

Briefing Document: The Fall of the World – Lesson 17

Sunday PM-June 7, 2026

Executive Summary

The following document synthesizes a deep analysis of the world's spiritual, economic, and social collapse as described in biblical prophecy. Central to this study is the fall of "Babylon the Great," representing a global system of commerce and culture that eventually becomes a habitation for demons. The document examines the "Judgment of the Nations" described in Matthew 25, where humanity is divided into "sheep" and "goats" based on their treatment of God's messengers during the Tribulation. This judgment serves as the transition into a literal, 1,000-year earthly kingdom—a "utopia" where God's rule is mediated directly through Jesus Christ, restoring the world from the effects of the Fall.

The Cultural and Economic Collapse of Babylon

The document outlines a coming era where the world's economic and cultural systems, referred to as "Babylon the Great," face total destruction. This collapse is characterized by several key factors:

- **The Influence of Music:** Modern culture is heavily influenced by a music industry that saturates daily life. Much of this music is described as demonic, glorifying death and crime to capture the minds of young people.
- **The Habitation of Demons:** According to *Revelation 18:2*, *Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird!*
- **Economic Ruin:** The global economy, which currently benefits a small upper strata of society, will be destroyed in a single hour. This leads to the desolation of trade and the millstone of industry.
- **The End of Joy:** The fall of this system results in the disappearance of music, craftsmanship, and social celebrations like weddings. The environment becomes one of hatred and rage rather than love or happiness.

The Judgment of the Nations

At the end of the Tribulation, Jesus Christ returns to judge the survivors. This is not a judgment of "plagues," but a deciding factor for eternity and entry into the coming kingdom.

The Separation of Sheep and Goats

As outlined in *Matthew 25:31-33*, *When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.*

- **The Sheep (The Right Hand):** The right hand symbolizes the place of blessing. These individuals are invited to inherit the kingdom.
- **The Goats (The Left Hand):** These individuals are commanded to depart into everlasting fire.

Criteria for Judgment

The judgment is based on how individuals treated Christ's "brethren"—the 144,000 Jewish evangelists and other believers preaching during the Tribulation.

- **Evidence of Faith:** While salvation is by grace through faith (*Ephesians 2:8*), the actions of the "sheep" (feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting the imprisoned) provide evidence of their faith.
- **The Mark of the Beast:** During the Tribulation, those with the Mark of the Beast will not help believers. Only those who have rejected the Mark and accepted Christ's message would risk their lives to care for itinerant preachers.
- **Physical Consequences:** Those on the left (the goats) face immediate physical death on the spot. They will remain in a place of torment until the Great White Throne Judgment after the 1,000-year reign.

The Nature of Eternal Punishment

The document clarifies that hell was not originally created for human beings. According to *Matthew 25:41*, it was *prepared for the devil and his angels*.

- **Everlasting Nature:** Hell is described as a place of everlasting fire.
- **Requirement for "Hell Bodies":** Just as believers receive glorified bodies to live in God's presence, those who follow Satan will require specific bodies to endure the eternal fire of hell.
- **The Choice of Man:** God does not desire for anyone to perish. Individuals end up in eternal punishment because they chose to follow a path away from God, rejecting the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

The Earthly Kingdom and Divine Mediation

The "Millennial Kingdom" is the final phase of God's rule on earth, described as a time of regeneration and restoration.

The History of Mediation

God has always mediated His rule on earth through various agents. The document identifies a progression of these mediators:

1. **Adam:** The original king of the earth who failed.
2. **Conscience:** An inadequate mediator where every man went his own way.

3. **Human Government:** Established after the Tower of Babel to control behavior through law, including capital punishment.
4. **Patriarchs and Leaders:** Men like Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and later the judges, prophets, and kings.
5. **The Holy Spirit and the Church:** The current mediators. However, the modern American church is often viewed as "impotent," failing to be the "salt and light" described in *Matthew 5*.
6. **Jesus Christ:** The final and perfect mediator who will rule directly on earth.

Perspectives on the Millennium

There are several theological viewpoints regarding the nature of this kingdom:

- **Spiritual View:** Some believe the kingdom is strictly Christ's general rule in the hearts of men or the existence of the church.
- **Social/Liberal View:** This view suggests the kingdom is a social or political evolution toward a better world through social justice and economic progress.
- **Literal Earthly View:** The view presented in this document is that the kingdom is a literal, physical utopia on earth where righteousness prevails, war ceases, and all that was lost in the Fall is restored.

Greek Vocabulary and Definitions

Greek Word Phonetic Pronunciation Brief Definition

Ethne ^[^1]	eth-nay	All the peoples; ethnicities; the nations of the world.
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[^1]: Used in the context of *Matthew 25:32* to describe all the people of the world gathered for judgment, rather than strictly organized political states.