

Napoleon



A Roman Emperor

"I am of the race of the Caesars, and the best of their kind, the founders."

– Napoleon Bonaparte

Craig M. White v. 2.8



Napoleon. A Roman Emperor

Authored by Craig Martin White.

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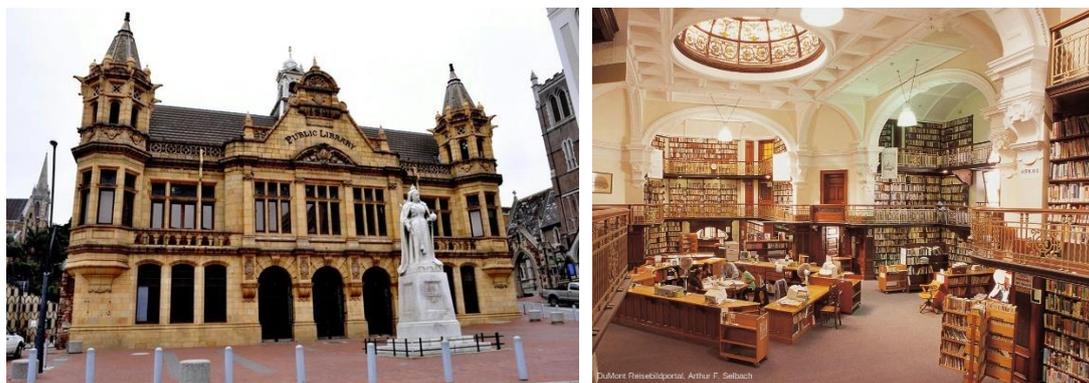
These studies and charts are available for free download [here](#)

Suggested Reading

- *Caesarism in the Post-Revolutionary Age. Crisis, Populace and Leadership* by M. Prutsch
- *Napoleon and Hitler. A Comparative Biography* by D. Seward
- *The Age of Napoleon* by W. & A. Durant
- *The Caesar of Paris. Napoleon Bonaparte, Rome, and the Artistic Obsession that Shaped an Empire* by S. Jaques
- *Napoleon. In the Name of Art.* Documentary directed by G. Piscaglia

Introduction

Napoleon has always been of great interest to me. Not the least due to a book I came across in the Port Elizabeth city library in 1973 or 1974. The title may have been *The Rider on the White Horse* or similar, published in the early nineteenth century. The author attempted to demonstrate that Napoleon was the beast and, if I recall correctly that it was in that book where the author linked him to the prophecy of Isaiah 7:18-19 which portrays vicious armies as bees.



Port Elizabeth Library

Bees were used by Napoleon extensively as one of his symbols of imperial power and linked him to the Merovingian Dynasty¹ which also used it as a symbol.²



¹ Napoleon saw himself as heir of the Franks: “When he became emperor, Napoleon long hesitated between the bee and the eagle for his coat of arms and symbol of his empire. The bee was the symbol of the Merovingian kings, and 300 golden bees were also in the tomb of King Childeric I (Clovis’s father) in Tournai. Napoleon was well aware of this. The eagle was the symbol of the Holy Roman Empire, to mark the continuity with Ancient Rome. Eventually, Napoleon opted for the eagle to represent his empire, but integrated golden bees on the imperial coat” (Maciomo Hay, “A Brief History of the Franks”, *Eupedia* website, 2020)

In 2022, a year after writing this article, I watched a documentary *Napoleon: In the Name of Art* which presented further information on the fascination Napoleon had with the Roman Empire and how this found its expression in the art of his day.

² “When Childeric’s tomb was discovered in 1653, Louis XIV received the treasure, but he wasn’t impressed and stored it at what later became the Bibliothèque Nationale de France. When Napoleon came to power, his advisor, Jean-Jacques-Régis de Cambacérès, suggested he adopt the bee as his personal symbol and mentioned the treasure of Childeric. Napoleon took his advisor’s advice after learning that Childeric had lived between 437 and 481 and that he founded the Merovingian dynasty. Moreover, Napoleon learned that Childeric’s symbol of the bee preceded the fleur-de-lis adopted by his son Clovis.

Besides being associated with the Merovingians, Napoleon also wanted to be associated with the Carolingians, a dynasty that reached its peak in AD 800 with the crowning of Charlemagne as the first Emperor of Romans. The spread eagle that Napoleon used on his shield came from the Carolingian founder Charlemagne and was suggested for use by the Council Commission, made up from members of the Council of State, whose job was to oversee the coronation of Napoleon and his Empress, Josephine.” (Geri Walton, *The Importance of Bees to Napoleon Bonaparte*, <https://www.geriwalton.com/the-importance-of-bees-to-napoleon-bonaparte/>)

Bee symbol used extensively by Napoleon

Predatory, beast-like leaders and empires extend back to the early years after the great flood of Noah.

Probably the earliest post-flood tyrant was Sargon of Akkad, first Middle Eastern king we know of who has left monuments of importance — and sculptured with battle-scenes.³ He was certainly a man of war. Hall even labels him the "Charlemagne of the Middle East" (Harry Hall, *The Ancient History of The Near East*, p. 185) and whose empire had two halves (ibid, p. 188) like the Western and Eastern divisions of the Roman Empire. Hawkes further explains:

"Sargon and his empire appear at once as the model for many successors down to recent times [inc Napoleon]. He and his descendants shared many of the virtues and triumphs, the temptations, difficulties and final failure of Napoleon." (Jacquetta Hawkes, *The First Great Civilizations*, p. 69)

"In the 8th century B.C., when the entire Assyrian army included 150,000-200,000 men, a combat field army of 50,000 men would be equal to 5 modern American heavy divisions, or 8 Soviet field divisions.

When arrayed for battle, a field army occupied an area of 2,500 yards (almost 1.5 miles) across and 100 yards deep. **After the fall of Rome, it was not until Napoleon's re-institution of conscription that armies of such a size would be mustered.**

... According to modern tests, the body armor, helmet, and shield of the Assyrians would have provided excellent protection against firearms until Napoleon. If the dispersion of field formations, inaccuracy of early firearms, and rates of fire are considered, the Assyrian soldier would have been safer on a battlefield in the 18th century than on an Ancient Near Eastern one." (Richard Gabriel & Karen Metz, *From Sumer to Rome: The Military Capabilities of Ancient Armies*) [emphasis mine]

Note the above references to tyrants – Napoleon followed in their footsteps.

In the 1990s I wrote how Napoleon came across as a sort of anomaly when one compares him with the Holy Roman Empire's emperors which I inserted into the book *The Great German Nation* (2007). But so were Mussolini and Hitler. Careful analysis found that he 'ticked the boxes' when it came to him qualifying as a successor to the Roman system.

In this article I attempt to:

- Demonstrate that Napoleon was a sort of Roman Emperor with some links to the Holy Roman Empire which inspired his legitimacy. In some ways he breaks the mold, but in others he fulfills the Roman-Beast continuum;
- Explore his similarities to the various aspects of the Roman, Holy Roman and the German Empires of both world wars and therefore his Biblical Beast-like credentials.

First of all, a little background to the Dictator – which is a mere outline of the vast amount of historical data and hundreds of works available.⁴

He was born in 1769 on the island of Corsica of nobility (his family was conferred Noble status)

³ Harry Hall, *The Ancient History of The Near East.*, p. 185

⁴ A lot of excellent information is available here <https://www.napoleon.org/>

– that same year Corsica was made a province of France). At the age of 9 he was sent to the Royal Military School, Brienne and by 1785 he had graduated as a second lieutenant. Thereafter he involved himself in readings in geography and history which added to his body of knowledge and intellectual prowess. His mother not only gave birth to a future emperor, but also to 3 kings and a queen and 2 princesses (ibid, p. 7).

““Men of genius are meteors destined to be consumed in illuminating their century”, wrote the then as yet unknown Napoleon in 1791, but it was not until his first military victories as commander in charge in Italy that Napoleon started to think of himself as one of them.” (M. Prutsch, *Caesarism in the Post-Revolutionary Age*, p. 22).

By 1793 he became a Brigadier-General in the French army and in 1795 Chief of the Army of the Interior. In 1797 he gained enormous popularity due to his commanding of the French army in victory over the Austrians.

“I am of the race that founds empires” he claimed (Andrew Roberts, *Napoleon the Great*, p. 4).



Bonaparte on the Bridge at Arcole, 17 November 1796, oil on canvas by Antoine-Jean Gros, 1796; in the Versailles Museum

During the proto-communist French Revolution⁵, the rulers (known as the Directory) saw Napoleon as a potential challenger and decided to send him on a mission in an attempt to

⁵ The Revolution contained elements of equality and such like; but it was driven by atheists and neo-pagans and as such was anti-Catholic. Churches were closed, nuns raped, the rich killed, 10,000s tortured and murdered, adultery legalized, marriage utterly degraded and the nation descended into moral madness (Walter Scott, *Life of Napoleon Bonaparte*, p. 173 etc). Homosexuality was also legalized (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LGBT_rights_in_France According to a review of *Homosexuality in Modern France* (summary of chapter 4): “Napoleon's government never showed itself particularly tolerant of homosexual activity and it was determined to enforce the highest moral standards in France. Though the law no longer penalized “crimes against nature”, the government never hesitated to take repressive action against pederasts and sodomites.”

hamper British shipping to India by invading Egypt – the purpose was to conquer Egypt which was a province of the Ottoman Empire at that time and then, like Alexander the Great, continue to India to eliminate the British there. He entered the Holy Land and was able to get as far as Syria. In 1798 he lost the Battle of the Nile to Rear-Admiral Nelson.

His Egyptian campaign was presaged by the Romans conquests followed by the Crusades (1154-69AD) and centuries later by Mussolini (1940) who was supported by Hitler (1941).

After all he

"dreamt of rivaling Charlemagne and uniting Western Europe ... then of following Constantine ... to the capture of Constantinople ... and proposed to rival Alexander by conquering India." (Will Durant, *The Story of Civilization, Vol. 11: The Age of Napoleon*, pp. 242-243)

"... Napoleon came to the same conclusion that Justinian, Charlemagne, Otto and the Habsburgs had all come to before him: To have maximum power, he needed moral and spiritual cover provided by the Catholic Church." (Andrew Roberts, *Napoleon the Great*, p. 119)



Bronze medal with portraits of Charlemagne and Napoleon, designed by Bertrand Andrieu, 1806 (French medalist)

In Palestine he fought the Turks and was particularly brutal during and after the siege of Jaffa (3-7 March 1799). The entire episode was littered with indiscriminate rape, torture and killings of the civilian population. The Ottoman prisoners of war were massacred after surrender.

However, when opportunity arose, he decided to return to France to help with the situation there. By 1799 he edged closer to his goal and became one of the three Consuls governing the country.

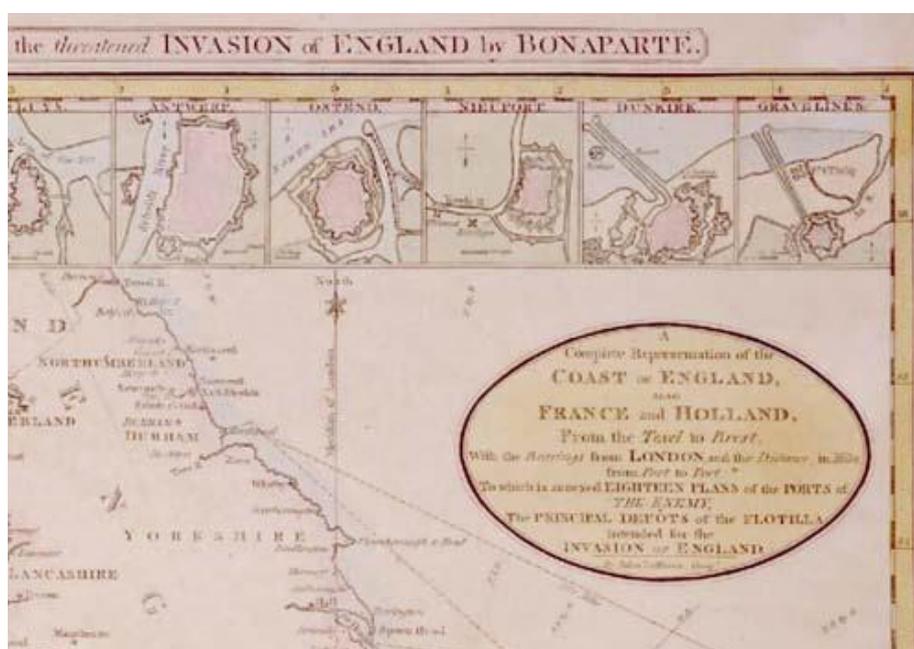
As part of this process of abandoning the worst of the Revolution,⁶ he negotiated a Concordat

⁶ "The ideas that underpin our modern world—meritocracy, equality before the law, property rights, religious

with the Roman Catholic Church in 1801 and by the following year he became First Consul for life.

“Napoleon may not have been an ardent Catholic like Charlemagne, but he knew history. He knew that to achieve **his dream of a united European empire**, he needed the sanction of the Roman Catholic Church. And the church, after suffering major setbacks during the Reformation and French Revolution, saw Napoleon as a means of restoring its place and power.” (Andrew Roberts, *Napoleon the Great*, p. 122)⁷ [emphasis mine]⁸

Two years later (1804) he abolished the Consulate and crowned himself as Emperor. The ceremony was one of the most extravagant in history. To counter-balance Napoleon’s imperial claim, Francis II of the Holy Roman Empire proclaimed himself the Francis I, Emperor of Austria (in German *Kaiser von Oesterreich*).



