

Jeremiah Fifty-one

Transcribed from tape of Jeremiah using the *Revised Standard Version* unless noted)

Now we're going to see the harmony of the various prophecies uttered by different prophets at different times, and we'll see just how consistent YAHWEH'S word is when speaking of the judgement of the wicked organization of the devil, and it's also consistent in the blessings of obedient mankind. Now this prophecy is directed against babylon. Now "babylon" means confusion. It pictures the devil's organization. YAHWEH confused their tongues from the very beginning so that their speaking to one another was nothing more than a lot of babbling--incoherent--no one understood another. (See Genesis 11:1-9) It was a proper and fitting name for the confused authorities of politics, commerce, and religion, that we see in the devil's organization today, where everything is inconsistent and no one seems to have the right way to go. If there's a right way there would be no other way. But there are over 1200 different religions proving how greatly confused they really are. And the babylon that YAHWEH will pour HIS fury upon is not just the city or the nation of babylon--this was only one world power. The "babylon" that YAHWEH will be fully in fury with will be the entire world, because the entire world belongs to the devil. And it's the entire world that's opposing YAHWEH, and it's the entire world that's confused, and it's the destruction of this entire world that will bless all righteously disposed people. The destruction of babylon will vindicate YAHWEH'S name. Now this prophecy was directed against babylon, and Jeremiah was commanded to speak these words to literal babylon, and this was done. However the prophets did not have a full understanding of what was going to take place, yet they had visions that there was something much greater to come. Even Jeremiah himself mentioned that there would be a "new covenant," that it would be altogether different than the old written law, HE says in Jeremiah 31:31-33:

31 Behold the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah,
32 not like the covenant that I made with their fathers when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of egypt." Now they were still under that covenant when these words were spoken. "which they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord.
33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord. I will put my law within them, and I will write it upon their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Showing that this old law would be done away with, and that people with understanding would desire to perform that which is just and right. And he also knew that there was a great ignorance in the land, and that people had to be told, and HE knew that this would also be erased. "and no longer shall each man teach his neighbor and each his brother saying, Know the Lord, for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and I will remember their sin no more" (Jeremiah 31:34). So even though they were commanded to do this, they went to babylon and spoke. And yet in the back of HIS mind and in the backs of the minds of many of the prophets they knew that there was something greater to come. And that {w/u} was not with that israel, and that men would not come by the mere destruction of nebuchadnezzar, that there was something far greater to come in the Last Days. In fact practically all the prophets mentioned that in the Last Days would you understand it, indicating that at that time it was not meant to be understood. Now beginning with chapter fifty-one HE says:

Verse 1:

Thus says the LORD: ""Behold, I will stir up the spirit of a destroyer against Babylon, against the inhabitants of Chaldea.

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Now Moffatts says:

I am stirring up destroyers against babylon, against the dwellers in chaldaea.

This means that there are those who would fulfill this role and bring about the destruction of babylon.

Verse 2:

And I will send to babylon winnowers, and they shall winnow her, and they shall empty her land, when they come against her from every side on the day of trouble.

Now "winnowers" to "winnow" is to separate the wheat from the chaff. This was usually accomplished or performed in the old times with just the ordinary wind, letting the wind blow away the chaff. At any rate, what HE'S going to do with babylon—HE'S winnowing babylon, indicating that the good would be taken from her; taken away from babylon, that there was nothing left. All that would be left is the chaff or the which was no good. In other words, there would be nothing left in babylon—HE would take all the good out of her. Now this "destroyer" is the Truth that YAHWEH blesses HIS People with. It's the message of Truth that begins to turn babylon against itself. It gathers YAHWEH'S People and it turns the wicked against one another, because all of the wicked have selfish motivations. And we find that they have different selfish motivations and it is these selfish motivations that differ from one another, that will be directed against each other. If there was no selfishness they would not be ensnared, in this manner, and they would all follow one truthful understanding;— they would follow YAHWEH, the Living GOD. But they don't. — They follow what they believe will most benefit them. So the communists will favor communism because they reason that with free enterprise the people have been robbed which is true, this is legalized thievery. But communism also has many, many faults. — The people are virtual slaves; there's no freedom,— no freedom of speech or freedom of religion. So they do away with one evil and they adopt another one. So there are faults found with this system, faults, found with communism, faults found with religion. Each will see the faults of the other, not seeing their own because they believe in theirs — they believe in this because they are selfish, and they are looking for what they can reap out of their system. And so their eyes are blinded because they're selfish. So the "destroyers" will be Israel that will inject truth into this confused system "when they come against her from every side on the day of trouble"

Verse 3:

Let not the archer bend his bow, and let him not stand up in his coat of mail. Spare not her young men; utterly destroy all her host.

"Let not the archer bend his bow, and let him not stand up in his coat of mail." In other words, there'll be no battle, there'll be no orderly resistance, babylon will be thrown into confusion. They will not be like an army that's prepared to meet an onslaught — they can't. They'll not be able to cope with Israel's wisdom, with Israel's accuracy, with Israel's understanding and blessing. Israel's prophecy of the future, explaining how a true system should be run. They have nothing to put up against it — all they can speak is selfish words motivated by their own selfish desires which will appear very childish and very brutish compared to the wisdom of Israel. "Spare not her young men; utterly destroy all her host."

Verse 4:

They shall fall down slain the land of the Chaldeans, and wounded in her streets.

Now these are symbols that are being used to describe the destruction of the system. And naturally with the destruction of the system the individuals will go down also. First the system is thrown into

utter confusion, and then they turn on each other. So there will be a literal killing. Now there is, naturally as we brought out, the babylon of old and the babylon of today—the babylon of old was just a type of the babylon of today. We find that the babylon of old fought against the Lord's People and we find that the babylon today will do likewise. They're 'going to overcome the Lord's People for a period of time "they will make war against the saints and overcome them." Now one thing about babylon, it was primarily religious. There have been different world powers, and each of them had a different ruling element that was superior over the other two. The three ruling elements of the devil are politics, commerce, and religion. Now the first one was egypt, and this one started because of the fertility of the land so egypt started because of and was led by commerce. It was primarily a commercial nation. Now assyria was primarily political it was neither too religious, or too commercial; but it did have a strong political rule. babylon was primarily religious it had practically every religion on the face of the earth in babylon. It was really a religious "mecca." And the kings of many other nations would come to babylon to be crowned, to perform the ceremonies very similar to what would happen during the holy roman empire when the popes would crown the kings and emperors.

