

## **Living Faithfully in Babylon**

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July 14, 2024

**Text:** *Psalm 137:1-6; Jeremiah 29:4-7*

### **Why Babylon?**

- Babylon is set apart as a symbol of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Where did Babylon begin?
- Defining Babylon or \_\_\_\_\_.

### **The Qualities of Babylon**

- \_\_\_\_\_ are qualities of Babylon.
- Empire is \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Responding to Babylon**

- \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_.

## **Life Enrichment**

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What about today's teaching challenged, disturbed, or encouraged you?

- What are some ways that America has changed in your lifetime - good or bad? How have these changes made life easier or more difficult for professing Christians?
- Of the cultural changes you've witnessed, which are most like the biblical symbol of Babylon?
- Why do you think biblical authors single out Babylon as the embodiment of world systems that resist God, His ways, and His people?
- List some ways that our culture "seduces" people away from God's best for them?
- What are some of the substitutes our culture holds out as replacing God, His ways, and His promises or blessings?
- Why do you think that personal and material security become such important motivations to seduce people away from God?
- Which aspect of retreat are you more inclined toward - withdrawal or assimilation? Why?
- Why are retreat and revolt not the best ways to respond to Babylon?
- How can followers of Christ resist the allure of Babylon active in their culture?