A Map of the Threatened Invasion of England by Napoleon Bonaparte by John Luffman⁹

toleration, modern secular education, sound finances, and so on—were championed, consolidated, codified and geographically extended by Napoleon. To them he added a rational and efficient local administration, an end to rural banditry, the encouragement of science and the arts, the abolition of feudalism and the greatest codification of laws since the fall of the Roman Empire.” (Andrew Roberts, *Napoleon: A Life*, p. 33)

⁷ “To make peace with the church, Napoleon signed the Concordat of 1801 with Pius VII. This agreement reversed a lot of the setbacks the revolution had inflicted upon the church. It proclaimed that Catholicism was the religion of the great majority of the French citizens. It guaranteed Catholics freedom of religion—but also brought that religion under some state control, stating that bishops had to swear loyalty to the government.” (Andrew Roberts, *Napoleon the Great*, p. 119)

⁸ “In 1799 the young hero returns from an expedition against the English in Egypt. He seizes power in a bold move, setting up a new government of three members. Borrowing a title from ancient Rome, he calls them consuls. He himself is First Consul—a virtual dictator at age 30... **He dreams of being another Caesar ... Napoleon dreams of a resurrected Roman-European civilization** dominated by France... ‘The influence of Rome is incalculable,’ he declares. ‘It was a serious error to break with this power’... In 1801 a concordat... is concluded between France and the Papacy.” (Keith Stump, *The History of Europe and the Church*, p. 34)

⁹ According to <https://mapforum.com/04/luffman.html> “A MAP intended to illustrate the threatened INVASION of ENGLAND by BONAPARTE. [2a, ob - 4a, ob] A / Complete Representation of the / COAST OF ENGLAND, / ALSO / FRANCE and HOLLAND, / From the Texel to Brest, / With the Bearings from LONDON, and the Distance, in Miles, / from Port to Port. / To which is annexed EIGHTEEN PLANS of the PORTS of / The ENEMY, / The PRINCIPAL DEPÔTS of the FLOTILLA / intended for the / INVASION OF ENGLAND. / [rule] By John Luffman. Geog.r [4b] Engrav'd &

In 1803 he commenced plans to invade Britain but armies moving in from the east (Russian and Austrian) which he defeated at Austerlitz as well as Nelson's crushing blow at the Battle of Trafalgar when the combined French-Spanish fleet was resoundingly defeated, deterred him and he called off the invasion in 1805.

Previous to this the *Ancien Régime* was planning invasions in 1744, 1759, 1779. Later the French had sent an expedition to Ireland in 1796 to assist the republicans to gain independence from Britain and as a staging post to attack England. The expedition was a failure. Two years later (1798) the French army had gathered on the French coast readying to invade, but Napoleon's aims for Egypt and campaigns against Austria delayed the attack. These attempts at conquest of Britain seem to serve as a model for a future and one final attempt which will, at that time, prove to be successful.

In 1806 he formed the Confederation of the Rhine (sometimes called *the third Germany*). It consisted of German princes of the Holy Roman Empire who seceded from the old Holy Roman Empire on 1 August and on the 6 August Emperor Francis II illegally dissolved the Empire but continued the Hapsburg dynasty as emperors of Austria. The Confederation supplied a huge number of troops in the invasion of Russia because it was, foremost, a military alliance which was headed by the Prince-Primate of the Confederation with Napoleon as Protector.¹⁰ The Prince-Primate was also the President of the College of Kings.¹¹

From the initial 16 states the Confederation grew and by 1808 it included 36 states (this included kingdoms, duchies, principalities and large towns) ruling over 15 million people – most of modern-day Germany. In effect, it was the western leg of the former Holy Roman Empire but without Prussia.

It lasted until 1813 when, after the battle of Austerlitz, the allies dissolved it. In 1815 it was succeeded by the German Confederation which included most of the Confederation of the Rhine plus Austria and Prussia and was considered a replacement for the Holy Roman Empire.¹²

Due to the inability of his wife, Josephine to have a child, Napoleon sent an ambassador to

Publish'd Nov.r 17. 1803, by John Luffman, N.o 28, Little Bell Alley, Coleman Street, London Price 1.s 6.d Plain, 2.s 6.d Coloured. Of whom may all be had all the principal Sea Ports of Holland, Spain, Portugal, & Italy. The Population of England Scotland & Wales &c. Rare broadsheet map, published by John Luffman, in London in 1803. Copper engraving, 403 x 353 (widest: 415 x 353), in contemporary outline colour."

¹⁰ "P.M. wrote: "... more and more Europeans saw the empire of Napoleon I as the continuation of the Roman Empire such as the Empire of the Franks had been. Even and **especially Germans supported and accepted the French Emperor** ... Soon, the new empire reached until the river Elbe—as had been the case under Charlemagne." ("Good that there was Napoleon", *P.M. History*, April of 1999)

¹¹ "Those captains and commanders who had no original conscious desire to travel the road to empire sooner or later discovered themselves moving along the railbed of historic progression that had been laid in the time of Charlemagne. **Napoleon realized this early in his career and accepted it. Indeed, the empire was virtually thrust upon Napoleon as a matter of course by German princes. The prince elector of Mainz, Karl Theodor von Dalberg, archchancellor of the empire, wrote to the French ambassador accrediting to him that the constitution of the German empire was wholly in need of renovation.** This could only be undertaken by a great and magnanimous character who would reinforce the laws by concentrating the executive power in his own hands. As for the incumbent (Austrian) emperor, "**he could after all become the emperor of the Orient in order to provide a bulwark against the Russians, while the Occidental Reich under Kaiser Napoleon would arise as it had under Charlemagne, consisting of Italy, France, and Germany**" (George Bailey, *Germans: The Biography of an Obsession*, p. 363). [emphasis mine]

¹² "On August 6, 1806, Holy Roman Emperor Francis II formally resigns his title and divests himself of the imperial crown... Technically, Napoleon has swept away the moribund Holy Roman Empire... but he perpetuates it, under a different name, for another eight years..." (K. Stump, *The History of Europe and the Church*, p. 36)

Russia to request the hand of the Russian Emperor's sister. The request was refused via diplomatic channels. With immediacy, Napoleon demanded the hand of the Emperor of Austria's 19-year-old daughter. Francis I of Austria and the famous Prince Klemens Wenzel von Metternich believed that such a marriage would be in their best interests, and they persuaded Marie Louise to agree.



The religious marriage of Napoleon I and Marie-Louise in the Salon Carré at the Louvre, by Georges Rouget (1784-1869).

By January 1810 Napoleon had his marriage with Josephine (a widow) annulled because no children resulted from the union and in 2 April 1810 he married Marie-Louise, the daughter to Francis I, Emperor of Austria (the eastern leg of the former Holy Roman Empire) and she bore him a son the following year, thereby creating a link to the Holy Roman Empire and royalty.¹³ The child's cradle was adorned with Roman eagles.¹⁴ and he was conferred the title of "the King of Rome" – that was taken from the Holy Roman Emperors who were titled similarly. His full name was François Charles Joseph Bonaparte (1811-1832), or Napoleon II. He lived at the Austrian court in Vienna. Francis I made him Duke of Reichstag in 1818.



Portraits of Napoleon's son

¹³ The Austrian court carefully researched Napoleon's ancestry prior to approving the marriage. Although born on the Italian island of Corsica (which was under French control at that time), his parent's heritage stretched back to Tuscany in north-east Italy. Given their nobility, they may have been associated with the Grand Ducal House of Tuscany which was a branch of the House of Habsburg-Lothringen – in this way, Napoleon may have been distantly related to the Habsburgs and had some Germanic blood.

¹⁴ Friedrich Heer, *The Holy Roman Empire*, p. 276. Also "After the French Revolution ... Napoleon (allied with the Habsburgs) set out to recreate the Holy Roman Empire" (H. Abendsen *Inside the "Men's" Club.*, p. 12)

70 million souls across Europe were ruled by him and his administration. His secret police certainly helped with that. It was headed by Joseph Fouché who headed up a network of spies that reached everywhere into society. Possibly a forerunner to modern secret services.



Jacques-Louis David - The Coronation of Napoleon (painted 1805-1807)

The press was also controlled and heavily censored. In fact, the number of newspapers in Paris alone were reduced to only 4 from more than 60.

He tried to impress his will upon Russia too and assembled a Grand Army with the Germans of the Confederation of the Rhine, Austria and Prussia providing troops for him. The Grand Army also included some Poles, Spanish, Swiss, Croats, Italians and Dalmatians (just as Hitler was assisted by other nations, especially eastern European, in WWII).

In 1812, Napoleon's Grand Army invaded Russia. Due to the scorched earth policy and the terrible Russian winter, his army was decimated and from that time forward his empire began to crumble. At Leipzig, 1814 a coalition of forces, especially British, defeated him, as we saw previously.



Napoleon's retreat from Russia

Although he was exiled to the island of Elba, he managed to escape back into France in 1815, raise a new army and attempt to take back his empire. But in June of 1815 the armies of Wellington resoundingly defeated him and he was exiled to the small island of Saint Helena in the south Atlantic. He died in frustration in 1821 while the British Empire continued to expand

and grow in power and prosperity.

Napoleon's Legacy to the Holy Roman Empire

Some parts of this section builds upon information presented above, but that is a necessary aspect of the argument presented herein.

Groups such as the sabbatarian Churches of God see many Biblical prophecies in both a historicist and futurist perspective. As do some Protestant authors and researchers.

Seventh-day Adventist author Le Roy Froom in his 4 volume series *The Prophetic Faith of our Fathers* provides a large range of leads and pertinent facts demonstrating the age-old prophetic beliefs and their gradual improvement in understanding by researchers.

He wrote the following of Napoleon:

“With the rise of Napoleon a new era began, and France became the scourge of Europe. The armies of France were now led on an unparalleled career of conquest. Arrogant, unscrupulous, selfish, remorseless, ambitious, and tireless, Napoleon's military genius and administrative ability was blended with utter disregard of moral considerations. Napoleon sacrificed the lives of millions, overturned the thrones of Europe, **and thought to revive the empire of Charlemagne** as he strove to obtain the mastery of the Old World.” (Le Roy Froom, *The Prophetic Faith of our Fathers*, vol 2, p. 740) [emphasis mine]

Unfortunately too many historians downplay his evils, but the literature of his day portrayed him as a tyrant.¹⁵

Napoleon's ambitions had roots that extended back to the 5th century – the time of the first restorations of the Roman system. Let us undertake a brief look at these.

Some groups believe that the three barbarian kingdoms of the Vandals (under King Gaiseric), Heruli (under Odoacer) and Ostrogoths (under King Theodoric) represent the first the resurrections of the Roman Empire (Dan. 7:7-8, 24). This may well be a type of end-time events as well.

Under Justinian the Great (Eastern Roman Emperor) Italy and other lands were recaptured from the barbarians, effectively resurrecting the Roman Empire (the 4th resurrection) which he ruled from 527-565 AD).

¹⁵ “During the Republican Reign of Terror, during 1792-6, treachery lurked in every dwelling. Such was the retribution from Heaven, which often appoints that evil should punish evil. And when France ceased from civil strife, it was only that she might spread woe and desolation over Europe by devastating wars from 1796 to 1815. The heart of Germany still thrills at the remembrance of the deeds of those French soldiers, who, like so many fiends, entered her hamlets and her cottages to let loose their brutality, and to gratify their lust. **Under the leadership of Napoleon I who foreshadowed the arrogance, selfishness, and cruelty of Antichrist more, perhaps, than any monarch that has yet been, France, through a long series of years, devastated the terrified nations of Europe, and deluged them with blood**, giving them no rest, till, at last, exhausted by her efforts to ruin others, herself succumbed at the Battle of Waterloo, in 1815.” (B. Wills Newton, *Progress Towards the Formation of the Ten Kingdoms*) [emphasis mine]

Over 200 years later Charlemagne (Karl der Grosse in German) commenced the Carolingian dynasty (800-924 AD – 5th resurrection). The term Carolingians is modern – in that time however, they called it *universum regnum* or *Romanorum sive Francorum imperium* or *Romanum imperium* or even *imperium Christianum*. Many historical works term his reign as a restoration of the Roman Empire and culture but with Christian attributes. He was even crowned by Pope Leo III as *Emperor of the Romans* and extended the Empire to include large swaths of Europe but his Empire gradually declined. That territory later became known as the Holy Roman Empire.

Later, Otto the Great was crowned in 936 AD at Charlemagne's capital, Aachen, with a Roman banquet and considered himself as successor to Charlemagne and revived the Empire. This ceremony

“implied that Otto would follow in Charles the Great's footsteps and be crowned emperor in Rome” (Martin Kitchen, *The Cambridge Illustrated History of Germany*, p. 31).

For the period of 962-1250 AD the Ottonians, Salians and Hohenstaufens were the rulers of the Empire (6th resurrection).

