**FOCUS** in 2020

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**REVELATION**

***Come Out –*** Revelation 18



As you get **older**, you get better at **hiding**.

Come out **before** you get **found** out.

You are only as **sick** as your **sins** that become **secrets**.

1. Come out of an **empty** way of life.

After this I saw **another angel coming down from heaven**, having great authority, and the earth was made bright with his glory. And he called out with a mighty voice, “**Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great**! She has become a dwelling place for demons, **a haunt for** every **unclean** **spirit**, a haunt for every **unclean** **bird**, a haunt for every **unclean** and **detestable** **beast**. For all **nations** **have drunk** the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality, and the **kings** of the earth have committed immorality with her, and the **merchants** of the earth have grown rich from the power of her luxurious living.” Revelation 18:1-3

Sin is not just a **waste** … it is a **wasteland**.

**Wasteland** - A barren, uncultivated, ugly, often devastated or barely inhabitable place or area. Something (such as a way of life) that is spiritually and emotionally arid and unsatisfying.

… and Babylon shall become a heap of ruins, the **haunt** of jackals, a **horror** and a **hissing**, **without inhabitant**. Jeremiah 51:37

**In the end,** sin will leave you nothing but empty.

Then I heard another voice from heaven saying, “**Come out of her, my people**, **lest** you take part in her sins, **lest** you share in her plagues; vs.4

If you take part in her **sins**, you will **share** in her plagues.

* Take part in her sins – selfless, godless living
* Share in her plagues – death, mourning, famine … judgement

2. Come out and **break** free from the judgement that is coming.

Abandon the sinking ship of sin and jump on the ark of salvation in Jesus.

for **her sins are heaped high as heaven**, and God has remembered her iniquities. Pay her back as she herself has paid back others, and repay her double for her deeds; mix a double portion for her in the cup she mixed. As she glorified herself and lived in luxury, so give her a like measure of torment and mourning, since in her heart she says, ‘I sit as a **queen**, I am no **widow**, and **mourning** I shall never see.’ **For this reason** her plagues will come in a single day, death and mourning and famine, and she will be burned up with fire; for mighty is the Lord God who has judged her.” Revelation 18:4-8

“**Go out of the midst of her**, my people! **Let everyone save his life** from the fierce anger of the Lord! Jeremiah 51:45

3. Come out of the **crowd** that loves the **world** more than God.

* The **proud** and **powerful** will be brought low.

And **the kings of the earth**, who committed sexual immorality and lived in luxury with her, **will weep** and **wail** over her when they see the smoke of her burning. They will stand far off, in fear of her torment, and say, “Alas! Alas! You great city, you mighty city, Babylon! For in a single hour your judgment has come.” Revelation 18:9-10

* The **wealthy** and self-sufficient will **see** their need.

And **the merchants of the earth** **weep** and **mourn for her**, since no one buys their cargo anymore, cargo of gold, silver, jewels, pearls, fine linen, purple cloth, silk, scarlet cloth, all kinds of scented wood, all kinds of articles of ivory, all kinds of articles of costly wood, bronze, iron and marble, cinnamon, spice, incense, myrrh, frankincense, wine, oil, fine flour, wheat, cattle and sheep, horses and chariots, and slaves, that is, human souls. “The fruit for which your soul longed has gone from you, and all your delicacies and your splendors are lost to you, never to be found again!” Revelation 18:11-14

* The object of the world’s **worship** will be revealed.

The merchants of these wares, who gained wealth from her, will stand far off, in fear of her torment, weeping and mourning aloud, “Alas, alas, for the **great city** that was clothed in fine linen, in purple and scarlet, adorned with gold, with jewels, and with pearls! For in a single hour **all this wealth has been laid waste**.” And all shipmasters and seafaring men, sailors and all whose trade is on the sea, stood far off and cried out as they saw the smoke of her burning, “What city was like the great city?” And they threw dust on their heads as they wept and mourned, crying out, “*Alas, alas, for the great city where all who had ships at sea grew rich by her wealth*! **For in a single hour she has been laid waste**. Revelation 18:15-19

4. Come out and **worship** God for who He is.

**Rejoice over her**, O **heaven**, and **you saints** and apostles and prophets, for **God has given judgment for you against her**!” Revelation 18:15-20

5. Come out and discover the **beauty** of God’s intended design.

**Shalom** – Peace. The way God intended things to be.

Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, “So will Babylon the great city be thrown down with violence, and **will be found no more**; and **the sound of harpists and musicians**, of flute players and trumpeters, will be **heard in you no more**, and a **craftsman of any craft** will be **found in you no more**, and the **sound of the mill** will be **heard in you no more**, and the **light of a lamp** will **shine in you no more**, and **the voice of bridegroom** and **bride** will be **heard in you no more**, for your merchants were the great ones of the earth, and all nations were deceived by your sorcery. And in her was found the blood of prophets and of saints, and of all who have been slain on earth.” Revelation 18:21-24

Can you imagine a life of …?

* No more **music** – meant to glorify God
* No more **art** – meant to tell God’s story
* No more **purpose** – meant to feel God’s pleasure
* No more **beauty** – meant to point us to God
* No more **hope** – meant to create a heart seeking after God

6. Come out from the **world** and come to **Christ**.

Experience life in Christ the way it was meant to be. Experience forgiveness, grace, mercy, love … all because you understand, believe and are willing to come to God on His terms.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. **Let not your hearts be troubled**, neither let them be afraid. John 14:27