Verse 5:

For Israel and Judah have not been forsaken by their God, the LORD of Hosts, but the land of the chaldeans is full of guilt against the Holy One of Israel.

"For Israel and Judah have not been forsaken by their God, the Lord of hosts." Now when HE speaks of the destruction of babylon, HE mentions that Israel and Judah have not been forsaken, meaning that the destruction of babylon is a blessing to Israel, and in so doing HE has remembered Israel because babylon is the enemy of Israel—babylon, this world is the enemy of the Lord's people. This is why the world must go down. "but the land of the chaldeans is full of guilt against the Holy One of Israel." Now the babylon of old was "full of guilt," and this babylon here will be even more full of guilt. Now the babylon of old conquered the Lord's people because YAHWEH was fed up with Israel. They continuously broke HIS laws and HE abandoned them. But this babylon will fight against the Lord's people even after they have had everything explained to them, all of the Scriptures explained they will fight against the Lord's people even after they see the fulfillment of some of the prophecies, even though they know we're on the right track. So this babylon is far more wicked than the typical babylon. This babylon will cause YAHWEH to pour all of HIS fury upon her and with its demise HIS Name will be vindicated.

Verse 6:

Flee from the midst of babylon, let every man save his life! Be not cut off in her punishment, for this is the time of the LORD's vengeance, the requital he is rendering her.

"Flee from the midst of babylon, let every man save his life." Now this is the cry that was spoken by Jeremiah, and we find in Revelation 18:4 we have something very similar. "And I heard another voice from heaven saying, Come out of her my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues." Now the vision given to John was that the people should come out of babylon, because if they remained in her they would be "partakers of her sins" indicating that if they work along with the system, and did everything that the system required, they would be partakers of the sins of babylon. And babylon is going to receive a horrible plague—its destruction. So if the Lord's people do not leave they will sin and die—"come out of her my people." Now in Jeremiah it says: "Flee from the midst of babylon, let every man save his life!" In other words it's similar: "get out of her—flee." Why? Because babylon's going to be annihilated. "Be not cut off in her punishment." In other words don't stay here and receive of her plagues. "for this is the time of the Lord's vengeance." In other words, this is the time that HE pays her her due reward, when she gets what is coming to her, this is in the Last Days.

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Verse 7:

Babylon was a golden cup in the LORD's hand, making all the earth drunken; the nations drank of her wines, therefore the nations went mad.

"Babylon was a golden cup in the Lord's hand, making all the earth drunken." Now babylon pretends to be the servant of YAHWEH. It claims it is guiding the world in the proper religion, that is leading the people to YAHWEH'S blessing, everlasting life. Yet the spirit of babylon emanates from the devil and the Truth is not in her, and the words that she speaks are perverse words, words of suffering and it cause the people to "reel to and fro as drunkards" meaning that they don't know which way to go. A drunken man who cannot reason shows his inability to reason because he can't even direct his own path. The word "drunken" is a symbol used to represent people who are confused and misled. And this is what happens to those who are subject to babylon, to those who trust in her, to those who receive her teaching. All of the world, the entire world is babylon. And any religious organization that has anything to do with the world or with any nation of this world, or has any hopes in this world, or it tries to save the world—all of these religious organizations have been deceived by the devil, and are of the devil. We're not saying they're wicked people—we're saying they've been deceived by the devil, and unless they come out of babylon, unless they get the understanding, they will go down with babylon. Now because people are of good will and they are deceived, that doesn't mean to say we have to go along with them. If you think that it's right, reap their reward and fail to honor YAHWEH, and don't help save anybody else, just go along with them and die with them. Now does this make sense? The Lord's people must be a standard for the world, they must stand out and show the way to go. They must not compromise—they must not go the wrong way. Because if they do, even if they're sorry for the people they will misdirect the paths of all the other sincere people, and all will die. So you can't straighten anybody up if you give in to them. You must at all costs remain firm and in remaining firm there is the possibility that they'll wake up. And if they do because you will live, and they will live. If you give in you die and they die so what have you gained.

Verse 8:

Suddenly Babylon has fallen and been broken; wail for her! Take balm for her pain; perhaps she may be healed.

"Suddenly Babylon has fallen and been broken; wail for her!" Now Revelation 18:2 says: "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." See the similarity? "Take balm for her pain; perhaps she may be healed." In other words take, try to relieve her pain, perhaps she can be healed." But YAHWEH only inserts this as a slur to babylon because it's already too late. There's nothing you can do, and there's nothing she will except anyhow, because she doesn't want the Truth, she doesn't want what is just and right. All she wants is her way like a spoiled child, a brat. And she will not look for any true solution, for she wants things to go her way. These people are selfish, and these people will not be blessed with the understanding.

Verse 9:

We would have healed Babylon, but she was not healed. Forsake her and let us go each to his own country; for her judgement has reached up to heaven and has been lifted up even to the skies.

"We would have healed Babylon, but she was not healed." Now this is Israel speaking. We tried the only way this world could be saved; let's say there was a possibility, the only way is they made no more trouble for Israel. And in not making any trouble for Israel they would all every nation on the face of the earth would have to hearken to the prophets, follow the prophets, and reconstruct the whole

organization and build the Kingdom all over—you wouldn't have to go to the mountains, you could do it right here then, if everybody was obedient to the prophets, if they did away with money altogether, if they would get the full knowledge of YAHWEH and love one another, (w/u) to the best of your ability, and listen to the prophets and have nothing to do that is selfishly motivated. They would have to naturally gain YAHWEH'S spirit and have the desire to serve HIM. This would be the only way that the world could survive. But they will not do this. We know before hand YAHWEH who knows the end from the beginning it's just as good as telling you "forget it this is not going to happen." "In all the land two-thirds will die therein." So only one-third is coming through. But I'm telling you, to try to enlarge on your understanding, just what would have to be done, and how impossible it really is for everyone to be, you might say, converted. All the politicians, all the big business men, would have to give up their millions and work along with Israel. All religion would have to give up their religion—the pope would have to give up his, and follow the prophets. But this they would never do. We know they won't because YAHWEH says they won't. "Forsake her and let us go, each to his own country;" In other words this means to abandon it altogether, walk out of her, leave her. "For her judgement has reached up to heaven and has been lifted up even to the skies." you see how this harmonizes with Revelations "her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities" So this was written some 500 or 600 years later after Yahshua had come.

