

# **THE THREE OPPRESSORS IN CUR LIFE**

## **KEY TEXT**

**Isaiah 52:4 – “My people went down at the first into Egypt to sojourn there; and the Assyrian oppressed them without cause.”**

**Jeremiah 50:17- Israel is a hunted sheep driven away by lions. First the king of Assyria devoured him and now at last Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon has gnawed his bones.**

**Jeremiah 50:33 – Israel is oppressed.....all (Babylonians) who captured him have held him fast and refused to let him go.**

We all carry struggles. But the Bible shows us that behind many of them are three familiar oppressors – **BONDAGE** that traps us; **PRESSURE** that crushes us and **TIES** that pull us away from God.

Throughout Israel's history, three great empires rose to oppress her — Egypt, Assyria, and Babylon.

Our three key texts highlighted their names.

Each of these was more than a political oppressor; they were **SPIRITUAL SYMBOLS** of the bondage of sin and the human heart's rebellion against God.

But Christ came to fulfill the story — to deliver His people from all three oppressors and bring them into the liberty of the sons of God.

This morning I would like to share a sermon entitled, “THE THREE OPPRESSORS IN OUR LIFE.”

The outline of my sermon will be as follows:

- The Definition of “Oppression” and “Oppressor”
- Our First Oppressor – Egypt
- Our Second Oppressor – Assyria
- Our Third Oppressor – Babylon
- Christ Our Total Deliverer

## I. THE DEFINITION OF “OPPRESSION” AND “OPPRESSOR”

### *Definition of “Oppression”*

In Scripture, the *literal definition* of **oppression** refers to:

- Unjust pressure
- Cruel treatment
- Exploitation of the weak
- Violation of justice
- Restriction of freedom.

### *Definition of “Oppressor”*

An **oppressor** is one who:

- Abuses power

- Uses authority for selfish gain
- Controls, crushes or enslaves
- Violates justice
- Destroys dignity

### *What Oppression Looks Like Biblically*

#### *A. Social Oppression*

- Exploiting the poor
- Withholding wages
- Using political or economic power unjustly

**Amos 4:1 -Hear this word, you cows of Bashan, who are in the mountain of Samaria, who oppress the poor, who crush the needy....”**

#### *B. Emotional Oppression*

- Crushing someone's spirit
- Humiliation or manipulation

**Proverbs 15:13 – A broken spirit dries up the bone.**

#### *C. Spiritual Oppression*

- Bondage to sin

- Darkness, deception
- Demonic harassment

**Acts 10:38 – Jesus frees the “oppressed by the devil”.**

#### ***D. Religious Oppression***

- Legalism
- False teaching
- Abusive spiritual leadership

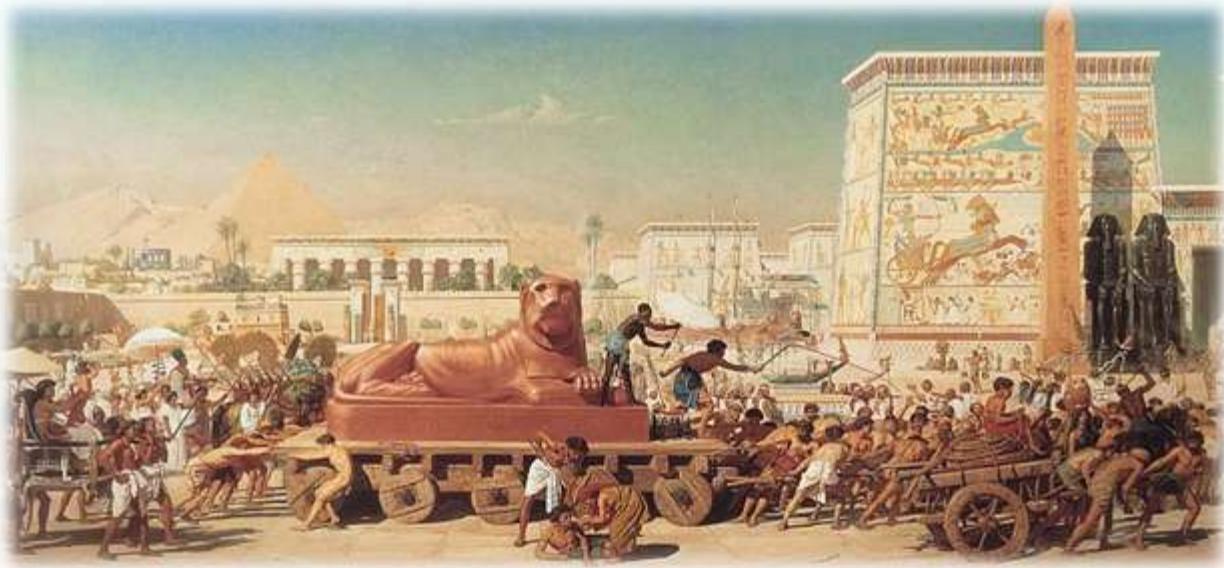
**Matthew 23:4 – The Pharisees put “heavy burdens.....hard to bear.”**

