

A Brief Overview of Babylon's Involvement in the History of Israel & the World from Genesis to Revelation



* Abraham began his journey from Ur of the Chaldeans.

- (Genesis 11:31 ESV) Terah took Abram his son and Lot the son of Haran, his grandson, and Sarai his daughter-in-law, his son Abram's wife, and they went forth together from **Ur of the Chaldeans** to go into the land of Canaan, but when they came to Haran, they settled there.



* Hezekiah reveals the treasures of the kingdom to the Babylonian visitors.

- (Isaiah 39:1–2 ESV) At that time **Merodach-baladan the son of Baladan, king of Babylon**, sent envoys with letters and a present to Hezekiah, for he heard that he had been sick and had recovered. And Hezekiah welcomed them gladly. And he showed them his treasure house, the silver, the gold, the spices, the precious oil, his whole armory, all that was found in his storehouses. There was nothing in his house or in all his realm that Hezekiah did not show them.
- (Isaiah 39:5–6 ESV) Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, "Hear the word of the Lord of hosts: Behold, the days are coming, when all that is in your house ... **shall be carried to Babylon.** Nothing shall be left, says the Lord."

* Prophecy of God's judgment on Judah by the Babylonians.

- (Habakkuk 1:5-9 ESV) Look among the nations, and see; wonder and be astounded. For I am doing a work in your days that you would not believe if told. For behold, **I am raising up the Chaldeans, that bitter and hasty nation**, who march through the breadth of the earth, to seize dwellings not their own. They are dreaded and fearsome; their justice and dignity go forth from themselves. Their horses are swifter than leopards, more fierce than the evening wolves; their horsemen press proudly on. Their horsemen come from afar; they fly like an eagle swift to devour. They all come for violence, all their faces forward. They gather captives like sand.



* Nebuchadnezzar's forces take Daniel and his companions captive Babylonia c. 605 BC.

- (Daniel 1:1–4 ESV) In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, **Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon** came to Jerusalem and besieged it. And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the vessels of the house of God. And he brought them to the land of Shinar, to the house of his god, and placed the vessels in the treasury of his god. Then the king commanded Ashpenaz, his chief eunuch, to bring some of the people of Israel, both of the royal family and of the nobility, youths without blemish, of good appearance and skillful in all wisdom, endowed with knowledge, understanding learning, and competent to stand in the king's palace, and to teach them **the literature and language of the Chaldeans.**

* Daniel serves faithfully about 70 years through the fall of Babylon and into the reign of Darius the Mede c. 539 BC.

- (Daniel 5:30–6:3 ESV) **That very night Belshazzar the Chaldean king was killed. And Darius the Mede received the kingdom**, being about sixty-two years old. It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom 120 satraps, to be throughout the whole kingdom; and over them three high officials, of whom Daniel was one, to whom these satraps should give account, so that the king might suffer no loss. **Then this Daniel became distinguished above all the other high officials and satraps, because an excellent spirit was in him.** And the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom.



* Babylon continues prominent role in prophecy and history per Israel & entire world.

- (Revelation 14:8 ESV) Another angel, a second, followed, saying, **"Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great,** she who made all nations drink the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality."
- (Isaiah 21:9 ESV) And behold, here come riders, horsemen in pairs!" And he answered, **"Fallen, fallen is Babylon;** and all the carved images of her gods he has shattered to the ground."
- (Revelation 18:2 ESV) 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.
- (Jeremiah 51:54 ESV) **"A voice! A cry from Babylon!** The noise of great destruction from the land of the Chaldeans!