Verse 10:

The Lord has brought forth our vindication; come, let us declare in Zion the work of the LORD our God.

"The Lord has brought forth our vindication;" or has vindicated us. Come let us declare in Zion the work of the Lord our God. Now when babylon goes down; Israel has been vindicated, this is what HE'S bringing out. But why does Israel require vindication? Well Israel's having a tough time, and will continue to have a tough time, as long as babylon is here. Israel's going to bring out the Truth, and it's going to fall upon deaf ears. And not only will it fall upon deaf ears, you'll be made to look wrong. You'll be made to look like a criminal, you'll be ignored. Like the judge at that trial, you could tell him all you want, and he wouldn't listen, and yet Israel is right and they are wrong. Only when YAHWEH pronounces HIS final sentence, will Israel be vindicated. But as long as the enemy is here, and they over power us, they appear to be right in the eyes of the majority—they don't understand. But YAHWEH will vindicate HIS people, and Israel will help vindicate YAHWEH—we are as one with our GOD.

Verse 11:

Sharpen the arrows! Take up the shields! The LORD has stirred up the spirit of the kings of the Medes, because his purpose concerning babylon is to destroy it, for that is the vengeance of the LORD, the vengeance for his temple.

Now the medes were the opposers of babylon. This just symbolizes those who oppose babylon. This is really us, the ones who oppose babylon, the ones who will bring about the destruction of babylon.

Verse 12:

Set up a standard against the walls of Babylon; make the watch strong; set up watchmen; prepare the ambushes; for the LORD has both planned and done what he spoke concerning the inhabitants of Babylon.

Now lets read Moffatt's:

Raise a standard against Babylon, blockade it round and round, post your fences, lay your ambushes, for the Eternal executes his aim, His sentence upon Babylon.

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Now this is all part of the work that Israel promotes. It's as though they were literally fighting against us. We are "raising our standards and posting our fences and laying ambushes" for her. Now this is all done through the Spirit, through understanding. In other words whenever Israel makes contact with a demon host, the wisdom of Israel will actually trip up the demon host. And HE brings out that "He will give you a mouth and wisdom that none of your enemies can gain say over." or gain the advantage over. HE says that the "Two Witnesses"; whenever they're opposed..."fire comes out of their mouths and devoureth their enemies." As the publicity increases, as they know more about us, we will have more and more effect because the word will spread that Israel understands the Bible. Even now people are talking. A lady sitting next to my wife said that possibly this girl didn't send her child to school because the schools are wrong. The teachers were saying this to the student, that there was a lot wrong with the schools—the people are talking in the schools. So it has aroused quite a bit of interest.

Verse 13:

O you who dwell by many waters, rich in treasures, your end has come, the thread of your life is cut.

Now HE'S bringing out that babylon "dwells by many waters." HE says in Revelation 17:1:

And there came one of the seven angels that had the seven vials to talk with me saying, Come hither, I will show unto thee the judgement of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters.

Now this is speaking primarily of religion. This is headed up primarily by the catholic church. It is this one that's going to be the head of this world that's going to "sit on the beast," direct the beast, and when it does, the final picture of babylon, the final established organization will be complete—where religion will dominate the beast. Now she is also very rich, "rich in treasures" HE brings out. And here in Revelation HE brings out concerning her wealth that she is "bedecked with gold and precious stones and pearls" showing the vast wealth. So you see the harmony between this prophecy and Revelation, and we find that this goes on with the minor Prophets and Isaiah, and they all bring out different points of view. which are similar, different words which bear out the Truth of these statements.

Verse 14:

The LORD of Hosts has sworn by himself: surely I will fill you with men, as many as locusts, and they shall raise the shout of victory over you.

| Now Moffatt's:

The Lord of hosts has sworn by His own life (might) I fill you full of foes that swarm like locusts which shout and triumph over you.

This means that the multitude of the enemies will be tremendous. In other words will so many enemies that she cannot endure. What worse situation could happen to babylon, than to be divided amongst themselves? Practically evenly divided where one side is as strong as the other. So what's going to happen? Annihilation. They'll have as many enemies as they have those loyal to her, and when they turn on each other, that's it. In fact babylon's religions will have many, many more enemies, for we find that russia and the u.s.a., both will turn against the religious portion of it.

Verse 15:

It is he who made the earth by his power, who established the world by his wisdom, and by his understanding stretched out the heavens.

This is speaking of the Creator. HE is the one who brings these things about.

Verse 16:

When he utters his voice there is a tumult of waters in the heavens, and he makes the mist rise from the ends of the earth. He makes lightnings for the rain, and he brings forth the wind from his storehouses.

I'm going to read this in the catholic *Douay-Rheims Version*:

When He uttereth His voice, the waters are multiplied in heaven. He hath lifted up the clouds from the ends of the earth, He hath turned lightning into rain and hath brought forth the wind out of his treasures.

This is added proof that YAHWEH brings about all these things, that HE is the Creator, HE causes the rain and everything else—all the natural phenomena that we see. Now in seventeen HE says:

Verse 17:

Every man is stupid and without knowledge; every goldsmith is put to shame by his idols; for his images are false, and there is no breath in them.

