



Mt. Pleasant Bible Institute

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

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Mystery, Babylon The Great

They shall become as women.

- The words BECOME, AS, and WOMEN appear together in the same verse only 1x (v.38); and the words BECAME, AS, and WOMEN appear together in the same verse only 1x (51:30)
- This expression and the one similar to it, THEY BECAME AS WOMEN only appear 2x (v.38; 51:30)
- One appearance refers to the MINGLED people of Babylon and the other to the MIGHTY MEN of Babylon

Jer 51:30

The mighty men of Babylon have forborn to fight, they have remained in *their* holds: their might hath failed; they became as women: they have burned her dwellingplaces; her bars are broken.

- The prophetic connection is that the MIGHTY MEN are genetic hybrids like the GIANTS (Gen 6:4), beings with MINGLED seed (DNA) cf. (Dan 2:43)
- The meaning of the expression may be that those who are otherwise inclined to fight now refuse to fight out of fear and weakness (51:30)



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Her waters...they shall be dried up.

- HER WATERS= the RIVERS of BABYLON (Psa 137:1), the Tigris and Euphrates
- Isaiah prophesied that the Lord would PERFORM HIS PLEASURE upon Babylon through CYRUS (a type of CHRIST)- this included DRYING UP THE RIVERS (i.e.- the stopping of the river passages) and OPENING THE GATES so the city could be taken

Isa 48:14

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.

Isa 44:27-28

27 That saith to the deep, Be dry, and **I will dry up thy rivers**:

28 That saith of **Cyrus**, *He is* my shepherd, and **shall perform all my pleasure**: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid.

Isa 45:1

Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to **Cyrus**, whose right hand I have holden, **to subdue nations** before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to **open before him the two leaved gates**; and the gates shall not be shut;



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Jer 51:31-32

31 One post shall run to meet another, and one messenger to meet another, to shew the king of **Babylon** that his city **is taken** at *one* end,

32 And that **the passages are stopped**, and the reeds they have burned with fire, and the men of war are affrighted.

Dan 5:30-31

30 **In that night** was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain.

31 And **Darius the Median took the kingdom**, *being* about threescore and two years old.

- PASSAGE= “a channel, path, or course by land or water; a way of entrance or exit”
- In *The Histories Of Herodotus*, the Greek historian Herodotus describes the fall of Babylon and the actions undertaken by Cyrus and his armies that lead to the capture of the city (1:189-191)
- This included diverting the flow of both the TIGRIS river and then the EUPHRATES river on his approach to Babylon- the latter enabling the army to enter into the city completely undetected
- Outside of Herodotus, there is not much secular history that attests to these details but they do line up with the word of God

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Herodotus on Cyrus' capture of Babylon

[1.189] **Cyrus** on his way to Babylon came to the banks of the Gyndes,^{note} a stream which, rising in the Matienian mountains, runs through the country of the Dardanians, and empties itself into the river **Tigris**. The Tigris, after receiving the Gyndes, flows on by the city of **Opis**, and discharges its waters into the Erythraean sea.^{note} When Cyrus reached this stream, which could only be passed in boats, one of the sacred white horses accompanying his march, full of spirit and high mettle, walked into the water, and tried to cross by himself; but the current seized him, swept him along with it, and drowned him in its depths. Cyrus, enraged at the insolence of the river, threatened so to break its strength that in future even women should cross it easily without wetting their knees. Accordingly he put off for a time his attack on Babylon, and, dividing his army into two parts, he marked out by ropes one hundred and eighty trenches on each side of the Gyndes, leading off from it in all directions, and setting his army to dig, some on one side of the river, some on the other, he accomplished his threat by the aid of so great a number of hands, but not without losing thereby the whole summer season.

[1.190] Having, however, thus wreaked his vengeance on the Gyndes, by dispersing it through three hundred and sixty channels, Cyrus, with the first approach of the ensuing spring, marched forward against Babylon. The Babylonians, encamped without their walls, awaited his coming. A battle was fought at a short distance from the city, in which the Babylonians were defeated by the Persian king, whereupon they withdrew within their defenses. Here they shut themselves up, and made light of his siege, having laid in a store of provisions for many years in preparation against this attack; for when they saw Cyrus conquering nation after nation, they were convinced that he would never stop, and that their turn would come at last.

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[1.191] Cyrus was now reduced to great perplexity, as time went on and he made no progress against the place. In this distress either some one made the suggestion to him, or he bethought himself of a plan, which he proceeded to put in execution. He placed a portion of his army at the point where the river enters the city, and another body at the back of the place where it issues forth, with orders to march into the town by the bed of the stream, as soon as the water became shallow enough: he then himself drew off with the unwarlike portion of his host, and made for the place where Nitocris^{note} dug the basin for the river, where he did exactly what she had done formerly: he turned the **Euphrates** by a canal into the basin, which was then a marsh, on which the river sank to such an extent that the natural bed of the stream became fordable.

Hereupon the Persians who had been left for the purpose at Babylon by the, river-side, entered the stream, which had now sunk so as to reach about midway up a man's thigh, and thus got into the town. Had the Babylonians been apprised of what Cyrus was about, or had they noticed their danger, they would never have allowed the Persians to enter the city, but would have destroyed them utterly; for they would have made fast all the street gates which gave access to the river, and mounting upon the walls along both sides of the stream, would so have caught the enemy, as it were, in a trap. But, as it was, the Persians came upon them by surprise and so took the city. Owing to the vast size of the place, the inhabitants of the central parts (as the residents at Babylon declare) long after the outer portions of the town were taken, knew nothing of what had chanced, but as they were engaged in a festival, continued dancing and reveling until they learnt about the capture. Such, then, were the circumstances of the first taking of Babylon.

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It is the land of graven images.

- Babel (Babylon) was the source of idolatry and Nimrod the founder

Isa 10:5,8,10

5 O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation.

8 For he saith, *Are* not my princes altogether kings?

10 As my hand hath found the kingdoms of the idols, and whose graven images did excel them of Jerusalem and of Samaria;

Isa 23:13

Behold the land of the Chaldeans; this people was not, *till* the Assyrian founded it for them that dwell in the wilderness: they set up the towers thereof, they raised up the palaces thereof; *and* he brought it to ruin.

Gen 10:8-10

8 And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth.

9 He was a mighty hunter before the LORD: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD.

10 And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar.

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They are mad upon their idols.

- The IDOLS and IMAGES of Babylon included Bel and Merodach (Marduk) (v.2)
- MAD= “disordered in intellect; furious; enraged; inflamed to excess with desire; excited with violent and unreasonable passion or appetite; infatuated; distracted with anxiety or trouble; extremely perplexed”
- Ancient Babylon was mad (crazy) for their idols as is Babylon the Great (Rome)



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- IDOL= “an image, form, or representation, usually of a man or animal, consecrated as an object of worship; a person loved and honored to adoration; any thing on which we set our affections; that to which we indulge an excessive and sinful attachment; any thing that usurps the place of God in the hearts of his rational creatures”
- The whole world is steeped in idolatry between the sorceries of Rome (Rev 18:23) and the prophetic daughter of Babylon (the USA) (Isa 47:12)
- Consider all the idols created and sold by the USA (“American Idols”)- whether they be athletes, actors, artists, authors, musicians, or politicians
- Their worshippers (i.e.- “fans”) follow them, want to know everything about them, want to be with others who feel the same way about them, often want to look and act like them, want a life similar to theirs, and would give anything to meet them and have a close relationship with them
- This madness upon idols is a counterfeit of how people should feel towards the Lord- these idols occupy the place in the hearts of men, women, and children that only the Lord should occupy