In our life, we face oppression of every kind as defined and described above. But behind our oppression are the spirits of the same oppressors who oppressed Israel in the past.

Let's unpack them today.

## **II. OUR FIRST OPPRESSOR – EGYPT**

Our first oppressor is Egypt which represents



## **BONDAGE TO SIN AND THE FLESH**

### ***Historical Background***

Egypt enslaved Israel for 400 years. Israel toiled under Pharaoh's cruel taskmasters. The taskmasters used fear, heavy labor and cruelty to control them, turning a place of refuge into a house of bondage. God delivered the children of Israel through the blood of the lamb and the Red Sea.

### ***Spiritual Symbolism***

Egypt represents the **WORLD SYSTEM AND BONDAGE TO SIN AND THE FLESH**.

It is the place where God's people live under Pharaoh's control – serving **WITHOUT FREEDOM, IDENTITY OR REST.**

Egypt says, ***“Stay here, eat our food, but serve our idols.”***

Spiritually....

- Pharaoh = Satan (the false system and **bondage to sin and the flesh**)
- Brick-making = slavery to sin and **performance-driven religion**
- Egypt's food = the **carnal appetites** that draw us back (**Number 11:5**).

In short, Egypt symbolizes the **LIFE OF THE FLESH – TRYING TO LIVE BY HUMAN EFFORT AND NOT BY GOD'S SPIRIT.**

***Examples of the Egyptian Spirit at Work Today***  
(Egyptian spirit = Bondage + Sin in the Flesh)

### ***1. Bondage to Addictive Sin***

- Habitual pornography that a person keeps going back to despite guilt.
- Secret alcohol or substance dependence used to numb pain.
- Gambling that destroys finances but feels impossible to stop.

Egypt whispers: ***“You can’t get out. This is who you are.”***

### ***2. Cycles of Anger, Rage or Uncontrolled Reactions***

- Exploding in anger at loved ones and feeling ashamed afterward.
- Constant irritability triggered by small things.
- Revengeful thoughts that dominate the mind.

Egypt's tactic: ***Enslave you to emotional reactions.***

### ***3. Bondage to Fear and Anxiety***

- Fear of the future.
- Anxiety that keeps you from stepping into God's calling

- Fear of people's opinions (people-pleasing bondage).

Egypt shouts: ***“Stay in the cage. Safety is slavery.”***

#### ***4. Sexual Bondages in the Flesh***

- Falling into cycles of immorality or lust.
- Emotional affairs you can't break off
- Living from desire instead of conviction.

Egypt spirit: ***Satisfies the flesh to keep the soul captive.***

#### ***5. Bondage to Shame and Condemnation***

- Feeling forever unworthy to pray, serve or receive love.
- Living under labels: ***“Failure.... broken.... helpless.”***
- Constant self-punishment for past sins.

Egypt keeps people under Pharaoh's whip - ***“You'll never be free.”***

**Questions:** Are you in any bondage listed above? Are you still living in bondage to your carnal nature or in the flesh? If so, you are being oppressed by the spirit of Egypt.

