

Nimrod - The Rebellious Panther

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CHAPTER TWELVE -

BABYLON WILL BE REBUILT

In these articles I have been dealing with mountain ranges, rivers, and highways. I have had neither the time nor the inclination to trace every footprint in the mountains, to explain every current of the rivers, to account for every side road leading from the highways. I may attempt some of that later on in a book. I have been dealing with the things that are clear (at least they seem so to me); and when I have finished with that, it is generally time to go to bed.

Before I start here today, I want to thank Tribune readers all over this country, and in other countries, for all the encouragement they have given me in this series. I never dreamed they would be so interested. When I started out I thought I could get through with Nimrod in a half dozen articles; but here today is the fifteenth. And it may require one other. You have been wonderfully patient with me.

History is personal. It originates in a person. It culminates in a person. The spiritual conceptions of Jacob culminated in the person of CHRIST. The materialism of Esau culminated in Herod who tried to murder CHRIST.

Deliberate, premeditated, organized rebellion against GOD originated with Nimrod in Babylon. Nimrod was the antithesis of Abraham, and later on, Babylon was the antithesis of Jerusalem. The absolute monarchy and tyranny of Nimrod over the peoples of the Babylonian-Assyrian world will culminate in the absolute rule of Antichrist over all the peoples of the earth, including the United States. Antichrist will be Satan incarnate. Antichrist will be the "**king of Babylon.**" ". . . **thou shalt take up this proverb against the king of Babylon. . .**" (Isaiah 14:4). (The context clearly shows that the "**king of Babylon**" is ruling in the last days, not in the ancient days.)

The Babylon of Antichrist will be a universal city.

It will be MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH; It will be the great universal whore. "**And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth**" (Revelation 17:18). It will be the most wonderful city of wickedness the world ever saw. It will be the climax of the religious, political and commercial wickedness of the earth. Its authority will be universal. Its destruction is described in great detail in Revelation 18.

This means of course that Babylon is going to be rebuilt. The rebuilt city will not be called Babylon; it will be called Babylon the Great. Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon was cheap compared to

what Babylon the Great will be. Antichrist ruling the world from Babylon the Great will be the culmination of Nimrod, the first king of Babylon, ruling the earth from the original Babylon. "As it was, so shall it be."

First of all, there are the objections of those who contend that it is fanaticism to talk about Babylon being rebuilt. (Of course it is not fanaticism to contend that Rome measures up to the universality of the seventeenth and eighteenth chapters of Revelation; that is sound exposition.)

What are these objections?

1. They say that the Bible clearly prophesies that the Babylon of Nebuchadnezzar was to be completely destroyed and never to rise again. They cite as proof the thirteenth chapter of Isaiah, verses 19-22:

"And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency, shall be as when GOD overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah.

It shall never be inhabited, neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation: neither shall the Arabian pitch tent there; neither shall the shepherds make their fold there.

But wild beasts of the desert shall lie there; and their houses shall be full of doleful creatures; and owls shall dwell there, and satyrs shall dance there.

And the wild beasts of the islands shall cry in their desolate houses, and dragons in their pleasant palaces: and her time is near to come, and her days shall not be prolonged."

2. They say that in addition to these plain scriptures, there is another absolute proof that it is downright silly to talk about Babylon being rebuilt; namely this: The eighteenth chapter of Revelation calls for a sea near the Babylon of that chapter. **"And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea . . ."** (Revelation 18:21). They say that this is conclusive proof in that chapter, because Rome has more water as well as more idols.

3. They say that there is no logical reason why Babylon should ever be rebuilt. They say that rebuilt Babylon has no philosophy, doesn't make sense. They say that people talking about a rebuilt Babylon should throw away their typewriters and start out for the North Pole - and get shot on the way. "We are not divided; all one body we."

As to

OBJECTION 1. Those years in Isaiah say plainly that Babylon will be destroyed as when GOD **"overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah."** I take it that any serious student of the Bible knows that Bible prophecy is definite. All the prophesies concerning the birth, life and resurrection of CHRIST were definite, even to the prophecy that not a bone of Him would be broken. When Isaiah says that Babylon will be destroyed as when GOD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, every Bible student must know that that means sudden and complete destruction (such as occurs in Revelation 18 - **". . . for in one hour is she made desolate"**).

Every student of history must know that ancient Babylon never was suddenly destroyed. When Cyrus captured Babylon on the night of Belshazzar's famous feast, about 540 B.C., the city was not destroyed. As a matter of plain historical fact, most of the Babylonians did not know for days after that anything had happened.

Babylon never has been destroyed as Isaiah says it will be destroyed. In the Persian world Babylon became a provincial city.

In the empire of Alexander the Great Babylon was still a city - the city where that remarkable man died. In A.D. 66 there was a Christian church at Babylon.

At the end of the fifth century the Jews issued the "Babylonian Talmud" at Babylon. At that time there were several universities at Babylon. In the tenth century we find Babylon still in existence.

And in addition to all of that, there is there today the city of Hilla (or Hillah). This city has a population of 51,361. It is the capital of Hilla province. This city is almost wholly built of the very bricks which came out of the walls and buildings of Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon. (It is odd that so many of these dear brethren who talk about how they sat amidst 'the ruins of Babylon and read Isaiah's prophecies', and found them literally fulfilled not a snake or a bat for miles - it is odd that they never stumbled on a city of 51,000 people. Of course there are hundreds of square miles of ruins in the Babylonian-Assyrian world. You can sit down in a good many places in an area that size.) (You can always find what you are looking for.)

