

## CODE BREAKERS:

### The Identity of Babylon the Great

October 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026

#### READ:

Revelation 17–18 | Genesis 11:4 | 1 Timothy 6:6 | John 17:15 | Matthew 25:21, 23 | Revelation 21:1–22:5 | Proverbs 14:12 | Daniel 4:28–37 | 1 Peter 5:13

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#### KEY POINTS:

- Babylon Is Beautiful on the Outside – Sin often comes dressed as pleasure, success, comfort, or fulfillment, but what looks attractive can hide what destroys.
- Babylon Seduces Through Luxury and Excess – Contentment, generosity, simplicity, Sabbath, and gratitude resist the lie that more will finally satisfy us.
- Babylon's Wealth Is Built on Exploitation – Jesus calls us to see people as image-bearers, not as products, tools, or means to our own gain.
- Babylon Will Fall – Earthly power, wealth, comfort, and success are temporary; only the kingdom of Jesus lasts forever.
- Come Out of Babylon – We are called to live faithfully in the world without allowing the values of the world to take root in us.

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#### QUESTIONS:

1. Babylon is pictured as beautiful on the outside but deadly within. What are some things our culture makes attractive that can quietly pull our hearts away from Jesus? Where do you personally need greater spiritual discernment?
2. Genesis 11:4 describes people wanting to “make a name for ourselves.” Where are you most tempted to build your identity, security, or significance apart from God? What would it look like to intentionally make Jesus’ name greater than your own?
3. What loss, success, or disappointment tends to affect you most deeply? What might your response reveal about what has captured your heart?

4. Jesus says in John 17:15 that His followers are not to be taken out of the world but protected from the evil one. How can you remain faithfully present in your family, workplace, community, and culture without becoming shaped by its values? Where might God be calling you to be a faithful presence?
5. Revelation ultimately places Babylon and the New Jerusalem before us—two ways of life and two destinies. If someone watched the way you spend your time, money, attention, and energy, what kingdom would they say you are building your life around? What is one concrete change you will make to live more fully as a citizen of God's kingdom?

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#### **LIFE APPLICATION:**

- Practice Contentment – Thank God for what He has given you and refuse the lie that having more will make you whole.
- Practice Generosity – Give intentionally this week as a reminder that money is a tool, not your master.
- Practice Faithful Presence – Look for one way to serve, love, pursue justice, or represent Jesus faithfully where God has placed you.
- Practice Worship – Fix your attention on Jesus so that His beauty becomes greater than Babylon's appeal.

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#### **PRAYER:**

Dear Lord,

Thank You that You have called us to belong to a kingdom that cannot be shaken. Give us discernment to see beyond what looks beautiful and recognize anything that is pulling our hearts away from You. Teach us to practice contentment, generosity, faithful presence, and true worship. Help us live in this world without allowing its values to live in us. May Jesus be more beautiful to us than anything Babylon can offer, and may our lives point others to the Jesus and His everlasting kingdom.

In Jesus' name, Amen.