"Every man is stupid and without knowledge; every goldsmith is put to shame by his idols." This is when they are revealed for what they are. Now what YAHWEH is bringing out really is that a man who is too stupid to seek YAHWEH'S guidance when he realizes that he really doesn't have any answers and goes about doing things his own way—this man is truly stupid. OK you can build a house the way you want to build it, or do some other physical work the way you'd like to do it, but to get involved with that which you cannot see and know nothing about, and to tell others what the Creator is all about, without HIM telling them. This is really stupid. And yet you've seen them and I've seen them they tell you all about it. Many of them tell you all about HIM without even looking into the Scriptures—"scientific like." I've met them. Now when it says, "every goldsmith is put to shame by his idols; for his images are false, and there is no breath in them." HE'S not put to shame immediately when he makes these things, while he's successfully conducting himself in this illogical manner, but when the time comes for him to be exposed, when it is proven that he is wrong, this is the time that he is "put to shame." This is the time that Israel begins to set the record straight, and Israel brings out the true worship of YAHWEH upon the earth. And then they see that everything they have done has been fruitless, futile—like the people who put statues in their cars to save them from an accident, and then they get turned into hamburger. These things are useless. They just make up these things as though it was going to help them.

Verse 18:

They are worthless, a work of delusion; at the time of their punishment they shall perish.

Or "at the time of their testing they won't be there—when you really need them they're not there—they're nothing.

Verse 19:

Not like these is he who is the portion of Jacob, for he is the one who formed all

things, and Israel is the tribe of his inheritance; the LORD of Hosts is his name.

Now what this is really bringing out is that Israel's portion is not like them, or Jacob's portion is not like them. We're not stupid, we're not going to be ashamed; we're not going to be punished or perish. Israel is YAHWEH'S inheritance. YAHWEH who formed all things says that "Israel is His inheritance." And if Israel is HIS inheritance, then Israel is going to be saved, Israel is going to live. When you inherit something, you inherit it forever. This is a true inheritance—"The meek shall inherit the earth." This is forever. This is not just a short term inheritance where you die and give it up to someone else. When YAHWEH causes you to inherit, you will truly inherit. And the "gift of God is everlasting life."

Now HE continues and emphasizes just a little clearer, just how HE uses Israel to vindicate HIS Name. HE says:

Verse 20:

You are my hammer and weapon of war [speaking to Israel]; with you I break nations in pieces; with you I destroy kingdoms.

Now imagine what the Truth is going to do to this world. It's going to stir up the whole world like a mighty earthquake and break everything in pieces. Even after they have silenced us, they will not forget us. That inner hatred will still remain. This is pictured in Revelation 11 where they won't ever bury our bodies, they won't put us out of sight. They won't forget us. They continue to gloat over those whom they have conquered. But YAHWEH brings circumstances to pass that'll cause them to realize that Israel was correct, and that the prophecies uttered by Israel; that they will annihilate one another are true. When they find out that the ones they've joined up with have become their enemies, then they hate one another, and say "What are we going to do now?" this is the usual expression of ignorant, selfish people who are not looking for YAHWEH'S guidance. They'll reach an impasse. They won't know what to do, and their leaders will be as bad off as the people, "the blind leading the blind." "With you I break nations in pieces, with you I destroy kingdoms."

Verse 21:

With you I break in pieces the horse and his rider.

Now these are all fighting men, with their implements of war, and it is Israel that YAHWEH employes to destroy all these men and their war equipment. And yet Israel will not strike a single physical blow. Israel uses the attributes given to them by YAHWEH—so Israel is intelligent, and their intelligence will prove vastly superior to these stupid nations. They'll not be able to cope with Israel. And Israel's going to tell them everything they're going to do, and they'll do it.

Verse 22:

With you I break in pieces the chariot and the charioteer; with you I break in pieces man and woman; with you I break in pieces the old man and the youth; with you I break in pieces the young man and the maiden.

Now HE continues to mention everything, indicating that there's going to be nothing left after YAHWEH has used Israel. When Israel has gone through the camps of the wicked, there'll be nothing left.

Verse 23:

With you I break in pieces the shepherd and his flock; with you I break in pieces the farmer and his team; with you I break in pieces governors and commanders.

OK, everything of this world, everything that is babylon, everything that is of the devil, will be brought to an end by the wisdom given to Israel by YAHWEH. Now Israel, like Daniel says "I'm no smarter than anybody else. There's no special wisdom that I have, or there's no superiority I have over anyone else. But he does say that he was blessed by YAHWEH. Why was he blessed by YAHWEH? Because he sought YAHWEH'S wisdom. In other words the heart condition was right—he wanted the Truth, he wanted to honor his GOD. And YAHWEH answered him and HE gave him the understanding. In this respect Israel is truly more intelligent than the rest of them, because they've made the right choice. They're intelligent enough to know that they don't know anything, and that they won't find out anything unless the Supreme One tells them. The others are stupid enough to think that they can solve everything, even though their whole history is nothing but a series of failures for the last 6,000 years. This is truly stupidity.

Verse 24:

I will requite Babylon and all the inhabitants of Chaldea before your very eyes for all the evil that they have done in Zion, says the LORD.

In other words, I will get vengeance on babylon, on the inhabitants of chaldaea for everything she has done against Zion. The "vengeance" that HE gets is by giving her what she deserves, and HE doesn't give her what she deserves until HE fully warns her. Being a just GOD, HE just doesn't come out of the sky and smash everything without first letting them know what's going on. HE causes Israel to speak the Truth and bring out what YAHWEH'S plan is for mankind. Israel brings out the prophecies, telling them that the world is now divided in two, that they are fulfilling prophecy, that there is now a king of iron and a king of clay, and they're about to join themselves together. Now Israel tells them before they do—that they will select the pope as temporal ruler; they will form the abomination. Now what more could they want? We're telling them. Then they go ahead and do it and they still think that they are right, that we are wrong, and they try to stop us and get rid of us forever.

Verse 25:

Behold, I am against you, O destroying mountain I will stretch out my hand against you and roll you down from the crags, and make you a burnt mountain.

"Behold, I am against you, O destroying mountain" some translations say "corrupt mountain" meaning corrupt organization. Now we know enough of what we see in these last days, that it is truly corrupt "which destroys the whole earth."

