

Rev 18:2, “And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, ‘Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird!’”

The Interpretation of Isa 14:12–14/Ezek 28:12–19

1. Satan

a. Satan directly

**b. Historical/typical of Satan or
Antichrist**

2. Historical only

3. Mythological

The Interpretation of Isa 14:12–14/Ezek 28:12–19

1. Satan

a. Satan directly

LXX

Early: Pseudepigrapha: *The Life of Adam and Eve*, ca. AD 2nd century; *Slavonic Enoch*, ca. AD 2nd century

Origen (AD 185–254) 1st to tie to Ezek 28

Tertullian (AD 160–225)

Cyprian (AD 200–258); Gregory Thaumaturgus, Gregory Nazianzen; Gregory of Nyssa; Jerome, the majority from Augustine to Gregory the Great (AD 590–604).

The Interpretation of Isa 14:12–14/Ezek 28:12–19

1. Satan

a. Satan directly

Middle Ages:

Peter Lombard
Albert the Great
Thomas Aquinas

Reformation–20th

John Milton, *Paradise Lost*
John Bunyan, *Holy War*
John Wesley
William Kelly

The Interpretation of Isa 14:12–14/Ezek 28:12–19

1. Satan

a. Satan directly

Modern:

Chafer, Scofield, Barnhouse, Archer, Feinberg

The Interpretation of Isa 14:12–14/Ezek 28:12–19

1. Satan

b. Historical/typical of Satan

Hippolytus (ca. AD 170–236): Antichrist in the future.

William Kelly: the “Beast” of Revelation

Delitzsch: “antitype of the devil and the type of the antichrist.”

The Interpretation of Isa 14:12–14/Ezek 28:12–19

1. Satan

2. Historical only

Talmud (Nebuchadnezzar)

Midrash Rabbah

**A couple of minor early church fathers (Aphrahat
and Aquileiensis)**

**Chrysostom related it to Ezek 28, but it was
historical.**

Calvin

Luther

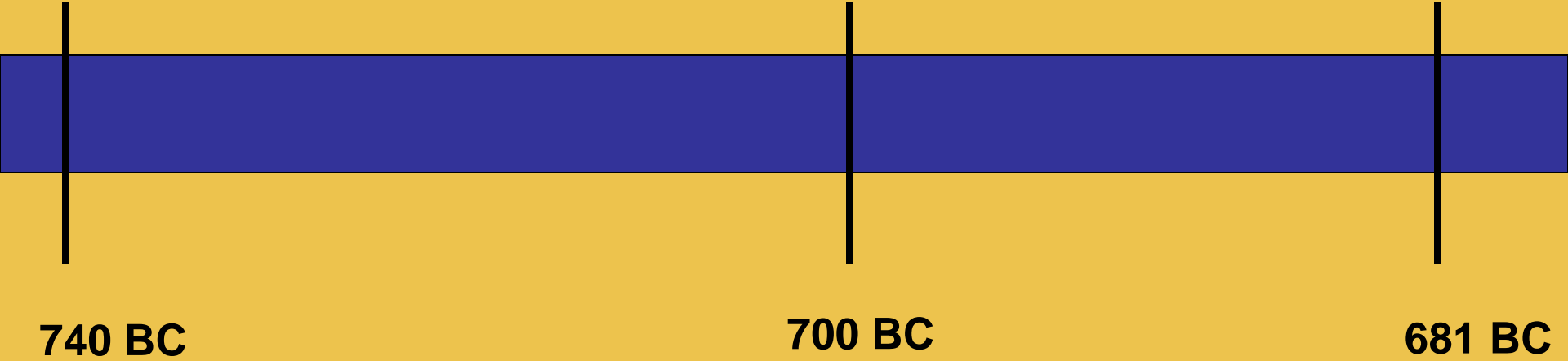
The Interpretation of Isa 14:12–14/Ezek 28:12–19

3. Mythological

Enters in with the rise of the historical critical method associated with advent of Liberal theology. Cannot be supported by any known myths or legends.

