

From the Handbook for Business, the Bible

7: Come out of her, my people

I don't want to spoil your cornflakes but there is a system operating behind-the-scenes that is having a massive impact on all of us; we need to be alert because Jesus warned us about it.

So, let's continue the **den-of-thieves** theme, the description of an ancient system that controls economies, politics & marketplaces, also known as 'commercial Babylon' in **Revelation 18**.

By simply understanding it exists and recognising its hidden Godless strategies, you can avoid becoming or remaining enslaved as so many people have been, especially in business.

The Bible refers to this system as 'Babylon' but what does it actually mean?

In the O/T, 'Babylon' means CONFUSION; in the N/T it means TYRANNY & CORRUPTION, underpinning a system owned & controlled by the 'merchants of the earth' - **Revelation 18:11**

Read any daily paper and see its strategies playing out, virtually on every page...

...Remember the highrise cladding scam where builders knowingly used a cheap, but highly flammable, substitute product? Then a building did catch fire in Melbourne

...What about the Sydney towers evacuated due to massive structural defects caused by cheap, sub-standard steel & concrete; the builders knew what they were doing

...And the Banking Royal Commission uncovered widespread forging of customer signatures on dodgy investment products! Did anyone go to jail? Of course not, Babylon protects itself.

This behaviour is not just in big business! Small business sector also rips off of their customers in so many ways; you have surely experienced it, maybe without realising, for example...

- * The pressure to join the cash-in-hand economy
- * The guarantee or refund you tried to claim on and got nowhere
- * The terrible quality, built-in-obsolence & shrinkflation of so many products today
- * And how often has your retailer or tradie over-promised and under-delivered?

Can we link this phenomenon back to the Handbook?

Definitely, in two key areas...

First, Jesus warned His followers to "*come out of her (i.e., Babylon) my people*" - **Revelation 18:4**

- * **Come out** means, not allowing our hearts & minds to be trapped in Babylon; in the den
- * Then we must run our businesses 100% according to the Master's Handbook
- * And remember, this world is our assignment, not our home so, don't get too comfortable

Second, He warned, "*Ye cannot serve two masters, God and Mammon*" - **Matthew 6:24**

- * This is a binary choice: all-or-nothing there is no foot-in-each-camp; no half-and-half
- * Anyone choosing to serve Mammon will be a slave, always wanting, never satisfied

Counsel: Coming out of Babylon will lead to many benefits & opportunities:

- * These can only be seen when you come out of the darkness, into the His light
- * You will be encouraged by the promises Jesus makes - e.g., read **Matthew 6**
- * If you focus on loving & serving customers, the \$ reward will surely follow.

We will continue this post-Babylon theme in coming weeks; listen in and you will be blessed.