When the Crusades occupied and divided up the old Eastern Roman Empire and Constantinople in the 12th and 13th centuries, this effectively linked these two halves which have more-or-less remained to this day ethnically and religiously divided, but seeking co-operation. The Holy Roman Empire generally occupied the West, while the Habsburg Dynastic lands, which were mainly outside of the Empire, were in the East. Later the Habsburgs ruled both halves (1273-1806 AD), and Charles V (1500-58 AD) was their most prominent ruler (7th resurrection).



Napoleon in all his imperial glory

Although he was not legally leader of the Holy Roman Empire as such, in practice Napoleon embodied the role of a leader of the Holy Roman Empire system in the west¹⁶ (AD1804-1814/15 – eighth restoration of the Roman Empire) and even considered himself to be the successor to Charlemagne as we have seen.¹⁷ But Napoleon was never permitted to gain control of the official Imperial Insignia. Francis II rescued them from Aachen and Nuremberg where they were whisked to various destinations, before ending up in Vienna in 1801.

¹⁶ After the Austrians were defeated in 1800, the Treaty of Luneville was agreed between the French Republic and the Holy Roman Empire in 1801 which "practically involved the destruction of the Holy Roman Empire" (William Langer, *Encyclopedia of World History*, p 637) - this was the Austrian or eastern part of the system.

¹⁷ Friedrich Heer, *The Holy Roman Empire*, p. 7; John Kiesz, *History of the Nations Foretold*, p. 34.

On 6 August 1806 Francis II illegally¹⁸ abolished the Holy Roman Empire to prevent Napoleon taking possession of it. He previously created the Austrian Empire (it later became known as the Austro-Hungarian Empire) in anticipation of this action which was in effect the continuum of the eastern half of the Holy Roman system. Here the Habsburg lands were called the *Kaisertum Österreich* – that is ‘the Eastern Empire ruled by an Emperor’.¹⁹ What many do not know is that he did not have the legal power to dissolve it, so in a sense, it continued within both the Austrian Empire and the German Confederation of the Rhine. The only ‘legality’ to enable its abolition may have been the tacit consent of the members of the Empire; yet some, such as the Elector of Hanover (King George III of Britain), dissented. Over time, only Britain decided to oppose the Confederation of the Rhine and in 1813-14 wanted to negate the dissolution of the Holy Roman Empire and argued for the Empire to be restored.

“... in point of law the Empire was never extinguished at all, but lives on as a disembodied spirit to this day [NB this was written in 1886]. For it is clear that, technically speaking, the abdication of a sovereign can destroy only his own rights, and does not dissolve the state over which he presides.” (James Bryce, *The Holy Roman Empire*, p. 360)²⁰ [emphasis mine]

As we have seen, the Empire had therefore split into two clear halves: In the West there was France and the German Confederation of the Rhine (initially consisting of 16 members and within two years consisting of 30 members with the exception of Prussia and Austria); and the Austrian Empire in the East. The formation of the Confederation of the Rhine in 1806 gave Napoleon the western sphere of the Holy Roman Empire.

Historian Friedrich Heer labels this latter Empire as a “secret Holy Roman Empire” (*The Holy Roman Empire*, p. xvi) that was eventually destroyed in 1918 by the Anglo-Keltic powers. By the 1920s Fascists had gained power in Italy and Spain and fascism continued to advance throughout southern and eastern Europe reviving the dual Holy Roman and Roman spirit. In other words, it seemingly became disembodied and continued in spirit for decades - the Beast system continued in this form in the East after the Western part fell with Napoleon.

In addition, Napoleon annexed a portion of north-west Germany as such absorbed a part of the old Holy Roman Empire directly into his empire. But why then did he not proclaim himself Holy Roman Emperor even though almost all that he did demonstrated that he saw himself and his new empire as its continuation?

No one can say for sure, but because the Holy Roman Empire was so weak since the 30 year’s war (1618-1648 AD) why take on the title of such an Emperor when he was in effect that Emperor and absorbed most of the Holy Roman Empire anyhow? In addition he wanted a fresh start, without the ‘hangover’ of the old Empire’s title.

After Napoleon and Francis II, the northern and western parts began to revive with Prussia, led by Bismarck, absorbing the lands that were part of the Confederation of the Rhine. Later, after

¹⁸ Friedrich Heer, *The Holy Roman Empire*, p. 7. He had to make his illegal abdication "so that Napoleon could not try to revive the Empire of Charlemagne" (plate 163, opposite p. 267). In a step-by-step move toward abolishing the Holy Roman Empire, Francis styled himself “Hereditary Emperor of Austria” while retaining the original title. In 1805 he was known as “Roman Emperor Elect, Hereditary Emperor of Austria.”

¹⁹ This conflict of Napoleon's with Austria may be a type of the future conflicts within the final revival of the Roman system at the very end.

²⁰ In fact, certain nations refused to recognise the dissolution of the Holy Roman Empire. In their opinion it continued to exist!

some conflict, Germany allied with the Austro-Hungarian Empire. After the fall of the Third Reich, Europe, under the control of Russia in the East and dominated by America in the West, had been kept from restoring a union and potential empire of sorts. But memories are fading in the Anglo-Keltic nations of our traditional enemies: the Holy Roman Empire, Germany and the Austro-Hungarian Empire which has led to our naïve politicians lending support for a United Europe, which, they believe, will assist in building a world superstructure for global peace and prosperity. It will instead turn on them.

Let us now consider another very aspect of his reign: his relationship with the Roman Catholic Church.

"Francis I, Louis XIV, Napoleon, saw themselves as the Holy Roman Empire's legitimate heirs. Popes waged a thousand-year-long battle with emperors for the right to Rome." (Friedrich Heer, *The Holy Roman Empire*, p. 1)²¹

The conflicts between State and Church included Henry IV (1050-1106), Frederick I (1122-90 AD), Frederick II (1194-1250 AD) and others.

Like the Holy Roman Empire, there was a love-hate relationship and rivalry between the State and the Vatican.

In 1796 the Vatican's army was defeated and the Papal states occupied by Napoleon's troops.²² Two years later the Vatican itself was occupied and the Pope taken into captivity. Napoleon followed the tradition of the Emperor-Pope tensions over the centuries between the Emperor representing the Roman system and the Popes (normally the power behind the throne, manipulating and conniving).



François Gérard, Detail of Portrait of Napoleon Bonaparte, 1805

²¹ This culminated in Napoleon imprisoning two Popes – refer to the **Appendix. How Catholics brought Napoleon to his knees**. Hitler, too, had plans for the imprisonment of the Pope. No doubt the final Beast will have a falling out with the final Pope (Rev 17:16).

²² "**The abolition of the Papal states, and the maltreatment of the Popes, was especially shocking to contemporary opinion. Pius VI (1775-99) ...** [who] was deprived of his temporal powers, and died in French custody at Valence. Pius VII (1800-23) ... ended up for five years under French arrest for excommunicating all (unnamed) 'robbers of Peter's patrimony'" (Norman Davies, *Europe a History*, p. 731). [emphasis mine]

The Swiss guard was replaced by French troops who attempted to force him to renounce his temporal power – which he refused. As a result, he was subjected to abuse and insults and taken into captivity. After capturing the Pope, Napoleon took him to prison where he died some 18 months later.

The wealth of Rome was taken to Paris – not just the palaces of the nobility, but also the museums and even the Papal residence. Contractors and agents were hired by the French government to perform much of the robbery. The rest was by the soldiers seeking some form of pay.

This was not the first time that Pius VI experienced difficulties with a Government. Joseph II, Holy Roman Emperor, attempted to reform the Catholic Church by suppressing the monasteries and attempting to appoint clergy. Spain, Portugal and even Italy attempted similar reforms!

Yet by 1801 Napoleon made peace with the Vatican via a concordat with Pius VII which re-established the Catholic Church in France, but left the State sanctioned Gaullist Church in place (the Revolution's Civil Constitution of the Clergy in 1790 set up a State Church).

Napoleon needed the Church – it was becoming more popular in France and he wanted its backing and unification of the clergy. So, the terms of the Concordat in 1801 recognised the Catholic Church as the religion of most French. However, Archbishops and bishops were to be nominated by the Government, it was the Pope who would confer the office. Church property which was confiscated was restored. (The concordat was revoked in 1905).

Just three years later (1804), Napoleon virtually forced Pope Pius VII to consecrate him as Emperor and took the crown from the Pope's hands and crowned himself. Simultaneously he kept one hand on his sword hilt to demonstrate that he was a military leader and his system was one that used force to get its way.

In 1805 Napoleon proclaimed himself *King of Italy*.

Indeed, the period of 1789-1814 considered itself alternately as the (pagan) Roman Republic and the Holy Roman Empire.²³

He also arrested Pope Pius VII and took him captive to France where he remained until 1814 not unlike the 'Babylonian captivity' period in the thirteenth century when the French king took the Pope captive to Avignon. The Papal States were annexed, the churches were plundered and a pagan edifice was erected outside of St Peter's.²⁴ The Emperor's desire to be considered supreme leader (and in some cases divine) versus Papal authority continued and this intense rivalry will culminate in the last days with the destruction of the Papacy (see Rev 17:16). "Understandably, after 1809 many Catholics began to regard Napoleon as anti-Christian" (Desmond Seward, *Napoleon and Hitler. A Comparative Biography*, p. 225)

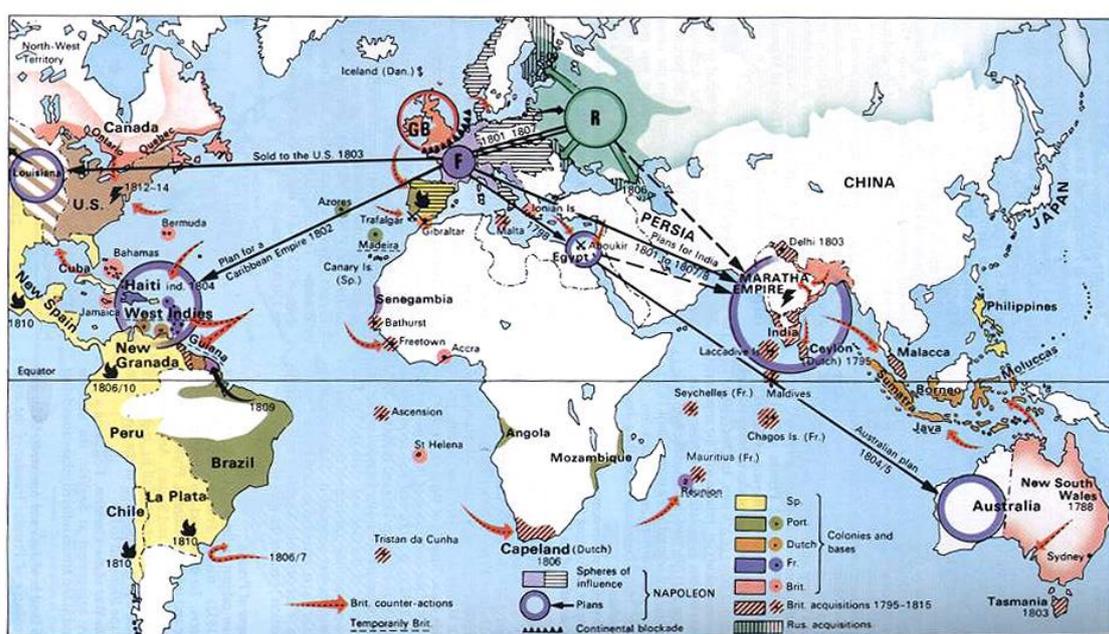
²³ Muray Bookchin *Post Scarcity Anarchism*, p. 174

²⁴ William Pitt in a speech "to the House of Commons gave an undeniable objective account of 'the horrors committed in [northern] Italy during the campaign of 1796-97' <commanded by Napoleon>... **The churches were given up to indiscriminate plunder. Every religious and charitable fund, every public treasure was confiscated. The country was made the scene of every species of disorder and rapine. The priests, the established form of worship, all the objects of religious reverence, were openly insulted by the French troops...**" (Desmond Seward, *Napoleon and Hitler. A Comparative Biography*. pp. 50-51). [emphasis mine]

Other beastly characteristics included him being "hero-worshipped" according to Desmond Seward in *Napoleon and Hitler. A Comparative Biography* (p. 52). He also planned the invasion of Britain for which he organised 167,500 men to be shipped in 2,343 ships and barges! In anticipation of his success, he had commemorative medals struck to celebrate the anticipated successful mission. Napoleon wrote:

"Our government must destroy the British monarchy or it will have only to wait for its own destruction by the corruption and intrigue of these insular plotters. The present moment offers a good opportunity. Let us concentrate all our attention on the navy and destroy England. That done, Europe is at our feet."²⁵

Like Alexander the Great, he planned to invade Persia and India²⁶ (not unlike the Germans in both World Wars I and II). While he was no Catholic, he recognised that most French were Catholic and saw it as a stabilising force, useful to him and his political-military ambitions.²⁷



Napoleon's world-wide power struggle with Britain

The above is taken from the *The Penguin Atlas of World History, Vol. 2* (p. 30) which shows graphically the military expansion and conquests of the French around the globe and the British counter-measures (c1783-1815).

Upon his abdication in 1814, Napoleon was granted the island of Elba as a sovereign principality. His wife received the duchies of Parma, Piacenza, and Guastalla, with sovereign power; both maintained their imperial titles. "So closed a government that dated from August Caesar" (i.e.

