

## Peter in Babylon

### Introduction

This site<sup>1</sup>, while designating Peter as the first pope and bishop of Rome, has informative remarks about Peter's whereabouts during his lifetime and, by implication, denies that Peter was actually referring to Rome in 1 Peter 5:13 **The church that is at Babylon, elected together with you, saluteth you; and so doth Marcus my son.** See these excerpts.

*Pope Saint Peter [was] the Prince of the Apostles of Jesus Christ and regarded as the first pope in history...*

*Though Peter was just one of the apostles, he became the first leader of the Christian Church and the original pope...some consider Peter the Bishop of Rome...*

*As the Bishop of Rome, Peter is also recognized as the founder of the Church...*

*Peter left Jerusalem, but it is not said where he went. Certainly not to Rome, where there are no traces of his presence before the last years of his life...*

*From that Epistle [1 Peter], however, it is to be inferred that towards the end of his life, St. Peter either visited, or resided for some time at Babylon, which at that time, and for some hundreds of years afterwards was a chief seat of Jewish culture. This of course depends upon the assumption, which on the whole seems most probable, that the word Babylon is not used as a mystic designation of Rome, but as a proper name...*

That site, as indicated, declares Peter to have been the first pope and resident in Rome as bishop of Rome in the last years of his life but declares further that **Babylon** 1 Peter 5:13 is not Rome but historic 1<sup>st</sup> century AD Babylon. This site<sup>2</sup> is however much more explicit. It reveals the lack of historical evidence for Peter ever having been in Rome, let alone bishop of Rome and the first pope. The site strongly implies that application of the name **Babylon** 1 Peter 5:13 to Rome is a Catholic contrivance, unsupported by Biblical and historical evidence, to justify identifying Peter in Rome as bishop of Rome and having primacy over the Church as the first pope. Colouration and underlinings are in the source.

*The Roman Catholic Church sees Peter as the first pope upon whom God had chosen to build His church ([Matthew 16:18](#)). It holds that he had authority (primacy) over the other apostles. The Roman Catholic Church maintains that sometime after the recorded events of the book of Acts, the Apostle Peter became the first bishop of Rome, and that the Roman bishop was accepted by the early church as the central authority among all of the churches. It teaches that God passed Peter's apostolic authority to those who later filled his seat as bishop of Rome. This teaching that God passed on Peter's apostolic authority to the subsequent bishops is referred to as "apostolic succession"...*

*But while Peter was central in the early spread of the gospel (part of the meaning behind [Matthew 16:18-19](#)), the teaching of Scripture, taken in context, nowhere declares that he was in authority over the other apostles, or over the church (having primacy). See [Acts 15:1-23](#); [Galatians 2:1-14](#); and [1 Peter 5:1-5](#). Nor is it ever taught in Scripture that the bishop of Rome, or any other bishop, was to have primacy over the church. Scripture does not even explicitly record Peter ever being in Rome. Rather there is only one reference in Scripture of Peter writing from "Babylon," a name sometimes applied to Rome ([1 Peter 5:13](#)). Primarily upon this and the historical rise of the influence of the Bishop of Rome come the Roman Catholic Church's teaching of the primacy of the bishop of Rome. However, Scripture shows that Peter's authority was shared by the other apostles ([Ephesians 2:19-20](#)), and the "loosing and binding" authority attributed to him was likewise shared by the local churches, not just their church leaders (see [Matthew 18:15-19](#); [1 Corinthians 5:1-13](#); [2 Corinthians 13:10](#); [Titus 2:15](#); [3:10-11](#)).*



Peter the apostle  
artist's impression

See Dr Ruckman's analyses<sup>3</sup> that show that Peter was never in Rome, never bishop of Rome and that **Babylon** 1 Peter 5:13 is not Rome but historic 1<sup>st</sup> century AD Babylon. Parts of this work are based on Dr Ruckman's analyses.

### *Peter not in Rome, Biblical and Historical Evidence*

Peter was never in Rome because Paul never mentioned him with the saints in Rome, Romans 1:7, that Paul greeted by name in Romans 16:5-15.

Where Paul needed to make reference to Cephas/Peter, he did so, 1 Corinthians 1:12, 3:22, 9:5, 15:5, Galatians 1:18, 2:7, 8, 9, 11, 14.

Peter's reference to **Babylon** 1 Peter 5:13 is therefore to historic Babylon as it existed in the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD, not Rome.

Secular history<sup>4</sup> states that Babylon became insignificant as a city from 275 BC and was subject to a second Persian Empire as a province of that empire until 650 AD.

That doesn't fit with 1<sup>st</sup> century AD Rome.

### *New Testament Cities*

Moreover, **the new testament** 2 Corinthians 3:6 refers to certain locations as cities during the Lord's time on earth and afterwards during the time of the Book of Acts that certainly did not match the grandeur of Rome at the time. Yet the New Testament still refers to them as cities.