Isaiah is written during the reigns of four kings of Judah: Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah (Isa 1:1)

Isaiah begins his ministry, 740–739 BC
Dies after 681 BC





The Assyrian Empire

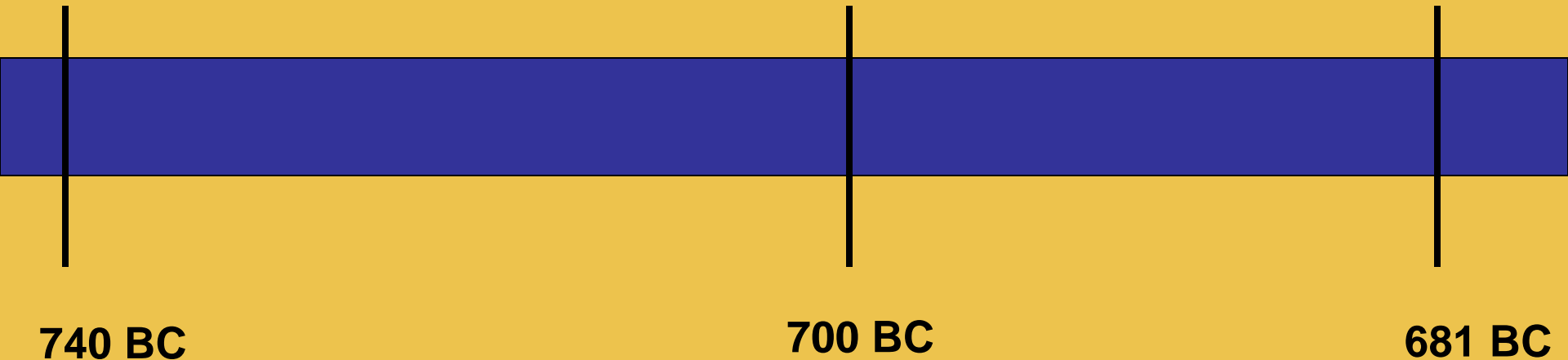
Assyria begins imperial expansion, 745 BC

Isaiah begins his ministry, 740–739 BC

Assyria conquers Syria, 733 BC

Assyria conquers Israel, 722 BC

Assyria conquers Babylon, 710 BC



A The day of the Lord declared (13:2–16)

**B The total and final destruction of
Babylon (13:17–22)**

**C The resulting restoration to the
land and exaltation of Israel (14:1–2)**

**B' The taunt rehearsing the total
destruction of Babylon's King (14:3–21)**

**A' The summary of the Lord's defeat of Babylon
(14:22–23)**

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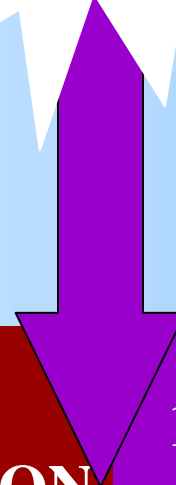


**CHURCH
AGE**

RAPTURE

**7-YEAR
TRIBULATION
(ISRAEL)**

**1,000 YEAR
KINGDOM
(MILLENNIUM)**



- 1. The evil influence of Babylon is compared to drinking wine from a golden cup.**
- Jer 51:7, “Babylon was a golden cup in the LORD’s hand, that made all the earth drunk. The nations drank her wine; therefore the nations are deranged.”**

Rev 17:3, “So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

Rev 17:4, “The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a **golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication.”**

Rev 18:6, “Render to her just as she rendered to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the **cup** which she has mixed, mix double for her.”

2. The influence of Babylon is compared to dwelling on many waters (nations).

- Jer 51:13, “O you who dwell by many waters, abundant in treasures, your end has come, the measure of your covetousness.”**
- Rev 17:1, “Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and talked with me, saying to me, ‘Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters’,”**

- 3. Babylon will be surrounded and attacked by many nations whom she has influenced.**
- Isa 13:14, “It shall be as the hunted gazelle, and as a sheep that no man takes up; every man will turn to his own people, and everyone will flee to his own land.”**

Jer 51:7, “Babylon was a golden cup in the LORD’s hand, that made all the earth drunk. The nations drank her wine; therefore the nations are deranged.”

