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| **Grant Street Baptist Church** | **Sermon Notes** |
| **Jeremy Beck** | **September 22, 2021** |

Title: *“The Beasts Government”*

Scripture: Revelation 18:1-24

Message: **1. The Perverted Government** (vs’ 1-3)

1 After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven (after the destruction of the Antichrists religious system, another angel comes forward). He had great authority, and the earth was illuminated by his splendor (the angel reflected the glory of God across the whole earth). 2With a mighty voice he shouted (a loud voice so that all could hear on earth): “‘Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great!’ She has become a dwelling for demons and a haunt for every impure spirit (the beasts government is an evil political system where demons dwelled and kept watch guarding it), a haunt for every unclean bird (the word bird here is actually vulture, Babylon has become a place for those who prey on others like vultures), a haunt for every unclean and detestable animal. 3For all the nations have drunk the maddening wine of her adulteries (the wicked of all nations have gathered here). The kings of the earth committed adultery with her (every world ruler has become a part of the beasts government), and the merchants of the earth grew rich from her excessive luxuries (in order to make a living all merchants have become a part of the beasts government).”

**2. The Powerful Government** (vs’ 4-8)

4Then I heard another voice from heaven say (another angel comes forward): “‘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 (a warning to the saints to refrain from the evilness of the beasts government or they too will be judged); 5for her sins are piled up to heaven, and God has remembered her crimes. (it may appear at times that God forgets or ignores sin, but He is just storing them up) 6Give back to her as she has given; pay her back double for what she has done (the angel is stating the Old Testament law known as “an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth”). Pour her a double portion from her own cup (in certain cases, Levitical Law required that the penalty be double). 7Give her as much torment and grief as the glory and luxury she gave herself. In her heart she boasts, ‘I sit enthroned as queen. I am not a widow; I will never mourn.’ (the beasts government is filled with pride at its power, thinking it will never have to mourn because it believes it’s unstoppable) 8Therefore 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. (God will destroy this government unexpectedly)

**3. The Pulverized Government** (vs’ 9-24)

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 (the rulers of the world will weep and mourn because their source of power has been destroyed). 10Terrified at her torment, they will stand far off and cry: “‘Woe! Woe to you, great city, you mighty city of Babylon! In one hour your doom has come!’ (the rulers of the world will not come to the aid of the beasts government because they will be too afraid to do so) 11“The merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her because no one buys their cargoes anymore (merchants will weep and mourn for themselves because their source of income has been destroyed)— 12cargoes 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; 13cargoes 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 human beings sold as slaves. (this is the list of merchandise the beasts government will be known for…humans will become nothing more than merchandise during the Tribulation Period) 14“They will say, ‘The fruit you longed for is gone from you. All your luxury and splendor have vanished, never to be recovered.’ 15The merchants who sold these things and gained their wealth from her will stand far off, terrified at her torment. They will weep and mourn 16and cry out: “‘Woe! Woe to you, great city, dressed in fine linen, purple and scarlet, and glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls! 17In 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. 18When they see the smoke of her burning, they will exclaim, ‘Was there ever a city like this great city?’ 19They will throw dust on their heads, and with weeping and mourning cry out: “‘Woe! Woe to you, 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, you heavens! Rejoice, you people of God! Rejoice, apostles and prophets! For God has judged her with the judgment she imposed on you.” (what causes mourning on earth causes extreme joy in heaven among God’s people) 21Then a mighty angel picked up a boulder the size of a large millstone and threw it into the sea (symbolic illustrating the total destruction of the beasts government), and said: “With such violence the great city of Babylon will be thrown down, never to be found again. 22The music of harpists and musicians, pipers and trumpeters, will never be heard in you again. No worker of any trade will ever be found in you again. The sound of a millstone will never be heard in you again. 23The 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 important people. By your magic spell all the nations were led astray. 24In her was found the blood of prophets and of God’s holy people, of all who have been slaughtered on the earth.” (the beasts government was responsible for slaughtering multitudes of God’s people…now joyless, dark and silent, Babylon will now at this time of the Tribulation Period represent the vengeance of Almighty God)

Application:

* The Beasts Government
* Many times in our lives and society we begin to feel like we are invisible…we can live like we want without any consequences.
* This future event in the Revelation should remind us that in God’s perfect timing He will always destroy the things that stand against Him
* Could our lives be a kingdom amongst ourselves of sin and rebellion? It’s a matter of time before God destroys it all bringing us to rock bottom if we survive at all.

1. [Matthew 7:15](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+7:15#en-NIV-23332) : [Eze 22:27; Ac 20:29](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ezek%2022:27,%20Acts%2020:29&version=NIV)