

#595 City on a Hill vs. Habitation of Devils – Applying the terminology of ‘City’ to the Nation of America: Reagan’s City on a Hill is what the Lord describes as That Great City Babylon

Babylon the Great is called a *City* in Revelation 18.

Revelation 18:9-10 (KJV) *And the kings of the earth, who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning,*

*10 Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas, **THAT GREAT CITY BABYLON**, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come.*



Key Understanding #1: City = nation. Some might have difficulty with the concept of applying the terminology of *city* to describe an entire *nation* such as the United States of America. There are a number of reasons why the Lord did so.

1. **Cities built and ruled empires.** Babylon itself was a city, yet ruled an empire also called Babylon. Later, Rome built and ruled an entire empire, which is also simply referred to as Rome. Empires and nations were and are considered extensions of their capitals.
2. **City and Country are used interchangeably in Hebrews 11:8-16.** Abraham and others of faith longed for a better city/country, a heavenly one.
3. **Heavenly City of Jerusalem vs. the City of Babylon the Great.** The *nation* of Babylon the Great in the last days is meant to be prophetically contrasted to the *Heavenly City of Jerusalem*, seen in Hebrews 11:8-16. Thus the temporal offering to the believer (from Satan) of *That Great City Babylon* is in contrast to the eternal offering (from God) of the *Heavenly City of Jerusalem*.

4. **Ronald Reagan’s *City on a Hill* in contrast to Reagan building America as *That Great City Babylon*.** Finally, if the Church accepts John Winthrop’s application of *City Upon a Hill* to the Massachusetts Bay Colony and *New England*, and further accepts Ronald Reagan’s application of *City on a Hill* to the entire *nation* of America, then it is correct and permissible for the Lord to describe the nation of America as *That Great City Babylon* in contrast to a City on a Hill.

Matthew 5:14 (KJV) YE ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. A CITY THAT IS SET ON AN HILL cannot be hid.

[Note: Later, we will better understand Ronald Reagan’s specifically ordained role of building America to fulfill its destiny as *That Great City Babylon*. We have already easily seen Ronald Reagan in Revelation 18 through Revelation 18:2 and the “*habitation of devils.*”]

Revelation 18:2 (KJV) And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, *BABYLON THE GREAT IS FALLEN, IS FALLEN, AND IS BECOME THE HABITATION OF DEVILS, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.*

Saddam Hussein installed a huge portrait of himself and Nebuchadnezzar at the entrance to the ruins of ancient Babylon. He also had part of the ruins rebuilt, to the dismay of archaeologists, with his name inscribed in an imitation of Nebuchadnezzar on many bricks used. One frequent inscription reads, “This was built by Saddam Hussein, son of Nebuchadnezzar, to glorify Iraq.”



**U.S. Marines at the rebuilt ruins of Babylon, in the protection of America.
For what purpose did the Lord ordain this?**

Key Understanding #2: *City-nation of Babylon*. If deceived and insincere Christians are satisfied with the notion that the ancient city of Babylon can represent the nation of a Saddam-led Iraq, then certainly true and sincere Christians can be happy with the truth that the second city of Babylon, or “*that great city*” Babylon the Great, represents a nation, the United States of America.

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