Now this corrupt organization is "destroying the whole earth." It is motivated entirely by selfishness and they don't care what they do, whether they kill, or whether they pollute the earth, or what happens. They go on selfishly. They don't care how many lives they lose. I could never, never understand how in the world they could actually send young men to face bullets, and think nothing of it anymore than losing guns or tanks or airplanes or anything else and figure out mathematically that it'll take so many tanks, and so many men—they don't care. "I will stretch out my hand against you and roll you down from the crags, and make you a burnt mountain."

Verse 26:

No stone shall be taken from you for a corner and no stone for a foundation, but you shall be a perpetual waste, says the LORD.

Now HE takes the whole entire mountain and "rolls it down" destroys it and HE says "not even a bit of you is going to be used." In other words they won't be able to take a stone for any corner, for any other building, or for any foundation. So all of babylon, all of its teachings, all of its ways are totally corrupt and {w/u}, and YAHWEH will have no parts of it. Now HE says: "You shall be a perpetual waste, says the Lord." Now Isaiah, in chapter 34, verse 8 to 10, HE says:

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8 For it is the day of the Lords vengeance and the year of recompenses for the controversy of Zion." In other words its time that HE repays babylon for the "controversy," or the issue, over Zion, YAHWEH'S Organization—the vengeance between babylon and Zion.

9 and the streams thereof shall be turned into pitch and the dust thereof into brimstone, and the land thereof shall become burning pitch.

10 It shall not be quenched night nor day; the smoke thereof shall go up forever; from generation to generation it shall lie waste; none shall pass through it for ever and ever.

Now here HE tells you that it's going to be burning forever, no one will walk through there, it shall lie waste forever and ever, showing you that this is not literal; it won't be literally burning, nor it is a place where there'll be no people. But it is the system that'll be "burning forever" indicating that it can never be rebuilt. "no body being there" symbolizes that there'll be nobody to start the system again.

Verse 27:

Set up a standard on the earth, blow the trumpet among the nations; prepare the nations for war against her, summon against her the kingdoms, Ararat, Minni, and Ashkenaz; appoint a marshall against her, bring up horses like bristling locusts.

Now *ararat* means "the curse of trembling." *Minni* means, "ignoble or not noble." Ashkenaz was a descendant of gomer who is not Israel. In other words HE'S bringing out that the people who are "ignoble" or not noble, the unGODly who at this time will actually be trembling with fear. And these will be all those who are not Israel, these are the ones that will be directed against the Kingdom. They will actually be directed against themselves to bring an end to their own kingdom, to their own organization. And they're going to swarm around her like swarming "locusts."

Verse 28:

Prepare the nations for war against her, the kings of the Medes, with their governors and deputies, and every land under their dominion.

Now preparing for war, "preparing the nations for war against her" means the time has come that YAHWEH will make war against this wicked organization for her destruction is nigh. And it begins with the beginning, naturally when the war starts. It is the beginning of the destruction of babylon. There has to be a beginning. There has to be a fulfillment. And YAHWEH has prophesied that babylon would be destroyed, and the time is very near when babylon will be surrounded by armies, all facing one another in true hostility.

Verse 29:

The land trembles and writhes in pain, for the LORD's purposes against Babylon stand, to make the land of Babylon a desolation, without inhabitant.

Now when this time comes, YAHWEH'S pronouncement of judgement will stand. It's not going to be removed. YAHWEH can have no pity on the wicked, because if HE does then the righteous will suffer. These wicked individuals will turn against YAHWEH'S people. It would not be feasible to allow them to remain there. YAHWEH'S People would never receive the promised blessings if they continue to live. They must go down—YAHWEH warns them. HE'S a just GOD, and they bring about the destruction themselves.

Verse 30:

The warriors of Babylon have ceased fighting, they remain in their strongholds; their strength has failed, they have become women; her dwellings are on fire, her bars are broken.

This brings out the attitude of those in babylon, where they will actually lose heart. They "will tremble in fear," "they become like women"—everything is falling apart like being on fire, everything is broken up, everything is collapsing. They know that the end is near, and they will be in terror.

Verse 31:

One runner runs to meet another, and one messenger to meet another, to tell the king of Babylon that his city is taken on every side.

It's like a campaign, like an invasion where babylon is losing on all sides. One messenger comes from the east, you might say, to tell the king of babylon, "Your forces have collapsed, your army has collapsed in the east" another one comes "Your army has collapsed in the west, your army has collapsed in the north, etc." In other words she's certain of being thoroughly defeated.

Verse 32:

The fords have been seized, the bulwarks are burned with fire, and the soldiers are in panic.

They've crossed the water, they've "burned the bulwarks with fire." They have walls, and they have like triangular compartments in front, so they can see this way and that way. These are all seized and torn down. There is no place of defense any more—they've broken everything down and they are coming in.

Verse 33:

For thus says the LORD of Hosts, the God of Israel: The daughter of Babylon is like a threshing floor at the time when it is trodden; yet a little while and the time of her harvest will come.

Now when they thresh the grain, trample all over it, walk all over it. This is like babylon. She is powerless to resist, and the time for doing this is at hand—when YAHWEH will cause babylon to be (w/u) because its own enemies will be amongst itself. And the opposing powers will equal one another in strength and they will not be able to overcome one or the other. Both forces are destructive, and they can only do one thing: they can succeed in destroying. Like the prophecy in Revelation 9 where "they have a king over them who's name is abaddon and apollyon" which is Hebrew and Greek means "destroyer." his orders will be to destroy, destroy, destroy, and this is all they will do. And they are directed against one another and they'll destroy each other. Israel is not going to be there, or else Israel would be destroyed along with them. YAHWEH gives Israel the vision to "get out" while the place is on fire.

Verse 34:

Nebuchadnezzar, the king of babylon has devoured me, he has crushed me; he has made me an empty vessel, he has swallowed me like a monster; he has filled his belly with my delicacies, he has rinsed me out.

Now this is bringing out the king of babylon, he has "devoured" YAHWEH'S People, the entire organization "he has crushed me, he has made me an empty vessel, he has swallowed me like a monster,

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he has filled his belly with my delicacies, he has rinsed me out." Now the Jerusalem Bible brings it out clearer, "He has devoured, consumed me, that king of Babylon; he has left me like an empty dish, like a dragon he has swallowed me whole, he has filled his belly with my delicacies." Now this is what happens with Israel, with the Israel of old, Jerusalem in particular, he fought against the Lord's people. The Babylon today will also fight against the Lord's people in the same manner. The only thing it'll be worse than Nebuchadnezzar because they will do so with a lot more understanding than Nebuchadnezzar had.