²⁵ Previously the Catholic Spanish Armada under Philip of Spain failed in a similar quest in 1588 as did Louis XIV who attempted his invasion in May 1692. However, Admiral Edward Russell defeated the French Admiral Anne-Hilarion de Cotentin, pursued his fleet and burnt many of the French ships at anchor.

²⁶ Ibid, pp. 52-53

²⁷ Ibid, p. 94. He also set up concentration camps (p. 95). Concerning Hitler: "His religion was very like the Emperor's [Napoleon's] deism ... he particularly resented the Catholic Church's natural hostility to his racial theories ... Nevertheless, he feared the Church's hold over the consciences of millions of Germans, and like Napoleon, he hoped to harness it in the service of his new society. Indeed, he instructed Goebbels to remain a Catholic - so Speer informs us" (p. 115). "After the war Hitler planned to impose an emasculated Catholicism which would be the servant of National Socialism" (p. 236).

from 31 BC) writes historian West (*Modern History*, p. 377)²⁸ However, after his attempt to re-take his empire the following year during the 100 Days War, he was defeated at Waterloo and sent to live on St. Helena as a prisoner for the rest of his days.²⁹

How similar to the Teutonic Knights³⁰ and later Germany in World Wars I and II, Napoleon invaded Russia, only to be defeated. He also invaded the Near East in similitude to the Crusaders and Hitler and like Hitler and the Germans in World War I he had plans to invade Britain (history repeats and repeats). Hitler's fascination with Napoleon went so far as to actually invade Russia by crossing the Nieman River, the same river that Napoleon crossed in 1812 AD, on the exact same day of the year, June 22.³¹

Napoleon's remains were disinterred in 1840, exactly 25 years after he arrived on St. Helena and removed to Les Invalides, Paris, and placed in the famous *Napoleon's Tomb*.

The emperor's body was transported over the Seine to Courbevoie, a suburb of Paris. Here, the imperial corpse passed its first night on the banks of the Seine. The funeral was held in Paris on 15 December, 1840. The coffin rested briefly under the Arc de Triomphe, which was built on the orders of Napoleon in 1806, but only completed in 1836, and was then taken over the Champs Elysees, across the Seine, to the Dome des Invalides. Thirty-six sailors from La Belle-Poule carried the coffin through the park in front of the church, to the entrance. There they were met by King Louis Philippe, the Royal Family and old Field-Marshal Moncey, who was in charge of the Hotel des Invalides complex, founded by the 'Sun King,' Louis XIV, in 1670. But Louis Napoleon Bonaparte had been refused permission to attend his uncle's funeral.

It would take more than twenty years before Napoleon's tomb was finished (1861). By that time, King Louis Philippe had been deposed (1848). Louis Napoleon Bonaparte (nephew of Napoleon) was elected president in 1849 and on 2 December 1851, he seized complete power and exactly one year later, he was proclaimed emperor as Napoleon III. In 1870 he was defeated by Bismark's Prussia and taken into captivity.

²⁸ Quoted in *Who is the Beast?* p. 10.

²⁹ Later, Napoleon III (1852-1870 AD) constantly held up the Roman Empire as a model for France (Heinz Gollwitzer *Europe in the Age of Imperialism 1880-1914*, p. 56)

³⁰ "The Teutonic Order is abolished!" That was the great Napoleon's decree on 24 April, 1809, when it was decided to confiscate its properties.

Yet the Teutonic Knights had really been destroyed centuries before at the terrible battle of Tannenberg in Poland in 1410. This disaster was unexpected, for the Order had been enjoying its period of greatest success for a century... In 1466, the Order surrendered vast territories, including Danzig and West Prussia, to Poland and the Grand Master became a mere vassal of the Polish King. The Order never went into battle again under the banner of the Black Cross.

The Order in Prussia was finally dissolved in Prussia in 1525, the Grand Master becoming a Protestant. Smaller territories of the Order lasted a little longer, and the few remaining estates concentrated on local government, though individual soldiers still appeared who served as officers under various Emperors. Finally came Napoleon's confiscation of nearly everything that remained.

In 1834 a new Order was set up by the Hapsburg rulers of Austria, based on charitable aims, like the care of wounded in war. Such were the aims of the original Teutonic Knights. This lasted until 1923.

What did live on, though, was the cross of the Order. The famous German decoration the Iron Cross, took it over, and even today, the old cross design in its final form, is used by Germany's armed forces. So something of the Order, which for all its faults was a great one, lives on today." ("Napoleon himself dissolved the ancient military Order of Teutonic Knights", *Look and Learn*, No. 505, 18 September 1971) [emphasis mine]

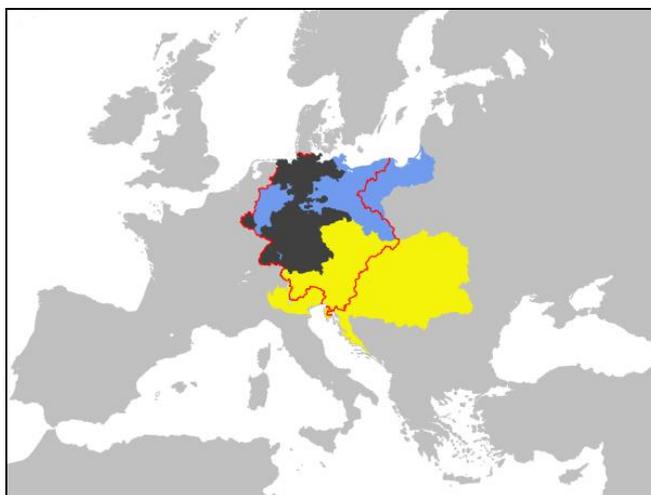
³¹ William Shirer *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*, p. 850. When things began to go bad in Russia, Shirer notes: "Now, [general] Blumentritt remembered, the ghosts of the Grand Army, which had taken this same road to Moscow, and the memory of Napoleon's fate began to haunt the dreams of the Nazi conquerors. The German generals began to read, or reread, Caulaincourt's grim account of the French conqueror's disastrous winter in Russia in 1812" (p. 860).

Napoleon's sarcophagus is fascinating. The famous architect Ludovico Visconti had designed a circular crypt, without a ceiling, so that it is possible to look in from ground-level. The emperor's sarcophagus stands in the middle, on a granite pedestal. Inside it are six more coffins of different kinds of wood and metal. On the side of the crypt, opposite the entrance, there is a small chamber. It was created in 1969 to hold the remains of Napoleon's only legitimate child, Napoleon II, also known as the Duke of Reichstadt. His remains were brought to the Dome³² on 15 December 1940 by Adolf Hitler, who at that time, ruled both Paris and Vienna, where Napoleon II had been buried.

When Hitler entered Paris in June 1940 upon the capitulation of France, he visited the tomb of Napoleon gazing upon it for almost an hour. Considering that he spent only five to six hours in the city, the amount of time spent absorbed in Napoleon's tomb may betray the spirit behind him.

To take the place of the defunct Holy Roman Empire in the West, the German Confederation was formed as an act of the famous Congress of Vienna 8 June 1815 (but later abolished by Prussia in 1866 and the territories eventually absorbed into the German Second Reich in 1871 until it fell in 1918).³³

In effect, the Congress sought to unite the former territories of the Holy Roman Empire – so in this sense, the Empire continued on. In spirit, the system lived on in the hearts of aristocrats, princes and politicians for decades, awaiting a complete rebirth. For instance, Frederick William IV (1795-1861 AD) of Germany dreamed of a revived Holy Roman Empire to replace the German Confederation, "in which Prussia would play a glorious role, but secondary to that of the Hapsburgs." (William Langer, *Encyclopedia of World History*, p. 718)



Map of the German Confederation, Prussia and the Austrian Empire after Napoleon

³² In 1993, the restoration of the Kaiser's family Church (the Berlin cathedral or Dome) had far enough advanced to have an official opening. The cathedral received a direct hit during an air raid in World War II, and for years it was painstakingly restored. On June 6, 1993, the big day arrived. In the presence of hundreds of invited guests, as well as Chancellor Helmut Kohl with the guest of honour, the 85-year-old son of Germany's last Crown Prince, His Imperial Highness The Prince Louis Ferdinand. Deutsche Welle TV Berlin televised the opening ceremonies around the world. The Prince was overcome with emotion and in his own words "was thankful to have lived to see this day, where this beautiful Church in which he was christened in 1907, was restored to its former splendor." Prince Louis Ferdinand died in 1996 at age 89.

³³ For instance Hitler was sometimes portrayed as a Roman Emperor and the Nuremberg rallies took on the characteristics of a pagan Roman festival (George Bruce, *The Nazis*, p. 58).

It may therefore be said that the Empire continued in the form of the German Empire which, “in a very real sense [was] that predecessor’s representative,” writes Bryce, an authority on the Holy Roman Empire (*The Holy Roman Empire*, p. 389). He goes on to ponder whether the united German nation in 1870 was the successor to the Empire. He answers this question (which was on the lips of many at that time) in this way:

“This loose and anomalous federal **constitution is the heritage of the old [Holy Roman] Empire**, which is endeavouring to win for the Emperor a commanding European international position.” (ibid, p. 430) [emphasis mine]

So, the Holy Roman Empire did not end, except in name. It continued to exist, but under a different guise – and in two halves by all appearances.

In short, we might state that the Holy Roman Empire sought to recreate a united Christian Europe and this may be re-forming slowly before our very eyes in the form of the European Union (otherwise an EU successor arrangement may bring this about). *The Hutchinson Softback Encyclopedia* actually states that it was

“... the empire of Charlemagne and his successors, and the German Empire 962-1806, both regarded as **a revival of the Roman Empire ...**” (p. 398) [emphasis mine].³⁴

Did Napoleon represent the eighth revival of the Roman system? And if so, might his empire’s characteristics supply us with some clues as to that of the final Roman Empire? (10th and final revival)

Two Halves of Napoleon’s Empire: a Type

Earlier in this article I wrote the following which may be of assistance in attempting to get to the bottom of the issue:

“Although he was not legally leader of the Holy Roman Empire as such, in spirit Napoleon fulfilled the role of a leader of the Holy Roman Empire in the west³⁰ (AD1804-1814/15) and even considered himself to be the successor to Charlemagne. But Napoleon was never permitted to gain control of the official Imperial Insignia. Francis II rescued them from Aachen and Nuremberg where they were whisked to various destinations before ending up in Vienna in 1801. On 6 August 1806 Francis II illegally abolished the Holy Roman Empire to prevent Napoleon taking possession of it and the crown (he previously created the Austrian Empire in 1804 which later became known as the Austro-Hungarian Empire, which was continuum of the eastern half of this Roman system.)”

³⁴ One report expresses Hitler’s absolute fascination with the Spear of Destiny and he may have held it in his hands, proclaiming that he felt that he held the destiny of the world in his hands. Only Napoleon, of all the Holy Roman successors, was not able to obtain them, which is interesting. Napoleon claimed on one occasion in 1804 to have had the Imperial insignia of Charles brought to France. “But if there was not in this a trick of Napoleon’s, there must be a mistake ... for these insignia had been removed from Aachen by Austria in 1798 ... We are even told that it was at one time his intention to eject the Hapsburgs, and be chosen Roman Emperor in their stead.” (Bryce *The Holy Roman Empire*, pp. 354-55)

There is no doubt that he had this manoeuvre in mind for the two years from the time that Napoleon had himself declared Emperor in 1804 – he could see that Napoleon had grander ideas in mind.

As we have seen, in July 1806, Napoleon had merged several kingdoms and duchies together into a single *Confederation of the Rhine* (with roughly the same geography as the old Empire - the western leg of the old Holy Roman Empire), which became a vassal state under the protection of France. They also supplied a huge number of troops for Napoleon's Russian invasion. The medieval feudal allegiances of most of the old Holy Roman Empire were ended. Francis II renounced the title of Holy Roman Emperor, remaining as Francis I, Austrian Emperor, over the eastern leg of this system.

So, in effect, the Holy Roman Empire split into two clear halves. It was no longer called the Holy Roman Empire, but in reality those parts still limped on, awaiting another reunion for their political and religious causes.³⁵

Note: Francis II was known as the Emperor of Austria, and it is these eastern lands that later became known as the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The combined Empire as such actually commenced in 1867 as a compromise between the Habsburg monarchy and the Hungarian nobility in an attempt to maintain the Austrian Empire. The compromise was signed in February 1867 by Franz Joseph of Austria and a delegation from Hungary, which established the Dual Monarchy. It is as if it were the eastern leg of the system attempting to keep alive under a different guise.

Although defeated by Bismarck in 1866, to ensure that Prussia led a united Germany and not Austria, Austria joined the "Three Emperors League" six years later (Germany, Austro-Hungary, Russia).

Eventually the Bismarck-Garibaldi -> Wilhelm II/Franz Joseph (succeeded by Charles I) combination was the first stage of the 9th restoration of this system and met its defeat in WW1. Not long after Hitler/Mussolini and their east European allies represented the second stage which tended more Roman and less Holy Roman in its character.

