the merchants of the earth."

This would not only represent the money power of the earth, but also has a spiritual meaning.

"And the merchants of the earth...[deal in] 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." Revelation 18:11-13.

These merchants deal in "slaves and souls of men"! Those whose business it is to deal in souls are the ministers, pastors, priests and clergy of denominations.

"Are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies."

The word "abundance" used here is "dunamis", and it translates and means "force, miraculous power, violence, mighty work, and miracle worker" (Strong's, word #1411). And the word for "delicacies" used here is "strenos", and it translates and means "strength" (Strong's, word #4764). These ministers are waxed rich through the abundance of the harlot's delicacies; or in other words they are given much authority to rule over their church members, using force or violence if necessary, because of the miraculous power and strength which their hierarchical system of church organization gives them over their membership.

9) Does the Seventh-Day Adventist church really operate under a organizational structure of Babylon – with a hierarchy, which gives their ministers and leaders much power to rule over the membership?

"The plain and undeniable fact is that the Seventh-day Adventist church is most assuredly **not** a 'congregational' one (although it contains elements of congregationalism) **but is clearly of the...'hierarchical' variety**." Neal C. Wilson (past President of the General Conference), Court Transcript of United States vs the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission vs the Pacific Press Publishing Association and the General Conference, Reply Brief for Defendants, Civil Case #74-2025 CBR, trial from 1974-1975 (parentheses in original).

"...the church governs by a method of organization...which embraces exactly, from a legal standpoint, the same kind of organization (in opposition to 'congregationalism') as is embraced by the term 'hierarchical'." Neal C. Wilson, Court Transcript of United States vs the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission vs the Pacific Press Publishing Association and the General Conference, Reply Brief for Defendants, Civil Case #74-2025, p 29, (parenthesis in original).

"The Seventh-day Adventist Church is essentially a hierarchical system..." Bruce Manners (Associate Editor of the Record – the Official Paper of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, South Pacific Division), in the Record, June 23, 1990, p 2.

"The session [55th General Conference Session in 1990] has demonstrated <u>the hierarchical nature</u> of the church's administrative structure." Gary Krause (Associate Editor of the Record), in the Record, August 4, 1990, p 2.

"...the official hierarchy of the (SDA) church..." Walter Douglas (Chairman of the SDA Church History Department at the Andrews University Theological Seminary), in Adventist Review (the Official General Paper of the Seventh-day Adventist Church), Special Edition, October, 1994, p 51.

"...the structure of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is essentially hierarchical...The pyramid of church organization..." Walter Scragg (President of the South Pacific Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church), in the Record, June 23, 1990, p 4-5.

"The Seventh-day Adventist Church follows <u>a model of organizational order</u> in the church which is modified <u>from the orders of Roman Catholicism</u>..." Douglas Devnich (President of the Canadian Union of Seventh-day Adventists), in the Messenger (Official Journal of the Canadian Union Conference), December, 1993, p 2.

"The Seventh-day Adventist Church...maintains...a hierarchical structure of church authority." Neal C. Wilson, in the Court Transcript of the United States Secretary of Labor vs Pacific Union Conference and General Conference of Seventh-day Adventist Church, Case CV 75-3032-R, presided over by Judge Manuel L. Real, February 6, 1976.

So we see here that the SDA church it is not patterned after the structural order of New Testament Christian church, but is instead patterned after the structural order of Roman Catholicism! Thus we can clearly see that all denominations – including the SDA church – make up Babylon the Great, and are no longer part of God's true Movement and church. But they have become converted into "a cage" full "of every unclean and hateful" leadership who are determined to do all they possibly can to prevent their captive membership from escaping for their lives! (For more information on who God considers to be His True Church today, please write this ministry or visit our website).

10) #3 – How Is This Message to be Given?

No one can give this last message of mercy if they are unwilling to call others out of all the harlot Babylon fallen churches. God did not use the word "Babylon" in this last message of mercy to have it reasoned away as being too blunt for sensitive ears to hear! God purposely put the word "Babylon" in the Loud Cry for a good reason – so that it could be wisely, but boldly given, and thus all may awaken at its sharp sound, and then begin to inquire "are these things really true?"

