

betrayed the gospel of Jesus that transforms hearts for a legal code that punished bad behavior:

The church's reaction to the encounter with immorality, its immense attempt to enforce law and morality, and its reply to loose conduct in the ethical fields is closely connected with the error of confusing the church and society. . . . **The perversion, then, was that of making the gospel into law** . . . the mistake was dealing with these on the moral and legal plane instead of following the example of Paul, who always works through the moral question to the spiritual question, gets back to the essence of the revelation in Christ, and from this derives some models of conduct that are consistent with faith and love. The church did not do this. It thus set itself on the same level as the world and treated moral matters on the moral plane (p. 88, 89).

Are You in Spiritual Babylon?

Babylon represents those who claim to worship God but betray Him by giving their hearts and minds to a false god that functions like a dictator, one who makes up rules like humans do and uses power to inflict punishment for sin, a god that requires legal payments to atone for sin.

This false view is dangerous to your heart and mind. Why? Because such ideas will ultimately lead to the formation of the beast of Revelation, which will seek to achieve various forms of "justice" through government legislation, even killing those who don't have the right religion (Revelation 13:16).

This is Satan's world, yet much of Christianity embraces and teaches the worldly system of justice as if it were God's heavenly kingdom. Babylon the Harlot represents religious imperialism, and all the world is now wondering after the beast, celebrating the use of imposed laws and coercive enforcement to achieve its false justice.

The gospel of Jesus seeks to heal the corrupt hearts of people by winning and transforming hearts and minds in love and truth, which is the only way to truly resolve the sin problem and all injustice.

The church has betrayed its trust by accepting the lie that God runs His kingdom as Satan runs his, so that's why God is calling you out of Babylon. We must stop seeking to achieve social justice through more laws, rules, and punishments. Instead, we are to seek true justice by:

- Loving every person as God loves them
- Giving glory to God by practicing His methods in our lives

The hour in history has come for people to make a right judgment about God, for people to worship Him as the Creator who used design laws—and not Satanic, Babylonian-like rules—to create the heavens and earth and sea.

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BABYLON

THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS

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MINISTRIES

In the Bible, Babylon, a historical empire ruled by King Nebuchadnezzar, is used as a symbol of Satan's kingdom today:

MYSTERY
BABYLON THE GREAT
THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES
AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH
(Revelation 17:5).

The Bible describes the corruption of Babylon and how its influence is so great that even God's people are caught up in its falsehoods—but God is now calling you to be free of her lies:

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. 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. 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" (Revelation 18:2–4).

Why is Babylon the mother of harlots, the symbolic forebearer of the end-time power that wars against God's people in these last days?

A harlot is someone who is intimate with another person who is not her spouse. Thus, in Bible symbolism, a harlot is an unfaithful believer or a church that claims loyalty to Jesus while betraying Him by promoting the methods of the world.

Conversely, a pure woman represents the righteous bride of Christ—one who loves and practices God's methods in their lives. A harlot represents the betrayal of this symbolic marriage relationship.

Understanding this symbolism, why is Babylon called the mother of harlots?

The Mother of Harlots

Of the various nations that warred against Israel in Bible times, Babylon was the first to have a codified legal code; today, it is known as the Code of Hammurabi.

This governmental system did not operate on God's principles of truth and love that transform the heart and mind, but rather on rules enforced through the fear of punishment.

God is Creator, and His laws are design laws, the protocols for life, including the law of gravity, physics, healthy living, and even the moral laws. Any violation of these laws naturally ends up harming the violator without the need for external punishment.

But Satan's kingdoms on Earth make up rules and enforce those rules by inflicting punishment.

Babylon was ruled by Nebuchadnezzar, who didn't initially know God but later accepted Him as Lord. With a believing king ruling over her, Babylon became a harlot that betrayed God by accepting Satan's seed, the falsehood that God runs His universe as Satan and humans run their kingdoms on Earth.

The Wine of Babylon

Wine is a perfect metaphor for Babylon's teachings because alcohol confuses the thinking, impairing judgment, while making people feel safe or

content. The imposed-law method of Satan is the wine that people have ingested, confusing their thinking, impairing their judgment, while making themselves feel safe or content.

It is Satan's "rule-of-law" methodology that the entire world has become intoxicated upon, such that nearly all people believe that the way to true justice is through legally imposed laws and coercive enforcement, rather than God's way of healing the human heart.

When Nebuchadnezzar accepted Daniel's God, he immediately passed laws to kill anyone who spoke against God (Daniel 3:29). This was the seed of Satan bearing fruit: "Worship God or be killed." How many people throughout history have been fooled into doing this very thing? Even Christians have accepted Babylon's seed, her ideas about law and justice, thereby committing adultery with her.

In his book *The Subversion of Christianity*, Jacques Ellul describes the history of how Christianity became drunk on Babylon's wine and committed spiritual adultery. Here he details how the church