The German leg of this system was known as the Second Reich under Bismarck and Wilhelm II. Its revival under Hitler was known as the Third Reich. His Reich absorbed Austria, and included close cooperation from the fascists of eastern Europe and neutrality or low-level assistance from the fascists in Spain. The vast overseas colonies and territories of the fascist Vichy France were

³⁵ In 1815 *Confederation of the Rhine* was reorganised as the *German Confederation*. In 1866 it was abolished and succeeded by the Prussian dominated *North German Confederation*. In 1871 its territories were united with the North German Confederation to form the *German Empire* – the Second Reich. Note also the following information taken from *Wikipedia* (article "Kyffhäuser Monument"):

"The Kyffhäuser Monument (German: *Kyffhäuserdenkmal*), also known as the Barbarossa Monument (*Barbarossadenkmal*) or the Kaiser Wilhelm Monument (*Kaiser-Wilhelm-Denkmal*), is a monument on the summit of the Kyffhäuser Mountain ... recalls the castles and fortresses of the Hohenstaufen period in Germany in the 12th and 13th centuries. It was intended to **suggest that the Prussia-dominated German Empire founded in 1871 was the legitimate successor to the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation**, which existed from the 10th century until 1806. It also signifies the national theme of decline and rebirth.

The monument features a 6.5 meter-(22 foot) tall sandstone figure of the medieval Holy Roman Emperor Frederick I von Hohenstaufen, better known as *Barbarossa* (meaning "The Red-Bearded"), who appears to just have awakened from sleep. Above him stands an 11-meter-(36-foot-)tall bronze equestrian statue of Kaiser William I (*Wilhelm I.*), the first emperor of the Second Reich, designed by Sculptor Emil Hundrieser (1846-1911) in the neo-baroque style. This composition expresses the monument's theme: That William I brought to fruition the unification of the German nation that had been so long desired since Barbarossa's time." [emphasis mine]

also initially part of that global system.

Roman Regalia Galore

Napoleon was initially interested in the Holy Roman Empire but later more so with the Roman Empire as did Mussolini³⁶. Hitler claimed that he was going to restore the Holy Roman Empire, yet he acted more as a Roman Emperor and used more of the Roman emblems.

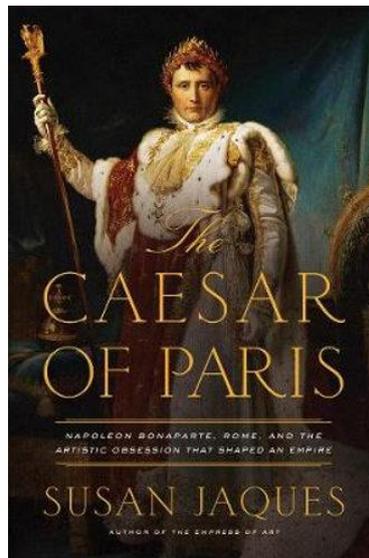
Why is this case?

It appears that the Roman revivals system is tending full circle back to a Roman Empire. What seems to have been happening is a political/military state in cooperation with a religious system called the Holy Roman Empire – had been continuing for centuries. A competitive love-hate relationship. But the competitive spirit is gradually intensifying and while the final resurrection of this system will be a Holy Roman Empire (church and state) to start with, the Beast leader will want to be worshipped and come into conflict with the religious system resulting in it being destroyed (Rev 17:16). The last years of the 10th resurrection will be a Roman Empire with emperor worship again.

Much of Napoleon's fascination with Rome can be witnessed in his art and architecture.

While there is broad knowledge of the Roman art that Napoleon so adored and extolled during his reign, the extent of it is generally little known.

In her book *The Caesar of Paris. Napoleon Bonaparte, Rome, and the Artistic Obsession that Shaped an Empire*, Susan Jaques paints an extensive picture of his art obsession (no pun intended).



Cover of *Caesar of Paris* by Susan Jaques

³⁶ Read Helen Roche (2019), "Mussolini's 'Third Rome', Hitler's Third Reich and the Allure of Antiquity: Classicizing Chronopolitics as a Remedy for Unstable National Identity?", *Fascism. Journal of Comparative Fascist Studies*, Vol 8, Issue 2, pp. 127-52.

Ms Jaques provides all the proofs that anyone could wish to demonstrate that Napoleon definitely saw himself as the heir to the Roman emperors. This mythical image, inspired no doubt by unseen spiritual forces, drove him to recreate aspects of Rome such as the columns and arches found in Paris

His basking in military glory even emulated the lust for expansion based on the Roman desire for conquest and expansion. Anything Roman appealed to him: art, architecture, icons, symbols, triumphal monuments. Let alone his own hairstyle and of course the famous golden imperial eagle.

Recall that his crown was formed as a Roman laurel wreath and on bas-reliefs on his tomb he wears a Roman toga. In fact, he created a new form of Roman aristocracy to replace much of the old European leadership. This included his brothers, sisters, stepchildren and personal friends. This numbered 3,500 or so for a new ruling class.

Then there was the Arc de Triomphe Du Carrousel built 1806-08 in celebration of his victories in war. It is self-evident that it (and others) was inspired by those of the Roman Empire. The arms of the Kingdom of Italy and that of the French Empire appear on top of the arch as if joining the two empires.

Even in the group portrait of Napoleon, his family, clergy and dignitaries and how they were dressed in ceremonial costume show Roman influences. However, Napoleon ordered him to include his mother who did not attend as she disapproved of the ceremony. The ceremony cost around USD\$9 million in today's currency value.



Coin celebrating Napoleon as First Consul for life (note the Roman hair style and wreath)

Several days after the ceremony he had his soldiers parade before him where he presented Roman eagle flags:

"These eagles will always be your rallying point. They will be wherever your Emperor decides they are necessary to defend his throne and his people."

He declared himself King of Italy and crowned himself once again, 26 May 1805. This time with the iron crown of Lombardy which, according to tradition, was worn by Charlemagne himself, but also Otto the Great and European royals. ("Iron Crown", https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iron_Crown)³⁷

³⁷ "The Fondation Dosne-Thiers painting shows Napoleon wearing the famous laurel-wreath crown, produced by Biennais and made up of forty-four large leaves, forty-two detachable berries and twelve smaller leaves, set on an oval band and fixed at the back of the head by a pin. This crown was destroyed during the Restoration. Only one leaf survives, which was given to Isabey, who had it mounted in a snuff-box which bears the following inscription: "At Saint-Cloud in 1805, before the departure for Milan, I was helping the emperor as he tried on the royal crown

According to *Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia* (article "Roman Salute")

"Several paintings in the Neoclassical style depict Roman heroes adopting variants of the gesture. The most famous and influential of these is Jacques-Louis David's painting *The Oath of the Horatii* (1784), which illustrates a pledge of loyalty to the Roman republic. After the French Revolution of 1789, David was commissioned to depict the formation of the revolutionary government in a similar style. **In the *Tennis Court Oath* (1792) the National Assembly are all depicted with their arms outstretched as they swear to create a new constitution. After the republican government was replaced by Napoleon's imperial regime, David further deployed the gesture in images of Napoleon receiving the acclamation and loyalty of his soldiers. These consciously imitated ancient Roman *adlocutio* [ie an address to the troops followed by a salute] scenes.** The most important of these paintings is *The Distribution of the Eagle Standards* (1810)." [emphasis mine]

Wikipedia also has an article on *The Distribution of the Eagle Standards*:

"*The Distribution of the Eagle Standards* is a painting by Jacques-Louis David depicting a ceremony arranged by Napoleon after his assumption of power as emperor. In it he sought to revive the military ethos of the Roman empire. However, the ceremony, and the painting that commemorated it, **also provided an important model for the use of the Roman salute and its revival at public ceremonies organised by fascists and the Nazis during the 20th century.**

The event took place on December 5 1804, three days after his coronation. **Napoleon distributed standards based on the "eagles" of the legions of Rome...**

The final painting depicted the moment when Napoleon blessed the standards being held out towards him. **Napoleon has his arm raised in imitation of ancient "adlocutio" scenes,** which depict Classical heroes addressing troops. David's composition was heavily influenced by the friezes on Trajan's column." [emphasis mine]



Oath of the Horatii (1784)



Distribution of the Eagle Standards (1810)

which was supposed to go above the golden laurel wreath made for the coronation in Notre-Dame. One of the leaves fell off. Just as I was about to give it to the head chamberlain, His Majesty said to me: 'Keep it; it will make a good souvenir of your clumsiness.'" (Musée de Fontainebleau)." ("Napoleon and Crown", <https://www.napoleon.org/en/history-of-the-two-empires/paintings/napoleon-and-crown/>) [emphasis mine]

Could anything be more blatant and clear? Napoleon was a nineteenth century Roman Emperor following in their footsteps.

Now notice further evidence for Napoleon's fascination with the Holy Roman Empire and Rome:

"Three months before his imperial coronation, **Napoleon visited Charlemagne's tomb at Aachen** (Aix-la-Chapelle)³⁸ and spent time there in meditation. His fascination with the "Father of Europe" was profound to the point, perhaps, of imagined reincarnation. A few years later in 1809, he told some papal representatives: "**Take a good look at me. In me you see Charlemagne.** *Je suis Charlemagne, moi! Oui, je suis Charlemagne!*"³⁹ The ninth-century ruler's influence was evident in a number of ways at the coronation ceremony. **The official crown was a copy of the one Charlemagne had worn, while his sword was also used in part of the ceremony. And in his left hand Napoleon held the holy Roman emperor Charles V's scepter, surmounted with a likeness of Charlemagne. The official paintings of the occasion show Napoleon as a Roman emperor, sometimes with a victor's laurel wreath fashioned from gold.**

The extensive modeling of things Roman would not have been a surprise to many. Roman themes were already present in government attire immediately before Napoleon came to power. The painter Jacques-Louis David designed the costumes worn by the Directory and Consulate governments, based on ancient Roman dress: white togas and sashes of office. Paintings from the time of the Consulate onward show Napoleon with a hair style in the manner of the Roman emperor Titus. Following the proclamation of the empire, **Napoleon adopted the Roman eagle, with wings outspread, as the national symbol.** His regiments carried their colors on staffs surmounted by such eagles, presented in person by the emperor.

... In a separate cover letter, he told his uncle, the cardinal Fesch, "**For the Pope's purposes, I am Charlemagne.** Like Charlemagne, I join the crown of France with the crown of the Lombards. My Empire, like Charlemagne's, marches with the East. I therefore expect the Pope to accommodate his conduct to my requirements."⁴⁰ In April he pressed his new advantage over the pope by issuing his own version of the catechism.

... An insight into the difference between the two men is revealed in a detail from an account of the pope's arrival back in Rome, as cited by historian Thompson: when Pius returned to the Quirinal palace, he found it redecorated by Napoleon, who had intended to use it as his own residence in 1811. One new frieze showed **naked pagan goddesses**, about which the pope is said to have commented, "We will give them a little more to wear and make Madonnas of them." Napoleon's attempt to diminish the papacy religiously and politically had not succeeded.

³⁸ "Even Charlemagne's capital of Aachen was incorporated into this grand work of propaganda. A portrait of the new emperor was displayed there, and in 1811 an effigy of Charlemagne was paraded through the city, with a message inscribed upon it in both German and French: "I am only surpassed by Napoleon." (Andrew Knighton, *Napoleon Bonaparte Played A Clever Psychological Game – He Likened Himself To Powerful Figures From History, Like The Great Emperor Charlemagne*, <https://www.warhistoryonline.com/napoleon/napoleon-charlemagne.html> .

³⁹ According to Matthias Becker, *Charlemagne*, he wrote this in 1806 and "More than a few of his contemporaries referred to him as "Charlemagne reborn"" (p. 145)

⁴⁰ "In February 1806 Napoleon urged his uncle, Cardinal Flesch, to impress upon the church that I am indeed Charlemagne, the sword of the church and its emperor" (Friedrich Heer, *The Holy Roman Empire*, p. 7).

... “I have worn the Imperial crown of France, the iron crown of Italy, and now England has given me one even grander and more glorious—that worn by the savior of the world—a crown of thorns.” In 1825, Horace Vernet painted *Napoleon on His Deathbed*. **The emperor wears a laurel crown, his face rejuvenated and Christlike, a crucifix adorning his chest.”** (David Hulme “I Am Called to Change the World”, Messiahs! Rulers and the Role of Religion, Part Six, *Vision*: Summer edition) [emphasis mine]



Napoleon crowning himself

Napoleon and the Jews

The Holy Roman Empire persecuted – to one degree or another – Christian religious minorities and Jews.

By the time of the French Revolution with its mixture of freedom and neo-Communism, the Jews were beginning to be offered more freedoms, but not as much as for other groups.

Napoleon introduced his famous *Napoleonic Code* which he brought with him into conquered territories – in effect it ended the segregation of Jews in ghettos, liberalised property rights and even declared all men equal. In effect he took aspects of the Revolution and combined it with his imperial ambitions. A bit like Mussolini (who started off as a radical socialist and who remained an atheist until his death); and Hitler who was mildly socialist and a deist like Napoleon.

