

Revelation Lesson #23

BSF Scripture Reading:

FIRST DAY:

1. Lecture principles:
2. Read the lesson notes

SECOND DAY:

Read Revelation 18:1-3

The Fall of Babylon

[18:1] After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven. He had great authority, and the earth was illuminated by his splendor. [2] With a mighty voice he shouted:

“Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great! She has become a home for demons and a haunt for every evil spirit, a haunt for every unclean and detestable bird.

[3] For all the nations have drunk the maddening wine of her adulteries. The kings of the earth committed adultery with her, and the merchants of the earth grew rich from her excessive luxuries.”

Question 4b

Colossians 3:1-2; [3:1] Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. [2] Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

THIRD DAY

Read Revelation 18:4-8

[4] Then I heard another voice from heaven say: “Come out of her, my people, so that you will not share in her sins, so that you will not receive any of her plagues; [5] for her sins are piled up to heaven, and God has remembered her crimes. [6] Give back to her as she has given; pay her back double for what she has done. Mix her a double portion from her own cup. [7] Give her as much torture and grief as the glory and luxury she gave herself. In her heart she boasts, ‘I sit as queen; I am not a widow, and I will never mourn.’

[8] Therefore in one day her plagues will overtake her: death, mourning and famine. She will be consumed by fire, for mighty is the Lord God who judges her.

Question 6

Psalms 74; [74:1]

Why have you rejected us forever, O God? Why does your anger smolder against the sheep of your pasture? [2] Remember the people you purchased of old, the tribe of your inheritance, whom you redeemed — Mount Zion, where you dwelt. [3] Turn your steps toward these everlasting ruins, all this destruction the enemy has brought on the sanctuary. [4] Your foes roared in the place where you met with us; they set up their standards as signs. [5] They behaved like men wielding axes to cut through a thicket of trees. [6] They smashed all the carved paneling with their axes and hatchets. [7] They burned your sanctuary to the ground; they defiled the dwelling place of your Name. [8] They said in their hearts, “We will crush them completely!” They burned every place where God was worshiped in the land. [9] We are given no miraculous signs; no prophets are left, and none of us knows how long this will be. [10] How long will the enemy mock you, O God? Will the foe revile your name forever? [11] Why do you hold back your hand, your right hand? Take it from the folds of your garment and destroy them! [12] But you, O God, are my king from of old; you bring salvation upon the earth. [13] It was you who split open the sea by your power; you broke the heads of the monster in the waters. [14] It was you who crushed the heads of Leviathan and gave him as food to the creatures of the desert. [15] It was you who opened up springs and streams; you dried up the ever flowing rivers. [16] The day is yours, and yours also the night; you established the sun and moon. [17] It was you who set all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter. [18] Remember how the enemy has mocked you, O LORD,

Revelation Lesson #23

how foolish people have reviled your name.
[19] Do not hand over the life of your dove to wild beasts;
do not forget the lives of your afflicted people forever.
[20] Have regard for your covenant, because haunts of violence fill the dark places of the land.
[21] Do not let the oppressed retreat in disgrace; may the poor and needy praise your name.
[22] Rise up, O God, and defend your cause; remember how fools mock you all day long.
[23] Do not ignore the clamor of your adversaries, the uproar of your enemies, which rises continually.

Psalms 103: [103:1]

Praise the LORD, O my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
[2] Praise the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits—
[3] who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,
[4] who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,
[5] who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
[6] The LORD works righteousness
and justice for all the oppressed.
[7] He made known his ways to Moses,
his deeds to the people of Israel:
[8] The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
[9] He will not always accuse,
nor will he harbor his anger forever;
[10] he does not treat us as our sins deserve
or repay us according to our iniquities.
[11] For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his love for those who fear him;
[12] as far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.
[13] As a father has compassion on his children,
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;
[14] for he knows how we are formed,
he remembers that we are dust.
[15] As for man, his days are like grass,
he flourishes like a flower of the field;
[16] the wind blows over it and it is gone,
and its place remembers it no more.
[17] But from everlasting to everlasting
the LORD's love is with those who fear him,
and his righteousness with their children's children —
[18] with those who keep his covenant
and remember to obey his precepts.
[19] The LORD has established his throne in heaven,
and his kingdom rules over all.

[20] Praise the LORD, you his angels,
you mighty ones who do his bidding,
who obey his word.
[21] Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts,
you his servants who do his will.
[22] Praise the LORD, all his works
everywhere in his dominion.
Praise the LORD, O my soul.

Isaiah 43:25: [25] "I, even I, am he who blots out
your transgressions, for my own sake,
and remembers your sins no more.

