Saved To Serve

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Revelation 18:
Come out of Her, My People, Part 1

1. In this Sabbath School Lesson, we will study Revelation 18 and the call to come out of Babylon.

2. **Note:** Revelation 18 is the final call for the inhabitants of the earth to forsake error and sin and to join Jesus and His truth. This takes place before the falling of the plagues in Revelation 16. See Revelation 18:4 for confirmation.

3. Read Revelation 18:1. What does an angel represent in Bible prophecy? Galatians 4:14; Acts 6:15, 8

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4. When the angel comes down, what will the angel do? Luke 22:42-43; 2:9-11, 14-17

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"**No one hears the voice of these angels, for they are a symbol to represent the people of God who are working in harmony with the universe of heaven. Men and women, enlightened by the Spirit of God, and sanctified through the truth, proclaim the three messages in their order**. {LS 429.1}

5. Why must the earth be "lightened" with God's glory? Where must this light shine? 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

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6. Read Revelation 18:2. Primarily, who does Babylon represent? Revelation 17:3-6 _____

   a) Woman - Jeremiah 6:2; Ephesians 5:22-25 _____

   b) Blasphemy - John 10:33; Mark 2:5-7 _____

   c) Purple/Scarlet - The Bishops and Cardinals wear these colors.

   d) Mother - This church claims to be the mother church.

   e) Harlots - This church has daughters or other churches that believe her false doctrines:
   (the two primary ones are: Sunday Sacredness & the natural immortality of the soul)

   f) Drunken with blood of the saints - from 538 A.D. to 1798 A.D. this church persecuted God's saints.

7. Why is Babylon described as fallen? Revelation 18:2; 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4; Revelation 2:4-5

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8. What message is Revelation 18 a repetition of? Revelation 14:8 _____

"**This scripture points forward to a time when the announcement of the fall of Babylon, as made by the second angel of Revelation 14 (verse 8), is to be repeated, with the additional mention of the corruptions which have been entering the various organizations that constitute Babylon, since that message was first given, in the summer of 1844.** A terrible condition of the religious world is here described. With every rejection of truth the minds of the people will become darker, their hearts more stubborn, until they are entrenched in an infidel hardihood. In defiance of the warnings which God has given, they will continue to trample upon one of the precepts of the Decalogue, until they are led to persecute those who hold it sacred. Christ is set at nought in the contempt placed upon His word and His people..." {GC 603.2}

9. What call is given to the world in Revelation 18:4? _____

10. **Note:** We will now transition to identify the specific sins and practices we must <u>come out</u> from, in order to be spared from the wrath of God. Revelation 18 is primarily a call to those who have not yet accepted the truth to receive it and be converted. However, God's servants who give the call must themselves be free of the same sins prevalent in Babylon.

11. What are the nations drunk with, which they must cease to drink if they desire to be saved? Revelation 18:3 _____

12. What does it mean to be drunk with wine in a spiritual sense?

    a) Isaiah 28:7; Proverbs 20:1; Acts 2:1, 4, 11-15 - **to be in error and out of God's path of salvation; to be deceived by false doctrines**

    b) Proverbs 31:4-5 _____

13. What have the kings of the earth committed with Babylon, which we also must shun? Revelation 18:3

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14. **Note:** The 'fornication' that Revelation 18:3 brings to view is primarily pointing to spiritual fornication, wherein the kings of the earth (leaders of the nations) have partaken of the false doctrines of Babylon, and have formed an ungodly union of church and state. Additionally, God also abhors the sin of physical fornication and admonishes us to "come out" of it. (See 1 Corinthians 6:18 & Galatians 5:19-21).

15. Whose account should we examine for encouragement, and how did he overcome the temptation to commit fornication? Genesis 39:7, 9-10, 12

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"**Few temptations are more dangerous or more fatal to young men than the temptation to sensuality and none if yielded to will prove so decidedly ruinous to soul and body for time and eternity**. **The welfare of his entire future is suspended upon the decision of a moment. Joseph calmly casts his eyes to heaven for help, slips off his loose outer garment, leaving it in the hand of his tempter and while his eye is lighted with determined resolve in the place of unholy passion, he exclaims, "How can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?**" **The victory is gained; he flees from the enchanter; he is saved**." {SD 187.2}

16. Which men did Jesus encounter, whose bodies had become the habitation of devils and the hold of foul spirits? Matthew 8:28; Mark 5:1-2

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17. What words did Jesus say to the demoniacs, which is also repeated in Revelation 18:4? Mark 5:8 _____

18. Read Mark 5:3-4. Although chains could not bind this man, what was he bound with? Proverbs 5:22; Romans 6:16

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19. Read Mark 5:5. Based on the verse, what can we infer the demoniac was struggling with? **Answer:** We can infer that the demoniac was struggling with addictions to sin, self-harm, and mental depression. The demoniac was cutting himself, and he also dwelt among the dead, among the tombs. He did not see life around him but death and despair. However, Jesus commanded the demons to "Come out!" For people who have these same struggles, meditate on Psalm 147:3, Luke 4:18, & Philippians 2:5 for encouragement.

20. Read Mark 5:15. The demoniac was now freed from his sins and demons. After his encounter with Jesus, what changed in the demoniac's life?

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"…He [Jesus] had a mighty influence, for He was the Son of God. We are so far beneath Him and so far deficient, that, do the very best we can, our efforts will be poor. **We cannot gain and possess the influence that He had; but why should we not educate ourselves to come just as near to the Pattern as it is possible for us to do, that we may have the greatest possible influence upon the people? Our words, our actions, our deportment, our dress, everything, should preach. Not only with our words should we speak to the people, but everything pertaining to our person should be a sermon to them, that right impressions may be made upon them, and that the truth spoken may be taken by them to their homes. Thus our faith will stand in a better light before the community**." {2T 617.3}

"**By the atmosphere surrounding us, every person with whom we come in contact is consciously or unconsciously affected. This is a responsibility from which we can not free ourselves**. **Our words, our acts, our dress, our deportment, even the expression of the countenance has an influence that no man can measure**." {ST July 2, 1902, par. 11}

21. Read Acts 16:16-17. What was wrong with this damsel? What words did she speak?

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22. What command did Paul give to the spirit? Acts 16:18 _____

23. **Note:** This account shows us another sin of Babylon. All who wish to be saved must depart from this sin - namely **hypocrisy**. Many people today speak the right words, but their lives testify that they are not Christ's children. "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." "So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty." "Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be." (James 1:22; 2:12; 3:10).

24. **Note:** Let us now look at our Savior, Jesus Christ, to get hope and strength to heed His call to "come out" of sin and error.

25. Revelation 18:2 showed us that those who are trapped in Babylon and in her sins are held by foul, unclean spirits. What question is asked in Job 14:4?

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26. What should be our response if desire to be set free from our chains of sin? Matthew 19:26; Mark 10:18

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27. Jesus, himself, is literally the fulfillment of "bringing a clean thing out of an unclean thing." What did Nathanael ask Philip in John 1:46? What was Philip's response?

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28. What must we choose to do if we are to be victors over self and sin? Philippians 2:13; John 1:29

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"**God wishes us to have the mastery over ourselves. But He cannot help us without our consent and co-operation. The divine Spirit works through the powers and faculties given to man. Of ourselves, we are not able to bring the purposes and desires and inclinations into harmony with the will of God**; **but if we are "willing to be made willing**," **the Saviour will accomplish this for us, "Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ**." 2 Corinthians 10:5." {AA 482.3}