CHAPTER TWELVE

ESCAPE TO ZION

January 10, 1990 - The angel of the white horse cried:

"Run, run from the daughter of wickedness. The time is at an end. Judgment is sure. Come out of her my people; come out of Babylon. Don't mourn the loss; but run, run from the fallen daughter of wickedness. Babylon is falling. Come out of her my people - Babylon is falling!"

January 25, 1990 - I saw a great city - Babylon, a city hidden in darkness. Out of the midst of Babylon arose a great tower.

Then the messenger angel said," This is the great Babylon - the tower you see is Babel." Then he cried," Babel is the seat of world governments and Babylon, its hiding place -Mystery Babylon, the empowering spirit, It must fall; it must come down. Babylon will fall!"

Ho! Escape to Zion, you who dwell with the daughter of Babylon! (Zechariah 2:7 Amp.)

I then heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, so that you may not share in her sins neither participate in her plagues." (Revelation 18:4 Amp.)

In the chapter "Babylon is Falling", I share on the necessity of breaking our dependency upon the world's financial system. It is not an exhortation to quit relating to the world's financial system as that would be impossible. We must, however, break with our emotional dependence upon it and begin to shift that dependence to the Lord. I also emphasized that we must get out of debt.

In this chapter, I will share another fact of leaving Babylon that we must consider! This area is perhaps even more important!

~FLEE BABYLON~

But far be it for me to glory [in anything or anyone] except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Messiah, through Whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world! (Galatians 6:14 Amp.)

We live *in* and must use the things of the world. However, we are not to live in sympathy with or be assimilated into the ways or the spirit of the world. We are to totally

abort the world from our soul. This is the only abortion, by the way, that is legal in the eyes of God.

Paul further stated:

It [grace]* has trained us to reject and renounce all ungodliness (irreligion) and worldly (passionate) desires, to live discreet (temperate, self-controlled), upright, devout (spiritually whole) lives in this present world. (Titus 2:12 Amp.) (*Emphasis author's)

And further:

So kill (deaden, deprive of power) the evil desire lurking in your members those animal impulses and all that is earthly in you that is employed in sin: sexual vice, impurity, sensual appetites, unholy desires, and all greed and covetousness, for that is idolatry [the defying of self and other created things instead of God]. (Col. 3:5 Amp.)

What is he saying? We are to totally reject from our hearts the rudiments of the world. (Col. 2:8 Amp.) What are the rudiments?- sexual vice, impurity, sensual appetites, unholy desires, and all greed and covetousness. This is true although we are still living in the world and with its people. The central import, then, is that of the heart. The apostle John simply referred to the whole dynamics as the "*lust of the flesh, pride of life, and lust of the eyes*". Simplifying it still further, it is the life of the sinful nature, which we must abort. That is the faculty in man, which compels him toward the loving servitude to sin. Paul also called it the "law of sin and death."

Although we live in the world, we must abandon the love of sin that clearly rules its people. This task may seem to the average believer an impossible challenge. Yet, if the Christian will take the challenge double yoked with the Holy Spirit, it is achievable.

The spirit of Babylon is Satan's kingdom. It is the spirit of rebellion to God, the spirit of lawlessness in revolt against His righteous government. To continue to embrace the world is to cherish that very antichrist government that so craftily lays its snares for our souls. We must turn from all passion that steals the soul, however seductively, from the humble and joyous submission to the life of the Cross. A self-emptying life in total devotion to our Lord is the way we must continually live.

That means saying no to anger, resentment, jealousy, covetousness, greed, drunkenness, revelry, adultery, and so on. Choosing instead, to live in love, holiness, purity, self-sacrifice, etc. All this can be done through the power and enablement of the Holy Spirit, making the manifested crucifixion of our sinful nature the ultimate goal.

Babylon first wins through subtlety, then cleverly captivates, as one who is provocative and demanding, but in the end requires total allegiance. Those who are dwelling in

cohabitation with Babylon, loving its ways, will fall with it. Hence, the cry - run into Zion! Christians must overcome Babylon's tantalizing pull and run headlong into Christ, submitting with their hearts to the holy and righteous government of the Spirit of the Church.

~The Worth of Your Soul~

So valuable is the human soul that only the blood of Christ could cover the ransom. No amount of jewels or power, not even the amassed wealth of an entire nation could pay the price. Again, only our Lord's holy and perfect blood could pay the price.

The Lord, having placed such a high value on our soul, deemed it equitable, even necessary, to sacrifice the life of His dear Son to redeem it.

Oh, if only we could see the value of our souls as He does. We would ever crave that our souls be filled with His holiness, desiring above all else His gracious saturation of our poverty stricken souls with the richness of His majestic holiness. In being thus filled, we would experience the completeness that holiness brings to the soul.

"The ransom of a life is too costly and [the price one can pay] can never suffice". (Psalms 48:8)

Answering to this reality, Paul penned:

However, we possess this precious treasure [the divine light of the Gospel] in [frail, human] vessels of earth, that the grandeur and exceeding greatness of the power may be shown to be of God and not from ourselves. (2 Cor. 4:7 Amp.)

God, once again, put His stamp of approval upon the creation, whom He called man, when He put His Holy Spirit, in these frail human vessels. No amount of riches, possessions, fame, or power could ever ennoble us as Christ has already done. He lifted us higher than any station in life could, even higher than positions of an earthly king, president, or chancellor.

Therefore, to take the richness of that heavenly glory, the dignity of our holy souls, and run it through the mire of the decadent world, participating in its ignoble ways, is a travesty to the honor we have been given as well as dishonoring the One who bought our souls.

For one to truly understand that reality is to enter into a holy revolution on behalf of one's own soul. At last, having his eyes open to the hope of his own calling, there seems no other alternative but to lead others to the same powerful end.

To turn from the Babylonian life and be crucified to the world is to live above the curse, experientially as Christ did. It is to walk in full manifested power, having gained full

victory over sin, the world and the devil. It is to be one who has "overcome", to whom Christ said he would give all things. It is to live in an experiential fullness of the revelation of Jesus Chris, drinking in the depths of God.

It is freedom from driving passions, destructive habits, and a life being secretly controlled by the enemy of our souls. It is a life of increasing victories, of wisdom and expanding influence for the good of others. It is a life, which gives the power to see through the storm, leading one's steps safely through the maze of obstacles to fruitfulness on the other side. It is all things good and wise with nothing faulty or bad.

Church, turn from the ways of sin and self; sellout to the holy and wise ways of Christ. Run from the man of sin, and into the strength of righteousness.

To those who heed this call, the promise is given:

So whoever cleanses himself [from what is ignoble and unclean] - who separates himself from contact with contaminating and corrupting influences will [then himself] be a vessel set apart and useful for honorable and noble purposes, consecrated and profitable to the Master, fit and ready for any good work. (2 Timothy 2:21Amp.)

- CHURCH, PREPARE -