Rev 17:2, “with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication.”

4. All these descriptions relate to the same name.

- Isa 13:19, “And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldeans’ pride, will be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah.”**
- Isa 21:9, ““And look, here comes a chariot of men with a pair of horsemen!’ Then he answered and said, ‘Babylon is fallen, is fallen! And all the carved images of her gods He has broken to the ground’.”**

Jer 50:1, “The word that the LORD spoke against Babylon and against the land of the Chaldeans by Jeremiah the prophet.”

Rev 17:5, “And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.”

1. Babylon will be destroyed quickly, suddenly, almost unexpectedly.

- Jer 51:8, “Babylon has suddenly fallen and been destroyed. Wail for her! Take balm for her pain; perhaps she may be healed.”**
- Rev 18:8, “Therefore her plagues will come in one day – death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong is the Lord God who judges her.”**

- 2. Destroyed by the Medes who will pillage, plunder, massacre the women and children**
- Isa 13:17, “Behold, I will stir up the Medes against them, who will not regard silver; and as for gold, they will not delight in it.”**
 - Isa 21:2, “A distressing vision is declared to me; the treacherous dealer deals treacherously, and the plunderer plunders. Go up, O Elam! Besiege, O Media! All its sighing I have made to cease.”**

Jer 51:11, “Make the arrows bright! Gather the shields! The LORD has raised up the spirit of the kings of the Medes. For His plan is against Babylon to destroy it, because it is the vengeance of the LORD, the vengeance for His temple.”

Jer 51:28, “Prepare against her the nations, with the kings of the Medes, its governors and all its rulers, all the land of his dominion.”

3. Babylon will also be destroyed by nations from the North: Ararat, Minni, and Ashkenaz.

- Jer 50:3, “For out of the north a nation comes up against her, which shall make her land desolate, and no one shall dwell therein. They shall move, they shall depart, both man and beast.”**
- Jer 50:9, “For behold, I will raise and cause to come up against Babylon an assembly of great nations from the north country, and they shall array themselves against her; from there she shall be captured. Their arrows shall be like those of an expert warrior; none shall return in vain.”**

Jer 51:27, “Set up a banner in the land, blow the trumpet among the nations! Prepare the nations against her, call the kingdoms together against her: Ararat, Minni, and Ashkenaz. Appoint a general against her; cause the horses to come up like the bristling locusts.”

5. Babylon will be destroyed by fire.

- Jer 51:30, “The mighty men of Babylon have ceased fighting, they have remained in their strongholds; their might has failed, they became like women; they have burned her dwelling places, the bars of her gate are broken.”**
- Rev 17:6, “I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.”**
- Rev 18:8, “Therefore her plagues will come in one day – death and mourning and famine. And she will be utterly burned with fire, for strong is the Lord God who judges her.”**

- 6. Babylon will never, ever again be inhabited like Sodom and Gomorrah.**
- Isa 13:19, “And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldeans’ pride, will be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah.**
 - Isa 13:20, “It will never be inhabited, nor will it be settled from generation to generation; nor will the Arabian pitch tents there, nor will the shepherds make their sheepfolds there.”**

Isa 13:21, “But wild beasts of the desert will lie there, and their houses will be full of owls; ostriches will dwell there, and wild goats will caper there.

Isa 13:22, “The hyenas will howl in their citadels, and jackals in their pleasant palaces. Her time is near to come, and her days will not be prolonged.”

Isa 14:23, “I will also make it a possession for the porcupine, and marshes of muddy water; I will sweep it with the broom of destruction,’ says the LORD of hosts.”

Jer 50:13, “Because of the wrath of the LORD she shall not be inhabited, but she shall be wholly desolate. Everyone who goes by Babylon shall be horrified and hiss at all her plagues.”

Jer 51:29, “And the land will tremble and sorrow; for every purpose of the LORD shall be performed against Babylon, to make the land of Babylon a desolation without inhabitant.”

