

Blurred Lines Part 2: The Babylon Mentality

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." Hebrews 13:8 NLT

When we can't see clearly, we will cross lines mistakenly.

*"It was you [God] who set all the **boundaries** of the earth." Psalm 74:17 NIV*

*"The **boundary lines** have fallen for me in **pleasant places**; surely I have a delightful inheritance." Psalm 16:6 NIV*

We will end up being a thermostat or a thermometer.

We will either set the culture or reflect the culture.

*"My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you **protect** them from the evil one. They are **not of the world**, even as I am not of it." John 17:15-16 NIV*

The Babylon Mentality

*"Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves... That is why it was called **Babel**—because there the LORD **confused** the language of the whole world." Genesis 11:4, 9 NIV*

*"The name written on her forehead was a mystery: **BABYLON THE GREAT. THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.**" Revelation 17:5 NIV*

The Fall of Babylon – "Now then, listen, you lover of pleasure, lounging in your security and saying to yourself, 'I am, and there is none besides me. I will never be a widow or suffer the loss of children.' Both of these will overtake you in a moment, on a single day: loss of children and widowhood. They will come upon you in full measure, in spite of your many sorceries and all your potent spells. You have trusted in your wickedness and have said, 'No one sees me.' Your wisdom and knowledge mislead you when you say to yourself, 'I am, and there is none besides me.'" Isaiah 47:8-10 NIV

Babylon's motto: "I am, and there is none besides me."

Elevate self – Self-adoring. Self-building. Self-indulging.

Lower God – God doesn't love me. God isn't for me. God wants too much from me.

Sanity Restored

*"I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at home in my palace, **contented** and **prosperous.**" Daniel 4:4 NIV*

"You, O king, are that tree!" Daniel 4:22 NIV

*"You will be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals; you will eat grass like cattle and be drenched with the dew of heaven. Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that **the Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men...** The command to leave the stump of the tree with its roots means that your kingdom will be restored to you when you acknowledge that **Heaven rules.**" Daniel 4:25-26 NIV*

"At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honored and glorified him who lives forever. His dominion is an eternal dominion; his kingdom endures from generation to generation. All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: "What have you done?" At the same time that my sanity was restored, my honor and splendor were returned to me for the glory of my kingdom. My advisers and nobles sought me out, and I was restored to my throne and became even greater than before. Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble." Daniel 4:34-37 NIV

1. I will exalt God.

"I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever." Psalm 145:1 NIV

2. I will acknowledge God.

*"What are you so puffed up about? What do you have that God hasn't given you? And if all you have is from God, why act as though you have accomplished something on your own?"
1 Corinthians 4:7 LB*

3. I will humble myself.

"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up." James 4:10 NIV

"A man on his face can't fall far from that position." – Bro. Roy Stockstill