Yet some declare that if you would just leave the "B" word out of the message, that more people would be converted. But how does inspiration declare that this message of Revelation 18 – which joins the third angel's message – is to be given?

"And the third angel followed them [first and second angel], saying with a loud voice" Revelation 14:9.

"And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen" Revelation 18:2.

"Satan has devised a state of things whereby the proclamation of the third angel's message shall be bound about. We must beware of his plans and methods. There must be no toning down of the truth, no muffling of the message for this time. The third angel's message must be strengthened and confirmed. The eighteenth chapter of Revelation reveals the importance of presenting the truth in no measured terms but with boldness and power....There has been too much beating about the bush in the proclamation of the third angel's message. The message has not been given as clearly and distinctly as it should have been." Evangelism, p 230.

But why did God state that the message is to be boldly and plainly given?

"Our message is a life-and-death message, and we must let this message appear as it is, – the great power of God. Then the Lord will make it effectual. **We are to present it in all its telling force**." Evangelism, p 230.

Should we be afraid to publicly declare the truth that God has commanded us to give? Are we to be afraid to publicly declare to the members of the SDA church and all other apostate churches that their harlot church is part of Babylon fallen, and that they will be destroyed if they remain connected to her? No.

But if no one is ever to publicly declare the harlot churches to be Babylon fallen, then this following testimony is a lie!

"The sins of Babylon will be laid open....Thousands upon thousands <u>have never listened</u> to words like these. In amazement they hear the testimony that Babylon is the church, fallen because of her errors and sins, because of her rejection of the truth sent to her from heaven. The people go to their former teachers with the eager inquiry, Are these things so?" Spirit of Prophecy, vol 4, p 424 (Great Controversy, p 606-607).

Since this inspired testimony is not a lie but is the truth, then it clearly reveals to all of God's people that multitudes will plainly hear the message that their own beloved church has become Babylon fallen! And after they hear this amazing and startling message, then they began to inquire: "are these things so?"

This difference between brothers and sisters regarding how to preach the Babylon message still exists today, and it is still causing division among us, when God commands there to be only harmony and unity among us!

"Caution is needed; but while some of the workers are guarded, and make haste slowly, if there are not united with them in the work those who see the necessity of being aggressive, very much will be lost; opportunities will pass, and the opening providence of God will not be discerned." Evangelism, p 228-229.

This last day Movement is under the control of the Mighty Holy Spirit, and God will lead and use all His servants to do His will and to say His words at any given time He impresses.

"Let me tell you that the Lord will work in this last work in a manner very much out of the common order of things, and in a way that will be contrary to any human planning. There will be those among us who will always want to control the work of God, to dictate even what movements shall be made when the work goes forward under the direction of the angel who joins the third angel in the message to be given to the world. God will use ways and means by which it will be seen that He is taking the reins in His own hands." Testimonies to Ministers, p 300.

11) "Great power and glory were imparted to the angel, and as he descended, the earth was lightened with his glory....The work of this angel comes in at the right time, and joins in the last great work of the third angel's message, as it swells into a loud cry. And the people of God are fitted up every where to stand in the hour of temptation which they are soon to meet. I saw a great light resting upon them, and they united in the message, and fearlessly proclaimed with great power the third angel's message....The glory of God rested upon the patient, waiting saints, and they fearlessly gave the last solemn warning, proclaiming the fall of Babylon, and calling upon God's people to come out of her; that they might escape her fearful doom." Spiritual Gifts, vol 1. p 193-194.

All of God's people are to unite together in this message of Revelation 18 and become part of this last day Movement! That is why there is no real unity existing among those who oppose this Babylon message, because it is only in this Revelation 18 message that God has designed lasting unity to be achieved!

12) Will you unite with us in giving this trumpet note a certain loud and clear sound to
the world? "The trumpet is to give a certain sound. Clearly and distinctly the warning is to ring out, 'Babylon the great is fallen, is fallenCome out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.'" Review and Herald, December 9, 1902 (vol 4, p 472).