

This article is from the "Among Friends" section of the Church of God Big Sandy's website, churchofgodbigsandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of March 12, 2022.

# **By Dave Havir**

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I gave a presentation titled "Revelation 18." I want to share some of my comments in this short article.

# Reason for topic

It is reasonable for a person to wonder why I chose this topic at this time. The answer is threefold.

First, I chose this topic as an opportunity to make some observations about problems that are occurring around the world.

Second, I used Revelation 18 to discuss four main ideas.

- Notice the ultimate enemy.
- Notice the sin of Babylon.
- Notice the reaction of the merchants.
- Focus upon the main instruction about Christian living.

Third, I wanted to encourage my friends.

### **Brief outline**

I mentioned that this chapter can be viewed in three parts.

- Revelation 18:1-3
- Revelation 18:4-20
- Revelation 18:21-24

### Ultimate enemy

*Revelation 18:2—*"And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, 'Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! "

### Sin of Babylon

*Revelation 18:3*—"For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury."

*Revelation 18:23—*". . . For your merchants were the great men of the earth, for by your sorcery all the nations were deceived."

#### **Reaction of merchants**

*Revelation 18:11—*"And the merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her, for no one buys their merchandise anymore."

*Revelation 18:15—*"The merchants of these things, who became rich by her, will stand at a distance for fear of her torment, weeping and wailing."

# **Christian-living instruction**

*Revelation 18:4—*"And I heard another voice from heaven saying, 'Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues.' "