What Do We Do With Revelation?

The End wk12: Babylon Must Fall

Introduction: The vision John shares about the future, and specifically the culmination of human history-end with the defeat of "Babylon." The collapse of Rome would not entirely be the end of Babylon, and we must learn to discern what the signs of Babylon in our day are, and how we must come out from it.

Discussion Questions

1. Can you think of a thing that at some point in your life you just assumed was something that would be "forever" only to see it become a piece of history? In what ways are those kinds of things surprising and in what ways should we expect them?

2. Read **Revelation 17:1-11** How does verse 7 make it clear that Rome is part of the reference? The language that John uses calls her (Rome) a prostitute and accuses nations of joining in her adulteries. What the reference to adultery and how does the sins of Babylon exist outside and continuing after the collapse of Rome?

3. Read **Revelation 18:4-5** If this was written in chronological order it would not seem to make sense, Babylon would be destroyed already. Why the appeal to come out of Babylon if it was destroyed? Can this be an ongoing call to come out from the ways of Babylon, even today?

4. In the sermon, Jeremy mentioned 3 sins of Babylon that we need to beware of today; Arrogance, Economic Exploitation, and Militarism. What parts of that makes sense, where would you push back?

5. What is the danger in the lines becoming blurred between patriotism and Christianity?

6. Is Jesus being unrealistic to call his followers to be peacemakers, to turn the other cheek, or that the "Word of God" be their weapon? What part of that makes us uncomfortable and why?

Shaping Your Mind – *"'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 18:4*

Moving Forward – *The heart of Babylon will always be arrogant self-sufficiency that has no need for God, no care for the people of God, and not commitment to the ways of God."- Scot McKnight*