Verse 35:

"The violence done to me and to my kinsmen be upon Babylon," let the inhabitants of Zion say. "My blood be upon the inhabitants of Chaldea," let Jerusalem say.

In other words Babylon is the guilty party, and the "blood of Israel being upon Babylon" indicates that Babylon is guilty of shedding blood, and according to the old law she is going to be killed herself. She has taken life, and she will have her life taken away. She fights against Israel, she symbolically kills the Two Witnesses and tries to prevent YAHWEH'S Purpose from being accomplished, and she's going to reap the fruits of her efforts.

Verse 36:

Therefore thus says the Lord: Behold I will plead your cause and take vengeance for you. I will dry up her sea and make her fountain dry.

"Therefore thus says the Lord: Behold I will plead your cause and take vengeance for you." Now YAHWEH is going to plead our cause, and HE'S going to destroy Babylon and vindicate us, take vengeance for us. Now if YAHWEH did not do this for us, it would be hopeless. We'd be battling on for years and years to no avail. We'd be finally annihilated and be forced to give up. YAHWEH, our GOD, has promised that HE will be with us. HE will vindicate HIS People. If we didn't have HIM with us, you know how you'd end up. It's impossible for YAHWEH to lie. So HE tells HIS People everything HE'S going to do HIMSELF, for us, and we believe YAHWEH because we know that HE is truly a GOD of love and justice, and that HE created us not in vain. HE created us to enter into the beautiful Kingdom that HE purposed from the very beginning—these are HIS very own words: "I will dry up her sea and make her fountain dry." Now "drying up her sea" means she will not be able to navigate, she will not be able to do anything anymore, she will become inactive altogether.

Verse 37:

And Babylon shall become a heap of ruins, the haunt of jackals, a horror and a hissing, without inhabitant.

Now I want to read a supporting scripture in Isaiah 34:13-15:

13 And thorns shall come up in her palaces, nettles and brambles in the fortresses thereof; and it shall be an habitation of dragons, and a court for owls.

14 The wild beasts of the desert shall also meet with the wild beasts of the island, and the satyr shall cry to his fellow: the screech owl also shall rest there, and find for herself a place of rest.

15 There shall the great owl make her nest, and lay, and hatch, and gather under her shadow: there shall the vultures also be gathered, everyone with her mate.

Now what YAHWEH is bringing out here is that the system, which here is pictured as a place or location, will now be inhabited with all these unclean and weird creatures, and if these creatures move in it means that the environment is suitable for them. Now these creatures are far different than we

are. If the environment is suitable for them, then it's not suitable for us. So in plain language HE'S telling us that we are now living in an environment that is not suitable for us. We are living in an unjust, corrupt, stupid, brutal system, and we are YAHWEH'S Creatures who are created in love, justice, wisdom and power, and we certainly are out of harmony with the babylonish system.

Verses 38 and 39:

They shall roar together like lions; they shall growl like lions' whelps.

Now I'll read Moffatt's:

38 The Babylonians all roar like lions, growling like lions cubs over their prey.

39 I will seek them in my fury, make them drunk and stupified, till they sleep the sleep that knows no waking.

Verse 39 in the *Revised*:

While they are inflamed I will prepare them a feast and make them drunk, till they swoon away and sleep a perpetual sleep and not wake, says the LORD.

In other words they are like drunks, they are like people who are unable to reason because they have rejected true understanding, true knowledge. And because of what they believe in, because of what they accept, the lies that they accept, they are "made drunk" and they are caused to sleep in perpetual sleep' which means they will be destroyed and never awaken. Now this is referring to babylon, the devil's organization.

Verse 40:

I will bring them down like lambs to the slaughter, like rams and he-goats.

Now even though many of these individuals will be resurrected, how much nicer it is for us to know that we went all through this and we did not go down. We tried to do what was right, we learned the Truth, we were tried and met with YAHWEH'S approval and HE saves us. Now the ones who come back certainly can not be as happy, and can not feel the feeling of accomplishment like Israel. They will never attain to Israel's position. Now we're not punishing anybody—everybody is getting a fair opportunity. But how much nicer to know that you've proved yourself that you did not fight YAHWEH'S (w/u), that you had the vision to realize that there certainly must have been something wrong with this system, and that you did look for it and find.

Verses 41 and 42:

41 How Babylon is taken, the praise of the whole earth seized! How BABylon has become a horror among the nations!

42 The sea has come up on BABylon; she is covered with tumultuous waves.

Now Moffatt's says:

What a down fall for Babylon! The splendor of the world surprised! What horror in the world at Babylon's fate!

Now this will be a tremendous cataclysm. This mighty organization encompasses the whole world, the power of the combined forces of all the nations of this world, going down to complete destruction. Never has there been such power on earth, never has there been so many people, never has there been so many weapons, and you'll have this whole thing collapse and be destroyed forever. This is going to

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be the biggest calamity that ever befell the earth.

Verse 43:

Her cities have become a horror, a land of drought and desert, a land in which no one dwells, and through which no son of man passes.

Now the "horror" will be the understanding that we have of what babylon stood for, what she was, and what happened to her—her judgement. The judgement of YAHWEH against babylon, her annihilation, her destruction, "the land becoming a desert where no one dwells." Again is not referring to the land itself, it's referring to the system. In other words, when all humanity sees what happened to babylon because of the course that she took, no one will ever want to go in that direction again. It's symbolically referred to as "no one living in that land anymore."

Verse 44:

And I will punish bel and take out of his mouth what he has swallowed. The nations shall no longer flow to him, the wall of babylon has fallen.

"And I will punish bel" or baal, which is one of the gods in babylon. "And take out of his mouth what he has swallowed. The nations shall no longer flow to him." Now what he "swallowed" was Israel and he's going to be forced to give it back, like a monster that has swallowed the Lord's People. "The nations shall no longer flow to him," or be directed by him, or be deceived by him. "The wall of babylon has fallen."