Babylon never has been suddenly destroyed; it deteriorated. Of course the prophecies have been partially fulfilled. There is a great difference between ancient Babylon and Hillah. Joel's prophecy of Pentecost was partially fulfilled in Jerusalem. But Joel says there is to be a greater Pentecost than Peter saw. Bible prophecy is not fulfilled until it is completely fulfilled.

OBJECTION 2. The Babylon of the eighteenth chapter of Revelation calls for a sea. This rules out a rebuilt Babylon on the site of ancient Babylon. You don't have any sea. That should settle it. (Of course Rome is 16 miles from the sea.)

"*Prophecy Monthly*" (April, 1952) cited some remarkable words by Brig. Gen. F.D. Frost, which the general had written for another magazine. With due credit to the general and "*Prophecy Monthly*," here are the words:

"A great hollow in the desert (of Iraq) is being prepared to take the flood waters of the Euphrates which will be preserved by a large dam instead of being allowed to flow back into the river down stream. This inland sea will be about 100 miles long.

"It may become the greatest seaplane port in the world, when the new Babylon will be built on the shores of this inland sea."

And hasn't Houston, Texas brought the sea up to its door, until Houston is the second (I believe) seaport in the United States. (And in the Bible isn't even Galilee called a sea?) There will be a plenty of water; Rome and the Holy Papa don't have it all.

OBJECTION 3. They say the talk about Babylon being rebuilt doesn't make any sense to anybody who has any sense.

Let's see.

Sometime ago Dr. Wilbur M. Smith in a splendid article in *Moody Monthly* quoted a passage on Babylon from Arnold Toynbee's "*Civilization on Trial*." Mr. Toynbee, as most of you know, is generally regarded as one of the foremost contemporary philosophers of history.

I got Mr. Toynbee's volume and turned to the page cited by Mr. Smith, I found that Mr. Smith, as is generally true of him, had accurately quoted Mr. Toynbee. I wrote to Mr. Toynbee's publishers, the Oxford Press, and asked their permission to quote this passage, along with a passage on the page preceding that referred to by Mr. Smith. The publishers generously granted me the permission. Here are Mr. Toynbee's words as they appear in his volume "*Civilization on Trial*" (Oxford University Press), pp. 92-93:

"In the air age the locus of the centre of gravity of human affairs may be determined not by physical but by human geography: not by the layout of oceans and seas, steppes and deserts, rivers and mountain-ranges, passes and straits, but by the distribution of human numbers, energy ability, skill, and character. And, among these human factors, the weight of numbers may eventually come to count for more than its influence in the past. The separate civilizations of the pre daGaman age were created and enjoyed, as we have observed, by a tiny sophisticated ruling minority perched on the back of a Neolithic peasantry, as Sinbad the Sailor was ridden by the Old Man of the Sea. This Neolithic peasantry is the last and mightiest sleeper, before herself, whom the West was waked.

"The rousing of this passably industrious mass of humanity has been a slow business. Athens and Florence each flashed her brief candle in the sleeper's drowsy eyes, but each time he just turned onto his side and sank to sleep again. It was left for modern England to urbanize the peasantry with sufficient energy on a large enough scale to set the movement traveling round the circumference of the Earth. The peasant has not taken this awakening kindly. Even in the Americas he has contrived to remain much as he was in Mexico and the Andean Republics, and he has struck new roots on virgin soil in the Province of Quebec.

"Yet the process of his awakening has been gathering momentum; the French Revolution carried it on to the Continent; the Russian Revolution has propagated it from coast to coast; and, though today there are still some fifteen hundred million not yet awakened peasants - about three-quarters of the living generation of mankind - in India, China, Indo-China, Indonesia, Dar-al-Islam, and Eastern Europe, their awakening is now only a matter of time, and, when it has been accomplished, numbers will begin to tell.

"Their gravitational pull may then draw the centre-point of human affairs away from Ultima Thule among the Isles of the Sea to some locus approximately equidistant from the western pole of the world's population in Europe and North America and its eastern pole in China and India, and this would indicate a site in the neighborhood of Babylon, on the ancient portage across the isthmus between the Continent and its peninsulas of Arabia and Africa. The centre might even travel farther into the interior of the Continent to some locus between China and Russia (the two

historic tamers of the Eurasian Nomads), and that would indicate a site in the neighborhood of Babur's Farghana, in the familiar Transoxanian meeting-place and debating ground of the religions and philosophies of India, China, Iran, Syria, and Greece."

And so

The prophecies of Isaiah (and Jeremiah) call for a rebuilt Babylon.

The universality of the seventeenth and eighteenth chapters of Revelation call for a city that the world never has had, does not now have.

The gravitational pull of the modern (wicked) world is toward a new center. That center seems to "indicate a site in the neighborhood of Babylon."

And, finally, why should anyone think it strange that Babylon will be rebuilt? Hasn't the whole Middle East come alive? Hasn't Jerusalem, after 2,000 years of desolation, again become one of the most important capitals of the world (and will become the most important land on earth)? Hasn't Persia (Iran) come back to life? Hasn't Iraq (Babylon) already come back to life? Aren't there mighty stirrings in Egypt? Isn't the Middle East today the very center of the life of the world?

Why should it seem strange that the Middle East will once again have a center such as it had in the ancient world? And since the world has already become a One World, why should it seem strange that this One World must have a One World capital?

Why should it seem strange that this One World would want to bring all its religion, science, politics, commerce, licensed adultery, Spiritism, Unitarianism and theism into one great world capital? Hollywood has only a part of it. Radio City has only a part. The United Nations is amateurish. The One World needs its own city, with its own king, with its own godlessness.

That city will rise up from the ruins of ancient Babylon. It will be Great Babylon. It will be the great whore. It will be the city which "**reigneth over the kings of the earth**" (including the United States). It will be the Devil's city.

~ end of chapter 12 ~