### ***Christocentric Fulfillment***

How did Christ deliver us from **bondage and sin in the flesh?**

How did Christ fulfill it?

- **The Passover Lamb** — In Exodus, deliverance came through the blood of the lamb on the doorposts.
  - Jesus is the **True Passover Lamb (John 1:29; 1 Cor 5:7).**
  - His blood marks our lives so that **death and judgment pass over us.**
- **The Red Sea**— Israel crossed through the waters, leaving Egypt behind forever.



→ That's a picture of **BAPTISM (Romans 6:4)** — dying to the old life and rising to new life in Christ.

### *Baptism in the Red Sea*

**1 Corinthians 10:1-2** — “All were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea.”

**What does the baptism in the Red Sea meant for Israel?**

- *It marked their exit from slavery*  
-crossing the Red Sea separated them from Egypt forever.

- *It marked their entrance into a new identity*

-They were no longer **Pharaoh's slaves** – but **God's people**, following Moses as God's appointed leader.

- *It was a public, unavoidable crossing*

-There was no middle ground: cross through or stay in slavery.

- *It involved both water and Spirit*

Sea = water

Cloud = Spirit

- A beautiful picture of **WATER BAPTISM + HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM.**

Therefore, the **Red Sea Baptism** symbolizes:

- *Death of the Old Life*

- The waters closed behind them – Egypt could not follow. Their past was buried.

- *Deliverance from their oppressor*

-The Red Sea destroyed what once enslaved them (the Egyptian army).

- *Passing into New Covenant Life*

-They began their journey with God, led by the cloud and fed by manna.

### Application:

- *Baptism marks a break from the Old Master*

Just as Israel left Pharaoh, **BAPTISM** declares: “*I am no longer under the bondage of sin, fear, shame or Satan.*”

Your past can pursue you, but it **CANNOT OWN YOU.**

- *Baptism is a public crossing point*

Israel could **NOT** stay **HALF IN, HALF OUT.**

Likewise, baptism is **OUR PUBLIC DECLARATION:** “*I cross over. I belong to Jesus now.*”

It is **DECISIVE. VISIBLE. UNASHAMED.**

- *Baptism pictures the death of the old life.*

The Red Sea buried Egypt behind Israel.

**Baptism says: “My old life, my old identity, my old chains are buried with Christ.”**

**If God drowned your past, don’t resurrect it.**

- *Baptism is entrance into a new journey with God.*

**Israel came out of the water into:**

- God’s presence
- God’s leading
- God’s provision
- God’s promise

**You don’t just leave something; you are LED INTO SOMETHING.**

- *Baptism is victory over spiritual oppression*

**Pharaoh = the oppressor**

**The Red Sea =the victory God gives**

**Baptism declares: “My Pharaoh has been defeated. My Red Sea has closed.”**

- *Baptism is both water and Spirit*

As they passed under **WATER AND CLOUD**, so believers receive:

- **Water baptism** (symbol of death, burial and resurrection)

(Have you taken this public step of WATER BAPTISM?)

- **Spirit baptism** (His presence guiding and empowering)

(Have you been baptized with the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in another tongue?)

The Christian life requires both.

**Summary** - The **RED-SEA BAPTISM** shows that in Christ, our old bondage is broken, our past is buried, and we are led into a new life under God's presence and power. Christ, **OUR GREATER MOSES**, **OUR GREATER DELIVERER**, has delivered us from our spiritual oppressor – EGYPT first by becoming the **PASSOVER LAMB** on the cross and second, by becoming **THE RED SEA** – burying our past bondages

and its flesh with its oppressors and sin through His death on the cross and emerging on the other side of the Red Sea as our Resurrected Lord – giving us **a new beginning, freedom and identity [the result for believers]**.

- **The wilderness journey**— God taught them to depend on Him daily.



→Jesus frees us from self-effort to live by the Spirit (Galatians 5:16–18).



