

Theme: Just as God appointed a day to judge Babylon, so there will be a day when every human will stand before God - either clothed in their own sin or in the righteousness of Christ.

I. Intro – Call Me Ishmael

- A. Famous 1st sentence of Moby Dick
- B. Refers to narrator/one of key characters
- C. But much more than that - name is symbolic
- D. Note - “**CALL** me Ishmael”
- E. Drawn from Abraham’s son Ishmael
- F. Symbolizes an outcast, orphan, exile
- G. Day of the Lord, Babylon like this as well

II. The Judgment Against Babylon

- A. Isaiah is speaking about historical Babylon
 - 1. He identifies Babylon (v1,19)
 - 2. He mentions the Medes (v17)
- B. Characteristics of Babylon’s impending judgment
 - 1. God is bringing it about (13:3-4; day of Lord)
 - 2. Being judged for sin (13:11)
 - 3. Being judged for pride (Is 13:11; 14:12-17)
 - 4. Total judgment (Is 13:6; 13:19-22; 13:10)
 - 5. A remnant chosen and delivered (Is 14:1)

III. Day of the Lord for Babylon & World

- A. Day of the Lord for Babylon
 - 1. Day of the Lord (13:6,9) - near, historical
 - 2. Fulfilled in Medo-Persian empire & following
- B. Many day of the Lord’s in Scripture (Babylon 539BC)
 - 1. Amos 5:18,20 - Israel 722 BC
 - 2. Zeph 1:14 - Judah 586 BC
 - 3. Mal 4:5 - John the Baptist
 - 4. 1 Thess 5:1-2 - return of Christ
 - 5. Historical day and type of future judgment
 - 6. Sinners destroyed - God’s remnant saved
- C. Babylon - historical city/type of wicked world/exile
 - 1. We have seen the historical references - many
 - 2. Representative of world - 13:11 (10-13)
 - 3. Babel - longing for human sovereignty - Gen 11
 - 4. Babylon - harlot world system - Rev 17:5; 18:2
 - a. Note mother of prostitute world systems
 - b. Note judgment like Is 13 - desert waste
 - 5. 1 Peter 5:13 - Rome as Babylon - exile

D. Day of the Lord, Babylon - historical & typological

1. Both refer to real historical events
2. Both part of symbolic apocalyptic language
3. Both refer to the coming judgment of the world

IV. Applying the Word

A. Do we see how God's Word stood true?

1. The day of the Lord came for Babylon
2. It was a day of searching judgment
3. There was no escape from that day
4. Do we see that God's word will not fail?

B. Do we see that the day of the Lord will come?

1. God will judge our world for its evil (Rev 20)
2. It will be a searching judgment (describe)
3. None will escape this judgment
4. But it is salvation for God's people
5. The only hope - Christ

C. Communion - Protection and Deliverance

1. Christ is our cleft in the rock
2. We are protected by His body and blood

3. We look forward to that day as end of exile

4. Come to the Table, long for the Day!

The Day of the Lord for the Nations

Isaiah 13-14 (read only 13:6-13)

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

July 12, 2009

Communion

Numbers 6:24-26

18 Woe to you who long for the day of the LORD! Why do you long for the day of the LORD? That day will be darkness, not light... 20 Will not the day of the LORD be darkness, not light-- pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness?

Amos 5:18, 20

"The great day of the LORD is near-- near and coming quickly. Listen! The cry on the day of the LORD will be bitter, the shouting of the warrior there. Zephaniah 1:14

See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes.

Malachi 4:5

Now, brothers, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, 2 for you know very well that **the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.**

1 Thessalonians 5:1-2

This title was written on her forehead:

MYSTERY
BABYLON THE GREAT
THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES
AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

Revelation 17:5

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.

Revelation 18:2

She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you, sends you her greetings, and so does my son Mark.

1 Peter 5:13