Verse 45:

Go out of the midst of her, my people. Let every man save his life from the fierce anger of the LORD.

"Lo out of the midst of her, my people." Again HE tells us to leave her—"Come out of her my people." "Let every man save his life from the fierce anger of the Lord." So to stay here or to remain with this system, means you're going to die. No two ways about it—you're going to die because the world is going to be destroyed. HE'S telling us this before hand, and if you have intelligence—I know everyone in here is intelligent—they will take YAHWEH'S heeding, they will certainly see that there's something radically wrong. YAHWEH explains it, and the explanation that YAHWEH gives is certainly satisfactory to me.

Verse 46:

Let not your heart faint, and be not fearful at the report heard in the land, when a report comes in one year and afterward a report in another year, and violence is in the land, and ruler is against ruler.

In other words don't be frightened when you begin to see these things, when you get a report that trouble is starting here, or trouble is starting there, and "kingdom is against kingdom, rulers are against rulers." This is not the time for us to fear, this is the time for us to rejoice, because you know the end is very, very near. "When you see these things come to pass, lift up your head and rejoice, for your redemption draweth nigh." The sooner it starts, the sooner it's over—the sooner it's over, the sooner the blessings. So don't say, "I wish it doesn't come." Let it come, it's YAHWEH'S due time—the sooner the better.

Verse 47:

Therefore, behold, the days are coming when I will punish the images of Babylon; her whole land shall be put to shame, and all her slain shall fall in the midst of her.

Now this is YAHWEH'S punishment against babylon, where she will be "put to shame" by being exposed, and her members will be destroyed.

Verse 48:

The the heavens and the earth, and all that is in them , shall sing for joy over Babylon; for the destroyers shall come against them out of the north, says the LORD.

Now the "heavens and the earth" is the "new heavens and the new earth," this is Yahshua and the 144,000, and the 200,000,000 on earth (2 Peter 3:13; Isaiah 65:17,18). The ruling organization on earth. They'll "sing for joy." We will rejoice when YAHWEH has been vindicated because HIS enemy has been destroyed, and HIS people are now free to serve their GOD, and do what is right. Now "coming against them out of the north," the "north" is the seat of authority which is naturally YAHWEH.

Verse 49:

Babylon must fall for the slain of Israel, as for Babylon have fallen the slain of all the earth.

Now "Babylon must fall" because she has fought Israel. In so doing she has fought YAHWEH. she must fall because YAHWEH'S WILL is going to be done on this earth. HE did not create this earth to have somebody do their will in opposition to YAHWEH. HE'S not going to give the authority to some stupid creatures who just want to serve themselves. Anything that opposes YAHWEH is wrong, anything that opposes HIM causes misery and agony, and YAHWEH must remove it. "...as for babylon have fallen the slain of all the earth," it is babylon that has caused the death of all the people, because through "babylon" man has disobeyed YAHWEH through the devil's organization. And it is the 3 elements of the devil that have caused man to disobey YAHWEH, and the biggest culprit is religion because they are the ones who claim to be guiding the people in the ways of the Living God.

Verse 50:

"You that have escaped from the sword, go, stand not still! Remember the LORD from afar, and let Jerusalem come into your mind."

Now we, who escape, we must not forget: "Remember the Lord, let Jerusalem come into your mind." In other words remember what YAHWEH has done to save you, remember HIS organization, that it is because of what YAHWEH has done that you've been delivered; what HE has done for us.

Verse 51:

'We are put to shame, for we have heard reproach; dishonor has covered our face, for aliens have come into the holy places of the LORD's house.'

Now this is israel lamenting the shame that she has had to bear. This was done naturally by the babylon of old. But babylon today will also try to put Israel to shame by opposing us trying to fight against us, trying to make them look as though they didn't know, as though Israel really had no true understanding, no true wisdom. They can't understand how we can be against all religion. They say: Well, we respect their beliefs, why can't they respect ours. Well the reason we don't respect their beliefs is because we understand their beliefs—they are satanic. We can't respect anything that stems from the devil. The reason they respect our beliefs is because they don't understand anything so one is the same as another. So a people of understanding can not respect anything they know is corrupt and

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demonized. If we didn't understand, we'd say "one religion is as good as another," but they're all a mystery to us. But not so with Israel.

Verse 52:

Therefore, behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will execute judgment upon her images, and through all her land the wounded shall groan.

In other words, YAHWEH will begin to pass judgement, will expose and show how futile, how stupid, how ungodly she has been and naturally the first ones to wake up are Israel, and later on the Regular Ones, and last of all, those who go down and never do wake up.

Verse 53:

Though Babylon should mount up to heaven, and though she should fortify her strong height, yet destroyers would come from me upon her, says the LORD.

We have another Scripture that brings out "no matter where she hides—if she goes up to heaven, HE'LL bring her down. If she hides in the crags of the rocks, HE'LL burst her out." In other words HE'S bringing out plainly that she will not get away, she's not going to get away this time because YAHWEH is after her, and HE can see all things. There's no place to hide from HIM.

Verses 54 and 55:

54 Hark! A cry from Babylon! The noise of great destruction from the land of the Chaldeans!

55 For the LORD is laying Babylon waste, and stilling her mighty voice. Their waves roar like many waters, the noise of their voice is raised.

"For the Lord is laying Babylon waste, and stilling her mighty voice." Now this will be the cry that is heard in the midst of babylon. Her members, her dying members, those who cry in agony when they know that everything they've worked for is now collapsing, that they will soon face literal death. And this comes at the time of her destruction. And Israel's going to {w/u} this time, when there'll be great agony in the land of babylon for those who oppose YAHWEH. HE'S going to "still her mighty voice" it is a mighty voice because it controls the entire earth. "Their waves roar like many waters, the noise of their voice is raised."

Verse 56:

For a destroyer has come upon her, upon Babylon; her warriors are taken, their bows are broken in pieces; for the LORD is a God of recompense, he will surely requite.