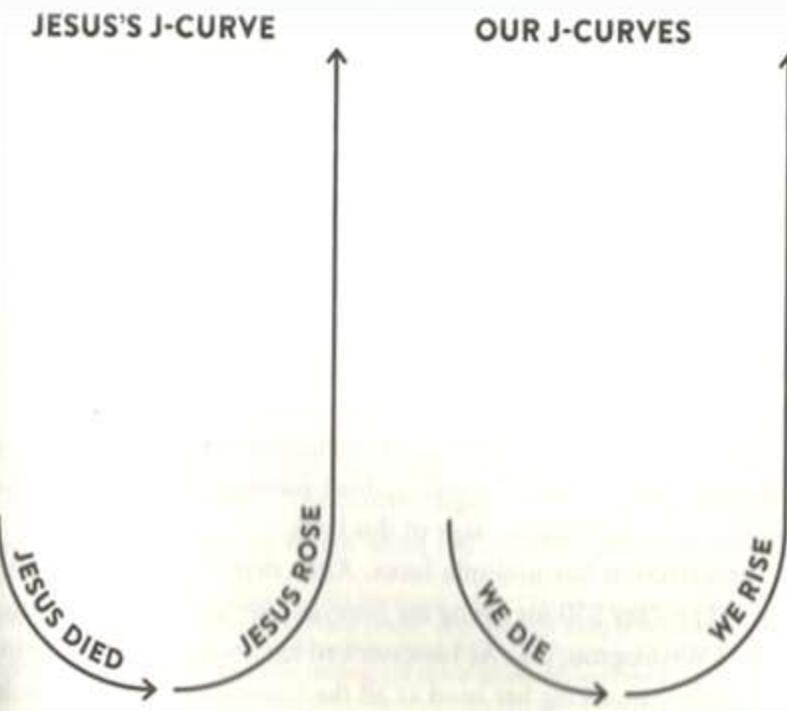
***In Christ, Egypt's hold is broken.***

We no longer serve Pharaoh (sin); we serve a new Master, Jesus, who gives **REST** to our souls (Romans 6:18).

***Christocentric Application***

- Egypt asks you to serve **without rest**; Christ gives you **rest in grace**.
- Egypt calls you to **earn acceptance**; Christ says, **“It is finished.”**

- Leave Egypt behind — crucify the flesh, and walk in the Spirit.



**“You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Myself.” (Exodus 19:4)**

### III. OUR SECOND OPPRESSOR – ASSYRIA

Our second oppressor is Assyria which represents **OPPRESSION THROUGH FEAR AND PRIDE**

## *Historical Background*

Assyria was a brutal empire that conquered the northern kingdom of Israel. They were known for **intimidation and terror**.

When the Assyrian army approached a city, **TERROR** arrived long before the soldiers did. Survivors of other battles whispered stories – how Assyrian kings skinned captives alive and hung the hides on city walls as warnings, how they gouged out eyes, cut off ears, or impaled rebels on tall stakes for the whole region to see. Their chariots rolled over bodies without slowing, their commanders collected heaps of severed heads as trophies and entire populations were chained by hooks in their noses or lips, dragged into exile like animals. To resist Assyria meant certain devastation; to surrender meant slavery. It was an empire built on **FEAR**; a kingdom that conquered not only by sword but by **CRUSHING THE HUMAN SPIRIT**.

The northern kingdom of Israel was conquered and led away by the Assyrians. The Assyrians was Israel's second most feared oppressor.

### *Spiritual Symbolism*

Assyria represents **FEAR, INTIMIDATION AND HUMAN PRIDE THAT EXALTS ITSELF AGAINST GOD.**

- It is the voice of *threat* — “Who can deliver you out of my hand?” (2 Kings 18:33).
- It represents *religious arrogance*, trusting in human strength rather than God’s covenant.
- It attacks your *peace, confidence and identity*— making you feel powerless.
- The Assyrian mindset is one of *control and manipulation*— keeping God’s people in fear of punishment or failure.

### *Examples of the Assyrian Spirit at Work*

(Assyrian spirit = Fear + Pride)

## **1. *Fear-Based Intimidation in the Mind***

- Constant thoughts of “*You will fail. You’re not enough.*”
- Imagining worst-case scenarios until faith collapses.
- Feeling overwhelmed by problems and pressure to give up.