Jer 51:37, “Babylon shall become a heap, a dwelling place for jackals, an astonishment and a hissing, without an inhabitant.”

Jer 51:43, “Her cities are a desolation, a dry land and a wilderness, a land where no one dwells, through which no son of man passes.”

Jer 51:62, “then you shall say, ‘O LORD, You have spoken against this place to cut it off, so that none shall remain in it, neither man nor beast, but it shall be desolate forever’.”

Rev 18:21, “Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, ‘Thus with violence the great city Babylon shall be thrown down, and shall not be found anymore’.”

7. The whole of Babylon is destroyed.

- **Isa 13:5, “They come from a far country, from the end of heaven – the LORD and His weapons of indignation, to destroy the whole land.”**

- 8. Babylon will be severely punished for her hostility to God and Israel.**
- Jer 50:29, “Call together the archers against Babylon. All you who bend the bow, encamp against it all around; let none of them escape. Repay her according to her work; according to all she has done, do to her; for she has been proud against the LORD, against the Holy One of Israel.**
 - Rev 18:6, “Render to her just as she rendered to you, and repay her double according to her works; in the cup which she has mixed, mix double for her.”**

- 9. This is described as the “day of the Lord” and the time of the Lord’s vengeance on Babylon using the imagery of the day of the Lord: birth pangs, darkening of the sun and moon, earthquakes.**
- Isa 13:6, “Wail, for the day of the LORD is at hand! It will come as destruction from the Almighty.**
 - Isa 13:7, “Therefore all hands will be limp, every man’s heart will melt,**

Isa 13:8, “And they will be afraid. Pangs and sorrows will take hold of them; they will be in pain as a woman in childbirth; they will be amazed at one another; their faces will be like flames.

Isa 13:9, “Behold, the day of the LORD comes, cruel, with both wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate; and He will destroy its sinners from it.”

Isa 21:3, “Therefore my loins are filled with pain; pangs have taken hold of me, like the pangs of a woman in labor. I was distressed when I heard it; I was dismayed when I saw it.”

Jer 51:6, “Flee from the midst of Babylon, and every one save his life! Do not be cut off in her iniquity, for this is the time of the LORD’s vengeance; He shall recompense her.”

10. The final destruction of Babylon is depicted by the same imagery.

Jer 51:63, “Now it shall be, when you have finished reading this book, that you shall tie a stone to it and throw it out into the Euphrates.

Jer 51:64, “Then you shall say, ‘Thus Babylon shall sink and not rise from the catastrophe that I will bring upon her. And they shall be weary.’ Thus far are the words of Jeremiah.”

Rev 18:21, “Then a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone and threw it into the sea, saying, ‘Thus with violence the great city Babylon shall be thrown down, and shall not be found anymore’.”

11. The Destroyer is the Lord of Hosts, often a term describing the preincarnate Christ in the Old Testament.

Jer 51:19, “The portion of Jacob is not like them, for He is the Maker of all things; and Israel is the tribe of His inheritance. The LORD of hosts is His name.

Jer 51:20, “You are My battle-ax and weapons of war: for with you I will break the nation in pieces; with you I will destroy kingdoms;”

**Jer 51:55, “Because the LORD is plundering
Babylon and silencing her loud voice, though
her waves roar like great waters, and the noise
of their voice is uttered,”**

Rev 17:14, “These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful.”

12. God's people are told to flee.

Jer 51:6, “Flee from the midst of Babylon, and every one save his life! Do not be cut off in her iniquity, for this is the time of the LORD’s vengeance; He shall recompense her.”

Jer 51:45, “My people, go out of the midst of her! And let everyone deliver himself from the fierce anger of the LORD.”

Rev 18:4, “And I heard another voice from heaven saying, ‘Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues’.”

13. Heaven rejoices at the final destruction of Babylon.

Jer 51:48, “Then the heavens and the earth and all that is in them shall sing joyously over Babylon; for the plunderers shall come to her from the north,’ says the LORD.”