Jeremy Rosen wrote a succinct piece on Napoleon’s emancipation of the Jews:

“Napoleon had shown sympathy for Jewish aspirations at the siege of Acre in 1799 when he published a proclamation in which he invited all the Jews of Asia and Africa to gather under his flag ... The Jews of central Europe regarded Napoleon as the major forerunner of Jewish emancipation. **In Austria, Chancellor Metternich said, ‘I fear that the Jews will believe [Napoleon] to be their promised Messiah.’** All the states that came under French authority applied Napoleon’s reforms. In Italy, the Netherlands, and the German states, the Jews were emancipated and able to act as free people for the first time in those nations. After Napoleon was defeated at Waterloo, the Council of Vienna reimposed all previous restrictions on Jews outside France and the restoration of discriminatory measures. And post-Napoleon France’s antisemitism was so endemic that it led to the Dreyfus Affair, Marshall Petain, and continues to this day in certain circles.” (“Macron’s Napoleon Moment”,

The Algemeiner, 20 November 2020)⁴¹ [emphasis mine]



He even remarked that “If I ruled a people of Jews, I would rebuild the Temple of Solomon!” (Andrew Roberts, *Napoleon the Great*, p. 272). Further, he would have permitted them to return to the Holy Land

“as the rightful heirs to Palestine ... any people who can mourn like this after so long, deserve to have their Temple rebuilt ... I will never accept any proposals that will obligate the Jewish people to leave France, because to me the Jews are the same as any other citizen in our country. It takes weakness to chase them out of the country, but it takes strength to assimilate them.”⁴²

Note his mention of assimilation. It seems that he must have held some anti-Semitic views according to David Turner:

“In his *History of Anti-Semitism*, Leon Poliakov quotes Napoleon:

“I do not intend to rescue that race, which seems to have been the only one excluded from redemption, from the curse with which it is smitten, but I would like to put it in a position where it is unable to propagate the evil,” (volume III, p.226).

Still, Napoleon’s commitment to French revolutionary ideals of *liberté, égalité, fraternité* meant extending the same even to the Jews. But the price he demanded, the “Napoleonic Bargain,” was little different from that demanded by Martin Luther three hundred years earlier. Luther demanded that Jews abandon their religion; Napoleon expected the Jews to abandon their identity.

⁴¹ Refer also to “Napoleon and the Jews” by Ben Weider (details in the *References*).

⁴² “That decree that Napoleon would be defeated in Russia was sealed after he attempted to level the Jewish cemetery in Vilna, which included the sacred bones of the Vilna Gaon, as a garrison area for French troops. When the Baal HaTanya [= Chasidic school] heard the French invaders playing the joyous “Napoleon March” he exclaimed “that is a victory march, and it must be elevated from out of the possession of the Klippas” [= the three elements of storm, wind, water], Chabad Chassidim still singing the march every motzei [= going out of or evening after] Yom Kippur! “Whenever I ride I see the Blond Jew always railed against me (the Baal HaTanya was fair haired)” pained Napoleon, and R.Shneur Zalman narrowly escaped capture in Liozna by the Emperor himself. With his evil eye, haughty mind and proud spirit, Napoleon was a true “Talmid of Bilom” [= one conferred an honorific title if well versed in paganism as far as I can gather], as can also be seen by his desperate desire to place a hex on any personal item belonging to the Baal HaTanya, and from his work on kishuf [= magic] and auguries [= omens], “Napoleon’s Oraculum”. (Amnon Goldberg, “Napoleon and the Rabbis”, *Brit-Am Historical Report*)

In effect both demanded assimilation, that Jews abandon Judaism:

"Napoleon's outward tolerance and fairness toward Jews was actually based upon his grand plan to have them disappear entirely by means of total assimilation, intermarriage, and conversion."

Still he did usher in the process which would be called the Emancipation; he promoted laws governing the inclusion of Jews as relative equals and citizens. But freeing the Jews from centuries of serfdom and their community identity still had many opponents. Even within revolutionary France many preferred an "exclusionary solution" to the now secularized Jewish Problem. According to Jacob Katz,

"The possible expulsion of Jews from France had been mentioned in the National Assembly debate... as the unreasonable and unthinkable alternative to the obvious solution, the radical integration of the Jews into the newly created body politic," (*From Prejudice to Destruction, Anti-Semitism, 1700-1933*, p. 109).

The Napoleonic conquests extended Jewish emancipation across a reluctant Europe and once he was defeated in 1814 emancipation evaporated as quickly as it had been imposed. Many Jews responded by reverting to "son of" names, such as Mendelssohn, Jacobson, Levinson, etc." And perhaps this reversion to tradition points to a fundamental of Jewish insecurity in the Diaspora unreflectively carried forward from a threatening history.

Emancipation's promise was seriously reversed with Napoleon leaving the scene. But eventually, if haltingly, the emancipation movement revived. In the 1830's Greece, Canada and Sweden freed their Jews; Denmark in 1849, the United Kingdom in 1858 and Germany in 1871. The United States followed Germany in 1877." (David Turner, "Chapter 9, From anti-Judaism to antisemitism: The French Enlightenment", *The Jerusalem Post*, 26 June 2013) [emphasis mine]

Reference should also be made to Napoleon's third decree in 1808:

"In March 17, 1808, Napoleon made three decrees in a failed attempt to promote the equality of Jews and integrate them into French society, building on the Jewish Emancipation of 1790-1791. The Infamous Decree, the third of the three decrees, had adverse effects. Although its aim was to grant equal citizenship, it restricted Jewish money lending (Catholics were not permitted to commit acts of usury, that is, the charging of interest as profit on loans), annulled all debts owed to Jews by married women, minors and soldiers, voided any loan that had interest rates exceeding 10 percent, and limited the residency of new Jewish peoples in France by restricting their business activities, while allowing work in agriculture and craftsmanship. The combination of these decrees severely weakened the financial position of once dominant rural French money lending Jews.

The decree applied only to Jews in eastern France; those "established in Bordeaux and in the departments of the Gironde and the Landes, having given rise to no complaints and not involved in illicit traffic", were not affected, nor were those living in Paris." (Infamous Decree," *Wikipedia*)

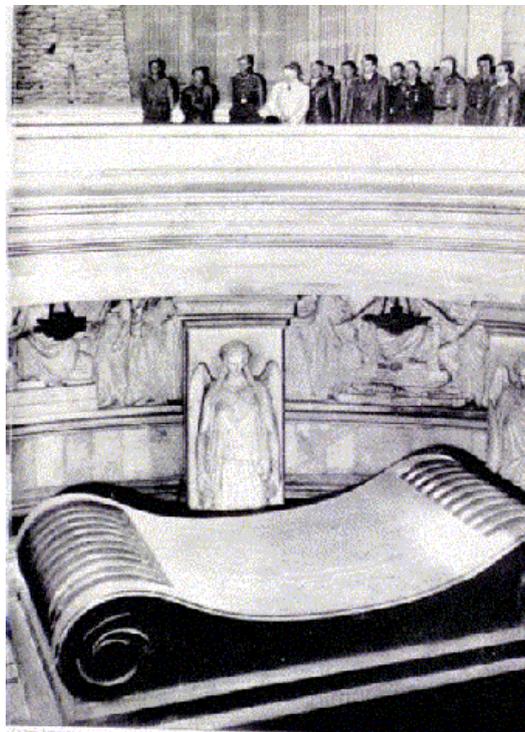
Decades later Bismark made remarks that appeared that he was not against the Jews either, yet did little to intervene to help. However, Emperor Wilhelm II and Franco were mildly anti-Jewish but didn't persecute them. Mussolini was financed by an Italian nationalist Jewish banker and

one of his top advisors was Jewish. It was only with the rise of Hitler and his pressure placed on Mussolini that the latter moved against them in the late 1930s, though it was tempered to some degree.

Comparing Napoleon and Hitler

What might we learn from Napoleon, given that in all likelihood he was a type of the end-time Beast? Like Napoleon, most agree that Hitler was typological of the final Beast. It follows that a comparison of the two might reveal some interesting information.

We noted previously Hitler's absolute fascination with Napoleon and his sarcophagus: you can find detailed information on Hitler's visit to the sarcophagus in the **Appendix. Hitler's Pilgrimage to Napoleon's Sarcophagus**.



Hitler transfixed by Napoleon's sarcophagus

Note their differences and similarities:

A Comparison of Napoleon and Hitler

Napoleon	Hitler
Did not gain control of the Holy Roman Empire regalia and in particular the Spear of Longinus. All leaders of the revived Roman system had control of these regalia and the Spear, except Napoleon	Gained control of the HRE regalia and the Spear of Longinus
Non-German/Austrian (but of noble background). All leaders of the revived Roman	German, but born in Austria

Napoleon	Hitler
system have been Germanic, except Napoleon	
Did not officially claim to continue the Roman or Holy Roman Empires and his actions led to the abolition of the Holy Roman Empire.	Claimed to revive the Holy Roman Empire (the Third Reich) but did little to emulate it
Liberated the Jews (undid the restrictions placed on them in old Europe) but still held to some opposition to them	Persecuted the Jews
Appeared more in alignment with the Roman Empire than Holy Roman Empire as time passed	Appeared more in alignment with the Roman Empire than Holy Roman Empire as time passed
Married the Austrian daughter of the last Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire	Married a 'common' woman
Called their son 'the King of Rome'	Offspring, if any, unknown
In effect established a new hereditary system whereby relatives and loyal commanders were appointed as kings and other chief positions all over Europe	Set up SS breeding program to breed a new ruling class – a super race
Signed a concordat with the RCC (Pope Pius VII) which ended the schism between the French government and the Catholic Church, by returning lands to the clergy that were confiscated from the Church during the anti-clerical periods of the French Revolution, and by assuring the Pope that France would remain a Catholic country	Signed a concordat with the RCC
Acted like a Roman Emperor	Acted like a Roman Emperor
Added the German lands of the defunct Holy Roman Empire to his Empire	Added the Saar and other areas to Germany
Called himself First Consul and Emperor	Called himself <i>Fuhrer</i> (= Leader)
Incorporated some Roman symbols	Incorporated some Roman symbols
Invaded Russia 24 June 1812 [at least 25% of his army was German]	Invaded Russia 22 June 1941
Entered the Middle East (Egypt was to be a stepping-stone to India)	Joined Mussolini in the Middle East (as a stepping-stone to India to meet up with the Japanese) and to encourage Turkey to come out of neutrality and to invade Russia via the Caucasus region
Had plans to invade the British Isles followed by America	Had plans to invade the British Isles followed by North America (much like the German plans in WW1)
Prussians and other Germans turned on and fought Napoleon toward the end	Prussians and Germans at heart of Hitler's and previous HRE revivals (but some Prussians attempted to assassinate him)
Agnostic leaning toward atheism	Born a Catholic and never resigned. But was either agnostic or believed in some sort of undefined Divinity with some German pagan influences
Took two Popes captive and persecuted the clergy although he later apologized to the second Pope he took captive	Had plans to take the Pope captive and eliminate or radically transform the RCC and all Christianity
Made a comeback for 100 days after being exiled to Elba	Made a comeback at the Battle of the Bulge and some other minor battles

Napoleon	Hitler
Died of natural causes	Probably committed suicide (it is unlikely that he escaped at the end of WW2 and then died of natural causes)

So, in some areas, Napoleon falls short of representing the Roman system, but in most ways, he did fulfill Roman credentials. As such, he is an anomaly in terms of the Germanic Holy Roman system.

But so was Mussolini who was an atheist and implemented a certain degree of socialism in Fascist Italy.

Similarly with Hitler – he was far more vicious than previous dictators. He attempted to placate worried Lutherans with speeches such as those below:

“The National government will maintain and defend the foundations on which the power of our nation rests. It will offer a strong protection to Christianity as the very basis of our collective morality.

Today Christians stand at the head of Germany. I pledge that I never tie myself to parties who want to destroy Christianity. We want to fill our culture again with the Christian spirit. We want to burn out all the recent developments in literature, in the theatre, and in the press - In short we want to burn out the poison of immorality which has entered into our whole life and culture as a result of liberal excess during the past years.” (Norman Baynes, *The Speeches of Adolf Hitler, April 1922-August 1939, Vol 1*, pp. 871-872)

Progressively his speeches and policies became increasingly anti-Christian.

Hitler even gave clear instructions to kidnap the Pope because of the fear that he had of Catholicism and some of its values. He believed that the Pope “would be an obstacle to his plans for global domination ... [and] wanted to eventually abolish Christianity and impose National Socialism as a sort of new global religion.” (Philip Pulella, “Hitler Plot to Kidnap Pope revealed”, *The Herald-Sun*, 16 January 2005)

He was also more successful than Napoleon and was on the verge of world conquest. His biggest mistake was to invade Russia rather than working with them and not fulfilling Rommel’s request for additional troops to finalise the conquest of North Africa and to join up with Turkey which was then to come out of neutrality. The peoples of Iraq and Iran viewed him as a friend and would have happily joined forces with him in the planned invasion of India with Japan.

Hitler wanted a united northern Europe confederated with eastern and southern Europe. As well as plans for the invasion of America, following in the spirit of Napoleon: consider that Napoleon’s France and the newly formed United States of America were involved in a quasi-war, 1798-1800. Napoleon dreamed of a French Empire extending over the Atlantic to the Carribean and through central North America.

Because Admiral Nelson had defeated the French fleet at the Nile in 1798 it became impossible for him to supply his troops numbering 20,000 to Haiti which was to be a springboard into North America. This and other factors caused Napoleon to abandon his grand plans and instead sold the vast land area known as the Louisiana Purchase to the Americans under President Thomas

Jefferson in 1803 thereby ending hostilities.

His empire was never to be (details may be found in the **Appendix. Napoleon's Dreams for an Empire in the Americas**). How like Germany's plans to invade North America in both World Wars. History repeats and repeats.

Further, according to various sources,⁴³ Napoleon apparently wanted a *United States of Europe*.