If **Babylon** 1 Peter 5:13 was Rome, it should therefore be called a city, certainly to distinguish it from the insignificant location under renewed Persian rule but it wasn't. **Babylon** 1 Peter 5:13 is therefore historic 1<sup>st</sup> century AD Babylon, not Rome. The cities mentioned in the New Testament as such are:

<b>Nazareth</b> Matthew 2:23	<b>Joppa</b> Acts 11:5	<b>Lystra, Derbe</b> Acts 14:6
<b>Jerusalem</b> Matthew 4:5, 5:35	<b>Iconium</b> Acts 14:1, 4	<b>Thyatira</b> Acts 16:14
<b>Chorazin, Bethsaida, Capernaum</b> Matthew 11:20, 21, 23	<b>Philippi</b> Acts 16:12	<b>Athens</b> Acts 17:16
<b>Nain</b> Luke 7:11	<b>Thessalonica</b> Acts 17:1, 5	<b>Ephesus</b> Acts 19:1, 29, 35
<b>Arimathaea</b> Luke 23:51	<b>Corinth</b> Acts 18:1, 10	<b>Myra</b> Acts 27:5
<b>Sychar</b> John 4:5	<b>Tarsus</b> Acts 21:29	<b>Damascus</b> 2 Corinthians 11:32
<b>Antioch in Pisidia</b> Acts 13:14, 44	<b>Lasea</b> Acts 27:8	

That list reveals 23 named cities in **the new testament** 2 Corinthians 3:6, none of them anywhere near as grand as Rome at the time. **Babylon** 1 Peter 5:13 therefore does not match 1<sup>st</sup> century AD Rome.

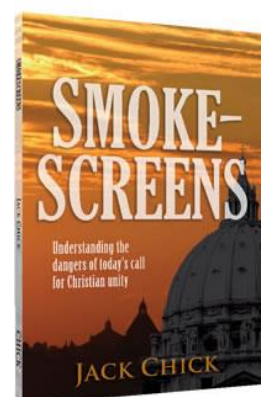
It should be noted that the list emerges not from any kind of contrivance to wrest the scripture 2 Peter 3:16 but from correct application<sup>5</sup> of 1 Corinthians 2:13 **Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.**

### *Babylon and Rome in Prophecy*

The Book of Revelation lists references to Babylon and Rome in prophecy and they are as follows. They clearly don't apply to an insignificant city and Revelation 17:6 **And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration** cannot apply to pagan Rome. See the work by Brother Chick<sup>6</sup>.

Revelation 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.**

Revelation 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.**



Revelation 17:5 **And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.**

Revelation 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.**

Revelation 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.**

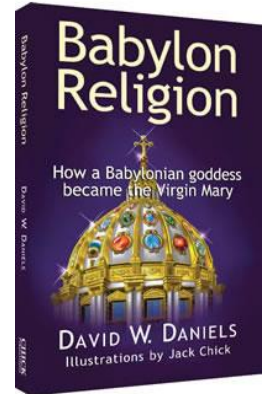
Revelation 18:21 **And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.**

Inspection of those scriptures reveals that, in contrast to **Babylon** 1 Peter 5:13 which in the context has no further descriptors as a city, where Babylon is called **that great city Babylon** Revelation 18:10, 21, she is indeed Roman Catholicism, the present day manifestation of the ancient Babylonian religion, disguised to look 'Christian.' See this work by Brother Daniels<sup>7</sup> and note this overview.

*Combining research from anthropology, archaeology, linguistics, art history, mythology and even occultic sources, you will see, in plain language, how Satan's ancient religion of Babylon still lives today as modern Roman Catholicism – the most powerful religious and secular force on [earth].*

#### **Conclusion<sup>8</sup>**

Today's believer can look forward to the soon destruction of **that great city Babylon** Revelation 18:10, 21 along with Roman Catholicism after which **The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever** Revelation 11:15:



**References**

All web references were current at the time of writing. Web reference and author are given as appropriate the first time a particular work is cited. Only the work itself is cited in subsequent references.

See [shop.timefortruth.co.uk/ruckman.html](http://shop.timefortruth.co.uk/ruckman.html) for Dr Ruckman's books.

<sup>1</sup> [popehistory.com/popes/pope-st-peter/](http://popehistory.com/popes/pope-st-peter/) *Pope St. Peter*

<sup>2</sup> [www.gotquestions.org/Peter-first-pope.html](http://www.gotquestions.org/Peter-first-pope.html) *Was Saint Peter the first pope?*

<sup>3</sup> [store.kjv1611.org/](http://store.kjv1611.org/)

*Ruckman Reference Bible* pp 1484, 1628

*The Books of The General Epistles Volume 1* by Dr Peter S. Ruckman, pp 396-397

*The Corrupt Catholic Cult* by Dr Peter S. Ruckman, *Was Peter in Rome?* pp 39-48

<sup>4</sup> [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Babylon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Babylon) *Babylon 4.7 Renewed Persian rule*

<sup>5</sup> [www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/](http://www.timefortruth.co.uk/alan-oreilly/) *The KJB Quiz for Critics and Seven Bible Study Principles*

<sup>6</sup> [www.chick.com/](http://www.chick.com/) *Smokescreens* by Jack Chick

<sup>7</sup> [www.chick.com/](http://www.chick.com/) *Babylon Religion* by David W. Daniels

<sup>8</sup> [www.scripture-images.com/desktop-wallpaper/kjv/revelation-19-6-kjv-hd-wallpaper.php](http://www.scripture-images.com/desktop-wallpaper/kjv/revelation-19-6-kjv-hd-wallpaper.php)