Or "take revenge." Now this is picturing babylon as though she's unable to fight, all her weapons are broken down, she's put in a helpless situation. The helpless situation is actually when she will be divided amongst her own members, and her forces will be neutralized. And so she will not be able to go forward at all. Those who were working for her will be against her and she will not have any hope of accomplishing anything, of getting started again. This time it means nothing but destruction.

Verse 57:

I will make drunk her princes and her wise men, her governors, her commanders, and her warriors; they shall sleep a perpetual sleep and not wake, says the king, whose name is the LORD of Hosts.

Or whose name is YAHWEH. HE makes them "drunk" or unable to reason, because they reject true reasoning. In other words it's like a person who's given the solution to a mathematical problem, and there's only one solution and he rejects it, though there is no other solution, and he keeps on trying for that which he can not solve. He goes on forever and never gets the answer. This is how stupid they are, Israel has the answer; But these reject the Truth and because like drunken men who can not reason anymore. "they shall sleep in perpetual sleep and not wake." "Not waking" means she will never again come into authority and regain the position she once had.

Verse 58:

Thus says the LORD of Hosts: The broad wall of BABYLON shall be leveled to the ground and her high gates shall be burned with fire. The peoples labor for nought, and the nations weary themselves only for fire.

Now the "wall of babylon going down" and "leveling it to the ground" means she's now vulnerable to attack, she's no longer protected, she cannot ward off the enemy and she'll be destroyed or "burned with fire." "The peoples labor for nought" or for nothing. They actually labor for nothing at all, they are accomplishing nothing. They're wasting their time and their energy. "And the nations weary themselves only for fire," only for destruction. All of this work, all of this (w/u), all of this war practice, all of these weapons. Everything they do is one great big waste, only to be burned up. It does nothing, absolutely nothing. So they make more weapons here to be stronger than russia, and then russia has to make more than the u.s. to be stronger than the u.s. They're just building a stockpile. Taking the labor of the people, and then directing all this force against each other, and all this work is wasted and they lose their lives, and they reap the efforts of those who are willfully ignorant who oppose the Almighty GOD. Israel will not produce a single weapon, and Israel will survive.

Verses 59-62:

59 The word which Jeremiah the prophet commanded Seraiah the son of Neriah, son of maaseiah, when he went with Zedekiah king of Judah to BABYLON, in the fourth year of his reign. Seraiah was the quartermaster.

60 Jeremiah wrote in a book all the evil that should come upon BABYLON, all these words that are written concerning Babylon.

61 And Jeremiah said to Seraiah: "When you come to BABYLON, see that you read all these words,

62 and say, 'O Lord, thou hast said concerning this place that thou will cut it off, so that nothing shall dwell in it, neither man nor beast, and it shall be desolate for ever.'"

Now these were the words that Jeremiah was actually commanded to take to babylon itself, to the king of babylon. So in a typical sense YAHWEH gave him this authority over the nations who do this work. Now we find that (if you don't understand the Truth) it might appear that he was a confused person because he actually at one time sided up with babylon against jerusalem. And he told jerusalem that they must not fight babylon, that they must give up and pay taxes to babylon because YAHWEH had forsaken jerusalem because of their wickedness and he said "if you do this, if you serve the king of babylon and pay your taxes to them, then you will plant and reap and raise your livestock the same as you did in Israel. But do not expect my guidance because I have put you in the hand of nebuchadnezzar. I have rejected you because you're no longer abiding by My counsel." This is what he told them. Now it appears that he was on the side of nebuchadnezzar, and against israel. And the jews hated him for it. Yet he was only telling the Truth and trying to save their lives. So they elected some 20 prophets of their own, not YAHWEH'S choice, but their own choice. And these prophets went against Jeremiah and said "don't give up to nebuchadnezzar fight and we'll win." Now they were actually told by Jeremiah what would happen, that they would end up eating their own babies. The siege was horrible. They were without food and without water—without anything. They were eating and selling pigeon manure. They actually did end up going out of their minds and boiled their babies

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and ate them. And in the end nebuchadnezzar conquered anyhow, and he put the eyes of the king out, and took many of them captive. The (w/u) was tremendous. Now wouldn't it have been easier to listen to what YAHWEH had told them—just pay your taxes to babylon and live; rather than have to go through all that and still have to become submissive to nebuchadnezzar. This time they had a furious king against them instead of one who had been reasonable before. So we see that one time he appeared to be against jerusalem, and now he's against nebuchadnezzar. So the only reason that YAHWEH permitted nebuchadnezzar to conquer jerusalem was not because HE favored nebuchadnezzar, but because jerusalem had failed HIM. All HE did was remove HIMSELF. HE didn't bless nebuchadnezzar at all. So when nebuchadnezzar conquered jerusalem, he didn't conquer jerusalem as though he was merely taking over the Lord's People because YAHWEH removed HIMSELF, he felt like a conqueror and he felt like he conquered them because of his mighty power. So this angered YAHWEH, and now it was nebuchadnezzar's turn to be told what's going to happen to him. So all those who sin against YAHWEH have their day of judgement.

Verses 63 and 64:

63 "When you finish reading this book, bind a stone to it, and cast it into the midst of the Euphrates,

64 and say, 'thus shall Babylon sink, to rise no more, because of the evil that I am bringing upon her.'" Thus far are the words of Jeremiah.

In other words they were very explicit. They would get the message, and read it, and tie a big stone on it, and then in the presence of the king himself after he read it, he'd throw it into the river and let it sink and say "there goes your babylon." They really demonstrated to make it very clear with a visible demonstration rather than just words. This was the ways of the peoples of the east. They were very explicit in speech and actions. Ezekiel had to "lay on his side for 40 days," indicating that there would be a period of 40 years. And laying on his side was demonstrating to jerusalem the period of trouble that would come upon jerusalem. And he did this not only by preaching, he did this by an actual visible demonstration to make his point very clear. So this is the way the people of the east many times made points clear, YAHWEH'S message causing Israel to understand fully what YAHWEH was trying to portray.

QUESTIONS

Verse 41: My translation says "sheshach" instead of babylon?

Answer: That is the Hebrew name translated babylon.