"I can drag all Europe after me and in these days I regard Europe as a rotten old whore who has to do my pleasure when I possess such an army ... There must be one legal code, one court of appeals and one currency for all Europe. The European nations must be melted into a single nation and Paris must become capital of the world. Can I help it if so much power is sweeping me on to a world dictatorship?"

And later:

"The first impetus has been given; and after the fall and the disappearance of my system, it seems to me that the only way in which an equilibrium can be achieved in Europe is through a league of nations."

Note my previous comments: "However, given that he was not German and not strictly of the Holy Roman Empire (although part of the Empire joined him under the Confederation of the Rhine, which mainstay is recognised as Bavaria and which presaged a united Germany under Bismarck), his revival of the Roman Empire is seemingly an anomaly. Similarly, Hitler's neo-paganism (despite his relationship with the Catholic Church) was also in a sense an anomaly." I might add that even Mussolini was a atheist and rather socialistic in economic policy until his death. None of these precludes them from being considered a part of the Roman revivals as they 'tick most of the boxes.'

What can we learn from the above trends? Does Napoleon throw any light on the final (10th) restoration of the Roman system?

Final Analysis

Like so many dictators, Napoleon did some good but should have kept his energies to France and any nation wishing to voluntarily associate with him. Instead, he became a brutal dictator.

Like many dictators he implemented many good economic, social and legal reforms that were beneficial to many.⁴⁴ In the lands of conquest as a glorious emperor he abolishes feudalism and all its rules that kept the Continent back. He even exported the ideas of social rights, equality and fraternity.

Yet he was also oppressive to a large degree and undertook unnecessary wars of imperial

⁴³ Some believe that he coined the phrase United States of Europe. Sources include the website *Explorations in Politics*, <http://interzone.com/~cheung/SUM.dir/polit7.html>

⁴⁴ Refer to a summary of them here <https://www.dummies.com/education/history/world-history/napoleon-bonapartes-lasting-contributions/> "Napoleon's empire, accompanied by his legal and other reforms, helped provide the basis for what is today the European Union ... Napoleon is often considered the father of modern Europe."

expansion (which took the British and allies to put an end to) that resulted in the deaths of millions. Between 2.5 and 3.5 million military as well as between 750,000 and 3 million civilian deaths sully his name forever.

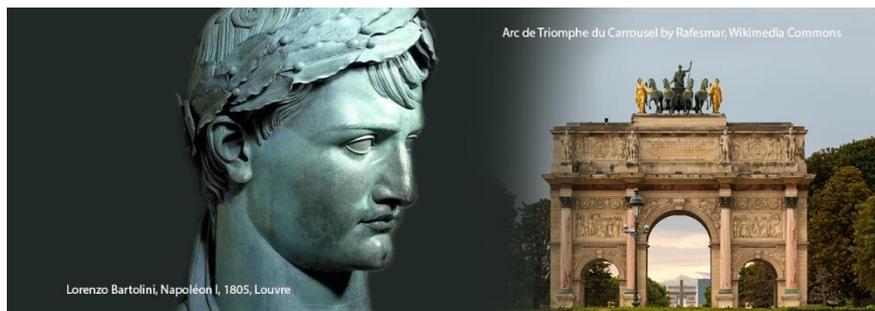
He even reinstated slavery in parts of his empire thereby betraying much of what the French Revolution stood for. Around 300,000 became slaves as a result and it was not until 1848 that France finally did something about these horrors and abolished slavery.

The reason for his reintroduction of slavery was to extend his empire into North America (the Louisiana region) – to colonise it. But to get there he needed workers and resultingly recommenced the slave trade in the French territories in the Caribbean.

In the end he met his fate and was exiled to the small island of St. Helena and died there frustrated at his demise.

During his captivity Napoleon seemingly tried to reconcile himself with his religious roots. He complained that he did not have a chaplain.

"It would rest my soul to hear Mass," he said.



His old enemy, Pius VII, requested that the British agree to Napoleon's wish and the Abbé Vignali became his chaplain. On 20 April 1821, Napoleon stated that

"I was born in the Catholic religion. I wish to fulfill the duties it imposes, and receive the succour it administers." ⁴⁵

It seemed that he had affirmed his belief in God and read out verbally the Gospels, Acts of the Apostles and the Old Testament. He even spoke thus of Pope Pius VII:

"an old man full of tolerance and light". Adding that "Fatal circumstances, embroiled our cabinets. I regret it exceedingly."

He was eventually brought to his knees at the hands of the Anglo-Keltic people God has used to put down Beastly powers.

But will He use them to do so the next time? Or will they be subjugated by a power that sees itself as a successor to Rome and the Holy Roman Empire?

⁴⁵ "Napoleon's attitude toward religion was ambivalent; his deepest belief appears to have been in the idea of destiny, most notably his own. According to Bourrienne, 'As he frequently said to me, his principle was to look upon religion as the work of man, but to respect it everywhere as a powerful means of government'" (Paul Strathern, *Napoleon in Egypt*, p 54).

Of great interest are comments made by Robert Anderson in *The Coming Prince* (published in 1894) concerning the future power:

“The attempt to enumerate the ten kingdoms of the future would involve a profitless inquiry. History repeats itself; and if there be any element of periodicity in the political diseases by which nations are afflicted, **Europe will inevitably pass through another crisis such as that which darkened the last decade of the eighteenth century. And should another revolution produce another Napoleon**, it is impossible to foretell how far kingdoms may become consolidated, and boundaries may be changed” (p. 87) [emphasis mine]

Arno Gaebelien (early twentieth century author) predicted a coming United Europe:

“We are writing in the most solemn and ominous times the world has ever known. All Europe is on fire. **Many are the voices calling for a European confederacy and for some great leader, another Napoleon**. The blinded world looks for such a one and expects that he will bring peace and order into the prevailing chaos. And the Lord will permit such a one to come, deceiving the world so that they will say “peace and safety” (1 Thessalonians v:1–3). **This coming leader of the revived Roman Empire** will go forth to conquer and become its political head.” (*The Revelation: An Analysis and Exposition of the Last Book of the Bible*, p. 52) [emphasis mine]

Will Europe descend into chaos again and beckon for another Napoleon?

"In 200 years from now, he will be like Charlemagne. We will not know anymore if he was only French or the sovereign of the European Empire he ruled," said Lentz, who is director of the Paris-based Fondation Napoleon. In this case, history would come full circle, because, as Van Middelaar noted, Napoleon considered himself as a successor of Charlemagne and not of Louis XIV, the French Sun King." (E. Maucrice, "Napoleon's Shadow Still Falls on Europe," *EUobserver*, 18 June 2015, <https://euobserver.com/news/129167>)

Appendix.

Napoleon's Dreams for an Empire in the Americas

The following is extracted from "The Quasi War with France" by Matthew Zarzeczny located at www.napoleon-series.org

"The Quasi War with France lasted from 1798 to 1800. By summer of 1798, the threat of war had become a reality after the United States took formal steps of military preparation that were soon followed by fighting on the high seas. On May 3, 1798, Washington was called back to command the army and a navy department was established. Acts passed by the United States Congress during the Quasi War included "An Act to Suspend the Commercial Intercourse between the United States and France, and the Dependencies Thereof" on June 13, 1798, "An Act to Authorize the Defense of the Merchant Vessels of the United States against French Depredations" on June 25, 1798, "An Act to Declare the Treaties Heretofore Concluded with France, no Longer Obligatory on the United States" on July 7, 1798, An Act Further to Protect the Commerce of the United States on July 9, 1798, and An Act to Amend the Act Entitled "An Act to suspend the Commercial Intercourse between the United States and France, and the Dependencies Thereof." on July 16, 1798. These Acts of 1798 represent the legalistic aspect of the conflict. **The formal military engagements began in the Fall of that year.**

On November 20, 1798, a French warship off Guadeloupe captured an American schooner. On February 9, 1799, Captain Thomas Trexton in USS *Constellation*, which had thirty-six guns, met and captured the French frigate *Insurgente*, which had forty guns, after an hour's engagement off of the island of Nevis. On February 9, 1799, the same day of the fight between the *Constellation* and *Insurgente*, came An Act Further to Suspend the Commercial Intercourse between the United States and France, and the Dependencies Thereof. On February 1, 1800, Trexton met the French *Vengeance*, which had fifty-two guns, off of the French held island of Guadeloupe in a five-hour night battle. Soon after this fight on February 27, 1800, there was An Act Further to Suspend the Commercial Intercourse Between the United States and France, and the Dependencies Thereof. By this time, France's Directory, having been overextended by campaigns in the Atlantic, in Egypt, and in Europe, fell victim to yet another one of France's revolutionary coups. This transition in French political history had a serious detrimental impact on the aspirations of one of America's principle politicians.[4]

While the ineffective Directory ruled France, with war looming over a still maturing American nation, Alexander Hamilton, Washington's aide-de-camp and secretary during the American Revolutionary War and later Secretary of the Treasury had grown ever more ambitious. Hamilton dreamed of military glory by commanding an army to defeat a possible French invasion. Instead, President Adams, under Washington's influence, made Hamilton a major general who ranked second to Washington. In the event of a land war, Hamilton's plan included the seizure of Louisiana and Florida. Abigail Adams called Hamilton "a man ambitious as Julius Caesar," but Hamilton had no idea that France was about to begin an era under a man who may have even surpassed Caesar's achievements and designs.[5]

Napoleon Bonaparte, seized power from Paul-François-Jean-Nicolas Barras' feeble Directory on November 11, 1799 with a new government composed of three consuls, including Bonaparte, Roger Ducos, and Emmanuel-Joseph Sieyès. Jean-Jacques Cambacérès and Charles-François Lebrun replaced Ducos and Sieyès on December 12, 1799. The Consulate under Napoleon Bonaparte was more effective than the Directory, creating the Bank of France, the Concordat

with the Papacy, and the Legion of Honor. The Napoleonic Consulate also proved to be very ambitious. **Aside from his European dream of creating a Grand Empire that would foreshadow a United States of Europe, First Consul Napoleon Bonaparte had a wide range of interests in North America centering on Louisiana and the Caribbean, but also included the former area known as New France.**^[6]

New France was first proclaimed by Jacques Cartier in 1534 and flourished during the Age of France during the Seventeenth Century. After the fall of Quebec and the death of the French general Montcalm in 1759, the British secured control of the territory and won it officially with the end of the Seven Years' War in 1763. The French character of the area that would become the Canadian province of Quebec did not die with the end of the Seven Years' War. During the early days of the French Empire, a decent sized portion of the population of Lower Canada still hoped to be reunited with France. South of Montreal, a petition of the villagers of Saint-Constant was addressed to Emperor Napoleon I on March 1, 1805 requesting that Napoleon make it possible for French-Canadians to again bear "the glorious name of Frenchmen," but Napoleon's government never made any open moves towards this. Admiral Horatio Nelson, later dashed Napoleon's plans to invade Britain, had destroyed Napoleon's Franco-Spanish fleet on October 21, 1805 in the epic battle of Trafalgar. **As long as Britain ruled the seas, Napoleon was confined to the European continent and was unable to undertake an invasion of Canada.**^[7]

In addition to the area known as New France, the largest other French colony in the new world had been Louisiana, named for Louis XIV the Great and lost at the end of the Seven Years' War in 1763. Napoleon had reacquired the territory in a secret treaty with Spain known as the Second Treaty of San Ildefonso early on during the Consular period on October 7, 1800, while Napoleon's army wasted away in Egypt. **Napoleon had dreams of creating a Caribbean Empire extending from the Caribbean through central North America.** His wife, Josephine, had been born on Martinique, and his army was attempting to reassert control over Haiti, but it eventually won independence in 1804. Unfortunately for Napoleon, the British admiral Nelson had destroyed the French fleet at the Nile in 1798, making it impossible for Napoleon to supply his troops in Egypt and General Leclerc's twenty-thousand man force in Haiti, which was to be used as a potential springboard into Louisiana. **Napoleon had planned a military occupation of the Louisiana Territory, but without sea power, this was logistically impossible** and General Leclerc's army suffered severe losses in unforgiving Santo Domingo. So, a couple of years after the Convention with France on September 30, 1800, which terminated the 1778 Treaty of Alliance and ended the Quasi War, Napoleon sold the Louisiana Territory to the United States in 1803, ending all hostilities with the United States. As it turned out, the United States had wanted twenty million dollars in reparations to pay for American ships seized by the French during the Quasi War before agreeing to the Convention of 1800, but instead wound up with no financial compensation from Napoleonic France and the United States in turn paid France about fifteen million dollars for the Louisiana Territory, just pennies per acre. Another fascinating aspect of the Louisiana Purchase is the fact that the mammoth territorial acquisition occurred under the presidency of Thomas Jefferson, the agrarian-minded political opponent of Alexander Hamilton. While Hamilton had wanted to militarily invade the territory, Jefferson had acquired Louisiana with the pen instead of the sword. Soon afterwards, the storied rivalry between the two legendary political figures ended with Hamilton's death from a gunshot wound suffered during his famous duel with Aaron Burr.^[8]

During this developmental period in American history, the Napoleonic Wars in Europe significantly affected the political and military aspects of the United States' history from 1789 to 1815. Despite the rocky beginning with the Quasi War and Napoleon's initial plans for a military

occupation of the Louisiana Territory, Napoleon's regime eventually negotiated the Louisiana Purchase with Thomas Jefferson's government, thus doubling the size of the ever-expanding United States." (emphasis mine)

[4] The Avalon Project: Quasi War with France 1791-1800. <<http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/quasi.htm>> (31 December 1969); R. Ernest Dupuy and Trevor N. Dupuy. The Harper Encyclopedia of Military History New York: HarperCollins;1993. P. 792.