Assyrian tactic: ***Crush the spirit through threats.***

## **2. *Controlling Fear in Relationships***

- Manipulating others through fear of rejection.
- Using silent treatment or anger to keep people in line.
- Fear of losing control causing panic and domination.

Assyrian spirit: ***Control through intimidation.***

## **3. *Pride That Refuses Humility or Repentance***

- “*I don’t need help. I can fix this myself.*”
- Avoiding confession because of image.

- Resisting correction even when obviously wrong.

Assyrian pride: *Self-exaltation that replaces dependence on God.*

#### *4. Paralyzing Fear That Blocks Obedience*

- Called by God but stuck because of “What if.....?”
- Afraid to step into ministry or opportunities.
- Always hesitating because of fear of failure or criticism.

Assyrian goal: *Immobilize you so you never take ground.*

#### *5. Pride in Success and Self-Sufficiency*

- Believing you achieved everything by your own strength.
- Giving yourself credit for breakthrough instead of God.
- Feeling superior to others because of positions or achievements.

Assyrian mindset: ***"I did this by my power."***

### ***6. Fear that Magnifies Problems***

- One small issue feels like a massive army.
- Problems look bigger than God.
- Losing sleep because threats look undefeatable.

Assyrian psychology: ***Overwhelm the heart with fear.***

### ***7. Pride That Looks Down on Others***

- Criticizing others' weaknesses.
- Laughing at those who struggle.
- Believing you are the “strong one” and others are beneath you.

Assyrian pride: ***Arrogance that mocks.***

### ***8. Fear of Failure Leading to Perfectionism***

- Trying to look perfect because you fear judgment.

- Driven by pressure instead of peace.
- Feeling like one mistake will destroy everything.

Assyrian fear: *Performance-based slavery*

### *9. Spiritual Intimidation*

- Believing God is disappointed with you.
- Feeling disqualified to pray or read Scripture.
- Thinking God won't help because you're not good enough.

Assyrian strategy: *Distort God's heart to crush yours.*

### *10. Pride That Pretends Strength While Hiding Weakness*

- Acting strong but secretly exhausted.
- Refusing to admit limitations.
- Using toughness to mask insecurity.

Assyrian deception: *Fake strength built on fear.*

Our key text in **Jeremiah 50:17** says that the Assyrians **DEVOURED** Israel. The word “**devoured**” implies **SUDDEN PRESSURE IN THE FORM OF VIOLENT OPPRESSION, OR SUDDEN ATTACK OR FEAR BASED DOMINATION THAT STRIKE YOUR LIFE.** In modern times, this takes the shape of a sudden crisis, anxiety attack, panic attack, spiritual intimidation or overwhelming pressure. **IT HITS YOU HARD FROM THE OUTSIDE.**

***In one sentence:***

The Assyrian spirit works wherever fear intimidates, pride inflates, and a believer feels pressured, overwhelmed, or driven to prove themselves instead of trusting God.

***Christocentric Fulfillment***

Christ faced the Assyrian spirit at the cross — the mocking voices, the false power, and the fear of death.

Isaiah said: “**His burden shall be taken away from your shoulder... and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing**” (Isa 10:27).

- Jesus is the Anointed One (Messiah) who destroys the yoke of fear.
- On the cross, He defeated every power that rules by fear (Col 2:15).
- He conquered fear by **perfect love** (1 John 4:18).  
Fear grows in insecurity, punishment mindset, shame, uncertainty, feeling unaccepted, feeling unworthy and anxiety about judgment.

But the **perfect love of God**, meaning the complete, mature, flawless love of God expressed in Jesus, casts out fear. How so? On the cross, Jesus removed the fear of punishment by being punished for us; He was not loved on the cross so we could be loved unconditionally; He faced death so we won't fear death; He bore the judgment of God so we won't be anxious about judgment.

- He disarmed principalities and powers (Col. 2:15).

