

Title: “*The Apologetics of Babylon*”

Sub-Title: “*The Time of Decision is Today*”

Introduction: It was August 3rd, 1981 when then, President Ronald Reagan, gave fair warning to the 11,345 air traffic controllers that they had forty-eight hours to report back to work or they would be terminated. As Federal employees they were not allowed to go on strike. The air traffic controllers had broken the law by striking, and when they refused to report for work two days later President Reagan fired every one of these air traffic controllers.

When Isaiah predicted the fall of Babylon and the judgement of God's people God was doing the same thing as President Reagan had done. God gave the Law to His people. God had sent a prophet, Isaiah in order to give fair warning to God's people that they would have plenty of time to do the right thing. So those that refuse to honor the Law of God and follow His ways judgement will come to each and every one. Meanwhile, God is a moral

EXCELLENT WAY MINISTRIES
Knight's Notes # 21: - Dr. Andrew Knight

and righteous God. God loves His people, and He always acts in holiness and righteousness toward mankind.

God has made each of us a free moral agent. We have free will to choose God and His ways, or to reject Him and His ways. God will not force Himself on anyone. God is a fair and merciful God, and extremely patient. God has given mankind fair warning. The Day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night. The judgment of God will be swift and severe.

Just the other day, in Southern California, they had a 6.4 earth quake. This was the first earth quake in over twenty years. This earth quake came suddenly and without notice. Of course those that have lived in California for and length of time know the eminent threat of earth quakes. And so it is with the Day of the Lord. As Christians we know that the Lord's return is eminent. For unbeliever's this same reality is written in nature. That is to say, the Creation tells everyone that there is a Creator. Not one person can say at the Day of the Lord that they did not know, or that they were not warned.

EXCELLENT WAY MINISTRIES
Knight's Notes # 21: - Dr. Andrew Knight

Noah preached for 120 years and warned the people about the coming flood. Now prior to the flood the earth had a canopy over it. Because of this the earth watered itself from the ground and not from rain. No one had ever seen rain before, but then again, in Isaiah's day no one had yet seen the promised Messiah. Noah acted by faith in Genesis 7:7 "And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood." Eight of them believed God, while the rest of the world died because of unbelief. Gen. 7:21 "And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man:"

We discussed watching how God deals with mankind in previous times and how these biblical examples are assurances of how we can expect God to deal with us in our times, and in our lives. We can also of course see times in our own lives and those around us how God deal in those situations. These firsthand accounts and testimonies give each one of us assurances today.

I. The day of the Lord is near.

A. **Vs. 6.** “Howl ye; for the day of the LORD is at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty.”

1. The Lord has told us that He is coming back.

2. The Lord is a moral, righteous, and holy God.

3. The Lord promises to bring judgement.

B. **Vs. 7-8.** “Therefore shall all hands be faint, and every man's heart shall melt: And they shall be afraid: pangs and sorrows shall take hold of them; they shall be in pain as a woman that travaileth: they shall be amazed one at another; their faces shall be as flames.”

1. To face the Lord's judgement may cause heart failure.
2. Fear will be on those that the Lord judges.
3. The coming judgement will cause pain, like birthing pangs.
4. The come judgement will come on them like birthing pangs.

II. The day of the Lord will punish the world.

A. **Vs. 11** “And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible.”

1. For evil committed.
2. For sins committed.
3. For arrogant pride.
4. For high mindedness.

III. The day of the Lord and the fall of Babylon.

A. **Vs.12-13** I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir. Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall remove out of her place, in the wrath of the LORD of hosts, and in the day of his fierce anger.”

1. God highly values mankind.
2. God's judgment will shake the Earth.
3. God's anger will be righteous anger.
4. God is holy, moral, and pure.

IV. The fall of Babylon and the glory of Israel.

A. Isaiah Vs. 19-20 “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.”

1. Babylon is both a reference to the world system and an actual ancient city.
2. Babylon is a picture the unbelieving world.
3. Babylon to its south is the Garden of Eden.
4. This region is referred to as the cradle of civilization.
5. Babylon was once a wealthy and powerful nation, in particularly under King Nebuchadnezzar.
6. God likens the fall of Babylon to the fall of Sodom and Gomorrah.
7. Iraq today is a fallen nation that in current times has been ravished by war and terrorist.

- B. Rev. 14:8** “And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.”
- C. Rev. 16:19** “And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath.”
- D. Rev. 17:5** “And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.”
- E. Rev. 18:2** “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.”

F. **Rev. 18: 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.”

G. **Rev. 18:21** “And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.”

1. The day of the Lord will judge the immorality of the lost world.
2. John wrote about the wrath of God's anger.
3. Babylon shows that no city is too great to not be judged by the Lord, of too great that it will not fall.

4. John referred to Babylon as the habitation of devils.
5. John stated that Babylon would be judged in one hour.
6. John further prophesied that Babylon will fall to the extent that it would be completely gone.

Apologetic # 1: The truth claim that the judgement of God is near has been illustrated, first by the fairness and the moral character of God with the account of President Reagan firing air traffic controllers. The nearness of God's judgement was also illustrated by the eminence of earth quakes in Southern California. The nearness of God's judgement was also illustrated by Noah and the Flood. With the suddenness of all these examples, and the character of God, the prophecy of future judgement from God is absolutely certain.

Apologetic #2: Scripture gives many examples of the severity of God's judgement. As mentioned the Flood where every person lost their lives except for the eight people on the Ark. Furthermore the entire world population at the time died. This is an example of how God dealt with mankind then and how one can expect God to deal with mankind on the day of the Lord. No one will escape the judgement of God. No one.

Apologetic # 3: The fall of Babylon in 587 BC and the prophecy of John to the complete destruction of Babylon in the day of the Lord demonstrate the seriousness that should be applied to God's fore warning and promise to judge the world. For anyone to deny or pretend God's wrath will not judge the world they would have to ignore the destruction of Babylon in 587 BC, they would have to ignore the judgement and destruction of Sodom and Gomorra. And the fall of Rome must be ignored. One can ignore all the biblical and world events of fallen nations, but that will not change the day of the Lord.

Applications:

1. To begin your personal relationship with Jesus Christ call right now!
2. Download Knight's Notes on: Excellent Way.tv.
3. Read Isaiah chapter fourteen before we get together again.
4. Invite me to come and give an apologetic message for your church people.
5. Share www.ExcellentWay.tv on you social media.
6. Subscribe to our YouTube channel, Dr. Andrew Knight, and share the videos with everyone.

Where we began:

- We began with the eminence of the Day of the Lord.
- We discussed the severity of God's punishment for a world that rejects Him.
- We talked in detail about the predicted fall of Babylon.
- We also discussed how Israel will shine as Babylon falls.
- As a reminder the Lord refers to His people as Jews after the fall of Babylon, and no longer referred to as Hebrews.

EXCELLENT WAY MINISTRIES
Knight's Notes # 21: - Dr. Andrew Knight

Next time:

- We will look at the triumph of Israel in Isaiah chapter fourteen.
- We will see the account of Saint Michael and his discharge from heaven.
- We will make application of Isaiah chapter fourteen to apologetics.