[5] Bongard; P. 309; Shi; Pp. 234-238.

[6] Durant.

[7] Bernard Chevallier. Napoleon Montreal: David M. Stewart Museum, 1999; Dupuy; Pp. 770-773, 819; Durant. The Age of Napoleon, 521-525; Felix Markham. Napoleon New York: Penguin Books; 1963. Pp. 103-119.

[8] "Convention of 1800." The Avalon Project: Quasi War with France 1791-1800. <<http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/quasi.htm>> (31 December 1969); Durant. The Age of Napoleon, 159-196; Markham; Pp. 88-102; Shi; Pp. 236-238, 249-250.

Appendix. Hitler's Pilgrimage to Napoleon's Sarcophagus

Extracted from *The Foe We Face* by Pierre J. Huss:

'A six-foot adjutant in the first car had sprung to the ground ... and yanked open the door opposite the driver. Adolf Hitler, wearing a white coat of dustproof gabardine, pushed his right leg slowly to the ground, a little stiff from the long drive into Paris and perhaps again bothered a bit by a twinge of rheumatism, and stood up to stare at the suntopped edifice above. He preferred to look up at things, like the stars, rather than down into the depths where men work and struggle below the surface ... Hitler, the mighty Fuehrer of the Third Reich and master of armies swooping over Europe had come to visit Napoleon.

To Hitler it was a pilgrimage, a dream come true, and a miraculous milestone in a passion which guided at least part of his life. He came here to look at the Napoleon he had followed over the battlefields of Europe step by step... he came here to look at the hallowed **spot where rests the man whose political ideas for Europe gave Hitler a basic pattern to follow**. And here ... lay the man by whose military mistakes Hitler swore to profit.

The German officer who greeted Hitler received a perfunctory salute he led the way up the ... steps to a nail-studded wooden door and pushed it open. Hitler stepped inside, walked quickly through the ante-chamber into the great rotunda under the dome, as if he knew his way in the dark ... His men ... were scarcely able to follow him ... Hitler stood [unreadable] the marble balustrade and looked down into the pit at the sarcophagus inside of which Napoleon I sleeps.

He didn't salute; his cap with the golden swastika eagle stayed on his head; he just stood there with hands on the balustrade and mouth slightly open ... His men keenly aware of his mood and temper tiptoed ... to the balustrade and also looked down, saying nothing and most of them far from impressed by what they saw below ... To them...sworn to the daily task of guarding the Nazi Fuehrer with their very lives, this was just another tomb ... Their job at the moment was to keep from sneezing, coughing, or breathing too hard ... They made sure the guns were easy to reach ... They never opened [sic] their mouths or talked to the Fuehrer, unless perchance he threw a word... at the nearest one ... a command to bring him a glass of water or perhaps to call this or that adjutant.

I guess it was a full minute before the Fuehrer broke that strange silence which laid a cold hand on your heart there under the Dome des Invalides that dying day in July ... We had been taken there a little bit earlier on our pledged word of silence on what we would see ... So forestalling a leak to the outside world about an incident... they were not anxious to have published at that time ... Hitler was to make his formal visit to Paris some days later, when the Nazi propaganda machine intended to go to work and make the most of it. On this day the Fuehrer had come in his own right and on a pilgrimage dear to his heart.

We stood opposite the tomb and waited, keenly watching ... him. He was lost in thought, with that faraway expression again creeping over his face. He folded his arms and murmured something we could not hear; his lips moved, as if he were talking to himself, and once or twice he shook his head. **Then he came out of the trance as suddenly as it had begun, and he leaned forward on the balustrade to stare more fixedly into the pit.**

"Napoleon, mein lieber, they have made a bad mistake," the guttural voice of the Fuehrer said suddenly out of the void. It startled me, standing there across from a live war lord and above a dead emperor... He had sounded a bit cynical and slightly amused turning to his Press Chief, Otto Dietrich, to tap him on the arm. But he was talking to all before him.

"Ja, it is a big mistake they have made," Hitler repeated ... "They have put him down into a hole. People must look down at a coffin far below them. Their eyes [sic] cannot come close and really grasp what they are looking for.

"They should look up at Napoleon, feeling small by the very size of the monument or sarcophagus above their heads. You do not impress people if you walk in a street and they are on top of a building. They must look at something above them; you must be the stage and the center of attraction above the level of all eyes. Then the mind reaches out and fastens itself upon the object or the person. It is all a matter of common psychology. The effect of Napoleon and his hold on the nation would have been much greater if people could come and actually touch the stone he sleeps in by reaching their arms up and perhaps by standing on tiptoe. This way, I must assume that the thousands who have come here before me look into their guidebook and go away without remembering more about it than about the next place. **Their minds failed to grasp the greatness of Napoleon, and Napoleon down there in that pit failed to touch their hearts and affect his mission after death of keeping alive the spirit and tradition of a great epoch.**"

Hitler began to walk slowly around the balustrade, pausing once more at the glass door leading into the church with its tattered flags of Napoleon's wars in Europe, to look almost carelessly into the pit from the opposite side of where he had stood before. I could not help but feel that a sort of disdain had replaced the man's former intentness. "I shall never make such a mistake." Hitler said suddenly. "I know how to keep my hold on people after I have passed on. I shall be the Fuehrer they look up to and go home to talk of and remember. My life shall not end in the mere form of death. It will, on the contrary, begin then." [emphasis mine]

Appendix. How Catholics brought Napoleon to his knees

<http://www.catholicherald.co.uk/issues/january-2nd-2015/how-catholics-brought-napoleon-to-his-knees/>

by Andrew Roberts

Friday, 2 Jan 2015



Pius VII sits behind Napoleon in Jacques-Louis David's coronation painting (1807)

Locking up the Pope alienated millions of the faithful and was one of Bonaparte's most stupid mistakes

"She was on her way home from church when she felt labour pains," Napoleon would say of his mother Letizia, "and had only time to get into the house, when I was born, not on a bed, but on a heap of tapestry." Napoleon Bonaparte's fraught relations with the Catholic Church started early in life, for although his mother was a devout Catholic, his father was a Voltairean who despised popular religion. A secularised Enlightenment non-believer, Carlo Buonaparte did not even marry in church (although his wife's uncle Lucciano, the Archdeacon of Ajaccio in Corsica, altered the records to make it appear that he had).

Napoleon adopted his father's attitude to faith rather than his mother's. He was at best agnostic about the divinity of Jesus, although he did acknowledge the existence of a Supreme Being and was occasionally seen to cross himself in battle. "Did Jesus ever exist," he asked his secretary when in exile on St Helena in the mid-Atlantic, "or did he not? I think that no contemporary historian has ever mentioned him." (He was clearly unfamiliar with Josephus's Antiquities of the Jews which mentions Jesus.) He enjoyed theological discussions, but when a priest offered his services to help him through his father's death, the 15-year-old Napoleon refused. Several of the cleverest scientists and mathematicians he knew were atheists, but as he told his last doctor, "wishing to be an atheist does not make you one".

"Although Bonaparte was not devout," his interior minister Jean Chaptal reported, "he did believe in the existence of God and in the immortality of the soul. He always spoke about religion with respect." When the Sermon on the Mount was read to him on St Helena, he said: "Jesus

should have performed his miracles not in remote parts of Syria but in a city like Rome, in front of the whole population." He once said: "Were I obliged to have a religion, I would worship the sun – the source of all life – the real god of the earth." And also: "I like the Muslim religion best; it has fewer incredible things in it than ours." On that score he dictated a note logically disproving the biblical claim that Moses could have quenched two million Israelites' thirst by striking a rock.

During the French Revolution Napoleon joined the Jacobins, a political movement extremely hostile to Christianity in general and to the Catholic Church in particular. By November 1793, Notre Dame Cathedral had been re-dedicated to the Cult of Reason, and six months later the Jacobin leader Maximilian Robespierre passed a decree establishing the pantheist Cult of the Supreme Being. As well as tens of thousands of aristocrats being stripped of their possessions and forced to become émigrés abroad, several thousand priests left the country too. Napoleon supported the nationalising of the Church in a pamphlet which was inflammatory enough for him and his brother Joseph only narrowly to avoid a lynching when they happened to be walking near a religious procession in Ajaccio soon after its publication.

In his Italian campaign of 1796-97, Napoleon recognised the power of the Catholic priesthood to make trouble for the French occupying forces, which they (rightly) saw as atheistic invaders bent on pillaging Church property, a phenomenon that was to be repeated in the deeply Catholic areas of Calabria, the Tyrol and, especially, in the Iberian peninsula. In the country around Tortona, Napoleon destroyed all the church bells that had been used to summon the revolt, and had no hesitation in shooting any village priest caught leading peasant bands. Although his earlier anti-clericalism in Corsica was enough to make him resent what he called la prêtraille ("canting priesthood"), his conviction was confirmed by the way in which parish priests encouraged uprisings. Yet it also instilled in him a respect for the power of the Church as an institution, and he realised that he could not wholly oppose it forever.

Although he defeated the Papal States in battle with considerable ease, Napoleon knew that storming the Vatican would earn him the ire, even the lifetime enmity, of Europe's devout Catholics. So when in February 1797 Pope Pius VI sued for peace, he was delighted to accept. The Pope sent Cardinal Alessandro Mattei to Napoleon's headquarters at Tolentino to sign a treaty under which the Papal States ceded Romagna, Bologna, Avignon and Ferrara to France, closed all ports to the British, and promised to pay a "contribution" of 30 million francs and 100 works of art.

During Napoleon's Egyptian campaign he seriously considered adopting the Muslim faith, years later telling a courtier's wife that, since the hitherto Protestant Henri IV thought it was worth converting to Catholicism for the sake of ruling France, "Do you not think the Empire of the East, and per-haps the subjection of the whole of Asia, were not worth a turban and loose trousers?" He added that the army "would undoubtedly have lent itself to this joke". After the battle of Mount Tabor on that campaign, he slept at the convent in Nazareth, where he was shown the supposed bedchamber of the Virgin Mary. When the prior pointed out a broken black marble pillar and told his staff, "in the gravest manner possible", that it had been split by the angel Gabriel when he "came to announce to the Virgin her glorious and holy destination", some of the officers burst out laughing, but as one of them recorded: "General Bonaparte, looking severely at us, made us resume our gravity."

Soon after taking power in the Brumaire coup of November 1799, Napoleon opened secret negotiations with the new pope, Pius VII – a simple and holy monk whose views were not thought to be overtly hostile to the French Revolution – on the question of allowing the return of the Christian religion to France nearly a decade after its abolition there. Napoleon knew these

would be delicate and occasionally hard-fought, but the prize was great: the adherence of Catholic France to the Napoleonic cause. The population of France was about 28 million, only a fifth of them in urban areas of more than 2,000 people. Most of the rest lived in 36,000 rural communes of a few hundred residents. Napoleon appreciated how invaluable it would be if the person who played an important social role as the centre of information in those communities, who was often the most educated person and who read out government decrees, was also on the national payroll. The concordat – his treaty with the papacy – has been accurately described as attempting “to enlist the parish clergy as Napoleon’s ‘moral prefects’”. The concordat was concluded by Easter Day 1802, and the church bells of Notre Dame were rung that day for the first time in a decade. Yet it was over economics rather than theology that Napoleon was to fall out monumentally with the Vatican and, in particular, over his insistence that the Papal States join his Continental System, designed to expel British goods from the whole of the European continent.

Pius VII refused to join, and he also refused to grant Napoleon’s youngest brother Jérôme an annulment of his marriage to Elizabeth Patterson, the daughter of a Boston merchant, or to recognise his older brother Joseph as king of Naples. So in February 1808 Napoleon sent General Sextius Miollis down the west coast of Italy to occupy the Papal States and capture the Castel Sant’Angelo, whose cannon could soon be seen pointing directly at St Peter’s. On June 10 1809, Napoleon annexed them to the French Empire, and in retaliation Pius excommunicated him that same day.

Franco-Vatican relations continued to deteriorate over the next 13 months, and on July 5 1809, General Étienne Radet arrested the pope in the Vatican, giving him half an hour to pack his bags before escorting him to the bishop’s palace in the small Italian Riviera port of Savona. This allowed Pius to make one of the wryest remarks of the 19th century. “Assuredly, my son,” he told Radet, “those orders will not bring divine orders upon you.” Napoleon, meanwhile, told his brother-in-law Prince Camillo Borghese, who was governor-general of the Alpine region which included Savona, that “the guard of the Pope should have all the appearance of a guard of honour”.

“The Pope is a good man,” Napoleon wrote on August 6, “but ignorant and fanatical.” Those adjectives better describe Napoleon’s behaviour towards the pope, who was to remain in imprisonment – albeit of a very comfortable kind at the château of Fontainebleau – until 1814. From being hailed by Catholics as the saviour of the Church at the time of the concordat to being excommunicated and imprisoning the pontiff only seven years later, Napoleon had placed his belief in economic protectionism over any scruples he might have had about alienating the millions of Catholics in his empire. It was one of his worst political errors.

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