- In the resurrection, He proclaimed: **“Do not be afraid” (Matt 28:10).**
- Through the Holy Spirit, we receive a new identity:  
**“God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind” (2 Tim 1:7).**

In Christ, Assyria's intimidation is broken. Christ became **THE YOKE** itself on the cross that was broken by death so that you could live in the power of His perfect love, **casting out the spirit of fear and living in confidence under the love and authority in the Spirit (Result for believers)**.

### ***Christocentric Application***

- When fear intimidates you, remember the **Lion of Judah** stands with you. He was crucified in weakness like a lamb but rose like the might of a **LION**. He protects, defends and rebukes the devourer –the Assyrian spirit (**Isaiah 37:35**).

- Do not bow to human power; stand in Christ's victory.
- Let His love silence your Assyrian — that inner voice of pride or terror.

**“The Lord will break the Assyrian in His land”**  
**(Isaiah 14:25).**

#### **IV. OUR THIRD OPPRESSOR – BABYLON**

Our third oppressor is Babylon and it represents  
**CAPTIVITY TO CONFUSION AND IDOLATRY.**

##### ***Historical Background***

Babylon destroyed Jerusalem and took Judah into captivity for 70 years.

##### ***Spiritual Symbolism***

Babylon means **COMPROMISE, CONFUSION, IDOLATRY AND WORLDLY SEDUCTION.**



- Babylon is from the word “*Babel*” which means **confusion (Gen11)**.
- It is a system that says “**We can build without God.**”
- It represents the mind enslaved — not chains of iron, but of **deception**.
- Babylon tempts you to **mix** the holy with the profane — **compromise** your worship.
- It symbolizes **spiritual exile** — living away from God’s presence.

- It promotes a culture captivated by **wealth, fame or intellectual pride.**

## *Examples of the Babylonian Spirit at Work*

(Babylonian spirit = Confusion + Idolatry)

### *1. Confusion About Identity*

- People no longer know who they are or what they believe.
- Constant inner conflict: “*Who am I? What is my purpose?*”
- Identity shaped by culture, trends, and emotions – not God. Always comparing yourself constantly to others on social media.
- Gender Identity confusion-SSA or LGBTQ - losing clarity about God’s calling and making for your life.

Babylon **CONFUSES identity to disconnect you from destiny.**

### *2. Moral Confusion and Blurred Boundaries (Relativism)*

- Right and wrong become relative.
- Sin is renamed as “freedom,” “choice” or “self-expression.”
- People justifying if it “*feels right.*”

Babylon ***MAKES truth foggy and sin attractive.***

### ***3. Spiritual Mixing and Syncretism***

- Christians combining faith with astrology, crystals, tarot, charms.
- “*A little Jesus + a little universe+ a little karma.*”
- Worshipping God with a Babylonian mindset.

Babylon ***BLENDS truth with deception to dilute holiness.***

### ***4. Idolatry of Success, Fame or Image***

- Obsessing over achievements, visibility or reputation.
- Identity rooted in status instead of God.
- Life curated for social media instead of shaped by Scripture.

Babylon says: ***“Build your tower. Make your name great.”***

### **5. Confusion in Relationships, Finances, Decisions/Direction, Emotions**

- **RELATIONSHIP** – misunderstandings, broken trust, or toxic bonds that obscure love and loyalty. [E.g. Being drawn into unhealthy relationships or romantic relationships that blur godly boundaries.]
- **FINANCES/PRIORITIES** – Mismanagement of resources or being distracted by materialism. [E.g. Chasing wealth, status, or possession at the expense of spiritual growth or family.]
- **DECISIONS/DIRECTIONS** – Difficulty knowing which choices align with God’s will. [E.g. Feeling torn between career opportunities, ministry or life choices without spiritual clarity.]
- **EMOTIONS** – anxiety, fear, or emotional turmoil that clouds judgment. [E.g. Worrying

excessively about what others think, leading to indecision or inaction.]

Babylon ***STIRS UP chaos and pulls your heart away from God's clarity.***

### ***6. Idolatry of Pleasure and Entertainment***

- Constant distraction through Netflix, computer games and social media.
- No room for God because pleasure rules the heart.
- Addiction to stimulation: Drugs, vaping and porn – excitement becomes a god.

