



Mt. Pleasant Bible Institute

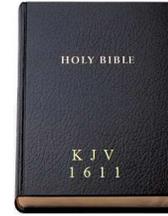
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Study to shew thyself approved unto God" (2 Tim 2:15)

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A ministry of the
Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church

Lee Swor, Pastor



Mystery, Babylon The Great

The astrologers, the stargazers, the monthly prognosticators.

- × The words ASTROLOGER(S), STARGAZERS, and MONTHLY PROGNOSTICATORS appear 11x (# of CONFUSION) (v.13; Dan 1:20; 2:2,10,27; 4:7; 5:7,11,15) cf. (Matt 2:2)

Stand up.

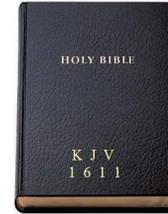
cf. (v.12) note

Isa 47:14

Behold, **they shall be as stubble; the fire shall burn them; they shall not deliver themselves** from **the power of the flame**: *there shall not be a coal to warm at, nor fire to sit before it.*

They shall be as stubble.

- × THEY= the astrologers, stargazers, and monthly prognosticators (v.13)
- × STUBBLE= “the stumps of wheat, rye, barley, oats left in the ground; the part of the stalk left by the sythe or sickle”
- × The STUBBLE LEFT could be comparable to the TARES that REMAIN



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Matt 13:30,49-50

30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first **the tares**, and **bind them in bundles to burn them**: but gather the wheat into my barn.

49 So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever **the wicked** from among the just,

50 And shall **cast them into the furnace of fire**: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

The fire shall burn them.

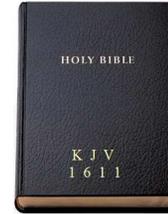
× The judgment of the daughter of Babylon involves desolation that comes suddenly (v.11), in a moment in one day (v.9), by FIRE

Jer 50:32

And the most proud shall stumble and fall, and none shall raise him up: and **I will kindle a fire** in his cities, and it shall devour all round about him.

Jer 51:25

Behold, I *am* against thee, O destroying mountain, saith the LORD, which destroyest all the earth: and I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, and roll thee down from the rocks, and **will make thee a burnt mountain**.



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- × This fire is sent AMONG them that DWELL CARELESSLY in the isles

Eze 39:6

And **I will send a fire** on Magog, and **among them that dwell carelessly in the isles**: and they shall know that I *am* the LORD.

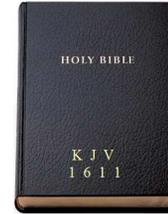
- × The daughter of Babylon DWELLS CARELESSLY (v.8)
- × AMONG= “mixed or mingled with; as TARES among wheat”
- × The FIRE judgment is directed to the TARES (i.e.- the lost) left in the field (i.e.- the world) after the WHEAT (i.e.- the saved) have been gathered into the Lord’s BARN (i.e.- heaven), just like the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah

Matt 13:30,38

30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first **the tares**, and **bind them in bundles to burn them**: but **gather the wheat into my barn**.

38 **The field is the world**; **the good seed are the children of the kingdom**; but **the tares are the children of the wicked one**;

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They shall not deliver themselves.

- × Just like the earlier statement, “**thou shalt not be able to put it off**” (v.11), the implication is that the daughter of Babylon will try to appease the Lord in order to forego judgment
- × All efforts will be unsuccessful because she does not come the LORD’S WAY cf. (John 14:6)

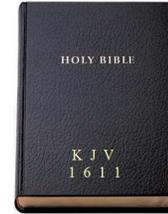
Eze 33:7,12,17,20

7 So thou, O son of man, **I have set thee a watchman** unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and **warn them from me.**

12 Therefore, thou son of man, say unto the children of thy people, **The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him** in the day of his transgression: as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall thereby in the day that he turneth from his wickedness; neither shall the righteous be able to live for his *righteousness* in the day that he sinneth.

17 Yet **the children of thy people say, The way of the Lord is not equal:** but as for them, their way is not equal.

20 Yet ye say, The way of the Lord is not equal. O ye house of Israel, **I will judge you** every one after his ways.



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- × The large Jewish population dwelling in the land of the daughter of Babylon will be DELIVERED because they will FLEE the land before it is judged

Jer 51:6,45

6 Flee out of the midst of Babylon, and deliver every man his soul: be not cut off in her iniquity; for this *is* the time of the LORD'S vengeance; he will render unto her a recompence.

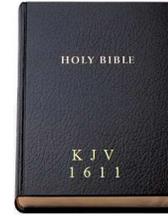
45 My people, go ye out of the midst of her, and deliver ye every man his soul from the fierce anger of the LORD.