Rev 18:20, “Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you holy apostles and prophets, for God has avenged you on her!”

14. Following the destruction there is peace on the whole earth.

Isa 14:7, “The whole earth is at rest and quiet; they break forth into singing.”

15. Following the destruction Israel is united and obedient to the Lord.

Isa 14:1, “For the LORD will have mercy on Jacob, and will still choose Israel, and settle them in their own land. The strangers will be joined with them, and they will cling to the house of Jacob.

Isa 14:2, “Then people will take them and bring them to their place, and the house of Israel will possess them for servants and maids in the land of the LORD; they will take them captive whose captives they were, and rule over their oppressors.”

Isa 14:3, “It shall come to pass in the day the LORD gives you rest from your sorrow, and from your fear and the hard bondage in which you were made to serve,

Isa 14:4, “that you will take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say: ‘How the oppressor has ceased, the golden city ceased’!”

Jer 50:4, ““In those days and in that time,’ says the LORD, ‘the children of Israel shall come, they and the children of Judah together; with continual weeping they shall come, and seek the LORD their God.

Jer 50:5, ““They shall ask the way to Zion, with their faces toward it, saying, “Come and let us join ourselves to the LORD in a perpetual covenant that will not be forgotten”.’”

1. Babylon will be destroyed suddenly and unexpectedly.

Jer 51:8, “Babylon has suddenly fallen and been destroyed. Wail for her! Take balm for her pain; perhaps she may be healed.”

2. Babylon to be destroyed completely.

Jer 50:3, “For out of the north a nation comes up against her, which shall make her land desolate, and no one shall dwell therein. They shall move, they shall depart, both man and beast.”

Jer 50:39, “Therefore the wild desert beasts shall dwell there with the jackals, and the ostriches shall dwell in it. It shall be inhabited no more forever, nor shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation.

Jer 50:40, “‘As God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah and their neighbors,’ says the LORD, ‘So no one shall reside there, nor son of man dwell in it’.”

Jer 51:29, “And the land will tremble and sorrow; for every purpose of the LORD shall be performed against Babylon, to make the land of Babylon a desolation without inhabitant.”

At the bend of the Euphrates, between Babil and Kasr lie the ruins of the former village of Kweiresh, whose population migrated elsewhere a hundred years ago. The walls of mud brick still overtop the heaps of debris. The modern village of Kweiresh lies close to the Kasr, to which we must now turn our attention. The most northerly house of Kweiresh is the headquarters of our expedition...called by the Arabs “Kasr abid.”

Koldewey, 1911

3. The stones and bricks of destroyed Babylon will not ever be reused.

Jer 51:26, ““They shall not take from you a stone for a corner nor a stone for a foundation, but you shall be desolate forever,’ says the LORD.”

To this day there are men who have no other trade than that of gathering bricks from this vast heap and taking them for sale to the neighbouring towns and villages, and even to Baghdad. There is scarcely a house in Hillah which is not almost entirely built with them; and as the traveller passes through the narrow streets, he sees in the walls of every hovel a record of the glory and power of Nebuchadnezzar.

Austen Layard, 1875

4. Jeremiah warns all Jews and believers to flee from Babylon prior to the destruction.

Jer 50:8, “Move from the midst of Babylon, go out of the land of the Chaldeans; and be like the rams before the flocks.”

Jer 51:6, “Flee from the midst of Babylon, and every one save his life! Do not be cut off in her iniquity, for this is the time of the LORD’s vengeance; He shall recompense her.”

Jer 51:45, “My people, go out of the midst of her! And let everyone deliver himself from the fierce anger of the LORD.”

5. Israel and Judah are to be reunited in a time of spiritual revival.

Jer 50:4, “‘In those days and in that time,’ says the LORD, ‘The children of Israel shall come, they and the children of Judah together; with continual weeping they shall come, and seek the LORD their God’.”

Jer 50:5, “They shall ask the way to Zion, with their faces toward it, saying, ‘Come and let us join ourselves to the LORD in a perpetual covenant that will not be forgotten’.”