Babylon ***KEEPS you busy, entertained and spiritually numb.***

### ***7. Confusion About God's Character***

- Believing God is harsh one day and permissive the next.
- Doubting His goodness because of circumstances.

- Feeling that God is distant, uncaring or inconsistent.

Babylon ***DISTORTS God's voice and amplifies lies.***

### ***8. Idolatry of Human Wisdom***

- Trusting culture, psychology or philosophy above Scripture.
- “*Experts say....*” replaces “*God says....*”
- Faith becomes shaped by trends, not truth.

Babylon ***ELEVATES human wisdom over divine revelation.***

### ***9. Confusion in Worship and Priorities***

- Worshipping God with lips but not with lifestyle.
- Church becomes routine, not relationship.
- Priorities mixed: God somewhere in the middle, not the center.

Babylon ***CREATES spiritual double-mindedness.***

## 10. *Idolatry of Self (the ultimate Babylon idol)*

- “*I decide the truth.*”
- “*I choose my path.*”
- Self becomes the final authority.”

Babylon’s core message – “**You don’t need God – be your own god.**”

Our key text in **Jeremiah 50:17** says that Nebuchadnezzar **GNAWED** the bones of Israel. The word “**gnawed**” implies stripping identity; draining spiritual strength; attacking the inner life and a slow decay through compromise and idolatry. It signifies **A SLOW SPIRITUAL EROSION OF YOUR IDENTITY AND STRENGTH**. The spirit of Babylon doesn’t strike violently like the spirit of Assyria. Rather it **WEARS YOU DOWN SLOWLY** – draining your strength bit by bit. Modern examples of this gnawing work is the emotional draining; compromise seeping in, fatigue in serving, loss of joy and clarity, distraction and spiritual confusion. Babylon attacks the **INSIDE** (identity and strength).

***In One Sentence:***

The Babylonia spirit works wherever **CONFUSION** *clouds* truth and idolatry *pulls* the heart away from God – replacing **CLARITY WITH CHAOS** and worship with **SELF-EXALTATION**.

***Christocentric Fulfillment***

Jesus came preaching the Kingdom of God — not Babylon's kingdom.

He announced: “**Repent, for the Kingdom of heaven is near**” (Matt 4:17).

He replaces confusion with **TRUTH**.

- At the Cross, He humbled the **pride of man** — the Tower of Babel reversed — by showing that true power comes through **surrender**.
- Through the Holy Spirit, He gives **clarity and unity** (Acts 2).

At **Babel**, languages divided people; at **Pentecost**, the Spirit united them.

- In Revelation, Babylon falls, but Christ's bride, the New Jerusalem, shines (Rev 18–21).

*In Christ, Babylon's deception is broken.*

We come out of confusion and into the light of truth, holiness, and spiritual clarity (result for believer).

### *Christocentric Application*

- Guard your heart from the **seduction of modern Babylon** — pride, success, false worship. Remember the Babylon spirit culminates with two Babylon in the Book of Revelation – *The Mystery Babylon* and the *Literal Babylon* that will entice the whole world.

*The Mystery Babylon* (Mother of Prostitutes in Rev 17) = Religious and spiritual deception leading nations and people into idolatry and moral compromise. [E.g. False religion or cults that distort God's word – churches or ministries driven by fame, money or human agendas.]

*The Literal Babylon* (Fallen City Babylon -Rev 18 - Economic and Political Babylon) = Represents worldly system: commerce, politics, materialism

and power structures opposed to God. [E.g. Corruption, greed and exploitation in business and politics. Materialism and consumerism that become idols.]

Christ calls believers to discernment, holiness, and Kingdom-focused living to remain free from Babylonian influence.

- Return to your first love – “Come out from her” (Rev. 18:4).
- In Christ, your captivity is turned into joy: “The Lord has turned our captivity like streams in the Negev.” (Ps. 126:1)

Let Jesus restore your song [Psalm 137 – where the captors asked Israelites to sing one of their song of Zion], your truth, and your intimacy with the Father.