FOURTH DAY:

Read Revelation 18:9-20

[9] "When the kings of the earth who committed adultery with her and shared her luxury see the smoke of her burning, they will weep and mourn over her. [10] Terrified at her torment, they will stand far off and cry:
"Woe! Woe, O great city,
O Babylon, city of power!
In one hour your doom has come!"
[11] "The merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her because no one buys their cargoes any more — [12] cargoes of gold, silver, precious stones and pearls; fine linen, purple, silk and scarlet cloth; every sort of citron wood, and articles of every kind made of ivory, costly wood, bronze, iron and marble; [13] cargoes of cinnamon and spice, of incense, myrrh and frankincense, of wine and olive oil, of fine flour and wheat; cattle and sheep; horses and carriages; and bodies and souls of men.
[14] "They will say, 'The fruit you longed for is gone from you. All your riches and splendor have vanished, never to be recovered.' [15] The merchants who sold these things and gained their wealth from her will stand far off, terrified at her torment. They will weep and mourn [16] and cry out:
"Woe! Woe, O great city,
dressed in fine linen, purple and scarlet,
and glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls!
[17] In one hour such great wealth has been brought to ruin!"
"Every sea captain, and all who travel by ship, the sailors, and all who earn their living from the sea, will stand far off. [18] When they see the smoke of her burning, they will exclaim, 'Was there ever a city like this great city?' [19] They will throw dust on their heads, and with weeping and mourning cry out:
"Woe! Woe, O great city,
where all who had ships on the sea

Revelation Lesson #23

became rich through her wealth!
In one hour she has been brought to ruin!
[20] Rejoice over her, O heaven!
Rejoice, saints and apostles and prophets!

Question 8b

Matthew 6:19-21; [19] “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. [20] But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. [21] For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

FIFTH DAY:

Read Revelation 18:21-24

[21] Then a mighty angel picked up a boulder the size of a large millstone and threw it into the sea, and said:

“With such violence
the great city of Babylon will be thrown down,
never to be found again.
[22] The music of harpists and musicians, flute
players and trumpeters,
will never be heard in you again.
No workman of any trade
will ever be found in you again.
The sound of a millstone
will never be heard in you again.
[23] The light of a lamp
will never shine in you again.
The voice of bridegroom and bride
will never be heard in you again.
Your merchants were the world's great men.
By your magic spell all the nations were led astray.
[24] In her was found the blood of prophets and of
the saints,
and of all who have been killed on the earth.”

Question 12a

John 3:16-17; [16] “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. [17] For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

John 10:28-29; [28] I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out

of my hand. [29] My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand.

John 14:1-3; [14:1] “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. [2] In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. [3] And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

John 15:19; [19] If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.

SIXTH DAY:

Review Revelation 18

The Fall of Babylon

[18:1] After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven. He had great authority, and the earth was illuminated by his splendor. [2] With a mighty voice he shouted:

“Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great!
She has become a home for demons
and a haunt for every evil spirit,
a haunt for every unclean and detestable bird.

[3] For all the nations have drunk
the maddening wine of her adulteries.
The kings of the earth committed adultery with her,
and the merchants of the earth grew rich from her
excessive luxuries.”

[4] Then I heard another voice from heaven say:

“Come out of her, my people,
so that you will not share in her sins,
so that you will not receive any of her plagues;
[5] for her sins are piled up to heaven,
and God has remembered her crimes.

[6] Give back to her as she has given;
pay her back double for what she has done.
Mix her a double portion from her own cup.

[7] Give her as much torture and grief
as the glory and luxury she gave herself.

In her heart she boasts,
'I sit as queen; I am not a widow,
and I will never mourn.'

[8] Therefore in one day her plagues will overtake her:

death, mourning and famine.

She will be consumed by fire,
for mighty is the Lord God who judges her.

Revelation Lesson #23

[9] “When the kings of the earth who committed adultery with her and shared her luxury see the smoke of her burning, they will weep and mourn over her. [10] Terrified at her torment, they will stand far off and cry:
“Woe! Woe, O great city,
O Babylon, city of power!
In one hour your doom has come!”
[11] “The merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her because no one buys their cargoes any more — [12] cargoes of gold, silver, precious stones and pearls; fine linen, purple, silk and scarlet cloth; every sort of citron wood, and articles of every kind made of ivory, costly wood, bronze, iron and marble; [13] cargoes of cinnamon and spice, of incense, myrrh and frankincense, of wine and olive oil, of fine flour and wheat; cattle and sheep; horses and carriages; and bodies and souls of men.
[14] “They will say, ‘The fruit you longed for is gone from you. All your riches and splendor have vanished, never to be recovered.’ [15] The merchants who sold these things and gained their wealth from her will stand far off, terrified at her torment. They will weep and mourn [16] and cry out:
“Woe! Woe, O great city,
dressed in fine linen, purple and scarlet,
and glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls!
[17] In one hour such great wealth has been brought to ruin!”
“Every sea captain, and all who travel by ship, the sailors, and all who earn their living from the sea, will stand far off. [18] When they see the smoke of her burning, they will exclaim, ‘Was there ever a city like this great city?’ [19] They will throw dust on their heads, and with weeping and mourning cry out:
“Woe! Woe, O great city,
where all who had ships on the sea
became rich through her wealth!
In one hour she has been brought to ruin!
[20] Rejoice over her, O heaven!
Rejoice, saints and apostles and prophets!
God has judged her for the way she treated you.”
[21] Then a mighty angel picked up a boulder the size of a large millstone and threw it into the sea, and said:
“With such violence
the great city of Babylon will be thrown down,
never to be found again.
[22] The music of harpists and musicians, flute players and trumpeters,
will never be heard in you again.
No workman of any trade
will ever be found in you again.
The sound of a millstone
will never be heard in you again.

[23] The light of a lamp
will never shine in you again.
The voice of bridegroom and bride
will never be heard in you again.
Your merchants were the world's great men.
By your magic spell all the nations were led astray.
[24] In her was found the blood of prophets and of the saints,
and of all who have been killed on the earth.”