- × As illustrated in the days of king Josiah, there comes a time when judgment against a nation is set in spite of the genuine repentance and reforms of some of its inhabitants (and even its leaders) after the fact

2 Chr 34:3,8,18-21,24-28

3 For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet young, **he began to seek after** the **God** of David his father: and in the twelfth year **he began to purge** Judah and Jerusalem from **the high places, and the groves, and the carved images, and the molten images.**

8 Now in the eighteenth year of his reign, when he had purged the land, and the house, he sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, and Maaseiah the governor of the city, and Joah the son of Joahaz the recorder, to **repair the house of the LORD his God.**



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18 Then Shaphan the scribe told the king, saying, Hilkiah the priest hath given me a book. And Shaphan read it before the king.

19 And it came to pass, when the king had heard the words of the law, that he rent his clothes.

20 And the king commanded Hilkiah, and Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Abdon the son of Micah, and Shaphan the scribe, and Asaiah a servant of the king's, saying,

21 Go, enquire of the LORD for me, and for them that are left in Israel and in Judah, concerning the words of the book that is found: for great is the wrath of the LORD that is poured out upon us, because our fathers have not kept the word of the LORD, to do after all that is written in this book.

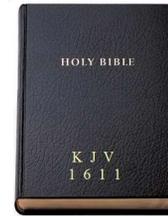
24 Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof, *even* all the curses that are written in the book which they have read before the king of Judah:

25 Because they have forsaken me, and have burned incense unto other gods, that they might provoke me to anger with all the works of their hands; therefore my wrath shall be poured out upon this place, and shall not be quenched.

26 And as for the king of Judah, who sent you to enquire of the LORD, so shall ye say unto him, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel *concerning* the words which thou hast heard;

27 Because thine heart was tender, and thou didst humble thyself before God, when thou heardest his words against this place, and against the inhabitants thereof, and humbledst thyself before me, and didst rend thy clothes, and weep before me; I have even heard *thee* also, saith the LORD.

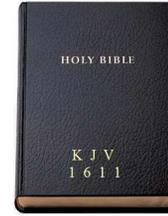
28 Behold, I will gather thee to thy fathers, and thou shalt be gathered to thy grave in peace, neither shall thine eyes see all the evil that I will bring upon this place, and upon the inhabitants of the same. So they brought the king word again.



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- × In spite of all the genuine reforms that Josiah implemented and the repentance of some of the people, judgment against the kingdom of Judah was set and would not change because the Lord said **“I will bring evil upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof”**
- × The Lord saw the tenderness of Josiah’s heart and his humbleness before the word of God so he promised him two things: (1) the Lord would GATHER him; and (2) he would NOT SEE the EVIL that would come upon the place and people
- × If judgment could be set against Judah and God’s covenant people in spite of reforms how much more so could judgment be set against the USA which is as a drop of a bucket with the Lord (Isa 40:15) in spite of reforms that we might see?
- × Even though judgment against the USA may be set, those who truly repent (like Josiah) will be GATHERED (Matt 13:30) by the Lord (1 The 4:16) and will NOT SEE the EVIL (v.11) that will come upon it
- × There will be an EXODUS of Jews and an EVACUATION of Christians from the USA before her judgment is executed



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- × In addition, just because judgment against the USA may be set, we should not be discouraged or deterred from doing what is right and obeying the word of God- Josiah wasn't

2 Chr 34:29-33

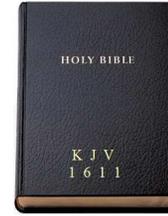
29 Then **the king** sent and gathered together all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem.

30 And the king went up into the house of the LORD, and all the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and the priests, and the Levites, and all the people, great and small: and he **read in their ears all the words of the book** of the covenant that was found in the house of the LORD.

31 And **the king** stood in his place, and **made a covenant before the LORD**, to walk after the LORD, and **to keep his commandments**, and his testimonies, and his statutes, with all his heart, and with all his soul, to perform the words of the covenant which are written in this book.

32 And he caused all that were present in Jerusalem and Benjamin to stand *to it*. And the inhabitants of Jerusalem did according to the covenant of God, the God of their fathers.

33 And **Josiah took away all the abominations** out of all the countries that *pertained* to the children of Israel, and **made all that were present in Israel** to serve, *even* **to serve the LORD** their God. *And* **all his days they departed not from following the LORD**, the God of their fathers.



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Isa 47:15

Thus shall they be unto thee with whom thou hast laboured, even thy merchants, from thy youth: they shall wander every one to his quarter; none shall save thee.