## CONCLUSION - CHRIST OUR TOTAL DELIVERER

Oppressor	Represents	Christ's Victory	Result for Believers

Egypt	Bondage to sin & the flesh	He <b>delivers</b> us through His blood	Freedom from sin; new identity
Assyria	Fear, intimidation, pride	He <b>conquers</b> through perfect love	Freedom from fear; confidence in God
Babylon	Idolatry & confusion	He <b>restores</b> us to truth and worship	Freedom from deception; purity and holiness

**“If the Son sets you free, you shall be free indeed.”**  
**(John 8:36)**

**Jesus is not just your Savior — He is your Exodus, your Defender, and your Restorer.**

- From Egypt, He calls you *out*.
- From Assyria, He lifts you *up*.
- From Babylon, He brings you *home*.

**“For the Lord shall ransom Jacob and redeem him from the hand of him that was stronger than he.”**  
**(Jer. 31:11)**

On our part, let's respond accordingly:

- Leave Egypt – embrace grace over striving.
- Defy Assyria – stand in love, not fear.
- Come out of Babylon – worship in Spirit and in truth.

Christ is your Deliverer – from bondage, from fear, from confusion. He leads you out, lift you up and bring you home.

### MY TESTIMONY

For 26 years, we were under these 3 oppressors. We worked under an oppressor that is like Pharaoh (taskmaster), whipping our backs to plant 1000 churches in the Philippines by a certain time span. We were more fearful of our taskmasters than of Jesus – the Assyrian spirit of intimidation and control. Then in March 2012, I received a rhema from Jeremiah (from a paraphrased version) to “**flee from Babylon. Your tyrant is setting a warpath against you.**” That was when I fled to Lyon to hide from my oppressors who just wanted me dead and out of this ministry. It was

there in Lyon that God quickened another rhema to me from **Isaiah 10:20** that I would **no more** lean upon him (my oppressor) that smote me. But I would lean upon the **LORD**, the **Holy One of Israel** in truth (**HaKadosh Yisrael**). And **Isaiah 10** is about the **Assyrians**.

Looking back at my life before my “**exodus**” from my oppressive employer in 2012, **Jeremiah 51:14-37** sums up my story very pointedly- “**Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon has devoured me, he has crushed me; he has made me an empty vessel; he has swallowed me like a monster; he has filled his belly with my delicacies; he has rinsed me out.** The violence done to me and to my kinsmen be upon Babylon..... Therefore thus says the **LORD**: “**Behold, I will plead your cause and take vengeance for you. I will dry up her sea and make her fountains dry and Babylon shall become a heap of ruins, the haunt of jackals, a horror and a hissing without inhabitant.**” Year 2012 remains indelibly edged in our mind as the year “**my leaders misled us and confused the course of our paths (Isaiah 3:12)**”. But I thank

Jesus, my great Deliverer who delivered us from hands too strong for me. He broke the yoke our **Nebuchadnezzar** put on our necks for 26 years (from 1986 to 2012). Better still, God **clarified our minds with truth** about us idolizing Christian leaders and even better, exposing and smashing all our idolatrous hearts and then reordering our hearts to serve and worship the Lord in truth – not in idolatry – thus the word from **Isaiah 10** to lean upon the **God of truth**. And I know my case of injustice and oppression is now taken up by my Defender Jesus. I thank Jesus for letting us serve Him for another 14 years (from 2012-2026), without an oppressor whipping our backs, crushing our spirits and humiliating us anymore. And I thank the Lord, for allowing Pastor Toh Nee and me to exit Etab next year in April in grace and honor.....not the cruel and oppressive **“rinsing out”** by one stupid dismissal letter, signed by my ex right- hand man and a puppet chairman under the mastermind of a spiritual bully or tyrant. I am now under a Greater and Better Master who loves me perfectly. “I am no longer a slave to fear; I am a child of God.” Pharaoh, Sennacherib,

**Nebuchadnezzar – these three oppressors – God broke their yokes off my neck in 2012. Glory be to God.**

**End**