With whom thou hast laboured...thy merchants, from thy youth.

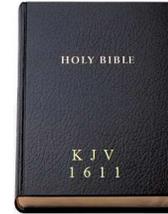
- × MERCHANT= “a man who trafficks or carries on trade with foreign countries, or who exports and imports goods and sells them by wholesale; a trader; one who deals in the purchase and sale of goods”
- × The daughter of Babylon has merchants just like her mother

Rev 18:2-3,23

2 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.

3 For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

23 And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived.



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- × These merchants have been buying and selling her sorceries and enchantments from her youth (v.12)

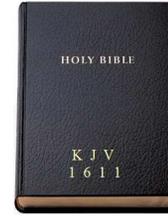
They shall wander everyone to his quarter.

- × WANDER= “to leave; to depart; to stray; to be delirious; not under the guidance of reason”
- × QUARTER= “any region of the hemisphere; a particular region of a country or city; a place of lodging or temporary residence; the station or place where officers and men are posted in action on a ship”
- × It appears the merchants of the daughter of Babylon are stunned by her judgment and depart for their own nations- this is similar to the merchants of her mother who stand afar off and mourn her burning

Rev 18:11,15

11 And **the merchants** of the earth **shall weep and mourn over her**; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more:

15 **The merchants** of these things, which were made rich by her, **shall stand afar off** for the fear of her torment, **weeping and wailing**,



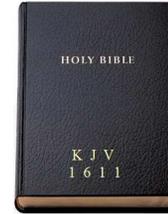
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None shall save thee.

- × Her merchants will not be able to save her, her counselors will not be able to save her (v.13), and she will not be able to save herself (v.11)

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Isaiah 48= DEPARTURE from Babylon

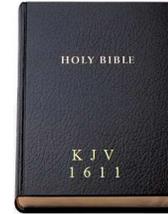
Isaiah 48:14,20

14 All ye, assemble yourselves, and hear; which among them hath declared these *things*? The LORD hath loved him: **he will do his pleasure on Babylon,** and **his arm shall be on the Chaldeans.**

20 **Go ye forth of Babylon, flee ye from the Chaldeans,** with a voice of singing declare ye, tell this, utter it *even* to the end of the earth; say ye, **The LORD hath redeemed his servant Jacob.**

He will do his pleasure on Babylon.

- There is no mention of a DAUGHTER OF BABYLON or a DAUGHTER OF THE CHALDEANS in Isaiah 48; in contrast, the only “Babylon” mentioned in Isaiah 47 is the DAUGHTER OF BABYLON (47:1) and the only “Chaldeans” is the DAUGHTER OF THE CHALDEANS (47:1,5)
- The DAUGHTER OF BABYLON in Isaiah 47 has a near or partial fulfillment in the Babylon of Nebuchadnezzar and a far or complete fulfillment in a nation of the last days (i.e.- possibly the USA)



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- The BABYLON of Isaiah 48 also has a near or partial fulfillment in the Babylon of Nebuchadnezzar but the far or complete fulfillment appears to be in BABYLON THE GREAT (Rev 17-18)
- DO HIS PLEASURE= appears 3x and always refers to doing the LORD'S pleasure (v.14; Eze 10:11; Psa 103:21)

His arm shall be on the Chaldeans.

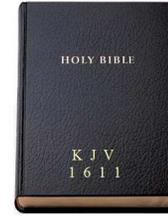
- HIS PLEASURE is associated with HIS ARM, and HIS (the Lord's) ARM is JESUS CHRIST

Isa 51:9-10

9 Awake, awake, put on strength, O **arm of the LORD;** awake, as in the ancient days, in the generations of old. *Art* thou not it that hath cut Rahab, *and* wounded the dragon?
10 **Art thou not it which hath dried the sea,** the waters of the great deep; that hath made the depths of the sea a way for the ransomed to pass over?

Isa 59:16

And he saw that *there was* no man, and wondered that *there was* no intercessor: therefore **his arm brought salvation** unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him.



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Isa 53:1-3

- 1 Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?
- 2 For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, *there is* no beauty that we should desire him.
- 3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were *our* faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

John 12:37-38

- 37 But though he had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on him:
- 38 That the saying of Esaias the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spake, Lord, who hath believed our report? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed?

- HIS (the Lord's) ARM is associated with the Second Coming of Christ

Isa 30:30

And the LORD shall cause his glorious voice to be heard, and shall shew the lighting down of his arm, with the indignation of his anger, and *with* the flame of a devouring fire, *with* scattering, and tempest, and hailstones.